



Public Health  
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To whomever it may concern,

I met Ornette at a Knowledge Exchange Trial seminar aimed at improving the links between policy makers and academics. There is considerable scope for Government and academia to benefit from stronger relationships that can ensure policy is developed on the basis of the latest academic research and vice versa.

It is with that in mind that Ornette and I met at the Knowledge Exchange Trial seminar to learn more about each other's work on integration between health and care, as well as improve our shared understanding of the academic and policy worlds.

Subsequently Ornette has been a great help in providing links to his academic networks on public engagement and making the connections between my colleagues in Public Health England and the Department of Health and some of his students working on relevant thesis.

Ornette also played a key role in an evaluation workshop we co-hosted with Coventry City Council aimed at improving local evaluation of interventions aimed at improving outcomes for patients by integrating health and care. The workshop was aimed at the thirty local areas that are pushing forward fastest on integrated approaches. He sat on the panel of experts, sharing his knowledge with practitioners and policy makers to help support them develop their own evaluation approaches.

There is huge potential for building strong and productive relationships between academics and policy makers. Ornette's insight has been invaluable in offering different approaches and up to date insight to challenges that policy makers and practitioners are finding it difficult to untangle.

Feedback from the workshop has re-enforced the value of the relationship, with over 90% of attendees finding it a valuable and effective way of sharing expertise about local evaluation, with particular praise for the academic specialists involved.

It is early days, but it is clear that there is a strong foundation of shared interest on which to build close links between academia and policy makers and Ornette is playing a critical role.

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