

Independent health policy analysis: its crucial role

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What is policy analysis?

The Nuffield Trust

Health and Social Care Bill

What is health policy analysis?

- Analysis of health policy:
 - Quantitative research
 - Qualitative research
 - Primary research
 - Secondary research
 - Debate

Where is it carried out?

- Universities
- Foundations/charities
- National or local government or quasi-government bodies
- ‘Think tanks’
- Membership bodies or associations
- Business
- Pressure groups/lobbyists
- Consultancies
- International bodies eg OECD
- Other

Independence and focus

- **Independence:** very important (many vested interests with resources and power)
- **Focus:** critical to survey the policy landscape regularly and comprehensively
- **Focus:** offer not just retrospective evaluation but helpful prospectively to address current and future policy challenges

What is the role of evidence in policy analysis?



Opinion/ideology

Reasoned argument
and experience

Evidence

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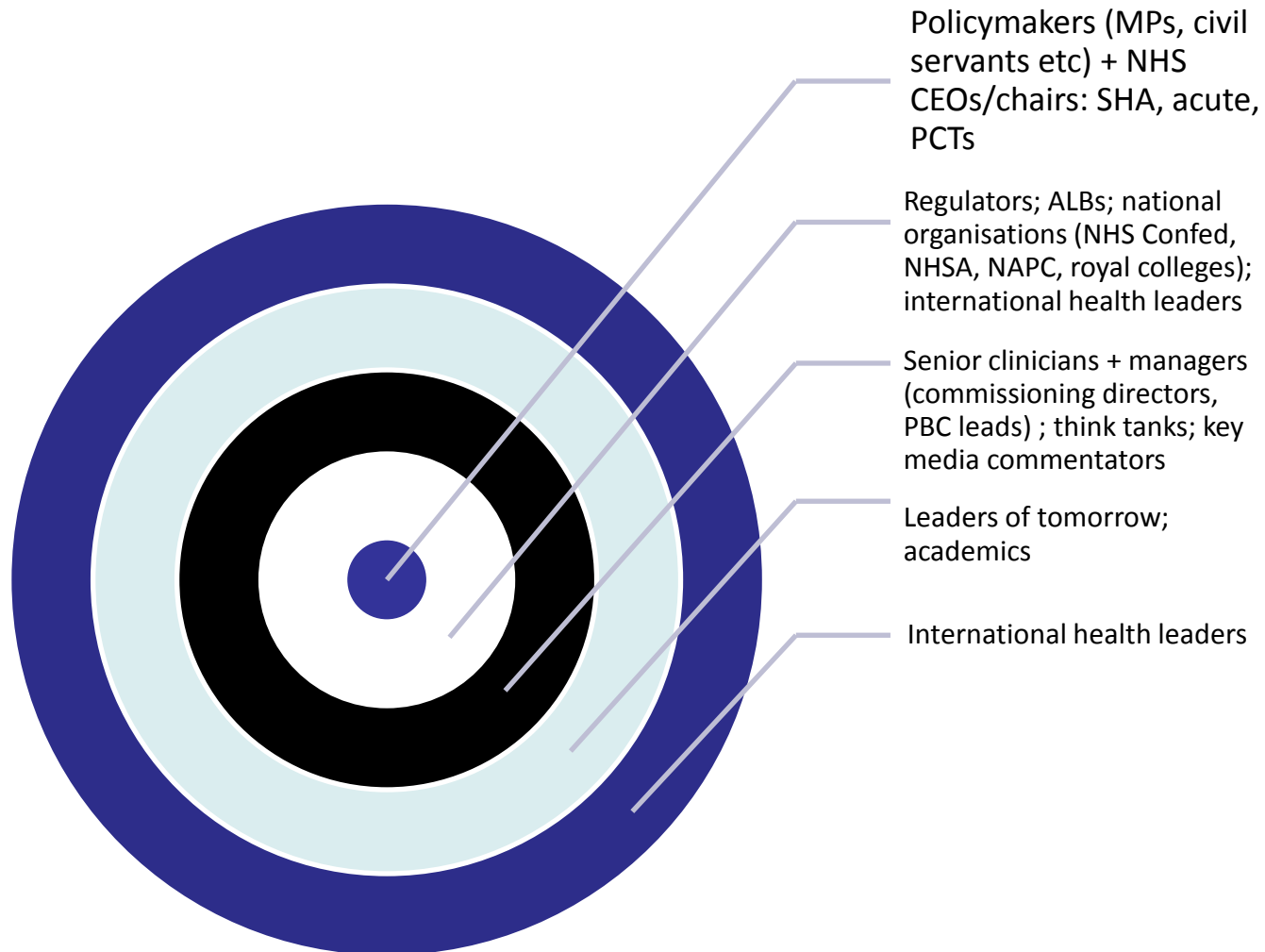
Nuffield Trust: basics

- Set up in 1940 by Lord Nuffield
- A charitable Trust: ‘to improve health care’
- Values: to achieve high quality efficient, effective, equitable and humane care
- Endowment: now £69m generating £2.9m per year
- £800K raised from grants and sponsorship (increasing)
- Independent Board of Trustees, selected by appointment not open competition
- 30 employed staff

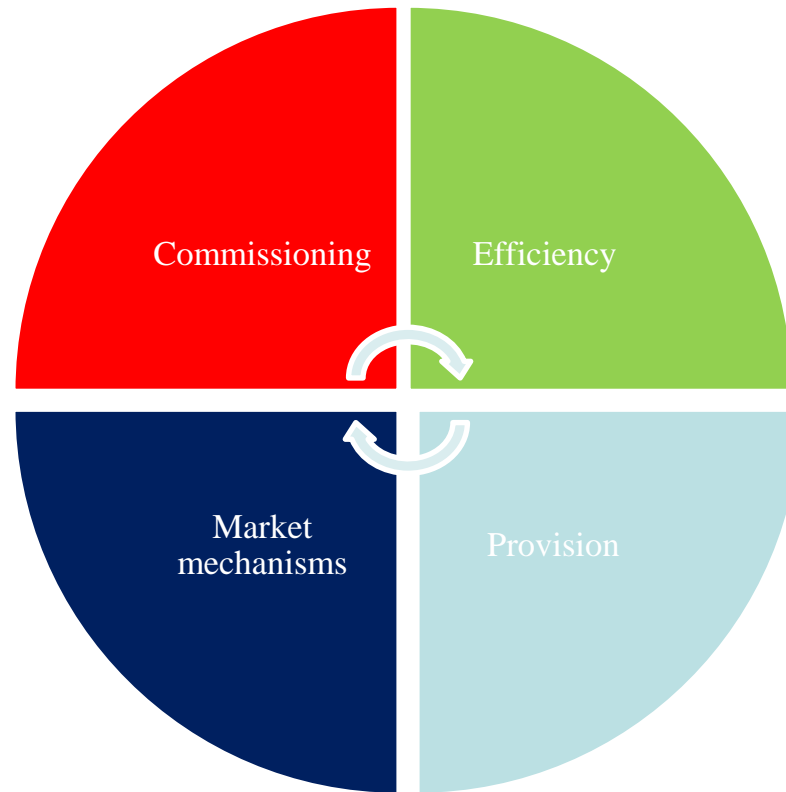
Nuffield Trust activities

- To 2008: grant giving, wide focus, publications, dinners, seminars
- From 2008:
 - in-house research (quantitative and qualitative)
 - events: range of seminars, UK and Euro summit, study tours, dinners
 - grant giving: closely following in-house strategy (collaborations)
 - communications: digital media: talks (vod and pod); twitter; public affairs: interactive engagement
 - emerging leaders: Harkness Fellowships (with Commonwealth Fund)

Cultivation of target audiences



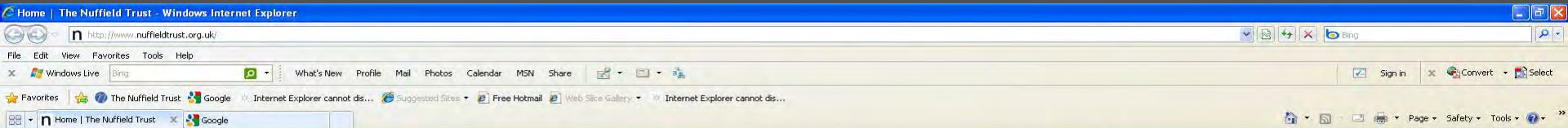
Main strategic themes for projects 2010/11



(Instinct)

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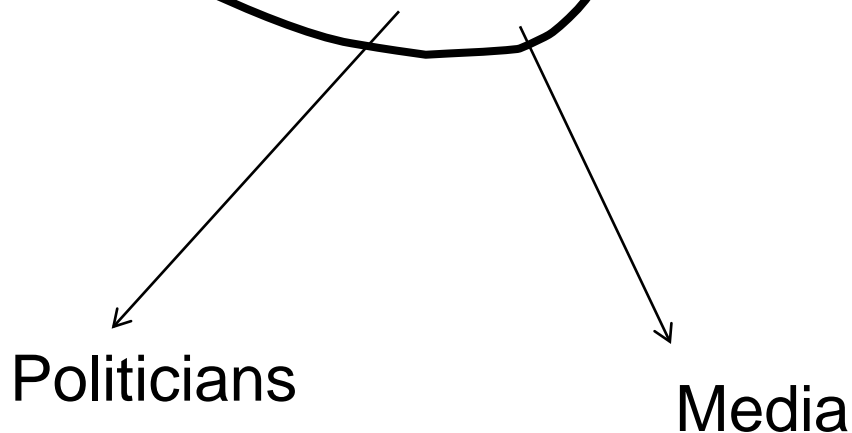
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Influence

- Good research
- Sensible policy line, respectful and objective/reasonable
- Independent: use with care

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Measuring our impact

- 5–7 Business Critical Objectives (from 2010/11 Strategic Plan) to focus where we want to have impact;
- Evaluate according to what change we are trying to achieve – i.e. in behaviours, perceptions and awareness levels
- Conduct regular audience research: a **perceptions audit** every 2/3 years; annual web survey (encompassing feedback on events programme); and research into specific audience groups, such as emerging GP Consortia (pathfinders)
- Introduce a dashboard to capture qual and quant ‘reach to audience’ indicators.
- Undertake formal benchmarking with related organisations

Cultivation



What is health policy analysis? The Nuffield Trust Health and Social Care Bill

NHS reform programme: chronology

July
2010

Nov
2010

Jan
2011

March
2011

April
2011

June
2011

Privatisation narrative develops

White
Paper
published



Bill
introduced

BMA vote to ask
government to throw
out the Bill

Coalition Party
partner revolt –
Norman Lamb
threatens to resign

NHS Future
Forum
announced



PM makes 5
pledges to NHS

Speculation that
Lansley will
resign

Health and Social Care Bill (original): main elements

- **Promotion of the market**
 - new economic regulator to promote competition (as appropriate) and set prices
 - ‘any willing provider’
 - all hospitals to become foundation trusts
- **Devolving power:**
 - abolishing of Primary Care Trusts and Strategic health authorities and setting up of GP Consortia
 - new NHS Commissioning Board
 - Minister sets a ‘mandate’ each year
 - Local Health and Wellbeing Boards
- **Outcomes framework**

Economic regulator: role /1

- Licensing providers across public, private and third sector to deliver care funded by NHS under tariff (with CQC)
- Pricing methodology and levels (NHSCB responsible for price structure)
- Promoting competition where appropriate and regulating where necessary
- Ensuring continuity of services for designated services
 - Prices above tariff;
 - Special administration regime.
- *Designated services:*
 - *Commissioner applies to Monitor for a service to be designated*

Economic regulator: role /2

Monitor required to *'have regard to'* 4 duties of the Secretary of State:

- Comprehensive service;
- Quality improvement;
- Tackling inequality; and
- Promoting autonomy.

Monitor given concurrent powers with the OFT under:

- The Competition Act 1998, The Enterprise Act 2002 (EU competition law)

Enabling power for the Secretary of State to impose requirements on the NHSCB and Consortia to ensure good procurement practice to promote choice and competition

Nuffield response

- 3 responses to consultations: careful line – ‘helpful’ ‘tone’
- 4 briefing sessions for peers and MPs
- Media: careful line

Result so far

- Trust: involved in discussions, giving evidence, ‘kitchen cabinet’, Nuffield named in Government response to help develop plans for integrated care
- Trust ideas tabled in amendments, and featuring highly in debate
- MPs/Lords feedback: ‘we don’t know what we would have done without you’. “ Who else could provide such trusted analysis?”

Thank you



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