

NHS/HE Forum Joint Procurement

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Joint Procurement of Content

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Joint Procurement – A History

- ❑ The Forum has made 2 previous attempts jointly to procure content across the HE/NHS divide
 - ❑ Open Access publisher
 - ❑ Commercial publisher
- ❑ Both attempts failed
 - ❑ OA publisher could not manage the Business Model being proposed for article publication payments
 - ❑ NHS withdrew funding, preferring to undertake NHS-only deals via the National Library for Health

New developments

❑ Peter Hill's Review of NHS Library Services in England

❑ <http://www.library.nhs.uk/forlibrarians/review>

Recommendation 44:

Existing arrangements for collaboration and partnership working with Higher Education should be supported and strengthened. In particular a joint approach to procurement of both paper and e-resources should be developed (through collaboration between NLH and the NHS-HE Forum) to the benefit of both sectors and the public purse but without sacrifice in quality.

Plotting the Landscape

- ❑ Meeting of stakeholders from the 4 Home Countries took place at the JISC on 8 April 2009
- ❑ *With the exception of London and the work being undertaken by Betsy Anagnostelis and Cheryl Twomey, there was no evidence presented of joint procurement activities across the UK, though there was interest in it from Scotland, Wales (where it has been discovered that there is 75% duplication in the licensing of databases by NHS-HE) and Northern Ireland as well as England*

Plotting the Landscape

- ❑ *The activity in London has been opportunistic in nature, heavily based on personal relationships and has not attempted to develop a model. However, the work is being written up and there is some hope that a more formal model might be derived from it that could be applied in alternative settings*
- ❑ It was agreed that no single strategy was likely to be successful across NHS-HE and that different models and strategies could be attempted according to local needs and demands

Plotting the Landscape

- ❑ Following the meeting, it was agreed that all of the parties would send JISC Collections:
 - ❑ Details of the key publishers that should be approached
 - ❑ Existing timetables for procurement and licensing that need to be considered
 - ❑ Budgets that are available (and who is responsible for them)
 - ❑ Details of any guiding principles that should be adhered to and incorporated in any models
- ❑ Based on this, JISC Collections will draft a graphical representation of the existing landscape and some potential scenarios and paths to joint procurement

Key Questions

- The meeting agreed the following were Key Questions
 - What are the priorities of the organizations gathered? Are they compatible?
 - Who are the interested parties? Are there other stakeholders who should be involved?
 - How can this work be progressed in a way that is realistic and achievable?

Possible Models

- ❑ Possible models for joint procurement were considered:
 - ❑ It was suggested, for example, that the new Academic Health Science Centres could be a model group in England
 - ❑ <http://www.ournhs.nhs.uk/ahsc/>
 - ❑ SHEDL (Scottish Higher Education Digital Library) could be a possible model for Scotland
 - ❑ [http://www.slainte.org.uk/publications/serials/infoscot/vol6\(2\)/vol6\(2\)article2.htm](http://www.slainte.org.uk/publications/serials/infoscot/vol6(2)/vol6(2)article2.htm)
 - ❑ JISC could act as a neutral advisor and/or as a negotiator for content procurement
 - ❑ *The strategy should be about **really existing** procurement rather than a top-down approach that is unsustainable in the longer term and exists outside existing procurement structures*

Next Steps

- A follow-up meeting is being held on 22 June to
 - Consider documents commissioned by the April meeting
 - Gauge the commitment of the partners to take joint procurement forward
 - Identify content and funding streams which can form a pilot for the work of the Group
- Happy to hear comments and answer Questions