1. **Fund allocation**

1.1 The block grant will be held centrally with no faculty, departmental allocation or period allocations.

1.2 20% of the block grant will initially be reserved whilst fund requests are monitored.

1.3 Authority to release the reserve fund rests with the College’s Open Access Publications (OAP) Group.

2. **Governing principles of the fund**

2.1 The extent to which Gold Open Access can be supported is dependent on funding availability.¹

2.2 The fund is to cover open access article processing charges (APCs) for peer reviewed journal articles and conference papers where:

   a. the article has been accepted for publication in a journal compliant with the RCUK Policy on Open Access and is the output of RCUK-funded (wholly or partly) funded research (and this is acknowledged in the article)
   
   b. the corresponding author is employed by Imperial College London (or a student thereof) and has elected to adopt a Gold Open Access route (as opposed to Green)

2.3 Where the corresponding author holds a joint appointment with Imperial and another organisation, subject to the principles above and availability of funding, Imperial will meet the APC charges in cases where the acknowledged RCUK grant was awarded to Imperial.

2.4 Associated page, colour or image charges cannot be charged to the fund – such charges are considered discretionary.

¹ There are no plans to allocate College resources (other than those already allocated) to ‘top up’ RCUK funds.