The Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) is committed to increasing open access to high quality scholarly research. Our Charter directs us to foster and encourage the growth and application of the chemical sciences through the dissemination of chemical knowledge.

As a Learned Society publisher, we have made significant progress in open access over the last few years.

- We publish the largest Gold open access journal in the chemical sciences, *RSC Advances*, which last year published over 4,600 articles.
- Our flagship journal, *Chemical Science*, is free to read and free to publish, with the RSC covering the article processing charges of this journal as part of its charitable aims to further the chemical sciences.
- We have developed a Read & Publish model in partnership with our customers – a recognised stepping-stone in the transition to open access.
- In 2017 over 25% of the 35,000 articles the RSC published were via a Gold open access route.
- We do not require authors to transfer copyright for any of the articles they publish with us (subscription or open access) and our Gold open access journals publish under the CC-BY license.
- This spring we launched *Nanoscale Advances*, our third fully open access journal.
- We co-own ChemRxiv, a new chemistry preprint server, along with the American Chemical Society, the German Chemical Society and other not-for-profit organisations, as another means to facilitate the rapid and open dissemination of important scientific findings. This service is provided free of charge to authors and readers.

Overall, the RSC supports many of the principles outlined in Plan S, and recognises that its implementation has the potential to create opportunities to further accelerate the move to open access. At the same time, the RSC believes that implementation needs to be pragmatic and designed to reduce rather than increase the complexity for researchers or their workloads. To this end, we provide a detailed response to this consultation in our capacity and experience as a learned society publisher.