



UK Longitudinal Linkage Collaboration

Population Health Sciences

Bristol Medical School

Canynges Hall

39 Whatley Road

Bristol BS8 2PS

UK Longitudinal Linkage Collaboration (UK LLC)

PUBLICATION POLICY

PUBLIC

Version 1.5

27 March 2025

This document was printed on: Thu, 27 Mar 2025 and may be out of date. The current version is found here: [Policies](#)

Page 1 of 6

PUBLIC

Policy number:	POL-ISM-007	Version:	V1.5
Author:	Katharine Evans, Governance & Policy Manager	Date:	27/09/2022
Authorised by:	Andy Boyd, Director	Date:	08/11/2022
Date published:	08/11/2022	Date to review:	27/03/2026
Permission to edit this policy must be provided by:	Director; Senior Data Manager (Governance & Users)		

Review History

Version	Review Date	Reviewed by	Section(s) amended	Authorised by
V1.1	14/11/2022	Katharine Evans, Governance & Policy Manager	2.2 & 5 to emphasise that outputs/publications must lie within project scope	Andy Boyd, Director
V1.2	21/02/2023	Katharine Evans, Governance & Policy Manager	Added Ts and Cs check & updated checklist	Andy Boyd, Director
V1.3	12/03/2024	Katharine Evans, SDM (Gov & Users)	Restructured, new logo, updated rules & checklist	Andy Boyd, Director
V1.4	15/10/2024	Katharine Evans, SDM (Gov & Users)	Added reference to UK LLC Explore & updated checklist	Andy Boyd, Director
V1.5	27/03/2025	Katharine Evans, SDM (Gov & Users)	Removed publication checklist and instead added link to UK LLC Guidebook	Stela McLachlan, Research Manager (Applications)

Contents – UK LLC Publication Policy

1. Introduction	4
1.1 Background	4
1.2 Purpose	4
2. Scope	4
3. Abbreviations	4
4. Roles and Responsibilities	5
5. Rules	5
6. Acknowledgement of Data Owners and Partners	6
7. Review of Manuscripts by UK LLC	6
8. Related Documents	6

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The UK Longitudinal Linkage Collaboration (UK LLC) organisation is led by the University of Bristol (UoB) and University of Edinburgh (UoE) and operated in collaboration with Swansea University, University of Leicester, City St George's, University of London and UCL. UK LLC manages the collation, curation and access to de-identified data about Longitudinal Population Study (LPS) participants held in the UK LLC Trusted Research Environment (TRE).

Safeguarding the anonymity and security of participants' data held in the UK LLC TRE are of paramount importance to UK LLC.
All researchers must only include data in papers/presentations that have been approved through UK LLC's output review process.
(see the [UK LLC Output Review Policy](#) for details)

1.2 Purpose

This policy sets out UK LLC's requirements for researchers to **publish papers and similar outputs** and to **deliver presentations** based on data accessed in the UK LLC TRE.

This policy will be reviewed to respond to any changes in the UK LLC risk assessment or risk treatment plan and at least annually.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all researchers who have accessed data in the UK LLC TRE who want to include their analyses in any output for public dissemination. This includes:

- Papers and similar outputs, e.g. reports, books
- Presentations.

3. ABBREVIATIONS

LPS	Longitudinal Population Study
TRE	Trusted Research Environment
UK LLC	UK Longitudinal Linkage Collaboration
UoB	University of Bristol
UoE	University of Edinburgh

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Who	What & Why
Researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only include data that are approved through UK LLC's output review process – see the UK LLC Output Review Policy Share all papers with UK LLC prior to submission Stay within scope of approved project and adhere to data owners' terms and conditions.
UK LLC teams (UoB and UoE)	Review all papers prior to submission.
UK LLC Director (UoB)	UK LLC Director is Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO) for UK LLC.

5. RULES

- All researchers must ensure that their analyses and outputs fall **within the scope of their approved project and adhere to data owners' terms and conditions.**
- All papers and similar outputs **must be shared with UK LLC** for review prior to submission for publication.
- UK LLC does not require to see **presentations** before they are delivered, but researchers **must acknowledge the use and funding of UK LLC's resource** and the **collaborative contribution of the LPS and other data owners and partners** – see resources in section 6.
- Contributions to papers and similar outputs should be **acknowledged** using [ICMJE authorship guidelines](#). UK LLC staff, partners and contributing LPS staff are not expected to be authors unless they have provided material input and where authorship is justified.
- Researchers should ensure papers and similar outputs are placed into the **public domain as quickly as possible**. UK LLC encourages researchers to use a preprint server such as [medRxiv](#) to make their outputs publicly available while formal peer review is underway.
- Papers and similar outputs must be published as **Open Access** in line with [UKRI Open Access Policy](#).
- Under all circumstances **UK LLC Executive Group reserves the right to submit letters or papers for publication** in response to any paper or similar output to explain the approaches of the collaborating LPS or to express an alternative scientific argument.
- Datasets from UK LLC's TRE cannot be published in public databanks** because the underlying data are sourced from confidential LPS data and linked routine records and can only be accessed in the TRE. Project data can be requested via UK LLC for the purposes of replication and/or scientific challenge. Where this is requested from a journal, we suggest that you provide the following statement:

'Data used in this research are made available via UK Longitudinal Linkage Collaboration (UK LLC), which is a Trusted Research Environment (TRE) developed and operated by the Universities of Bristol and Edinburgh using an underlying 'Secure eResearch Platform' provided by Swansea University. These data cannot be used or shared outside this environment. Researchers can apply to access the UK LLC TRE using

PUBLIC

the procedure outlined in the [UK LLC Data Access and Acceptable Use Policy](#). UK LLC uses a system of managed open access for researchers who demonstrate their project is intended to improve the public good. Researchers can explore the data available in the UK LLC TRE using UK LLC's discoverability and data selection tool (<https://explore.ukllc.ac.uk/>).

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DATA OWNERS AND PARTNERS

It is imperative that all researchers **acknowledge UK LLC and its partners, collaborators, funders and contributing data owners appropriately**. To help researchers, we have prepared materials available on [UK LLC Guidebook](#). For **papers and similar outputs** see the Publication checklist (DOC-ISM-041) and Information about LPS for researchers to include in the Supplementary Materials of their publications document (DOC-ISM-032). For **presentations** see the Acknowledgements slide containing logos.

7. REVIEW OF MANUSCRIPTS BY UK LLC

Data owners have devolved their responsibility for review of manuscripts to UK LLC to minimise the time taken to release findings into the public domain. UK LLC has worked with all partners, including contributing LPS and other data owners, to establish a [publication checklist](#) that helps researchers ensure that all parties are **accurately described** and **acknowledged** and that all **terms and conditions** are followed. UK LLC staff do not conduct peer-review or scientific assessment.

At least **two weeks prior to journal submission**, researchers must email their **manuscript, lay summary** and **completed publication checklist** to access@ukllc.ac.uk for approval by UK LLC. **We expect to process all manuscripts within two weeks of receipt**. Please note that if there are any substantive changes to the manuscript after UK LLC review, re-review must be sought.

The UK LLC Executive Group can withhold the right to publish any manuscript that may bring UK LLC or any of the contributing data owners into disrepute or which could compromise the confidentiality of LPS participants.

8. RELATED DOCUMENTS

- [POL-ISM-012 UK LLC Output Review Policy](#)
- [DOC-ISM-041 UK LLC Publication Checklist](#)
- [DOC-DAT-032 Information about LPS for researchers to include in the Supplementary Materials of their publications](#)
- [Acknowledgements slide](#).