



CENTRE FOR
EXPERIMENTAL
SOCIAL
SCIENCES

Cross-Government Trial Advice Panel

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- 2015: Cabinet Office and the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)
- Cross-Government Trial Advice Panel
- 30 UK academics appointed to support government departments in design, implementation, and analysis of randomised controlled trial (RCT) evaluations.

How it worked

Figure 2: User journey with the Trial Advice Panel (TAP)



Contact TAP
Most people do this via the TAP mailbox.



Receive response and fill out forms
The What Works Team carries out an initial assessment and asks for a simple application and agreement form to be filled out.



TAP Adviser gets in touch
The What Works Team liaises with the relevant TAP member in the applicant's department (where applicable). The TAP adviser identifies panel members who can advise.



First meeting with TAP advisers
This might be in person or over the phone. Panel members should already understand the nature of the request from the application form.



Ongoing support from TAP members as requested
The departmental TAP lead will stay in touch with the applicant and arrange appropriate support as the project progresses.

What I did – some examples

- OFGEM: CMOL RCT on SVT customers
- HMRC: RCT with 1 million tax payers – personalised e-mail and text messages on taxpayer filing behaviour
- BIS: RCT on effectiveness of blended versus face-to-face delivery of adult English and math training
- DWP and DoH; RCT to help people back into employment after illness
- Future Leaders Scheme
- Technical workshops

A valuable public service

- We have an extremely impressive and talented civil service
- Very small investment on our part can provide significant value added
 - Technical support and advice on design and analysis
 - Future Leaders Scheme
 - Technical workshops

- Excellent learning opportunities – at least for me
- Projects building on Trial Advice Panel
 - Retirement Investment and Financial Literacy – FCA, FSCS, SP Chile and SEC (Ongoing)
 - Chile Contraloria Audit RCT Project 2019
 - Private sector initiative – Hyper Jar 2019
 - Education: Governments (UK, Chile, and India); NGOs (UNESCO and the World Bank); Experiments, Leadership and Innovation Workshops (Ongoing)

End

THANK YOU!