

# *PRACTICE RESEARCH VOICES (PR VOICES)*

*Final report and recommendations*

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# Practice Research Voices Final Report and Recommendations

## 1. Executive summary

Practice Research Voices (PRVoices) posed the following research questions:

- How to implement the recommendations of the second PRAG-UK<sup>1</sup> report to develop a PR platform?
- How does the existing Cayuse (formerly Haplo) repository meet the needs of the wider PR community and what needs changing?
- How can the broader PR community be harnessed to ensure requirements and specifications are developed to be a set of transferable recommendations?
- What do these changes mean for the associated discoverability landscape of the repository and Persistent Identifier (PID) metadata standards?
- How to involve representatives of all stakeholders in an intersectional manner?

The team came from Westminster, Jisc, Cayuse, the British Library and King's College London.

We developed an intersectional community that fed back where the platform met needs, helped progress it further in a series of co-design and stakeholder led interventions. In parallel we iterated the technology and wider standards.

## 2. Approach

Key to our approach was the utilisation of our existing connections to the practice research communities, building stakeholder groups, allowing co-design and feedback to enable iterative processes on the technological and practical investigations, alongside in-depth discussions with key professionals. This gave us a breadth of disciplinary coverage and a depth of expertise across the project. This approach meant that the value for the community was embedded in the project throughout, with co-design and feedback ensuring that all outputs were appropriate and valued.

Using the work mentioned above as a baseline the project followed the co-design approach taken in Westminster's development of the Cayuse repository<sup>2</sup>. Technology partner Cayuse set up a test repository system (based on WestminsterResearch) to enable updates based on participant feedback. Due to the timescales involved we recruited to a community advisory group representing a range of individuals from the different communities with an interest in this work via initial scoping conversations. We met with this group 3 times over the course of the project.

We ran one survey aimed at researchers and practitioners, one aimed at institutional support teams, and one on evaluation of the software ([survey overview](#)) recruited to via email lists and social media. This was supplemented by three researcher/practitioner semi-structured interviews

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<sup>1</sup> Bulley, James and Şahin, Özden. *Practice Research - Report 1: What is practice research? And Report 2: How can practice research be shared?* London: PRAG-UK, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.23636/1347>.

<sup>2</sup> Evans, Jenny, Nina Watts, Taylor Mudd, and Tom Renner. 2022. "From Legacy to Next Generation: A Story of Collaboration to Push the Boundaries of the Open Source Haplo Repository from Cayuse". *Insights* 35: 14. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.1629/uksg.582>

(one from project partner the V&A, one from education and one from music) and one focus group of 4 people representing institutional support teams across three institutions. These conversations harnessed feedback from participants about their experiences in supporting practice research, about the PRVoices test repository and the published [Bass Culture portfolio](#).

We ran a metadata and persistent identifier workshop (recruited to via the survey and our community advisory group) including presentations from three relevant communities - DataCite, RAiD and the CRediT taxonomy ([workshop overview](#)).

### 3. Activities (underpinned by a [project blog](#) and [Twitter account](#))

| Title   | Description  | Date                     | No. of participants                   |
|---|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Launch Event</a>  | Hosted by the Jisc Digital Research Community and in collaboration with the SPARKLE team | 9 Feb                    | 58                                    |
| NISO Plus conference  | <a href="#">Composing for the non-text infrastructure dance</a>                          | 16 Feb                   | N/A                                   |
| Community Advisory Group meetings   |  | 7 March, 19 May, 21 July | 13 at 1-3 meetings                    |
| <a href="#">Digital Preservation Coalition Clinic</a>   | A #DPCLinic chat about persistent identifiers  | 29 April                 |                                       |
| Metadata, PIDs and a taxonomy workshop  | Included presentations from community representatives                                    | 26 May                   | 20                                    |
| <a href="#">UK ORCID Consortium Community Event</a>   | Regular meeting of national HE members of UK ORCID Consortium                            | 7 June                   | 46                                    |
| International Digital Curation Conference   | <a href="#">PR Voices at the 17th International Digital Curation Conference</a>          | 14 June                  | 68                                    |
| Digital Preservation Coalition blog post  | <a href="#">Capturing and preserving practice based research</a>                         | 16 June                  | N/A                                   |
| <a href="#">End of project community event</a>  | Collaboration with SPARKLE team  | 20 July                  | 27 (+ circulated recording to 40 ppl) |
| Surveys - 1. researcher / practitioner and 2. institutional support teams<br>3. Software feedback |  |                          | (1) 59<br>(2) 23<br>(3) 12            |
| Royal Musical Association conference panel  | Towards a National Repository Infrastructure for Practice Research                       | 10 Sept                  | 16                                    |

|   |  |           |     |
|---|--|-----------|-----|
| <a href="#">UK DataCite summer meeting</a>  | Annual event for UK consortium members   | 13 Sept   | 50  |
| ARMA conference (recorded on demand session - available to attendees for 30 days) | <a href="#">Putting people before technology: how communities build better research infrastructure</a> | 15-16 Nov | N/A |

## 4. Summary of key findings

### 1. **Agreeing on and articulating a standard for sharing practice research objects will increase the perception of their value in research recognition and evaluation mechanisms, and the wider scholarly landscape. Improving their capture, preservation and discovery will underwrite an improved sharing culture in the community.**

- a. The PRVoices framework for practice research objects is based on the Cayuse model of a portfolio, underpinned by individual items, which can be added on an ongoing basis, and which have additional context and narrative overlaid on top. This finding has been informed by feedback from the community during the project.

***See Appendix A: The PRVoices framework.***

- b. The standards landscape needs to actively support practice research to ensure it is discoverable, can benefit from interoperability and to ensure that practice research outcomes can be registered regardless of where it is located.

### 2. **The PR platform needs to be an interactive service that reflects form and function (beauty) and enables discoverability, citation and preservation of practice research. It must be embedded in the community and the digital spaces that they work within.**

- a. The community wants a platform that recognises all contributors, collaborators and participants. It must capture and preserve ongoing processes, documentation and outputs, and make them discoverable. There is a need to balance standardisation (via schema) with flexibility (via platform interface), and ensure the platform enables researcher workflows.
- b. The Cayuse platform is purpose built for the sharing and reuse of art and design research, tailored to the needs of visually driven research. We have identified further areas for development to expand this platform to meet the needs of communities beyond the University of Westminster.

***See Appendix B for Requirements for PR Platform (and recommended changes) based on the Cayuse repository test system used in the PRVoices project.***

### 3. **The PR community is made up of diverse disciplines, specialists, and existing communities of practice, all with their own cultures and a range of motivations for their interest. Engagement with all parts of the PR community is the key to building successful culture change.**

- a. This includes an ongoing conversation with the diverse community of PR to understand how to represent robustness for practice research.

***See Appendix C for an illustration of the PRVoices Community.***

#### **4. Practice Research has a range of sustainability challenges.**

- a) By its nature PR is more complex and time-consuming to capture than text-based outputs. However, there are capacity issues and a skills gap across this landscape.
- b) Specialist expertise is an 'add on' rather than being embedded on an ongoing basis (e.g. research assistants are only employed to support REF submissions); small specialist institutions don't have the resourcing to support a nuanced capture of PR; skills training, expertise, and support material are all lacking a coherent approach.
- c) Preservation of practice research is a key priority. Building effective integrations with repository software, and the skills and understanding of planning for preservation needs to be embedded across the PR community.

### **5. Top 5 recommendations**

Enacting these recommendations would drive PR toward the AHRC strategic objectives of world-class places, transforming infrastructure, and working at the head of thriving communities. They make PR and embodied research FAIR, enabling world-class innovation and world-class ideas. The recommendations are based on an assumption of how the PRVoices and SPARKLE teams could join together to take this work forward with a mandate from the AHRC. They have a broad geographic and discipline coverage, maintaining and expanding their combined expertise.

#### **1. Maintaining the partnership with the community is the foundation for all future work and continues the culture change needed to make progress.**

This includes providing a space to support the community alongside the PR platform to welcome community in. It requires going out and talking to communities in their spaces.

This should be underpinned by a series of pathfinder projects to continue the co-design approach, making practice researchers, representing a diverse range of institutions, methodologies, outputs, disciplines and career stages, active collaborators in platform development.

#### **2. Work with the community to ensure the PRVoices framework embeds PR in open standards. Practice researchers will benefit from interoperability, discoverability and resource savings that researchers in other disciplines take for granted.**

This standards informed framework (see Appendix A), based on the Cayuse repository, informed by feedback from the scoping project, is underpinned by the schema developed within the scoping project.

Participate in work to investigate setting up a UK Registry for the Research Activity Identifier (RAiD) to ensure practice research is considered in standard development rather than 'added on' at a later stage.

Conduct a review of the resource types, work types and contributor roles across the landscape, building on the scoping project work and conversations. This will enable better descriptions and guidance across standards. The work on the RAiD identifier will impact on recommendations for DataCite which already supports collections and versioning of DOIs for multiple versions of

datasets. Engaging with the Contributor Roles Taxonomy (CRediT) will enable us to propose the collaborator and participant roles as new contributor roles.

### **3. The AHRC PR platform needs to be more than a retrospective archive and become a tool (a “scribe on the side”) a practice researcher works with on an ongoing basis**

It must reflect the multiplicity of practice research outputs, methods and documentation, to reflect the need for functionality, non-linearity and structure while remaining flexible. It is made up of three layers: (1) a dissemination layer that must reflect form as well as function (beauty); (2) a back-of-house layer which enables structure to inform standards while retaining flexibility; and (3) an underpinning preservation integration layer to preserve research for the long term.

We recommend that the follow up project continues to use the Cayuse repository. The PRVoices project has enabled the team to identify how the platform needs to scale beyond the University of Westminster art and design approach to REF. Adopting this as the starting point and being informed by a digital preservation integration pilot due to kick off at Westminster in January 2023, will enable the continuation of the successful co-design approach to software development in partnership with community. The platform is already integrated with the standards landscape and will enable the continuation of active engagement with relevant metadata and persistent identifier communities.

### **4. Consolidate existing good practice and prioritise the development of a training programme of practice research specific skills, supported by online resources, and a network of experts across the UK.**

Training topics to prioritise include IP, copyright and licensing, appraisal and selection, the difference between ‘open’ and ‘data sharing’ (FAIR ≠ Open) embedding planning for sharing (e.g. the practice research equivalent of the data management plan), and a ‘practice research’ and/or ‘participatory research ‘lens’ on the FAIR and CARE principles.

We also recommend establishing a support network for PR curation roles. The curation role should be valued as an activity frequently undertaken by research assistants with a discipline background. These roles are often short term and REF-focussed. Not every institution engaging in practice research can fund such roles. The [Data Curation Network approach](#), [ELIXIR](#), research data management [data stewards](#), and the [UKRN approach to local network and community leads](#) provide models to investigate.

### **5. The AHRC PR platform needs long-term, sustainable investment in capacity, people and infrastructure to ensure success.**

Much of the support for this work is currently short term. There is expertise across the sector, however this needs expanding, again as highlighted in the recommendations above. This ensures the outcomes of this work continue to have a community both to receive and support it.

Business models need reviewing, addressing, stress testing and future proofing - as long-term funding is absolutely key (we don't want to build another Arts and Humanities Data Service).

It must be recognised that this work (especially given its need to drive change in culture) needs time and space and a skilled and dedicated team to develop. This team will need to ensure that it

has adequate support and training to ensure the necessary resilience as well as capacity to allow successful delivery.

There is a need to ensure equality, diversity and inclusion is embedded across all areas of work. This begins with inclusive governance at project start up.

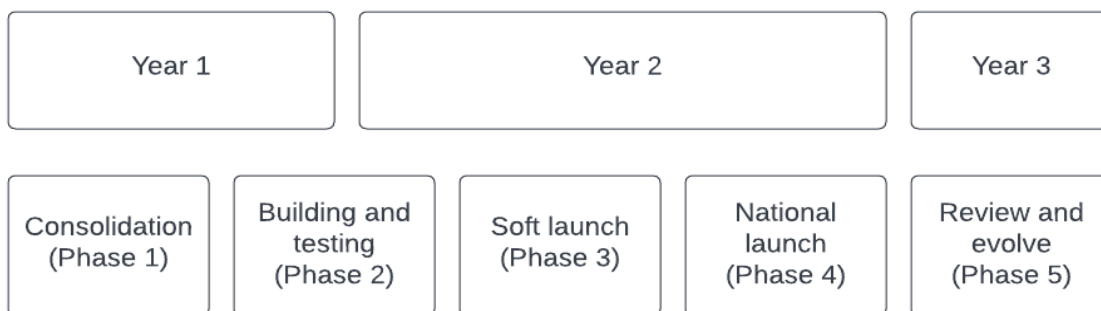
## 6. Roadmap: how you would tackle the issues raised, with costs and clearly set out phases

Continuation of this work recognises the need for investment in platform (hosting costs, development work and specialist expertise), increasing capacity and resilience in the team leading this work, and the need to engage with the standards landscape on an international level.

We propose four workstreams:

- a. Practice research community
- b. Platform
  - i. Interaction / Dissemination layer
  - ii. Repository functionality
  - iii. Digital preservation integration
- c. Open standards
- d. Skills, Expertise, Support Materials and Training.

We have phased year 1 due to capacity and availability of resource to ensure that we validate the scoping projects findings, re-engage with community and to properly plan the governance and embed EDI across the project which will take time. This work needs to scale from scoping project to funded project and ensure the community is consulted



## Appendix A: The PRVoices framework

**Our work in the repository space has focused on ensuring that the Haplo infrastructure provides first in class support, working with the community via co-design to continue the process of evolving that, extracting schema to clearly illustrate how it is achieved and validating that support for practice research against other schema and infrastructure (via workshops and discussions).**

**As part of this we have investigated the suggestion recommended by the PRAG-UK 2 Report: *How can practice research be shared of a project item type - also known as a collection or portfolio* (p15). We have identified the need to (1) capture individual objects on an ongoing basis (2) bring those together (collection) and that (3) a portfolio (theme) builds on the idea of a collection, and overlays narrative and context.**

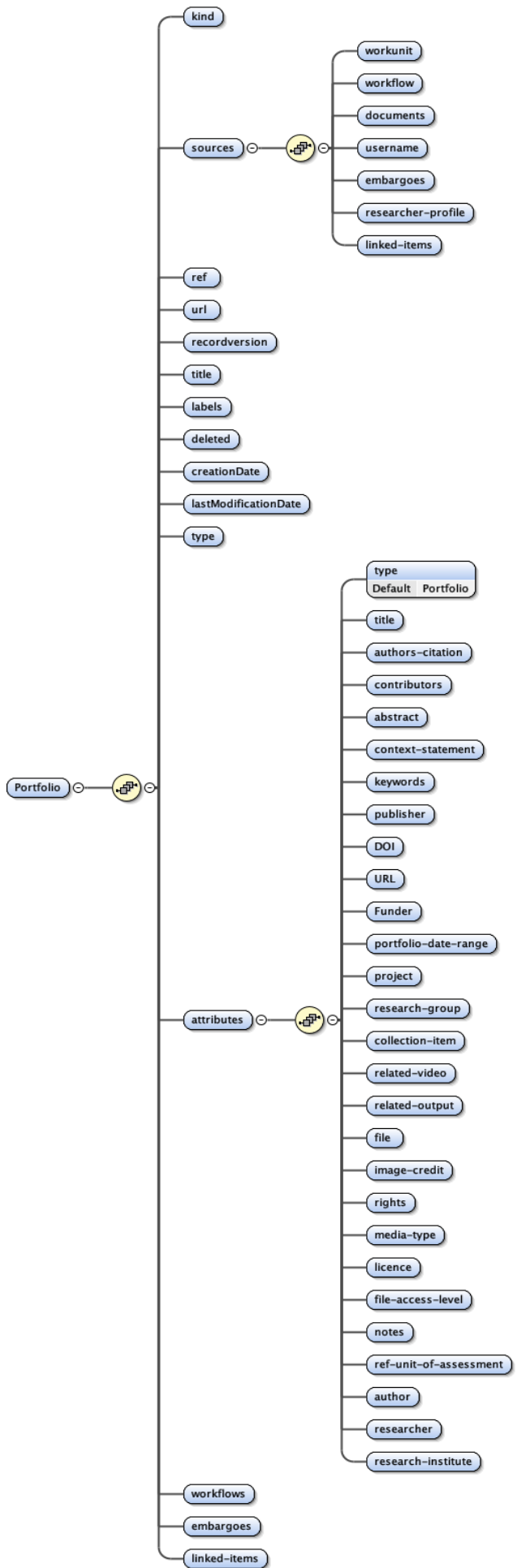
### Schema

Focussing on the internal structures of the platform, the fundamentals of the information structure at the heart of the Haplo repository are a set of base native types that can be structured into output objects via interaction objects. These UX objects in the repository then inform the schema for the output types in the user space, which can then be managed internally or exported via standards (such as RIOXX or DataCite).

The first diagram below shows a fully expanded schema for the portfolio object from the PRVoices Test repository. Schema for other objects are much the same, with variations on the attributes being the main difference.

For simplicity, namespaces and other schema related information are not shown.



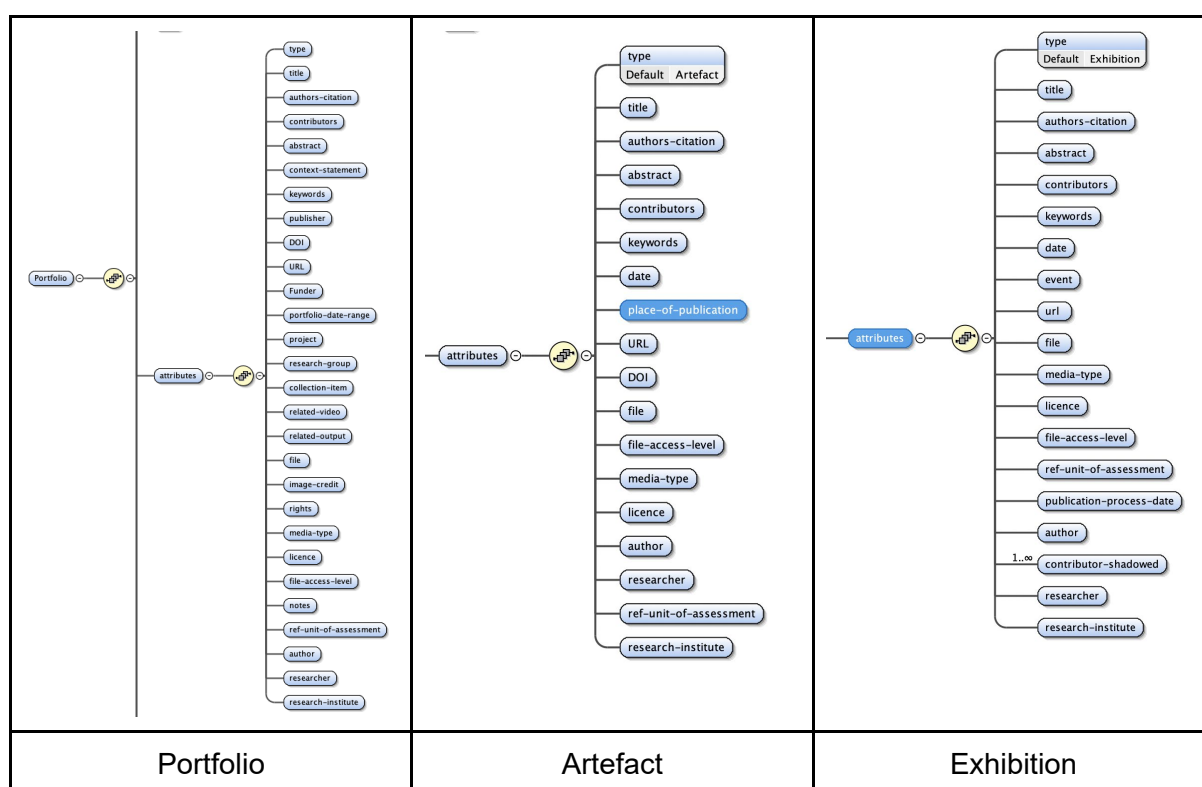


Development of the repository especially to support Practice Research informs 3 structures in particular: the Portfolio Object, the Artefact Object and the Exhibition Object.

For the Practice Research community, the ability to create a portfolio is a key advantage of the Haplo repository. The Portfolio schema reflects the key USP over a collection, adding both narrative, contextualising textual elements and chronological date attributes.

The Artefact object is another key repository item type for the practice research community, being used to represent non-text outputs. Important to its schema, therefore, is a number of attributes that allow the flexible description of the output.

The exhibition object allows the serialisation of the many kinds of time and location based “events”. Attributes that are key here include geolocation, date-time and, of course, it’s important to have the ability to express the varied roles of contributors.



## Validation of the schema

In order to ensure the schema developments wider applicability across the landscape discussions were held with Jenny Basford with regards to the British Library’s IRO repository, A Samvera Hyku instance. The main outcomes from this discussion were:

- Although the BL-IRO repository has collections, they are not doing the same job as portfolios, being a post-hoc collation of outputs, rather than an output in their own right.
  - Portfolios were seen as both a unique strength of the Haplo repository and a practice / object that merited wider adoption
  - Both the time elements and narrative explanation attributes of the portfolio were especially valuable.
- The exhibition object was broadly similar to the BL-IRO object

- Attributes where there was some mismatch were down to a mixture of platform and culture and there was no particular types or attributes that would cause conflict or information loss on cross walks
- There were valuable additional type and other meta information sourced from the BL subject experts that could grow the value of the overall practice schema, but they had not been widely validated - this could be an additional useful activity in future downstream work
- BL-IRO did not have an Artefact object due to the purposes of the repository
  - Discussions of the Haplo output and schema centred on its situation in the wider GLAM context, where it was agreed it was both appropriate and met existing needs

## Portfolios

As mentioned in the introduction to this appendix, portfolios are often seen as a key enabling feature of infrastructure that supports practice research. They allow the gathering together of the many diverse outputs that are generated, often over a disparate landscape of funding, institutions and what may be a single conceptual project or work that involves many contributors.

On this topic, and as touched on in the schema validation above, it is worth pointing out that there still remains work at technological, ontological and cultural levels to flesh out the differences in meaning and implementation between Portfolio vs collection vs theme vs project.

As well as supporting this Portfolio concept within the PRVoices repository, we also worked with the emerging persistent identifier, RAiD - the research activity identifier ([raid.ardc.org.au](http://raid.ardc.org.au)). RAiD allows the collection / connection of other persistent identifiers and output objects by acting as an “envelope” identifier (see diagram below); each object connected to the RAiD also having a date-stamp for the beginning and end of the connection - allowing the RAiD to encapsulate narrative, chronological view of activity.

PRVoices and the associated partners will be one of four pathfinder projects working closely with Jisc to ensure the development of RAiD within the UK national context meets the needs of A&H disciplinarians and the Practice Research community



## Opening up and working with existing open standards

*(note this section added in June 2023 post-submission to AHRC)*

In addition to the pathfinding work done in relation to RAiD, we prioritised DataCite and the Contributor Roles Taxonomy (CRediT) as high impact areas for practice research.

### DataCite

During the project we examined what work there is to do on DataCite so that it better recognises a broader range of outputs, starting with the basic question: how do practice research output types map to the current

DataCite schema and what schema changes could be made to better support practice research? We looked at resourceTypeGeneral – and whether the necessary metadata fields were present – at the moment more work needs to be done to properly support all the various outputs arising from practice research, and the infrastructure supporting it, for example, the six mandatory elements of the DataCite schema to enable citation are (1) the DOI itself (2) Creator(s) (3) Title (4) Publisher (5) Publication year (10) resource type plus a URL for the human-readable landing page. There is currently a list of 28 permitted values Resourcetype options which illustrate the fractured approach to supporting practice research referenced above.

Alongside outputs, there are issues when it comes to properly describing the intentional narrative that sits alongside collections / portfolios in the way it needs to for a practice research repository. Does portfolio / collection map to Collection? How is the portfolio item type conceptualised? Is it a document itself, or a collection of other records? Or some combination? How does a portfolio record evolve over time? Can a portfolio be conceptualised as a research activity/project? At the moment the best way to address these issues is to use RaiD as described above, not a DOI, as it is specifically designed as an envelope to group together other outputs/activities.

Finally within the complex, multi-faceted approach to contribution of research effort in practice research, it is important to be able to record the nuanced roles of individuals and groups, which doesn't quite fit with DataCite's contributor / creator model - we discuss a more detailed approach in the next section.

### **The Contributor Roles Taxonomy (CRediT)**

Founded in scientific research, the CRediT taxonomy grew from an understanding that conventions for describing and listing authors on scholarly outputs were outdated and failed to recognise the range of contributions that researchers make to published outputs (see <https://credit.niso.org/background/> and <https://www.nature.com/articles/508312a>). The project gave us an opportunity to raise awareness of the practice researcher perspective and the need to reflect a wider range of contributor roles. We were able to participate in a user story workshop which saw us represent the voice of practice researchers and has built a starting point to engage further to ensure the voices of this community is represented.

## Appendix B: Requirements for PR Platform (and recommended changes) based on the Cayuse repository test system used in the PRVoices project

### 1. Personas

| Name                      | Details  | Goal   |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| Practitioner / researcher | <p>Often works for (more than one) institution / organisation (and not always full time) but may not have that affiliation and can have their own (income generating) practice.</p> <p>May not be employed full time by one place.</p> <p>May not engage in research in all projects</p> <p>May be based within one discipline (e.g creative arts, music, dance) or work in an interdisciplinary manner</p> <p>Needs to meet funder / institutional compliance expectations – including a range of activities including publishing outputs, capturing activities (e.g. public engagement), completing reporting requirements</p> <p><b>Tasks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Uploading outputs and activity metadata to a variety of systems</li> <li>● Planning for data sharing</li> </ul> <p><b>Problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● minimising the amount of data entry to relevant systems, meeting funder requirements, capturing, sharing and preserving research outputs.</li> <li>● Software and standards that do not (reflect/respect) research (activities) nor the need for accessibility</li> <li>● May not have local resourcing to work on formatting / engaging with systems</li> <li>● May not have time / skill set</li> <li>● Lack of evidence of re-use (use / citation)</li> <li>● IP may have commercial value</li> <li>● Participatory research means the ethics of sharing participant data needs to be respected</li> <li>● May still care about physical outputs</li> </ul> | <p>Meet funder / institutional expectations</p> <p>Minimise data entry</p> <p>Make research (products) discoverable</p> <p>Engage with repository software that is intuitive, easy to use and displays research in a way that recognises form and function (including audio and video) and works alongside workflow</p> <p>Recognise and respect all contributors to a research project – creators, collaborators and participants</p> |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Research / REF<br/>Manager / Impact<br/>Manager / Public<br/>Engagement<br/>Manager</p> | <p>Works for an institution that submits to REF</p> <p>May have resourcing to support submission or may not if small and specialist</p> <p>Research culture / environment / EDI</p> <p><b>Tasks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsible for ensuring that submissions to REF meet panel guidelines and criteria</li> <li>Work with UoA leads to ensure submissions</li> <li>Ensure that PR is recognised in the same way that scientific outputs are</li> <li>Capture evidence of impact</li> </ul> <p><b>Problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May have small team working on this</li> <li>Systems don't reflect the multi-component nature of practice research outputs and the required metadata schema</li> <li>Systems don't enable a mix of open and closed metadata records and files</li> <li>Retrospectively 'retrieving/re-inventing' impact evidence data</li> <li>Unable to reliably report on research</li> </ul> | <p>Meet REF submission guidelines</p> <p>Respect the form and function of practice research</p> <p>Make practice research visible</p> <p>Ensure the impact of practice research is evidenced</p>       |
| <p>REF Panel Member</p>  | <p>Reviews practice research submissions to REF</p> <p><b>Tasks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access and review multi component outputs</li> </ul> <p><b>Problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No easy way to access content</li> <li>No standardised way to deliver content</li> </ul>   | <p>Reduce the manual interventions needed to review practice research</p> <p>Have a standard for how practice research is captured and discovered to ensure it is reviewed in an equitable manner.</p> |
| <p>Research funder</p>   | <p>Demonstrate return on investment<br/>Be able to audit evidence of activity</p> <p><b>Tasks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access content</li> <li>Enable large scale discovery and re-use of research</li> </ul> <p><b>Problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of standardised way to capture and/or access content</li> </ul>   | <p>Evidence investment and outcomes</p>  |

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Repository Manager</p>                              | <p>Responsible for maintaining and supporting repository, supporting users, managing funder compliance across all disciplines</p> <p><b>Tasks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Checking metadata records for accuracy and compliance</li> <li>• Training users</li> <li>• Advocating about policy compliance and best practice</li> </ul> <p><b>Problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Software that doesn't reflect the outputs in practice research disciplines</li> <li>• Don't necessarily understand the nuances or where the practice is articulated</li> </ul>  | <p>Community engagement</p> <p>Software that reflects the form and function of practice research</p> <p>Standards that enable interoperability and save time</p>  |
| <p>Research Data Manager (could also be Archivist)</p> | <p>Responsible for advocacy in relation to RDM (including sharing, data management planning, policy and digital preservation) best practice, working to embed in processes and research design, supporting researchers.</p> <p><b>Tasks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting researchers to write data management plans</li> <li>• Advocacy and best practice guidance</li> <li>• Management of digital preservation software integrations with repositories</li> </ul> <p><b>Problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research data ends up in different repositories</li> <li>• Software and standards don't adequately reflect practice research</li> <li>• Understanding of copyright, IP and licensing hinders the potential re-use of research</li> </ul> | <p>Community engagement</p> <p>The need for better understanding of sharing and re-use of data within the community</p> <p>Digital preservation integration to ensure preservation not just capture</p> |
| <p>Curator of practice research</p>                    | <p>Works with individual researchers to help them to articulate the research narrative and context.</p> <p><b>Tasks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generally focussed on REF submission</li> <li>• One to one work with individual researchers</li> </ul> <p><b>Problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tend to be short term contract roles</li> <li>• Often having to deal retrospectively with evidence and process</li> </ul>   | <p>A need to embed this role in business-as-usual activity to enable benefit beyond REF and upskill researchers</p>   |

|                                      |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Software developer                   | <p>Understand the requirements of repository users and implement changes as requested.</p> <p><b>Tasks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing functionality changes, policy changes, standard upgrades</li> </ul> <p><b>Problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of standard approach to practice research outputs</li> </ul>     | An agreed standard to enable the streamlining of software development to enable quicker development, easier upgrades |
| Member of the public / external user | <p>Find contextual practice research outputs and be able to understand them.</p> <p><b>Tasks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An interest in a topic leads them to searching</li> </ul> <p><b>Problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There isn't a primary place to look for this research</li> <li>It isn't easily discoverable</li> </ul> | Being able to find this research and a primary place to go to discover this research an                              |

## 2. User stories

**As a practice researcher**, I want to be able to find other practice research and easily share my research processes, methods, and outputs, so that they are discoverable, citable, re-usable, preserved, respect all contributors and inform my practice research.

**As a research manager / REF manager / impact manager / public and community engagement manager**, I want to be able to support my practice research community to create, capture, make discoverable and enable citation and re-use of their research, so that it informs impact generation, quality research outputs and demonstrates reach.

**As a REF panel member**, I want to be able to easily access practice research submissions and know that they will be accessible and discoverable for the long term, so that I can review them in an equitable and timely manner and can be accessed by the wider community.

**As a research funder**, I want to be able to evidence return on investment and ensure that research is discoverable and preserved for the long term, to enable transparency of investment of funding, demonstrate value for money, impact and ensure this research is accessible in the long term.

**As a repository manager**, I want to ensure that we can capture, make discoverable and report on usage statistics and policy compliance and support researchers with best practice, to enable awareness, and save researchers' time.

**As a research data manager**, I want to embed research data management best practice in relation to planning, data sharing and preservation, ensuring value for money, streamline processes, discoverability and preservation of research data.



**As a curator of practice research**, I want to work with researchers to enable them to articulate the research elements of their research, in order to meet funder requirements and enable sharing.

**As a software developer**, I want to ensure that relevant systems are fit for purpose, to enable the capture, discoverability of, preserve of and reporting on research.

**As a member of the public / external user**, I want to discover and interact with coherent, navigable practice research, increasing my knowledge and understanding.

### 3. Accessibility must be built into the platform

#### **What was done in the test system**

- Added guidance re caption to display as alt text
- Limiting adding multiples/fields/remove

[Accessibility statement for WestminsterResearch](#)

[Note - work University of Kent has done on their repositories](#)

Recommendation from SPARKLE project - automatic transcription of AV files.

### 4. The platform must meet Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) best practice

**The Cayuse repository has SEO best practice embedded.**

### 5. Design

#### **Design of the public interface is a high priority**

It is recognised that additional functionality needs prioritisation for development work (including a professionally designed public interface, the embedding of video and audio across the platform, and other requirements referenced in the requirements document).

#### **Structure vs flexibility (also non-linearity)**

It is possible to build in structure (via schema) and flexibility in the form of the enhanced portfolio template.

#### **UX/UI work**

Feedback from project

- Individual item templates should be refreshed to embed sound/moving image/still images
- Navigation around portfolio needed including map

- Two-way navigation between portfolio record and individual item records
- Reduced the wordiness of tab headings
- Add in an image in the banner section where the title sits - not just words

## 6. Functionality

- Look and feel
  - Interactive / living platform with audio, images and moving images
- Host and embed moving image
- Host and embed audio
- Capture annotations
- Capture process / method
- Keyword field to enable building of folksonomy
- Add citation / share this to portfolio landing page
- Large file upload (desktop uploader?)

## 7. Output types

**Portfolio vs collection vs theme vs project** - see the PRVoices framework in Appendix A.

### **Underpinning output/item types**

- Exhibition becomes broader event type with some sub-types (note re profiles crossover)
- Annotation (note re Neil Jeffries work - already in zenodo and ORCID) (underpinned by / includes [IIIF](#))
- Is this a social media output type that is broken down into sub-types?
  - Public (?social) media contribution Internet based media (includes podcast, twitter threads, Instagram [evidence of impact] (editorial, radio) blog post is different? Types that are not created by the project team
- Potential for Timelines to represent process (needs a bit more work)

### **Repository functionality that isn't there or switched on**

- Versioning of DOIs (new)
- "Unpublishing" records
- Add in linked record option
- Year range for portfolios e.g. 2018-2022, rather than a single year.

### **What needs to sit in the schema from the enhanced portfolio?**

- Map
- Context statement
- Narrative

- **Digital preservation**

- Fields that need to be in the repository
- Guidance e.g. around upload of file types
- How a multi-component item is pushed to digital preservation software
- How the metadata matters in the integration

## 8. What needs to change in the existing Westminster portfolios based on project feedback?

We set up a Cayuse test repository to enable the iteration of changes to the platform based on feedback from our semi-structured interview participants. These mocked up pages are based on an interview with a researcher from the Victoria and Albert Museum who also shared relevant documentation with us.

Key additions included:

- Highlight the project title, adding a context statement, image and acknowledging collaborators at the top of the portfolio
- Adding a map tab to highlight the structure of the portfolio
- Listing portfolio items on the landing page
- Acknowledging rights, re-use and citation information on the landing page
- Embedding video on the landing page
- Streamlining of and re-naming of tabs to be more accessible
- The ability to acknowledge participant created items, and links to content created by others about the project

# Mocked up pages indicating suggested changes to existing Westminster portfolios: Summary

Portfolio

## Brickfield Newham

Brickfield Newham is a V&A Research Institute and V&A East collaboration in partnership with St. Austell's artist-led project Brickfield and University of East London's Performing Arts department. Supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Newham Heritage Month and Arts Council England. The project was created by Georgia Haseldine (V&A), Rosanna Martin (Brickfield) and Lynne McCarthy (UEL).

Creator: Georgia Haseldine

Collaborators: Lynne McCarthy (Curator) and Rosanna Martin (Curator)



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- Summary
- Project framework
- Project narrative
- Research insights
- Further dissemination
- Supplementary material
- Metadata

### Summary

Brickfield Newham is a community research project that questions clay and its importance to the urban landscape by connecting people literally to the earth beneath their feet. Communities from across the borough are coming together to make bricks, build and fire a kiln on a construction site in the Royal Docks. They are investigating themes of dwelling, living and claiming the earth through performance and brickmaking. Rooted in Newham's history of industrialisation and habitation, Brickfield Newham will provide a hearth to share experiences of living in Newham and to listen to each person's vision of its future.



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### Website/online resource

<https://www.newhamheritagemonth.org/records/brickfield-newham/>

### Funding

Newham Heritage Month  
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation  
Arts Council England



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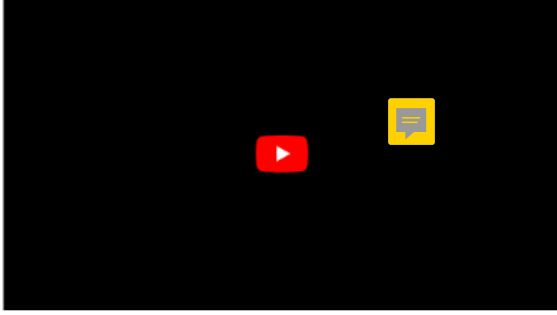
### Portfolio items

- 250 Fired Bricks
- About the project on Newham website
- Blog post: Brickfield Newham photo essay
- Brickfield Newham display
- Brickfield Newham Promotional Video
- Brickfield Newham: Hands-On Outdoor Brickmaking and Short Performance
- Newham Heritage Month Contributor Record: Brickfield Newham



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### Related videos



Kate Longworth discussing brickwork in Newham, May 2021 © Georgia Haseldine



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# Mocked up page indicating suggested changes to existing Westminster portfolios: Further dissemination

## Portfolio

### Brickfield Newham

Brickfield Newham is a V&A Research Institute and V&A East collaboration in partnership with St. Austell's artist-led project Brickfield and University of East London's Performing Arts department. Supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Newham Heritage Month and Arts Council England. The project was created by Georgia Haseldine (V&A), Rosanna Martin (Brickfield) and Lynne McCarthy (UEL).

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- Summary
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## Further dissemination

### Participant created items:

 Newham Brickfield Project (June 2021): a take-home booklet designed by Annie Lye and Margot Drayson of the V&A/RCA History of Design MA Programme.

Brickfield Newham: Theatre Performances about Brick, Heritage and Living in Newham by UEL's MA students in Performing Arts.

Performances by BA, MA, PhD students



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### Events led by community groups:

Workshop: Volunteers visit Brickfield Newham and make bricks!



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### Articles and reviews

Newham Recorder: 'Humble' brick to be celebrated in Newham Heritage Month

### Works by others on Brickfield Newham

Blog post: A conversation about brick by Karen Nicholson, concerning Brickfield Newham.



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Newham Brickfield Project (June 2021): a take-home booklet designed by Annie Lye and Margot Drayson of the V&A/RCA History of Design MA Programme (Digital publication created by Annie Lye)

## Appendix C: The PRVoices community

