Applying a collections categorisation framework:
a pilot project at the University of York

Ruth Elder - Collections Management Specialist
Space
Limited resources
Engagement of academics
Systematic
Replicable
Mineable
Scalable
Focus on the collections
There are known knowns; there are things we know that we know.

There are known unknowns; that is to say, there are things that we now know we don’t know.

But there are also unknown unknowns – there are things we do not know we don’t know.

- Donald Rumsfeld
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Criteria (fulfilling one or more points)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Heritage</strong></td>
<td>Relatively rare or unique to York OR Specific to York / Yorkshire OR Held in Rare Books Collections OR Specialist research area of particular significance OR A collection of significance to the University, city or region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Self renewing</strong></td>
<td>Item has had 5 or more loans (or ‘Left in library’) in the previous 3 years Item has been used in High Demand in the last 2 years Item is on a current or previous academic year reading list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Legacy</strong></td>
<td>Item has been in stock for less than 10 years Item has been loaned (or ‘Left in library’) in the past 10 years Item held in fewer than 10 COPAC libraries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Finite</strong></td>
<td>Item has been in stock for more than 10 years AND Item has not been loaned (or ‘Left in library’) in the last 10 years AND Item is held in 10 or more COPAC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results of Categorisation

- Self Renewing: 4%
- Finite: 11%
- Heritage: 22%
- Legacy: 63%
Prioritise actions
Review timetable
Roll out