

Role description

Evidence panel member

The evidence panel is an advisory group that provides world-class expertise to support the overall direction and development of the Early Intervention Foundation's evidence generation function. The panel comprises 10–12 members, made up of experts from across a range of academic and professional disciplines of relevance to EIF's work. These include, but are not limited to:

- developmental psychology
- neuroscience
- evaluation
- economics
- psychiatry
- genetics
- public health
- sociology
- social work.

The panel is chaired by the director of evidence. A member of EIF's Board of trustees also sits on the panel and they jointly have responsibility to raise matters of significance to the Board.

Role of the evidence panel

The evidence panel provides advice on:

- the strategic direction and overall content of EIF's evidence generation programme.
- technical and methodological aspects relevant to EIF's evidence and research, including approaches to evaluating programmes, practices and systems and approaches to assessing cost and impact.
- the future development of EIF's evidence standards.
- EIF's approach to quality assurance.
- EIF's relationship with the research community and wider stakeholders including research funders.
- EIF's approach to getting evidence used to change policy and practice.

Role requirements

Members of the evidence panel are required to attend two meetings each year (Spring and Autumn). They will:

- have a strong interest in, understanding of, and commitment to EIF's objectives.
- provide advice and challenge on issues raised by EIF's director of evidence and the wider evidence team in relation to our work to generate evidence and use it to change policy and practice.
- provide unbiased insights and ideas from a third point-of-view.
- encourage and support the exploration of new ideas.
- bring experience of building and sustaining relationships with key stakeholders and colleagues to achieve organisational objectives.
- show a history of impartiality, fairness and the ability to respect confidences whilst providing frank and open challenge.
- have a track record of, and commitment to, promoting equality and diversity.
- show a commitment to the organisation and a willingness to devote the necessary time and effort.

From time to time we will ask members with relevant expertise to join advisory panels to oversee specific evidence. This is voluntary rather than a requirement of the role.

Members will be appointed initially for a term of three years, with the option of reappointment for a further three years. The role is voluntary, but expenses will be paid.