

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE POLICY STATEMENT

Introduction

1. The University of Stirling (“our” or “us” or “we”) conducts world-class research that makes a significant contribution to society, the economy, environment or culture. We create and transfer new knowledge and ideas. In doing so we fulfil our responsibilities and deliver a substantial return on the investment made in us. Those who invest their money, time, expertise, information and other resources in us expect that we will deliver benefits, to them or to others, in return. This is embodied in mechanisms including grant funding for research, payment for services, partnerships, joint ventures and other relationships and interactions. We have a responsibility to use available resources to generate new knowledge and ideas and also to produce outputs which transfer that knowledge and to make a demonstrable contribution and positive impact.
2. In part, we transmit knowledge through our degree-level programmes of learning and teaching. These are continually developed, refreshed and informed by our research and scholarship. In part, we share knowledge through our academic and scholarly publications, presentations and other outputs. We also transfer knowledge through a wide range of our endeavours beyond the purely academic sphere: these include commercial ventures and partnerships; development of, advice on, and training in policy, professional practice and service delivery; cultural, sporting and community activities. This policy statement is concerned with this latter group of endeavours, which often involve a two-way exchange of ideas and information. We define knowledge exchange, therefore, as the sharing of knowledge derived from, and related to, research activity which makes a significant difference beyond the world of academia. The definition applies to the sharing of knowledge which has the potential to impact on innovation and to change, transform, enhance or generate new or improved professional practices, policies, technologies, products, services and public perceptions.

Our Approach

3. We are committed to, and value, knowledge exchange. It is a fundamental part of our purpose as an organisation and a major opportunity to engage with, and deliver benefit to, our funders, partners and other stakeholders. As a research-led University, knowledge exchange is an integral component of our research and enterprise portfolio.
4. In pursuit of this purpose, we are committed to maintaining and growing a strong and sustainable portfolio of knowledge exchange activities across our research base.
5. Accordingly:
 - Knowledge exchange is encouraged and recognised, and the participation and success of our staff in knowledge exchange activities is both expected and rewarded.

- Help and guidance is provided, and a supportive policy environment for engagement in knowledge exchange is maintained.
- We operate knowledge exchange processes which are effective and efficient both for our customers and our staff.
- Understanding and meeting the requirements of our customers and stakeholders is central to our knowledge exchange activities.
- We recognise that those with whom we exchange knowledge are frequently also partners in our research activities, and reflect that in our relationships and transactions with them.
- Knowledge exchange activities are managed sustainably, with the clear objective of securing the resources necessary to maintain and grow our portfolio of knowledge exchange activities and the benefits it delivers.
- The value of intellectual property to our knowledge exchange activities is recognised, and our intellectual assets and resources are managed effectively.
- A culture of enterprise and entrepreneurship is fostered and promoted within and beyond the University of Stirling.

Further Information and Support

6. We have specific policies which govern and relate to our knowledge exchange activities contained in the following documents:
 - Policy for Staff Undertaking Consultancy and Other Outside Work
 - Policy on Development and Delivery of Continuing Professional Development
 - Intellectual Property Policy
 - Guidance on Pricing for Research and Enterprise Activities

7. Further information and assistance is available from The Research and Enterprise Office, University of Stirling, Stirling FK9 4LA; website: <http://www.research.stir.ac.uk/>
01786 467041
Email: research@stir.ac.uk.

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