Sharing data and findings
University as a Living Lab toolkit

Sharing your data and further research ideas
One of our principles of what constitutes a Living Lab project is that you should make available any additional data you generate during your project, for others to build on – so the work can keep ‘living’. It is likely that your Living Lab project sparks off plenty of ideas for further research, including aspects you were not able to cover during the project.

Please share any data sets and further research ideas (from both researchers and practitioners) with the SRS Department, to help define future projects and to be made available to others.

Sharing your findings and recommendations
For student/academic researchers: In addition to sharing your work in academic papers, and at conferences and seminars, in order for a Living Lab project to achieve real impact, it is important to openly share what was found out and what solutions were developed with the practitioners you are collaborating with (if they weren’t involved in every aspect), and also with University management.

It is useful to prepare concise 2-3 page briefings for this purpose, rather than sharing full papers.

You may only be able to partially implement your solutions during the duration of the project – it can take time in the University for new ways of working to be approved and embedded. The SRS Department can continue to share and discuss your findings and recommendations with University operations staff and senior management where appropriate, once you move on from a project.

For University operations/professional services staff: If you have the opportunity, you could present findings and recommendations from the project at team meetings, or committees – depending on what approval may be needed to implement the recommendations. Do explain to the researchers you are collaborating with what timescales are likely in terms of implementing any changes to practice.

You could also consider presenting your experiences of the Living Lab approach to your colleagues, to encourage others to get involved in developing projects.

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http://www.ed.ac.uk/about/sustainability/themes/research-teaching/the-university-as-a-living-lab