

Reimagining the University of Nottingham's Approach to Public Engagement

13 December 2017

Workshop Overview

1) Attendance figures

Registrations: 67

Attendees: 52
• Arts: 5

Engineering: 3

Medicine and Health Sciences: 12

Science: 6

Social Sciences: 3

- Professional services (External Relations, CARO, Graduate School, Centre for Advanced Studies, UoN Sport, Research and Innovation): 15
- Representatives of other organisations (Ignite!, Nottingham City Council, Nottingham City Libraries): 8

2) Strategy: Cutting the Public Engagement Cake

Creative workshop

Participants were asked to imagine that the University had a permanent presence in the city, dedicated to engaging with the public. They were also encouraged to think creatively about the venue, the type of activities and the groups who should be involved.

The image below collates the suggestions that participants made.





What is the flavour of our cake?

Dr Steve Cross and Alex Miles facilitated a session in which participants were asked to draw a picture of the current public engagement activities undertaken across the University of Nottingham. The image below illustrates that participants are very knowledgeable about the variety of public engagement activities.



The activities that participants highlighted fall into the categories below:

- Schools and young people
- Cross-disciplinary exhibitions and events
- Cultural and community initiatives
- Festivals
- Knowledge dissemination
- Engagement through digital and traditional media

How can the university support the making of this cake?

Participants made the following suggestions regarding the ways in which the University of Nottingham can support Public Engagement activities:

- Financial resources small grants scheme and guides to other funding streams
- Training on evaluating public engagement, REF impact writing and related public engagement support
- Public Engagement champions academics supporting their colleagues and raising the profile public engagement
- Physical and digital networks, opportunities to share best practice and collaborate
- Recognition of student and staff time and effort, and clarity of staff PDPR
- Public Engagement team a professional, central point of contact and support for the university
- Toolkits internally and externally accessible resources, and a calendar of events