Welcome to the Knowledge Exchange (KE) newsletter

This first edition provides an overview of knowledge exchange and an introduction to the KE Concordat.

What is KE

Knowledge exchange refers to a wide range of activities in which knowledge, expertise or skills are shared between the research base and users, partners and stakeholders. Knowledge exchange provides a route to impact that may contribute to economic competitiveness, effectiveness of public services and policy, and/or quality of life.

This diagram, from an internal publication for HEFCE, provides a good representation of the wide range of types of KE and the variety of support being put into place by universities to support different forms of KE.

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adapted from diagram by Tomas Coates Ulrichsen
The KE Concordat (KEC) is an exciting initiative, that has been developed by Research England. Built around 8 principles, the KEC aims to help universities develop a culture of support and recognition for staff and students undertaking knowledge exchange activities.

Recognising that KE is a core activity and will help deliver our vision to be a University for the Public Good, the University signed up to take part in the development year. Over the past twelve months we mapped ourselves against the eight principles and submitted a gap analysis and an improvement plan for each of the principles focusing on improvements which will strengthen our support and develop our breadth of KE activities.

Following a review of the action plan the University has developed a comprehensive implementation plan that will be delivered through six work streams, which overlap with the Concordat’s eight principles. These six workstreams, some with several sub-themes will be led by a small team of academic and professional services staff from across the institution. If you are interested in getting involved in any of the workstreams please contact Clare Murgatroyd clare.murgatroyd@york.ac.uk
Work streams and leads

KE Policy and Processes

**LEAD: Amanda Selvaratnam**
amanda.selvaratnam@york.uk

Review existing KE policies and processes and develop appropriate guidance as required to address any gaps.

Develop a costing and pricing model for CPD and consultancy and an effective approach for monitoring of cost recovery for facilities accessed by external and internal stakeholders.

Review of recruitment processes and development of institutional guidance on KE recognition.

KE Governance, Reporting and Monitoring

**LEAD: Linda Ko Ferrigno**
linda.koferrigno@york.ac.uk

Use the Institutional Strategy to identify our KE priorities.

Develop metrics and performance indicators to monitor and report progress on priorities through UPEC.

Align and embed KE governance with existing structures.

Build HEBcis and KEF data into the KE planning process.

Managing KE Partnerships

**LEAD: Mary Haworth**
mary.haworth@york.ac.uk

Develop a proactive approach for prioritising external partnerships and for growing strategic and mutually beneficial partnerships.

Establish processes and policies for external engagement and management of partnerships.

Establish centralised resources for due diligence.

Investigate the use of a CRM tool for more strategic account management and to develop best practice e.g. Sales Force.

KE Culture

**LEAD: Rachel Curwen**
rachel.curwen@york.ac.uk

Develop an institutionally agreed definition of KE.

Develop and support faculty and departmental structures for responsibility and academic championing of KE.

Build on existing responsible Innovation activities.

Scope and develop a range of approaches for embedding KE in workload models (also part of research productivity and savings and earnings exercise).

KE Training

**LEAD: Blake Prime**
blake.prime@york.ac.uk

Review the existing training provision for KE and develop a portfolio of training that will build skills in both academic and professional services staff delivering or supporting KE activities.

Review the potential for sharing or accessing training provision with external partners.

KE Communication

**LEAD: Sam Gardner**
sam.gardner@york.ac.uk

Improve quality and reach of external facing business web pages including regular updating of case studies and other information showcasing the institution’s KE.

Develop a clearer “front door” and signposting to improve external engagement.

Develop internal communications plan promoting the institution’s priorities and support for KE, including its value and purpose.

Raise awareness of our institutional values, including our commitment to EDI, to existing and future partners.