

MRC Science Archive Data Access Committee: Annual Report 2022

Data Access Committee Annual Report of Activity 2022

This report on the activity of the DAC covers the period from 01 January 2022 to the 31 December 2022.

Changes to DAC membership

There have been no changes to the DAC membership during 2022.

Meeting frequency

Two meetings of the DAC were held on 24 March 2022 and 11 October 2022. One meeting was cancelled in June 2022 due to a lack of applications.

Three meetings of the DAC have been scheduled for 2023 and the dates published on the MRC website: <https://www.ukri.org/councils/mrc/guidance-for-applicants/policies-and-guidance-for-researchers/data-sharing/>

Applications and Enquiries

In the period from 01 Jan 2022 to 31 December 2022 there were 4 new applications requesting access to 2 datasets in the MRC Science Archive. During this same period, there were 3 requests for extensions of access to 9 datasets.

These applications were all approved. Data sharing agreements are in preparation but not yet implemented.

Timeliness of review in 2022 – New applications

	Time (weeks)
Period from initial enquiry to Access Application	8 weeks
Period from Access Application to Data Access Committee review	5 weeks
Period from Data Access Committee review to Data Sharing Agreement	<i>To be added</i>
Period from Data Sharing Agreement to data transfer	<i>To be added</i>

Timeliness of review in 2022 – Extensions

	Time (weeks)
Period from extension request to Data Access Committee review	5 weeks
Period from Data Access Committee review to completion of revisions to Data Sharing Agreement	<i>To be added</i>

Outcomes of Data Access Committee review

For data access and extension requests in 2022, the outcomes from the Data Access Committee review were:

Data Access Committee outcome	Number of datasets
Approved	1
Approved with Conditions*	3
Access refused	0
Application withdrawn	0

*Conditions for two applications was to hold only one copy of the dataset and for one application was to limit access to 5 years with the potential for a review and extension at the end of this period.

There were no appeals against Data Access Committee decisions in 2022.

Details of approved requests can be found in the MRC Science Archive Public Register:

<https://www.ukri.org/publications/register-of-approved-data-releases/>

Data Access Committee Members in 2021

Chair: Sarah Edwards, Professor of Bioethics, University College London

Members: Mary-Kate Hannah, Data Scientist, University of Glasgow

Maurice Hoffman (public involvement representative)

David Hyett, Head of Information Governance, UKRI (Deputy Chair)

Ben Micklem, Research Support Manager, University of Oxford

Fleur North (public involvement representative)

Victoria Yorke-Edwards, Research Fellow for Trial Conduct Methodology, UCL