Impact Training at LSBU

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Our aspirations

- Maximise understanding of impact
- Create a strong Impact culture
- Incentivise engagement in Impact
- Build on our success in REF 2014 – GPA 2.83
Courses

• Impact Masterclass: Best Practice for REF Impact case studies – what do 4* and a 1* Impact case studies look like?
• Developing Impact Case studies for the REF
• REF Impact case study review workshop
• Impact for postgraduate research students: An introduction to Impact
• Impact case study reviews
• Writing a Pathways to Impact statement

Next Steps

• Investigating creating Impact awards
• Continue to develop bespoke Impact training for our Schools
• Further develop our guidance on our intranet
• Advance our Impact strategy
REF 2021 Impact Case Studies

Joe Arnold

LSBU Impact Guide (Date added: 10/05/2019)

What is impact?

- Impact is defined as an effect on, change or benefit to the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, beyond academia.
- Impact includes the reduction or prevention of harm, risk, cost or other negative effects.
- Dissemination/Public Engagement and academic esteem/citations do not count as impact.

What does a REF Impact case study look like?

The full REF 2021 Impact Case Study Template can be found here. It can be a maximum of five pages, and consists of five main sections (word limits are indicative only):

1. Summary of the impact (100 words)
2. Underpinning research – key research insights/findings that underpinned the impact (500 words)
3. References to the research (maximum of six)
Writing Quality Impact Case Studies for the REF

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What does a REF Impact case study look like?
The full case study template can be found on the intranet and in the main impact guide here. It can be a maximum of five pages, and consists of five main sections:
1. Summary of the impact (max 100 words)
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3. References to the research (maximum of six)
4. Details of the impact – narrative detailing the impact itself, with supporting evidence and explanation of how the research lead to the impact claimed (max 750 words)
5. List of sources/evidence corroborating the impact (maximum of ten)

A case study may be submitted in a different Unit of Assessment (UoA) from the UoA of the individual who carried out the underpinning research, if the research is within the scope of the targeted UoA.

It can also be submitted by two different Universities if each institution can articulate and evidence their unique contribution to the underpinning research.

What is eligible for an Impact Case Study in REF2021?
- The Impact must have occurred during the period: 01/08/2013 – 31/07/2020.
- The impact is underpinned by a body of research that, in its totality, must be of 2* quality. Not every output used in this body of research must be of 2* quality.
- The underpinning research was produced between 01/01/2000 – 31/12/2020 at LSBU.
- All claimed impact must be corroborated with precise, verifiable, evidence.

How are impact case studies assessed?
Case studies are assessed in terms of Reach and Significance, using REF’s 4*-Unclassified, starred levels:
- Reach – the extent to which the potential constituencies, number/diversity or groups of beneficiaries have been affected by the specified Impact. It will not be assessed in geographic terms, nor in terms of absolute numbers of beneficiaries.
Intranet guidance

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Pathways to Impact for Research Grant Proposals

Joe Arnold

Research Impact is the translation of research into real-world benefits. The principal impact types are: economic and societal. Sub-categories include: health/wellbeing, cultural, environmental, and technological.

Research Impact examples include:

1. **Economic**: a new product or spin-out; efficiency savings; new intellectual property; job creation; increased commercial competitiveness

2. **Societal**: improving outcomes/education provision for excluded/disadvantaged groups; reducing crime; increasing community cohesion.

3. **Environmental**: reducing pollution; delivering a zero-carbon energy generator.

4. **Health/wellbeing**: producing a new health treatment; improving quality of care; developing a new hygiene standard; fostering healthy behaviours.

5. **Cultural**: reviving interest in an artist’s work; developing a new exhibition.

Why impact matters...

Impact demonstrates to the government and taxpayers, the societal and economic value of research. It also provides to current and prospective...
Thank you!

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