

REF2029

Elements REF Steering Group

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Welcome!

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Carly Lightfoot	City St George's, University of London
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Keith Fildes	Sheffield Hallam University
Alison McAnena	UCL
Adam Cresswell	UCL
Emma Byrne	University of Cambridge
Phineas Wenlock	University of Essex

Cathleen Cortis Mack	University of Essex
Lucy Davies	University of Exeter
Nicola Barnett	University of Leeds
Claire Bridge	University of Leeds
Elizabeth Garcha	University of Leeds
Lydia Wallman	University of Leicester
Jenny Molloy	University of Liverpool
Kevin Pogorzelski	University of Liverpool
Dave Jones	University of Sheffield
Samuel Nesbit	University of Sussex
Jen Whitehead	University of Sussex
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Yvonne Budden	University of Warwick
Joanne Mills	University of Wolverhampton
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Agenda

- What do we know so far and what are the potential implications
 - REF1 Researchers
 - CKU scenario planning
 - Elements REF development priorities / focus
- REF OA policy support
- Output & activity review module
- REF-relevant Elements roadmap plans
- Steering group going forward

What do we know so far?

- REF1 Researchers
 - No 'REF1 Researcher' submission element
 - Capture FTE on the UoA (as per HESA returns and stated averaging calculation)
 - Enable calculation of required number of research outputs to be submitted
 - But in order to report on the distribution of submitted outputs by author, will continue to need staff, and their UoA assignment(s), in the REF module
 - Had considered expanding the Elements User datamodel to include a field for Unit of Assessment, but the policy changed such that any one individual can be assigned multiple UoAs (per contract, not per individual), so this is no longer feasible

What do we know so far?

- CKU Research Outputs
 - Potential de-coupling of staff and outputs
 - But considering reintroducing maximum output limits per individual staff member
 - “create a list of outputs with staff against them, rather than a list of staff with outputs”
 - Staff in the submitting Unit?
 - How to demonstrate attribution to the submitting Unit?
 - Still very much in the air which way this could go?
 - Inclusion of outputs produced by staff on non-academic contracts (e.g. technicians)
 - Will they have a UoA assignment in HESA return?

CKU scenario planning

- Full de-coupling
 - How do you envision populating UoAs with research outputs?
 - Bulk upload?
 - Populate UoAs with users and automatically bring in all in-scope outputs?
 - With ability to add additional outputs on an ad hoc basis?
 - And functions to indicate status (eligible, submitted, not submitted)
 - Still expect to need to be able to report on the 'representativeness' of submitted outputs, so links to users still important (at least via reporting)
 - How would you envision this being supported in Elements?
- Some form of user link (e.g. min / max attribution)
 - What might this look like?

Elements REF development priorities / focus

- Overall, does it feel appropriate for Elements REF functionality to continue to focus specifically on:
 - **Unit of Assessment** entity
 - FTE, reduction, multiple submissions, research groups
 - **Research output** entity
 - Including all data requirements (e.g. additional information, interdisciplinary flag, OA status, etc.)
 - **Management screens** and **reporting**
 - **Submission XML** generation
- Don't expand to include **People, Culture and Environment** and **Engagement and Impact** submission elements?
 - What value can we usefully deliver here?
 - May depend how this submission element is to be returned

REF OA policy

New OA Monitor functionality supports all compliance criteria.

In order to accurately monitor compliance with the 'full' REF policy, you'll need to create two separate OA schemes (possibly 4, depending on how you want to manage embargo period maxima)

- REF2021 criteria
- REF2029 criteria

SYMPLECTIC Elements

OA schemes > REF2029 OA Policy

Manage publications in REF2029 OA Policy

8 publications

1 - 8 of 8 items Results per page: 10

Sort by: Title (A to Z) Focus on: OA summary

0 Selected

A fractional order SIR model describing hesitancy to the COVID-19 vaccination
Journal article • Applied Numerical Mathematics • 2025 • DOI: [link]
Caetano C, Morgado L, Lima P, Hens N, Nunes B

OA summary	Compliance	Exceptions	OA comment	Dates	Funder	Repository
OA compliance status	Not compliant					
Repository status	Not deposited			Due in 22 days		
OA comment status	-					
Exceptions	-					
Open Access status	Hybrid OA					
OA for DOAJ	No					
Publication status	Published					

Bayesian Nowcasting with Laplacian-P-Splines
Journal article • Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics • 2024 • DOI: [link]



REF OA policy

Exceptions

Confirm - are these new to REF2029?

- 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
- Output was authored in whole by one or more staff who are or were ineligible to be included in the volume measure for REF2029

Outstanding question with REF team

- "The publication actively disallows OA deposit in a repository" is an Access exception in REF2021, but a Deposit exception in REF2029 - that could present some complexity

SYMPLECTIC Elements

OA schemes > REF2029 OA Policy

Manage publications in REF2029 OA Policy

1 publication

1 - 1 of 1 item Results per page: 10

Sort by: Title (A to Z) Focus on: OA summary

0 Selected

Community antibiotic consumption in the European Union/European economic area: late-pandemic seasonality analysis
Journal article • Archives of Public Health • 2024 • DOI [DOI](#)
Vermeulen H, Catry B, Catteau L, [Hens N](#)

OA summary	Compliance	Exceptions	OA comment	Dates	Funder	Repository
OA compliance status	Compliant					
Repository status	Not deposited					
OA comment status	-					
Exceptions	-					
Open Access status	Gold OA					
OA for DOAJ	Yes					
Publication status	Published					



Output & Activity review

Through the Assessment Module, Elements offers a user-centric review and approval workflow tool which allows organisations to design evaluation exercises where researchers create and submit packages of their work for review and/or approval.

Based on community feedback and the expected requirements for REF2029, we are looking to extend our review and approval functionality to introduce the ability to have an object-centric review and approval workflow. This new functionality will allow individual outputs or activities to be nominated (either manually or automatically based on a set of business rules) and assessed using both automated checks and a review and approval workflow.

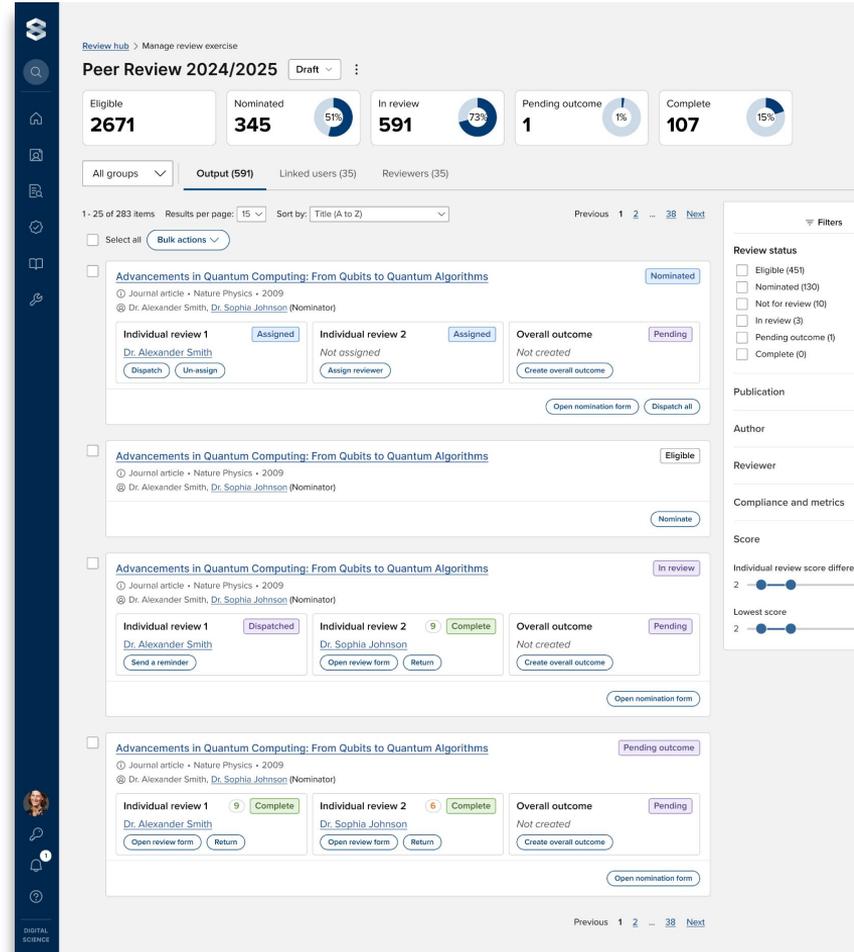
This new functionality will be delivered as a distinct module* and will allow year-round assessment of publications and other activities for inclusion in future REF returns and other assessment / evaluation exercises.



Output & Activity review

What's planned for the initial phase of release?

- Peer review of publications
- Exercise-level config options
 - Static list of users + structure, with manual updates
 - Publication types + dates
 - Nomination form
 - Review form
 - Overall outcome form
 - Scoreset(s)
- Limited configuration options at the grouping-level
 - Nomination / review windows
 - Grouping manager(s)
 - Reviewer pool per grouping
- Bulk import of existing reviews
- Limited visibility options (more restrictive in the first instance)



Review hub > Manage review exercise

Peer Review 2024/2025 Draft

Eligible 2671	Nominated 345 51%	In review 591 73%	Pending outcome 1 1%	Complete 107 15%
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All groups ▼ **Output (591)** Linked users (35) Reviewers (35)

1 - 25 of 283 items Results per page: 15 Sort by: Title (A to Z) Previous 1 2 ... 38 Next

Select all Bulk actions

Advancements in Quantum Computing: From Qubits to Quantum Algorithms Nominated

Journal article • Nature Physics • 2009
 Dr. Alexander Smith, Dr. Sophia Johnson (Nominator)

Individual review 1 Dr. Alexander Smith Assigned Dispatch Un-assign	Individual review 2 Not assigned Assigned Assign reviewer	Overall outcome Not created Pending Create overall outcome
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Open nomination form Dispatch all

Advancements in Quantum Computing: From Qubits to Quantum Algorithms Eligible

Journal article • Nature Physics • 2009
 Dr. Alexander Smith, Dr. Sophia Johnson (Nominator)

Nominate

Advancements in Quantum Computing: From Qubits to Quantum Algorithms In review

Journal article • Nature Physics • 2009
 Dr. Alexander Smith, Dr. Sophia Johnson (Nominator)

Individual review 1 Dr. Alexander Smith Dispatched Send a reminder	Individual review 2 Dr. Sophia Johnson Complete Open review form Return	Overall outcome Not created Pending Create overall outcome
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Open nomination form

Advancements in Quantum Computing: From Qubits to Quantum Algorithms Pending outcome

Journal article • Nature Physics • 2009
 Dr. Alexander Smith, Dr. Sophia Johnson (Nominator)

Individual review 1 Dr. Alexander Smith Complete Open review form Return	Individual review 2 Dr. Sophia Johnson Complete Open review form Return	Overall outcome Not created Pending Create overall outcome
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Open nomination form

Review status

- Eligible (451)
- Nominated (130)
- Not for review (10)
- In review (3)
- Pending outcome (1)
- Complete (0)

Publication

Author

Reviewer

Compliance and metrics

Score

Individual review score difference
2 — ● ●

Lowest score
2 — ● ●

Previous 1 2 ... 38 Next

DIGITAL SCIENCE

Timescales

- Object review / Review Hub
 - Aiming for first phase to be released in v7.1 (June 2025) (this is very tentative at this stage - and what will be available in the first phase is still TBC)
- REF-specific development
 - CKU policy guidance expected 'spring / summer 2025'
 - v7.3 November 2025 is most realistic **earliest** release date for first phase of development
 - We are always subject to the REF team's timetable
 - There has been no mention yet of the expected timescales for the publication of data requirements, validation rules, submission xml schema

REF Steering Group + Working Group?

- 29 colleagues signed up for the Steering Group
 - Will eventually split off a smaller Working Group that will meet more frequently
- Next meeting



Questions? Thoughts?