UKRI longform policy

Please note the guidance below is based on information that UKRI has provided thus far. There are still many areas that need clarification from UKRI. The next policy update is scheduled for Autumn 2023.

The UKRI open access policy will now apply to monographs, book chapters and edited collections that are published after 1/1/2024. These outputs when funded by UKRI must be made open access within 12 months from publication under a Creative Commons licence. This can be achieved either via paid open access option or uploading the author’s accepted manuscript to PURE. UKRI has created a £3.5million central fund that will be held by UKRI.

Author checklist:

- Prior to submission of your book proposal, check your preferred publisher offers a compliant route and what open access funding is available to you. If your preferred publisher does not have an open access option, you must consider other publishers before applying for an exemption.
- When complying via paid open access option, contact the Open Research team at openaccess@kcl.ac.uk to submit an initial application to UKRI’s fund to confirm eligibility (stage 1).
- Inform your publisher, and any collaborators, (such as editor of a collection you are contributing to) about UKRI’s open access requirements.
- When complying via self-archiving route, upload your accepted manuscript to PURE where it is going to be made open access within 12-months of publication under a Creative Commons licence.
- Authors must seek permission for any third party copyrighted material. Third-party copyrighted material can be included under a separate licence (more information will be provided by UKRI).
- When complying via paid open access option, once the output is published and available open access, the Research Support team will submit a final funding application.

Exemptions:

- where the only appropriate publisher for the publication, after liaison and consideration is unable to offer open access option,
- where reuse permissions for third-party materials cannot be obtained and there is no suitable alternative option available to enable open access publication,
- where the output is arising from training grants (unless there are other UKRI grants funding the research).

There is no requirement to seek UKRI’s approval on the use of exemptions (UKRI might ask authors to notify them about an exemption, but this will be confirmed in Autumn 2023).

Longform publications that are in scope of the policy:

- Academic monograph
- Book chapter
- Edited collection

Longform publications that are NOT in scope of the policy:

- Trade books, unless they are the only output from UKRI-funded research.
- Scholarly editions (an edition of another author’s original work or body of works informed by critical evaluation of the sources, often with a scholarly introduction and explanatory notes or analysis on the text and/or original author).
- Exhibition catalogues.
- Scholarly illustrated catalogues.
- Textbooks.
- Fictional works and creative writing.

The Library is working with colleagues in Research Grants & Contracts to agree an internal process to manage the financial transactions necessary to pay your publisher OA book and chapter fees – ahead of UKRI reimbursement. We will update this information shortly as soon as this has been finalised.