

OPEN ACCESS AND REF 2029

An Overview of the March 2024
Research England Consultation for
University of Warwick Researchers

18 March 2024 – Yvonne Budden, Library



Open Research

Open Access in General

REF 2021 Requirements

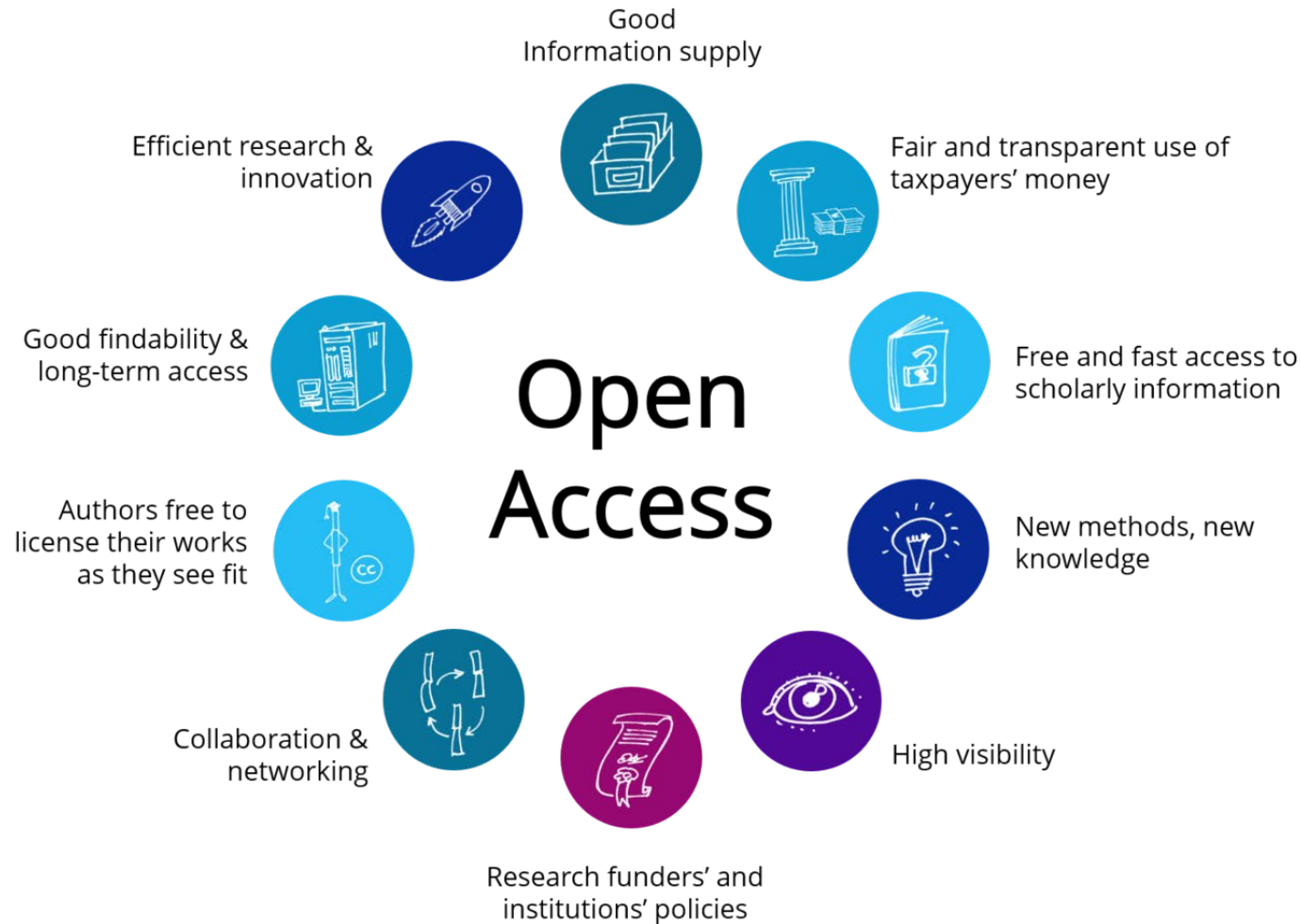
REF 2029 Proposed Requirements

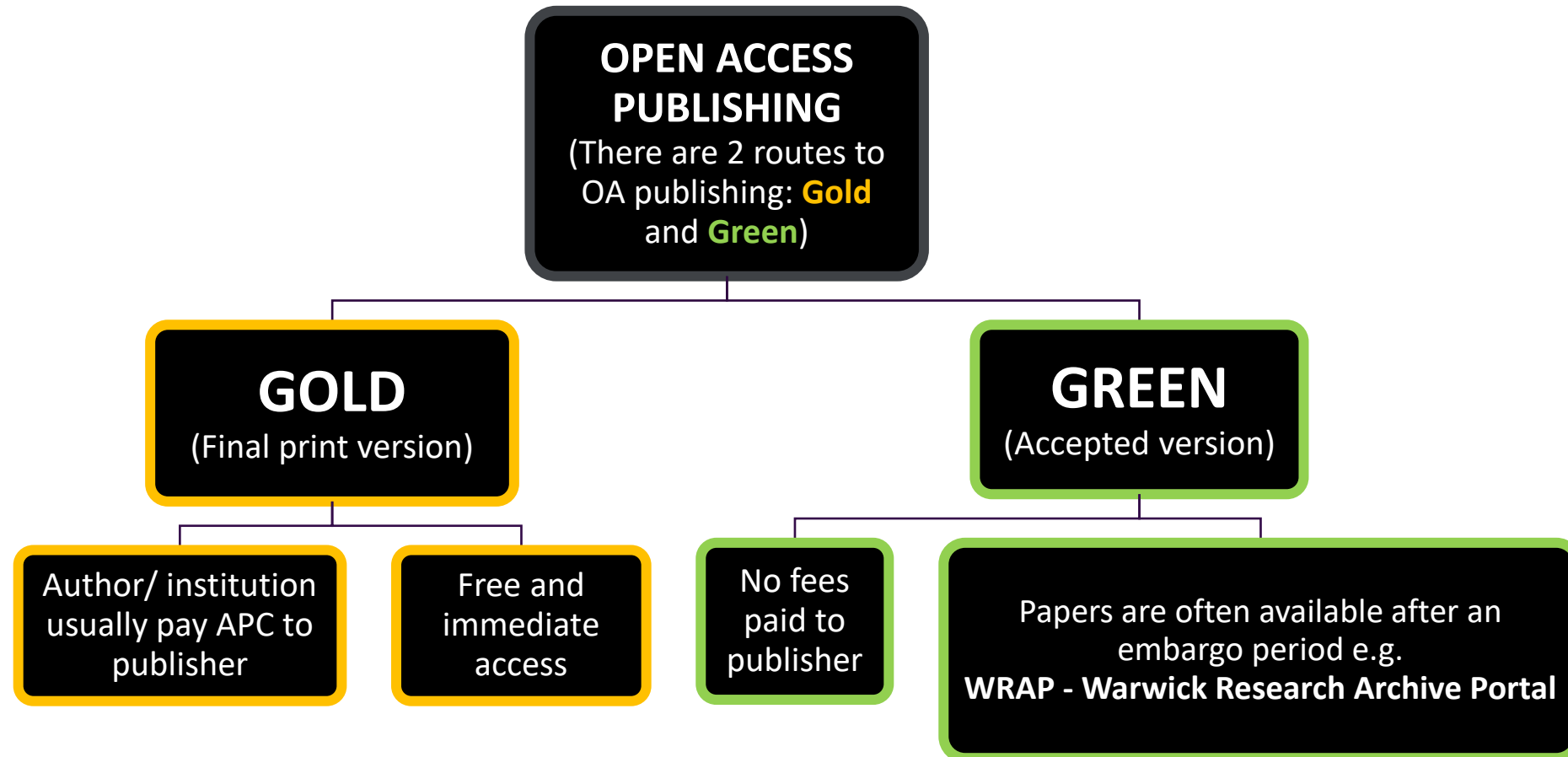
Where to find Help



OPEN ACCESS

Open Access - Benefits





UKRI Policy – 1 January 2024

- Original research articles and conference papers submitted on or after **1 April 2022**
- Two main routes to compliance:
 - **Gold** - final version on publisher's website
 - **Green** - accepted version in a repository
- Both routes require:
 - 0-month embargoes
 - CC-BY licence
 - Statement about the access of the underlying data for every article.

UKRI Policy – 1 January 2024

- Long-form publications under contract on or after **1 January 2024**
- Must be:
 - Open Access within 12 months of publication
 - Version of Record or Author's Accepted Manuscript
 - Under a Creative Commons licence
- Funding is available up to specific caps set by UKRI
- Includes:
 - Books, Book chapters, edited collections
- Exemptions:
 - Trade books, creative writing, and publications arising from Training Grants.
 - Also, where the best publisher doesn't facilitate OA and/or the inclusion of third-party copyright prevents it

REF 2021

Research
Excellence
Framework

REF 2021

REF Open Access Policy

- Same as it has been since 2018
- *Deposit your **accepted versions** to [WRAP](#) within **three months of the date of acceptance** – journals and conference papers*
- This policy will remain in place until the new policy is agreed and activated

*The policy applies to **journals and conference papers** only.*



REF 2029

REF 2029 – Journals and Conference Papers Proposal

- Deposited to [WRAP](#) within one month of the date of publication
- Where not published immediately open access, outputs should be available to read, download and search:
 - **6 months** after the date of publication (Main Panels A and B)
 - **12 months** after the date of publication (Main Panels C and D)
- Be the ‘Version of Record’ or ‘Author’s Accepted Manuscript’
- Available via journal website, repository or appropriate publishing platform
- With a preferred CC-BY (Creative Commons Attribution) licence or equivalent.

Proposed start of this policy 1 January 2025
Applies to journal articles and conference proceedings published in journals

REF 2029 – Journals and Conference Papers Proposal

Exceptions to the policy:

- Third-party content was included in the article, and an open access licence could not be agreed
 - Outputs were authored in whole by one or more **non-volume contributing staff** before implementation of the open access policy
 - Criteria beyond the control of the HEI (such as author's circumstances, industrial action, closure days and software issues)
 - Output has a demonstrable and substantive connection to the submitting institution but was published following the end of the author's period of employment, and it has not been possible to determine compliance with the criteria.
- It would be unlawful to deposit, or request the deposit of, the output or to otherwise make this available.
 - The publication concerned requires an embargo period that exceeds the stated maxima and was the most appropriate publication for the output.
 - The existing 'non-compliance' tolerance of 5% per Unit of Acceptance will remain

REF 2029 – Long form publications Proposal

Outputs would need to be:

- immediately published open access (version of record), or,
- The author's accepted manuscript (AAM) made available no later than 24 months after the date of publication
- Fully discoverable, downloadable and searchable
- No deposit requirement – unless open access is via WRAP/AAM, then deposit must be within one month of publication
- Research England encourages using the [CC-BY](#) licence but will also accept the more restrictive [CC-BY-NC-ND](#) licence.



Proposed start of this policy 1 January 2026

*Will apply to **Books, Edited Books, Book Chapters and Scholarly Editions***

REF 2029 – Long form Publications Proposal

Exceptions to the policy:

- Where the only appropriate publisher, after liaison and consideration, is unable to offer an open access option that complies with the REF policy.
- Reuse permissions for third-party materials cannot be obtained and there is no suitable alternative option available to enable open access publication.
- Outputs published before 1 January 2026.
- Outputs for which publication agreements were put in place before 1 January 2026.
- Output has a demonstrable and substantive connection to the submitting institution but was published following the end of the author's period of employment, and it has not been possible to determine compliance with the criteria.
- It would be unlawful to deposit, or request the deposit of, the output or to otherwise make this available.
- The publication concerned requires an embargo period that exceeds the stated maxima and was the most appropriate publication venue for the output
- A 'non-compliance' tolerance of 10% per Unit of Assessment will be allowed

REF 2029 – Consultation

- Warwick will be submitting an institutional response to the consultation
- All departments will be invited to contribute to the consultation
- Submissions to our [Webform](#)
- Draft will be reviewed, before submission, by:
 - Faculty Boards
 - Research Committee
- Deadline for contributions **26 April 2026**
- More details on the consultation will follow as soon as possible

Full consultation deadline 17 June 2024

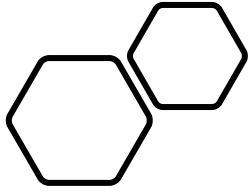
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ORGANISATION IN THE WORLD

HELP!



WHERE TO FIND HELP...



SciFree Journal Finder

- Tool to allow authors to find journals included in 'Read and Publish' agreements.
- [Search for your journal](#), and if it is included in an agreement, it will appear with details of the deal.
- Journals **not** included in a deal will not appear
- Contact openaccessfund@warwick.ac.uk if you can't find your journal and we can help!

The screenshot displays the SciFree Journal Finder interface. At the top, the Warwick University logo is visible. The main heading is "Search for the Journals included in open access agreements". A search bar contains the text "Political Studies". To the right, a grey box contains the following text: "These deals apply to all University of Warwick corresponding authors" followed by four bullet points: "Please use your @warwick.ac.uk email address when submitting", "If the publisher asks you what licence to use, please select CC-BY", "If your publisher offers discounted/no APCs, apply to use APC funding", and "If you need any support, please email us openaccessfund@warwick.ac.uk". Below the search bar, a large magnifying glass icon is centered with the text "Search for Journals in our Open Access Agreements".

Below the search bar, the search results are displayed for "Political Studies" (8 / 8 results). The results are shown in a table with the following columns: Journals, Who pays, License Option, and Publishing Model. The results are as follows:

Journals	Who pays	License Option	Publishing Model
Political Studies SAGE	Included	CC BY	Hybrid
Political Studies Review SAGE	Included	CC BY	Hybrid
Studies in Political Economy Taylor & Francis	Included	CC BY	Hybrid

Where to find help?

- [Library Researcher Support website](#)
- [SciFree Journal Finder](#)



Contact us:

- Open Access Support - openaccessfund@warwick.ac.uk
- Research Support - scholarlycomms@warwick.ac.uk