JISC collaboration with the National Health Service

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“To negotiate for, and, where appropriate, to licence, quality assured electronic materials that will provide the JISC community with a range of resources to support education and research”.

Supporting Further and Higher Education
The JISC Community

- 180 Higher Education Institutions
- 450 Further Education Institutions
- 30 Specialist Colleges
What about our colleagues in the National Health Service?

- They have access to electronic resources too
  - But not necessarily the same ones
  - And not necessarily under the same terms and conditions
So What’s the Problem?

- The NHS and Education Institutions both pay for the same materials to be accessed by the same user, so for example…
So what’s the problem?

- While working in the hospital a consultant will have access to a set of online resources.
- Later the same day the same consultant when teaching, will have access to a different set of electronic resources, under different terms and conditions.
The Select Committee on Science and Technology 10th Report:

‘We recommend that the Joint Information Systems Committee and the NHS work together to implement joint procurement procedures that reflect the close working patterns of NHS and the higher education sector and represent value for money for both.’
The Solution

- To provide a consistent set of online resources for access by the National Health and Education Communities
- Collaboration for joint procurement
The Challenges

- JISC is nationally funded for all of the UK
- The NHS is funded at country level within the UK (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland)
The Challenges continued

• The JISC and NHS have different economic models for purchase of online journals
• The JISC and NHS use different a different model licence
• And the JISC and NHS have different approaches, different objectives…
• It also costs quite a lot to meet up!
Overcoming the barriers to joint procurement

- Finding the right contacts
- Getting to know (and understand) our counter-parts in the NHS
- Forming a joint working group
- Setting out the objectives
- Setting-up the methods of communication
Overcoming the barriers to joint procurement

- Recording what happens (so we can avoid the pitfalls next time)
- Identifying the first deal
- Explaining the objectives to the publisher
- Setting the publisher’s expectation – joint procurement means we get a better deal!
The outcome

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