



Scottish Third Sector Research Forum

TO PUBLISH OR NOT TO PUBLISH?

Thinking about writing up practice learning or research findings for a peer reviewed journal? Challenges & considerations for Third Sector Organisations



How much time do you have? Several redrafts might be needed



Some of the most competitive academic journals have acceptance rates of only around 10%



Journal subscriptions are expensive but Open Source Access is improving



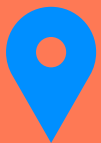
Journals generally require authors to follow academic writing style conventions



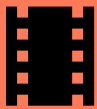
Who's your audience? Journal articles alone are unlikely to reach stakeholders and service users



Editors may expect your article to include theory as well as practice learning or research data



Where are the most accessible & relevant places to share your practice learning or research? e.g. e-bulletins; Third Force News; Intermediaries newsletters; Senscot; Guardian Voluntary Sector Network.



What format? Could film, blogs, podcasts, posters or infographics communicate as well as, or better than, an article? Or an event like a 'learning lunch' or roundtable discussion?



Look out for journals that actively include practice papers & will support you through the publishing process (e.g. Voluntary Sector Review).



Check your networks! Who else can share your learning with a wider audience? The TSRF is always interested to hear about Scottish third sector research.