



EARLY
INTERVENTION
FOUNDATION

Annual Report

2017–2018



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Chair's message



Dame Clare Tickell DBE
Chair of Board of Trustees

A lot has changed for EIF in the five years since it was established, both within the organisation and in the wider world. We have seen a succession of political changes – in government and in leadership – the still-emerging implications and impacts of Brexit, and a political environment in which debates about policy and priorities are more febrile, less predictable, and often focused away from many of the traditional concerns of social policy.

Within this environment, it is clear that there is an opportunity and a need to engage a new generation of national and local politicians and leaders to become advocates for early intervention.

Against this backdrop, EIF has had a busy fifth year. In July, we said goodbye to Carey Oppenheim, who as EIF's first chief executive did a fantastic job of taking us from a start-up to a fully-fledged and well-respected mature organisation with a staff team approaching 20. Jo Casebourne joined the team as EIF's new chief executive in August, and embarked on a process to refresh our strategy to ensure we can make

the most of the challenges ahead in the next five years. Our new strategy for 2018–2023 is now in effect, and is setting the direction of travel on how we can best work to achieve our mission: to ensure that effective early intervention is available and is used to improve the lives of children and young people at risk of poor outcomes.

We have continued to influence government policy on early intervention, from directly informing the 'Improving Lives' programme led by the Department for Work and Pensions, to supporting the Department for Education's work on social mobility and early years, working closely with

“Our role is to ensure that we grow the evidence base on what effective early intervention is and to work with politicians, policy-makers, local service leaders and commissioners to make sure that this evidence is used to change policy and practice”

Public Health England on our work on early speech and language, and supporting the Troubled Families Programme in the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. This year also saw us sign a new, two-year funding agreement with a consortium of government departments and agencies who are integral to our work, securing the largest part of our funding through to 2020.

We have also developed new partnerships with a number of research institutes and fellow What Works centres, expanded the EIF Guidebook – which now showcases more than 80 evidence-based programmes to commissioners – and published 16 new reports and major resources for our audiences. Around 250 people attended our national conference in May last year, and in the spring we held two successful half-day conferences, in London and Manchester, on reducing the impacts of parental conflict on children.

Undertaking a large-scale online survey of our stakeholders and key audiences was a fascinating exercise, and sets out some of the challenges we have ahead.

We know that more funding and resources are needed for early intervention, and that it is still a struggle to secure investment in early intervention when the focus is on statutory services. We also know more people need to understand what early intervention is and how it can help vulnerable children and young people. Our role is to ensure that we grow the evidence base on what effective early intervention is and to work with politicians, policy-makers, local service leaders and commissioners to make sure that this evidence is used to change policy and practice.

EIF can play a unique and valuable role as a critical friend, trusted advisor and champion for all the people who work hard to make effective early intervention a reality. Ensuring that we continue to support these people and services to apply evidence and evidence-based information, both in their big decisions and in their day-to-day work, will be our focus in the year ahead.

Dame Clare Tickell DBE
Chair of Board of Trustees

Chief Executive's message



Dr Jo Casebourne
Chief Executive

“The clear moral and social case for early intervention remains, but our understanding about how it works continues to deepen”

It's been a hugely enjoyable first year as chief executive of EIF. It has been fantastic to join such an expert, talented and committed staff team, and it has been great meeting and getting to know so many of our partner organisations who are doing such critically important work to support children and families.

Working in partnership is a key part of our new strategy, and is essential if we are to achieve our mission and succeed in getting more investment in and prioritisation of early intervention. We are proud of our membership of the What Works network, and will continue to share our learning with the network and beyond.

Our focus for the year ahead will be implementing our new strategy, at what is such an important time for early intervention. This will begin in autumn 2018 with the launch of a new report looking at 'where next' for early intervention. Seven years on from Graham Allen's first

government-commissioned report on early intervention, it is time to remake the case for early intervention, against a new political backdrop and with the benefit of a growing UK evidence base. The clear moral and social case for early intervention remains, but our understanding about how it works continues to deepen. We now know a lot more about how problems experienced in childhood impact on long-term outcomes, where the best potential for early intervention lies, which children can be helped, and which child outcomes can be improved. It is also time to remake the economic case for early intervention, showing where and how the economic

benefits can accrue. This refreshed case for early intervention will help us to argue for increased investment in the 2019 spending review and to secure commitment from all political parties, at both a national and local level, to do more to support vulnerable children and young people.

In the coming year, we will also be focusing on implementing our new impact framework, so we can get better at gauging the impact we are having. This framework sets out behaviour change amongst our audiences as EIF's key, measurable goal. To achieve our mission, we must influence the behaviour of our audiences to increase the investment in and prioritisation of effective early intervention. So, for each of our programmes of work, we'll be looking at the factors that influence behaviour change, the changes we want to see, and the reasons why these behaviours are not happening now. We will then be monitoring how effective we are being at achieving these changes. This

impact lens will be central to the way we design our work programme for 2019/20. We will also be further developing our communications function, launching a new website for EIF, and developing a new long-term financial strategy for the organisation, to ensure we diversify our funding and secure a financially sustainable future for EIF.

It's an important and exciting year ahead for EIF and one I am very much looking forward to.

Dr Jo Casebourne
Chief Executive

Highlights: championing the role of effective early intervention

EIF has a crucial role as the go-to source for evidence and advice on early intervention for children and young people. Ours is a trusted voice across the early intervention and children's sectors, with the invaluable ability to reach national policy-makers, local commissioners and service managers and frontline professionals alike. Doing our job well means that more effective early intervention is made available to more of the children, young people and families who are most likely to benefit.

Throughout 2017/18, EIF continued to work closely with partners across government and the wider sector, to ensure decisions about policy and practice are informed by and based on evidence wherever possible. Some of our most positive impacts come in helping to shape the policies and programmes that underpin early intervention at all levels.

- EIF's ongoing research into the importance of interparental relationships and the potential impacts on children of prolonged, intense and poorly resolved parental conflict directly informed the 'Improving Lives' policy package announced by the Department for Work and Pensions in April 2017, and £30 million in funding for interventions designed to reduce parental conflict in families with the most disadvantaged children. EIF is working with DWP on the design and delivery of this programme.
- EIF's practical guidance on 23 interventions for disadvantaged families with complex needs, designed to support the Troubled Families Programme, has been distributed to Troubled Families coordinators around the country.
- EIF's report for the Home Office on the importance of trusted relationships between practitioners and vulnerable children (in the context of child sexual abuse and exploitation) directly informed the conditions of the Home Office's Trusted Relationships Fund, worth up to £13 million, announced in February 2018.
- EIF's qualitative research on the role of primary schools in preventing gang involvement shone a light on the challenges schools are facing and the poor join-up with wider early help services. EIF is now leading work with the London boroughs of Wandsworth and Lambeth to increase the take-up of evidence-based practice in primary schools, to improve the way the wider system works to support these schools, and to review the most effective out-of-school provision that can reinforce in-school activity.
- In March, EIF directors Tom McBride and Donna Molloy appeared before the science and technology select committee to give evidence to its inquiry into evidence-based early intervention. EIF's submission underlined the need for cross-government coordination of early intervention, increased investment, and a long-term research strategy to fill gaps in the evidence.



Milestones

New EIF chief executive
Dr Jo Casebourne took up the reins in August 2017. Formerly director of development at the Institute for Government, Jo succeeded Carey Oppenheim, who led EIF through the charity's first five years.



In March 2018, EIF agreed a new **two-year funding agreement** with a consortium of government departments and agencies: the Department for Education, Department for Work and Pensions, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, and Public Health England. While we continue to seek and secure funding from other sources, the agreement marks an important step away from a yearly cycle for the single largest part of EIF's budget.



Also in March 2018, our board of trustees approved **a new strategy** for the organisation covering EIF's second five years of operation, through to 2023. See pages 16–17 for more detail.

Reaching out



250,000
website pageviews,
from 86,000 visitors



10,500
Twitter followers,
generating 5,500
retweets and likes



17,500
downloads of reports
and related resources

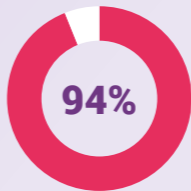


Almost 550
attendees at EIF events,
workshops and roundtables,
representing over 110 local
authorities, police forces and
NHS trust areas

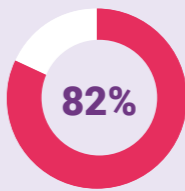


95%
of national conference
attendees who responded to
a post-event survey rated it as
satisfactory or very satisfactory

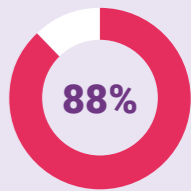
2017 EIF staff survey highlights



said that they feel
a strong sense of
belonging

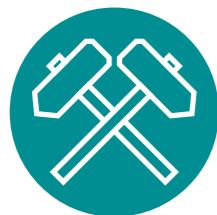


said that they have a clear
understanding of the
purpose and objectives of the
organisation



said that they feel
proud to work for EIF

Year in review



Building a research programme

During 2017/18 EIF continued to conduct research across a set of priority areas, including early years and child development, interparental relationships and the impact of parental conflict on children, social and emotional learning, and reducing vulnerability and acute risks.

We also embarked on a number of multi-year projects, designed to develop and test evidence, resources and implementation approaches in real time. These projects focus on areas as diverse as:

- Preventing gang involvement in primary school-age children
- Supporting an increase in the quantity and quality of early intervention evaluations
- How to build local service systems that work collaboratively to provide early intervention
- Working with individual local areas to support evidence-led commissioning and implementation of early years support



Providing evidence and tools

EIF published a total of 16 new reports and major resources in 2017/18, up from seven in the previous year. Our review of what works to support early language development – *Language as a child wellbeing indicator*, published in September – was the most-downloaded report of the year, and a blog by co-author Kirsten Asmussen published alongside the report was the most-read post of the year. Another innovative new report and guidance resource – *Evaluating early intervention programmes: Six common pitfalls, and how to avoid them* – introduced a new focus area for EIF, working to promote and support improved evaluation of early intervention in the UK.

The EIF Guidebook – our flagship resource providing information for commissioners about the effectiveness, relative cost and implementation of early intervention programmes – continued to grow, from 51 programmes to 81 by March 2018. Over the course of the year, the Guidebook received over 23,000 visits, generating 67,500 page views. More than 70% of UK visitors are located outside London, indicating that the Guidebook has good reach into local areas across the country.



Fostering new relationships

EIF continues to maintain good working relationships with related government departments, and to build contacts among ministers and political leaders with responsibilities or personal interests tied to early intervention. In 2017/18, this included meetings with Robert Goodwill MP, children and families minister at DfE and DWP minister Kit Malthouse, who subsequently spoke at one of EIF's half-day conferences on reducing parental conflict. In autumn 2017, EIF chief executive Jo Casebourne attended both the Labour and Conservative party conferences, appearing on panels relating to devolution and metro mayors, poverty and family outcomes, and language skills and closing the gap.

EIF also progressed a number of new working relationships with other research and sector organisations, including new or deepening partnerships with the Education Endowment Fund (on early years pedagogy and social and emotional learning in schools), the Education Policy Institute (on early years pedagogy) and Pedal, the Centre for Research on Play in Education, Development & Learning at Cambridge University.

Three new online resources brought together practical guidance in accessible, engaging new formats.

- 'Early intervention into action' provides five rules of thumb for evaluating early intervention at a local level, and seven case studies of local areas undertaking quality evaluation of new services or approaches to early intervention.
- The 'EIF Commissioner Guide: Reducing the impact of interparental conflict on children' traces the journey for local commissioners seeking to tackle this issue, in an interactive format that brings together a series of useful tools and examples from EIF and others.
- The 'Reducing Parental Conflict Hub' provides a one-stop shop for EIF information and resources related to this crucial agenda, and specifically to support the DWP's new £30 million national programme.

In addition to several long-format evidence reports, EIF published a number of new, highly accessible, short-format resources. These included an easy-access introduction to the language, potential and evidence-base of social and emotional learning, a policy briefing on its vital role in supporting children's mental health, and a briefing for the NHS and other health professionals on the importance of reducing harmful parental conflict through all health services.



Events and sector networking

The EIF national conference took place in London in May 2017. The national conference is arguably the premier event bringing together the early intervention community, from senior policymakers to frontline practitioners. Speakers including ADCS president Alison Michalska, and Hackney public health worker Kerry Littleford, who spoke from her personal experience of the care system. Around 250 attendees also took part in four workshop sessions, focusing on social mobility, interparental relationships, local systems and protecting vulnerable children.

In March, EIF hosted two half-day conferences, in London and Manchester, to make the case for reducing the impact of harmful parental conflict as a priority for early intervention across children's services, health, policing and schools. DWP minister Kit Malthouse spoke at the London event, alongside representatives from DWP and local authorities. EIF also launched its first animation to communicate the key argument that the ability of other public services to help a child can be undermined if harmful parental conflict is not addressed.

EIF hosted two meetings of the Places Network, which connects early intervention innovators and champions from 58 local authorities and police forces across the country. In addition to hearing the latest findings and recommendations directly from EIF, the network has allowed places to share their own experiences, advice and ideas. EIF also hosted two masterclasses for members of the Academy for Police Leaders, a roundtable for police on the use of the adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) framework, and meetings of the EIF network established to support local areas piloting the DWP's Local Family Offer programme focused on interparental relationships.



New reports and resources

April 2017

- Interparental relationships, conflict and the impacts of poverty: An overview
- Interparental conflict and outcomes for children in the contexts of poverty and economic pressure
- Exploring parental relationship support: A qualitative study

June

- Improving the effectiveness of the child protection system

July

- Early intervention into action: Innovation and evaluation

September

- EIF Commissioner Guide: Reducing the impact of interparental conflict on children
- Language as a child wellbeing indicator

December

- Social and emotional learning: supporting children and young people's mental health

October

- Commissioning parenting and family support for Troubled Families
- Functional Map: Troubled Families practitioners

February

- Building trusted relationships for vulnerable children and young people with public services
- Introduction to social and emotional learning in schools
- Evaluating early intervention programmes: Six common pitfalls, and how to avoid them

January 2018

- Reducing Parental Conflict Hub

March

- Intervening early to prevent gang and youth violence: The role of primary schools
- Why reducing parental conflict matters for the NHS

Understanding the sector

Early intervention is at work across multiple sectors – from health to education, family support to youth justice – and at every level from central government to frontline service delivery. To ensure EIF’s research and resources remain relevant and useful to everyone from Whitehall policymakers to local leaders to professionals and practitioners working across the country, it is vital that we understand our audiences’ needs and concerns, and their views on our own past performance.

In winter 2017/18, EIF undertook a large-scale national survey of senior early intervention leaders and decision-makers via an online stakeholder survey. This survey, undertaken by third-sector research specialists nfpSynergy, was distributed to just over 10,000 new and pre-existing EIF contacts, and received 520 responses.

The early intervention sector Key findings



Priority

While almost two-thirds of respondents (**64%**) strongly agreed that early intervention was a priority for them and their work, less than half (**46%**) strongly agreed that it was a priority for their organisation or workplace.

When asked to nominate what would make early intervention a higher priority, respondents’ top three choices were increased funding and resources (selected by **67%**), increased political demand or support (**52%**), and early intervention with broader application across multiple issues (**36%**).



Barriers

Asked to identify the main barriers to more early intervention being available, the most popular responses were being outranked by higher priorities (selected by **52%**), the lack of statutory status (**46%**) and benefits accruing too far into the future (**42%**).



Understanding

60% of respondents strongly agreed that they had a good understanding of the term ‘early intervention’, but just **7%** strongly agreed that there is a good understanding generally of the term.

EIF and its role Key findings



EIF brand

Overall, **81%** of respondents had heard of EIF. Among these people, EIF was very well trusted (**91%** agree or strongly agree), respected (**90%**) and valued (**86%**).

Over **400 respondents** had previously come into contact with EIF content via reports, resources and other activities or products. Between **89–100%** of respondents rated these contacts as very or quite useful, depending on the format, with practical guidance, seminars and workshops, and research reports topping the list.



Changes

87% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they had learned from their contact with EIF, with **54%** saying they had made changes in their work as a result, and **46%** planning to do so.



Information

When asked where respondents would like more information on early intervention, the most nominated issues were mental health, parenting support and support for teenagers. Thinking about the ‘how to’ of early intervention, the most popular requests for more information were measurement and evaluation, matching local needs to interventions, and building local systems.

Changing behaviour

Behaviour change is at the heart of EIF's mission: the research and resources that we produce are designed to influence the decisions of political leaders, policy-makers, local commissioners and service managers, by providing evidence-based information and guidance about what works to improve outcomes for children and young people. It is important that we take the time to evaluate how well we are influencing the behaviour of key early intervention actors, and to apply the lessons to our future work.

In autumn 2017, EIF received the final report from an evaluation of our work to disseminate the findings of our major 2016 review of early years programmes, Foundations for Life. The evaluation followed up with commissioners and practitioners who had attended EIF's Early Years Parenting and Family Relationships Conference (Birmingham, July 2016) at which the report was launched, and six evidence seminars held in five cities around England between November 2016 and February 2017.

These events were designed to pass on the substance of our findings on effective early intervention targeting parent-child attachment, child behaviour and cognitive development, to communicate the role

and value of evidence in decisions about commissioning early years support, and to help commissioners and practitioners make use of key EIF resources, including the Foundations for Life report itself and our flagship online EIF Guidebook. The events were organised and delivered by EIF, and primarily targeted commissioners and leaders of early years services.

The evaluation was undertaken by Cedar (the Centre for Educational Development, Appraisal and Research), based at the University of Warwick. Event participants were invited to complete a questionnaire before attending (pre), at the end of the event (post) and 4-6 months later (follow-up).

Conference event

Key findings on impact



Survey immediately after the event



Those who said they intended to use EIF evidence in service or commissioning decisions either quite a lot or very often increased significantly, from **21%** to **68%**, compared with before the conference.

Post-event survey



Around two-thirds (65%) of participants said they felt more confident about using evidence in their decision-making at work; **34%** said they felt confident anyway, and only **1%** said they did not feel confident, before or after, to do so.

Follow-up survey 4-6 months later



83% of remaining respondents said they had used EIF evidence, **61%** had discussed best practice with their colleagues 'a lot', and **96%** had changed their own practice at work at least 'a little' (and **27%** by 'a lot').

Evidence seminars

Key findings on impact



Those who said they intended to use EIF evidence in service or commissioning decisions either quite a lot or very often increased significantly, from **28%** to **58%**, compared with before the seminars.

More than two-thirds (70%) of participants said they felt more confident about using evidence in their decision-making at work; **27%** said they felt confident anyway, and only **3%** said they did not feel confident, before or after, to do so.

65% of remaining respondents said they had used EIF evidence (in almost a third of cases, in commissioning decisions), **39%** had discussed best practice with their colleagues at least 'a little', and **69%** had changed their own practice at work at least 'a little' (**15%** by 'a lot').

Our strategy, 2018–2023

Over the past five years, EIF has built the foundations of a well-regarded and reputable independent organisation, undertaken major studies into key areas of early intervention, and established a valuable body of research and resources. At the same time, a lot has changed in the context in which early intervention is delivered. EIF must continue to learn and adapt, to remain relevant, influential and useful.

Our new strategy, 2018–2023, takes EIF through the second five years of its life. It reflects what we have learned in our own early years, and underlines why so many people continue to work so hard to make effective early intervention a cornerstone of our public services and our society's approach to supporting children and young people.



What is EIF working to achieve?

Our vision is that all children are able to achieve their full potential.

We know that not all children are fulfilling their full potential and that gaps in children's development open up early. These gaps matter for children's outcomes such as educational attainment, employment prospects and physical or mental health. This has long-term consequences for both the individual child and for society as a whole.



Our mission is to ensure that effective early intervention is available and is used to improve the lives of children and young people at risk of poor outcomes.

Early intervention is effective when it shows evidence of improving outcomes for children and young people. Of course, evidence is only one consideration in deciding what to deliver. We know that national and local decision-makers need to take other factors into account, such as cost and local context. But, on balance, children and young people who receive early intervention that has been shown through robust methods to improve outcomes are more likely to benefit, and to a greater degree, than those who receive other support.

Effective early intervention works by identifying children who need help and providing early support to reduce the risk of problems occurring and to tackle them head-on when they do. It also helps to foster a whole set of personal strengths and skills that prepare a child for adult life.

Who are we trying to reach?

EIF's audiences are those who have the ability to prioritise and invest in effective early intervention.

To reach these groups, EIF must work to be influential at the **national** and **local level**, and **to ensure our messages are heard at the frontline**.

Political leaders, policy-makers, sector bodies, funders and charities at the national level set the rules of the game – they determine the extent to which early intervention is prioritised and invested in across the country as a whole.

At the local level, politicians and senior leaders can set a vision and strategy which mobilises services and resources around the concept of early intervention, while commissioners and service managers can commission, innovate and evaluate early intervention.

Through influencing national and local audiences, we can shift the actions and decisions of practitioners working at the frontline.

What will we do to achieve our objectives?

To achieve our mission, we will undertake work in three main areas, which support and inform each other.

- 1 Making the case**
 - Developing a new narrative on the social and economic case for early intervention
 - Working with new champions for early intervention to make the case
- 2 Generating evidence**
 - Evidence to change policy and practice
 - Supporting others to build the evidence-base
- 3 Using evidence to change policy and practice**
 - Working with policymakers
 - Working with sector and workforce bodies, and charities
 - Running networks and evidence masterclasses
 - Working directly with local places

What will we do to support that work?

To ensure we are able to make the case for early intervention, generate evidence, and use that evidence to change policy and practice, we will continue to build a strong, sustainable and effective organisation. This includes:

Two vital organisational functions:



Effective communications

+



Sustainable funding

Two important ways of working:



Forming excellent partnerships

+



Understanding our impact

Looking ahead: 2018/19

As our new strategy makes clear, we will focus our energies where we think we can make the biggest difference. The areas we work on at EIF are led by the need to fill gaps in the evidence-base, to ensure evidence of what works is used to change policy and practice, and to explore promising policies, programmes and practices that could make a real difference.

The strategy also makes clear the three priority areas of work for EIF over the next five years – making the case, generating new evidence and using evidence to change policy and practice – which we will start to tackle immediately.

In all, EIF will run around 30 projects in 2018/19, some of which are multi-year projects, and we will be responsive to requests from government or the sector for evidence-led information and guidance on issues as they arise. As a What Works centre, our role is to conduct research that is useful to policy-makers and decision-makers out there in the world – never for its own sake – and in turn to inform and assist people to make better decisions for more effective early intervention.

1 Making the case

A lot has changed for EIF in the five years since it was established, both within the organisation and in the wider world. In our environment, we have seen new majority and minority governments, new leadership in all the main political parties, the decision for the UK to exit from the EU, and the emergence of a more volatile public debate about political priorities. There is a clear opportunity to engage a new generation of national and local decision-makers to become leaders and advocates for early intervention.

At EIF, we have undertaken a series of ‘what works’ evidence reviews on major issues, including early years development, language and communication skills, social and emotional learning, parental relationships, and gang and youth violence. As well as helping to inform and shape government policy, these reviews have also given us a much clearer picture of what we know about what works in early intervention – and just as importantly, what we don’t yet know.

All of these changes underline the need for a refreshed set of arguments in favour of early intervention, against a new political backdrop and within a context of a growing UK early intervention evidence base. These arguments need to reflect the challenges that we know many in our sector are facing, and the nuance of everything we’ve learned over five years of research. To do this, we will develop the evidence further, create a new narrative, and both engage new champions and re-engage with existing advocates.

The evidence will focus on what is known about the links between key risk factors and long-term outcomes for children, to set out where the most potential for early intervention lies, and update the economic case for early intervention, to highlight where and how the economic benefits can accrue.

The narrative will restate the moral and social case for early intervention – how problems experienced in childhood impact on long-term outcomes, and how early

intervention works to break that chain; which children can be helped and which child outcomes can be improved.

Our work to engage and re-engage champions of early intervention will involve influencing and persuading a new generation of advocates, as well as providing existing champions with new arguments and evidence to help them make the case for effective early intervention, nationally or locally.

2 Generating new evidence

Evidence lies at the heart of everything we do: it is a crucial tool for understanding what has worked in the past, and what is more likely to work in the future. In addition to the evidence that will underpin our refreshed case for early intervention, we will focus our research in five key areas, as well as towards a broader objective of supporting others to evaluate early intervention more rigorously and more often, thereby building the UK evidence base for all of us to use.

Those five key areas are evidence on identifying risk, on how to effectively assess need, on evidence-based programmes, on effective workforce practice, and on how to create effective local conditions and systems to support early intervention.

In 2018/19, our work will address several of these areas, including evidence-based programmes (such as our work to maintain and continue growing the EIF Guidebook and our assessment of interparental relationships programmes), creating effective local conditions and systems (such as our project on how to evaluate effective early intervention systems) and effective workforce practice (such as our report on early years pedagogy).

Our work on supporting others to build the evidence base is designed to improve the quantity and quality of UK evaluation. Projects in this vital area include work on how to evaluate integrated services, support for evaluation of government initiatives such as the Troubled Families programme, Reducing Parental Conflict programme and Social Mobility Action Plan, and specific guidance for programme developers who are just starting out on the road towards rigorous evaluation.

3 Using evidence to change policy and practice

To achieve our mission, it is vital that the evidence and guidance we create is seen, believed and applied by people across the sector, from key government ministers to practitioners across the country. We will work with policy-makers, with sector and workforce bodies and large charities, through our networks, and directly with local places. This work covers the same broad expanse of subject areas as our work to generate evidence, from early years to mental health, from youth violence to family relationships.

Examples of work to change policy and practice taking place in 2018/19 include a knowledge mobilisation project, in partnership with the Education Endowment Foundation, to test how best to engage schools with new guidance on teaching social and emotional skills; making the case to commissioners in several key sectors as to why reducing parental conflict is crucial to the effectiveness of other public services; working with the Department for Education on how social and emotional learning can boost mental health capacity within schools; and continuing our work with the London boroughs of Lambeth and Wandsworth to improve the way primary schools work with the wider early help system to prevent gang involvement and youth violence.

Managing our resources

EIF is a registered charity and What Works Centre. We rely on public funds to undertake our work, and we invest as much as possible in our charitable objectives. EIF is proud to be independent of political and special interest groups.

Income

In 2017/18, EIF received core funding of £1.06 million from central government. While this forms the majority of our funding, we continually aim to diversify our income sources.

To that end, we secured £129,000 of grants from research councils and trusts, £154,000 of funding on a commercial basis from contracts for services, and £43,000 from conferences and events, all of which furthers our charitable purpose.

As a registered charity, the EIF is required to account for its income in line with the Charities SORP.

74% of our 2017/18 income was restricted, meaning it can only be used for specific purposes.

Thank you

We could not have delivered our work in 2017/18 without the support of our funders, listed on page 25.



staff employed at the end of 2017/18.

Expenditure

EIF looks to maximise its in-house capacity to deliver its evidence-based analysis, policy and practice work (project direct costs), and to minimise the cost of its corporate core (support costs).

Of the £1,335,000 disbursed on project direct costs, the equivalent of £1,147,000 was delivered using in-house resources, meaning just £188,000, or 14%, was delivered using external resource (compared to £301,000 in the prior year). Delivering our work in-house provides a high degree of efficiency and greater control over quality.

86% of evidence-based analysis, policy and practice work delivered in-house.

EIF employs people with a variety of skills in the field of evidenced-based policy and practice, some of whom are subject experts in the field of early intervention, and provides excellent value for money.



Financial statements

Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) For the year ended 31 March 2018

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2018 Total funds £	2017 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
— Donations and legacies		2,254	-	2,254	-
Charitable activities	*				
— Evidence-based analysis, policy and practice		365,765	1,061,425	1,427,190	2,314,842
— Investment income		5,808	-	5,808	12,925
Total		373,827	1,061,425	1,435,252	2,327,767
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
— Evidence-based analysis, policy and practice		498,651	1,061,425	1,560,076	1,349,267
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(124,824)	-	(124,824)	978,500
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		1,822,634	-	1,822,634	844,134
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		1,697,810	-	1,697,810	1,822,634

Balance Sheet At 31 March 2018

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2018 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS				
— Debtors	229,446	-	229,446	301,150
— Cash at bank	1,679,068	195,000	1,874,068	1,942,630
	1,908,514	195,000	2,103,514	2,243,780
CREDITORS				
— Amounts falling due within one year	(210,704)	(195,000)	(405,704)	(421,146)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	1,697,810	-	1,697,810	1,822,634
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	1,697,810	-	1,697,810	1,822,634
NET ASSETS	1,697,810	-	1,697,810	1,822,634
FUNDS				
— Unrestricted funds			947,810	1,072,634
— Designated fund			750,000	750,000
TOTAL FUNDS			1,697,810	1,822,634

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 26 July 2018 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr M G Pilgrim, Treasurer

Early Intervention Foundation
Cash Flow Statement
For the year ended 31 March 2018

	2018 £	2017 £
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Cash generated from operations	(74,370)	153,922
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(74,370)	153,922
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Interest received	5,808	12,925
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	5,808	12,925
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	(68,562)	166,847
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	1,942,630	1,775,783
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	1,874,068	1,942,630

The summarised accounts presented here are extracted from the Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2018, which were approved by the Trustee Board on 26 July 2018. The report of the auditors on these Accounts was unqualified. These summarised accounts do not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of EIF. A copy of the full document can be obtained from the charity commission website or EIF’s registered office.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2018

* Income from Charitable Activities

		2018 £	2017 £
Activity			
Other	Evidence-based analysis, policy and practice	236,517	72,249
Grants	Evidence-based analysis, policy and practice	1,190,673	2,242,593
		1,427,190	2,314,842

		2018 £	2017 £
Other income, included in the above, was as follows:			
Contracts		154,253	47,381
Events delegate income		43,027	22,938
Sponsorship		38,400	-
Consultancy income		-	1,500
Other revenue		837	430
		236,517	72,249

		2018 £	2017 £
Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:			
EIF establishment and sustainability grant		-	1,011,616
Home Office		75,000	20,000
Public Health England		34,000	132,300
Economic and Social Research Council		-	19,000
Middlesbrough Council		-	16,495
Bradford Trident		-	1,412
Torbay Council		-	4,503
Cross Government Grant 2016/17		81,059	702,267
Local Government Association		15,000	65,000
Battersea Power Station Foundation		50,248	15,000
Joseph Rowntree Foundation		60,000	255,000
Institute of Fiscal Studies		4,000	-
Cross Government Grant 2017/18		871,366	-
		1,190,673	2,242,593

The Cross Government Grant is funded by Department for Education (DfE); Department for Work and Pensions (DWP); Public Health England (PHE) and the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). The reduction in Grants received from the year to 31 March 2017 is due to the residual sum of the EIF Establishment and Sustainability Grant being recognised as operational income in that year. In addition the following amounts have been deferred and are carried forward to 2018/19:

	2018 £	2017 £
Donations - National Conference	-	56,860
Cross Government Grant 2017/18	195,000	81,059
Public Health England	-	34,200
Battersea Power Station Foundation	62,255	50,248
	257,255	222,367

The work we have undertaken in 2017/18 would not have been possible without the support of our funders. Accordingly we would like to extend our thanks to all these organisations for their support.

Early Intervention Foundation

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EIF is a member of

**What
Works
Network** 

EIF is a registered charity (1152605) and a company limited by guarantee (8066785).