

Costs and Benefits: Views from Keeping Research Data Safe

JISC Research Data Digital Preservation Costs Studies

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Keeping Research Data Safe1+2

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What was Produced?

- A cost framework with **activity cost model** in 3 parts: pre-archive, archive, support services
- 10 detailed cost and benefit case studies
- Benefits taxonomy

Summary KRDS Activity Model

Pre-Archive Phase	Outreach
	Initiation
	Creation
Archive Phase	Acquisition
	Disposal
	Ingest
	Archival Storage
	Preservation Planning
	First Mover Innovation
	Data Management
	Access
	Support Services
Common Services	
Estates	

Putting it all together

- **Activity model** helps identify cost allocations across preservation process
- **Service adjustments** helps identify and adjust costs to specific requirements
- **Economic adjustments** help spread these costs appropriately over time
- **Resource framework**: pulls all of it together into a TRAC-friendly costing model

Benefits Framework

KRDS2 Benefits Taxonomy	
Dimension 1 (Type of Outcome)	
Direct	Indirect (costs avoided)
Dimension 2 (When)	
Near-Term Benefits	Long-term Benefits
Dimension 3 (Who)	
Private	Public

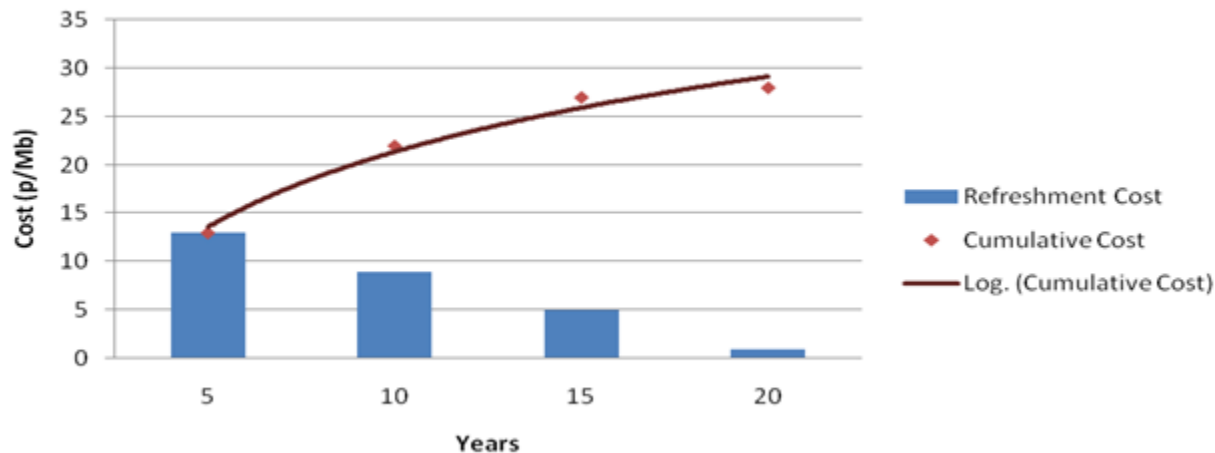
What have we learnt?

Whole of Service costing/Seeing the “Big Picture”

Selection of 2009 Allocation of UKDA Activity Costs

Acquisition	5.8%
Ingest	21.5%
A. Storage +Pres. Planning	3.1%
Access	16.9%

5-Yearly & Cumulative Refreshment Cost (ADS)



Implications

- Changing view of digital preservation costs
 - “getting stuff in and out” costs much higher than “keeping it (bit preservation + migration)”
 - Staff costs c70% of total costs
 - Importance of economies of scale and automation
- More work needed on “non-centralised” research data
- Importance of identifying “near-term” benefits
- More work needed on identifying and expressing benefits

Further Information

“Keeping Research Data Safe” (KRDS1) Final report and Executive Summary at <http://www.jisc.ac.uk/publications/publications/keepingresearchdatasafe.aspx>

Keeping Research Data Safe2 (KRDS2) webpage at www.beagrie.com/jisc.php