

Summary of OPEN review workshop

18th July 2024 at Wesley Memorial Church Hall, Oxford

Workshop aims: (1) Share learning with local community organisations, policymakers and universities to stimulate thinking & discussion; (2) Co-produce recommendations to inform development of the Oxfordshire Community Research Network (OCRN).

Morning session: learning and reflection

Delegates heard and watched presentations from several speakers who shared findings of the OCRN evaluation, OPEN review and CoREN evaluation (Community Research Engagement Network in North West England). This was followed by a discussion panel with the audience.

Afternoon session: co-production of recommendations for OCRN

Delegates worked in small, mixed groups to brainstorm and select up to 3 recommendations per group for OCRN. They then shared and voted on the resulting 15 recommendations via a heat mapping exercise on the wall – each participant used a red, orange and yellow sticker spot to indicate their first, second and third preference, respectively. Key findings are shown below.

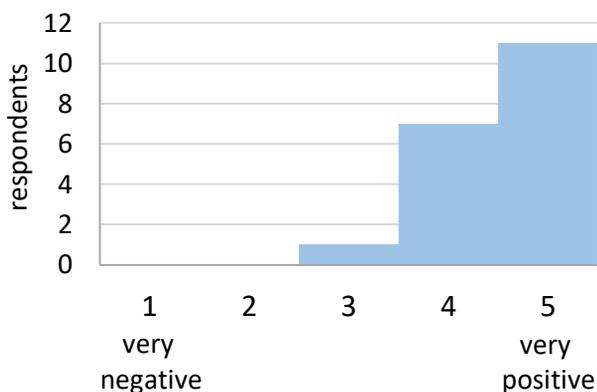
The workshop included breaks for refreshments and networking, lunch provided by local community enterprise Damascus Rose Kitchen, and facilitation by OpenEdge Transforming Conflict.

Heat map: top six recommendations ranked by total number of votes (23 participants)

	Community*	Institution*	
Community-led, collaborative incubator to design & develop a shared approach to research development & delivery			<p>*Community includes delegates representing community organisations and interests. Institution includes delegates from government, NHS and academic institutions.</p> <p>Red, orange and yellow spots represent delegates' first, second and third preferences, respectively. Grey spots represent delegates' non-preferences.</p>
Increase awareness of the Network across Oxfordshire - what it is and what it's trying to achieve			
Recognise current/ongoing injustices (not just historical) in Oxfordshire - the elephant in the room (e.g. cultural differences, islamophobia, racism, discrimination)			
Resource/fund posts in the community focused on research - training people in organisations; organisations' ability to employ researchers in the community			
Information hub/repository of resources - including organisations and what they do, members of the Network, expertise, studies and their findings, current research			
Long-term investment and commitment in all ways - resource, commitment, vision			

Snapshot of feedback from workshop participants

How would you rate your experience of today's workshop? (19 responses)



Suggestions for improvement (verbal & written feedback):

- More time for discussion/interaction in the morning
- More local / fewer US-based examples
- Pre-recording remote presentations to avoid connectivity issues

What did you like about the workshop? (19 responses)



This will directly inform our CRN next steps

The way today was run could be how we run CRN in the future



Still a way to go but still really positive progress... keep on going! These things take TIME.

A huge thank you to all who contributed their time and insights

This project was undertaken by the OPEN review team (Joanna Crocker, Nigel Carter, Paul Roberts, Chiko Ncube, Adam Briggs, Rachel Taylor) with support from our advisory group members (Veronica Barry, Jo Brett, Emily Lewis-Edwards, Shobhana Nagraj, Rachel Piper, Sian Rees and Claire Selby). Funding was provided by the Oxford Policy Engagement Network, University of Oxford, with additional support from the NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre. For queries and information please contact Joanna Crocker joanna.crocker@phc.ox.ac.uk