

LSE Open Access Publications Policy

Introduction

Open Access (OA) is a publishing model that enables the peer-reviewed outputs of scholarly research to be made freely available online. It can be achieved through deposit of an authoritative version of the research output in an institutional or subject repository (Green OA) or by publication in journals which are made available free of charge online (Gold OA).

It is supported by the UK government and national and international research funding agencies as an important means of increasing access to the results of research. Accordingly HEFCE, RCUK and other funders have adopted policies which require publications that are based on research funded by them or which are to be submitted for quality assessment by them to be made open access.

In order to support the widest possible dissemination and reuse of its research outputs and to ensure compliance with HEFCE, RCUK and other research funders' requirements, LSE therefore adopts the following policy with effect from 1 January 2015:

Policy

1. LSE supports the freedom of authors to choose the most appropriate place in which to publish research outputs. It encourages researchers to ensure quality and impact when selecting where to publish and expects them to publish in the highest quality journals and use dissemination channels which maximize knowledge exchange and impact.
2. All LSE academic and research staff and students must provide publication details of their research outputs to LSE Research Online (LSERO) no later than the date of publication.
3. For items that will be submitted for HEFCE research quality assessment, authors must deposit in LSERO the full text of the final, peer reviewed, author's version of journal articles and published conference proceedings no later than three months after acceptance for publication. These will be made Open Access in accordance with the copyright policies of the publishers concerned where no confidentiality or commercial constraints exist. See Fig. 1.
4. Authors are strongly encouraged to deposit in LSERO the full text of all other publications, including monographs, working papers and book chapters.
5. Authors must ensure publications include an acknowledgement of the source of funding for the research on which publications are based and a statement on how underlying research materials, such as data samples or models, can be accessed.
6. Authors should ensure publications are made available under licence terms which permit the search for, download and reuse of content, subject to any third-party conditions. They are also encouraged to make publications available under terms which permit text-mining i.e. the use of automated tools to perform in-text search and download.
7. Authors must comply with the open access publication requirements of the agencies funding their research unless this would prevent them from publishing in the highest quality or most appropriate publication.
8. LSE supports the use of Green OA channels, such as LSERO, as the primary means of complying with funders' open access publication policies and strongly encourages authors to use Green OA publication routes wherever possible.

9. If it is not possible to use Green OA to comply with the RCUK Open Access Policy, LSE will pay article processing charges (APCs) for Gold OA publication using funds from the annual block grant from RCUK. Research that is funded by bodies other than RCUK or not funded at all and require APCs will be considered on a case by case basis.
10. Authors must notify LSERO when publishing research outputs in journals or other publications which do not comply with HEFCE or funders' Open Access publication policies. They are expected to be able to demonstrate that the journal or publication concerned is of the highest quality or otherwise the most appropriate place for publication.

Scope

11. This policy applies to all LSE academic and research staff and students.

Responsibilities

12. Authors are responsible for providing the required information about their publications and the appropriate full-text version to LSERO; and for compliance with HEFCE and research funders' publication requirements.
13. Library Services will provide advice and assistance to authors to comply with the policy.

Information and advice is available at:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/usingTheLibrary/academicSupport/OA/home.aspx>

Appendix

Fig. 1. Step-by-step compliance with the HEFCE Open Access Policy for the next REF:

