

## Guidance for complying with the new UKRI Open Access Policy

### New UKRI Policy

The new [UK Research and Innovation \(UKRI\) Open Access Policy](#) comes into effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022, and aligns with the [Plan S principles](#). The new policy will apply to all UKRI funded authors on articles **submitted** after **1st April 2022**.

Key elements of the policy are that:

- UKRI require immediate open access under the [CC BY licence](#) upon publication, or, with UKRI permission, a CC BY-ND licence.
- Journal embargoes on Green open access (i.e. use of an open access repository, such as ORA) are not allowed.
- Gold open access in subscription journals (hybrid) will not be funded except through transformative agreements or transformative journals (routes 2 and 3 below).
- All journal submissions must include the following submission statement:
  - *'This research was funded in whole, or in part, by UKRI [Grant number]. For the purpose of Open Access, the author has applied a CC BY public copyright licence to any Author Accepted Manuscript version arising from this submission.'*
- Include a data accessibility statement signposting where/how a researcher can access the underlying data (See Research Data Oxford for advice on publishing data – especially concerning confidentiality – <https://researchdata.ox.ac.uk/home/sharing-your-data> )

### Routes to compliance

All UKRI-funded authors should check if their chosen journal is compliant in advance of submission. This can be done using the [Journal Checker Tool](#) (note that UKRI have confirmed this tool will be accurate for their new OA policy by 1 April 2022).

- 1. Fully open access journals:** publish in a fully open access journal/platform that makes the article immediately open access (the 'gold route'). You can check to see if your chosen journal is fully open access here: [Plan S journal checker tool](#)
- 2. Transformative Agreement ('Read & Publish Deals'):** subscription/hybrid journals in transformative agreements (Gold open access) with the University – a list can be found here: <https://openaccess.ox.ac.uk/publisher-deals/>
- 3. Transformative Journal:** publishing in subscription/hybrid journals that commit to transition to open access, achieving OA targets and offsets subscriptions. To check whether your chosen journal is compliant, you can use the [Plan S journal checker tool](#).
- 4. Self-archiving:** Publish in a subscription journal and deposit the Author Accepted Manuscript (AAM) in a repository ([such as ORA](#)), making sure that it is available on publication and under a CC BY licence. This relies on use of the [rights retention text](#), and all UKRI-funded are strongly advised to use this on every submission. By using rights retention then it should always be possible to comply with UKRI's policy. Check the journal's open access policy via their website or check [Sherpa Romeo](#).

For options 1-3 above, the publisher must make the final version immediately open access under CC BY licence on their webpages upon publication.

Research articles that acknowledge MRC or BBSRC funding are required to be archived in [Europe PubMed Central](#), in accordance with MRC's [Additional Terms and Conditions](#) and BBSRC's [Safeguarding Good Research Policy](#)

### **UKRI Open Access Block Grant**

UKRI makes a block grant available to the University to cover some costs associated with publishing. You should check that costs are eligible and funding is available before confirming selection of a paid route with a journal with the Bodleian APC team: <http://openaccess.ox.ac.uk/oxford-apc-application/>

**Eligible costs** - Can be used to cover “costs that enable research organisations to meet the aims of UKRI’s open access policy.” These include:

- Article Processing Charges (APCs) for journals that are compliant with UKRI policy – i.e. fully open access journals and Transformative Journals.
- The cost of read and publishing deals (Transformative Agreements).

**Ineligible costs** – the block grant cannot cover:

- The cost of hybrid OA outside of Transformative Agreements (read and publish deals) or Transformative Journals.
- Non-open access charges associated with publication, including page and colour charges.

You can use the [Plan S journal checker tool](#) to check eligibility for funding from the UKRI block grant.

### **After acceptance of an article**

- If an APC payment is required, please contact the [Bodleian APC team](#) **before confirming selection of the paid route** with journal, to check funds are available and that the journal is funder-compliant via this route.
- Please also [Act on Acceptance](#) and deposit a copy in ORA.

### **Future REF open access policy**

[UKRI has stated \(pdf\)](#) that any UKRI-funded output that is compliant with the new UKRI OA policy will meet any ‘future national research assessment open access policy without additional action from the author and/or its institution’. Further information is expected soon. The Act on Acceptance policy is still in place and all researchers should continue to AoA to make their research available to the widest possible audience.

### **Additional advice**

The Bodleian Open Access Team can offer additional advice and answer specific questions ([openaccess@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:openaccess@bodleian.ox.ac.uk)).