

Academic Publishing

SHSC Subject Librarian – Maria King

Email Address – m.king2@napier.ac.uk

Session Content



Considerations for author agreements when publishing books/book chapters.



An overview of the Scottish Universities Press.



Open access publishing, including Napier's read and publish agreements.



How to find relevant journals to submit for publication in.

Electronic Book Access Issues for Libraries

- We can only buy books that are licensed for library lending, we cannot buy books licensed only for individual use - this includes books on platforms like Kindle.
- Titles sometimes categorised as 'Premium' - this often allows publishers to only offer the title under the subscription or e-textbook models.
- This is also happening to new editions of older titles – meaning we cannot buy newer editions electronically even where we have older ones.
- Bundled options also often too expensive to buy, or we would need to buy a lot of irrelevant titles we don't want just to access a small number we do want.
- There have been very large price increases for perpetual purchase titles from Autumn 2020 onwards, meaning a lot of titles are now too expensive to buy. Please see the following [spreadsheet evidencing price increases](#).

What to Check when signing Author Agreements

- Will this book be available as an ebook for libraries to buy?
- Usually not enough on it's own! They will say yes even if available through subscription, e-textbook or bundles/packages only!
- Need to confirm exactly what the licensing model will be and the different user licenses available.
- How much will the ebook cost?
- Even if available for us to purchase the cost could still be prohibitive!
- Which platforms will the ebook be available through? Will there be any difference in pricing and licensing on different platforms?
- How accessible are your ebooks? For example, do they meet UK WCAG 2.2 legislation requirements? Are they compatible with screen readers, browser accessibility features, and other third-party tools and/or do they have inbuilt accessibility tools?
- Is the entire book going to be available open access or DRM free? (This means less copyright restrictions on downloading and printing content).

Author rights & copyright

- In order to publish an author's work, a publisher needs certain rights from authors. This is set out in the publishing agreement between the author and the publisher.
- Author rights can vary considerably depending on whether publishing open access and licensing exclusive or non-exclusive rights to the publisher by way of an end user licence, or under a subscription model and perhaps transferring copyright to the publisher.
- Information about author rights and copyright are often available on the publisher/journal website as part of its guidance for authors (see, for example, [Guide for Authors](#) for the journal *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability*).
- Author rights also include what rights authors have to reuse and share their work (again detailed in the publishing agreement).
- The [Sherpa Romeo](#) website aggregates lists of journal publishers open access publishing, copyright, and open access archiving policies on a journal-by-journal basis.
- It is critically important to check a publisher's policies on author rights and carefully read the publishing agreement **before signing anything**.

Author rights & copyright: key questions to consider

- Do I retain copyright for the work?
- Do I retain the rights to use my research data freely without any restriction?
- Do I retain any patent and trademark rights?
- Can I re-use my work in new works without permission or payment?
- Can I share my work for scholarly purposes (to colleagues, in teaching, at conferences, etc.)?
- Can I share my work on any website or repository (and if so, what version of the work, i.e. submitted version, accepted version, published version)?
- If publishing OA, what are the requirements of my funding body with regard to the end user licence defining the permitted re-use of the work (e.g., CC BY, CC BY-NC-ND)?

Scottish Universities Press (SUP)

- 18 SCUTL member libraries are collaborating to develop a fully OA and not-for-profit publishing press.
- First call for content was in 2023, with the platform launching the first books in 2024.
- Aim to provide a cost-effective route for Scottish HEIs to publish their work via a fair and equitable model.
- Currently seeking for proposals for submission.
- Also an opportunity to sign up to the [SUP Peer Review Network](#).

SUP Scope

- Publish monographs, and edited collections in any subject by staff from member institutions, with a plan to expand to other types of content from 2024 onwards.
- Publish content open access with CC-BY-NC licenses on the SUP platform. Authors retain copyright.
- Print copies available to buy via a print on demand service. Authors still earn royalties.
- Ensure quality through a rigorous peer review process managed by the SUP Editorial Board.
- Provide a full publishing service, including production (copyediting, proofreading, design and typesetting), marketing, dissemination and discovery, usage statistics and preservation.

Costs

Subsidised model: SUP is supported by subscriptions and in-kind contributions from the member institutions. Subscriptions cover fixed costs, such as staff salaries and platform hosting.

Band A	60-80,000 Words	£3500
Band B	80-100,000 Words	£4500
Band C	100,000+ Words	£5500

- A per-book production charge will be applied to cover the variable cost of producing the book. This includes the copyediting, typesetting, design and marketing.
 - The final production charge depends on the length and complexity of the book. Payment will be arranged when the manuscript is passed for production.
-
- The production charge rates are set significantly lower than traditional Book Processing Charges (BPCs) from commercial publishers, which can range from £8,000 to over £15,000.
 - Check with your Management Board representative for information on local arrangements for payment – some libraries are covering the charges for a certain number of titles and certain funders already cover OA for books. UKRI guidance should be available soon too!

Editorial Process Overview



We aim to provide a decision in a timely manner. The entire process should take around 12-14 weeks, however this depends on availability of reviewers, the outcome of peer review reports and the scheduling of Editorial Board meetings.

The Editorial Board meet in February, May, August and November.

Dates of upcoming Editorial Board meetings can be found on the SUP website.

Communications

- Email address: info@sup.ac.uk
- Website: <https://sup.ac.uk>
 - Sign up to Mailing List
 - Blog posts
 - FAQs
- Twitter: @ScotUniPress
- LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/company/sup-scurl](https://www.linkedin.com/company/sup-scurl)
- Dominique Walker – SUP Publishing Officer – is here on the SUP stall, please do go and speak to her for more information!

Finding Relevant Journals

Use the 'Journal Search' feature on LibrarySearch to check:

- Do we have a subscription to the journal to ensure we will have access to the article afterwards?
- Journals in your field to potentially publish in.
- Use Web of Science to check for most cited journals in either a wider field or more specific topic area, and check impact factors.
- The [Journal/Author Name Estimator tool](#) finds suggested journals indexed in PubMed.
- [Elsevier](#) has a similar tool for suggesting their journals as well.

Navigating Journal Websites

- Each journal may have different guidance for publication and require different submission processes.
- Check the guidance for the individual journals and ensure you are following any guidance for specific formatting requirements:

Structure

Manuscript requirements

Referencing style

- They will also provide guidance on the review process and timings.
- There will be information on editorial policies, including author rights and retention as covered earlier.
- Attend the Journal Publishing Workshop for more information.

Identifying Trusted Publishers

- Deceptive journals and publishers are launched each week so you want to be confident that you can trust the journal is genuine and trustworthy.
- Have you heard of the publisher before?
- Where is the journal indexed?
- How easy would it be for someone to find your article?
- Do any charges look reasonable and match those of trusted journals?
- Do any peer review processes appear thorough and match those of trusted journals?
- Attend the Deceptive Publishing Workshop for more information.

Publication fees

There are several different types of publication fee which you may come across:

- Article processing charge (APC) – open access fee
- Page charges
- Colour charges
- Submission fee

Napier does not have central funds to pay for these charges. APCs are waived if we have a read and publish agreement with the journal. If not, you can publish behind a paywall and deposit a copy of the accepted version in the repository.

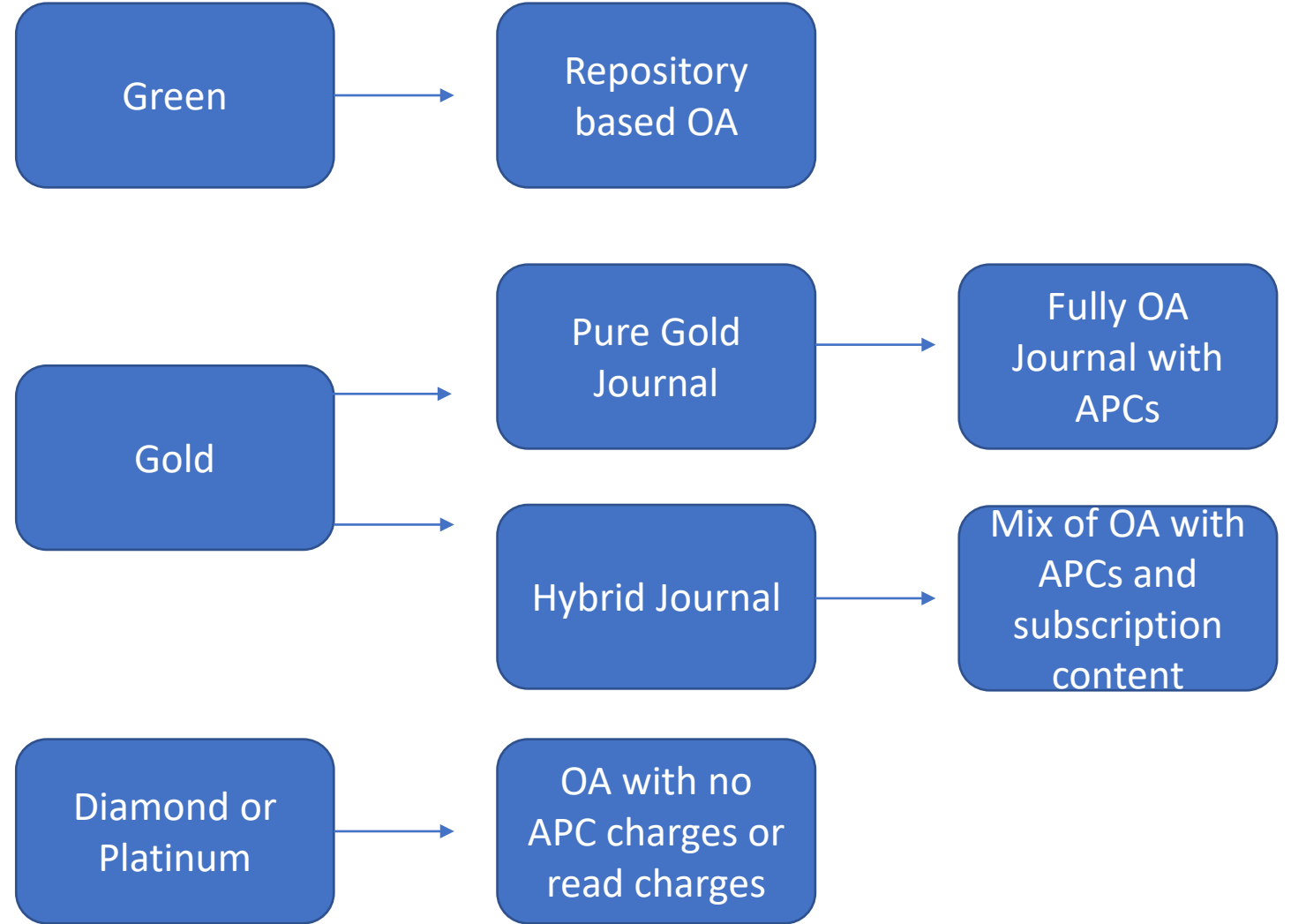
Most journals do not levy page, colour, or submission charges. But some important journals do (often scholarly society journals). Make sure to check the journal's terms and conditions before submission.

- Page charges can often be avoided by keeping articles to the suggested length.
- Sometimes the charges are voluntary and can be avoided e.g. by not selecting colour for the images.

Why Publish Open Access?

- Increased visibility of your research – available for more people to read.
- This can then lead to more public visibility and impact.
- Increased downloads and citations – when [Wiley](#) transition journals to OA they get 3x more downloads and 1.7x more citations.
- Greater transparency and re-use will increase collaboration opportunities and new avenues of research.
- Greater equity of access to research – benefits other researchers and students in lower income areas/institutions.

Open Access Routes



Read and Publish Agreements

Napier has [read and publish agreements](#) with some journal suppliers where APC costs are covered by our subscriptions.

Includes:

Brill

BPS – need an individual membership

Elsevier

Karger

Springer (does not include BMC titles)

Wiley

SAGE

Taylor & Francis/Routledge

Oxford University Press

Cambridge University Press

- The publisher should automatically note the affiliation of the **corresponding author** and if they are eligible for a read and publish deal, but if there is an option to mention it then you may as well.
- Contact repository@napier.ac.uk for specific information on deals

Journal Metrics

Web of Science

- Journal Citation Reports (JCR) for journal metrics, this includes the Journal Impact Factor (JIR).
- Please see [Clarivate's JCR Reference Guide](#) for further information, as well as [their YouTube video on JIR](#).
- Author profiles for author metrics, including the h-index.

Scopus (and SCival)

- Whilst we do not have an institutional subscription to Scopus, [SCImago Journal Rank](#) provides journal citation measures based on Scopus data that you can check.
- You can also [look up an author in Scopus](#) without a subscription, and can log in to verify a personal author profile and import missing records.

Elsevier (ScienceDirect)

- Since 2010 Elsevier titles have used Scopus data to give a [CiteScore metric](#).
- Also show JIR where one exists.
- For titles without these metrics other metrics are provided, such as total citations and downloads.

Other Metrics

Altmetrics

- Uses Social Media and other tools to capture engagement with individual research papers outside of academic citations.
- Can be combined with other metrics, e.g., article citations scores, to produce a wider picture of the 'reach' of a paper.

DORA

- The San Francisco [Declaration on Research Assessment](#) (DORA)
- Edinburgh Napier is a signatory: journal-level metrics such as Journal Impact Factor should not be used in hiring or promotion decisions, or in the REF submission.
- Journal metrics may indicate which journals are considered important in the field, and show where some highly cited work is published, but we need to be critical of them as well.

Responsible Metrics

Problems with journal-level metrics

- A poor proxy for quality, when considering individual articles. Research should be assessed on its own merits.
 - Masks variation in quality and usage within a journal - a few very highly cited articles can skew the average impact factor for an overall journal.
 - So you can't assume that all research published in a high impact factor journal is high quality.
 - Individual article and author metrics can be easily skewed by self-citing and other practices.
-
- Altmetrics and journal citation factors can be 'gamed', for example, through self-citation and buying 'likes' on social media.
 - Avoid overreliance on single indicators to measure impact.
 - Use a diverse range of metrics to supplement other methods of measuring impact, e.g., case studies, narrative CVs, evidence-based practice.

Reference List

Campaign to Investigate the Academic Ebook Market. (2021). *Can students read my books? : Guidance for academics on negotiating contracts with publishers.*
<https://academicebookinvestigation.org/2021/05/20/can-my-students-read-my-books-guidance-for-academics-on-negotiating-contracts-with-publishers/>

Ebooks@Cambridge. (2021). *Cambridge Colleges Libraries Forum ebooks survey July 2021.*
<https://ebookscambridge.wordpress.com/2021/09/15/cambridge-colleges-libraries-forum-ebooks-survey-july-2021/>

Edinburgh Napier University. (2022). *Open Access @ Edinburgh Napier.*
<https://blogs.napier.ac.uk/open-access/>

Jisc. (2021). *Briefing for academic staff: Cost, affordability and availability of core reading materials.* <https://repository.jisc.ac.uk/8512/1/cost-affordability-and-availability-of-core-reading-materials-academic-staff-briefing.pdf>

Reference List

NHS Health Education England. (2021). *The issue of ebooks*.

<https://library.hee.nhs.uk/resources/content-and-usage/ebooks/ebook-call-for-action>

Open Access Publishing in European Networks. (2022). *OA Books Toolkit*. <https://oabooks-toolkit.org/>

PLOS. (n.d.). *Benefits of open*. <https://plos.org/open-science/why-open-access/>

Springer Nature. (2022). *Benefits of open research*.

<https://www.springernature.com/gp/open-research/about/benefits>

Think.Check.Submit. (2022). *Home*. <https://thinkchecksubmit.org/>