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**Version:** Presented version

[http://nectar.northampton.ac.uk/8691/](http://nectar.northampton.ac.uk/8691/)
OA advocacy in the context of HEFCE and other funders’ requirements

Miggie Pickton

Open Access Good Practice Event
Belfast
26th July 2016
OA: what do funders want?

**RCUK**: Preference for “immediate and unrestricted access to the final published version of the paper, which should be made available using the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) Licence” ([RCUK OA policy](https://www.rcuk.ac.uk)).

**HEFCE**: “to be eligible for submission to the next REF, authors’ final peer-reviewed manuscripts must have been deposited in an institutional or subject repository.” ([HEFCE OA policy](https://www.hefce.ac.uk))
The Open to Open Access (O2OA) project

- An OAGP project
- Partners: Coventry (project lead), De Montfort and Northampton
- Purpose of the project was to develop processes and workflows to support researchers in meeting funders’ open access requirements – with little or no dedicated budget
- We started with a user needs analysis – using focus groups and interviews with researchers to establish their knowledge and understanding of OA and funders’ requirements
- It was clear that awareness of OA and the services to support it varied hugely – need for ADVOCACY was a recurring theme
Need for advocacy

• To support compliance
• To increase OA knowledge and understanding
• To improve engagement
• To address myths and misconceptions
• To counter valid concerns
• To promote benefits of OA
• To build confidence
• To promote OA support services
OA advocacy: face to face

• Presentations to research groups, School awaydays, research committees etc.
• Targeted approaches to research leaders and facilitators
• Updates for professional colleagues (academic librarians, Research Office)
• OA conversations embedded within existing interactions
OA advocacy: guidance

- Leaflets and guides: e.g. ‘OA in the research lifecycle’ guide; ‘Act on Acceptance’ leaflet
- Newsletters, blog posts, email correspondence
- One-to-one support and training
OA advocacy: policy and process

• OA policy
  – Led by Coventry, all 3 project partners reviewed and updated their institutional OA policy
  – Policies complemented funders’ requirements and fit with wider University priorities
  – Process refreshed OA knowledge and generated debate among senior researchers and managers

• Coventry: mock REF exercise – Research Office led but significant support from Library (incl new staff)
What advocacy can you share?
Acknowledgements

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Further information about the Open Access Good Practice programme is available on the OA Good Practice blog