

# Jisc-Elsevier Open Science Forum

## Terms of Reference

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### ***Introduction and Background***

The Jisc-Elsevier Open Science (OS) Forum was formed to identify and undertake areas of joint activity that could improve the implementation open science and address some of the challenges. The formation of the Forum followed the November 2016 ScienceDirect agreement in the UK, where it was agreed that Jisc and Elsevier should work with the Higher Education sector to find ways to improve conditions for open science more generally outside of the negotiations. OS covers a wide range of activities, however, activity will initially focus on open access, open research data and open metrics and indicators. Further information on the initial areas of work are set out in Annex A.

### ***Purpose of the Group***

- To act to as a steering and feedback mechanism of aspects of the joint working between Jisc and Elsevier initiated in the November 2016 deal, to contribute to the UK continuing to develop its position as a leading system in OS.
- To work with Jisc and Elsevier to identify priorities for joint work and to advise on the related activities to help ensure maximum benefit to the UK research sector.
- Act as an informal sounding board, to discuss the OS-related objectives of the UK Higher Education sector, and to be a pathway to give feedback on the role Elsevier might play in support of the sector's objectives in the OS space.
- To be an advocate for OS in the UK.

### ***Conditions under how the Group will operate***

- Consensual – with agendas and work streams being jointly developed between Jisc and Elsevier, with all stakeholders approaching the work in a spirit of partnership.
- Provide honest feedback and advice for Elsevier.
- For particular activities, small working groups may be established to drive forward activity that will feedback to the overarching Forum.
- To be transparent and to publish notes and papers from the group.
- Conflicts of interest will be declared and noted
- The Forum will not discuss or input into the formulation of any objectives related to the next UK ScienceDirect agreement
- To be aware of and make use of the outputs coming out of the other 'Open' activity going on across the sector.

### ***Outputs of Steering Group***

- Provide regular advice on the OS landscape through two meetings annually plus regular email communication.
- Identify and connect relevant individuals within the UK university sector in areas related to OS.
- To undertake projects that involve Jisc, Elsevier and UK university sector representatives; the results of the projects will be widely disseminated and made openly available.

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- Publish an annual review of progress, successes and learnings towards OS from the perspective of this group.

### ***Current focus of activity***

Open access, open research data and open metrics and indicators. In particular, the work of the Forum is concerned with interoperability, open standards, and the quality and transparency of data relating to OS that could be transformative for the UK.

### ***Review***

In Mid-2019 look at the contribution this group has made against the terms of reference and if it should continue for the remainder of the term of the UK ScienceDirect Agreement and if the Terms of Reference remain appropriate.

### ***Current Membership***

1. Prof. Mark Smith (Chair), Vice-Chancellor, Lancaster University
2. Paul Feldman, Chief Executive, Jisc
3. Dr. Nick Fowler, Managing Director (Research Networks), Elsevier
4. Prof. Dame Jessica Corner, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research & Knowledge Exchange), University of Nottingham
5. Heidi Fraser-Krauss, Director of Information Services, University of York
6. Prof. Claire Warwick, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), Durham University
7. Prof. Nick Wright, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Newcastle University
8. Dr. Lesley Thompson, Vice-President, Academic & Govt Strategic Alliance, Elsevier
9. Neil Jacobs, Head of Open Science & Research Lifecycle, Jisc
10. Steph Bales, Chair, ARMA, and Director of Research & Innovation Services, Teesside University

### ***New invitees***

11. RLUK (*pending*)
12. UKRI (*pending*)