

**Institution: Liverpool John Moores University** 

Unit of Assessment: UoA22 Social Work and Social Policy

#### a. Overview

The Centre for the Study of Crime, Criminalisation and Social Exclusion (CCSE) was established in 2010 to formally bring together a diverse and vibrant group of critical social scientists and to offer an inclusive and stimulating cross university forum for developing and generating related and mutually reinforcing research activities. A great deal has been achieved in a short space of time through developing existing strengths, identifying and supporting new ones, and most importantly generating an inclusive, collaborative environment which provides support for research staff at all stages of their careers and from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds and institutional locations. Currently the CCSE has a membership of 29 (29.0 FTE) academics and 4 research/sessional staff on fractional contracts. CCSE members are being submitted to 4 different UoAs (20, 22, 26 and 36) with 8 members included in this submission (Allen, Canning, Jackson, Kelly, Millward, Scott, Standing, and Tyrer). Over the REF2014 census period, CCSE members have collectively produced 16 books, 66 refereed journal articles, and 60 chapters in books, dictionaries and encyclopaedias; generated £456,167 of external research income, and hosted 19 seminars and 13 workshop events/symposia.

# b. Research Strategy

The explicit strategic initiative informing this UoA submission began in January 2008 as a means to draw together the themes that have long permeated the work of critical social scientists within the School of Humanities and Social Science (HSS). This grouping has significant research strengths in the areas of crime, criminalisation and social exclusion which have developed via an explicit research strategy but also somewhat organically, from the bottom up. It also demonstrated a high and still developing level of synergy. There having been no collective submission to RAE2008, we established a University Research Centre in The Study of Crime, Criminalisation and Social Exclusion (CCSE), formally approved in 2010, to consolidate our research strengths within a more formalised structure with membership focussed within the School of Humanities and Social Science but also drawn from across LJMU. Thus while the CCSE is a new and significant development, it is not so much the start but the logical development of research strengths, and a key vehicle for developing further and augmenting these. In particular, the CCSE aims to:

- produce rigorous, critical, inter-disciplinary research on and around crime, criminalisation and social exclusion:
- establish a profile, and raise that of its members, locally, nationally and internationally, through high quality research activities and outputs;
- serve as a vehicle to support early career researchers and to consolidate and develop the research expertise of all members;
- play a key role in promoting and optimising the social impacts of research undertaken by members and the CCSE as a whole;
- make its resources and skills available on local, regional, national and international levels for policymakers, practitioners, user communities and other 'stakeholders' in criminal justice, social policy and related fields;
- contribute to progressive reform in criminal justice and social policy:
- sustain its growth by generating funding from a variety of external sources;
- develop and support a distinctive and vibrant post graduate culture which coheres with the Centre's aims and contributes to this submission to UoA22.

The aims and activities of the CCSE cohere to the University's Strategy Map 2012-17 which seeks to promote an environment which prioritises research as a core activity. To this end, the CCSE has 2 meetings per semester to discuss and develop research strategies and plan future synergies across the group. It is managed by its Director and Steering Committee who oversee and monitor its targets and activities with regard to research, social impacts, knowledge transfer and 'outreach' activities. The CCSE's progress and performance with respect to institutional



objectives is reviewed by the Faculty Research Scholarship Committee and, on a biennial basis, by Professor Andrew Young, LJMU's Director of Research.

A CCSE away day in June 2013 discussed strategies to maximise the benefits of Centre membership and the strategic plans and principles that should inform the future of the CCSE over coming years. The outcomes of this event supported the original aims of the CCSE to build a collegiate, supportive and dynamic research culture. Specifically over the next 5 years the CCSE will aim to:

- 1. Facilitate rigorous, critical, inter-disciplinary research on and around crime, criminalisation and social exclusion. To date members of the CCSE in combination have produced 16 books, 66 refereed journal articles, and 60 chapters in books, dictionaries and encyclopaedias. That the momentum of this research activity looks set to continue is reflected in the fact that members have already had work accepted or contracted for publication in the next REF submission cycle. For example, Scott has contracts for books on 'The Caretakers of Punishment: Power, Legitimacy and the Prison Officer'; 'Beyond Criminal Justice: Working Papers in Penal Abolitionism' and 'Prisons and Punishment: The Essentials'; Kelly and Millward for 'Sport and Criminology: a Critical Perspective'. Moreover since the formation of the CCSE, there has been a proliferation of new collaborative research and writing between members of the CCSE which would not otherwise have existed. For example, colleagues from HSS and Law have successfully secured funding and co-authored research reports for the European Union and Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council (Barrett, Beckett-Wilson, Burke, Grindrod, Jamieson, Millings, Taylor and Yates).
- 2. Provide an inclusive forum to support and develop the research careers of CCSE members at all levels and to consolidate individual research excellence in publication. The CCSE has established a range of mechanisms to support members in applying for funding, writing for publication and engaging in dissemination and research impact activities. These include peer review processes, the use of academic mentors and provision of financial support. A key mechanism in supporting this activity has been the School's appointment of a Research Support Officer (Thompson) in January 2012 (see section d). To further facilitate collegiate and cross disciplinary working, the CCSE is in the process of establishing thematic research clusters on: children and young people in conflict with the law; drugs policy; exclusion and space; financial capability and inclusion; identity politics; penal policy; social theory and social change and violence against women girls. It is envisaged that the clusters will act as critical friends for their members with regard to a range of related activities, including research funding bids, research papers and proposed research impact activities and that they will also serve as incubators and catalysts for interdisciplinary research ideas, initiatives and research bids for external funding.
- 3. Consolidate further the CCSE's regional presence, and develop its national and international recognition. The CCSE's identity and presence has been underpinned by a series of Critical Research Seminars. These were initiated in 2011 and built on the seminar series previously hosted within Criminology. The CCSE provided a framework and catalyst for a more ambitious series organised by Canning and Cooper. The series began with the extremely well received seminar given by Robert King on his experience of 29 years in solitary confinement in the US as one of the 'Angola 3' (180 attended). Such was the vibrancy of that evening that he has since added a transcript of the session to the new edition of his book, From the Bottom of the Heap (see REF3a). This series has served as a platform for research excellence and as a space for opening up dialogue across research, policy and practice. On establishment, a CCSE strategic aim was to host a major international conference by 2015. LJMU is to host the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the European Group for the Study of Deviance and Social Control on 'Resisting the demonization of 'the other': State, racism and social control in a time of crisis', in September 2014. The 'European Group' is an international organisation with over 1,000 members from more than 50 countries, and its annual conferences attract between 80-160 delegates. The CCSE will also host the Political Studies Association (PSA) Sports and Politics Group's annual conference in February 2014 on the theme of 'Sport and the Politics of Exclusion'. This PSA conference will host around 60 delegates and include a keynote address from Andy Burnham, the Shadow Health Minister.



- 4. Develop further and consolidate the CCSE's impact activities The CCSE has hosted a range of conferences and symposia which have aimed to contribute to, and influence, local, regional, national and international policy debates and practice. The CCSE will continue its commitment to impacts, knowledge transfer and 'outreach' activities by seeking to stimulate public debate; to support activities which enable engagement with research users; and to lobby for, and facilitate, progressive criminal justice and social policy reform (see REF 3a).
- 5. Continue to build a vibrant and distinctive post-graduate culture which coheres with the CCSE's strategic aims. Central here has been the validation, in 2010, of an interdisciplinary MRes in Critical Social Science which brings together staff from across 'Criminology', 'Sociology' and 'Media, Culture and Communication' in order to foster a creative and innovative postgraduate culture. This initiative aims to increase the numbers of students registered for postgraduate degrees by research and is supported in 2013-14 by the provision fee bursaries, for both PhD and MRes students, to further strengthen the postgraduate culture within the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

### c. People, including:

# I. Staffing strategy and staff development

At School level staffing policy in the period from 2008 to 2013 has been characterised by investment, expansion, recruitment and redeployment. With the caveat that the CCSE's membership is drawn from across the faculty and the university as a whole, the expansion of the staff within HSS with the appointment of 4 senior lecturers and 11 lecturers makes a significant contribution to the development and sustainability of the CCSE. A key priority of these appointments was either an existing research record or the potential to make a significant contribution to research. This prioritisation of research, if not growth in staff numbers, has been replicated across other programme areas contributing to the UoA.

The UoA has a good track record of seeing staff who have worked on fixed term or sessional contracts securing permanent posts, for example on the basis of successful recruitment of students (Cooper and M. Jones); facilitating and supporting research funding activity (Thompson) and on the basis of open competition (Canning and Hayes). All but one of the academic appointments made during the census period were permanent, with a 12 month fixed term contract being utilised to support Tyrer's personal research fellowship (see below). All Category A staff submitted here are on permanent, full-time contracts. Moreover, when staff have been redeployed into the Group – for example, Barrett via the closure of Geography in 2010 – support has been provided for the development of their research activity. This record is testimony to a supportive research culture for all staff, including those on sessional or fixed term contracts. Those staff who have moved on to new opportunities have maintained strong links to the CCSE via shared research interests with members (M. Jones, Tombs, Van Hooff) and postgraduate study (Fletcher).

In terms of prestigious research awards, Tyrer currently holds a British Academy Mid-Career Fellowship, 2013-2014, which focuses on the 'Ethics and Aesthetics of Phobia' and Tombs held a Leverhulme Research Fellowship, 2011-2013, focusing on the Regulation of Business across the five Local Authorities of Merseyside, and the relationship between such levels of state regulation and corporate crime and harm. Tombs' fellowship was a product of the Nuffield Small Grant held (2009-2010). In particular, Tombs' awards have helped to generate initiatives by Fletcher (a PhD on anti-corporate social movements) and Canning (collaboration with Tombs on state–sponsored social harm), as well as the work by Yates on the introduction of Payment-By-Results and the role of private companies within a reformed criminal justice delivery framework. In turn, Tombs' Leverhulme research has been facilitated by the extensive contacts held by several members of the UoA within local authorities across the region.

With regard to equality of opportunity, LJMU was awarded the European Commission's HR Excellence in Research award in May 2012. It has a robust action plan to continue to support researcher development which is delivered through the Concordat Task Group and overseen by the University's Research & Scholarship Committee. The RDF and the Concordat principles are at the heart of this action plan. The University is an active and committed member of the UK Vitae North West Hub, mapping its training provision against the Researcher Development Framework (RDF). As well as supporting researchers to attend Vitae skill development and networking events, the University hosts Vitae workshops that are open to researchers from other institutions.



A formal workload allocation model operates across all faculties. Research is supported through specific time allowance for research, supervision of PGR studentships, journal editorship and for members of staff undertaking a research degree. Staff who work on a part-time basis are allocated an equivalent number of hours (pro-rata) for scholarship activities. The University's Research Innovation Service (RIS), provides a range of research-related training, skills development and networking opportunities for staff at all levels of experience, capability and FTE status including: 'Grant bid clinics'; 'Grant Incubator workshops' and 'Research grant training'. At School level research is at the centre of its mission and teaching and research are seen as mutually reinforcing and supporting activities.

The CCSE operates a system of formal mentoring, backed up by a number of mechanisms for informal mentoring, of all Early Career staff (and some mid-career, where they desire this). Formal arrangements for ECRs have been as follows: Beckett-Wilson, Canning, Cooper and Monk mentored by Sim; Wrennall and Yeung by Tombs; Hayes by Jamieson; Jackson by Tyrer and Metcalfe by Churchill). More generally the CCSE seeks to implement an inclusive research culture, supported by formal and informal systems of mentoring, and by involving early career researchers in funding bids and projects with more experienced colleagues and the organisation of the CCSE Critical Research Seminar Series and other CCSE events. In turn, through their developing publications records, ECR colleagues have made important contributions to the various research activities of the CCSE. Likewise support mechanisms are in place for staff whose research career has been interrupted for any reason, via mentoring as appropriate, and a period of reduced workload allocation.

On an annual basis the University's Research Innovation Service (RIS) through the Director of Research operates an Early Career Fellowship Fund to support and foster collaborative research. Researchers can apply for funding to develop collaborative research links of the highest international standing. Canning (2012), Monk (2013), and Cooper (2013) have each been in receipt of one of these Fellowships facilitating knowledge exchange, writing for publication and supporting Canning's submission to REF2014.

Embedding and supporting research and scholarship is a key priority of LJMU's Strategic Plan 2012-2017 which among other mechanisms will be supported by recruitment, induction, development and reward processes (see a. above) and maintaining a strong research support infrastructure. Academic appointments and promotions to Readership and Chairs are routinely monitored (equality impact assessment) and reported in terms of equality and diversity. In the census period, 2 members of the CCSE have successfully secured internal promotion to Readerships (P. A. Jones and Tyrer).

The School's Research Committee, now constructed as a research forum, offered research funding, on a competitive basis, in 2011/12 which was largely, though not wholly, used to replace teaching hours in order to complete research projects, writing based upon these, or grant application submission (including Canning, Standing, Tombs and Tyrer). CCSE members in the HSS have also benefitted from a Staff Development Budget which is primarily used to support staff travelling to conferences or to support small pieces of fieldwork. This is distributed equally by staff member, irrespective of fraction of appointment or contractual status.

The RIS is responsible for LJMU's overarching research strategy and oversees the maintenance of research quality and integrity. The RIS provides leadership for staff within the University and quality assurance support for research and PGR programmes. In addition to its Code of Practice for Research, the RIS operates formal protocols/procedures for research governance (including research ethics), and the investigation of alleged misconduct in research. All research involving human participants must receive approval from LJMU's Research Ethics Committee. It operates a proportionate review process allowing swift consideration of applications presenting no/little material risk to participants. Additionally, core principles and expectations with regard to the curation of publically-funded research data and research outputs are explicit in LJMU's research data management policy.

Postgraduate research student induction is compulsory and provided by the University's RIS Office (induction sessions are run on six occasions throughout the academic year). All research student supervisors are required to complete the University's Research Supervisors workshop. The University's Research Degree Regulations require that all registered postgraduate research students, and their Directors of Study, report annually on progress in line with the University's



Code of Good Practice for Annual Monitoring. Annual Monitoring reports are collated at Faculty level and considered by the University Research Degrees Committee.

### c. II. Research students

The Postgraduate Research Student Skills Training and Development Framework is integrated into PGR research programmes across the institution (facilitated by RIS). This is complemented by a comprehensive training programme each academic year, including events such as 'viva survivor' and postgraduate employability.

RIS manages (from 2011-12) a conference travel fund specifically to enable eligible postgraduate research students to attend a conference (UK or overseas) and disseminate the findings of their research. In the first year of its operation, in 2011, Canning successfully applied for this funding whilst registered for her PhD. This enabled her to attend the annual British Sociological Association conference, where she presented a single-authored paper and convened the successful *Law, Crime and Rights* stream.

A key aim of our research strategy is to develop the level of postgraduate activity and thus supervisory expertise of the group. In 2009, Dr Yates led a working group, within which staff who were to form the CCSE were central, in successfully developing an interdisciplinary MRes in Critical Social Science, validated in 2010. A specific aim of the MRes is to build postgraduate research capacity, with successful MRes completion serving as a progression route to PhD study. This has now been complemented with a PGR fee bursary scheme launched in 2013.

These latter initiatives are slowly beginning to bear fruit. Nine MRes students have successfully graduated during the first 3 years of this programme, eight of whom were in receipt of fee waivers provided by HSS. We have also had 1.5 PhD completions during the census period (Lowe, 2009/10, supervised by colleagues in Law and Tombs and Canning 2011/12, supervised by Churchill, Standing and Tombs). This initiative has also allowed a wider participation in masters' level teaching and postgraduate research degree supervision by members of the UoA. In total, 15 CCSE members have been involved in supervision of MRes students and 14 doctoral studentships during the census period. Submitted colleagues have been involved in the supervision of 7 PhD studentships during the census period.

### d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Since January 2008, 16 members of the CCSE have been involved in 39 successful bids which have generated £456,167 of external research income (this total is higher than that for REF4b as it includes internal bids and bids on which there is no recorded monies spent in the census period). This volume of income generation has been achieved from a standing start. The strategy to 2017 is to further develop this income stream and to focus on interdisciplinary collaboration, within the established clusters and externally, to support the further development of innovative and creative proposals. In keeping with the ethos of the UoA's strategy to engage with a diverse range of organisations, this income has been generated from a wide variety of sources including the UK financial sector: 40%; Research Councils: 23%; UK Government: 14%; EU: 12%; UK Charities: 11%; and LJMU 1%.

A number of pump-priming initiatives were put in place to maximise the potential impact of the CCSE, to fully exploit the synergies between the different members, and to ensure the income generation possibilities afforded by the CCSE were optimised, including the appointment of a fractional (0.5) Research Support Officer (Fletcher) in 2010 and providing teaching buy out for Tombs (2010/11). These roles have subsequently been subsumed within the role of the Director of the CCSE (Barrett) whose duties are undertaken with the support of a Steering Committee (Allen, Cooper, Hollinshead, Jamieson, Millward and Yates) and senior colleagues in HSS (Churchill, Sim, Tyrer and Yates).

At School level, there has been considerable investment in supporting research activities of staff, from which the CCSE has clearly benefitted. In January 2012, the School appointed a full time Research Support Officer (Thompson). This role involves identifying and disseminating appropriate funding streams, preparation and submission of bids in collaboration with staff and professional services such as RIS. The administrative support provided enables staff to target suitable funding opportunities for their research (e.g. Tyrer – BA Fellowship), and to collaborate with overseas partners (e.g. Parker and Standing's work in Nepal), in order to submit joint research funding applications. This role was supported from March- Dec 2012 by the appointment of a full



time Enterprise Support Officer (Harrison) to pump prime the writing of, coordination and development of 'commercial' consultancies/tenders for public, private and not for profit organisations (e.g. Jamieson- ESRC Festival of Science). Moreover the CCSE and HSS have established procedures for the peer review of grant applications prior to submission to RIS.

Members of the CCSE enjoy excellent facilities in the form of private or shared offices and networked desk-top computers which provide access to electronic library resources, databases and internet resources. These resources are also available to post graduate students via the provision of a shared office and social learning areas. In the summer of 2013, HSS moved to the refurbished John Foster Building which means that the majority of CCSE members are more centrally located than previously within the Faculty of Arts, Professional and Social Studies and within LJMU as a whole.

Researchers have access to three well equipped Libraries located across the city with substantial print holding and access to electronic resources and generous opening hours (some areas are open 24 hours). Services for researchers include Postgraduate Study Areas, a postgraduate shared office, LJMU research "showcase" displays, research seminar series, tailored web pages, institutional repository and access to bespoke, advanced search and information skills workshops. Induction events for new research active staff (on average four each semester) provide an opportunity for new starters, including early career researchers, to meet with existing research staff and to gain a broad overview of the professional services and procedural frameworks the University provides to support research activity.

### e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

Locally, the CCSE has provided a key mechanism for bringing together researchers across programme areas, schools and faculties, albeit with interests which cohere within a number of themes, as indicated above. Thus the members of the CCSE, and this submission, span criminology, gender studies, housing, urban policy, penology, political studies, race, security studies and sociology. New synergies and research areas have been created and made possible, resulting in new research teams on specific projects amongst staff who otherwise would not have worked together (see b above). Both in the work generated within the UoA, and in the many national and international collaborations in which UoA members have been and are engaged (see, below), various contributions to a broad disciplinary and research base have been made. These include the following areas:

- the limitations of political and criminal justice definitions of 'violence', including analysing the normalisation of violence by state servants in institutions of incarceration or on the streets, or challenging the ways in which corporations inflict violence upon workers, and the public, and the multiple victimisations experienced by asylum seeking women;
- the emergent category of social harm, its forms, dynamics, and mitigation, with key work being conducted on the experiences of young people and BME populations, on the range of harms generated by states and corporations through their interactions, and on the multiple harms engendered by state approaches to urban regeneration and dealing with asylum seekers
- the significance of relationships between offending and social inclusion/exclusion as well as financial and social inclusion/exclusion, with leading contributions on the significance of access to financial, housing and health services.
- and finally, the significance of local, national and international discourse, policy and practice in governing a variety of lived experiences, including that of young offenders, working mothers, Nepalese school pupils, and women, football supporters, social housing tenants and BME populations.

Staff are active in both academic and non-academic clusters, networks and organisations. For example: Barrett is a member of the European Migration Network; Canning is a co-covener for the 'Law, Crime and Rights' stream of the BSA; Jackson is a member of the Anti-Security collective; P.A. Jones is member of the British Banker's Association Roundtable on Access to Banking for Prisoners and a member of the management committee of the UK Society of Co-operative Studies; Metcalfe is a Trustee of Interchange; Millward is a member of the PSA Sport and Politics steering group; Scott was co-ordinator for the European Group for the Study of Deviance and Social Control (2010-12) and is currently the acting co-ordinator of the 'European Working Group on Prisons, Detention and Punishment; Sim is Trustee of INQUEST; Yates is an Executive Committee Member



and Trustee of the National Association for Youth Justice; Yeung was a Trustee of Moving on With Life and Learning 2007-09 and is currently Secretary of the Management Committee of the UK Association of Chinese Mental Health 2010-present.

CCSE members have also undertaken a range of national and international academic collaborations. Standing has worked with the Erasmus University, Netherlands, leading to two articles in *Community Work and Family*. Tyrer has collaborated with an Australian HEI, leading to a joint publication in *Current Sociology*, as well as collaborations which have led to forthcoming chapters in collections edited by academics from Switzerland and Germany, and a further chapter in a collection edited by a Spanish academic. In 2008-09, Yeung was awarded a Research Fellowship at the University of Hong Kong (£11,000). CCSE member's research findings have been translated into and published Finnish (Tombs), Italian (Tombs), Portuguese (Tyrer), French (P.A. Jones) and Belgian (Sim).

Since the formation of the CCSE, numerous conferences, seminars and workshops have been organised by members. These include: *BSA Sociology of Rights Day Conference*, June 2011 (Canning); *Exploring Paths between Homelessness and Imprisonment in Liverpool*, Oct. 2011 (Cooper, with The Howard League for Penal Reform); *No Cop Out: Young People's Conference on Policing, Oct. 2010* (Jamieson and Yates with Liverpool Youth Service); *Breaking the Cycle: Challenging Times for Justice*, June 2011 (Jamieson, Tombs and Yates), *Youth Justice Training Seminar*, April 2012 (Jamieson and Yates, with the National Association for Youth Justice), *ESRC Festival of Social Science Week, Youth Justice Knowledge Exchange*, Nov. 2012 (Jamieson with USERVOICE); *Capitalism Makes You Sick*, April 2011 (Tombs), *Still Working for Ford?*, Nov. 2011 (Tombs), *Near to Revolution? 1911: then and now*, Oct. 2011 (Tombs), *Bhopal Survivors Tour*, Sept. 2012 (Tombs, with The Bhopal Medical Appeal and the Greater Manchester Hazards Campaign); *the North West Policing Symposium*, February 2013 (Jones); *Sites of Confinement*, March 2013 (Canning). All of the above have included participation either from academics at other UK HEIs and/or members of Government and the civil service, NGOs and other stake-holding groups, as well as community groups and activist organisations.

Journal editorships held by UoA members include: Punishment and Society (Sim), Criminal Justice Matters (Scott and Sim), Howard Journal of Criminal Justice (Scott), Journal of Cooperative Studies (Jones), Policy and Practice in Health and Safety (Tombs), Prison Service Journal (Scott), Social Harm Studies (Scott), Sociological Research Online (Millward), and State Crime (Tombs). Jamieson is Book Reviews Editor for Youth Justice, and Wrennall is Founder and Managing Editor of Argument & Critique, an interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed, open access, international, online journal.

Staff are regularly invited and funded to give overseas conference presentations, many as keynotes, including: the European Group for the Study of Deviance and Social Control, Cyprus 2012 (Fletcher, Canning, Cooper and Scott); Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, April, 2010 (Parker and Standing); the Universities of Turin, 2008, Turku, Finland and Ottawa, 2012 (Tombs); the Universities of Lisbon, 2010, South Australia, 2011, Bern, 2011, Viadrina, 2013, and Casa Arabe 2011 (Tyrer) and the International University Centre, Croatia, 2009-2011 (Hayes, Jamieson, Monk and Yates).

Members of the CCSE contribute to professional associated and learned societies as follows: DELPHE, Higher Education and Research in the Contexts of Gender and Development in Nepal (Parker and Standing); the Liverpool Gender Research Consortium (Standing); the CASS Business School-led Critical Perspectives on the Corporation project, the European Corporate Crime Network, and the State Crime Initiative (Tombs), and the All Party Abuse Investigations Network, (Wrennall).

The above work and activity clearly indicates that CCSE members are not only committed to their academic disciplines and contributing to extant issues and debates within these, but also that they are engaged with networks and stakeholders beyond academia. The CCSE commitment to engaging with diverse research users and stakeholders contributes to the vibrancy of our research culture and environment and our success to date in this external engagement is testimony to the value placed upon our individual, and indeed, collective research expertise.