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**Research Evaluation: Quick, Cheap,
Good: Pick Any Two**

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CHEAP!

Things money can't buy



Good will from assessors

Buy in (the process and outcomes)

Trust in your reputation

Personality transplants (committee collegiality)

Completely objective views – moderation





CHEAP!

1. Do your homework - what's happening out there and how do they do it?
2. Using existing, tested, well accepted and transparent processes
3. Use existing system infrastructure (databases, experienced people, national and international benchmarks)
4. Targeted consultation
5. Documents and training at the start



QUICK?



How quick depends on scale –
large assessment exercises
versus small assessment
exercises



QUICKLY!



1. Plan, plan, project plan
2. Quick for everyone involved?
3. Capitalise on established relationships and networks to help – people power
4. Defensible inputs and outputs – is there enough integrity for your overall purpose?
5. Existing system build or manual handling
6. Repeatable? Cost effective - the future





GOOD BUT FOR WHO?

Institution(s)

Research
funding
agencies

Researchers

Government
policy

Industry and
users of
research

Research
strategy
makers



Assessors

Collaborators

The Public



GOODNESS!



1. Good planning and implementation – best practice models. Clear, shared vision of why? Consultation and feedback.
2. Respected, experienced peers as assessors and committee members – careful spread of expertise assigned
3. Fair, transparent and consistent business processes
4. Engagement with who is being evaluated plus some feedback afterwards



GOODNESS!



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5. Respect for the difficulty for research at the margin
6. Respect for the innovative and new
7. Equity principles – cultural sensitivities, early career researchers, career interruption
8. Capacity for benchmarking – nationally and internationally



GOODNESS!



9. Handling of confidentiality, privacy, commercial in confidence and conflict of interest
10. Good training and approachable admin support staff, and clear outcome reports
11. Think about the aftermath - behaviours arising from research evaluation processes
12. Clear review processes and capacity to audit. Is it repeatable?





Good minus Quick divided by Cheap
= ?

The Denominator

