The group refined their terms of reference, agreeing amendments which clarified the two components of the group’s role; to scrutinise existing agreements and to consider the ideal state of potential future arrangements.

The group then considered future negotiation scenarios and how the sector’s goals might be achieved within these. The group noted that the ideal scenario would be likely to vary across disciplines and institution types but that sector cohesion would be beneficial in obtaining our goals and would recognise our shared values. Policy harmonisation would be a positive influence. Any ideal state needs to be achievable and sustainable, including providing financial stability in the sector and achieving real value.

Having heard the group’s ideas and views around possible future scenarios Jisc will define the group’s role via a series of workpackages and a thought piece. This will also consider how the group can continue a longer term dialogue with publishers. The next stage would be for the group to consider the longer term implications of some of these agreements.

The group received an update on publisher negotiations.

Jisc will be drafting the requirements for transitional journals on behalf of the sector. The group agreed that having the requirements set out was beneficial for transitional agreements and would also be for transitional journals. The group were invited to submit their comments on the proposed requirements document.