

- **No.42**
- **A learning framework for public engagement**

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- **Abstract:**

- There are ever-growing dynamics which encourage Universities to enrich their connection with wider society, and to enhance the impact of their research and of their teaching. Developing an outward-facing, dynamic and two-way exchange with the world beyond the academy is being encouraged by a host of external policy drivers, but also by the values of many in the sector, both staff and students, who believe that universities are there to ‘make a difference’ and to transform individuals’ lives. There is a growing emphasis on producing graduates with capacities in knowledge co-creation, in collaborative learning and engagement with others. Whilst there are many who use ‘live projects’ or ‘real-world’ learning as a means for developing these capacities, there is often little creative work that goes into developing curricular that further exploits the learning that arises from engagement with others. The National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement have developed a draft framework for supporting universities in thinking about how learning outcomes from public engagement could be further supported and assessed within the formal curriculum. This framework consists of five key learning areas that are crucial to all forms of engagement, and provides assessment criteria for each of these areas:

- Co-creation of knowledge
- Managing complexity
- Awareness of self and others • Communication
- Reflective practice

In this workshop we will present and invite critical reflection from participants on this framework and work to explore potential projects through which it can be applied, researched and evaluated.