



**THURSDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2021,
1.30 UK TIME**

MAKING BETTER POLICY: USING EVIDENCE EFFECTIVELY - FREE WEBINAR

[Free webinar: 9 September 1.30 pm UK time – Register here](#)

Many countries across the world strive to make better public policy by using an evidence-based approach to the policy making process. There is often disagreement, however, as to what constitutes 'evidence' and how it can be used at different stages of the policy process.

This webinar will start by reviewing how evidence can be used to inform decision making throughout the different stages of the policy process. We will consider what constitutes 'evidence' and how it interacts with the driving forces of policy – belief, ideology and values. The 'sweet spot' of good policy making is where evidence, politics and delivery overlap.

We will look at other factors that contribute to making better policy, including:

- Stakeholder engagement (rather than just consultation)
- In-depth understanding of the problem-in-hand
- Thinking broadly about policy options that might address the problem
- Using evidence to establish what has worked effectively and efficiently elsewhere
- Developing a delivery plan before the policy is rolled out
- Building effective monitoring and evaluation into the policy process.

The webinar will highlight case studies from different countries to illustrate how evidence has helped make better policy and avoid policy failure.

Our presenter, Dr. Philip Davies, was a senior civil servant in the UK Cabinet Office and HM Treasury from 2000 to 2007. He was responsible for policy evaluation and analysis.

Before joining the Cabinet Office, Philip was a University Lecturer in Social and Political Science at the University of Oxford. He has held academic positions at the University of Aberdeen and the University of California, San Diego.

Philip has substantive expertise in health and health care, education, social welfare, crime and justice, and international development. He has taught courses on policy evaluation, evidence-based policy making, and the analysis and use of evidence across the UK and in the USA, Canada, and various countries in Europe, Africa, Australasia and the Caribbean.

Making Policy More Effective professional development workshop

This workshop has been designed to help public policy makers at all levels of government, as well as in national and international NGOs, make better decisions and achieve better outcomes by using analysis, evidence and evaluation effectively.

The workshop has heightened relevance in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has demonstrated the delicate interplay between scientific evidence, expertise and judgement in responding to a rapidly changing situation.

