

Library Services Content Delivery Strategy 2023-2030

Responsibility for Policy:	Registrar and Chief Operating Officer
Relevant to:	All LJMU Staff, Students and Academic Partnerships
Approved by:	Academic Board, June 2023
Responsibility for Document Review:	Director of Library Services
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RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

- The British Library: Living Knowledge¹
- The British Library: Content Strategy²
- CILIP: Freedom of access to information³

RELATED POLICIES & DOCUMENTS

- [Special Collections and Archives Collection Policy](#)

¹ <https://www.bl.uk/about-us/our-vision>

² <https://www.bl.uk/about-us/governance/policies/content-strategy>

³ <https://www.cilip.org.uk/page/FreedomOfAccessToInformation>

Library Services Content Delivery Strategy 2023-2030

1. Vision

To provide access to a range of high-quality and relevant information resources in various formats that support the learning, teaching and research activities of Liverpool John Moores University.

2. Core aims

- a) To enable access to shared information resources in support of the learning, teaching and research needs of the University.
- b) To fully utilise developments in digital technologies at all stages of the selection, acquisition, storage, resource discovery and end-user delivery of content.
- c) To manage the transition from print to digital and online resources, ensuring our resources meet or exceed requirements for accessibility, inclusivity, value for money and overall effectiveness.
- d) To ensure that we purchase a diverse range of content, challenge any non-inclusive practices followed by publishers or suppliers, and promote works by authors from historically under-represented backgrounds.
- e) To support and promote social and economic engagement with the University's community, neighbours and region through a collaborative approach to collections development.
- f) To promote and pursue the principles of Open Research and Open Access in managing research and learning outputs generated by LJMU staff.

3. Strategic priorities

- a) To secure the best value for the University by cooperating with and participating in local and national strategies and consortia to increase access to content.
- b) To achieve efficiencies and economies of scale through facilitated access to shared services, collections and resources.
- c) To play a leading role in enabling the University to collect, curate and promote the content it produces.
- d) To preserve, promote, and develop the Library's unique and distinctive collections, as specified in the Library's Special Collections and Archives Policy.
- e) To promote inclusivity and equality by identifying and addressing physical, technological, social and financial barriers to full utilisation of Library resources by students and staff.

4. Key themes

4.1 Content Development

- a) We will procure access to journals in electronic form only unless they are published exclusively in print, or there is a strong academic case for print.
- b) We will acquire permanent access rights to digital back files and dispose of equivalent print as funds permit.
- c) We will purchase e-textbooks or provide access to digital copies of textbook chapters, wherever appropriate, prioritising support for resources specified in the online reading list system.

- d) We will limit the number of duplicate print copies of core textbooks where an e-textbook is available.
- e) We will manage subscriptions and access to approved online learning resource collections and platforms to support teaching, learning and research.
- f) We will proactively engage with emerging technologies in the sector, such as those for interactive online learning, immersive multimedia, digital content creation and publishing, and artificial intelligence.

4.2 Selection and Procurement

- a) Materials to support current teaching and research are selected by academic engagement librarians in consultation with academic staff, supported by evidence-based criteria and data from reading lists.
- b) Priority is given to purchasing material to support current teaching and research.
- c) Electronic and digital resources are preferred when accessibility, reliability, sustainability and value criteria are fully met.
- d) Library Services maximises its purchasing power through membership of purchasing consortia, nationally negotiated licences, and discounts negotiated by national bodies such as Jisc.
- e) Library Services will ensure it uses its funds agilely and proactively to support areas of strategic importance to the University.
- f) Donations to the Library's collections will only be accepted based on the acceptance criteria set out in the Special Collections and Archives Collection Policy.

4.3 Collection Management

- a) We will actively seek to reduce the size of the print collections during the planning period, except for our Special Collections and Archives.
- b) Material required for current teaching or research will be held on open shelves or in electronic format via the Library Services resource discovery systems.
- c) Superseded editions of textbooks will only be retained if there is a very strong academic case for making them available.
- d) All collections will be regularly reviewed by academic engagement librarians and disposed of in consultation with academic staff when no longer required.
- e) Library Services will subscribe to digital preservation services (such as Portico and LOCKSS) to secure access to e-content in perpetuity.
- f) Unique, rare or valuable material will normally be housed in Special Collections and Archives.
- g) To support LJMU's key financial and environmental aims, the Content Delivery Strategy will be financially sustainable and underpinned by ethical procurement and disposal procedures.

4.4 Scholarly communications

- a) We will maintain modern resource discovery systems to support access to primary content and to make LJMU content accessible to the world.
- b) We will support content creation or community impact activities where resources allow.

- c) We will maintain the University's institutional repositories for research publications and data.
- d) We will develop a digital preservation capability.
- e) We will support researchers in data management planning and digital preservation to ensure they meet funder requirements.
- f) We will support scholarly communications and open research developments, such as digital humanities projects and institutional open access journals.