What do we mean by Knowledge Exchange?

The UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) high-level description of KE is: universities and other higher education institutions exchanging knowledge with the wider world, in a way that contributes to society and the economy.

Figure 1 provides a useful diagram to unpack this description and look at the component elements.

KE: Get involved – we're here to help!

Thank you for reading the fourth edition of the KE newsletter. We really want to create our KE newsletters around questions you have on Knowledge Exchange.

We are keen to understand what Knowledge Exchange means to you, what Knowledge Exchange you have undertaken and what support you would like provided by the University.

Join the conversation to add your comments to our jamboard and in future issues we will endeavour to address some of your questions, concerns or comments.

We look forward to hearing from you and to opening up your conversations on Knowledge Exchange.
Dr Sarah Moller Knowledge Exchange and Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Chemistry at the University of York.

The NERC knowledge exchange (KE) fellowships are intended to facilitate the sharing and flow of knowledge and expertise between NERC funded researchers and their stakeholders, partners and user communities with the aim of generating impact from NERC funded research. Fellowships are open to researchers at any stage in their career and last between one and three years.

Sarah has had two NERC KE fellowships supporting her research which focuses on science and policy and the use of systems approaches to support the Government’s current and future strategies on air pollution.

My fellowship has many benefits including creating opportunities for York researchers to input into government policy at an early stage of development. Also, this work was the basis for a REF impact case study demonstrating the value of my fellowship for enabling York’s excellent atmospheric science research to influence UK policy.

My fellowships have also given me the opportunity to lead my own project, to develop a profile doing something I am passionate about and to develop a specialism that is entirely my own. Through my fellowships I have met many of the most influential figures in UK air quality research and had the opportunity to discuss my work with them. I have also been involved in discussions of UK research and policy strategy.

These opportunities have allowed me to develop my influencing and leadership skills while raising my profile in the UK air quality community. Off the back of my first fellowship I successfully applied for a number of roles, including a secondment to the Defra Chief Scientific Advisers Office, these roles and my activities within my fellowships all contributed to my promotion to senior research fellow.

Part of my research focus is now on mechanisms of knowledge exchange, so it has definitely made me consider much more deeply what knowledge exchange really is and how we go about it. I now feel strongly that it is something that is critical to our ability to carry out excellent research that has real world impact, but also that genuine knowledge exchange is rarer than we may at first think.

More information on externally funded fellowships and support for fellows can be found here.

Career Development through KE Fellowships

Dr Sarah Moller Knowledge Exchange and Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Chemistry at the University of York.

Would you like your Knowledge Exchange news to be featured here?

Do any of your colleagues have news that could be featured in the University of York Knowledge Exchange newsletter?

Share your story.

Contact us about your Collaborative Research, KTPs, Consultancy Work, Contract Research, Intellectual Property and Commercialisation, CPD, Public and Community Engagement or any other way you are sharing University facilities and academic expertise.

For all feedback and comments please contact:

Amanda Selvaratnam
Associate Director (Impact), Research, Innovation and Knowledge Exchange: amanda.selvaratnam@york.ac.uk

Clare Murgatroyd
Project Administrator, Research, Innovation and Knowledge Exchange: clare.murgatroyd@york.ac.uk

We would be delighted to hear from you.