

Managing E-resources

Everything everywhere all at once

Ruth Smalley, Edge Hill University
UKSG Introduction to E-Resources June 2024



Edge Hill University

- Based in Ormskirk in North West of England.
- Opened in 1885
- Degree awarding powers and titles of University 2006
- Very strong campus identity
- Teaching focused, but growing research identity
- Approx 13,000 students
 - c.10,000 undergraduates
 - c. 3,000 postgraduates
- Three faculties:
 - Education
 - Health (including new Medical School)
 - Arts and Sciences
- Catalyst building opened in 2018
 - Co-located services:
 - Library & Learning Services
 - Student Services
 - Careers



Ruth Smalley

Subscriptions and Licensing Manager, Edge Hill University

- Background in systems librarianship
- Worked in Public and HE libraries
- Managing e-resource subscriptions at Edge Hill University since 2019
- Particular interest in statistics and using them for strategic content management

Acronyms and other jargon

- Please download the Glossary!



Poll 1

- What is your role with e-resources?
 - Helping users access resources
 - Buying resources
 - Adding resources to the library system
 - Managing licences
 - Usage statistics
 - Other

Choose as many as apply



Internal Interactions



External Interactions

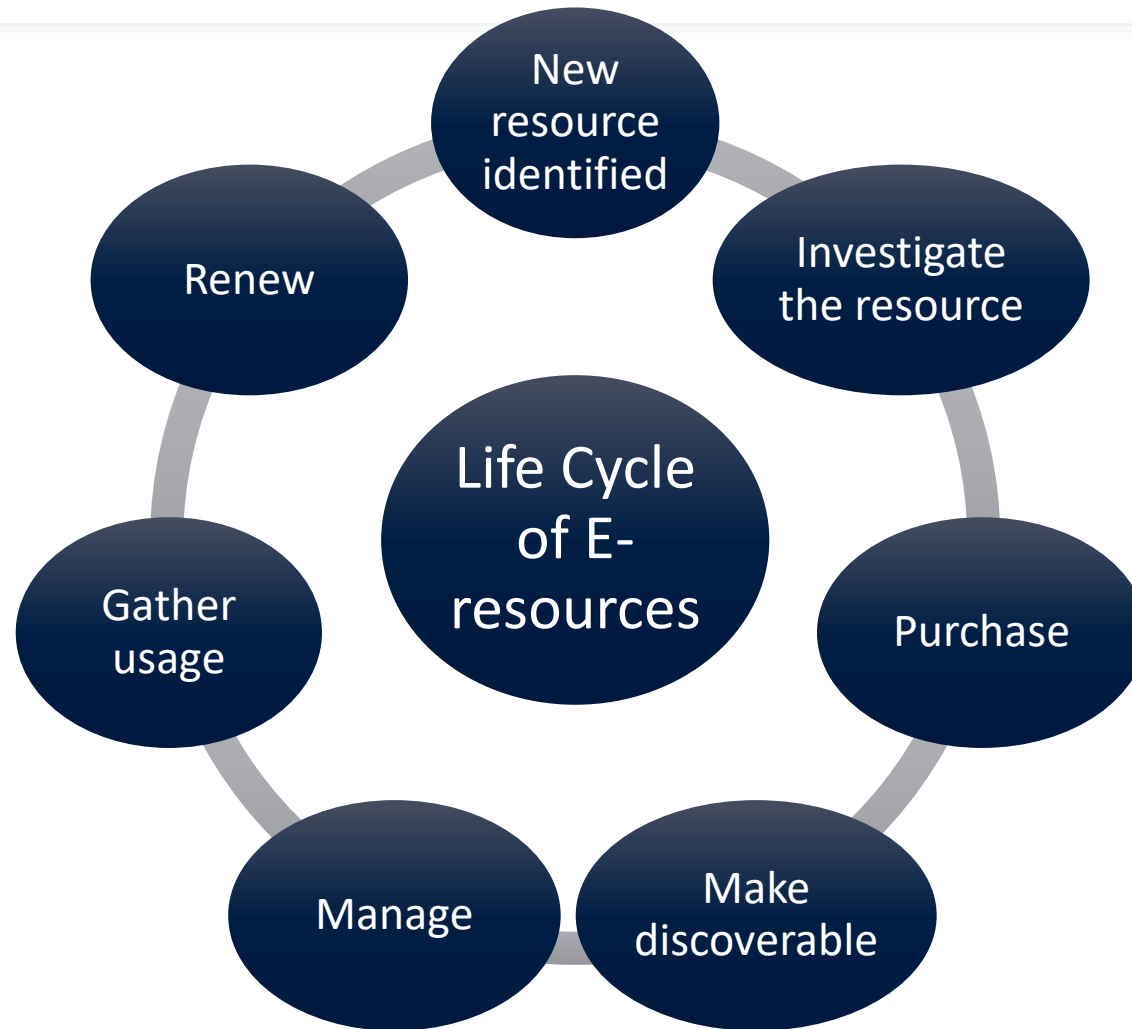


Skills

- Organisation and planning
- Negotiation skills
- Good communication
- Data analysis
- Problem analysis
- Logical and able to understand how different systems interact



Life Cycle of E-resources



Top Tip!

- Try to ensure your academic staff know the correct route to request new resources.
- Encourage reps to keep the library involved in any conversations they have with academics.

Identifying New Resources



Academic request

New resource request form



Publisher contact

Sales reps emails and visits
direct to academics

Account manager
suggestions, turnaway data,
special offers, new products
General advertising



Word of mouth

Conference demos
Seen at another university
Social media or other
general forms of
communication

Investigating Resources – Questions to ask

- Where is it available from
 - JISC Licence Subscription Manager
 - Subscription Agent
 - Current supplier
 - New supplier
- What authentication options are there?
- Is there a trial?
- Cost!

New Resource pitfalls

Accessibility compliance

Items only available in packages

Restrictive licences

Non standard payment terms

Non-standard authentication

No usage stats

Long term contracts



The licence outlines the approved uses and prohibited use of the material. It outlines the responsibilities of the licensee (you) and the licensor (the supplier). It is a legal document and depending on your institution policies and the value of the contract may need to be approved by legal, procurement or senior management.

Licences



Authorised users

- Alumni
- Overseas
- Researchers
- Walk in users



External use

- VLEs
- Course Packs
- Inter Library Loans (ILL)



Authentication

- Shibboleth/ Open Athens
- Campus IP addresses
- Proxy services (e.g. EZProxy)
- WAYFless URLs
- Registration with institution email address
- Username and password

Authentication issues

Top Tip!

- Keep your IP addresses and other authentication set up details handy as you will be asked for them often
- I have them on a virtual post it note on my desktop to copy and paste easily

- May need to work with IT to set up authentication methods
- Usernames and passwords can be time consuming to administer
- Increased browser security may change how authentication works – watch this space!

Purchase decisions

Top Tip!

Keep decisions transparent so academics understand why decisions have been made.

- Relevance – usually backed up by Academic submission
- Cost
- Range of resources already available for a subject
- Quality of resource
- Accessibility
- Ease of access
- Previous experience with the publisher/provider



Purchasing practicalities

- New Supplier set up
- Purchase Order (PO) numbers
- Paying invoices

Top Tip!

- Try to find a named contact in your finance dept who can advise and help you through their processes



Poll 2

- What are the biggest challenges you face in managing e-resources?
 - Broken links
 - Managing budget
 - Managing links
 - Setting up Discovery
 - Unused resources
 - Information in too many places
 - Time
 - Other

Choose as many as apply

Making the resource discoverable

Discovery Layers

- Primo
- Summon
- EDS (Ebsco Discovery Service)
- Enterprise
- Worldcat Discovery

Tools and Browser addons

- Browzine
- Link resolvers
- Browser addons
 - Libkey
 - Lean Library

Reading List Software

- Talis
- Leganto

Other

- Subject Resource lists
- Communication to academics
- Social media

Top Tip!

Make sure you update all places links have been added if anything changes



Manage the resource

- Check access
- Check links
- Pay the invoice
- Let relevant other teams and departments know the resource is live
- Spot when the renewal is due

Top Tip!

- Keep in regular contact with your academic librarians so you can pass on news and training opportunities.

Keeping track

- Library Management System
- Spreadsheets

Top Tip!

- Use colour and conditional formatting and take regular back ups

Edge Hill Subscriptions		DEMO DATA																	
Highlight subscription end dates between:																			
01/06/2020																			
and																			
31/10/2020																			
(use boxes to set dates)																			

Trouble shooting issues – Common issues

- Broken catalogue links
- Authentication issues
- Inaccurate coverage dates
- Publisher site issues

Trouble shooting – Questions to ask

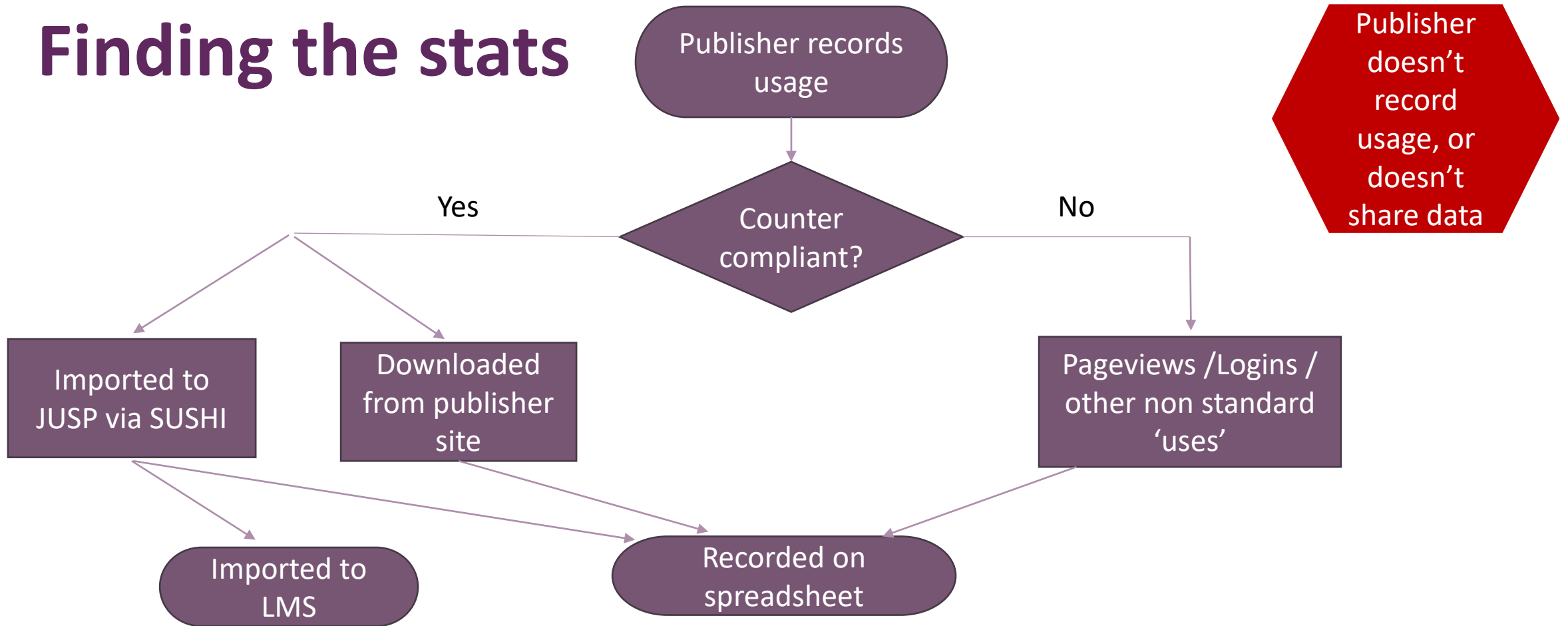
- Can I replicate the issue on and off site
- Should we have access?
- Is it browser specific?
- Does clearing the cache help?
- Does the device need updates?
- Are others having issues (listservs)



Is it being used?



Finding the stats



What is good usage?

Some things to consider

- Cost per click
- Number of students on the module/course
- Specificity of the resource

Improving the usage



Sharing the data with library staff and academics



Good use of visualisations (graphs and charts)



Engaging with publishers for training



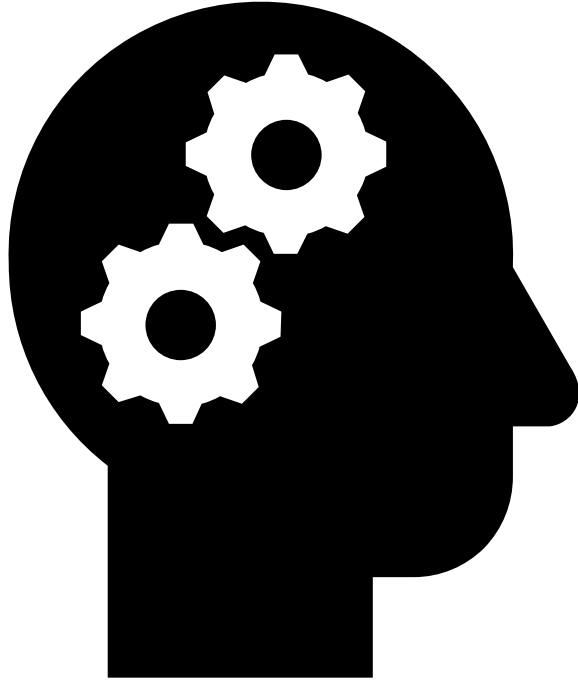
Accessibility – can you work on any access or accessibility issues with the publisher?

Renew or Cancel?

- Beware of 'auto-renewals'
- Liaise with publishers
- Keep up to date with JISC negotiations.

Top Tip!

- Leave plenty of time for the renewal process as some need 3 or even 6 months notice to cancel.



Challenges ahead

- Impact on budgets of inflation, currency fluctuations, reduced funding and student numbers.
- Increasing costs of resources
- Expectations of 'everything online'
- Open Access and the changes that brings to calculating value for money
- Constantly doing 'More with less'
- Accessibility legislation changes
- Digital Security
- AI

Thank you and Questions



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