Updated policy on Open Access

Purpose
The policy is needed to ensure compliance with REF requirements and those of research funders, and improve the impact of the University’s research outputs.

Overview
Coventry University’s Research Strategy – Excellence with Impact emphasizes the importance of increased impact, esteem and recognition of our research globally. It supports the development of a vibrant research culture, rewarded in assessments such as the Research Excellence Framework (REF). Making the outputs of our research freely accessible ensures that the potential for economic, social and cultural impact can be maximised.

The major research funders in the UK and internationally encourage or require outputs to be made openly available as a condition of funding. In complying with funder requirements, Coventry University favours open access by means of the Green Route (depositing texts without charge in a central, subject or institutional repository such as CURVE). This enables the author to publish for free in any journal and to self-archive a version of the article for free public use. This approach ensures cost effective dissemination and compliance with both funder and HEFCE requirements, although it is accepted that embargo periods may apply.

The University also recognises that there are additional benefits of the Gold route to open access (that is, publishing in an open access journal that may charge an article processing charge (APC). Where specific funding is available, or where funders require it, this will be used to fund APC charges incurred via the gold open access route to ensure outputs are open access immediately upon publication.

Scope
All staff and students of Coventry University.

The Policy

The Coventry University Open Access Policy requires that from the 1st August 2015:

1. Authors record bibliographic details of all research outputs in the University Repository PURE, within three months after the date of acceptance for publication.

   Authors additionally must deposit full text copies of research outputs, i.e. final accepted peer-reviewed journal articles and conference papers (and where appropriate monographs) in the institutional repository no later than three months after the date of acceptance for publication.

   Authors must deposit all other types of research output where copyright allows; subject to the conditions of any research contracts with third parties, commercial sensitivities and discipline-specific conventions.
2. Where publisher’s copyright permissions allow and there is no confidentiality or commercial constraints, the research outputs in the institutional repository must be made available open access, i.e. freely available over the internet.

3. Authors must comply with funders’ policies relating to open access and research data management, and acknowledge the source of grant funding associated with a research output within the publication itself. Information about the grant must also be included when the output is deposited in PURE.

4. When publishing any research outputs, the University requires authors to use the standardised institutional affiliation "Coventry University" to ensure clear affiliation with the University.

5. It is strongly recommended that authors register for an individual ORCiD \(^1\) identifier and include this on personal webpages, when submitting publications, and when applying for grants to ensure the individual is credited for their work and the correct institutional affiliation is achieved.

6. This policy will regularly be reviewed to ensure that we can respond to government and research funder policy changes as required, and meet the evolving needs of both researchers and the University.

**Rationale and benefits for the policy**

This policy has been developed to ensure that the requirements of research funders to make research outputs available freely over the internet are met, and to ensure that publications are eligible for submission to the post-2014 REF.

The deposit of research outputs in the institutional repository will ensure their long term preservation and storage. Outputs deposited in the institutional repository will be discoverable via Google Scholar and other search engines, increasing visibility, increasing likelihood of citation, and raising the profile of Coventry University Research.

Open access facilitates broader knowledge transfer and open science. It ensures that non-academic organisations such as small and medium-sized enterprises and charities who have limited access to journal outputs are able to freely access published research via the internet.

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\(^1\) ORCID – Persistent digital identifier for researchers
https://orcid.org/register
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<td><strong>Date of commencement</strong></td>
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