

Theme	Code/s	Description/Summary	
1. Purposes and Values of Communication and Engagement	1.1 Social value/good of communication and engagement	<i>Communication and engagement assumed as inherently ethical in their values</i>	
	1.2 Value of mutuality/dialogue/listening	<i>Engagement approaches create spaces for mutual learning, engagement and listening</i>	
2. Evolution of Communication and Engagement	2.1 Drives for communication, engagement, impact and co-production	<i>Increase in participatory approaches, including at early stages of the research process, but questions over where the capacity is to support this. Impact generation (including capturing in REF) as a driver for communication and engagement activities. Co-production increasingly part, rather than separate to the research process.</i>	
	2.2. Environmental and climate ethics	<i>Increasing need to consider environmental impacts in communication and engagement activities</i>	
3. Ethical Issues in Communication and Engagement	3.1 Relationships	3.1.1 Trust/Hierarchy/power	<i>How the building and breaking of trust creates ethical dimensions in communication and engagement. Different participants in the process holding different relationships and access to power</i>
		3.1.2 Longevity/legacy	<i>Communication and engagement often happen in short cycles, but relationships and their impacts take time</i>
		3.1.3 Generosity	<i>The gift of volunteering, undertaking emotional labour as being essential to communication and engagement processes</i>
	3.2 Content	3.2.1 Science and Health as ethical issues	<i>Science and health can be controversial, polarising and contain ethical topics inherent to research</i>

		3.2.2 Exclusion	<i>Certain science and health topics would be unethical to communicate and/or the organisations that support them (e.g. military research, tobacco companies)</i>
		3.2.3 Framing	<i>Ethical dimensions of distorting, creating narratives, diverting from fact, lacking transparency</i>
		3.2.4 Processes and practicalities	<i>Different methods (e.g. online/offline) and processes (e.g. paying) having different ethical burdens</i>
	3.3 Implications	3.3.1 Positive impacts of communication and engagement	<i>The ethical benefits of participation in communication and engagement, including for all participants</i>
		3.3.2 Harms for participants	<i>Burdens and harms for public participants, such as psychological, emotional and financial</i>
		3.3.3 Harms for researchers	<i>Burdens and harms for researchers, such as negative media coverage, online trolling and negative career impacts</i>
		3.3.4 Harms for practitioners	<i>Burdens and harms for practitioners e.g. negative reactions to front of house staff, emotional labour in anticipating ethical aspects</i>
		3.3.5 Loss of control	<i>How communication and engagement can be misrepresented or cause reputational damage</i>
	3.4 Culture Change (also connects to codes under Theme 2)	3.4.1 Purposes matching experiences	<i>Communication and engagement needing to match its intentions with actions (e.g. not PR in disguise)</i>
		3.4.2 Changing political landscapes	<i>Changes around acceptability of language/terminology and 'cancel culture' and the ethical considerations raised</i>
		3.4.3 Decolonisation	<i>Awareness of the role of communication and engagement in decolonisation, including the roles played of institutions in the cities of Bristol and Oxford</i>
		3.4.4 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion	<i>Ethical dimensions of who is missing in communication and engagement approaches, why and how</i>

4. Ethical underpinning of the functions of communication and engagement	4.1 Relationship to research ethics	<i>Assumption that communication and engagement is covered by research ethics processes and/or lack of awareness as to if it is covered</i>
	4.2 Strategic and practical institutional support for communication/engagement	<i>Institutional and practical commitment to consider communication/engagement, including its ethical dimensions</i>
	4.3 Lack of ethical underpinning	<i>Lack of visibility of communication/engagement in ethics processes, inappropriate timings, practicalities meaning its not fit for use</i>
	4.4 Role of evaluation	<i>Assumption that ethical aspects are covered if evaluation methods are in place and/or that there is a relationship between ethics and evaluation</i>
5. Responsibility for Ethics	5.1 Universities	<i>University responsibilities, advice or accountabilities with regards to communication and engagement</i>
	5.2 Funders	<i>Funding bodies responsibilities, advice or accountabilities with regards to communication and engagement</i>
	5.3 Researchers	<i>Researchers' responsibilities, advice or accountabilities with regards to communication and engagement</i>
	5.4 Practitioners	<i>Practitioners' responsibilities, advice or accountabilities with regards to communication and engagement</i>
	5.5. Publishers	<i>Publishers' role in provoking ethical considerations in communication and engagement</i>
	5.6 Communities/external organisations	<i>Community group and other organisations roles in provoking ethical considerations in communication and engagement</i>
	5.7 Co-creation	<i>Ethical responsibilities require co-created models</i>
	5.8 Ethics as a grey area	<i>Not knowing who holds responsibility/accountability</i>
	6.1 Person focused	<i>The need for advice and support from people rather than documents/guidance</i>

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6. What could ethics in communication and engagement look like?	6.2 Training	<i>What would constitute ethics training and how does this relate to existing training gaps?</i>
	6.3 Outward looking	<i>Guidance 'under development', needing to be collaborative, or drawing on other resources/disciplines (e.g. restorative justice)</i>
	6.4 Resources	<i>Case studies, digital resources, bite-sized content, codes of practice</i>
	6.5 Commensurate	<i>Need to be appropriate to time, recognition and budget for communication and engagement</i>
	6.6 INSIGHT	<i>Comments related to involvement in INSIGHT focus groups and interviews being beneficial and/or a prompt to think about ethics</i>