

## Triangulating Information for Evaluation

**Aim of the Programme:** To use theatre processes and practice as creative tools to develop the social and personal skills of homeless adults and to contribute to participants' ability to resettle, find stability and address ongoing health and substance misuse issues.

**Evaluation Methods:** See overleaf for a detailed diagram representing the evaluation structure for the Community Leader programme. Participant led reflection is at the centre of the evaluation process, and this is supported by four other key practices: practitioner reflection, monitoring (quantitative) data, qualitative interviews and professional observations. Together, these form the basis for analysing and triangulating information – checking whether the different kinds of information tell a similar story and (even more interestingly) where they vary.

This evaluation process then leads into recommendations and reports. Information has been compiled in the following reports (both of which are available to download from [royalexchange.co.uk/backstageme](http://royalexchange.co.uk/backstageme)):

- Year 1: '**Backstage! Me!**', an evaluation report on the work of the drama group; and
- Year 2: '**From Ideas into Doing**', an evaluation report on the work of the Progression Group

### TERMS USED

**Participant led Reflection:** Looking back on and learning from experience, from the point of view of the participant, not the professional worker.

**Quantitative Data:** Using numbers and other kinds of factual information to build up a picture of what is happening. Good for getting an overview: what happened when, how many people were involved?

**Qualitative Data:** Information drawn from asking people to describe their experiences and ideas for the future in their own words. Good for gathering detail: how did something happen, why did it work or not work, what did it mean for or effect people, how could it be improved?

**Case Study:** A short example that illustrates what is happening – it might be written or on film or an audio recording.

**Triangulation:** Using information gathered from different sources to check whether or not something is happening, or whether there are interesting differences in the information which might be worth exploring further.

**Visual Minutes:** A way of capturing discussions and meetings in pictures rather than words. There are lots of examples of this technique available on YouTube, e.g.

[youtube.com/watch?v=zpq3ldUVLps](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zpq3ldUVLps).

