

Public Engagement Opportunity – Listen by the Lake, call for content

We are seeking researchers/research projects to feature on our newly installed listening posts at Highfields Park.

Listen by the Lake is a public engagement project led by the Institute for Policy and Engagement. At the push of a button, listeners hear about research projects, listen to researchers talking about their work, and receive prompts for activities to do around the park. The aim is to share University of Nottingham research with public visitors to Highfields Park, especially children and families. The listening posts will have a programme of content changing quarterly through the year. From the end of April 2022, we hope to launch new tracks to coincide with the [City Nature Challenge 2022](#), featuring the outstanding nature-based research done at the University.



Content

Each post contains two buttons. Posts can hold up to six short tracks, the left button contains information about the research being conducted and the right sets a simple challenge or activity that can be done in the park.

Posts also feature a QR code leading to web content relating to the featured research project, such as short films and blog posts.

What we are looking for

To tie in with the City Nature Challenge, we are keen to explore research based on the natural world and invite proposals making creative use of audio to share research publicly. We're particularly keen on hearing sounds of nature, but there are many, many possibilities. Audio clips should be short, up to a maximum of 3 minutes, and should successfully convey the substance and public significance of your research.

Beyond that, we invite you to view this as an opportunity to explore the possibilities of public audio installation and connected web content in new and creative ways. Successful applicants will be supported by an experienced team of academics and public engagement professionals and will receive assistance in audio production.

The posts will collect user analytics, providing you with evidence of public engagement for reports to research funders or for future research evaluation.

Timeline

7 February Expressions of interest due

14 February Outcome shared with applicants

1 April Deadline for finished audio content

w/c 25th April Launch of Listen by the Lake tracks

Expression of Interest

If you would like to take part, please submit an expression of interest [via this Microsoft Form](#) in the format below by **7 February 2022**.

1. What is the research you wish to communicate? Describe your key research question(s), methods and findings. (150-200 words)
2. What audio content would you deploy on the listening posts and how would this successfully engage the target audience of children and families? (300 words)
3. What kind of web content would your listen post connect to (e.g. blog posts, short films, web exhibitions)? Does this content already exist or would you need to create it? (150-200 words)

Organisers

Maria Richards (Head of Public Programmes, Institute for Policy and Engagement)

Ben Sherwood (Administrator, Institute for Policy and Engagement)