

ExpLORe: Open Access Publisher Agreements

Joanna Adams, Scholarly
Communications Officer, The Open
Research Team

Contents

- Introduction
- What is Open Access
- Why is Open Access Important?
- Routes to Open Access
- Journal Models
- Creative Commons Licence
- Publisher Agreements
- Funder & REF Open Access Policies
- Tools to Check Funder Open Access Policies
- Pure/AURA
- Summary

- < University Home
- < Library
- < Support and Guidance
- < Academic Staff
- < Open Research
- Open Access**
 - Open access for journal articles
 - Open access for books and chapters
 - Preprints
 - Open access key terms
 - Open access funding
 - Funder & REF open access policies
 - Publisher agreements

Contact us

The Open Research team is there to support and help you.

[Get in touch](#)

Open Access

What is Open Access?

Open access is permanent free unrestricted access to digital literature such as journal articles and books. It is open to all without charge. Licensing terms allow liberal reuse provided that the original source is cited. This facilitates discovery and sharing of your work.



Many research funders, including UKRI, Wellcome Trust, European Commission, and the Research Excellence Framework (REF) have open access policies which require research outputs to be openly available.

The University of Aberdeen has implemented a new [Research Publications Policy](#). The policy supports our authors in retaining the rights to their research when publishing in academic journals.

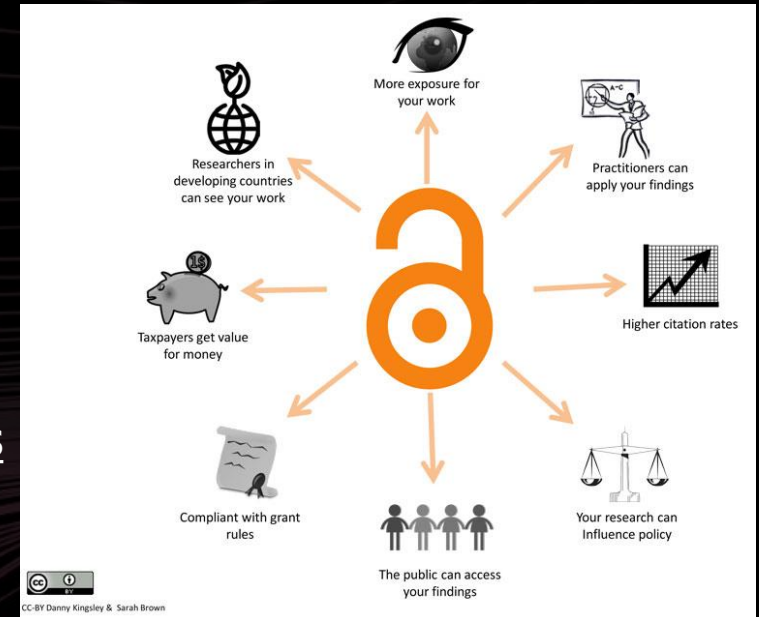
Benefits of open access

- Open access leads to much faster and wider dissemination and sharing of research findings, improving researchers' reputation.
- It maximises research impact. Numerous studies are confirming that an open access article is much more likely to be accessed and cited than an article which sits behind paid-for, traditional subscription models.
- Institutional repositories (such as AURA here at Aberdeen) enhance the visibility of research undertaken by individuals, departments and research groups here at the University. This can be important in attracting research students and funding.
- Since no library can possibly collect or provide access to all of the peer-reviewed scholarly literature, publishing research outputs via an OA model vastly increases all researchers' access to the scholarly

Open Access

Why is Open Access Important?

- Benefits society as a whole
- REF Open Access Policy
- Funder Open Access Requirements
- Find out more on Open Access Policies on our Webpages
- Colours of Open Access



Routes to Open Access

- Publish your final article open access (Gold/Diamond)
- Publish behind a paywall in a subscription journal and deposit accepted manuscript (AM) open access in a repository (Green)
- Both compliant with funder and REF open access requirements
- Publisher Agreements allow open access for the final published article in participating journals with APC covered
- Not all journals are covered by the agreements

Journal Models

Fully Open Access

All articles open
Author pays Article
Processing Charge (APC)
£2k-£10k

Diamond Open Access

All articles open
No APC
Publisher covers costs

Hybrid

Subscription journal
Selected articles open when
Author pays APC
£2k-£10k
Accepted manuscript can be made
open in institutional repository

Creative Commons Licences



Distribute, remix, adapt
Credit must be given to
the creator



Distribute, remix, adapt
Credit must be given to the
creator
Non-commercial purposes
only



Copy and distribute only
No derivatives
Credit must be given to the creator

We recommend the CC BY licence and it is usually
mandated by funders!

Reasons for Publisher Agreements

- Traditional model – library paid subscription for members to read
- 2012 funder open access policies and block grants introduced
- Hybrid journals - pay APC to publish selected articles OA
- Double dipping
- More expensive than fully open journals £2,000 - £10,000
- Lack of transparency
- Hybrid APCs no longer paid by funders
- Transformative, 'transitional' or read and publish agreements
- Aim to move from traditional subscription journals to a 100% open access model
- Library pays fee for traditional 'read' subscription access, and a portion for open access publishing – no APC for authors
- More open access and less admin
- 2024 review has found agreements are not moving to OA. New models being investigated.

Open Access Agreements

- We have agreements with 20 publishers
- Includes Elsevier, Springer Nature, Wiley and more
- Corresponding authors affiliated to the University of Aberdeen
- Research articles
- Not all agreements the same
- Some include subscription (hybrid) titles only e.g. Elsevier/Springer
- Others include subscription and fully open access titles e.g. Wiley, Oxford University Press
- For eligible journals the APC is covered by the agreement – no fee for author

Open Access Publisher Agreements

Cambridge University Press hybrid and fully OA journals. Choose CC BY licence.

Wiley includes hybrid and fully OA journals. Choose CC BY licence.

Elsevier – Hybrid journals only. CC BY licence as default.

Oxford University Press hybrid and fully OA journals. Choose CC BY licence.

Microbiology Society hybrid and fully OA journals. Choose CC BY licence.

Royal Society hybrid and fully OA journals. Choose CC BY licence.

Sage – Hybrid journals only. Choose CC BY licence.

Springer – Hybrid only. CC BY licence as default. Includes Nature at capped level.

Taylor & Francis - Hybrid and fully OA journals. Choose CC BY licence.

Company of Biologists OA in 3 hybrid journals.

Other Agreements on our webpages...

How the Agreements Work in Practice

- Publisher identifies you as an eligible responsible corresponding author by your affiliation
- Use your UoA email address
- You will be offered open access under the agreement
- Choose the CC BY Creative Commons licence
- Requests for OA under the agreements sent to library for approval
- Open Access but no APC
- If you choose a journal not covered by an agreement – author pays APC
- Email openresearch@abdn.ac.uk if you have any questions
- Some issues for researchers who have left uni by time of publication – contact us for advice

Hybrid Only Agreements

- Agreements which only cover hybrid journals
- E.g. Elsevier, Springer etc.
- For fully open access titles APC applies
- 15% discount
- Author pays
- Make sure you have funds to pay
- No central funds outside block grant – UKRI, Wellcome, BHF
- Block Grant limited funds

Funder & REF Open Access Policies

- Research funders have OA requirements grant holders must meet
- Research Excellence Framework (REF2029)
- Immediate OA under an open licence via gold or green route
- Always choose the CC BY Creative Commons license
- Open Government Licence (OGL) if subject to Crown Copyright
- CC BY-ND by exception
- Limited funds for OA in Block Grants
- Publisher agreements aid compliance

[Check out our Explore session – REF and Funder Open Access Requirements](#)

Tools to check publisher/funder policies

- SHERPA RoMEO online resource summarising publisher open access policies, providing details of self-archiving permissions and conditions of rights given to authors on a journal-by-journal basis
- SHERPA FACT tool to help researchers check if a journal complies with their funder's open access requirements
- SHERPA JULIET database where researchers can search for information on funder policies and requirements on open access, publication and data archiving
- Journal Checker Tool Publishing options supported by your funder's OA policy?
- Use with caution

Pure/AURA

StaffNet

Working Here Policy and Governance Teaching and Learning **Research and Knowledge Exchange** News and Events Staff Directory

Pure

University Home / StaffNet / Research and Knowledge Exchange / Pure

- University Home
- StaffNet
- Research and Knowledge Exchange
- Pure**
- System maintenance
- Altmetrics

Contact

Nykhola Strong
Email: n.strong@abdn.ac.uk
Phone: +44 (0)1224 272077

PURE is a web-based system that captures a wide range of research-related outcomes, impact and activities and promotes the University's research excellence to the wider community.

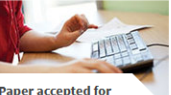
PURE organises content in a relational way to build links between people, grants, publications, impacts and datasets. It is a dynamic and productive source of information which underpins many of the University's processes. PURE also synchronises with other university systems to provide a connected view of our research activity

How to videos and training resources can be found at <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/toolkit/systems/pure/> and in the resources below.

Access PURE

Pure is the University's Research Information System.

Log In



Paper accepted for publication?

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

AURA - Aberdeen University Research Archive

AURA Home

Welcome

The Aberdeen University Research Archive (AURA) provides access to the full text of selected research outputs of the University. Research theses are not included in AURA but are held in our [Digital Resources collections](#).

If you are looking for an article, chapter, conference paper, working paper or other research output of the University and cannot find it in AURA (or have any other query) please [contact us](#).

If you are a member of University staff, to keep your publication information up to date please make sure you notify [paperaccepted](#) of all new publications, and enter all relevant content into Pure. Further information can be found [here](#).

Communities in AURA

Select a community to browse its collections.

- Schools Incorporating the Arts and Social Sciences
- Schools Incorporating the Life Sciences and Medicine
- Schools Incorporating the Physical Sciences
- University Office
- All research

Search

BROWSE

- All of AURA
- Communities & Collections
- By Issue Date
- Authors
- Titles
- Subjects

DISCOVER

Author

- Education in the North (299)
- Smith, Pete (228)
- Price, David (201)
- Johnston, Marie (136)

Pure University of Aberdeen

Username

Password

Login

University of Aberdeen Privacy Policy

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

Welcome to The University of Aberdeen Research Portal

Advanced search

Established to serve the north-east of Scotland, today our university is a global presence in higher education. A dual focus on our region and the wider world is as important to us today as it was five centuries ago.

Find out more about the University of Aberdeen 2040 strategy

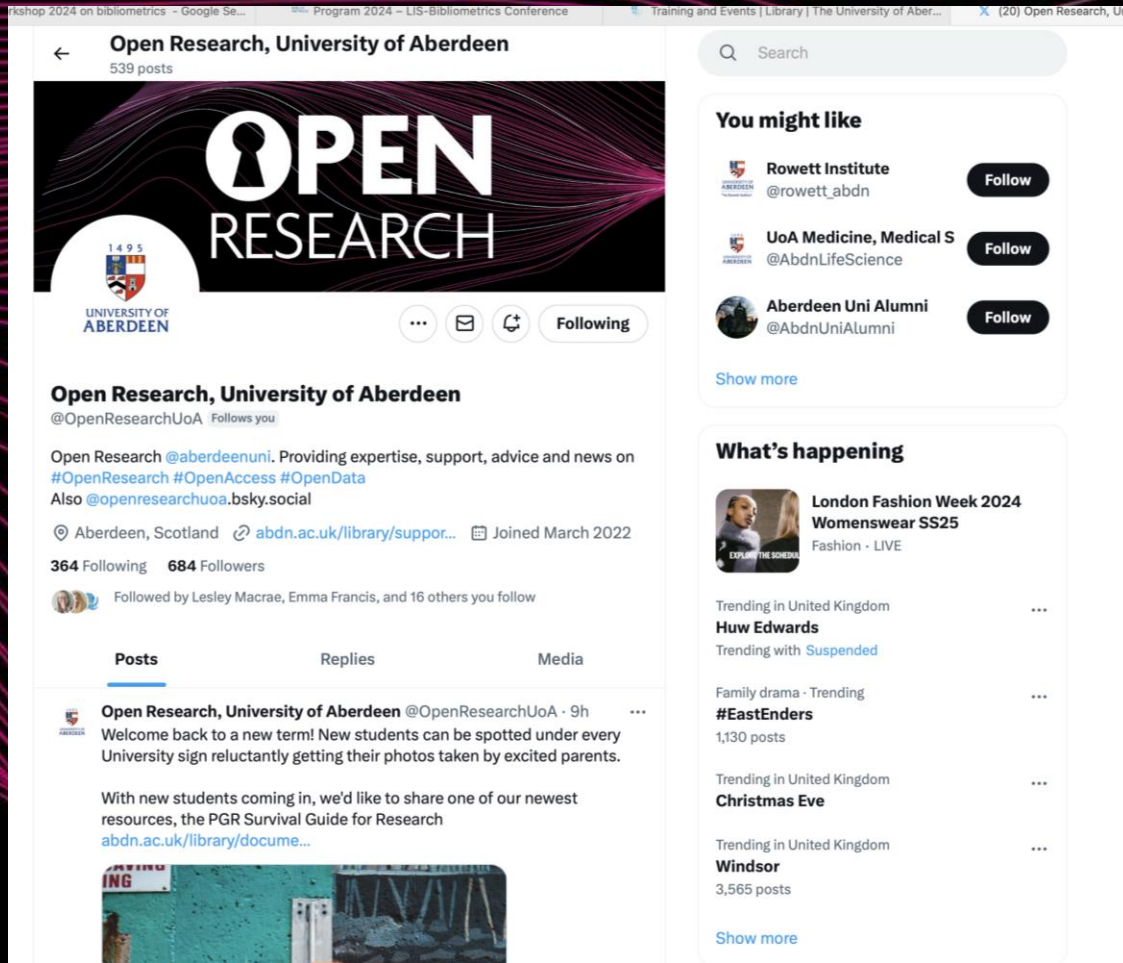
1588 Profiles 137 Disciplines 74009 Research output 90 Research Facilities 478 Datasets 303 Impacts 4274 More

Pure/AURA

- Enter all articles in Pure – green & gold
- Email paperaccepted@abdn.ac.uk
- Send confirmation of acceptance and accepted manuscript
- Add information yourself
- Upload metadata for datasets
- Add awards, activities, prizes...
- Email us for help
- openresearch@abdn.ac.uk

Summary

- Make your research open access
- Funder open access requirements for some researchers
- REF Open Access Requirements for all
- Use the open access agreements for OA at no extra cost
- Meets OA requirements
- Deposit all accepted papers in Pure/AURA
- Contact the Open Research Team for help and advice



Follow us on X: @OpenResearchUoA

...and

Bluesky: @openresearchuoa.bsky.social



Any Questions?



Joanna Adams
Open Research Team
openresearch@abdn.ac.uk
paperaccepted@abdn.ac.uk
<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/library/support/publisher-agreements.php>

