

# Systematic Review Service

An analysis of the 12 month Pilot service  
at the University of Manchester Library  
beginning in March 2014

# Why did we set up the service?

- 2012 Restructure
- No longer named Academic Liaison Librarians for each subject
- Faculty team approach replaced by a new 3 Team “cross faculty” approach:
  - Academic Engagement
  - Teaching and Learning
  - Research Services



Academic Engagement Librarians

Your first point of contact in the Library



Teaching

Services and support for your teaching



Research

Services and support for your research

# My Learning Essentials

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< Services and support

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✓ My Learning Essentials

Workshops

Online resources

Drop-ins

About My Learning Essentials

Using our resources

Revision support sessions

Wellbeing activities

## My Learning Essentials

The Library's award-winning skills programme



### Workshops

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# MLE – Sign up workshops...



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Workshops

Online resources

Drop-ins

## Workshops

Switch to calendar view

All events Workshop Drop-ins Events Training the trainer

Assignments Being critical Exam extra My future Organising Planning Presentations

Referencing Research skills Revising Searching Self-awareness Study strategies

Wellbeing Writing

### Presenting with confidence

Today, 13:00 - 14:30

The focus of this workshop is to teach you how to deliver successful presentations. You will be given

Can we help?

# MLE – Wide ranging online topics...

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- < The University of Manchester Library
- < Services and support
- < Students
- < Support for your studies
- ✓ My Learning Essentials
  - Workshops
  - Online resources
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  - About My Learning Essentials
  - Using our resources
  - Revision support sessions
  - Wellbeing activities

## Online resources

Online resources

assignments being critical exam extra my future organising planning presentations

referencing research skills revising searching self-awareness study strategies wellbeing

writing

Clear all

### Citing it right: introducing referencing

This resource explores the principles behind referencing, highlighting why it is good academic practice. It outlines when and how you need to reference, and how to read a reference when following up a source listed on a reading list or bibliography.

Duration: 15 minutes  
Format: Online tutorial

referencing writing

Launch

### EndNote online: a beginner's guide

This resource explores some of the key features of EndNote online, which you can use to help you to manage your references and insert citations directly into your work. It includes video demonstrations that show you how to collect, organise and format your references.

Duration: 20 minutes  
Format: Online tutorial

referencing

Launch

### Making referencing easy: introducing EndNote online

This resource highlights the benefits of using the web-based version of EndNote to manage your references, showing how you can save all of your references and making it easy to correctly format your citations and bibliographies in whichever style you need to use.

# MLE – Interactive online resources



## Getting results

*Guides to searching databases*

### Introduction

These resources look at the process of performing a search in a number of databases. Select a database you want to explore:

*Chemical Abstracts: SciFinder*

*China Integrated Knowledge Resources*

*EBSCO: CINAHL Plus*

*EBSCO: Business Source Premier*

*Engineering Village: Compendex*

*Factiva*

*JSTOR*

*LexisLibrary*

*Ovid: MEDLINE*

*ProQuest: ABI Inform*

*ProQuest: ASSIA*

*Scopus*

*Web of Science*

*Westlaw*



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## Getting results:

Performing a search in ABI Inform Global





# Positive Response...

## My Learning Essentials

the Library's award-winning skills programme



My Learning Essentials is a comprehensive programme of online resources, workshops and skills clinics designed to help you to develop your academic and employability skills.

Topics covered including academic writing, revision and preparing for exams, presentation skills, searching for information and preparing for job interviews.

"Excellent session, very informative well planned and at the correct level - good audience engagement and support offered"

"This is a fantastic resource. It's clear, free of unnecessary waffle, and didn't take too long to complete"

"I really enjoyed this!"

"Brilliant session, I feel a lot more confident"

"It's an amazing source of information"



# “Square peg” research queries...

Postgraduate researchers (PGRs) required tailored in-depth help with their literature reviews.

There was an increasing number of requests for 1-2-1 help from researchers conducting “systematic reviews”.

During the period October 2013- February 2014, prior to the launch of the Systematic Review Service, 32 people had received help from the library with their Systematic Reviews.






# Service overview and remit

*The Systematic Review Service is primarily aimed at medical and human sciences postgraduate students (including those who are also staff) to address the need for specialist research help for those whose degree course explicitly states that a systematic review is required as part of their studies.*

The service remit includes:

- advice on search strategy and search terms
- advice on using databases and other subject resources
- guidance on how to replicate searches on other (alternative) databases.
- search checking

# Libguide content



The University of Manchester Library

Library / Subject guides / Systematic Reviews / The basics

## Systematic Reviews: The basics

The basics | Getting started | Knowing your resources | Systematic review service

### What is a systematic review?

A systematic review is a tightly structured literature review that focuses on a topic with strict criteria parameters. The methodology used to collect research has to be consistent in order to reduce misinterpretation and misrepresentation of the data.

The aim of a systematic review is to identify, analyse, appraise and arrive at a considered judgement or set of conclusions based on all the available information and data that adheres to the review's pre-determined set of conformities. Each piece of research material is examined and compared to other resources and summarised accordingly. Some people keep records such as a form or table summarising each reviewed article which they refer to when collating the evidence.

The purpose of following this very strict protocol is to gather evidence-based research that supports a balanced and unbiased conclusion. Statistical information can be extracted and analysed using a process known as meta-analysis.

### Systematic literature search

A systematic literature search is a literature review on a database (such as Medline) which demonstrates that you have compiled a list of appropriate search terms and includes the structure of your search history which provides the evidence on which your assignment is based.

This is a less rigorous process than a systematic review. A systematic review usually covers a wider scope; you would be expected to look at all the available research in the area in question. For example, you would be expected to visit the Library if articles were only held in hard copy format, and where necessary obtain articles not held by the Library via the [Document Supply Service](#).

You may be told that you need to conduct a systematic review when in fact you just need to perform a literature search in a systematic manner. Usually at undergraduate level you would not be expected to exhaust every avenue of information and find every article in your research area.

### Glossary of terms

- Systematic review
- Critical appraisal
- Synthesise
- Meta analysis
- Qualitative
- Quantitative
- Grey literature
- Randomised controlled trial
- Quasi RCTs
- Empirical study
- Efficacy
- Meta-Synthesis



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Library / Subject guides / Systematic Reviews / Knowing your resources

## Systematic Reviews: Knowing your resources

The basics | Getting started | Knowing your resources | Systematic review service

### Introduction

In order to conduct a robust systematic review, you need to be sure how your information resources work.

- How familiar are you with the range of search resources at your disposal?
- How familiar are you with the tools within your chosen resources?
- Are you sure you have the right tools for the job?
- Are you sure you know the rules for Boolean to ensure they work correctly?

Have a look at your [subject guide](#) if you are unfamiliar with the range of resources available for your research area. This gathers the most commonly used resources for each subject on one page. You may also want to look at other subject pages if your research area spans across multiple disciplines.

Different database platforms have different levels of functionality. The [Exploring Health Sciences Platforms](#) booklet gives an overview of each of the major health sciences platforms. You will become more familiar with the workings of the databases the more you use them.

To help you think about your early search plans, the [Getting Started With Your Systematic Review Guide](#) gives you a few basic starting points which may help you find your route - or routes forward. This can be used in addition to the other resources on this guide.

### Basic research considerations

- Discipline span
- Grey literature
- Citation pearls
- Sensitivity vs precision

### Glossary of terms

- Systematic review

### Knowing your resources

This [online resource](#) will explore four different health science databases and will demonstrate how to maximise your searches.



## Systematic Review Service

Health science databases:  
An introduction



### Remembering The Rules - Revisiting Boolean

This [short online resource](#) will highlight some of the common pitfalls with using Boolean logic to help you to avoid them in your own searches.



## Systematic Review Service:

Revisiting Boolean operators



[Download a printable version of this resource \(PDF\)](#)

### My Learning Essentials



## Learn more about this area from

# Service take-up and feedback

110 staff and students used the service during the pilot phase.

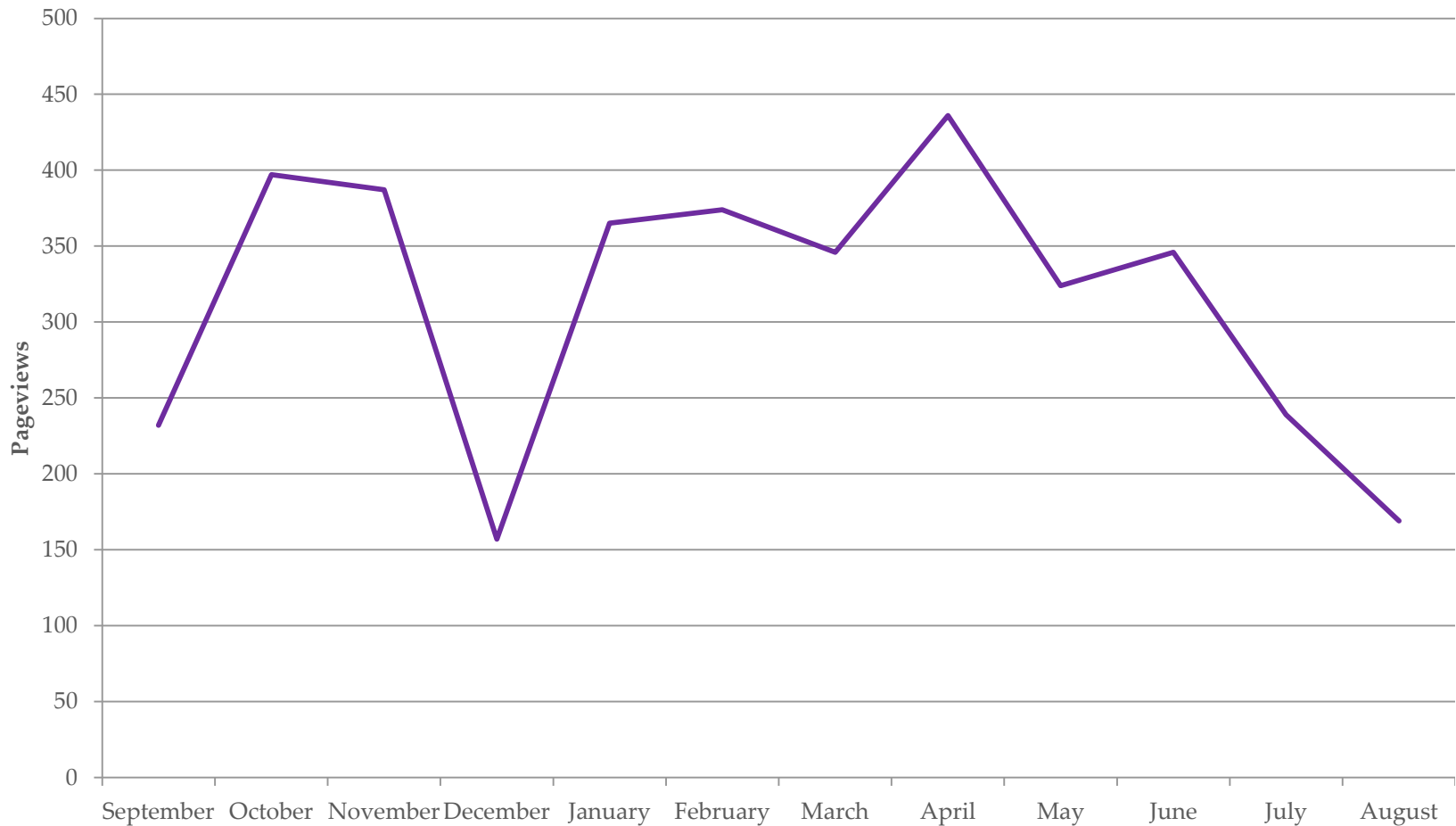
User type	Staff	PGT	PGR	PhD	UG	External
Number of users	24	22	12	28	19	5

*“It's always good to have some sort of individual support especially for something as complex as a systematic review. The staff involved in helping me was very clear and concise and explained things well.”*

*“I was conscious that the service could only offer me a restricted level of support. It would be helpful to have more support stretching to being able to give more hands on with the actual searching.”*

# Libguide usage over the past year

*Pageviews*

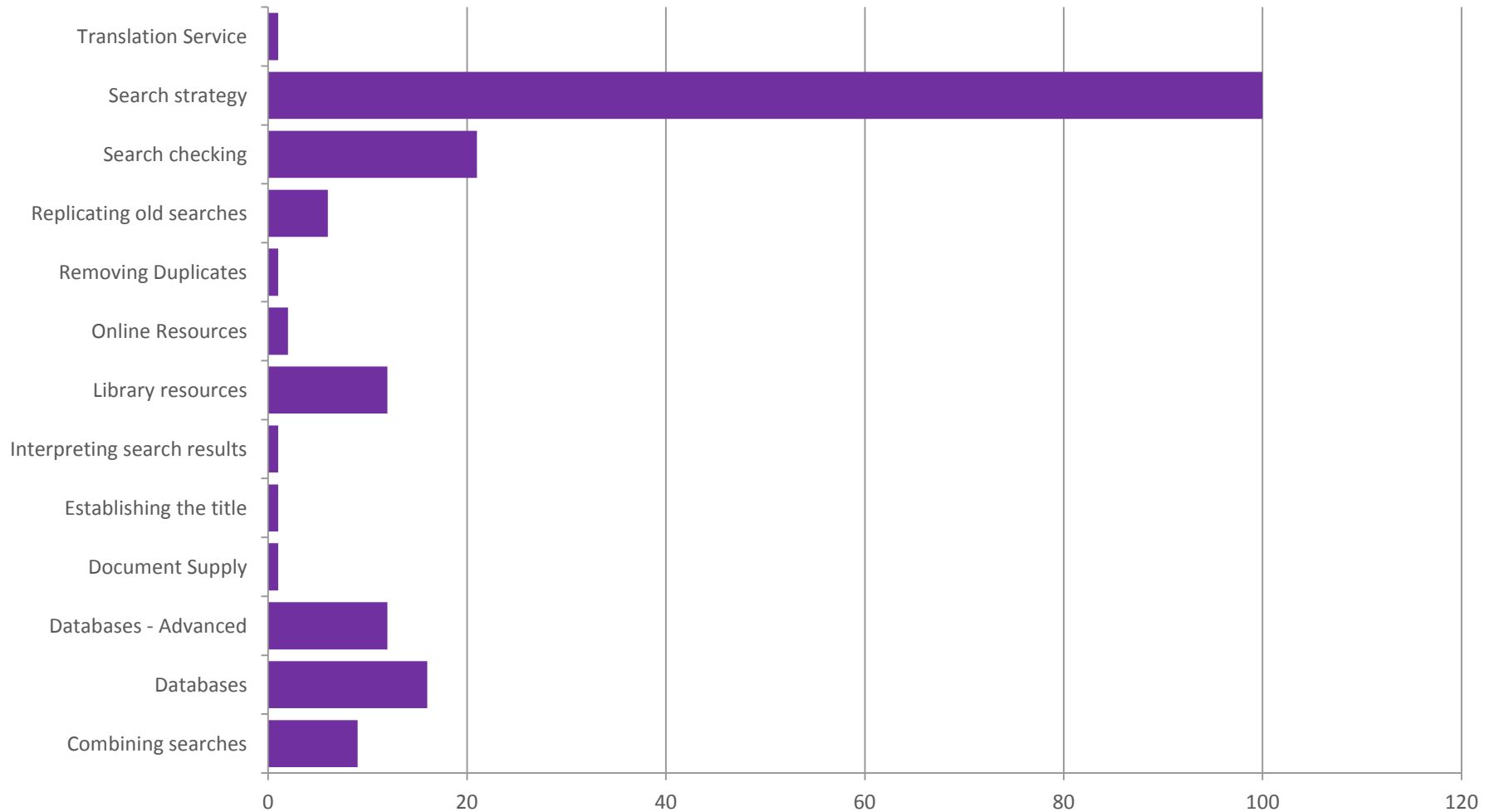


# Service users by school

School	Number of users
Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work	29
Psychological Sciences	22
Manchester Medical School	12
Dentistry	11
Institute of Population Health	10
Manchester Pharmacy School	7
Manchester Business School	4
Institute of Inflammation Repair	4
Institute of Brain, Behaviour and Mental Health	2
Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences	1
Life Sciences	1
Other	7

# Range of queries

## *Enquiry details*





# Is this a systematic review service?

Yes?

The scope of the service is clearly defined on the libguide

Most of the service users were doing systematic reviews but some had very little searching experience and needed to start with the basics

Very few students expected the library staff to carry out the searches

No?

The range of queries could come from anyone doing any kind of literature search

Some of the information on the libguide is very basic

Some academics would have liked the library staff to carry out the searches

# What do other places do?

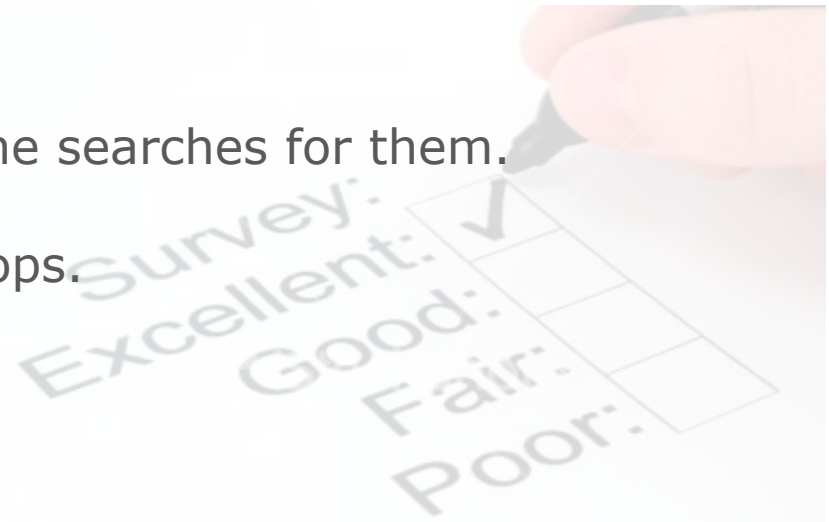
- All places have more than one person involved in running literature help services.
- MRI Library offers a complete Systematic Review Service, conducting searches from scratch. They also provide “search on demand”, with the capacity to draft in additional help.
- Some NHS library services are similar to Manchester (search technique guidance, database help etc.)
- Queens’ University, Belfast run similar services to Manchester.
- University of Exeter conduct full systematic reviews alongside research groups within their institution.

# Pilot feedback

Did the support provided by the service meet your expectations?

Yes - 20 (out of 23 respondents) No - 3

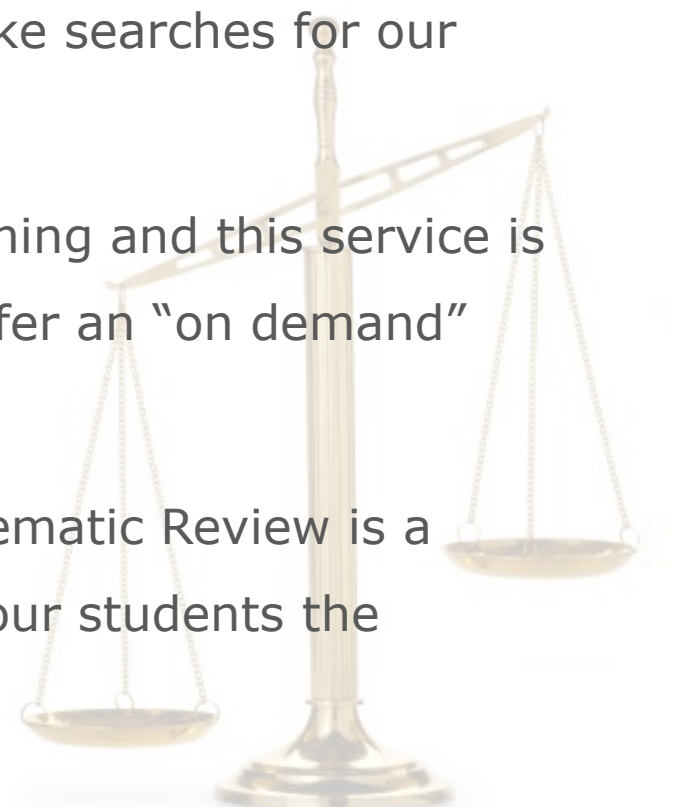
- The current service of checking searches and giving advice on searching is highly valued.
- Some people thought the response time was fast, others thought it wasn't fast enough!
- Three people wanted us to conduct the searches for them.
- Two people wanted us to run workshops.
- One person said "Extend the pilot!"



# Where to now?

Balancing expectation with practicality – and ethics!

- Most service users were satisfied with the service received.
- However we do not have capacity to undertake searches for our service users.
- Searches and search checking is time consuming and this service is one part of our role – therefore we cannot offer an “on demand” service either.
- There is an ethical point which is that a Systematic Review is a learning and discovery process and thus for our students the searching is a key part of this.



# Recommendations

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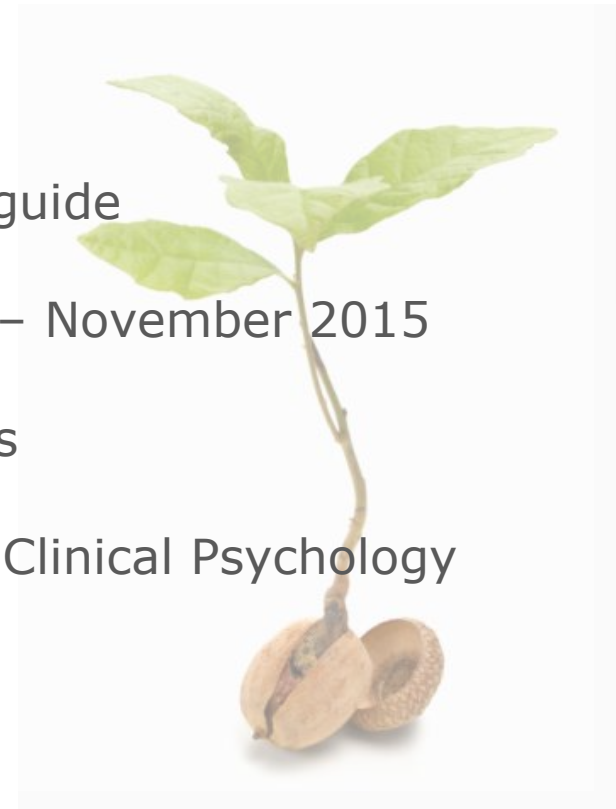
- The Systematic Review Service should move from pilot to full service, to be reviewed on a 12-monthly basis.
- The Systematic Review Service should continue to be run by Claire Hodgkinson (0.4FTE) with assistance from Ingrid Zollinger (0.1FTE).
- The systematic review service should continue as a search checking and advice service.
- Service standards to be introduced to help manage expectations.
- The service can now be actively promoted.



# Year 2 developments

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- Another member of staff involved
- Increased publicity in targeted (medical and human sciences) subject areas
- Increased presence on the subject libguide
- Increased content on the systematic review libguide
- Two workshop pilots – PhD Clinical Psychology – November 2015
- Analyse feedback from the two November pilots
- Investigate if other school needs are similar to Clinical Psychology
- Look at running further workshops in 2016





# Thank you for listening

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