The group changed their name to the “learning content group” to reflect the expansion of their remit beyond e-textbooks.

The group reviewed two briefing papers which were discussed at the previous meeting which are to provide support around the issues of core/premium textbook content. One will be for library directors and university executives focusing on the higher education sector, publishers and the textbook market. The other is aimed at academic colleagues, focusing on cost, affordability and availability of core reading materials. These will be published once editing processes are completed.

The group discussed the results of the recent consultation on the BibliU and Kortext agreements and agreed the proposal for renewal.

Caren Milloy (CMi) presented on the sector’s requirements for e-textbook licensing. This group had formulated a number of questions at their last meeting which were presented at the SCONUL forum. However, many of these were complex and remained unanswered. Therefore CMi suggested a potential approach, noting the need for Jisc to negotiate directly with publishers. This would involve options based on a number of use cases, which would all connect to an overarching set of principles. These new models would be based on evidence of usage. The group were positive about this approach and it was agreed that more information and definitions around use cases would be required. This would be a more similar approach for e-textbooks to that which the sector has taken for journals.

The group began their discussions to form a “road map” inclusive of open educational resources. The group identified short and medium term goals and the discussion and collaboration will continue outside of the meeting with members sharing further ideas.