What are the benefits of open access to researchers?

**Enhanced visibility**
Both within the global academic community and outside.

**Increased citations**
Citation potential boosted through wider readership.

**Innovation drive**
Widening access to cutting-edge knowledge catalyst for more innovation.

**Tax-payers value for money**
Publicly-funded research outputs available to everybody.

**Global impact**
Potential for international collaboration maximised.

Open Access Help & Advice
Contact the Open Access team and we will do our best to assist you.

> Key areas - Green Open Access and DRO:
Repository manager: Heather Ewington
Repository assistant: Elena Carlow

- 0191 334 1586
- dro.admin@durham.ac.uk

> Key areas - Gold Open Access and Research Councils’ Open Access block grant (administered by UKRI):
Publications officer: Sarah Hyland

- 0191 334 1586
- openaccess.publishing@durham.ac.uk

For any query or doubt concerning the best approach to disseminate your research, please contact your Academic Liaison Librarian for Research Support:

James Bisset
- 0191 334 1589
- james.bisset@durham.ac.uk

There are two routes to making your published research open access:

**Green Open Access**
Your research output is published in the traditional manner, and you deposit the Author Accepted Manuscript (AAM) in an Open Access repository. The deposited version will be made publicly accessible, usually following an embargo set by the publisher.

**Gold Open Access**
The final published Version of Record (VoR) of your output is made free to access from the publisher’s or journal’s website immediately from the date of publication. This usually, but not always, requires payment of an Article Processing Charge (APC) to the publisher.

In line with the Higher Education and Research Act 2017, as of the 1st April 2018 UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) has brought together what was RCUK and the research and knowledge exchange functions of HEFCE under a single organisation. This might impact on terminology as below:

- The RCUK OA Block Grant will be officially referred to as the Research Councils’ open access block grant, administered by UKRI.
- The RCUK Policy on Open Access, however, will continue to be referred to using the same title.

HEFCE’s responsibilities for research and knowledge exchange (including the REF and the Open Access policy for the REF) have been taken on by Research England.

Although RCUK no longer exists as a separate entity, the 7 individual Research Councils continue to operate under the new UKRI organisation.
What is Durham Research Online (DRO)?
Durham Research Online (DRO) is this University’s Open Access institutional repository accessible on the web. DRO contains records about some of Durham’s published research outputs and a version of the full text if copyright agreements permit.

The main purpose of DRO is to help enhance access to our research and which might lead to:
- Collaboration opportunities within and outside of academia.
- Opportunities to generate measurable research impact on new audiences.
- More citations.

Open Access policies
Depositing your papers in DRO also enables you to comply with key Open Access policies:
- Durham University
- Research Excellence Framework (REF)
- Research funders (e.g. UK Research and Innovation - including the 7 UK Research Councils, Research England and Innovate UK; Wellcome, etc.)

Links to each of the above policies are available on the DRO website. We strongly advise you to check the requirements to ensure you are fully compliant, but the main similarities and differences are as follows:

Policy similarities
Durham University, REF and RCUK Open Access policies all focus on:
- Peer-reviewed journal articles and published conference papers.
- Require deposit of the Author Accepted Manuscript (AAM) (see diagram below) in an Open Access repository within three months from acceptance.

Policy differences
The key difference is when policies start and that determines which journal articles/conference papers are within the policy’s scope.

Another important difference relates to embargo periods, times when access to a deposited manuscript is closed-off as required by the publisher. Regardless of the maximum embargo periods stipulated by their policies above, the embargo lengths set by the publishers will always take precedence.

How do I deposit in DRO?
1. EITHER: Create a record in the Staff Profile system about your publication and then upload and attach your Author Accepted Manuscript. Please also add the date when your paper was accepted for publication to the Profile record. For instructions about how to create a Profile record, please check: durham.ac.uk/resources/library/dro_depositguide.pdf
2. OR: Email your Author Accepted Manuscript to: dro.admin@durham.ac.uk
   Please include in your email the journal/proceedings title, publisher name and date of acceptance. The DRO Team will deposit your manuscript and apply any embargo required by the publisher.
3. If your Department provides this service, please send your Author Accepted Manuscript together with details of your publication to your Research Administrator, who will create a Staff Profile record for you and attach your manuscript. The record and file will then be queued for processing by the DRO Team.

What is the Author Accepted Manuscript?
This is the version which was accepted for publication by the journal, and which includes changes based on the peer reviewers’ or referees’ suggestions, but before copyediting, typesetting and proof corrections.

Research England’s diagram below indicates the Author Accepted Manuscript’s position in the publication process.