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Data Management Plans

Implementing the Edinburgh RDM roadmap

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Outline

- Significance of data management planning
- Progress on the Edinburgh roadmap
 - Tailored assistance
 - Customised DMPonline
- Next steps at Edinburgh

Research funders' data policies

Research Funders	Policy Coverage		Policy Stipulations					Support Provided			
	Published outputs	Data	Time limits	Data plan	Access/sharing	Long-term curation	Monitoring	Guidance	Repository	Data centre	Costs
AHRC	●	●	●	●	●	◐	○	●	○	◐	◐
BBSRC	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●
CRUK	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	○	○
EPSRC	●	●	●	◐	●	●	●	◐	○	○	●
ESRC	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐
MRC	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	◐	●	○	◐
NERC	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐
STFC	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	◐	◐
Wellcome Trust	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●

www.dcc.ac.uk/resources/policy-and-legal/overview-funders-data-policies

What do research funders want?

- A brief plan submitted in grant applications, and in the case of NERC, a more detailed plan once funded
- 1-3 sides of A4 as attachment or a section in Je-S form
- Typically a prose statement covering suggested themes
- An outline of data management and sharing plans, justifying decisions and any limitations

Five common themes / questions

1. Description of data to be collected / created
(i.e. content, type, format, volume...)
2. Standards / methodologies for data collection and management
3. Ethics and Intellectual Property
(highlight any restrictions e.g. embargoes, confidentiality issues)
4. Plans for data sharing and access
(i.e. how, when, to whom)
5. Strategy for long-term preservation

Edinburgh policy requirements

“All new research proposals must include research data management plans or protocols that explicitly address data capture, management, integrity, confidentiality, retention, sharing and publication.”

www.ed.ac.uk/is/research-data-policy

Benefits for researchers

Developing DMPs can help researchers to:

- Make informed decisions to anticipate and avoid problems
- Avoid duplication, data loss and security breaches
- Develop procedures early on for consistency
- Ensure data are accurate, complete, reliable and secure
- Save time and effort to make their lives easier!

Benefits for the University

DMPs allow the University to find out:

- What volume of research data will be created
- How will researchers share data with collaborators
- Security requirements for sensitive data
- Whether additional support is needed so this can be costed into grant applications
- A description of the data to populate data registers?

DCC support via DMPonline

DMPonline is a web-based tool to help researchers write DMPs.

- based on the DCC Checklist for a DMP
- requirements are mapped to DCC questions

Create a plan based on relevant funder / institutional templates...

DMPonline
The DCC Data Management Planning Tool

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Create new plan

1. Enter your project details:

Project

Currency

Budget

Start Date

End Date

Lead Organisation

Other Organisations

2. Select plan templates from the groupings below:

Data Management Plan Templates

- Disciplinary templates
- Institutional Templates
- Internal funding / None of the above
- Non-RCUK funder
- RCUK Research Councils

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CRPH in ARD-/- knockout mice

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2.1 Data Types, Formats, Standards and Capture Methods

DCC Checklist	Your Input	Templates
DCC 2.1 Give a short overview description of the data being generated or reused in this research	<p>There will be a variety of data types generated by this study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Confocal microscopy image dataFluorescent microscope images (saved as .peg files)microarray assay dataFACS data exported both in standard and proprietary formats (Word/Excel/NOFLO formats)experimental data as word/excel files	MRC Project funding (Application) GenInst Project funding (Application) DCC Guidance
DCC 2.2.1 Have you reviewed existing data, in your own institution and from third parties, to confirm that new data creation is necessary?	<p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>	GenInst Project funding (Application) DCC Guidance

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...and then answer the questions using the guidance provided

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DMP objectives & deliverables

1. Tailored DMP assistance for PIs submitting research proposals
 - Library of successful DMP examples
 - DMP 'response team' if required
2. Customise DMPonline for optimal UoE use
 - University branded DMPonline
 - Boilerplate text about IS services

Tailored assistance: activity

- Collect and analyse example DMPs from ERI
- Identity requirements for consultancy services
- Trial one-to-one DMP consultations

Desire for tailored support seems to be mainly in Arts & Humanities. Will test this further and collate more example DMPs as we roll out services by School.

Customise DMPonline: activity

- Evaluate DMPonline with researchers
- Make changes in light of recommendations
- Develop UoE customisation of DMPonline

Main activity has been the evaluation of DMPonline.
Major changes have been requested and are underway.

Evaluating DMPonline: inputs

We have engaged researchers and research support staff, mostly at Edinburgh but some feedback came from elsewhere.

- Tool analytics (i.e. statistics on DMPonline usage)
- Emails and discussions with 'ed.ac.uk' users
- General email / blog comments (mostly from Jisc MRD)
- Focus groups - one at Edinburgh and one with Jisc MRD
- Guided interviews with researchers after using the tool
- Usability testing

User feedback

POSITIVE COMMENTS

- Good to have an online tool
- Technically well-coded
- Liked 'sharing' feature
- Demand for customisations
- Has provided an impetus
- Desire to feed into plans - DMPonline community

CONCERNS RAISED

- Difficulty understanding the tool and concept of mappings
- Too detailed and in-depth
- Output too long to submit
- Issues with design & workflows

what's the minimum you can actually get away with

Example interview feedback

Q: Pick five terms that describe your experience:

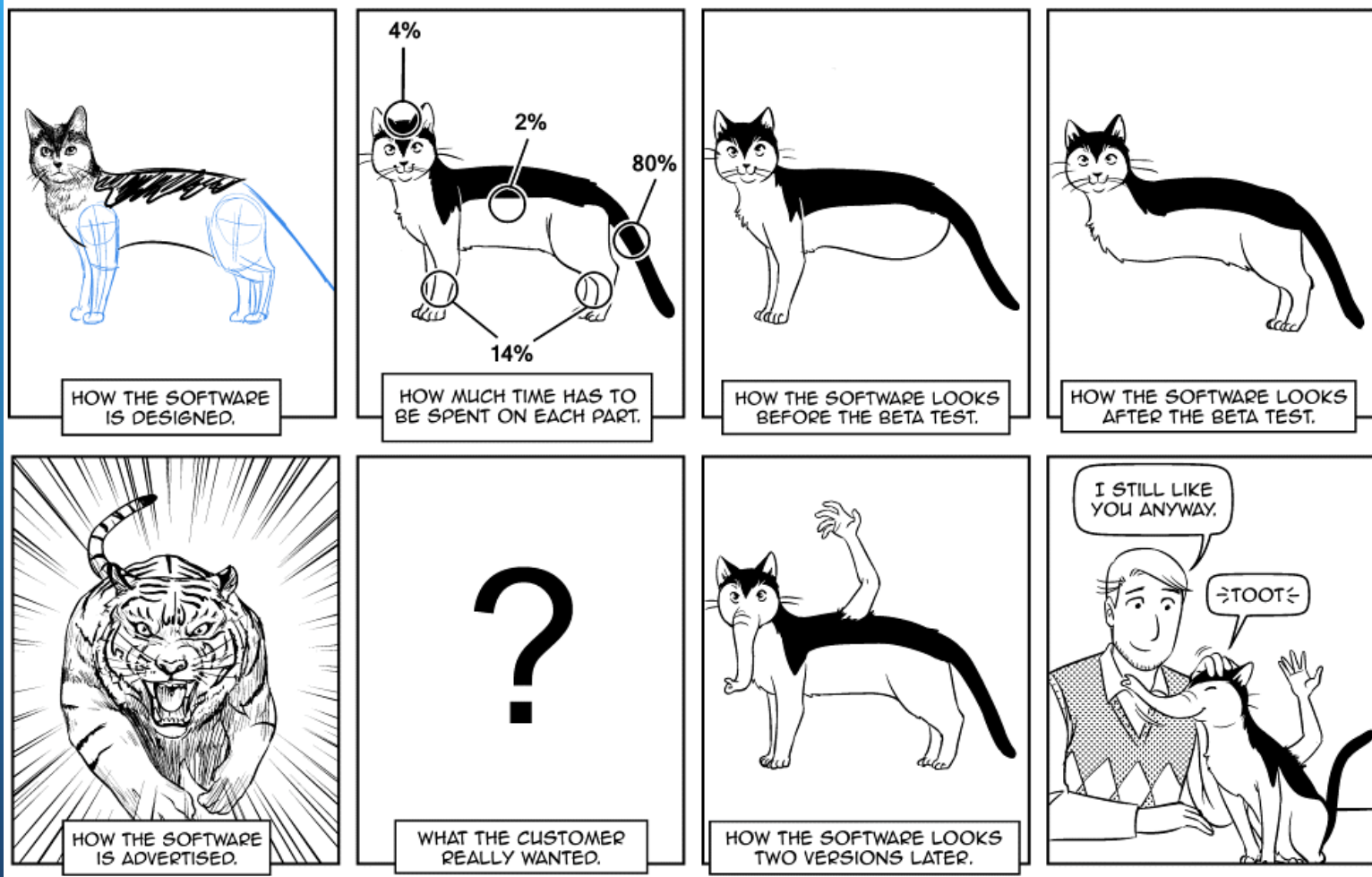
- Hard to Use
- Time-consuming
- Complex
- High Quality
- Powerful

to be honest I didn't actually make use of DMP online - after registering and determining that it was going to be more complicated than it was worth, I pursued an alternative means of putting together a data management plan

Main issues

- Checklist too long and has irrelevant questions
- Mappings cause confusion and misinterpretation
- Desire to ask own questions not use DCC ones
- Templates confusing - which to pick?
- Users want to see funder requirement in full first
- Not enough boilerplate text / examples

Common pitfalls in software design



Planned changes

- Shorten the DMP Checklist
- Overhaul how the Checklist is used in the tool
(n.b. this is a major architectural change so redevelopment will take time)
- Reintroduce a wizard to help users select templates
- Summarise requirements prior to writing the DMP
- Revise registration, sharing & export workflows
- Add more boilerplate text and examples as guidance
- Make a number of interface / usability improvements

Progress on revising DMPonline

- Checklist reworked and taxonomy created
- Funder templates revised
- New process for institutional customisations proposed
- UI changes contracted out and underway
- Database redesign nearly complete
- Development plan in place - delivery of v4 expected in June

Current status, March 2013: www.dcc.ac.uk/blog/dmponline-current-status

DMPonline future plans, Jan 2013: www.dcc.ac.uk/news/future-plans-dmponline

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Still to do

- Finish redeveloping DMPonline and test with users
- Define what questions need to be asked at Edinburgh
- Provide boilerplate text and links to Edinburgh RDM services
- Roll out by School, and in doing so:
 - Develop disciplinary / local guidance
 - Collate example DMPs to share with others
 - Check whether tailored support is required. If so, can this be embedded in School provision?

Any questions?

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