

Jewish Neighbourhoods

The *Jewish Neighbourhoods* project is a fascinating but initially largely unforeseen product of the *StreetLife* project which focused on Coney Street's past, present and future. This project, initiated by government funding for community renewal for historic high streets, explored different aspects of Coney Street's story and aimed to present a more diverse narrative of York's past.

In investigating this strand of the street's history, the expectation was that we would learn more about the businesses, trades and fluctuating fortunes of shops. However, what was also uncovered was a richly nuanced and largely untold story of a thriving 13th-century Jewish community, whose most prominent members (including Aaron, Sarah, Leo, Henna, Josce), lived on this

street and whose social and commercial interactions with the Minster, city and local community helped shape York's emergence as the second city.

What was also unearthed was the story of these people and their lives in York, their relationships with their Gentile neighbours and the largely untold story of a people who are integral to York's story. Work continues closely with York's current Jewish community and those in Leeds, London, and Manchester to make sure the story is told properly with sensitivity and respect, and the narrative continues to the present day.

This story was a revelation, dispelling some long-standing myths on all sides and telling a much more positive story of cooperation,

collaboration and local community harmony across the centuries, a story otherwise understandably but unfortunately overshadowed by brutal events, the massacre at Clifford's Tower in 1190 and the national expulsion in 1289. This overlooked part of York's historical narrative deserves to be told. This strand of York's story needs to take its place in the mainstream presentation of the City to challenge preconceptions and provide a fresh perspective on the history of York's Jewish residents.

Find out more about the *StreetLife* current work and *projects*.

Take the interactive Jewish York trail.



StreetLife selected as a finalist for the PraxisAuril KE Awards 2023

StreetLife was recently celebrated as a finalist for the Place-Based Knowledge Exchange (KE) Initiative of the Year at the *PraxisAuril KE Awards 2023*.

StreetLife brought heritage and creativity-driven renewal to York's Coney Street. Against tight deadlines, the project reframed this ancient but declining high street as an experiential destination by delivering over 160 free events and exhibitions; skills and training opportunities inspired by research; and engaging with over 1,700 locals, visitors, and businesses.

On 23rd November, members of the StreetLife team, Professor Rachel Cowgill, Professor Kate Giles, Professor Helen Smith, Lizzy Holling and Vicky Wren, joined knowledge exchange professionals from across the UK, in Leeds to celebrate the people and partnerships that have shaped KE in the UK, driven economic growth and positive impact.

Twenty-seven professionals and collaborative initiatives were shortlisted as finalists across eight categories, with a representative from each initiative delivering a one-minute project pitch to the audience. With tough competition and projects from various backgrounds, from health to net zero, StreetLife lost out on the Place-Based category prize to a project providing incubation space for medical technology companies.



Lizzy Holling delivering a summary of StreetLife.

The PraxisAuril KE Awards 2023 provide recognition nationally, and beyond, for exceptional work that has created sustained impact from research. StreetLife began as a UK Community Renewal Funded (UKCRF) project and when UKCRF ended, the University helped seed longer-term ventures beyond the close of StreetLife. The Common Room, led by Kate Giles, will continue to involve residents in proposed developments and policies to renew

a sense of ownership and investment in York's city centre; research to explore the social, cultural and heritage value of music venues will reach new audiences through an online digital archive and film showcase; and Thin Ice Press: the York Centre for Print has launched a working print studio, museum and gallery, to preserve an ancient craft and build community, and will move to a long-term home in 2024.

Research England IP-related and commercialisation activities in England: 2021 to 2022

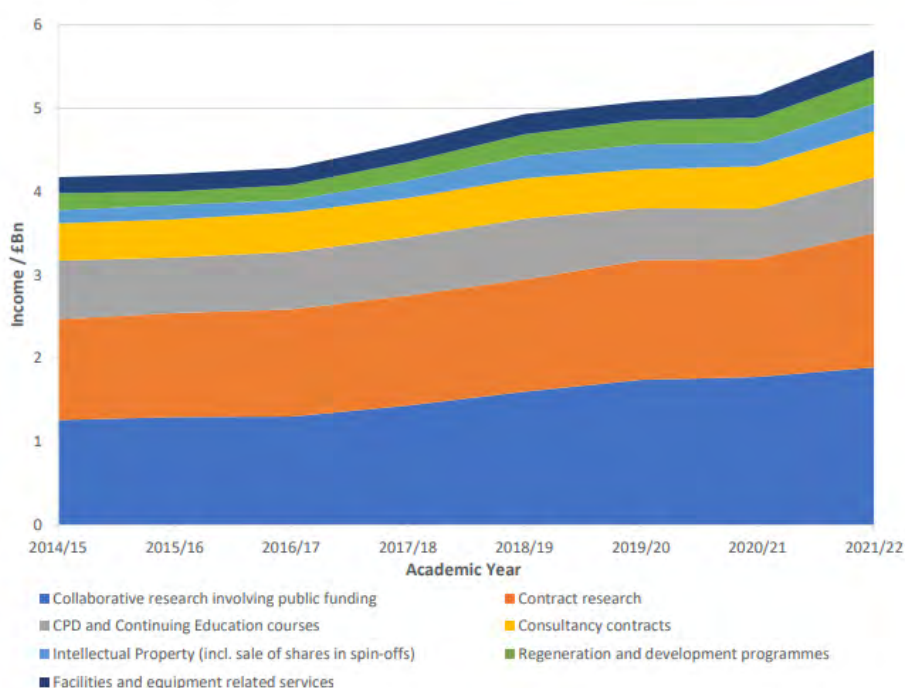
Each year Universities in the UK submit data related to their business and community interaction activities to the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA).

This data includes activities that relate to intellectual property (IP) and commercialisation activities, and Research England conducts an analysis of this data for English Universities. Research England (RE) have recently published their analysis for the 2021/22 period. Whilst this data shows the trends at an aggregated national level, it does not always correlate with individual institutions' data and activities, which is the case for certain aspects of York's activities as described below.

Income generated from IP, both through licensing income and the sale of shares in spin-out companies, is a main feature of this report and is often used as an indication of success in this area. Nationally we can see that total income has risen by over 32% following a multi-year upwards trend, with a minor downturn in 2020/21 attributed to covid. At York we have seen a relatively constant income generated from IP due to a largely stable historic licensing portfolio. Much of our efforts in this period have been to establish new licence agreements, some which have the potential to deliver high financial returns in the future, via royalty payments for example. These returns are not immediate due to the timescales for our licensees to develop products and take them to market.

York saw **more new spin-out companies formed in 2021/22 than any other previous year**, against a national backdrop of a 12.7% decline in the formation of new spin-outs. This is largely due to the increased support and resources available to academics at York provided by the

Figure 1: Total income for each KE category across all UK providers stacked for each academic year from 2014/15 to 2021/22.



relatively new Commercialisation Team (est. 2020). This activity does not yet translate into income as the sale of shares in spin-out companies is often a long term return. These events are also often sporadic and thus can skew annual figures heavily for an individual University in terms of income.

Finally it is important to note that York has been actively investing our resources in supporting IP and commercialisation opportunities arising from the Arts & Humanities and Social Sciences disciplines, aligned with our mission to be a University for Public Good. Opportunities from these areas are not always going to result in large financial returns and/or new patents being filed, as we

have seen historically from IP and commercialisation activities largely dominated by STEM opportunities. Given this is a growing area of focus for many UK Universities, I believe that Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Research England (RE) need to think about including data on these aspects moving forward to more accurately capture the range of IP and commercialisation activities and benefits that are produced by the HE sector.

James Kitson Review Sept 2023

If you would like to discuss potential ideas for commercialisation **please get in touch with the commercialisation team.**

Working collaboratively to deliver volunteering across the City of York

Established in 2005, **York Cares** is an independent employee-volunteering charity bringing businesses, employees, and communities together in knowledge exchange to make York a better place. York Cares empowers employees to support their communities through the York Cares programmes, creating a positive impact for both the employees and the community. The programmes deliver tangible benefits for local people and to employers in terms of workforce development, employee wellbeing and community engagement.

York Cares is well networked within the city through its member employers and community partners which enables engagement with a large number of volunteers (over 1,500 per year) to support community projects and help ensure their sustainability. York Cares has a membership of over 30 employers, who span a variety of sectors including construction, finance, health, engineering and IT.



There are numerous benefits to being involved with York Cares:

- York's bridge between business and the local community
- Making it easy for employers to contribute to the community
- Development opportunities for employees through quality, tailored volunteering opportunities
- Positive impact on staff health, wellbeing and motivation
- A unique networking opportunity between public, private and Voluntary, Community & Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector
- PR opportunities through media coverage and social media networks
- Recognition for members through the York Cares Golden Moments Awards with the Lord Mayor of York and BBC Radio York

Employers can mix and match from the core programme and develop a volunteering programme which reflects the needs of their business, their employees and their local community. The York Cares programme offer includes:

- **Aspirations** - providing employability support to raise aspirations and enable people from all backgrounds and abilities to reach their full potential
- **Environment & Sustainability** - volunteering together on practical activities for the benefit of the environment and the long-term sustainability of our city
- **Social Connections** - bringing younger and older people together through meaningful connections to bridge the intergenerational divide and reduce loneliness and social isolation
- **Annual campaigns** - coming together together to support those most in need in the city

To find out more please contact York Cares

PCMIS Award-Winning Mental Health Tool

Health Tech Awards 2023, Mental Health Solution of the Year

Since its incorporation, *PCMIS Health Technologies Ltd*, has gone from strength to strength. Most recently they won the **Health Tech Awards 2023, Mental Health Solution of the Year** and were Highly Commended at the Innovate Awards 2023 for Best Use of Data in Health Innovation.

The evidence-based digital mental health tool is designed to track and evaluate patients' treatment responses during Talking Therapy to drive efficient service management and facilitate effective healthcare treatment.

Developed in collaboration with Professor Jaime Delgado, who conducted the research while at the Department of Health Sciences at the University of York, PCMIS uses Outcome Feedback to rapidly identify patients at risk of deterioration by tracking their symptoms and monitoring their response to treatment.

A clinical trial involving over 2200 patients across multiple regions and NHS Trusts has demonstrated that the technology helps make NHS Talking Therapies treatments more effective, reducing the risk of deterioration in the most severe cases by up to 73%.

PCMIS is used by 1 in 3 NHS Talking Therapies services as well as a wide range of services in the UK, Ireland, Australia and Hong Kong.

The PCMIS team have also collaborated with researchers to develop an e-learning programme to train NHS therapists to use the technology effectively. To date over 600 clinicians have been trained via the online training platform to use Outcome Feedback effectively as part of treatment for anxiety and depression.

To find out more please contact:
enquiries@pcmis.com



Knowledge Exchange (KE) Newsletters 2023

We would like to thank all colleagues who have contributed to our eight Knowledge Exchange Newsletters during 2023.

Your contributions have helped us illustrate and share some of the most exciting knowledge exchange, collaboration and partnership activities happening right across the University, demonstrating the transformative impact of your research.

