



**University of
Sunderland**

Open Access Mandate

Version 1.0

“The University of Sunderland fully endorses the principle of open access to research publications and requires all authors to deposit bibliographic information for all research outputs in to the University research repository SURE to provide an accurate institutional record of research activity. The University requires that all authors ensure they deposit final peer-reviewed manuscripts, where this is permitted by the publisher, to SURE within 3 months of acceptance for publication.”

1. Background Information

The University has joined a growing number of UK institutions in adopting an open access mandate for research publications.

HEFCE has recently announced that any papers (journal articles and conference proceedings with an ISSN) *accepted* for publication from 1 April 2016 onwards must be available on an "open access" basis to be eligible for submission to the post-2014 REF

“The policy states that, to be eligible for submission to the post-2014 REF, authors’ final peer-reviewed manuscripts must have been deposited in an institutional or subject repository on acceptance for publication. Deposited material should be discoverable, and free to read and download, for anyone with an internet connection.

The requirement applies only to journal articles and conference proceedings with an International Standard Serial Number. It will not apply to monographs, book chapters, other long-form publications, working papers, creative or practice-based research outputs, or data. The policy applies to research outputs accepted for publication after 1 April 2016, but we would strongly urge institutions to implement it now”.

The simplest way to ensure that all author’s publications will be eligible for submission to the REF, is for **all** authors to ensure they are depositing their final peer-reviewed manuscripts to SURE within 3 months of acceptance for publication. Given the importance of this policy the University it is proposed that it be implemented from 1 March 2015 onwards.

It is recognised that authors may wish to pursue other platforms for making their research available open access:

- OA archives or subject repositories offer an opportunity for authors to share their research outside of the institutional repository SURE. They do not perform peer review, but simply make their contents freely available to the world. They may contain un-refereed preprints, refereed postprints, or both.
- OA journals perform peer review and then make the contents freely available. Their expenses consist of peer review, manuscript preparation, and server space. OA journals often charge a processing fee on accepted articles in return for making them available via the internet for free

The University does not seek to restrict authors from using these vehicles for disseminating their research outputs. However, authors must also deposit a copy of any material within SURE or provide appropriate bibliographic information detailing the publication until such times as a full copy can be deposited.

Research students are required to submit an e-copy of their thesis to SURE in order to graduate.

This policy applies to all publications by staff from 1 January 2008 onwards, although staff are welcome to submit items published earlier than this. Staff may also submit items published when they were employed elsewhere. This submission requirement is in addition to any specific requirements made by research funders, as a condition of receipt of funding.

Report Author

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