

# A bright future for research libraries

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## Genesis

- *Researchers' use of academic libraries and their services* (RIN/CURL, 2007)
  - Structural changes over past decade
  - Some differences of view between researchers and librarians as to developing role of libraries
- Working Group to consider the implications of the findings for HEIs
  - Librarians, researchers, senior managers in HEIs

## Six key themes






- Content and collection development
- Cataloguing, navigation, discovery
- Skills and expertise
- Communicating research outputs
- Curation and preservation
- Sustainable resourcing

# Content and collections

- **Linking content and collections development to research strategies**
  - Open and collaborative process
  - Collaboration with other libraries
  - Special collections

# Navigation, discovery, delivery, access

## Meeting researchers' needs

-  Specialist as well as generic navigation and discovery services
-  Training
-  Cataloguing (and sharing of catalogue records)
-  Access to content held elsewhere
-  Innovative services

# Sharing skills and expertise

## ■ Better communication and engagement

- Specialist services from library and information professionals
- Skills development programmes
- Embedding information professionals in research teams
- Clear costing of specialised information services for researchers

# Communicating and evaluating research outputs

- **Optimising dissemination and impact of research**
  - Making outputs available widely and rapidly
  - Role of repositories
  - Paying publication fees
  - Intellectual property rights
  - Social networking tools and services
  - Using bibliometric and cybermetric tools

# Curation and preservation

- Ensuring that valuable resources are preserved and accessible for the (very) long term
  - Curation, conservation, preservation and disposal policies
  - Strategic and collaborative approach to print and to digital preservation
  - Collaborative approach to research data

# Resources

- Sustainable resourcing to support and enhance research performance
  - Increases in volume, range and sophistication of digital resources bring increases in costs
  - Scope for savings with print?
  - Open access initiatives bring increased costs in the short term
  - Funding for professional skills development
  - Scope for sharing of resources and expertise
  - Benchmarking against comparable institutions

## Two visions

- “We want Britain to be the best location in the world for science and innovation”  
*Science and Innovation Investment Framework 2004-2014*
- “That the UK should have the best research library support in the world.”  
*RLUK Strategic Plan 2008-2011*

**Thank you**

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