

Terms of Reference

IReL Persistent Identifier Community Advisory Group

Purpose

The IReL Persistent Identifier (PID) Community Advisory Group will act in the interests of the Irish scholarly community by providing expertise and strategic guidance on fostering and maximising the benefits of national adoption and integration of Persistent Identifiers (PIDs). These identifiers—including DataCite DOIs, ORCID iDs, RAiDs, and ROR identifiers—play a crucial role in advancing research integrity, interoperability, and discoverability within the Irish research ecosystem.

The Advisory Group will provide recommendations and guidance to IReL, Irish DataCite Consortium Members, Irish ORCID Consortium Members, and wider stakeholders, ensuring alignment with national priorities and best practices. This group will maintain an advisory role, complementing the governance responsibilities of IReL as Consortia Lead Organisation while supporting obligations outlined in the DataCite Agreement for Consortia and the Irish ORCID Consortium Agreement.

Scope & Responsibilities

The Group's advisory functions will include, but are not limited to:

- **Clarification of PID-related terms and definitions**, promoting a shared understanding of persistent identifiers across the scholarly ecosystem.
- **Recognising and addressing the broader PID landscape**, ensuring alignment with international frameworks and best practices.
- **Providing guidance to national stakeholders**—including government bodies, Research Performing Organisations (RPOs), Research Funding Organisations (RFOs), infrastructure providers, and other key entities—on:
 - Global trends and emerging best practices in the adoption and use of **DataCite and ORCID** identifiers.
 - **National and international opportunities** to leverage the benefits of PID integration.
 - **Recommendations** for widespread adoption and implementation of PIDs across Irish research institutions.

The Group will actively support awareness-building and adoption efforts by promoting the advantages of **DataCite, ORCID, and other PID systems**. It will also ensure that its work aligns with **NORF's national roadmap for Persistent Identifiers (NORF Action Plan A4.4.2)**, which aims to consolidate national coordination and accelerate the uptake and integration of priority identifiers.

Membership

The IReL PID Community Advisory Group will represent the diverse membership of the **Irish DataCite Consortium** and **IReL ORCID Consortium**.

The Group shall consist of **no more than 9 members**, ensuring a balanced representation of organizational type and size:

- **Up to 8 representatives** from the DataCite and ORCID Consortia Membership.
- **One representative from NORF**, ensuring alignment with national PID strategies.

The Group will be convened by **IReL** and chaired by the **IReL Director**, with administrative and secretariat support provided by IReL.

Appointment Process

- The appointment process will be **managed by IReL**, with representatives nominated by their respective organisations and approved by the **IReL Governing Board**.
- Nominations must include details of the nominee's expertise and areas of interest in PID adoption and implementation.

Term of Service

- Advisory Group members will serve a **two-year term**.
- If a member leaves their organization, a new representative will be appointed for the remainder of the term.
- There is **no limit to the number of terms** an individual may serve, provided their nomination continues to be supported by the nominating organisation.

Meeting Frequency

- **Meetings will be hosted by IReL electronically**, occurring **twice per year or more frequently** as required.
- Certain items may be addressed outside of meetings via **email consultation** under the guidance of the Chair.

Transparency & Knowledge Sharing

- Members of the **IReL PID Community Advisory Group** will be listed on the **IReL website**, along with their **organizational affiliation and term dates**.
- **Meeting minutes** will be shared with all **DataCite and ORCID consortia members** to maintain transparency.
- The Group will actively **facilitate knowledge exchange**, ensuring the adoption of PIDs aligns with the broader landscape of open research infrastructure.

Honorarium & Costs

- Advisory Group members will **not receive compensation** for their services on the Group.