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:

![ADMIRe pilots matrix](image)

**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 MANTRA\(^2\) 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.

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\(^1\) [http://www.data-audit.eu/](http://www.data-audit.eu/)

\(^2\) [http://datalib.edina.ac.uk/mantra/](http://datalib.edina.ac.uk/mantra/)