Usage Guidelines

Please refer to usage guidelines at http://researchonline.lshtm.ac.uk/policies.html or alternatively contact researchonline@lshtm.ac.uk.

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LSHTM supports open access

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• To promote the School's research. Our repository, LSHTM Research Online, showcases the wide variety of research undertaken in the School
• To meet funders’ OA policies. To ensure a good return on their investment in research, all major funders strongly support open access. HEFCE also mandates OA for all research articles in the next REF (Research Excellence Framework) in 2021

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• Gold open access refers to paying a publisher's open access fee to make the article OA upon publication via the journal website. Fees are usually covered by funders' grants

Green open access

• Green OA makes use of publishers' re-use policies. Most publishers allow deposit of the ‘accepted manuscript’ (i.e. final draft after peer review but before typesetting) in a repository
• An embargo period may apply (often 6-12 months), during which the article is locked for download until after that period expires. Journal policies can be checked on http://sherpa.ac.uk/romeo
• The important thing is that the article is made open eventually – OA articles receive more downloads than those only available via subscription

Gold open access

• An advantage of paying for gold OA is that articles are openly available upon publication
• Articles are also published under a Creative Commons copyright license, which lets that article be freely shared, along with other re-uses defined by the particular license applied
• Subscription journals usually offer gold open access (these are called hybrid journals), and there are a growing range of fully open access journals, which tend to have lower fees (e.g. see publishers such as PLoS, BioMed Central, Frontiers, PeerJ and F1000)
• Some fully open access journals are free to publish in (e.g. Wellcome Open Research, Gates Open Research, and many listed on DOAJ.org)
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- **REF 2021**: to be REF eligible, accepted manuscripts (final drafts) should be deposited in Research Online within **3 months of acceptance**, unless gold open access is paid for
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- Some eligibility criteria apply to these funds. These include: the publication should be a research article or unsolicited review, and the grant should be held by the School; for RCUK funded papers, applications will only be accepted for **fully open access** journals, to a limit of £2500 per article (**n.b. RCUK funding is now unavailable until April 2019**)
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Key contacts

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