



# UK KNOWLEDGE MOBILISATION FORUM

22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2026

**Programme**

**#UKKbForum2026**

# About the Forum

The UK Knowledge Mobilisation Forum is an annual event for all those with a passion for ensuring that knowledge makes a positive difference to society. We are delighted to welcome you to our 2026 Forum, which is set to be a live extravaganza! All of our sessions are interactive, so be prepared to join in.

The Forum brings together practitioners, researchers, students, administrators and public representatives who are engaged in the art and science of sharing knowledge and ensuring that it can be used. The Forum is designed as a space for learning and reflection, providing an opportunity for sharing knowledge, experiences and methods and access to some of the most up to date thinking and practice in the field.

This year we are in the fabulous **We The Curious** in Bristol, an educational charity and leading UK science centre that brings people together to play, get creative with science and explore different ideas.

<https://www.wethecurious.org/>

We've really embraced this year's Curiosity theme, with four types of session designed to keep things fresh and engaging:

- Quick Curiosities: punchy 15-minute sessions sharing tools, stories and new ideas
- Curious Tales: 30-minute storytelling sessions with a twist
- Curiosity-Powered Workshops: longer, hands-on sessions where we try things out together
- Posters for the Curious: an interactive poster session built around peer interviews

Plus our brilliant keynotes from **Lewis Hou**, **Issac Samuels** and **Hayley Trowbridge** - and our very own **Vicky Ward**, whose final year chairing the Forum we'll be celebrating.

 [ukkmbforum@gmail.com](mailto:ukkmbforum@gmail.com)

 <https://www.linkedin.com/company/uk-knowledge-mobilisation-forum>

Remember the hashtag: **#UKKMbForum2026**

9.00	<b>Wednesday 22nd of April – Registration Open</b>
9.30	Coffee and registration
10.00	Welcome address
10.15	Creative Icebreaker
10.30	<b>Keynote speaker: Lewis Hou</b>
11.30	Refreshments
12.00	<p><b>Curious Tales</b></p> <p><i>Francis Crick Room</i></p> <p>Claire Toomey, Emma Stroemqvist, Aisha Macgregor Setting the Zine: Creative Approaches to Evaluation in Adult Social Care</p> <p>Alexia MacDonald and Amy Edwards Life on the Job Market: the Power of Storytelling in Business and Policy</p> <p><i>Rosalind Franklin Room</i></p> <p>Liz Such, Joe Langley, Fiona Marshall, Naeema Ahmed, Andy Tattersall I-Spy On A Rapid Knowledge Mobilisation Journey</p> <p>Renira Narrandes and Susan Calnan Storytelling for knowledge mobilization: An interactive, abbreviated workshop &amp; case study</p> <p><i>Maurice Wilkins Room</i></p> <p>Kirsty Jones Tensions, Tales, and Turning Points: Rethinking Impact through the Lens of Research Value</p> <p>Helen Baxter, Clare Thomas, Sabi Redwood A categorisation of knowledge sharing approaches for research design and training</p>
13.00	Lunch and poster viewing
14.00	<p><b>Curiosity-Powered Workshops</b></p> <p><i>Francis Crick Room</i></p> <p>Sarah Jasim &amp; Catherine-Rose Stocks-Rankin Seeing Is Believing: Visualising Knowledge Mobilisation</p> <p><i>Rosalind Franklin Room</i></p> <p>Sinéad Murphy and Meghna Nag Chowdhuri The ethics of knowledge mobilisation, and how these drive our practices and mechanisms (or not!)</p> <p><i>Maurice Wilkins Room</i></p> <p>Joe Langley Playing with evidence, tangible data and interactive narratives: What are the rules?</p>
15.00	Refreshments
15.30	<b>Keynote speaker: Vicky Ward</b>
16.30	Closing Activity

9.30	<b>Thursday 23rd April – Welcome Address</b>
9.45	<b>Keynotes speakers: Issac Samuels &amp; Hayley Trowbridge</b>
10.45	Refreshments
11.15	<p><b>Curiosity-Powered Workshops</b></p> <p><i>Francis Crick Room</i>  Sinéad Murphy and Meghna Nag Chowdhuri <b>(Repeated from day 1)</b>  The ethics of knowledge mobilisation, and how these drive our practices and mechanisms (or not!)</p> <p><i>Rosalind Franklin Room</i>  Fraser Rowan  Design-led knowledge mobilisation. A 180 degree shift on business-as-usual-sector first, interdisciplinary engagement</p> <p><i>Maurice Wilkins Room</i>  Andrew Herd  CLAY - Cocreative Learning And YOU</p>
12.15	Lunch and poster viewing
13.00	<b>A Poster for the Curious: Plenary Session in Rosalind Franklin Room</b>
14.00	Refreshments
14.30	<p><b>Quick Curiosities</b></p> <p><i>Francis Crick Room</i>  James Harrison  Ten years of embedding knowledge mobilisation in an organisation: The trials and tribulations of our working lives! AKA “the long and winding road”</p> <p>Robyn Bates  Nurturing our networks - building a public health intelligence community</p> <p><i>Rosalind Franklin Room</i>  Helen Callaby  From petri dishes to parliament</p> <p>Dora Young, Tim Sunderland, Jamie McCauley  From Silos to Systems: Co-creating healthy places using the EXPLORE Framework</p> <p><i>Maurice Wilkins Room</i>  Hélène Russell  Investigating neurodivergent superpowers for knowledge sharing - it's not just about inclusivity</p> <p>Kate Robinson  Breaking Down Silos: Building a Unified Impact Team for Knowledge Mobilisation - a practical example that works!</p>
15.30	Closing Activity followed by optional tour of We The Curious Museum at 16.00

## Keynote speakers



**Isaac Samuels** is a dedicated advocate for social justice and co-production, with decades of experience in driving systemic change. They are members of a number of influencing groups and networks within adult social care, disability rights and connected areas where they use their platform, skills and lived experience to play a key role in shaping policy and practice. Isaac works across charities, universities, local authorities, and government to embed lived experience in decision-making. They are currently the Lead Commissioning Officer (Co-Production and Inclusion) at Greenwich Council. Passionate about ensuring that marginalised voices are truly listened to, Isaac champions inclusive services that reflect diverse needs. Their work is rooted in narrative power, equity, anti-racism and the belief that change is always possible.

As Head of Partnerships and Practice at People's Voice Media, Isaac is one-third of the Shared Leadership team who are responsible for the organisation's overall strategic direction. In their specific role, Isaac leads the development of the Community Reporter network and our approaches to storytelling and co-production. They develop partnerships with individuals, groups and organisations that support our aim to change the world, one story at a time. Isaac embeds anti-racism and equitable practice into all aspects of our work, leading on the delivery of programmes that support inclusion and the platforming of often unheard voices.

**Hayley Trowbridge** specialises in creative and participatory research methods that centre co-production, lived experience storytelling, and future-thinking to drive system change. With a background in the third sector, she has spent two decades working across the UK and Europe to dismantle hierarchies and foster more equitable approaches in research, policy, and public services. Hayley's work is rooted in a deep commitment to social justice, with a focus on amplifying marginalised voices and embedding anti-racist practice.

**Lewis Hou** is Founder and Director of Science Ceilidh, which is an intermediary organisation supporting cultural and knowledge democracy in Scotland. He is passionate about knowledge and cultural democracy – how we can recognise, value and support everyone's creativity and expertise to enable local action, knowledge production and social justice.

Lewis currently coordinates Community Knowledge Matters network and The Ideas Fund funding directly and supporting grassroots communities across Scotland to lead participatory research on mental wellbeing, culture and climate change. He is one of the UK Creative Community Fellows, and now Faculty of Community Building in that programme, and was recently awarded the Beetlestone Award for leadership in the science engagement field.

Lewis is also now undertaking an Engage Fellowship with the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement exploring systems change to support more diverse knowledge production. He also explores his creativity through Scottish traditional music and dance – including playing the fiddle – and more recently training in urban dance styles.

**Vicky Ward** is a Reader in Management in the Department of Management and Director of Research Engagement for the University of St Andrews Business School and has a passion for bringing people working in knowledge mobilisation together and supporting people to make a difference with research. Outside the department she leads the RURU Network (Researching and Understanding Research Use) and has chaired the UK Knowledge Mobilisation Forum since 2018. Her research portfolio includes work on knowledge brokering in a range of settings and she has undertaken research on parliamentary research services, embedded researchers, research-policy partnerships, and interprofessional working.

# A Poster for the Curious

*[View the posters online](#), add your questions and reflections, in time for our poster discussion on Thursday, 23rd April at 13.00.*

**Kate Lippiett, Nicola Andrews, Jenny Roddis, Rae Tobin, Mireembe Woodrow**

## **The value of existing knowledge brokers within organisations**

This poster explores how knowledge brokers already embedded within organisational systems can be identified, understood and supported. Drawing on my own KM journey, it highlights the often-overlooked individuals who informally connect people, ideas and practices, and demonstrates their importance for effective knowledge mobilisation. Delegates will gain practical insights, a simple conceptual model and reflective prompts to help them recognise similar people within their own contexts.

**Jo Day, Alice Garrood, Rohini Terry, Vicki Goodwin**

## **Building capacity with professionals working in adult social care community settings to undertake and engage with research: sharing insights and learning**

We will share our successes, challenges and learning from a project facilitating research capacity building for professionals working in and with older adults in social care community settings. Our knowledge mobilisation activities include supporting people with little research knowledge through a range of opportunities to engage with research, share learning and ignite an interest/appetite for being involved in, doing and using research. We will share our learning from the endpoint of this project and invite discussion of our overall experience and conceptual thinking to help inform future research capacity building work.

**Peter van der Graaf, Andrew Passey, Bronia Arnott**

## **Dispositioned to organisational knowledge mobilisation: theory-informed, practical reflections on knowledge brokering with local authorities in a UK public health research collaboration**

So, you want to be a knowledge broker? Being the go-between evidence producers and users can be a challenging and lonely job. We know much about what these roles could do and what skills are needed, but less about what really happens in practice, particularly when embedded in organisational structures. In this poster, three knowledge brokers from NIHR PHIRST reflect on their experiences using Bourdieu's concepts of field, habitus and capitals to reframe knowledge brokers as experts in converting capitals between fields, while exploring the politics of knowledge brokering and the different uses of evidence in local government.

## **Carry Triggs-Hodge**

### **Strengthening Knowledge Mobilisation in Practice: establishing the UKHSA Knowledge Mobilisation Community of Practice on the Futures platform**

Are you planning to create a community of practice (CoP)? Are you part of a CoP which could be more effective? See how we established a knowledge mobilisation (KMb) CoP within a complex public health system. Join the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) CoP on our journey so far through the steps of:

- Initiation
- Digital Infrastructure
- Early Indicators of Impact
- Aims
- Engagement Strategy
- Future Evaluation Plans.

Learn from our experience as we share our roadmap, transferable lessons, what worked well (and less well!) to establish and sustain a CoP with ambitions of enhancing KMb capability, within and beyond UKHSA.

## **Josie Jackson and Natalie Gerardo**

### **Co-Designing Health and Care Research in Wales' Knowledge Mobilisation Approach**

Health and Care Research Wales funds research to improve the health and care of people and communities. We are developing our Knowledge Mobilisation plans and would like to do this together with experts in KM and those in our research and funder community. The focus for us is to prioritise activities that support the effective use of our funded research findings so they can have impact.

Starting with our research programmes, here we share our first draft of the plan. We want to know what you like about it, what you don't, and what ideas you have. Your insight will directly influence the next iteration.

# Curious Tales

*Select one session to attend*

## Session A - Francis Crick Room

**Claire Toomey, Emma Stroemqvist, Aisha Macgregor**

### **Setting the Zine: Creative Approaches to Evaluation in Adult Social Care**

Our “curious tale” will demonstrate how zine making can be used as a visual method to encourage engagement with evidence and evaluation. We will show how zines offer an opportunity to bridge power hierarchies and to make complex data more accessible and engaging to a broad range of stakeholders. Zines created at an away day for a UK based adult social care evidence implementation centre will be showcased, demonstrating their potential to highlight unseen dynamics and perspectives. Group members will have the opportunity to discuss the zines and reflect on their potential use in their own practice and knowledge mobilisation.

**Alexia MacDonald and Amy Edwards**

### **Life on the Job Market: the Power of Storytelling in Business and Policy**

Stories have always had the power to help us understand the big questions in life, but in a contemporary world we sometimes forget the importance of stories in our attempts to tackle increasingly complex social, economic, political, and environmental challenges. This session invites you to consider ways to make space for the voices and stories of participants in academic research, industry practice, and policymaking processes. Come along to encounter audio clips, film footage, and first-person accounts related to the lives of women seeking work in Britain both in the past and present; and how we are using those stories to inform and shape the future.

## Session B - Rosalind Franklin Room

**Liz Such, Joe Langley, Fiona Marshall, Naeema Ahmed, Andy Tattersall**

### **I-Spy On A Rapid Knowledge Mobilisation Journey**

We are often told that research moves too slowly to make a difference in the “real world” or in “real time”. This session addresses this challenge (whether, in fact, real or imagined!) by describing a model of rapid knowledge mobilisation. We are off on a car journey so bring your I-Spy skills with you.

**Renira Narrandes, Susan Calnan**

**Storytelling for knowledge mobilization: An interactive, abbreviated workshop and case study**

Storytelling is a powerful tool that helps us connect with our audience and share knowledge, but where does one start if they want to use storytelling to share their research? In this 30-minute tale, you'll learn about a 6-step story development process and how it was applied to create two podcasts on Ireland's public health alcohol policy. The podcasts were part of a research project looking at the barriers to, and facilitators of, implementation of the policy. Lessons learned will also be discussed.

**Session C - Maurice Wilkins Room**

**Kirsty Jones**

**Tensions, Tales, and Turning Points: Rethinking Impact through the Lens of Research Value**

Join this interactive tale exploring the hidden tensions between the research impact agenda and the everyday realities of knowledge mobilisation. Through storytelling and group reflection, we'll unpack four common challenges that disrupt Knowledge Mobilisation work and consider how a shift towards research value might offer a more enabling alternative. Expect honest conversation, practical insight, and a chance to re-imagine what supportive institutional cultures could look like.

**Helen Baxter, Clare Thomas, Sabi Redwood**

**A categorisation of knowledge sharing approaches to facilitate their use in research design and training**

Funders are requesting knowledge mobilisation in the design of research studies to increase the likelihood of research impact. Unfortunately, this is often an afterthought, without consultation of the literature, or a specialist practitioner. To support those not specialist in knowledge mobilisation, we have identified five categories of knowledge sharing within the literature. In this workshop, we aim to consult the knowledge mobilisation community on the categorisation and whether it agrees with others' experiences. This will allow us to challenge, amend and refine the category definitions for further testing and future use for development and training in knowledge mobilisation.

# Curiosity-Powered Workshops

Select one workshop on each day using this sign-up form: [Workshop Sign-up Sheet](#)

## Day 1 Workshops

### Session A - Francis Crick Room

**Sarah Jasim**

#### **Seeing Is Believing: Visualising Knowledge Mobilisation**

The purpose of the workshop is to help participants understand, reflect on, and visually express how knowledge moves from research into practice, policy, and people's lives, in their own contexts.

### Session B - Rosalind Franklin Room

**Sinéad Murphy and Meghna Nag Chowdhuri**

#### **The ethics of knowledge mobilisation, and how these drive our practices and mechanisms (or not!)**

Inequities in academic-policy engagement shape whose knowledge informs decision-making, often privileging senior, well-resourced academics and dominant disciplinary norms, while marginalising early-career researchers, researchers of colour. Building on a new UCL Public Policy-funded project, this interactive session explores the structural, procedural, and cultural barriers that limit equitable participation in the policy-impact landscape. Participants will engage with emerging findings and co-develop a practical framework to help knowledge mobilisers design more inclusive, just, and impactful academic-policy mechanisms. Join us to rethink what equitable policy impact looks like, and how we can collectively build it.

### Session C - Maurice Wilkins Room

**Joe Langley**

#### **Playing with evidence, tangible data and interactive narratives; what are the rules?**

Play some evidence games. Reconstruct some evidence narratives. Touch, feel and experience evidence simulations. Then tell me what you think. What works (and doesn't)? How do they work? What are the generalisable bits that can be shared with others? And what are the rules? In this session you will have the opportunity to try out 2 or 3 games, toolkits or other interactive KMB tools, and then deconstruct them.

## Day 2 Workshops

### Session A - Francis Crick Room

**Amie Steel, Jon Adams, Kirsten Baker, Hope Foley**

#### **Mobilising Knowledge Across Cultures: Adapting the World Cafe Method for Global, Multilingual Stakeholder Priority Setting in WHO Regional Consultations**

Discover how to mobilise knowledge across cultures, languages and stakeholder groups using an adapted World Café© method. This hands-on workshop draws on our experience delivering research-priority consultations across all six WHO regions for the Traditional Medicine Research Roadmap. We will unpack how to navigate power dynamics, linguistic diversity and differing knowledge systems to generate equitable, policy-relevant insights. Through interactive design activities and real-world examples, delegates will learn practical strategies for facilitating culturally sensitive dialogue, integrating diverse expertise and mobilising collective knowledge into actionable outputs.

### Session B - Rosalind Franklin Room

**Fraser Rowan**

#### **Design-led knowledge mobilisation. A 180 degree shift on business-as-usual-sector first, interdisciplinary engagement**

In most HEIs, engagement is driven by academic curiosity rather than sector need. Our systems (management, finances, programs, funding etc.) drive a mono-disciplined siloed approach to research culture and engagement: vertical depth. Through the deployment of design-led processes we are creating a fuzzy, horizontal band of activity that promotes interdisciplinary approaches to addressing sector defined challenges. In this session I will demo three interactive tools that we use to: rapidly create meaningful links across groups of people who haven't met before; probe Possible future scenarios and establish Preferred visions of the future.

### Session C - Maurice Wilkins Room

**Andrew Herd**

#### **CLAY - Cocreative Learning And YOU**

CLAY: Cocreative Learning And You ... express your inner voice through the medium of clay and discover a simple technique for tacit knowledge mobilisation - and have great fun doing it and sharing with others :-)

## Quick Curiosities

*You're invited to attend a selection of Quick Curiosities which are 15 minutes long and will be repeated twice in each session.*

### Session A - Francis Crick Room

**James Harrison**

**Ten years of embedding knowledge mobilisation in an organisation: The trials and tribulations of our working lives! AKA “the long and winding road”.**

Follow the journey of attempting to change the working habits of analysts across a ten year pathway. See how the Local Knowledge and Intelligence Team attempted to take the findings of Breckon and Dodson and apply them to making public health intelligence resources more fit for purpose, more relevant to the users, and above all more powerful in supporting decision making moments. See how LKIS have socialised the resources, evaluated the process and the outcomes, and continued to refine their delivery model. Ten years of ups downs, COVID and knowledge into action.

**Robyn Bates**

**Nurturing our networks - building a public health intelligence community**

The Local Knowledge and Intelligence Service facilitates regional networks across England, bringing together professionals working in the public health intelligence community. During the pandemic we pivoted to new ways of engaging our networks, maintaining existing connections, and building new ones. The pandemic also signalled the beginning of an era of continuous change, with our networks (and us!) racing to keep up. Here we'll share the mechanisms we've established to communicate with and support our networks, showing that building networks takes time, and the process may not be linear - as the old adage says, Rome wasn't built in a day!

## **Session B - Rosalind Franklin Room**

**Helen Callaby**

### **From petri dishes to parliament**

Ever wanted to ask a minister a question about your scientific field, but didn't know where to start? This session will give an example of how scientists can go from frustration to fostering change, making science speak the language of policy, making sure science doesn't stop at the lab bench but reaches the decision bench. We must stop telling each other what we already know - knowledge shouldn't echo; it should travel.

**Dora Young, Tim Sunderland, Jamie McCauley**

### **From Silos to Systems: Co-creating healthy places using the EXPLORE Framework**

The Explore Framework is a set of resources designed to support Local Authorities and Combined Authorities with integrated, place-based, strategic planning. It focuses on four apex targets, which are above those held by individual council departments, to support integration. These are health, well-being, nature, and sustainability. This bridges the gap between technical information and practical solutions. We will ask participants to consider their own local area, imagining that they have been tasked with writing a new Local Plan for 2026 - 2046. The aim is for participants to experience how Explore's factor maps support cross-disciplinary conversation about certain high-level planning outcomes, enabling collaboration irrespective of expertise e.g., on health and wellbeing, nature, and sustainability. The Explore team will then introduce the Framework in more detail, setting out how it works in practice and how it has been tested with pilot local authorities.

## **Session C - Maurice Wilkins Room**

### **Hélène Russell**

#### **Investigating neurodivergent superpowers for knowledge sharing - it's not just about inclusivity**

After a client noted that traditional "hard cases" knowledge sharing discussions excluded some lawyers, Hélène Russell went down a rabbit hole learning about knowledge sharing among neurodivergent professionals. Her research so far suggests that when small, intentional changes are made to how we structure participation, neurodivergent thinking offers approaches to problem-solving and innovation of value to commercial organisations. Hélène will share her insights so far on creating inclusive knowledge-sharing environments where different cognitive styles can thrive and participants will be invited to exchange their own experiences through various formats (privately if preferred).

### **Kate Robinson**

#### **Breaking Down Silos: Building a Unified Impact Team for Knowledge Mobilisation – a practical example that works!**

Knowledge mobilisation shouldn't happen in isolation. Drawing on my unconventional journey from Comms manager to research midwife to KM lead, I recognised that KM, Quality Improvement, Implementation Science, and Communications were operating separately yet doing similar work. We merged our teams into one unified Impact Team, bringing together diverse specialists, including often-overlooked non-academic communications and QI professionals, to maximise research impact. This practical session shares our collaborative model, training approach, and lessons learned about supporting researchers to get their work into practice. Discover how breaking down traditional silos can transform your organisation's knowledge mobilisation efforts.