

**0105**

**Evaluation, management and governance of multi-agency initiatives**

B O'Brien

*Office of Crime Statistics and Research, Attorney-General's Department, Adelaide, South Australia,*

The contemporary evaluators landscape is littered with projects involving 'joined up government', cross-agency initiatives, multi-agency initiatives and partnered approaches. Added to these are the complexities of working with multiple academic disciplines, professional languages and organisational cultures. Reflecting on the experience of being the evaluator of a multi-agency project over a four-year period this paper analyses how in this environment evaluation is integrated with overall program functioning, management and governance. Particular consideration is given to the role of the evaluator in the project steering group, the dilemmas in balancing individual agency expectations, the delivery and dissemination of evaluation findings and the 'post-evaluation' phase.