
Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

Title: Open Research Programme Evaluation protocol

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Project abstract:

Open research (OR) encompasses the practices that make the research process more transparent, reproducible and inclusive. It promotes openly sharing research outputs; making research data, software and codes available; using pre-registration of study protocols; using persistent identifiers for articles, data and researchers; and expanding the research reach through collaboration and citizen science.

The UK Reproducibility Network (UKRN) is a peer-led consortium that promotes OR practices to ensure the highest standards of research. To achieve this, UKRN has launched a five-year Open Research Programme (ORP) across its member institutions, with the aim of accelerating the uptake of high-quality OR practices.

This project aims to evaluate the ORP, defining the methods of the evaluation and the data that will be collected to enable the evaluation. This project will support the evaluation of the ORP at the programme level (assessing whether there has been an increase in high quality OR practices at member institutions), and at the project level (assessing whether three of the five projects within the ORP have each met their SMART objectives).

Data collected through this project will include surveys, engagement statistics, web analytics, quantitative and qualitative feedback. Data collected may be attributable to individuals, but will be held on secure systems at the University of Bristol until finalised and then transferred to the Data Bristol repository (data.bris). In the instances that require it, ethical clearance will be obtained before data collection.

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Open Research Programme Evaluation protocol

Project Summary

Provide a brief description of the project and the research being carried out. State if the research is part of a larger project, if there are any funders involved, and how data fits in.

This project aims to evaluate the UK Reproducibility Network (UKRN) Open Research Programme (ORP) and three sub-projects. The ORP is divided in five sub-projects: Management and Sustainability, Training, Reward and Recognition, Sharing and Integrating, and Evaluation Design. This project is part of the Evaluation Design sub-project, and evaluates the Training, Reward and Recognition, and Sharing and Integrating sub-projects. The data collected will be used to determine the extent to which the interventions of the ORP and sub-projects have been successful in increasing the uptake of OR practices among UKRN member institutions. The UKRN ORP is funded by Research England.

Data Types

What types of data will be involved?

The aims of the **Open Research Programme (ORP)** are to establish a baseline of open research (OR) practices at partner institutions, identify changes in open research practices at those institutions over time, and begin to identify where those changes might relate to activities of the ORP.

The aim of the **Training** project is to build staff skills in high quality open research practices through the provision of instructor training and support for trainers.

The aim of the **Reward and Recognition** project is to reform the ways in which institutions recruit, promote and appraise their staff, to better reward open research practices.

The aim of the **Sharing and Integrating** project is to improve how institutions share and integrate practice in support of open research, making good institutional practice the norm. ‘Practice’ here includes procedures, training, guidance, support, tools and workflows, communications, and policies.

Open Research Programme			
Data type	Details	Data gathering	Data type
Survey	The survey aims at evaluating the prevalence of open research practices at UKRN partner institutions	One mid-term survey in 2025 and one end-of-programme survey in 2027	Survey is hosted on Qualtrics, raw quantitative datasets exported as csv files

OR indicators	The aim is to establish good practice in institutional monitoring open research by developing candidate indicators	Input data from institutions. Output data and related materials from solution providers in association with institutions	Input: List of DOIs and related metadata for sample of research outputs. Output: Classified list of outputs, classification code, protocols, etc.
Training			
Data type	Details	Data gathering	Data type
Engagement statistics	Number of individuals participating in training (trainers) Number of trained individuals (trainees)	Collected pre- and post-training delivery	
Training plan	Training plan published on the UKRN website	Programme start (December 2023)	website
Planned provision	Planned provision sent to Open Research Coordinators and Administrators at each new training release		
Community of Practice		Programme start (December 2023)	

Acceleration of OR practices uptake	Measurable acceleration of OR practices uptake during the ORP	Data will be provided by the survey and OR indicators projects	xlsx
Reward and Recognition			
Data type	Details	Data gathering	Data type
Toolkit and maturity framework	Published a toolkit and maturity framework 16 institutions to have completed the maturity framework	October 2024 July 2026	xlsx
Toolkit and maturity framework review	Published a v2 of the toolkit and maturity framework incorporating feedback from July 2026	August 2026	
Community of Practice	Established a Community of Practice	October 2024	
Case studies	Published case studies		
Report on current OR recognition practice	Published a report on current recognition practice	March 2024	report
Sharing and Integrating			
Data type	Details	Data gathering	Data type
UX interviews and focus groups	For identifying if measurably better and more consistent support for OR across institutions is achieved by Aug 27	December 2023 - March 2024 (Again before programme end, Aug 2027)	Notes/poll results

What file formats will be used?

What will be the approximate size of the files?

- 0 - 50 GB

Data Capture

How will the data be generated and/or gathered?

ORP:

For the OR survey, the data will be collected on Qualtrics and a stratified sampling approach will be used to randomly select participants at UKRN partner institutions.

Indicators data will be collected by participating institutions from their internal research information systems. Output data and related materials will be generated by solution providers in association with institutions, using and including their own methods, protocols, algorithms, queries, code, etc.

In other instances, data will be drawn from systems/platforms (e.g., the UKRN website, the sharing platform, etc.) and through interviews.

Data Storage and Preservation

How will the data be backed up?

Most data will be stored on the University of Bristol Research Data Storage Facility (RDSF), which provides secure, long-term storage for research data. This provides nightly backup of all data, with further resilience provided by three geographically distinct storage locations.

A tape library is used for backup purposes and also for long-term, offline data storage. Only authorised users can access data stored within the RDSF.

The RDSF is managed by Bristol's Advanced Computing Research Centre (ACRC) which has a dedicated steering group and a rigorous data storage policy (https://www.acrc.bris.ac.uk/acrc/RDSF_policy.pdf).

The RDSF upholds and reinforces Bristol's wider Information Security Policy(www.bris.ac.uk/infosec/policies/docs/isp-01.pdf).

OR survey raw data and metadata will also be deposited on OSF.

Data and related materials from the OR indicators pilots will be stored on a dedicated instance of Figshare.

Training data will be held on secure Sharepoint for the duration of the project, before moving to RDSF. The Sharing and Integrating project will store data from UX interviews and focus groups on GoogleDrive.

Do you have security procedures in place for sensitive data?

ORP: the OR survey is anonymous and sensitive data will not be collected. Free-text box responses will not be shared publicly.

Sharing and Integrating: data collected from the focus groups and UX interviews (e.g., name, job title, location, etc.) will be used confidentially to evaluate the range of types of participants. After the sessions the recorded interviews will be transcribed, then deleted. De-identified results will be shared with other members of the UKRN network. Participants may be quoted verbatim however no identifiers will be attached to the quote.

What are your plans for long-term storage of the data?

ORP: all data and metadata produced by the OR survey and its iterations will be deposited on OSF. A decision on long term storage of data and related materials from the OR indicators pilots has not yet been made

Sharing and Integrating: the transcribed interviews will be stored on a secure drive and deleted by August 2027.

Data Organisation

How will data be organised?

Data Documentation and Description

What documentation will you keep?

ORP:

All documentation relevant to the OR survey (i.e., the ethics approval letter, the participant information sheet, the recruitment email, the survey questions, the analysis scripts, and the analysis plan) will be deposited on OSF.

Documentation related to the OR indicator pilots will be incorporated into or added as supplementary

materials to a UKRN working paper.

The Sharing and Integrating project will retain transcripts and field notes.

Will you be using any metadata standards?

Data Sharing and Publication

What data do you plan to share?

ORP:

Data generated from the OR survey and its iterations will be deposited on OSF.

Agreements are being made with all relevant participants on which data and related materials from the OR indicator pilots can be shared. These agreements will be stored as part of the final documentation.

Summaries of data will be shared for the Sharing and Integrating project.

Are there any ethical, commercial, legal or IPR issues which might apply when publishing your data?

ORP:

OR Survey: the first iteration of the survey received ethics approval by the University of Manchester. The second iteration received ethics approval by the University of Bristol.

The OR indicator pilot data may include data and related materials that are sensitive for a variety of reasons, including commercial confidentiality and institutional concern about rankings. Hence explicit and bespoke agreements are being set up for each pilot.

How will your data be shared?

Data will be published through the University of Bristol Research Data Repository (data.bris). The data.bris Repository offers a means for researchers to openly share non-confidential research data, without the need for external data users to undergo any form of authentication.

Each deposit is accompanied by appropriate metadata and is assigned a unique Digital Object Identifier (DOI) via the DataCite scheme. All data published by the Repository is available under a permissive re-use license.

Data and related material from the Open Research indicator pilots may be shared using the Figshare library that has hosted some of those material through the projects.

Will there need to be controlled access procedures in place for your data?

If controlled access is needed, the University of Bristol has controlled access procedures that can allow this.