



What might evidence look like?

The Evidence Pie

A simple way to understand and use different types of evidence for better decisions



Lived Experience

Views and perspectives from residents and people who use our services, on the services, support, and key priorities.

e.g. Feedback from residents who have used a local housing support service, on their experiences and suggestions for improvement

Professional Insight

Specialised knowledge and judgement from subject matter experts on how well interventions and services work.

e.g. A social worker's insights on the effectiveness of a new family support programme based on their direct experience working with families

Population and Place Data

Information about the population or place, its needs, and how it is changing over time.

e.g. Census data showing changes in the local population such as age, ethnic distribution, etc, contributing towards the development of future community services

Research and Publications

Publications might include academic or professional research, government, or organisational policy and documents.

e.g. A university's research study identifying best practice for reducing youth unemployment, to inform local job training programmes

Organisational Data

Data on service delivery, resource use, and the skills and performance of the workforce.

e.g. Monitoring data on the efficiency of waste collection services, including resource use, pick up routes and staff performance metrics

Evaluation and Impact

Reflective review of services and interventions, monitoring processes or measuring impact.

e.g. Results from an evaluation of a local health initiative, showing the improvements it made to individuals' mental wellbeing

What can evidence look like? The Evidence Pie

A simple way to understand and use different types of evidence for better decisions.



The Evidence Pie IS

- Designed to support conversations about evidence for any decision
- A tool to help us think about the forms evidence can take
- A positive tool which often leads to the realisation that we are already using a wide range of evidence
- Representing the wide range of evidence we should be engaging with, and where we may have gaps in our knowledge that other people or organisations could help us with
- Adaptable to reflect your organisation's language and examples



The Evidence Pie is NOT

- New!
- Untested
- Stating that all six types of evidence should always be used



How to start using the Evidence Pie

We can use the Evidence Pie as part of our decision-making process. We know that influences on decisions vary based on context and different influences might be given different weight at different times. For example, resources, community values and political judgement.

Using the Evidence Pie can help open discussions between colleagues and with different organisations.

Here are some ways you can start using the Pie to expand your insight:

- 1** Reflect on which types of evidence you, your team or service are strongest in. Do not expect to be experts in all types.
- 2** Consider all the types of evidence equally. Where you have gaps in specific types of evidence, ask who could help you find that evidence to inform your decisions.
- 3** Use the Pie with colleagues and other organisations to discuss what you think 'evidence' is, and if there is a type of evidence you have always wanted to gather.
- 4** Add the Pie onto your meeting agendas or resources. It is a reminder for anyone to help check what evidence is being presented and where there may be more available.
- 5** As you talk about evidence in more detail, other issues will need to be discussed. These include the quality or robustness of a piece of evidence; where there may be bias in the evidence; and what to do if different pieces of evidence disagree with each other. Be open about any concerns, agree how significant these concerns may be, and ask colleagues for guidance with these.

Find more Evidence Pie resources
at www.HertsHealthEvidence.org

