

Examples of Impact

Impact is defined as an effect on, change or benefit to the **economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, beyond academia.**

Below are examples of different types of impact.

Impacts on the health and wellbeing of people, and animal welfare

- Care and educational practices have changed.
- Clinical, dietary, health or social care guidelines have changed.
- Health or social care training guidelines have changed.
- Decisions by a health service or regulatory authority (to take, or not to take action) have been informed by research.

Impacts on creativity, culture and society

- Generating new ways of thinking that influence creative practice, its artistic quality or its audience reach.
- Collaboration with public arts venues, artists and programming professionals to produce new forms of artistic expression.
- Research-led engagement with marginalised, under-engaged and/or diverse audiences leads to increased cultural participation.
- Improvements to legal and other frameworks for securing intellectual property rights.

Impact on social welfare

- Improved social welfare, equality, social inclusion; improved access to justice and other opportunities (including employment and education).
- Engagement with research has enhanced policy and practice for securing poverty alleviation.
- Influential contributions to campaigns for social, economic, political and/or legal change through engagement with civil society groups.

- Changes to social policy have been informed by research.

Impacts on commerce and the economy

- The costs of treatment, health or social care have changed as a result of research-led changes in practice.
- Policies have been introduced which have had an impact on economic growth or incentivising productivity.
- Contributing to economic prosperity via the creative sector including publishing, music, theatre, museums and galleries, film and television, fashion, tourism, and computer games.
- Improvements in legal frameworks, regulatory environment or governance of business entities.

Impacts on public policy, law and services

- Policy debate has been stimulated or informed by research evidence, which may have led to confirmation of policy, change in policy direction, implementation or withdrawal of policy.
- Policy decisions or changes to legislation, regulations or guidelines have been informed by research evidence.
- A policy has been implemented (including those realised through changes to legislation) or the delivery of a public service has changed.
- The work of an NGO, charitable or other organisation has been influenced by the research.

Impacts on production

- Research helps to create routes to international innovation and market impact.
- Decisions by regulatory authorities have been influenced by research.

Impacts on practitioners and delivery of professional services, enhanced performance or ethical practice

- Professional standards, guidelines or training have been influenced by research.
- Professional methods, ideas or ethics have been influenced by research.
- Professionals and organisations are able to adapt to changing cultural values as a result of research.
- Contribution to continuing personal and professional development.

Impacts on the environment

- Policy debate on the environment, environmental policy decisions or planning decisions have been stimulated or informed by research and research evidence.
- Improved design or implementation of environmental policy or regulation.
- Changes in practices or policies affecting biodiversity.
- The operations of a business or public service have been changed to achieve environmental (green) objectives.

Impacts on understanding, learning and participation

- Enhanced cultural understanding of issues and phenomena; shaping or informing public attitudes and values.
- Public interest and engagement in research has been stimulated through, for example, the enhancement of science education in schools.
- Public or political debate has been shaped or informed by research; this may include activity that has challenged established norms, modes of thought or practices.
- Contributing to widening public access to and participation in the political process.