Open Access negotiations in the UK

View from the UK’s negotiation team

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Progress at a cost
OA five years on from the Finch Report
Over 50% of UK Research now OA

» 37% of UK outputs (vs. 25% globally) are freely available immediately on publication, either through Gold or Green OA

» The proportion of UK-authored articles published OA rose from 12% in 2012 to 30% in 2016, a sustained annual growth rate of over 30%

» The global proportion of publicly accessible articles after 12 months via Gold or Green OA rose from 25% to 32% between 2012 and 2016; the UK proportion rose from 37% to 54%
But at significant cost

- Average APC increased in cost by 16% between 2013 and 2016
- Average cost of an APC is over 25% higher in hybrid OA versus Pure Gold OA journals
- Between 2013 and 2016 APC expenditure has at least quadrupled
- Top 10 publishers make up 77% of spend
- 70% of UK OA articles are published in hybrid journals yet subscription expenditure has continued to grow
Negotiations and OA in the UK
Including OA in our agreements

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<td>TOTAL HEIs</td>
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- **Prepayment scheme**
- **Offset or discount scheme**
- **RSC Read and Publish**
- **Elsevier prepayment scheme**
- **No offset or support for Green**
Articles covered by OA negotiations

- Wiley
- Springer
- Sage
- IoPP
- RSC
- T&F

2014 - 2017
Too slow, too expensive
Evolution of the negotiations
Agreements must support a transition to open access
- Rapidly increase the volume of UK articles made OA on publication

Costs for reading and publishing must be sustainable and affordable.

Improved workflows and administration for both authors and institutions

More exacting service level agreements - penalties in the event of reduced performance

Options to recognise the diversity of our consortium
- Including provisions for effective green OA and non-publishing institutions
Major journals negotiations: 2018/2019

Springer Compact
€10.84m
3,818 articles
699 opt outs

Wiley
£18.45m
2,217 OA (hybrid 497)
9,455 total UK articles (2017)

CUP
£1m
199 hybrid 2017
2,300 average UK arts

Springer Compact
£4.9 million (inc gold) 2017

ACS
$2.7m
$997K
433 hybrid
1,138 total UK arts

American Chemical Society

ACS
$2.7m
$997K
433 hybrid
1,138 total UK arts

Wiley APCs

American Chemical Society

Wiley Subscriptions

CUP
10/12/2018
Plan S and UK negotiations
Impetus and alignment
Requirements for Transformative OA

» Agreements must be transitional
  › Enable the UK to publish 100% of its UK research output OA on publication

» Agreements must constrain costs
  › Transition must occur within similar budget envelope

» Agreements must aid compliance with funder mandates
  › To support models other than Gold OA

» Agreements must be transparent

» Agreements must support improvements in service and workflow for authors and administrators
Status of negotiations in December 2018
Our messages to publishers

» The status quo is not sustainable
» Stop seeing additional APC revenue as minimum to be expected
» Stop trying to pass all risks of transition to institutions
» If you can make a significant amount of articles available “bronze OA” with no fee, stop insisting all UK output requires a fee
» If your statements in support of a transition to open access are serious then don’t present proposals which penalise early adopters and disincentivise other countries from a transition
Thank you

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