



**How libraries and consortia can support the OA
transitions of smaller independent publishers, and**

HOW TO ENABLE SMALLER INDEPENDENT PUBLISHERS TO PARTICIPATE IN OA AGREEMENTS

An independent report by
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<https://www.informationpower.co.uk/enabling-smaller-independent-publishers-to-participate-in-oa-agreements/>

What do we mean by OA agreements?

Examples include:

- Publish & Read
- Read & Publish
- Read, Publish, Join
- Subscribe to Open
- Pure Publish

What do we mean by smaller independent publishers?

Examples include:

- Society publishers without a larger publishing partner
- University presses
- Library presses
- Independent commercial presses

Key recommendations to overcome:

- **Financial challenges**

- Funders should take steps to enable universities to aggregate all their expenditure with publishers via the library.
- Libraries and consortia ensure their open access strategy includes smaller independent publishers and that they invite them to present offers for affordable, cost-neutral open access agreements
- Publishers who closely link the price of OA agreements to article volume encouraged to think very carefully about more equitable models.

- **Scale challenges**

- ALPSP to act as a focal point for publisher input to cross-stakeholder consensus building
- Consortia should handle member opt-ins rather than smaller independent publishers

- **Data and workflow challenges**

- Cross-stakeholder task and finish groups and events to agree shared principles, a model licence, a data template, simplified minimum workflows, and mechanisms to keep these up to date
- Engagement with standards bodies as service providers to embed this consensus in practice

We recommended the creation of a cross-stakeholder coalition to drive this work forward



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Enabling smaller independent publishers to participate in Open Access transformative arrangements: a commitment from key stakeholders

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The ongoing transition of scholarly publishing to full and immediate Open Access is a process that requires all stakeholders to adapt.

Alignment amongst research funding organizations, publishers, and research performing organizations – with their research communities, their libraries and library consortia – is particularly needed to enable smaller independent publishers to transition to open access publishing models. These publishers are highly valued by the research community for their activities in promoting excellence in research, for the scholarly communication services they provide, and for the key role they play in ensuring a diverse, open scholarly publishing landscape.