



TOWARDS AN OPEN SCIENCE ACTION PLAN FOR NIGERIA

Jisc Case study

The transition to open research in the UK

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About Jisc

- Jisc is a not-for-profit membership organisation for digital services and solutions for UK Higher and Further Education
- We operate **shared digital infrastructure and services**
- We negotiate **sector-wide deals** with IT vendors and commercial publishers
- We provide trusted **advice and practical assistance** for universities, colleges and learning providers
- About 1,000 staff: we provide JANET – the UK academic network; Cyber Security, and Digital Resources for libraries and research

Open Research background in the UK

- Moves towards Open Access in the UK go back about 20 years
- Jisc has been in the forefront of many of the most significant developments in that time
 - As funder of a number of OA initiatives
 - As service provider of essential OA services
 - As negotiating body for journal deals for the HE sector
 - Through organising events, joint working, identifying and sharing best practice
- Change has only come about through the efforts of numerous organisations, individuals and initiatives – sectoral change needs the engagement of the whole sector

Basis for the UK transition

- Going for Green AND Gold OA solutions
- Seeing Open Research encompassing the whole research process
- Significant, long-term advocacy from a wide variety of actors; to researchers, authors, readers; institutions, funders, government
- Increasingly pro-OA policies from government, research funders and institutions
- Creating support services – ideally just before they are needed by the mainstream
- While advocacy has helped create a receptive environment, it is policy enactment that has created step-changes

Two key policies

- UKRI Grant Policy
- UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) is a section of UK government directing research and innovation funding, funded by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)
- REF Eligibility Policy
- Research England: part of UKRI dealing with university research and knowledge transfer in England: oversees the assessment of the quality of university research through the Research Excellence Framework (REF)

UK Approach

- The UK transition to Open Research may look as though it is based around compulsion of authors – pushing for policy compliance
- . . . but the rationale and practice is different, complex and nuanced
- Achieving change through policy compliance is not necessarily forcing people to do something they don't want to do
- Effective policies encourage environmental change, bring clarity, are supported by efficient services to ease any additional load - and can often support or give cover to people to work differently

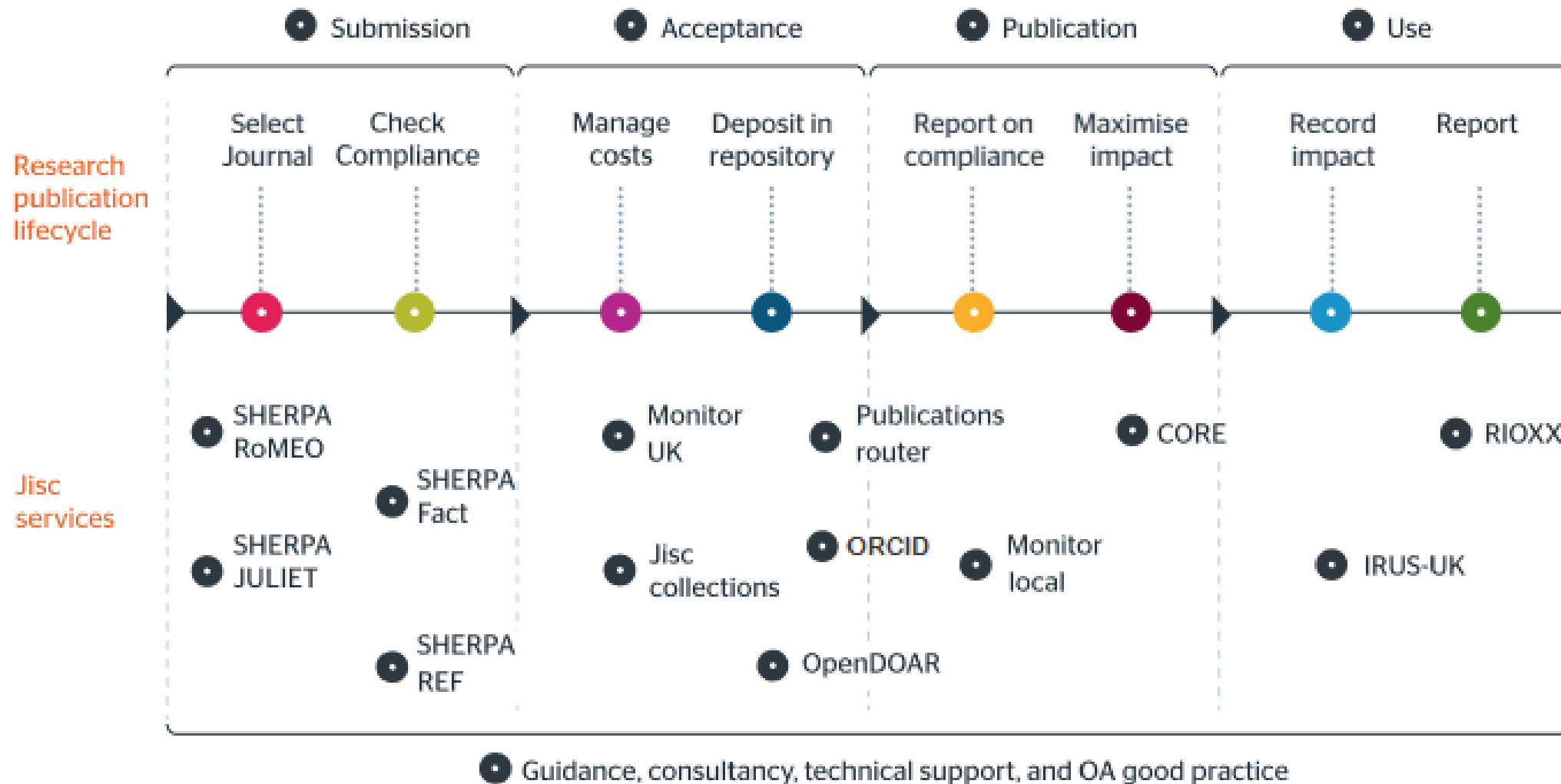
Alignment and communication

- Significant UKRI Consultation with sector
- Alignment with cOAlition S "Plan S" principles
- Jisc actively consults with members through services, library groups, advisory groups, account management, UKCoRR, ARMA
- Jisc actively engages with funders, activists, advocacy groups, service providers, academics
- Supporting fora for discussion and debate
- Encouraging alignment of policies – from funders, institutions, publishers

Negotiations and publishing futures

- Jisc negotiates multi-year, multi-£million subscription arrangements with publishers on behalf of the sector
- Licensing negotiations have improved OA access for authors and readers, linked to subscription arrangements
- Now, Jisc negotiating Transformative Agreements with publishers as a defined bridge to future OA models for journals
- Using this process in achieving a cost-effective, permanent and sustainable transition to OA

Infrastructure services



UK current developments

- UKRI Policy – the current main driver for change
- UKSCL – institutions reserving copyright – and safeguarding assets
- Open Access Books – not quite the same situation as journals
- Open Access University Presses – in line with institutional mission
- Octopus – decoupling the publication process
- BEIS – major review of research bureaucracy

Directions

- More openness – books, data, peer-review
- Less bureaucracy and effective data interchange
- Expectations of publishers have changed
- Younger generation of researchers see sharing as baseline behaviour
- Integration of support services and cross-national support growth
- Moves towards formalising financial support of open infrastructure
- Openness linking to ethics in research, including reproducibility
- Types of publication are starting to change

Questions and contacts

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