Discussion on future role/purpose of OAPG after 1 April

OAPG received an update on the transition to UKRI, including the transfer of RCUK open access strategic policy to the shadow UKRI Policy Team, and the administration of the open access block grants to the RCUK Grants Team.

OAPG members suggested that they could provide a useful sounding board for future UKRI open access policy, as well as continuing to provide advice on the implementation of policy, and a conduit for communications to the wider community.

Researchfish Training Session

Gavin Reddick, Chief Analyst at Researchfish, provided a very useful presentation on the open access data that Researchfish can provide.

Open Access Block Grants Update

It was expected that the block grants would be paid in June and November/December as previously. The shadow UKRI Policy Team would discuss the detailed timetable for the awards with the RCUK Grants Team shortly. OAPG members emphasised the need for the 2018/19 awards to be announced as early as possible before the end of the current grants.

OAPG provided comments on the draft report on the RCUK open access block grant analysis covering the period from August 2013 to July 2017. OAPG proposed some possible areas for future analysis. When finalised, the report would be published on the RCUK website, replacing the previous version.

Jisc dashboard to compare funders’ open access policies

This had previously been discussed at the July OAPG meeting. OAPG members would send comments to the UKRI Policy Team on the use case for the dashboard.