innovation in metadata design, implementation & best practice

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The National Bibliographic Knowledgebase & Plan M

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What is the National Bibliographic Knowledgebase (NBK)?

The National Bibliographic Knowledgebase (NBK) is a system that combines and synchronizes data from various sources to create a comprehensive and sharable repository of bibliographic information. The system includes databases for licensed data and un-deduplicated sharable data, which are managed and analyzed through the Jisc NBK Data Lake. This platform facilitates data discovery, compare, and contribute functionalities, ensuring that libraries and other data providers can access and utilize the data effectively. The NBK System Model, updated in September 2021, provides a detailed overview of the system's architecture and components.
Fit For Purpose Data?
I want to be able to share the work that I do
I want to use the work that other librarians do
I want to be able to enrich and share metadata
I want this sharing to be international
I want a nationally agreed standard for the metadata that I buy
I want to own the metadata that I buy
I want linked metadata to also be of a consistent standard
I want e-resource descriptions to meet the same standards as print
I want OA resources to be described well and not exploited via 'big deals'
# Plan M

What problems will Plan M address?

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| **Misdirected effort**  
Having to look in multiple places to find suitable records or creating records where a suitable one already exists | **Fragmented Infrastructure**  
Having multiple delivery mechanisms and different working practices is inefficient and incoherent |
| **Duplicated effort**  
Different organisations and suppliers making the same or similar changes to a record | **Uneconomic practices**  
Precious resources and investment are being wasted |
| **Unexploited value**  
The inability to share enhanced records with other organisations who may be able to benefit from them | **Sectoral transformation inertia**  
The focus of cataloguing practice needs to shift towards automation of routine cataloguing and investment in special collections |
Negotiation principles:

1. The current charging framework for WorldCat Participation and Cataloguing must provide cost transparency for services delivered and fees that are equitable and based on an agreed cost allocation mechanism.

2. The agreement must provide clarity on the nature of the services covered and the allocation of payments within a subscription fee for those services.

3. The agreement must recognise the financial pressures on institutions and the need to curtail costs and demonstrate value for money.

4. The longer-term sustainability of the agreement must be based around subscriptions from participating institutions and should not be dependent on additional funding from any third party nor make individual institutional fees dependent on the participation of their peers.

5. Libraries that value the service being offered will pay for it. Those that don’t value the service will not use it.

6. New thinking and new strategies are required from service providers to effect change on a national scale. The pandemic has demonstrated the resolve of the sector and its desire to abandon legacy approaches that are no longer fit for purpose.
We value better quality metadata. There was a time we thought it did not matter, but high-quality metadata gets the reader to what they want.
The Strategic Roadmap

Archives Hub and the Transforming Collections: Reimagining Art, Nation and Heritage project

Donald Locke 1972-4, Trophies of Empire © Estate of Donald Locke Courtesy of Tate | Claudette Johnson, Figure in Blue, 2018. © Claudette Johnson. Image Credit: Arts Council Collection, Southbank Centre | Niva_Riveting Place: Photograph by Carlos Jimenez, 2018 | Rachel Jones, lick your teeth, they so cluth, 2021. Arts Council Collection, Southbank Centre, London © the artist. Image courtesy of the artist and Thaddeus Ropac, London.

An arrangement of different castes including snake charmer, bricklayer, basket-maker, potter and wives. Gouache drawing, 284381 © Wellcome Collection.