# Annual Impact Report 2023

## Library Research Support Team

UWE Bristol | University of the West of England

# Contents

# Highlights

## YouTube videos

Between 2021 and 2023 the team have been creating a series of cartoons for the Library Research Support YouTube channel. The cartoons, all under five minutes long, address various aspects of open access from a UWE Bristol perspective, and are available in a handy playlist.

We currently have four videos available, and they have all been viewed a number of times:

Routes to Publication – 79 views in 2 years

Gold Open Access Route – 67 views in 1 year

Green Open Access Route – 64 views in 11 months

The UWE Bristol Open Access Policy – 27 views in 8 months

# Policy updates

## UWE Research Data Management policy

In October 2022, Academic Board approved the revised UWE Research Data Management policy. The policy applies to all UWE Bristol employees and PGRs who produce or use research data in research, and sets out expectations and requirements for managing and sharing research data.

You can read the full policy online.

# REF Open Access policy

In June 2023 the UK HE funding bodies released a [briefing on initial decisions on the high-level design of the next Research Excellence Framework](). This did not go into any new detail about the open access policy, as there will be further consultation on the OA policy later in the year.

**Therefore it remains important for researchers to follow the current OA policy for REF as this policy still stands and compliance remains a requirement for REF eligibility.**

As a reminder, the REF policy applies to:

- Journal articles
- Conference papers published in proceedings with an ISSN

**Researchers must upload the author's accepted manuscript for these outputs to the UWE Bristol Research Repository (via PIMS) within 3 months of the date of acceptance**. The author's accepted manuscript is the version after peer review, and incorporating any changes resulting from peer review, but before any publisher formatting is added (i.e. not proofs.)

We have full guidance on how to upload outputs to PIMS available within the system (under the 'Help' option in the blue toolbar) and on the [Library Research Support team webpages](). This includes a short overview guide, a detailed PDF guide, a five-minute video, and specific guidance for different output types.

## Current compliance rates

As of 16/05/2023 the current compliance rates with the REF OA policy are as follows. Please be aware that as PIMS has not yet been updated to the Colleges/Schools structure, these were created using existing Faculty/Department affiliations on outputs.

These compliance rates are for articles and certain conference papers accepted for publication on or after 01/01/2021. These figures do not include everything that is eligible for REF 2028, and not everything included in these figures will be submitted.

There are slightly different requirements for outputs submitted to different panels, which is why we show compliance rates for both panels A & B and C & D.

| CATE | | Panel A& B | | Panel C&D |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Articles which meet REF Open Access requirements | 704 | 76% | 744 | 80% |
| Articles which should become compliant once they are published online | 10 | 1% | 11 | 1% |
| Articles which are currently not compliant but could become compliant if action is taken by the author | 5 | 1% | 5 | 1% |
| Articles failing to meet REF Open Access requirements | 114 | 12% | 73 | 8% |
| Articles that are under an exception/compliant in another repository | 96 | 10% | 96 | 10% |

| CBL | | Panel A& B | | Panel C&D |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Articles which meet REF Open Access requirements | 208 | 76% | 232 | 85% |
| Articles which should become compliant once they are published online | 3 | 1% | 6 | 2% |
| Articles which are currently not compliant but could become compliant if action is taken by the author | 2 | 1% | 2 | 1% |
| Articles failing to meet REF Open Access requirements | 35 | 13% | 8 | 3% |
| Articles that are under an exception/compliant in another repository | 26 | 9% | 26 | 9% |

| CHSS | | Panel A& B | | Panel C&D |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Articles which meet REF Open Access requirements | 672 | 82% | 688 | 84% |
| Articles which should become compliant once they are published online | 6 | 1% | 7 | 1% |
| Articles which are currently not compliant but could become compliant if action is taken by the author | 7 | 1% | 7 | 1% |
| Articles failing to meet REF Open Access requirements | 70 | 9% | 53 | 6% |
| Articles that are under an exception/compliant in another repository | 64 | 8% | 64 | 8% |

# UKRI Open Access policy

## UKRI research articles policy

The [UKRI policy for research articles](#) applies to peer reviewed articles, and conference papers published in proceedings with an ISSN which acknowledge UKRI funding and were submitted for publication on or after 01 April 2022. There are two routes to compliance with the UKRI OA policy:

1. Route one: you can publish the article open access in a journal or publishing platform. This makes the version of record immediately open access via its website with a creative commons attribution (CC BY) licence or other permitted licence.

2. Route two: you can publish the article in a subscription journal. You can deposit your author's accepted manuscript in an institutional or subject repository at the time of final publication with a CC BY or other permitted licence. A publisher embargo period is not permitted.[1]

## Rights Retention strategy

In order to follow route two, authors may be required to add a Rights Retention Statement (RRS) to their manuscript upon submission to a journal. The RRS states that, for the purpose of open access, the author applies the Creative Commons By-Attribution licence ([CC BY 4.0](#))[2] to any arising accepted manuscript. This ensures that the accepted manuscript can be made publicly discoverable on the Research Repository in compliance with the UKRI articles policy.

We ran a search to determine how many how many articles from the last year were made available under the CC BY licence, which is the most open of the [Creative Commons licences](#) and is the licence required for compliance with most funder policies.

**881** articles with a reporting date between July 2022 - June 2023[3] were uploaded to the Research Repository when the search was run.

**452** of these articles had at least one file under the CC BY 4.0 licence.

This means that **51%** of current articles in the past 12 months were made immediately open access with the CC BY licence attached.

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[1] Taken from https://www.ukri.org/manage-your-award/publishing-your-research-findings/making-your-research-article-open-access/

[2] 4.0 refers to the version of the licence. 4.0 is the most recent version.

[3] Reporting date for articles is automatically set as the earliest of the Date of Online Publication or Date of Publication.
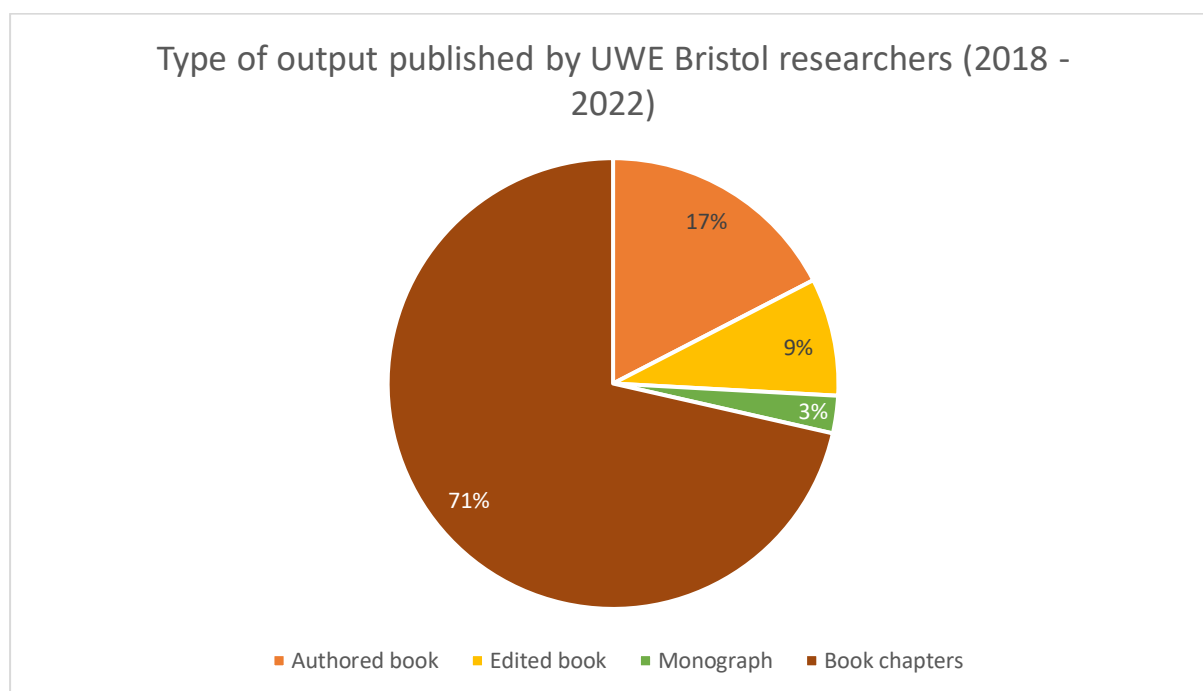
# UKRI long-form content policy

The [UKRI policy for long form content](#) applies to monographs, books chapters, and edited collections which are funded by UKRI and which are newly contracted from 01 January 2024. Outputs must be made open access within 12 months of publication and must be published under an open licence (CC BY preferred.)

This can be done either through making the version of record open access on the publisher website, or through archiving the author accepted manuscript in the Research Repository.
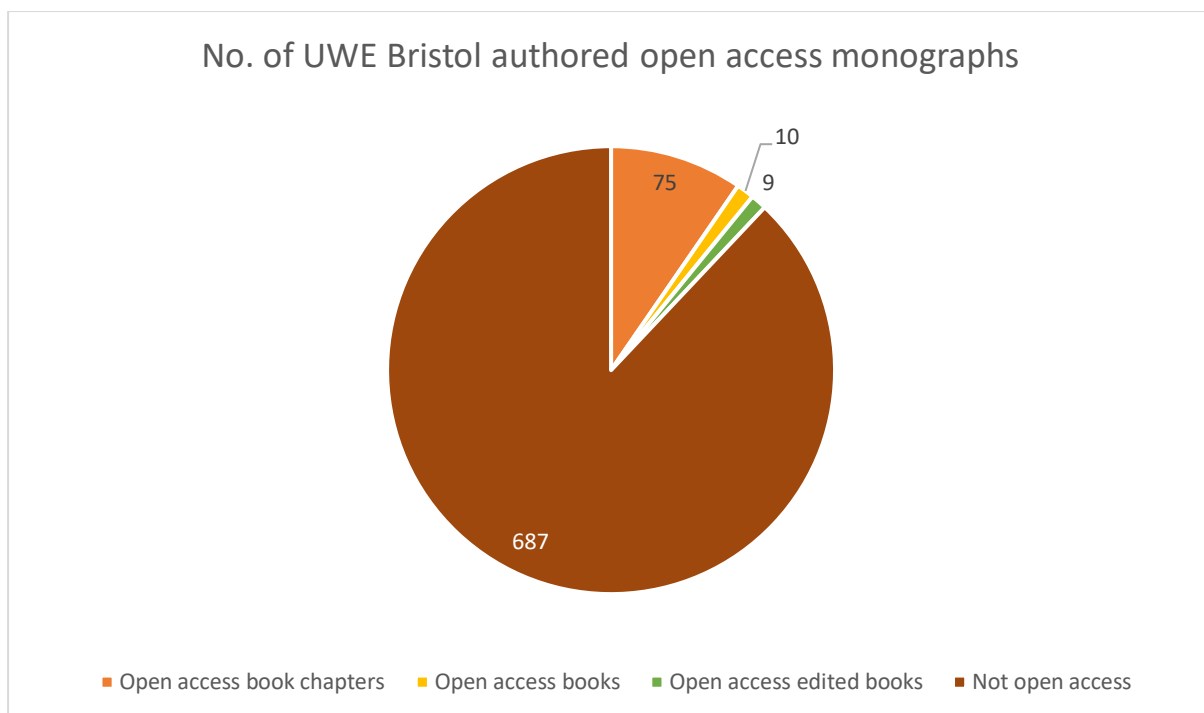
In the past five years (2018 – 2022), according to statistics from the UWE Bristol Research Repository, UWE Bristol researchers have published a total of 781 monographs (this includes books, book chapters and edited collections.)[4]

Similar amounts of monographs are published every year (around 150 per year). 71% (558) of the monographs published are book chapters. 9% (66) are edited collections. The remaining 20% (157) are a mixture of authored books and monographs.

## Type of output published by UWE Bristol researchers (2018 - 2022)



Legend: ■ Authored book  ■ Edited book  ■ Monograph  ■ Book chapters

17% — 9% — 3% — 71%

Of these outputs, 94 (13%) are listed as open access. The majority of these are open access book chapters (75 – 11% of all authored monographs), whilst 10 are books and 9 are edited collections.

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[4] It is worth noting that this may not be a complete list of publications, as authors must upload their outputs to the UWE Bristol Research Repository themselves. Whilst this is encouraged for monographs, it is not mandatory.

No. of UWE Bristol authored open access monographs

- Open access book chapters
- Open access books
- Open access edited books
- Not open access

6% of the monographs have acknowledged UKRI funding, the biggest source of funding being the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). These are the sort of outputs that would be subject to the UKRI long-form content policy.

# UWE Bristol outputs in the UWE Bristol Research Repository

There have been a couple of updates to PIMS via the 2022 system updates, which aimed to make the process of uploading an output more intuitive and ensure that fewer outputs were being left 'in progress' because researchers were not completing the process and depositing the outputs. A couple of examples of these changes are:

- The 'Deposit' button has now been renamed 'Send to Library' in order to emphasise that the output is being passed on to the Repository Team for review.
- The Funder field is now part of the initial upload process. The hope is that this prompts researchers who previously didn't fill in this mandatory field (and therefore did not deposit, because the Deposit button did not highlight) to complete the funder information and move on to successfully deposit their outputs for review.

The funder field now appears in a pop-up box as part of the upload process, along with details and author information.

## Total repository downloads

We use IRUS-UK to report on download figures from the UWE Bristol Research Repository.

Between July 2022 - June 2023 outputs were downloaded **300,945** times.[5]

While there is not an exact method to calculate the number of full text available outputs in the Research Repository, we have been able to get approximate numbers:

2020-2021: **11,251** publicly available outputs

2021-2022: **12,567** publicly available outputs

## Thesis downloads

Between July 2022 - June 2023 theses were downloaded **73,089** times from the Research Repository.

- 2 theses were each downloaded over 8000 times.
- 5 theses were each downloaded over 1000 times.
- 16 theses were each downloaded over 500 times.

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[5] This is the number of Unique_Item_Requests from IRUS-UK. Unique_Item_Requests 'counts number of views of a full content item but de-duplicates when multiple file types are downloaded from the same item record in the same user session. For example, downloading the PDF and a supporting image for the same item is counted once.'
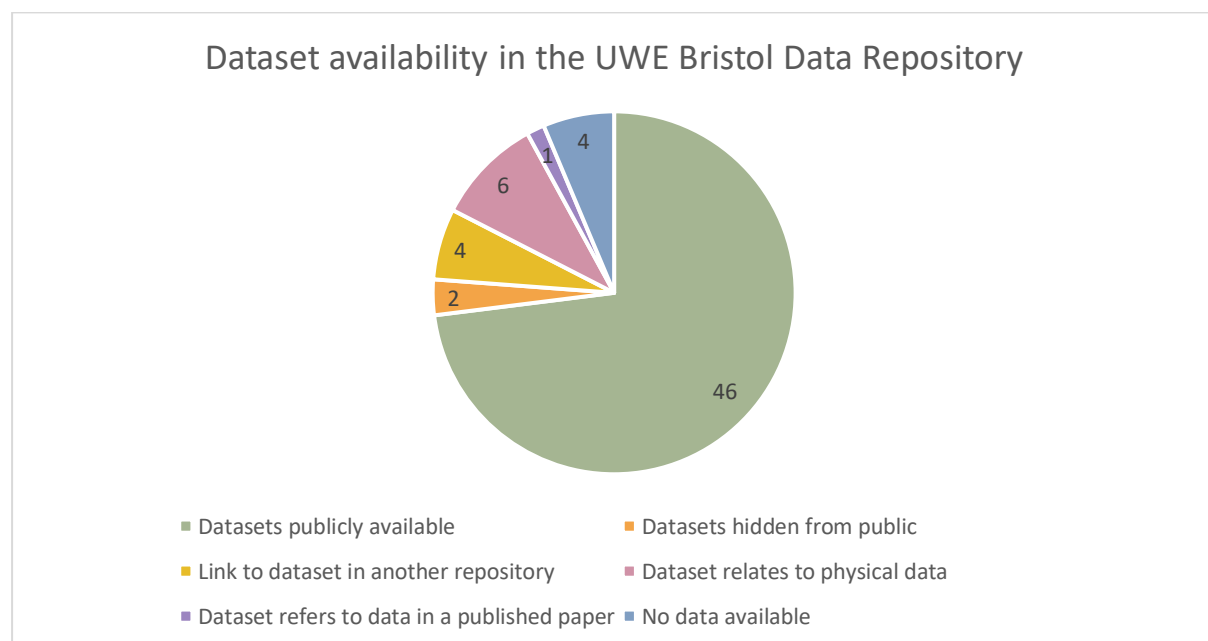
This is in comparison with:

July 2020 – June 2021 when theses were downloaded 67,194 times.

July 2021 – June 2022 when theses were downloaded 83,505 times.

## UWE Bristol datasets in the UWE Bristol Research Data Repository

The data repository in its current format has been deemed unsustainable by ITS. There is limited support for the system, and contractors are needed for any work required to maintain the Data Repository. The Research Team have been working with ITS over the last few years on reviewing options for replacing the Data Repository to meet the needs of researchers, PGRs and other users. A new Data Repository using the EPrints software will be delivered as a managed hosted service by CoSector (University of London) and implemented in the first half of the new academic year 2023-24.

There are currently **61** dataset records in the Data Repository. 2 of these have both data attached and a link to the dataset in a different repository, so the following chart shows figures out of **63**. These are datasets uploaded to the Data Repository since it launched in 2013.

**Dataset availability in the UWE Bristol Data Repository**

46
6
4
2
1
4

- Datasets publicly available
- Datasets hidden from public
- Link to dataset in another repository
- Dataset relates to physical data
- Dataset refers to data in a published paper
- No data available

# Read and Publish deals

## Deals assessed

Seven Read and Publish deals with new publishers were negotiated in 2022. These are deals where we pay a Publish fee to enable UWE Bristol corresponding authors to publish open access, with a CC-BY licence and zero embargo, at no cost to them. Deals were agreed with the following publishers:

- American Chemical Society (ACS)
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- BMJ
- Edward Elgar
- Elsevier
- International Water Association (IWA)
- Springer Nature

A list of all the current deals and a spreadsheet with all the journals included in the deals are available on the [open access publishing intranet page](#).

## Are these agreements working?

6 of our 17 deals expired on 31 December 2022, and our analysis focused on these.

**103** journal articles were published Open Access under these agreements.

Every College has made some use of one or more of these deals, and every College has benefitted from the SAGE deal. CATE has the highest usage, publishing 54 articles across all 6 of the deals except BMJ.

The total cost of making all the articles open access outside of these deals would have been £116, 857. Instead, we have paid £109,510.28 for the Publish element of our subscriptions. Assuming we could have paid to make all these articles open access individually, **we have saved £7,346.72.**

We now maintain a [spreadsheet of journal titles](#) which UWE Bristol authors can publish in. It is always provided along with the caveat that authors should contact [lib.rke@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:lib.rke@uwe.ac.uk) to check their own individual circumstances.

# UKRI open access block grant

Each year UKRI award a grant for open access publishing to eligible institutions. UWE Bristol received a grant of £81,786.12 from UKRI for the 2022/2023 award period. This grant was used for open access publishing for UKRI funded research between 01/04/2022-31/03/2023.

The amount awarded was significantly higher than previous years.  A final return on expenditure was submitted at the end of June 2023. The amount spent totalled £36,093.04. The underspend will be reclaimed by UKRI. This significant underspend was due to several reasons:

- The use of transformative agreements.
- The availability of the Elsevier agreement which reduced applications for the block grant
- The number of outputs published using the Frontiers pre-payment agreement which had been topped up at the end of award year 2021/2022.
- Low application numbers to fund publishing in pure open access journals outside of transformative agreements.

## Number of UKRI funded research articles 2022/2023



Legend: ■ Paid for individually  ■ Frontiers prepayment  ■ Transformative read and publish agreements

## Number of UKRI funded articles published via transformative read and publisher agreements.