

Collaborative library storage for the UK HE sector

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What I am going to cover

- Space crisis in UK research libraries
- Options
- Preferred option
- The vision
- Achieving the vision
- Timetable
- Phase 1
- Proposed business model
- Any questions?

Space crisis in UK research libraries

Report by CHEMS consulting in 2005 found:

- Growth of print collections
- Shortfall of 450 kilometres of shelving by 2015
- Space pressures high priority for 90% of CURL libraries
- Competition for university resources
- Major capital investment on campus required
- CURL libraries manage some 13,000 print subscriptions each
- Duplication of holdings

Options

- 1) The status quo
- 2) Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) rent space together (regional)
- 3) HEIs manage space collaboratively
- 4) HEIs manage collections collaboratively
- 5) A “National Reserve” based on BL collections: “the UK research reserve”

Preferred option: UK Research Reserve

- Most cost effective solution
- Infrastructure already exists
- BL collections form the core
- BL becomes the 'last copy' print repository for retention & access
- Over 80% BL/CURL overlap (journals)
- Other libraries can add material not held by BL
- 'In perpetuity' guarantee
- Extension & formalisation of current informal activity

UK Research Reserve: the vision

- National solution
- Permanent retention in appropriate, cost-effective storage
- Start with serials: focus on low use
- Books may be considered later
- Efficient (wider!) & cost-effective access (just-in-time)
- De-duplication - and disposal - of low-use print in HE libraries
- Extension of BL's existing research infrastructure role + possibility of developing new services
- Re-modelling of the way HE views the BL
- 'Compensation' from HE to BL based on business case
- Open to all who wish to participate

Next steps: achieving the vision

- Dealing with the politics: involving key stakeholders
- Consulting / informing the HE community
- Scope of the reserve collection
- Number of copies to be retained and where
- Access arrangements (SLA)
- Governance arrangements
- BL business model
- Possible savings to HE (£100m in 10 years)
- Developing the case for funding
- Phase 1 to inform the vision

Timetable

- Successful outcome of bid to the Higher Education Funding Councils for Phase 1 announced end October 2006
- Phase 1 began officially on 2 January 2007 overseen by Advisory Board
- 18 month project to end June 2008
- Phase 2 bid submitted before end of Phase 1

UK Research Reserve: Phase 1

- Involvement of six 'early adopting' HEIs
- Low use journals in all disciplines
- HEIs set criteria for selecting for de-duplication
- 17.3 km of stock considered for disposal
- BL takes in, processes and stores "last copies" of journals
- BL provides delivery service to agreed service level
- Advocacy and dissemination strategies developed

By the end of Phase 1

- Viability of 'UK research reserve' demonstrated
- Prototype collection and services developed and tested

Proposed business model

- From transaction- to subscription-based model
- Subscription to cover cost of storing transferred HE material: currently 40% of overall doc supply costs
- Charges for access to be banded according to amount of business generated by HEI
- Document supply costs for HEI should not exceed current costs – for equivalent business
- If business increases, HEI to move into a higher band
- Private sector and non-subscribers to pay premium price

ANY QUESTIONS?

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