



Background

- Founded (2002) to provide training in 'tech transfer', to share experience and define good practice
- Merged with the Association for University Research & Industry Links (AURIL) in 2017
- Representing Knowledge Exchange professionals in a wide range of roles
- Highly connected to sector stakeholders and policy makers

OUR MISSION

DEVELOP, PROMOTE, CONNECT







World leading KE practitioners

Equipped (Develop)

Recognised (Promote)

Influence (Connect)









Guiding principles
Professional standards
Professional skills
development

Showcasing success for individuals, organisations – and the sector as a whole National and International Peer Review and Recognition

Policy and ecosystem
Stakeholder engagement
International and Industry
networks

Engaged members | Expert practitioners | Strong leadership team | Sustainable business model



Volunteer OPPORTUNITIES











Trainer





WHAT VOLUNTEERS GET

"I find it interesting hearing viewpoints from different parts of the KE landscape and helping them along their journey is very rewarding"



Speaker

Professional Development



International recognition







Engage with the community







Shape the profession







































A global membership

- 170+ organisational members, around 5000 individuals from 45 countries
- Universities, Research councils and institutes, Innovation Hubs, Catapults, Government agencies, Companies and Charities.
- International alumni network



We are directly connected through ATTP with all major KE associations around the world





























Knowledge Exchange in the UK

- Moving away from 'technology transfer'
- Recognising the importance of collaboration and skills education too
- Research informing innovation, and business informing research
- KE staff in every UK university doing many different roles
- Lots of different organisational models



Develop

- Our core activity is training
- We offer scheduled and 'responsive' courses
- 5000+ KE professionals trained to date
- Technical and 'soft' skills
- Trainers are volunteer expert practitioners
- RTTP accreditation points offered



Scheduled training courses

- Fundamentals of Technology Transfer
- New Venture Creation 1: First steps towards spin-outs and start-ups
- New Venture Creation 2: Launching a high growth spin out company
- Growing Consultancy Business in a University or Research Institute
- Essentials of Business Development
- Software Commercialisation
- Practical Licensing
- Research Contracts
- Developing Strategic Partnerships



Promote

- Celebrate success at team and individual level
- Highlight best practice
- Acknowledge the challenges and find solutions
- Emphasise the need for professional skills
- Make our members part of policy conversations and decisions



Connect

- It's all about our members
- Sharing challenges and how to resolve them
- Sharing ideas and skills
- Connecting with sector stakeholders to inform and influence new programmes
- This is a global activity involving other national organisations (AUTM, ASTP, KCA etc)



UK Knowledge Exchange policy (1)

- UK Government target for R&D 2.4% of GDP by 2027 underpinned by an Industrial Strategy
- Target of £12.5 billion public investment in R&D in 2021/22
- 4 Grand Challenges:
 - Artificial Intelligence & Data Economy
 - Clean Growth
 - Future of Mobility
 - Ageing Society



UK Knowledge Exchange policy (2)

- £725m Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund
- Sector deals in: Life Sciences, Construction, Al and Automotive.
- Local Industrial Strategies helping places across the UK to grow (not just the 'golden triangle')
- A central role for Knowledge Exchange, including research commercialisation



Funding for Innovation

- Higher Education Innovation Funding (HEIF) —to create and sustain a KE culture within English universities. Currently £213 million per annum.
- The Connecting Capability Fund (CCF) -£100 million over 2017-18 to 2020-21 to incentivise universities to collaborate in commercialisation.
- Research England Development (RED) fund £25
 million per annum. Innovative, collaborative
 projects among HEIs and other partners.



Our policy responses

- KE is a diverse activity where no one-size fits all
- Preserving a strong research base is key to successful KE in the future
- Resources invested in KE professionals to 'develop, promote and connect' do have impact
- KE professionals have a unique skills set to engage in University-Business Collaboration
- We recognise that new funding comes with a need to demonstrate value against investment.



Thank You

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