

University of Hull strives to produce research that is of the highest quality, that offers the greatest return for our communities and that is accessible to everyone. We believe applying the principles of openness to our research – at all stages of the research life cycle – is a vital step to achieving these ambitions because it facilitates rigour, collaboration and accessibility.

As far as possible, open research seeks to make the research process transparent, be this to the individual researcher, their collaborators, other researchers or to the public. Transparency can take many forms and the feasibility and standards of openness vary depending on the research area and the approach to knowledge generation. Openness can be introduced in the research process at different stages: when a researcher conceives of a research question by publishing a plan for how they will answer it; when they ask this research question by making their analyses reproducible through the sharing of methods, materials and data; and when they answer it by disseminating their findings for free through open access routes. We balance our commitment to openness with our commitment to research ethics, security, integrity and legality, particularly the rights of our research participants. Accordingly, we subscribe to the principle of ‘as open as possible, as closed as necessary’.

We build and maintain our culture of open research through the implementation of an open research strategy that is informed by a theory of change and that is delivered by an open research working group. The theory of change combines top-down process, such as incentivising and rewarding open research practice with bottom-up processes, such as training and community-building. Both the theory of change and the open research strategy are revised every three years and approved by the University Research Committee.

Our commitment to open research is underpinned by the University Open Access statement, the Research Data Management and Sharing policy and our statements and commitment on [research integrity and governance](#), [Statement on the use of metrics in the assessment of research](#), [Strategy 2030](#) and the University’s [research strategy](#) as well as policy statements by external organisations:

UKRI (UK Research and Innovation)

[Concordat on Open Research Data](#)

[Concordat to Support Research Integrity](#)

[Open Access Policy](#)

UKRN (UK Reproducibility Network)

[Statement on Transparency in Research](#)

More information about open research at University of Hull can be found on our [libguides](#) pages or by contacting the institutional lead for open research, Prof Iain Brennan:

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