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“Great idea, but will it work?”
Evaluating innovation using a logic model

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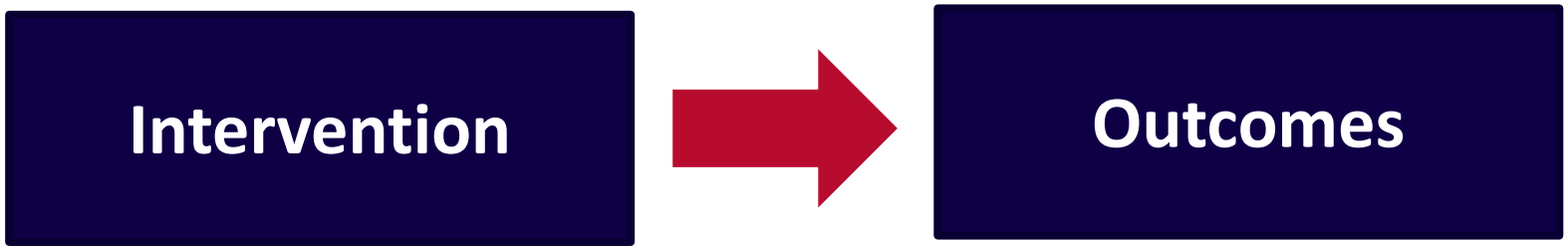
Workshop

1. Evaluation in a nutshell
2. What is a logic model and how to use one?
3. Choose your technology and get creative!

Evaluation in a nutshell

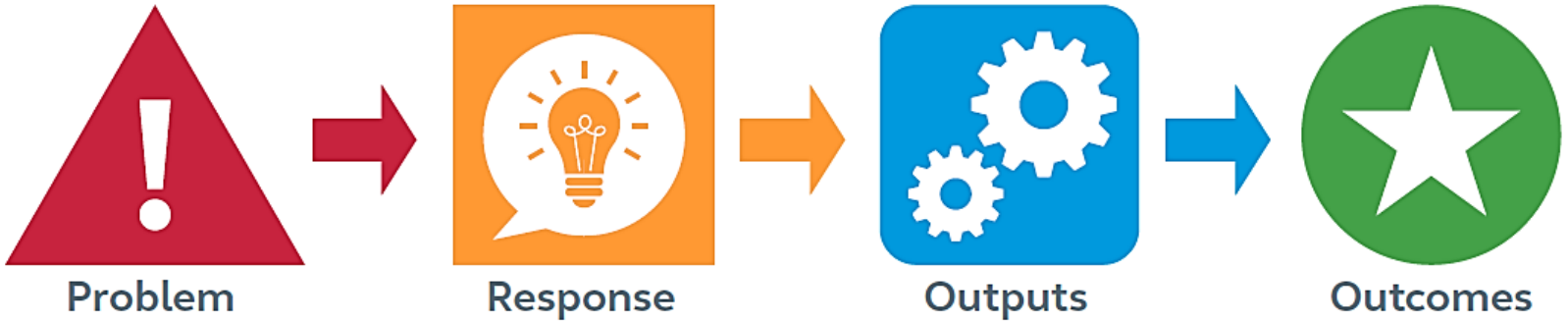
Impact evaluation is about demonstrating **what impact** a specific **intervention** has on pre-defined **outcomes**.



Process evaluation aims to understand **how** an intervention has been implemented and delivered, and identify **why** it has or hasn't had any impact.

The most informative evaluations mix both approaches. A logic model can help you plan to do this.

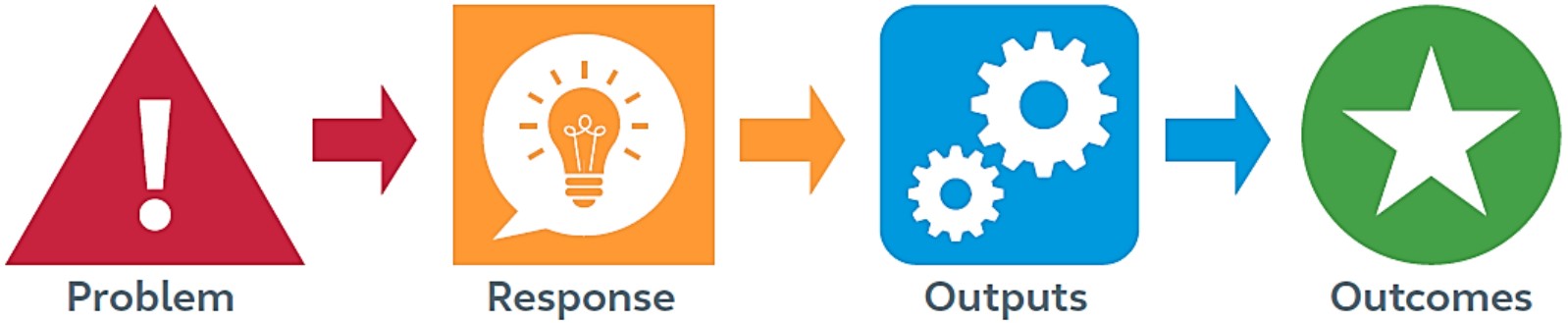
What is a logic model?



Why?

Forms the basis of your evaluation
Aids critical thinking
Helps to
…plan what you need to succeed
…identify the data you need
…sell your solution to others

What is a logic model?

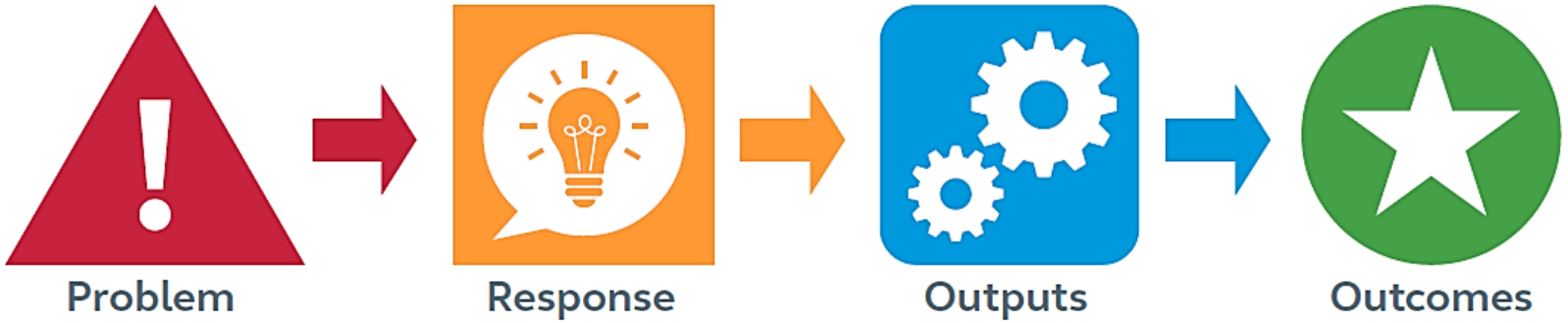


Who?

Anyone and everyone!

Including others helps identify issues you may miss

What is a logic model?



When?

At the start of a project with regular reviews throughout

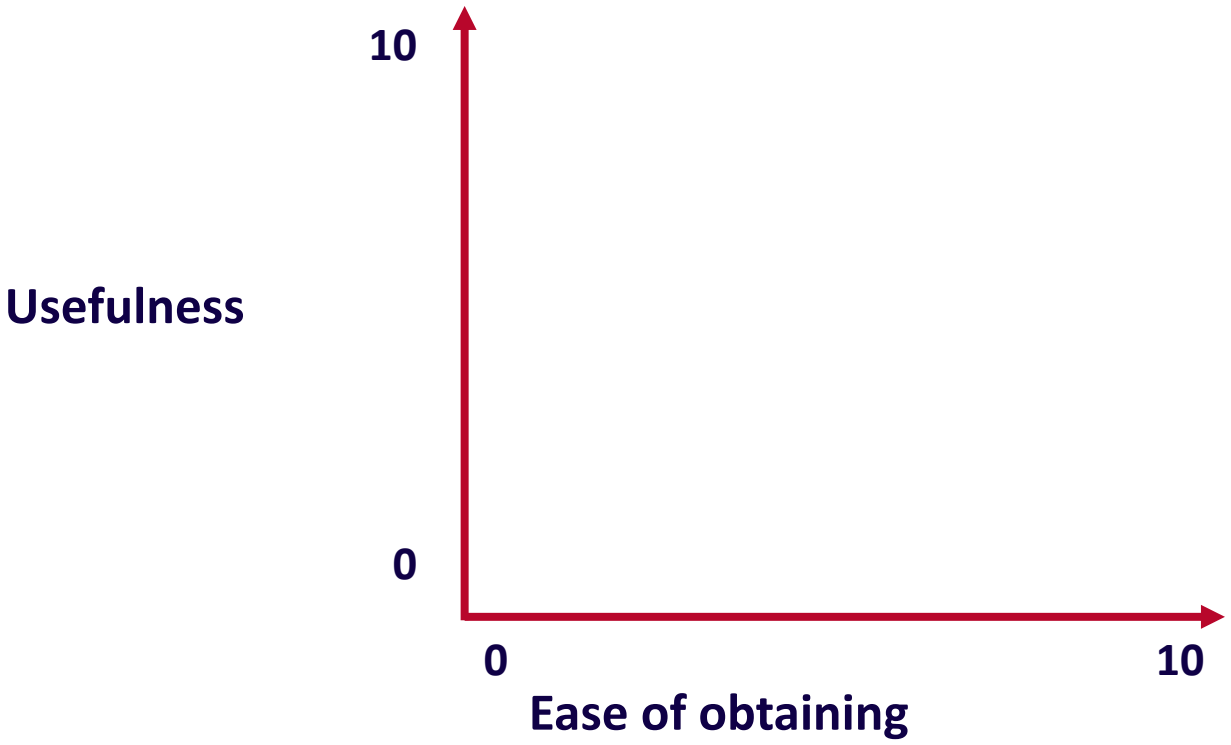
Understand the problem

First, describe your problem.

- Likely causes
- Characteristics of the individuals involved
- Peak times & places
- Qualitative data – e.g. public/staff perceptions
- Key stakeholders
- Prevalence of the problem (is it long term/widespread?)
- Other consequences of the problem

Identifying data needs

- Is it worth surveying all response teams in force to understand an issue?
- Does routinely collected data give you the full picture?



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Design a tailored response

Then, choose an intervention and consider what you will need to deliver it.

- Finances
- Resources/staff
- Time
- Technology
- Materials
- Skills and knowledge

Outputs - what needs to be produced

Note: outputs shouldn't be used to evaluate the success of an intervention.

Outputs are measurable and can describe the amount of activity expected or delivered.
For example – if your response is a training course, an output would be number of people trained

Outputs can be used to monitor the progress of your project

Your outputs must be clearly linked to the outcomes you expect from your response

What are your outcomes?

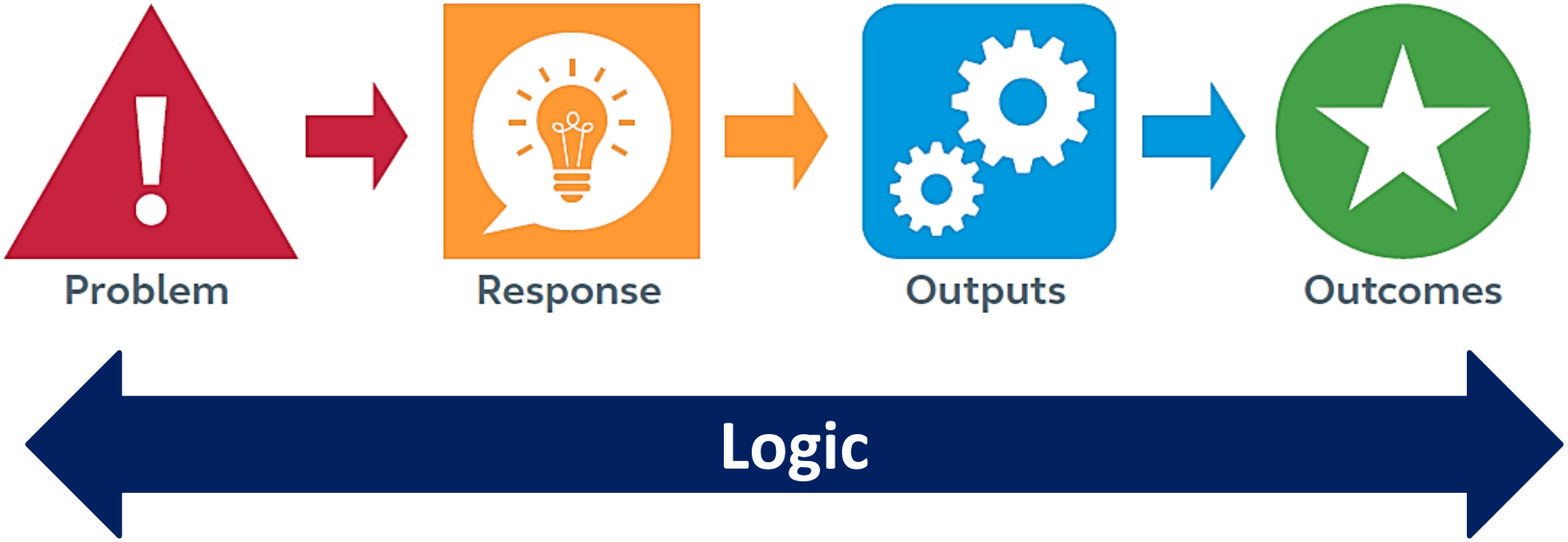
Finally, think about the short, medium and long term changes you expect to see.

Remember, outcomes are different to outputs! Outcomes measure the **impact** of an intervention

You need to identify your outcome data at the **start** of planning a project. It's often the same data used to understand the problem

How will you measure your outcomes reliably?
- What data/information do you need?
- Can you access it?
- Is the data detailed enough? (e.g. can it be linked to individuals or teams?)
- Can outcomes be linked your response and outputs?

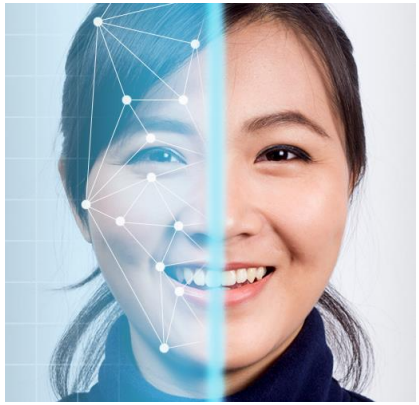
Logic Model

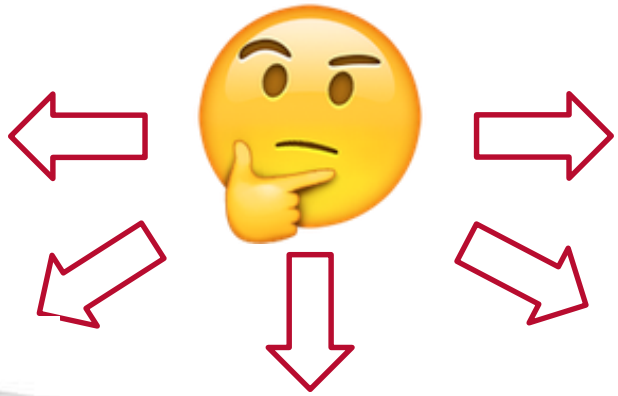


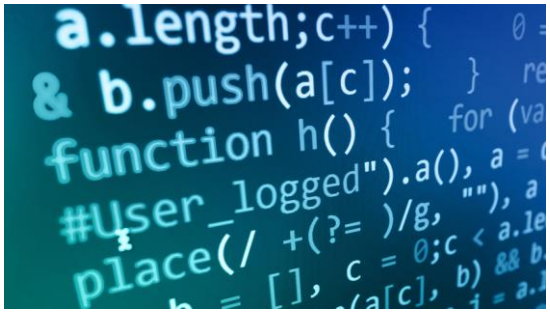
Your mission

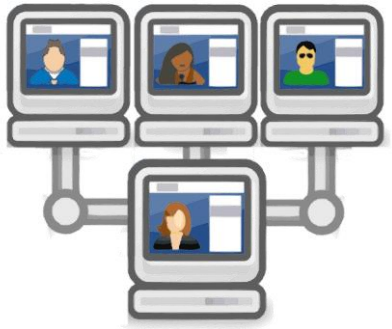
You are working for your force's newly created 'Problem Solving Unit'

Your force have been given millions of pounds (use your imagination!) to spend on technology to solve problems









Your mission

In groups…

1. Read the problem scenario.
2. Choose a technology from the options provided to tackle one or more of the causes of the problem.
3. Use your logic model guides and templates to plan how your group would implement and evaluate the solution.
4. Feedback in 30 minutes!

*We've done the problem section for you

*Check your logic – be sure to consider the logic checks on your sheet

Here's a (basic) example

Response

Drones can be deployed to crime scenes to capture evidential footage.

This will:

- Save time
- Free up resource
- Enable more crime scenes surveys to be completed
- Better record of the scene to prevent the need to revisit

The response:

- Purchase of drones
- Software and computer power to process, store and display drone output
- Training for staff to operate drones and software
- Drone maintenance and storage
- Policy for use
- Encryption and security procedures in case of loss
- Public perception – communications plan and materials about drones

Here's a (basic) example

Outputs

- Number of drones purchased
- Software purchased
- Policy developed
- Number of drone operators trained
- Number of software users trained/ registered
- number of drones in operation
- Cases where drone footage was used
- feedback from public

What might go wrong?

- Drones break? Battery life?
- Police may not use – may be too difficult to operate?
- Public disapprove of use.
- Software not compatible/ too technical

Here's a (basic) example

Outcomes

Short term

- Crime scene surveys are quicker

Source: drone meta data? GPS trackers on police vehicles? – must be comparable!

Medium term

- Increase in surveys being conducted, particularly for lower priority crimes

Source: case file data – is this specific enough? What about indoor crime scenes?

Long term

- Increases overall efficiency; decreased resolution time of cases

BUT other things can impact this – how would we know it was drones that made the difference?

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Wrap up

- The logic model guide and template are available on the College Members Hub
- Research surgeries
- research@college.pnn.police.uk

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Thank you!

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