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Citation for published version:
McKen, K, Gibbard, E & Rozenberga, D 2018, 'Improving the recording and evidencing of pathways to impact'
International Network of Research Management Societies 7th Congress, Edinburgh, 4/06/18 - 7/06/18, .

Publication date:
2018

Document Version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Link to publication

University of Bath

Improving the recording and evidencing of pathways to impact

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Pure

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- Clear vision and strategy
- Develop and provide Leadership
- Inform processes and implement systems
- Build capability and capacity
- Collaborate for success
- Embed a culture of Research Impact
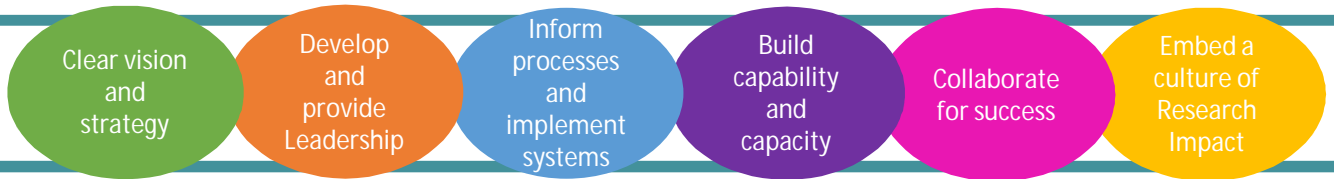
Abstract

As an institution we have been implementing our strategic approach to embedding a culture of research impact. This has included developing our systems and processes to ensure that we can capture, record and evidence the impact of our research and the pathways to achieving this.

In 2012, University of Bath invested in the Current Research Information System (CRIS), PURE (Elsevier). Since then we have been developing the system to support the recording of impact and impact related activities. However, we have found for impact the system was poorly understood by the user with a lack of clarity around what was meant by impact.

To address this problem we developed training to help researchers understand where to record information on our CRIS. This training incorporated an activity that utilised concepts from Donabedian's model, Logic Modelling and Theory of Change requiring researchers to test and develop their knowledge around what constitutes a research output, activity and impact.

Although in the early stages, we have received positive feedback from the training with it helping researcher to clarify the difference between the pathways to impact (activities) and the impact itself (changes).

Hint: Our definitions
Research Output = Product
Activity = How - the thing that you do
Impact = What – the change that it brings

Activity: What am I?

For each of the descriptions on the cards under "what am I?" identify which you think are: Research Outputs, Activities and Impacts. Place the cards in the relevant column.

Research Output	Activity	Impact

What am I?

Hint
What information is already available?
Can you collect a baseline? compare to anything?
Think mixed methods....

Activity: How will I know I have had an impact?

For each of the descriptions on the cards under Activities and Impacts. Identify potential types and sources of evidence that you could collect and use to evidence your impact.

Please provide feedback – how could the activity be improved?

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