Reflections from our Peer Review Workshop 22nd April 2022



Contributors:

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What didn't work for us

- Trying to absorb the information of both the thing to review and the criteria.
- "Struggled to wrap my head around it".
- It feels "foreign".
- Assumes academic standards of writing and thinking are the best.
- A lot of words and ideas at once feels stressful.
- The process is generally hard work. It's also unfriendly - didn't say thank you for reviewing!!
- Getting rid of ableist language "blind" and "double blind" peer review.
- It goes "on and on" more to the point. Simple sentences and condensing down.
- Lots of jargon needs a glossary?
- Don't want to read a big block of text – Can it be a video?
- Looks like a qualification or letter you get from the council doesn't inspire relating to ideas.
- Who gets to be a reviewer in the first place? Who gets this peer review form and how?



What did work for us

- New insights section telling us how something new or different.
- Originality feels important, but this is vague and could mean different things to different people.
- How to stop plagiarism and protect copyrights.
- We liked how the form had hint questions to help review.
- Broken into sections to help break down how to review.
- Guidelines: not to be malicious or mean when doing a review.
- Option to be anonymous or not.

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Questions for future

- A lot of life is peer review? We discussed different ways peer review happens in our life.
- Peer review happens in different places in different ways: artist studios use 'crits' to peer review but these tend to be face to face and using talking to review each other's art. Peer review happens in research but tends to written text and not face to face (it's very distanced and usually anonymous). Different types of review happen in social care – do they use peer review as well as professional opinion?
- Is there value in the review or is it unfairly influencing you? Our group chatted about other types of review like films. Social care reviews?
- But art is the explanation? It sometimes felt that if you were to put an art project forward for peer review there needed a written explanation. But isn't the art the explanation?

- Artistic responses to pieces, recognising that for some art is the thing and doesn't need extra communication or explanation.
- Thinking about how language travels – inner circle of people isolating to outsiders without always realising it is?
- Designing a toolbox of different options?
- When submit work you select how your work should be peer reviewed

 here are the grounds that my work should be reviewed - Live peer review and more traditional routes
- Group peer reviews people appointed to do different things?