



ADMIRe project research pilots

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1. Introduction

The ADMIRE project started in October 2011 and aimed to complete research data management pilots in all five Faculties at The University of Nottingham (Nottingham).

The job of choosing a pilots for the project was allocated to the ADMIRE project team, which consisted of a mix of Libraries and Research and Learning Resources (LRLR) and IT Services staff, which included IT Support. The make-up of the team was fortunate in that many of the team had regular contact with researchers and established relationships with research departments. For example a member of the ADMIRE team was responsible for IT Support to the Faculty of Arts and hence, was aware of opportunities and request for RDM (research data management) support.

2. Identifying pilot opportunities

The first stage was to identify known pilot opportunities. This resulted in a list of over 27 candidates, which due to the available resource was whittled down to one per Faculty by the use of selection criteria and a matrix as shown in Figure 1:

		Engineering	Engineering	Arts	Arts	Medical	Social Sciences	Sciences
		Network Rail data	MRI scans	Newspaper archives	3D statue scans	Identifying sensitive data	Bid writing	Materials research
Data management	Data storage							
	Data preservation							
	Archiving data at project close							
	Big data							
	Metadata allocation							
	Data discovery							
	Data linked to publications							
	Data reuse							
	Reuse of purchased data							
	Management of purchased data							
Funding	HPC usage							
	Bid writing							
	Public funding							
	Private funding							
	Policy statements issued							
Collaborative research	Open access requirements							
	Cross-discipline							
	Multi-institutional							
Data classification	Multi-national							
	Sensitive data							
	Ethical considerations							
	Commercial data							
	Legal issues							
	Licensing							
Data types	Documents							
	Spreadsheets							
	Questionnaires							
	Software files							
	Audio							
	Images							
	Video and film							
	Photographs							
	Models							
	Algorithms							
	Database contents							
	Slides							
	Specimens							
	Artefacts							
Methodologies								
Workflows								

Figure 1: ADMIRE pilots matrix

Other areas considered were the use of existing software for RDM, such as eWorkbook. After consideration it was decided that the main pilots would focus upon a mix of areas to ensure that each pilot covered a range of interesting areas e.g. licencing, metadata, sensitive data and data storage.

Further investigation into eWorkbooks by IT Services found that the software was well used by the Sciences, but was in the process of being upgraded to a newer version. This process was underway in the summer of 2012 and hence it was decided to focus upon other areas while this rollout was completed.

The final sets of pilots were identified as:

1. Identifying sensitive data using the Digital Asset Framework (DAF)¹ in the Medical Health Sciences
2. The use of commercial data sets in the Faculty of Arts
3. Identifying and creating metadata in the Faculty of Sciences
4. Data storage in the Faculty of Engineering
5. The use of the RDM training course MANTRA² in the Faculty of Social Sciences

This spread of pilots ensured that valuable lessons could be learnt from engaging with researchers and most importantly, allowed the project to understand the workflows, requirements and challenges faced with regards to RDM.

The results of the pilots have been collated into brief reports and these are available on the ADMIRE [project outputs page](#).

¹ <http://www.data-audit.eu/>

² <http://datalib.edina.ac.uk/mantra/>