UK RESEARCH RESERVE (UKRR)

An overview of the UKRR project and its transition to ‘business as usual’

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Andy and his teams responsible areas:

- Document Delivery and ILL,
- UKRR
- Reading Room delivery,
- Imaging and Digitization,
- Partnerships and Licensing,
- Customer Services,
- Public Lending Right.
THE BRITISH LIBRARY - LOCATIONS

Boston Spa, Leeds (North)
75% storage
Document Delivery and ILL
Back office (HR, Finance, IT etc)

St Pancras, London (South)
11 Reading Rooms
Galleries and exhibitions
Learning, Conferences and Retail

www.bl.uk
Custodianship
We build, curate and preserve the UK’s national collection of published, written and digital content

Research
We support and stimulate research of all kinds

Business
We help businesses to innovate and grow

Culture
We engage everyone with memorable cultural experiences

Learning
We inspire young people and learners of all ages

International
We work with partners around the world to advance knowledge and mutual understanding

www.bl.uk
THE BRITISH LIBRARY AT BOSTON SPA

• 572 linear km of physical storage for the national collection, which grows at a rate of 8km a year

• Cutting edge digitisation, preservation, digital storage, print on demand services

• Reading Room providing access for researchers to content not available off-site

• Around 600 staff, working with the collection and also across Finance, Technology and People functions

• The home of ‘UKRR’
Additional Storage Building opens with the equivalent of 262 linear km of shelf space.

National Newspaper Building. It holds the equivalent of 33 kilometres of newspapers, totalling some 60 million issues.
NEW STORAGE BUILDING (2025)
UKRR – what is it?

Save space – UKRR allows libraries to de-duplicate print journals and save space.

Preserve – UKRR ensure that two copies of a journal issue are always retained.

Access – UKRR supports access to journals for any researcher via the Document Supply Service.

Collaboration – UKRR builds on the partnership between the British Library and UK-HE.

Enhances the national collection – UKRR fills gaps from de-duplicated content.
UKRR – three project phases.

2007

PHASE 1
9 Members

2008

PHASE 2
29 Members

2017

UKRR Board Approval

PHASE 3
+6 New Members

2019

A sustainable service delivered by the British Library, open to anyone.

Metres of content de-duplicated

11km

95km

128km

Financial Savings

£0.3m pa opex
£3.8m capex

£2.18 m pa opex
£22.7m capex

£0.25 m pa opex
£2.55m capex
4 x COMPONENTS.

1. A central service operation.

2. A system that manages and records checks undertaken and results. Record benefits.

3. An agreement that underpins a “community” approach to preservation.

4. A central database that records holdings/retention.
IN SUMMARY – a community model.

The British Library

Access – Document Supply

UKRR service

Preservation – National Collection

Access by anyone

Principal Libraries commit to retain rare copies (+1)

Contributing Libraries submit lists for de-duplication

www.bl.uk
THE COMMUNITY MODEL

DRIVERS – Government agenda, shared services and cost reduction.

DRIVERS – Technology, customer expectations, research behaviours and data.

Independent Collection Storage

Shared Collection Storage

Collaborative Collection Management

Preservation

Access

Digitisation

Preservation (Print & Digital)

Access (Collect or Connect)

Analogue
Thank you and best wishes

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