

Pure FAQ

1) What is Pure?

Pure in the Heriot Watt context is a standalone Publications database, though in general can be used as a Research Information System when connected to other central databases such as SAS, Oracle or REBUS. It can perform as an Open Access system to help meet potential funder requirements such as those recently introduced by EPSRC.

2) How does Pure benefit me?

Pure allows you to create an updateable profile of your activities, recording not only Publications but information on Esteem and Impact indicators. These can be used in variety of ways from creating a CV to preparing data for the REF submission. Any of this data can be easily updated and extracted for other uses.

3) What data is already in Pure?

We have imported legacy data from the old ISS database that had around 12,000 entries linked to it. Unfortunately the quality of the data means that some of the details are incorrect (e.g. the Journal types, spelling mistakes in names and titles etc.) so there is a long term exercise needed to tidy this up. The university also paid for a one off download from the Scopus database held by Elsevier, which has also been integrated into Pure. This added another 12,000 articles. Lastly we are using Thomson-Reuters to load in data from Web of Science to both improve the quality of the existing content but also to add in additional data where it is found – at the time of go live this latter data will not yet have been received.

4) Why do some names have hyper-links and others not?

There was a large exercise to connect known university staff (past and present) to content in Pure. Where we have identified known staff they become classed as internal in Pure and have a hyper-link to a profile page.

5) Who has access to Pure?

We are trying to ensure all academic staff can get access to Pure. Presently we are restricted to 500 licences and therefore not everyone will get a login at the initial release, but by the end of the year we should have extended this to 800. There will be some administration staff given access to help with the co-ordination and maintenance of Pure at a School as well as central level.

6) Who can I talk to about Pure?

Each School will have a local expert (David Nisbet – EPS, Claire Porter – MACS, Juergen Munz – SML, Claire McMillan – IPE, Ruth Patterson – SBC, Cathy Lord – SBE, Maggie Dunn – SLS) who you should talk to in the first instance. Should they be unable to help then they, or you, should contact Paul Thompson (RES) or Linda Kerr (Library).

7) How can I get Pure training?

In most instances the Help within Pure, or the screencasts, will provide you with all the information you need. However, should you wish to have specific training in one area then contact Linda Kerr.

8) How do I login to Pure

You can use your standard university login ID and password. If you haven't registered with the central university systems then please do so as local School/Institute usernames won't be recognised.

9) I can't login to Pure

If you haven't logged in before please contact Paul Thompson to establish if you have been given access – providing him with your university username and e-mail address (note this can't be in the format jsmith@school.hw.ac.uk but should be jsmith@hw.ac.uk).

If he indicates to you that you are registered then there is an issue with your Active Directory account that needs correcting by IT, he will then direct you to ask ITHelp@hw.ac.uk to resolve this as the fault is not with Pure. If you have logged in before and can't get in again then please check with IT Help. Note you will need a campus PC to login to Pure until we establish the Advanced Portal.

10) I'm new to the institution, how do I get access to Pure?

Please provide your university username and e-mail address (note this can't be in the format jsmith@school.hw.ac.uk but should be jsmith@hw.ac.uk) to Paul Thompson.

11) I can't access the Pure Portal

For go live the Portal will be restricted to Campus only. However, once we have the Advanced Portal it should be visible using any connection, noting that some data might not be visible on an external connection if the content has been restricted in some way – e.g. to Campus only or is Confidential. If the Portal cannot be seen please inform Paul Thompson.

12) I can't access the Pure backend system

At go live access is primarily based on IP addresses linked to the internal network, so if you are using WiFi (whether Eduroam or another) then this may not be possible unless the IP address is recognised. For external connections access is not possible. Should you be on the internal network and can't access the login pages, then please contact the IT Help Desk (ITHelp@hw.ac.uk). Note with the introduction of the Advanced Portal this will change.

13) The Publication(s) against my name is(are) incorrect, what do I do?

You can disclaim any content associated against your name using the system by clicking on the appropriate symbol. This will be verified via a workflow and the correction(s) applied

14) My Profile information is incorrect, how do I change?

You have editing rights over the majority content of the information in you Profile, with areas such as contact details restricted. This is closed so that it becomes standard practice to

use data stored by the centre when we integrate to an HR system at a future date. However, should you want one of these fields altering, please contact Paul Thompson.

15) A person with a similar name is linked to my Publication, how do I change?

You can claim any Publication content in the system by clicking on the appropriate symbol. This will go into a workflow for checking before being approved.

16) I recognise colleagues names on Publications but they appear as external people, can we change?

If you spot anyone who should be recognised as Heriot Watt staff (including PGR) then please contact Paul Thompson with the details. We will try to ensure as many instances as possible are corrected, though this may take time due to the number of publications and staff concerned.

17) My Publications don't appear within Pure, how can I get them in?

There are several ways of getting content into Pure. We have access to Thomson-Reuters Web of Science, arXiv and PubMed to electronically import papers as an initial upload. This can then be maintained by setting up a search facility within your profile to look for new content in these systems. Alternatively, if you have data in a BibTex or RIS (this is export option from ReferenceManager, EndNote and RefWorks etc.) then again we can import this into the system. Unfortunately if your data is in Word or PDF format then the only way is manually enter the information. However, the Library may be able to assist in this latter case if you contact Linda Kerr.

18) The look and feel of the Portal does not match that of the university, why?

In the initial release of Pure we are using what is called the Standard Portal. This is a very basic tool to allow access to a majority of data held in Pure. By the end of the year we should have added in the Advanced Portal, which is far more flexible and will allow us to use the university branding.

19) I want to add full text to the metadata for my publication for Open Access, what are the implications on copyright?

Attaching a file is a simple process and Pure should give a general indication of whether or not there are copyright issues with a publication by interfacing with Sherpa-Romeo – there will be either a green or red bar across some of the data in the back end system. However, attaching a file will also start a workflow process that will enable Library checking of the file to ensure we do no breach copyright. Note it is possible to distinguish pre prints in Pure which are subject to less stringent restrictions.

20) My paper, or another, is duplicated can you resolve this?

If you spot a potential duplicate output, please contact Linda Kerr with as many details as possible. She will be able to resolve the issue if it is an actual duplicate – note some may the same title but a different Journal.

21) The Journal linked to my paper is incorrect, how do I change?

Please contact Linda Kerr with as many details as possible and she will help resolve the problem. The quality of the data imported from ISS was very poor and can slowly be updated as you highlight the issue.

22) I can't access data in a School/Department/Institute/Theme/Research Pool etc., how can I get authority to do so?

Contact Paul Thompson to discuss to see if the issue can be resolved.

23) I've modified or added new content and it's not appearing in the system, why?

There is workflow associated with adding or changing content, please be patient whilst staff approve the changes – remember they are looking at the whole institution and after go live there is likely to be a flood of requests. Focus will be given to data post Jan 2008 for REF purposes.

24) Why is priority been given to post 2008 outputs?

This is primarily so we can gear up for REF. Once we have past the submission deadline, we will work on older data.

25) Why are there some publications with unknown author?

With the data we've collected some of the quality has been poor and this data may well be missing. In some instances we have assigned a default author where the integration has allowed.

26) Do we really have data going back to 1800 or why does the publication date say 1800 in my paper?

As with the author details the quality of imported data has not been good. Where this date field has been missing we've defaulted to 1800 to indicate we need to check and correct. However, we do have papers going back to 1889 according to Elsevier.

27) Other institutions have student and finance data with their version of Pure, why don't we?

With major changes under way to Finance (R12) and with SAS still rolling out modules, it was thought it was better to get these systems completed before we attempted to integrate Pure to them. Making this data visible on Pure is something the university is keen to do but now might need to wait until the REF submission is completed in order not to distract from this important deadline for Heriot Watt.