

Forming a new partnership: an overview of knowledge transfer activities across the voluntary and community sector in the North West

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Objectives

- Raise participant's awareness of knowledge transfer activities within the voluntary and community (V&C) sector in the NW
- Understand the challenges and required support in order to engage effectively across the sector

The presentation will:

- explain what is Knowledge Transfer
- map the range and type of knowledge transfer activities
- report the initial impact on the use of E-learning & information skills in the community adult learning context;
- Highlight the barriers for the sector to access KT activities;
- Identify factors that lead to a successful partnership

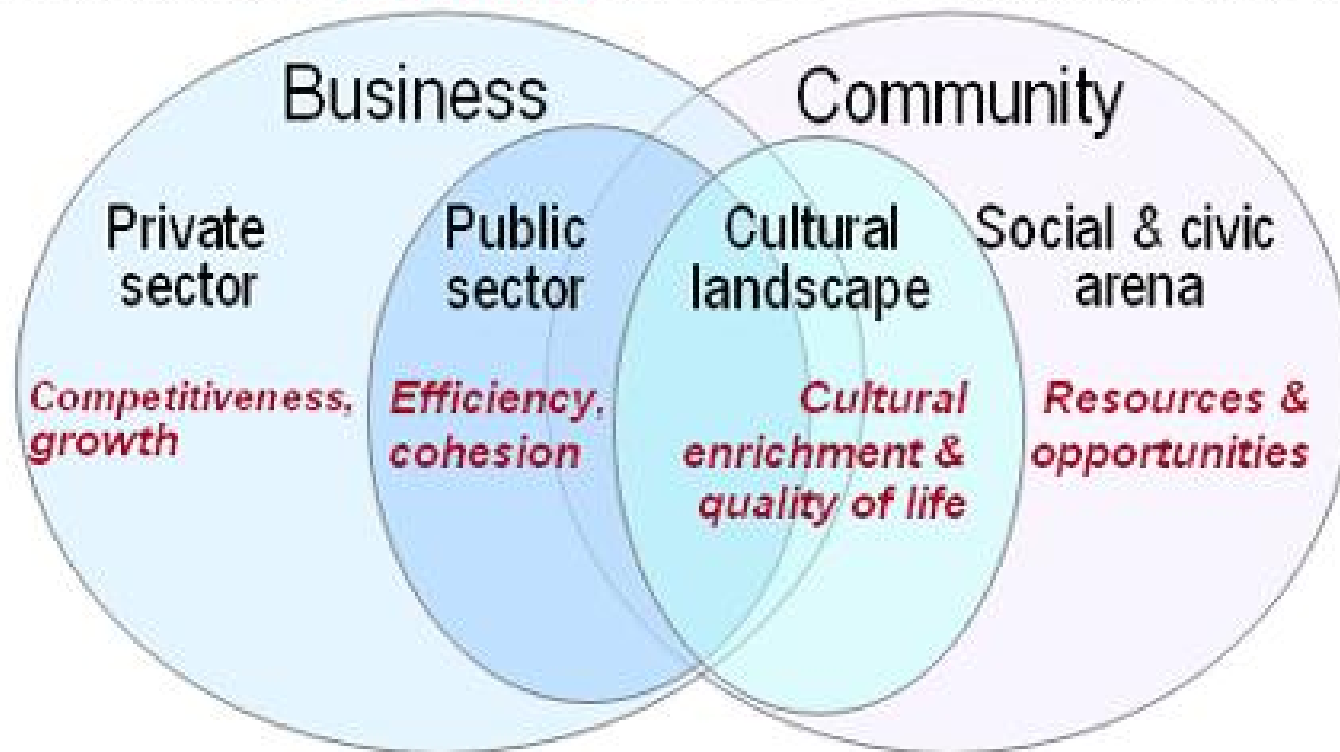
What is Knowledge Transfer?

- Knowledge Transfer is about transferring good ideas, research results and skills between universities, other research organisations, business and the wider community to enable innovative new products and services to be developed.

At its simplest, Knowledge Transfer is about

- starting a conversation.
- being open to learning from others as well as sharing your ideas and experiences.
- Helping to get research applied in policy and practice.

Scope and typical *outcomes* of Business & Community engagement



Knowledge Transfer Partnership

- Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF)
- HEIF projects aim to make a significant contribution to skills development and capacity building in private, public, voluntary and community sectors
- Knowledge transfer achieved through: directed learning, independent e-learning, exchange of people, consultancy and research

KnowledgeNorthWest

- The University of Bolton
- University of Central Lancashire
- University of Chester
- Cumbria Institute of the Arts
- Edge Hill
- Lancaster University
- The University of Liverpool
- The University of Liverpool - Business gateway
- Liverpool Hope University
- Liverpool John Moores University
- The University of Manchester
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- The Open University in the North West
- The Royal Northern College of Music
- University of Salford
- St Martin's College

Involvement in business and community

- Heavily involved in working partnership with the business sector
- Some research activities involved working with the voluntary and community sector
- Only Edge Hill and St Martin's College have specific projects directly working with voluntary and community sector.

Examples of KT activities with the sector

St Martin's College

- Community Radio Project
- Children's Fund
- Connecting Communities (Lancaster)

Manchester Metropolitan University

- Social Enterprise Business Analysis Tool

Open University

- Social sciences courses & Active Community Programme

Edge Hill: Community Knowledge Transfer Partnership

- Facilitating agencies to work together, sharing information for the benefit of voluntary community organisations.
- Providing flexible solutions and approaches to problem solving including **information skills training; advice and support on training programmes/research and surveys; community learning and communications software.**

Working with the communities

- Halton Together
- Liverpool Community Matters
- Develop & Deliver Online Learning
- UK Chinese Professional Artist Development Scheme
- Online Customer Care Module for Knowsley Public Libraries

Barriers for the sector in accessing KT activities

V & C Sector:

- Lack of awareness and understanding of the concept of KT
- Works are not usually research / evident focused

Factors leading to a successful partnership

- Knowledge Transfer activities involve more than just research staff
- Establish an institutional framework for both staff and student engagement in knowledge transfer
- Pro-active engagement with the sector and establish a good working relationship
- Re-active in terms of responding to the sector needs