**APCs the in Wild Survey Questions and methodology**

The following three questions were posed to Springer Nature authors who were taking part in the Post Publication Author Satisfaction Survey.

These authors were qualified as being the corresponding author on a published OA article in either a fully OA or hybrid journal and as having paid an APC. Authors received the survey within a week of publication of their OA article. Questions were live for two months from 27th June 2019 to 29th August 2019, and the total base size of people who answered the questions about the funding and payment of APCs was 1,014.

**Q. Which sources did the funding come from to cover the cost of the APC for this manuscript?**

**From main research funder:**

**Please select all that apply.**

* I used a budgeted OA allocation from my main research grant  (1)
* I used remaining funds from my main research grant (not dedicated open access funds)  (2)
* Dedicated OA funds from my main research funder (excluding OA block grants\* distributed via institutions)  (3)
* Dedicated OA funds from my main research funder, distributed via OA block grants\* to my institution  (4)
* I did not use any funding from my main research funder  (5)

*Explanation displayed if respondents hover over words “block grant”:* \*Block grants: Certain research funders award OA block grants to institutions, to be distributed to eligible researchers to fund their APCs.

**From my institution:**

**Please select all that apply.**

* Dedicated OA funds from my institution (excluding OA block grants\* from funders)  (1)
* I used funds from my institution that were not dedicated OA funds  (2)
* I did not use any funding from my institution  (3)

**From other sources:**

**Please select all that apply**

* Dedicated open access funds from an organisation that is not my main research funder/institution  (1)
* The publication fee was fully covered by my funder/institution’s OA membership with the publisher  (7)
* I used my own personal funds/ savings  (3)
* My co-author(s) funds (from their own funder, institutional or personal funding)  (4)
* Other (please specify)  (5) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* I did not use any other sources of funding  (6)

**Q. Who was involved in the process of paying the APC?**

**Please select all that apply**

* My funder paid the publisher directly  (1)
* My institution paid the publisher directly  (2)
* I paid the publisher directly  (3)
* My co-author paid the publisher directly, or arranged the payment  (4)
* Other (please specify)  (5) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* I can't remember  (6)

**Q. We are interested to understand how easy it is for institutions to identify and monitor APCs. Which one of the following options apply to you?**

* I have/will alert my institution to this APC payment so that it can be tracked  (1)
* I know this APC has been/will be automatically tracked by my institution  (2)
* My institution would be able to identify and track this APC payment if desired without me taking any action  (3)
* My institution would not be able to centrally track this APC payment  (4)
* I don’t know whether my institution would be able to centrally track this APC payment  (5)