Further information and support on how to understand impact in the context of your work can be sought from the NIHR School for Public Health Research Knowledge Exchange Broker (katie.appleby@newcastle.ac.uk).

The NIHR website has a number of useful resources, including the NIHR Plan for impact and NIHR Reporting impact.

The NIHR Clinical Research Network has produced advice for people working in health services research. They have tips on dissemination and impact.

The Department for Health and Social Care has a Translating Research for Policy Makers Toolkit. Copies of the slides describing this toolkit can be obtained by contacting the SPHR Knowledge Exchange Broker (katie.appleby@newcastle.ac.uk).

The Canadian Knowledge Mobilisation toolkit has many tools to help researchers plan, carry out and evaluate knowledge mobilisation activities.

Research Impact Canada has a useful resources section that focus on dissemination and capacity building for knowledge mobilization, providing tools and supports that promote best practices and innovative approaches.

The ESRC impact toolkit details how to collaborate and influence policymakers. 50 case studies are available.

The Health Foundation communication toolkit is an excellent resource for understanding communications strategies in general, and the communications strategy template is particularly good.

Impact Literacy toolkit focuses on the first step as identifying the problem in collaboration with research users.

AdvanceHE have developed a Research Leader’s Impact Toolkit which can be accessed by members.

The company Fast Track Impact has some free resources at: https://www.fasttrackimpact.com/

Julie Bayley is Director of Research Impact Development at University of Lincoln and has produced a number of papers on impact:


Bayley J and Phipps D. Extending the concept of research impact literacy: levels of literacy, institutional role and ethical considerations. Emerald Open Res 2019, 1:14

Bayley and Phipps work have gone on to develop the Impact Literacy Workbook and other useful resources.