

Working with PPI Contributors through art

What this involves

Using artistic methods to gain the input of PPI Contributors, rather than more traditional methods of speech or writing.

What are the benefits of working with PPI Contributors through art?

It can be a fun way of getting people's attention and investment.

It can be a good leveller, whether you are just working with PPI Contributors or working with PPI Contributors and staff together.

It may challenge people to provide input that you would not elicit through more traditional methods encouraging creativity of thought

It may be particularly helpful if your PPI Contributors do not have English as their first language, if they struggle with literacy or if they have communication impairments.

It could appeal to reluctant speakers or more 'creative' learners.

When this might be a useful/appropriate approach?:

To make an event more fun, attractive to attend or easy to remember

Enabling people to ask questions in a different way – may be particularly helpful if your PPI Contributors struggle to read documents

Art may enable new ways of looking at the same information

How can you work with PPI Contributors through art?

If you want to get people's lived experience of a condition you could ask them to draw it, either in a picture or on a life timeline. It will then be possible to draw out explanations of why they have drawn what they did or look at similarities or differences between timelines.

What are the drawbacks of this approach?

May be off putting to the more academically minded PPI Contributors.

People might trivialise this work and feel that it is not as real as other types of contribution

Resources:

<https://www.blobtree.com/>

The PPI Coordinator can provide you with a range of cartoon faces reflecting many different emotional states which could be used in a variety of ways.