



**Southern Cross
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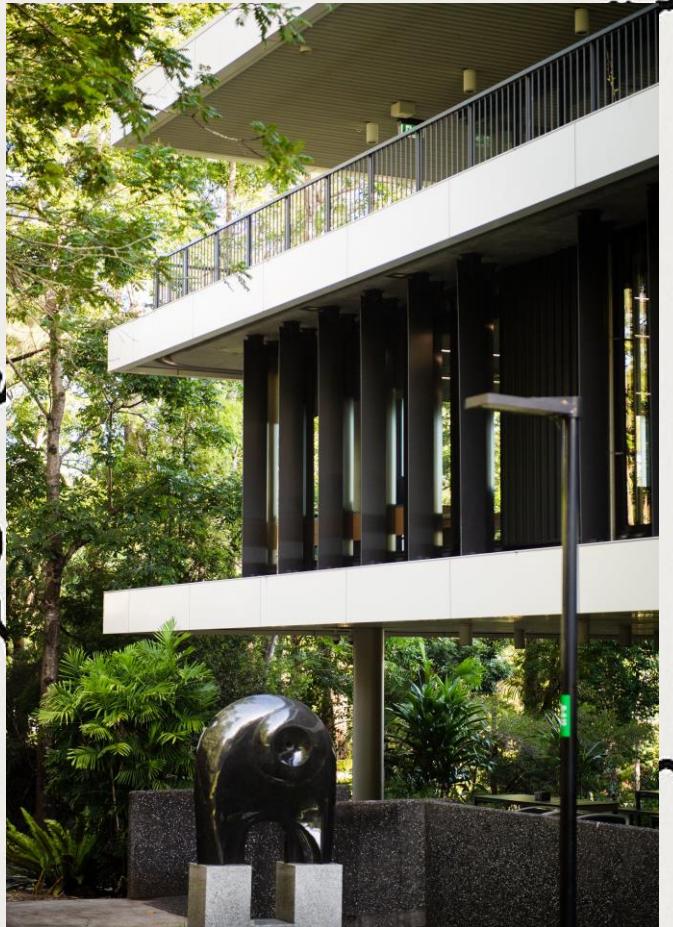
Transforming > Tomorrow

To Share or Not to Share?

*A Case Study of Research Data
Management in Esploro*

Maureen Bezanson
Southern Cross University

About Southern Cross University





Research Data Management at SCU

- Ad hoc and bespoke
- Interdepartmental responsibilities
 - Technology Services (TS) = data storage solutions
 - Office of Research = ethics, guidance & procedures
 - Library = publishing of datasets



Why Research Data Management Matters

- Data is valuable
- Management is complex
 - Security
 - Accessibility
 - Ethics
- Open data and data sharing



Our Journey

- Current storage solution discontinued
- Identified problems in current Research Data Storage and Management (RDSM) practices.

- Orphaned works
- RDSM Project started

2023

2024

2025



Collaborative Approach

- Interdepartmental team
- Unified strategy
 - Research Data Management Plans
 - Research Data storage
 - Research Data publication



AI generated image



Data Classification

- Public
- Official
- Official Sensitive
- Protected

- Orphaned works
- RDSM Project started

- Requirements

2023

2024

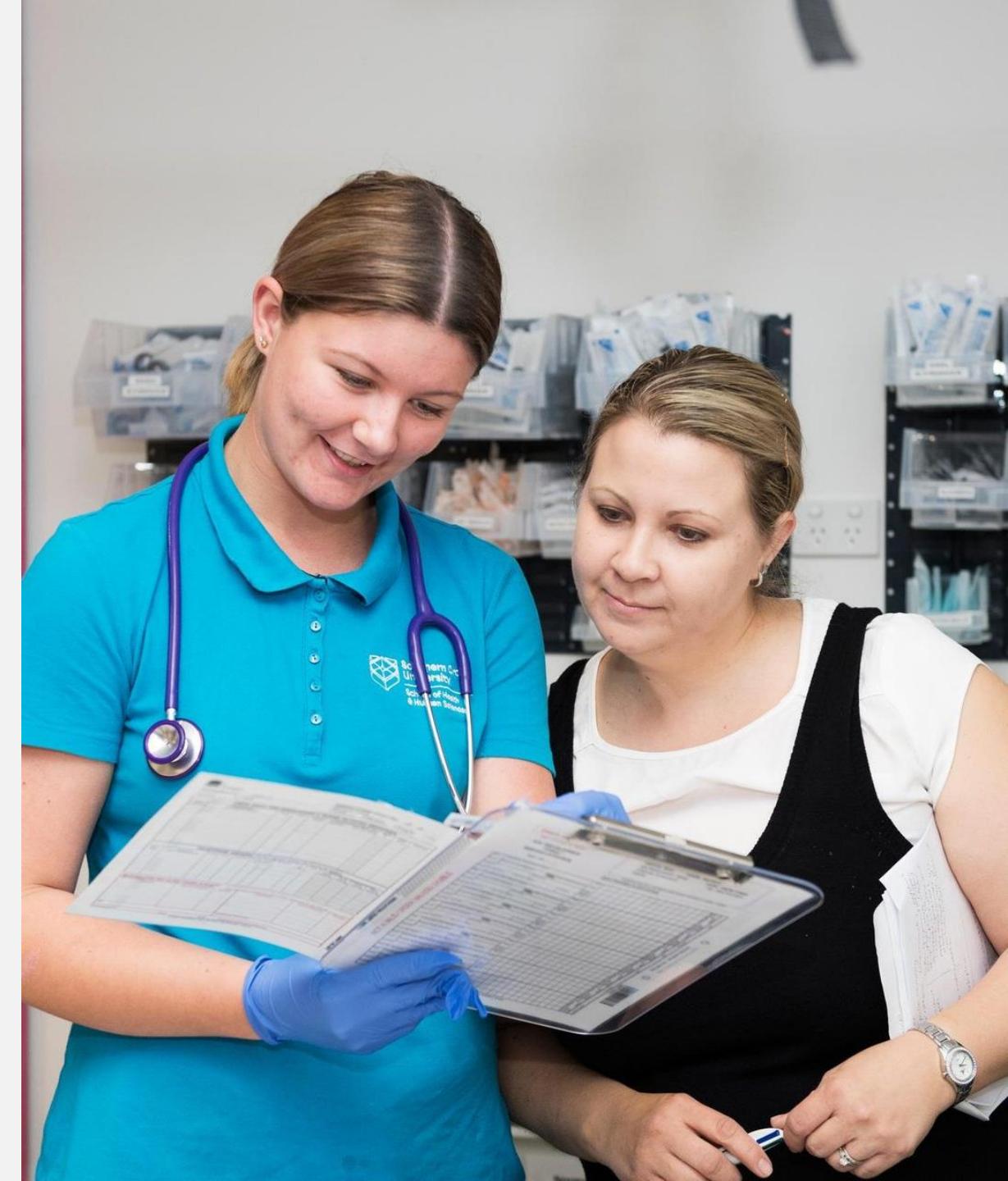
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Sensitive or Protected Data

- Personal identifiers
- Health or financial records
- Confidential agreements

SCU developed data classification tools and training to help researchers identify and manage sensitive data.





Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property (ICIP)

ICIP includes any data that “embodies, refers to, depicts or describes traditional knowledges or cultural practices”

Implications

- Storage location
- Access restrictions

More information

- [Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Data Archive](#)
- [CARE principles](#)
- [NLA - Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property](#)





- Orphaned works
- RDSM Project started
- Requirements

- More requirements

2023

2024

2025

Data Storage

- Security
- Location
- Cost
- Access



Compliance and Best Practices

Align with:

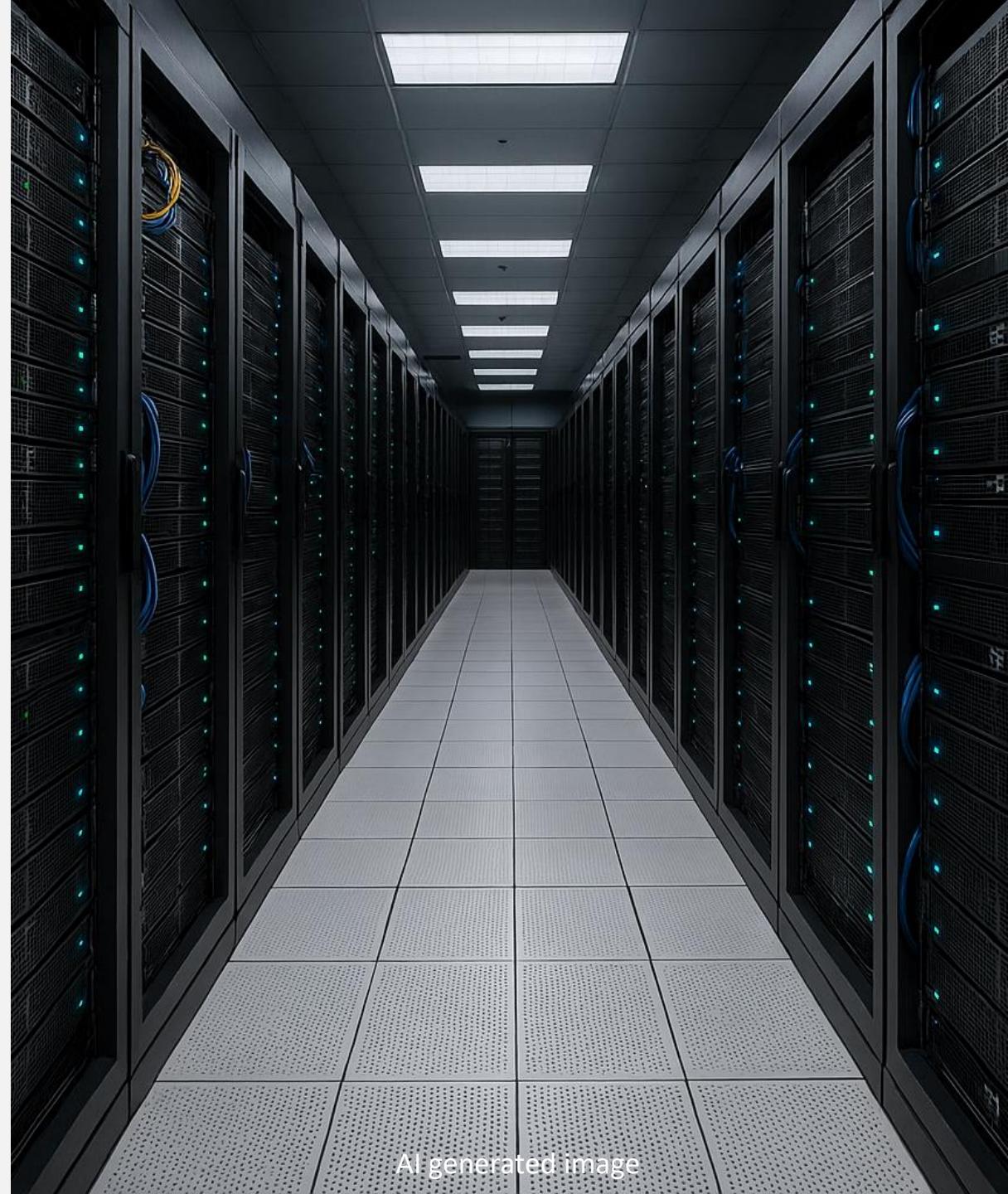
- Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research
- Commonwealth of Australia Privacy Act 1988
- State-based legislation





Long-Term Data Ownership

- **Short-term:** Active research phase, frequent access
- **Long-term:** Archival, compliance, and legacy access
- **SCU adopted tiered storage:**
 - Cloud-based for active projects
 - Long-term preservation
 - Cost-effective backups and retention policies
 - Institutional repository for published data





- Orphaned works
- RDSM Project started
- Requirements
- More requirements
- Vendor selection

2023

2024

*

2025

Data Sharing

- IP & ICIP
- Copyright
- Licensing
- Classification

Vendor Selection

QCIF (Queensland Cyber Infrastructure Foundation)
ReDBox (Research Data Box)

<https://www.redboxresearchdata.com.au/>



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Welcome to Research DataHub

[Plan](#)[Create Research Data Management Plan \(RDMP\)](#)[View & Update RDMP](#)[Publish](#)[Create Data Publication](#)[View & Update Data Publication](#)

Research data management is an integral part of responsible research, as determined by Australian Code of Responsible Conduct of Research. Research data is a valuable asset to both researchers and the University. It is a requirement to have a data management plan (DMP) to store, protect and share your data in the short and long term. Preparing a RDMP saves you time and increases the value of your research data.

Please use this form to create a new RDMP, or to update an existing RDMP. For more information about data management and the use of this form, please see [Support information on the Research Launchpad](#).

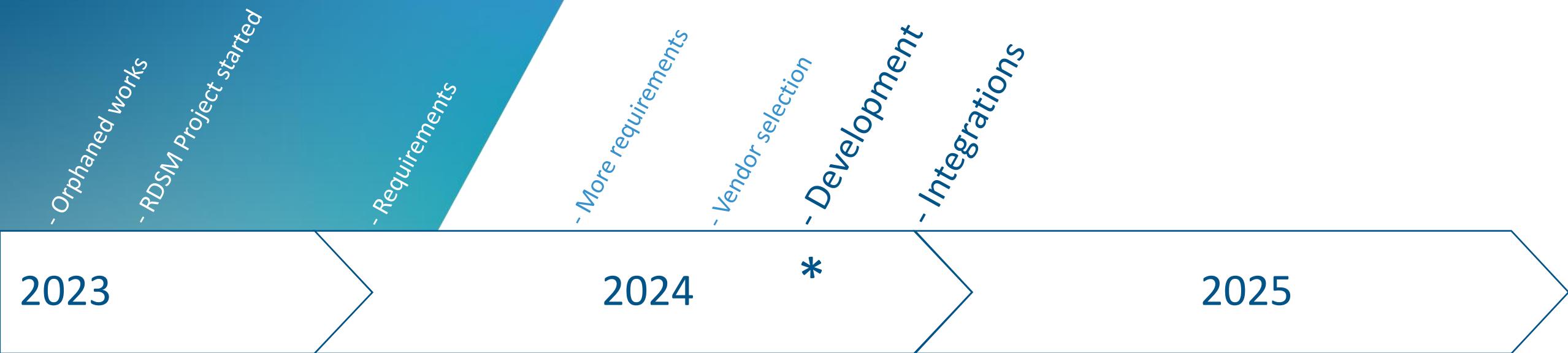
Please see the [research data management procedures](#).

For advice on completing the RDMP please contact digital.research@scu.edu.au.

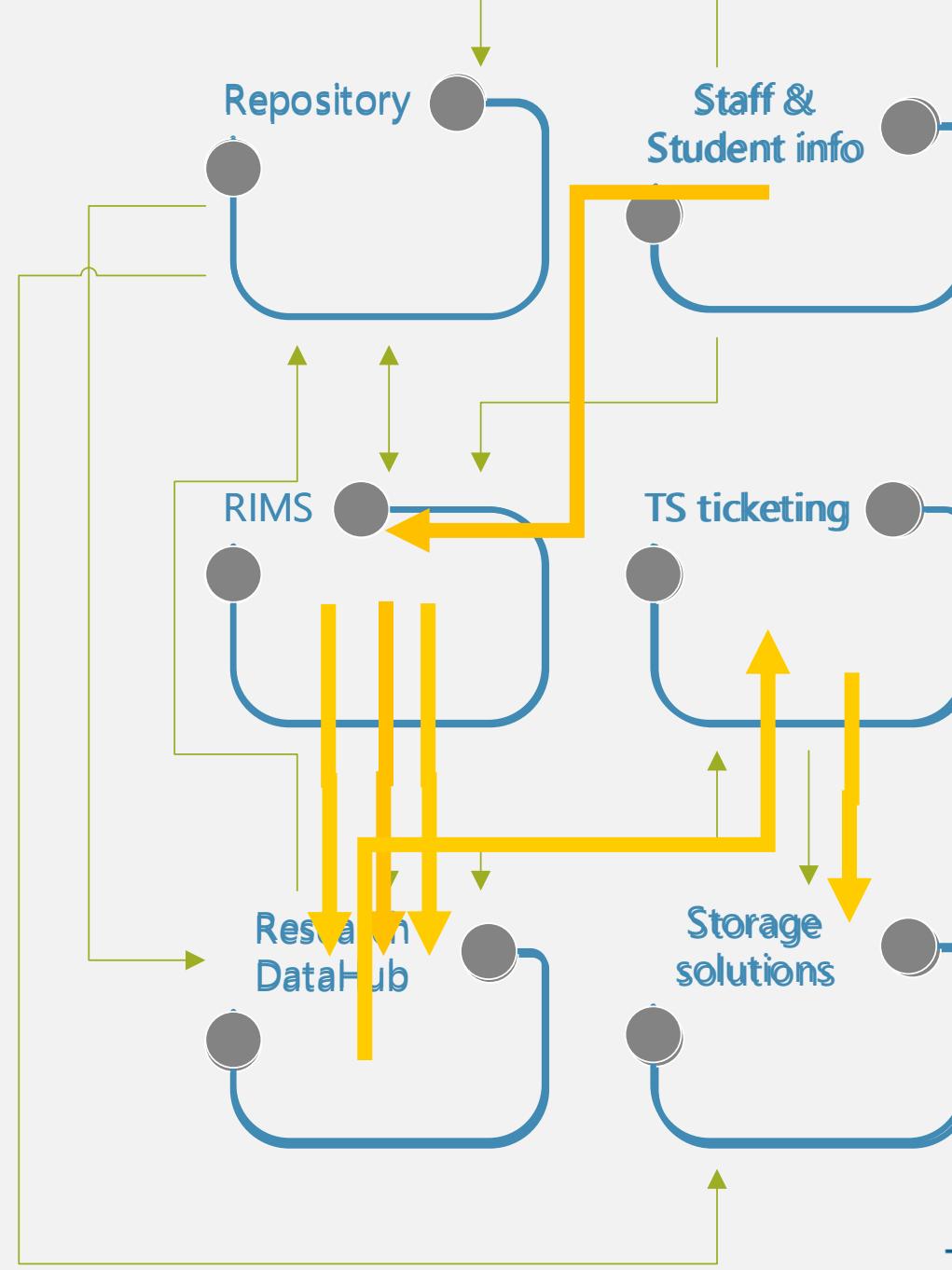


Research DataHub

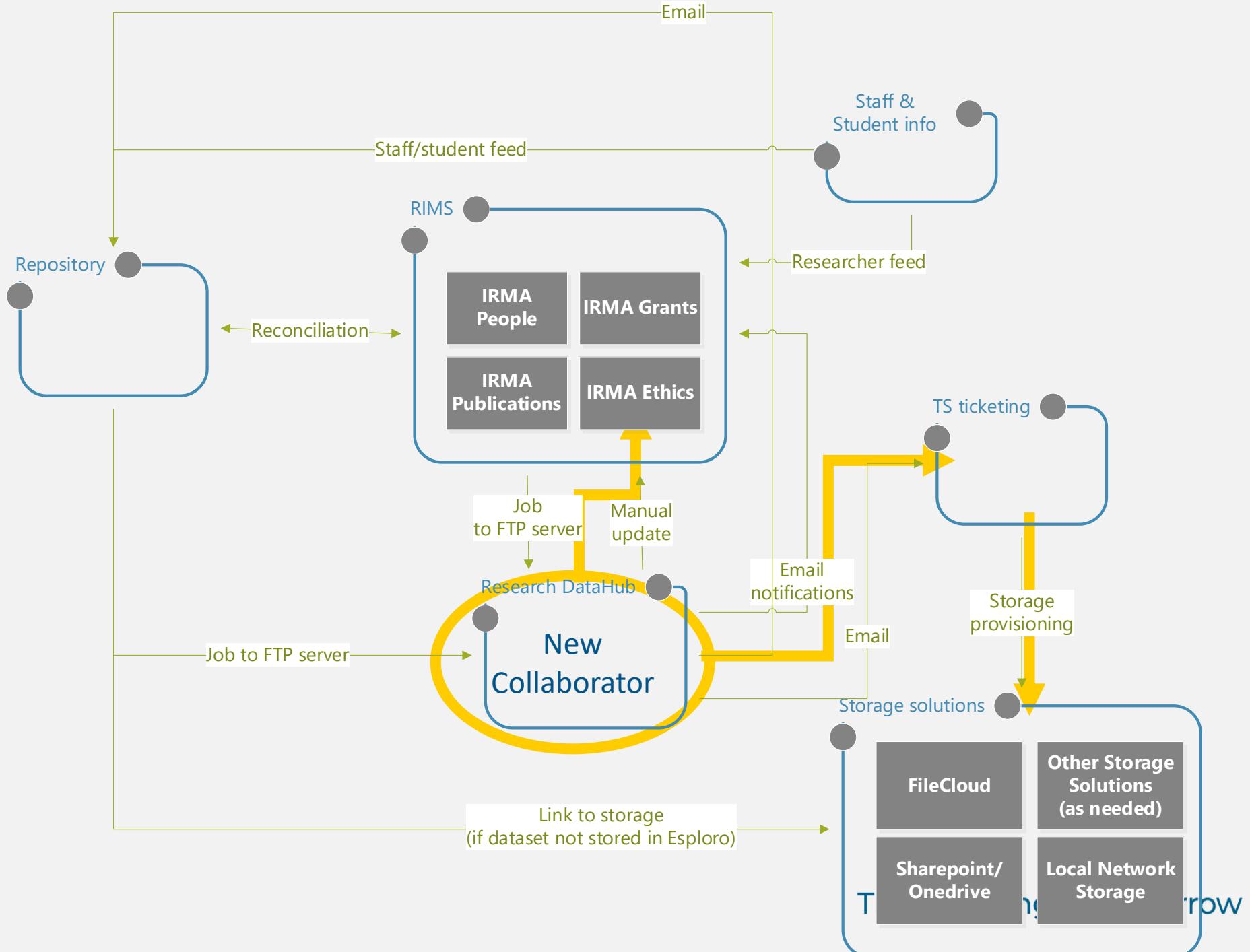
- Development & customisations
- SSO
- Integrations



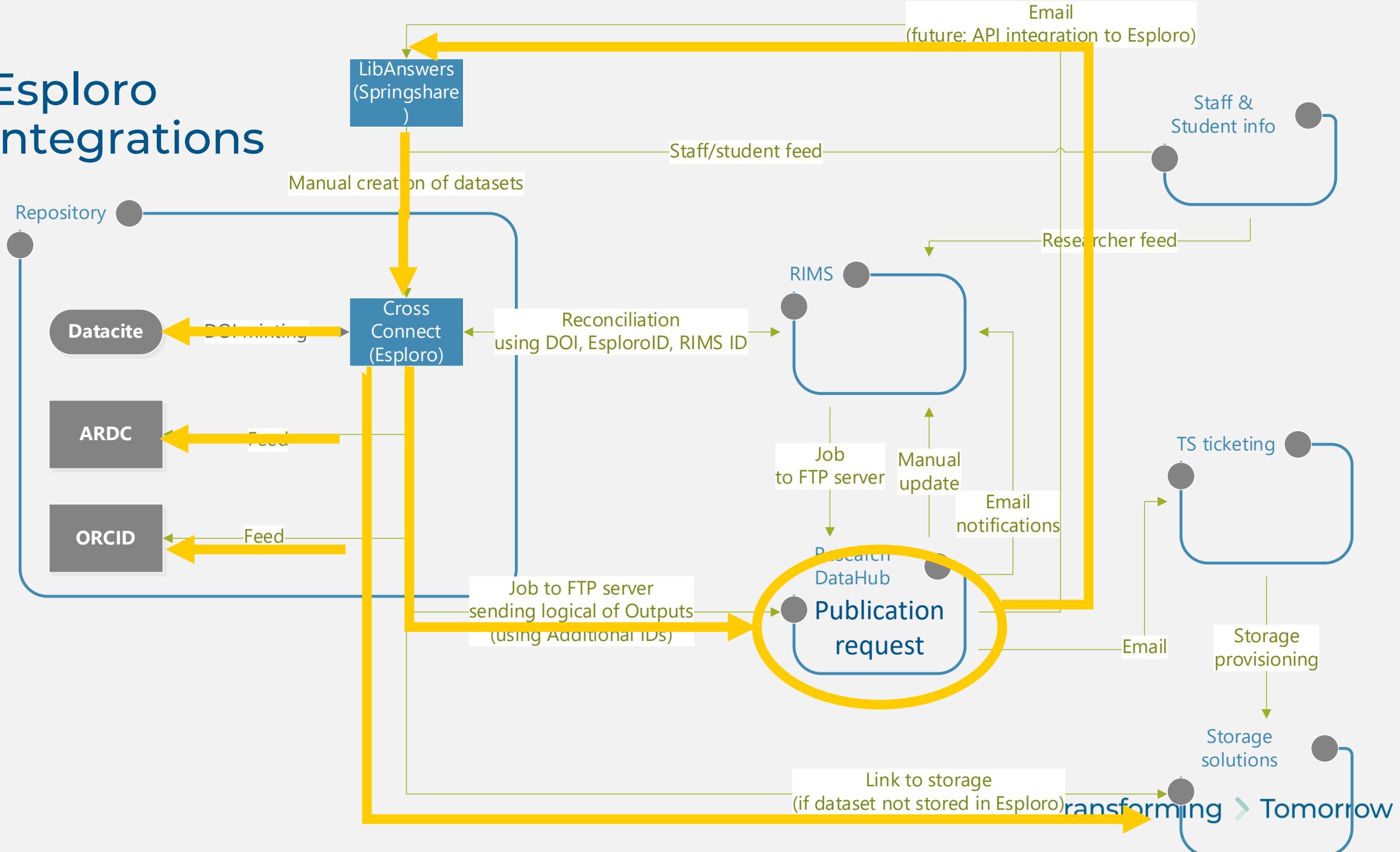
Integrations



Integrations



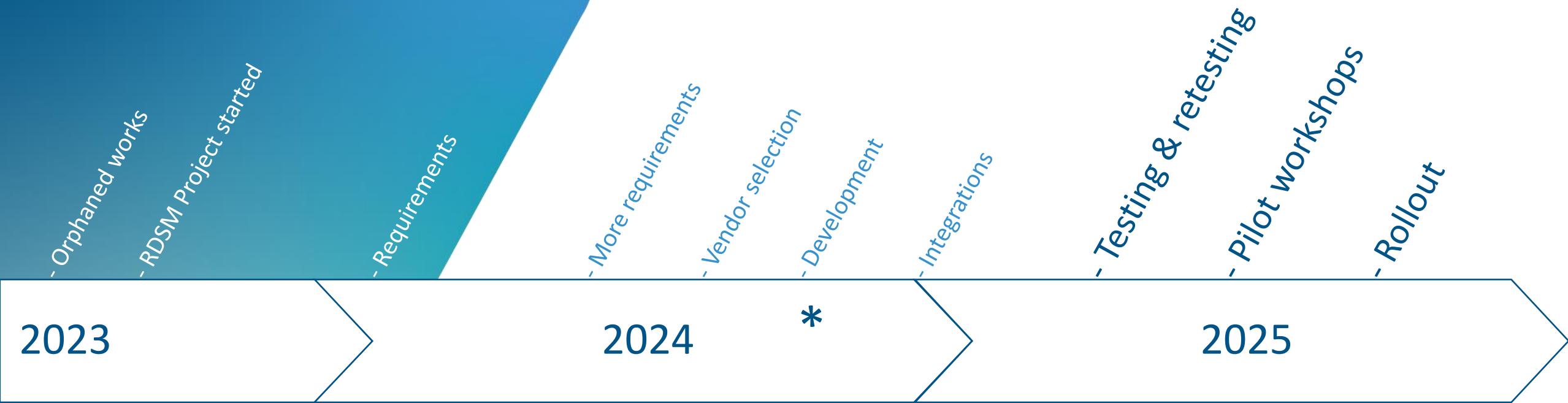
Esploro integrations





Testing, Pilot & Rollout

- Test plans
- 'Minimum viable product'
- User feedback
- Embedding into workflows





Lessons learned & recommendations

- Early planning is key
- Collaboration improves outcomes
- Respect for cultural data builds trust and integrity
- Prioritise ethical and legal compliance
- Integrate with existing systems & workflows



Thank you!

Maureen Bezanson

maureen.bezanson@scu.edu.au



Gold Coast

Southern Cross Drive
Bilinga
QLD 4225

Lismore

Military Road
East Lismore
NSW 2480

Coffs Harbour

Hogbin Drive
Coffs Harbour
NSW 2450

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