

Presentation transcript: UKRI's new Open Access policy

Slide 1: introduction

One of the University's largest research funders, UKRI, is introducing a new Open Access policy from 1 April 2022. Like other research funders, UKRI is keen to ensure that all of the research that it funds is immediately Open Access.

Slide 2: UKRI Open Access policy – key points

UKRI's new policy will apply to all journal articles and conference proceedings submitted for publication from 1 April 2022 and which acknowledge funding from any of the seven UK research councils or Innovate UK.

The policy will also apply to long-form outputs such as monographs, but not until 2024. Support for these output types will be delivered through a dedicated project closer to the time.

The key requirements are that all research outputs in scope of the policy must include a Data Access Statement, and be made Open Access under the Creative Commons by Attribution licence immediately upon publication.

These are significant changes. Under the previous policy, only outputs acknowledging funding from one of UKRI's research councils required a Data Access Statement – now this is required for all UKRI-funded papers. And previously, UKRI allowed outputs to be made Open Access after an embargo period of up to 24 months. This is no longer acceptable – all outputs must be made Open Access immediately upon publication.

Slide 3: Data Access Statement

A Data Access Statement informs readers where underlying research materials are stored, and how they can be accessed, if this is possible.

From 1 April 2022, all UKRI-funded papers must include a Data Access Statement, even if the statement explains that there are no underlying data, or the data are inaccessible.

The Library provides guidance on using Data Access Statements, including example templates for different scenarios, via the Library website.

Slide 4: Open Access – routes to compliance

Under UKRI's new policy, all in-scope research outputs must be made immediately Open Access upon publication, under the Creative Commons by Attribution, or CC BY licence.

There are four possible ways for Manchester authors to ensure their papers meet this requirement. We call these 'compliance routes'.

Compliance routes 1, 2 and 3 involve publishing outputs 'Gold' Open Access, making the paper immediately Open Access via the journal website as soon as it's published.

Compliance route 1 is to publish in a fully Open Access journal or platform.

Compliance route 2 is where a paper is published in a non-Open Access, subscription-based journal which is covered by a 'Transformative Agreement,' or publishing deal between the University and the publisher. Through this Agreement, the paper is published immediately Open Access.

Compliance route 3 involves publishing in a subscription-based journal which has been granted the status of 'Transformative Journal' by UKRI.

Compliance route 4 involves publishing outputs 'Green' Open Access. Also known as 'self-archiving', this is where the research output is shared via Pure, rather than the journal website.

You can find more information on each of these routes, including steps that authors need to take to follow each route, and how the Library can help work out which routes are possible for your preferred journals, via the Library website.

[Slide 5: Impact on Manchester authors – Gold Open Access](#)

For the majority of UKRI-funded Manchester authors, compliance with the new policy will be straightforward, and aside from ensuring inclusion of a Data Access Statement, won't require much additional work.

Around three quarters of UKRI-funded papers should be able to comply with the new policy via Gold Open Access (routes 1, 2 and 3).

We have UKRI Open Access block grant funding to pay Article Processing Charges (APCs) to publish papers in fully Open Access journals, and journals which have been granted 'Transformative Journal' status by UKRI (routes 1 and 3).

The Library has established Transformative Agreements with 16 publishers which will allow Gold Open Access publication at no additional cost (route 2), with efforts ongoing at the national level to secure deals with even more publishers.

[Slide 6: Impact on Manchester authors – Green Open Access](#)

Around a quarter of UKRI-funded papers will likely need to comply with the new policy via route 4: sharing papers via Pure.

This compliance route does involve an important additional step for authors. Authors will need to include a licence statement in manuscripts before submitting these for publication. It is essential that this licence statement is included prior to submission of the paper – it cannot be added later.

Authors can obtain the licence statement via the Library website.

It is advisable for all UKRI-funded authors to begin including this statement in all manuscripts from April onwards. This is to ensure that compliance via route 4 is possible if the other routes are not available.

[Slide 7: Support available](#)

The Library is supporting the implementation of this new funder policy, including providing guidance to authors and research leads.

In addition to this presentation, there is a new suite of dedicated webpages providing more details on the policy, possible compliance routes, and actions that authors need to take.

From mid-March 2022, the Library will be providing weekly online drop-in sessions. Authors are welcome to join via Zoom to ask questions and discuss how the new policy might affect them. Go to the Library website for details of upcoming sessions.

The Library's Open Access team is available to provide expert guidance and support, including up-to-date compliance information for specific journals, and information on other funder Open Access policies. Contact details are available via the website.

We'll also be contacting Principle Investigators of UKRI grants directly via email, to supplement messages being shared with these authors directly from the funder.

[Slide 8: Dedicated webpages](#)

Here's the link for our new UKRI policy webpages, where you can find more information and support.

Please just get in touch if we can provide any further information or assistance.