

## Chapter 4 Reflective Questions – How ‘What Works’ works

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1. What Works (WW) organisations often have a role in generating, synthesising, communicating and mobilising evidence. What are the strengths and challenges of seeking to span the whole ‘pipeline’? What kinds of expertise and infrastructure are needed?

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2. The EEF Toolkit is a good example of WW communication of research and includes details of many aspects of the evidence. What is most and least helpful about this communication of evidence? What is less clear, missing or could be improved?

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3. WW is often described as providing 'best bets' for practice. What are the benefits of providing more general, robustly tested evidence about effective practice? What are the limitations?

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4. What evidence is there that the overall WW approach is effective? What do you think were the main reasons for the issues and lack of impact discussed in relation to the Octopus trial and the Research Schools Network? Are these problems 'teething' issues or reflect more fundamental issues with the overall approach? What improvements might be made?

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