Statement from the 1994 Group Library and Information Service Directors

The 1994 group of research-led universities represents a high proportion of the finest academics and researchers in the UK. The libraries of the 1994 group universities welcome the report of the RSLG, with its emphasis on developing strategies to support the needs of UK researchers wherever they may be based.

In implementing the recommendations of the RSLG report, we believe that it is essential that the RLN recognises and supports the needs of a highly distributed research community, producing enormous diversity and depth of research. The RLN must therefore demonstrate a similar breadth of focus, and to do this should be seen to be inclusive, including in its membership representatives who can speak for researchers in smaller, research-led universities, as well as those in larger universities, and those outside higher education.

We welcome the continuance of the access funding and its extension to those libraries which are willing to lend. We also support the continued development of national strategies such as resource discovery tools and national licensing of a core of electronic resources, from which all our researchers can benefit, and what we hope will be the particularly valuable changes to the models of scholarly publication and communication.

The 1994 group of libraries looks forward to contributing actively and positively to the work of the RLN and the RSLG.