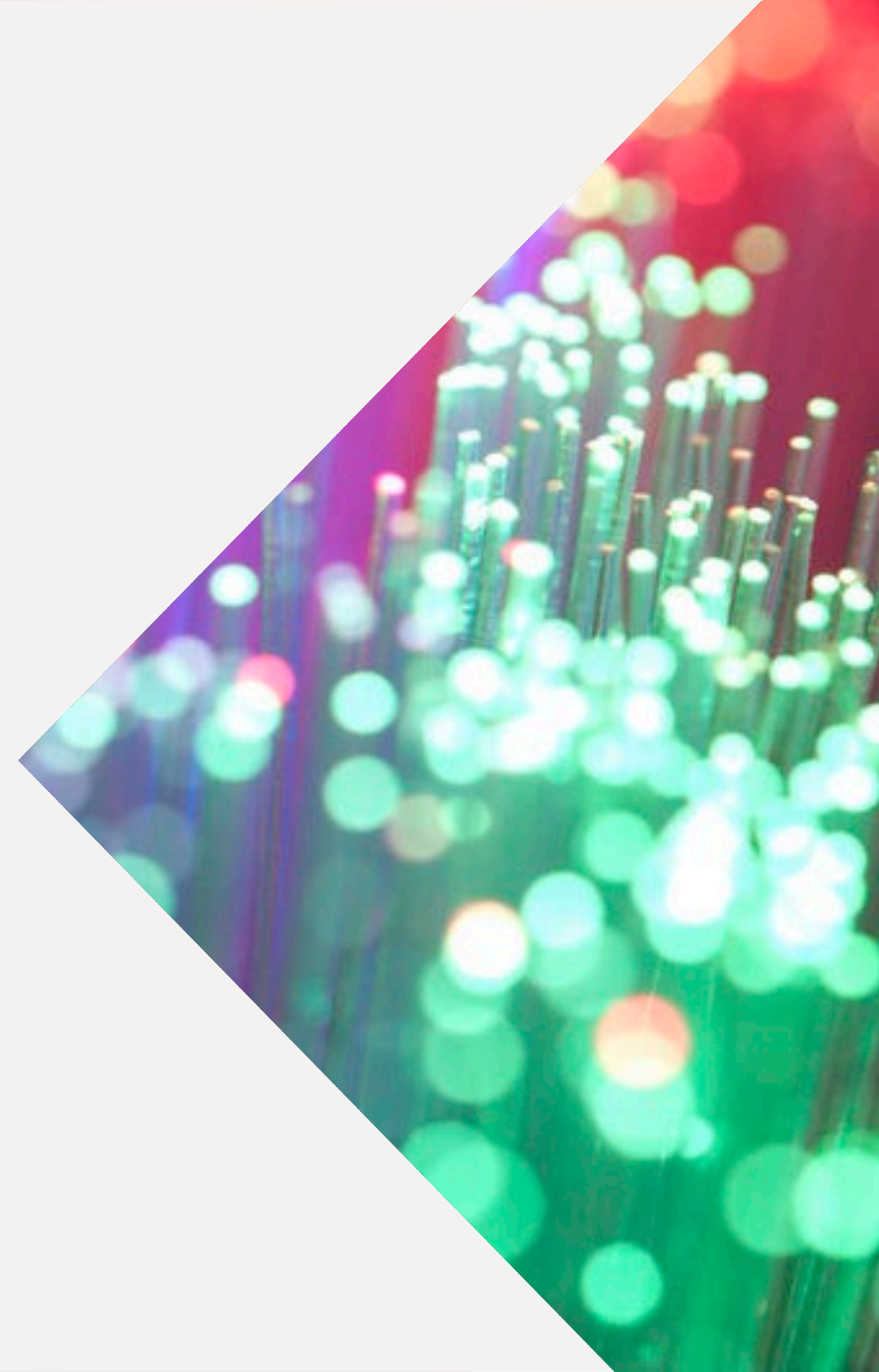


Developing UKRI's research data policy

These slides were presented at the London Open Science Festival in April 2026, and reflect the latest information published on our [Engagement Hub](#).

researchdatapolicy@ukri.org





UK Research
and Innovation

**Advance
knowledge,
improve lives,
drive growth.**



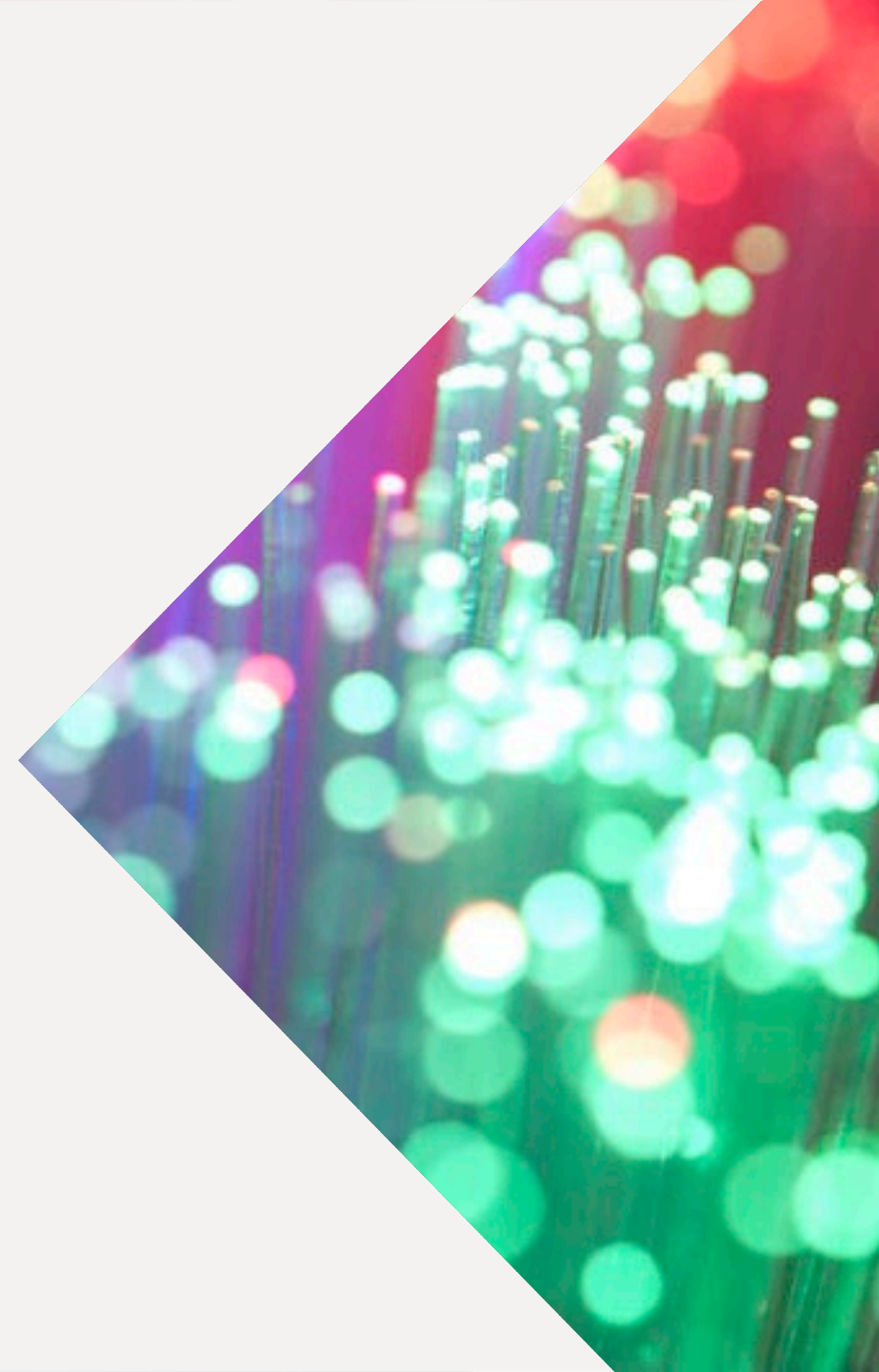
Why update our policy?

Good research data sharing and management is an important part of doing good research.

We want data from UKRI funded research to be more findable, accessible, interoperable and reuseable (FAIR) to:

- maximise the value and impact of publicly funded research
- enable research quality, reproducibility, transparency and integrity
- support a more open, collaborative, efficient, sustainable, inclusive and trusted research and innovation culture and environment

Must be done fairly, safely and transparently – open as possible, and only as restricted/secure as necessary.



A joined-up approach

Integrated policy, collectively developed and implemented by all UKRI's constituent councils

- Easier to navigate and use
- Consistent across our funding but grounded in good practice for the specific research being undertaken and types of data it involves
- Joined-up with other UKRI policies, priorities and investments (**e.g. digital research infrastructure**, talent and skills, research culture, trusted research and innovation, sustainability, AI)

Supporting advances in technology, policy and practice

- Our policy will support and promote the wider ecosystem of policies, standards, practices and activities for FAIR data.
- It builds on a strong foundation of our current council policies, investments in data, and wider national and international activities.
- We're updating it to align with, and support, the latest advances and developments in technology, policy and good practice.

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Strategy

UKRI AI Research and Innovation Strategic Framework

From: UKRI
Published: 19 February 2026

Contents

- Foreword
- Our vision
- Our role
- Our priority areas and outcomes
- The future

Foreword

Charlotte Deane, EPSRC Executive Owner for the UKRI AI Programme

Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming our world, offering major opportunities for economic growth, better health and capabilities that extend human potential.

The UK is well placed to benefit. Our strength in world-class researchers and ambitious business and industry, together with the leadership of Alan Turing and Ada Lovelace, we have a deep history of computer science that underpins modern AI.

Government investment and strategies give us a clear agenda has been set, through the *AI Opportunity*. This includes AI across all eight industrial sectors and a commitment to invest over £1.6 billion of UKRI funding will be directed to form only part of our investment in AI as it is being developed by programmes and councils. Through this UKRI investment helps realise the governments vision of driven growth.

Print this document or save as a PDF

Our research councils' research data sharing policies and guidance:

- [AHRC research funding guide](#), including guidance on research data
- [BBSRC data sharing policy](#)
- [EPSRC policy framework on research data](#)
- [ESRC research data policy, ESRC data citation: what you need to know](#) and [submit datasets if you have funding from ESRC](#)
- [MRC research data sharing and management policies and guidance](#)
- [NERC data policy and guidance notes](#) and [NERC research data policy](#)
- [STFC scientific data policy](#) and [STFC guidance on research data](#)

Common principles on research data

To bring these policies together and help you understand what we have also established a set of seven common principles. They apply to all research funding opportunities.

1. Publicly funded research data are a public good in the national interest. They should be made openly available in a timely and responsible manner.
2. Any organisational and project-specific data management policies should be made available to researchers and should be consistent with the common principles.

Concordat on Open Research Data

The Concordat on Open Research Data has been developed by a UK multi-stakeholder group. This concordat will help to ensure that the research data gathered and generated by members of the UK research community is made openly available for use by others wherever possible in a manner consistent with relevant legal, ethical, disciplinary and regulatory frameworks and norms, and with due regard to the costs involved.

HEFCE
HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND

RESEARCH COUNCILS UK

Universities UK

wellcome

Published 28th July 2016

Realising the potential

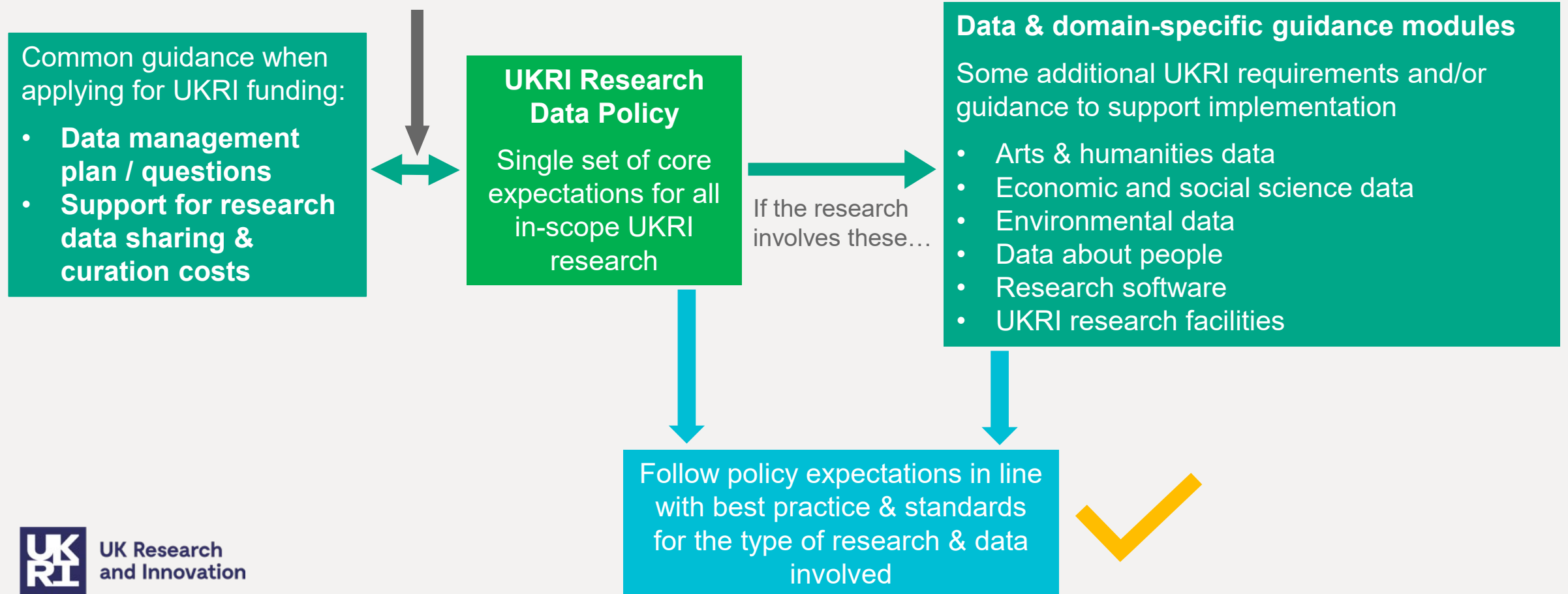
Final report of the Open Research Data Task Force

Recommendation of the Council concerning Access to Research Data from Public Funding

OECD Legal Instruments

Common expectations with practice guided by your research

UKRI funded project or funding opportunity?
What is the research and what data will it involve?



Draft UKRI research data policy



Scope & key principles

1. Purpose
2. What this policy covers
3. Definitions
4. Key principles

Common requirements & expectations

5. Planning research
6. What data to share
7. Where to share data
8. Implementing FAIR data
9. Acknowledgement & recognition
10. Citing and reusing data
11. Data retention and preservation
12. Responsible data sharing

Note:

- The draft policy is currently undergoing internal post-consultation review and will be subject to changes
- Award holders must continue to follow our existing policies in the meantime

Developing supporting guidance



Data management plans:
reviewing our approach to DMPs
across UKRI



Costs: developing clearer
guidance about costing for data
curation and sharing in grants



Monitoring and evaluation:
developing a holistic approach to
monitoring compliance and the
impact of the policy

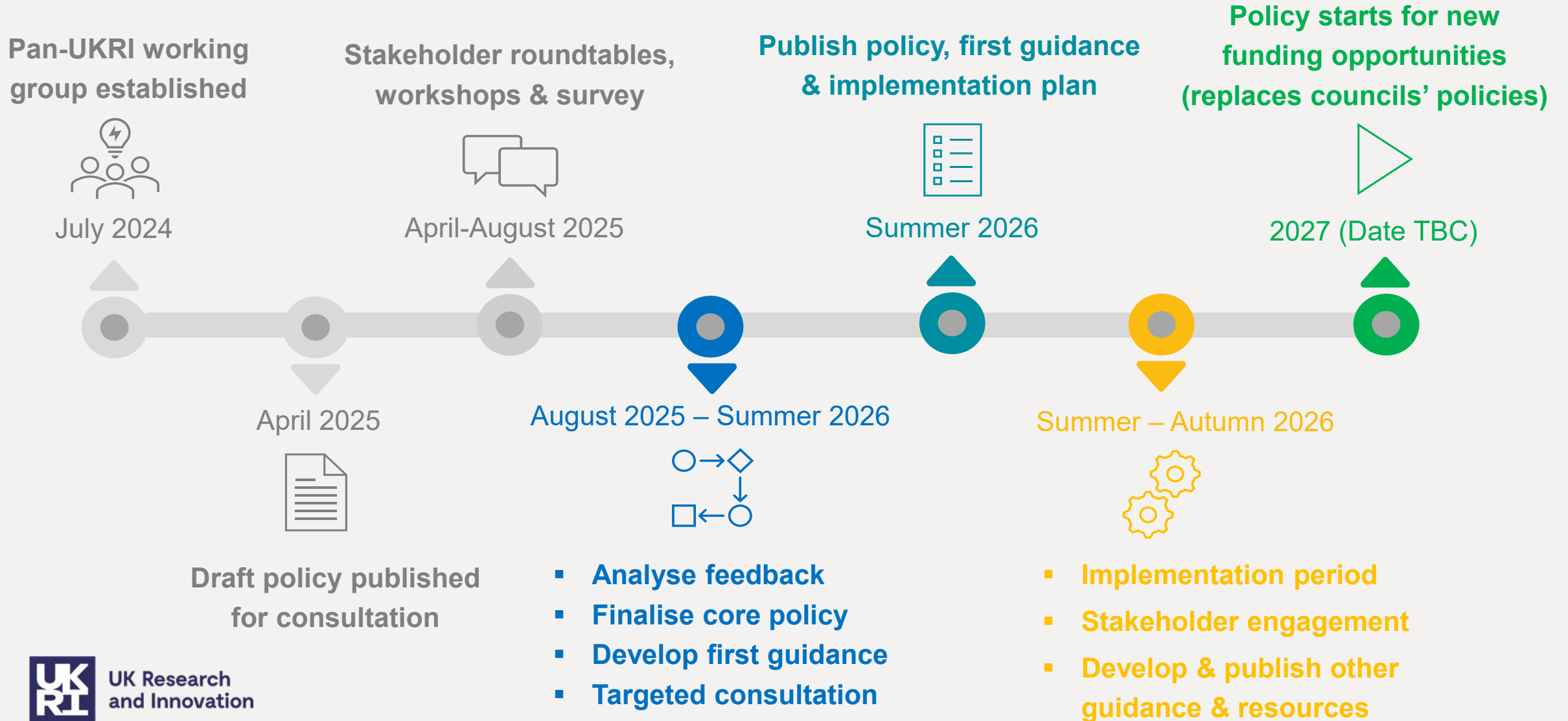
Supplementary requirements and/or guidance for some
research domains and data types:

- **Economic & social science data**
- **Arts and humanities data**
- **Environmental data**
- **Data about people**
- **Research software**
- **UKRI research facilities**



We'll also be reviewing and updating relevant resources
on our [good research resource hub](#).

Next steps



Find out more



Visit UKRI's engagement hub for more information, including our latest update <https://engagementhub.ukri.org/ukri-openresearch/developing-ukris-research-data-policy>

Contact us at researchdatapolicy@ukri.org



The screenshot shows the UKRI engagement hub page. At the top left is the UKRI logo and the text 'UK Research and Innovation'. To the right of the logo is a navigation menu with links: 'Engagement Hub', 'Find and Participate', 'We Asked, You Said, We Did', and 'About'. Below the navigation is a decorative banner with orange and blue geometric shapes. The main heading of the page is 'Developing UKRI's research data policy'. Below this is a section titled 'Overview' with the sub-heading 'Update on the development of the UKRI Research Data Policy (April 2026)'. The text in the overview section reads: 'UKRI would like to thank everyone who contributed feedback on the draft policy, both via engagement hub and our consultation events. We received over 100 consultation written responses, and a diverse range of individuals and organisations attended a series of cross-sector and disciplinary-specific webinars, workshops, and roundtables. We will be publishing a summary of feedback received with the final policy.' At the bottom of the overview section, it says: 'We are currently finalising the data policy, including considering all the input received, and developing our implementation plan and supporting guidance.'