

Institution: University of Bedfordshire
Unit of Assessment: 22 - Social Work and Social Policy
<p>a. Overview:</p> <p>The Institute of Applied Social Research (IASR) generates and conducts cutting edge research in critical areas of social policy and social work. It is applied in character, and located in long-term programmes of work negotiated and implemented at local, regional, national and international levels. IASR engages with providers of children's services and adult social care in both the statutory and voluntary sectors to identify research needs, enhance research skills in the community and disseminate findings through innovative methods. IASR advances strong ethical frameworks for its research activities, promoting engagement with marginalised and vulnerable communities and managing highly sensitive research within a safe and supportive research environment.</p> <p>The IASR brings together the work of three research centres: The International Centre: Researching Child Sexual Exploitation, Violence and Trafficking; The Vauxhall Centre for the Study of Crime; Tilda Goldberg Centre for Social Work & Social Care.</p> <p>The centres collaborate to create an active research environment within a strategy for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Developing research leaders</i> to bring research, policy and practice together in new and innovative applied research, e.g., attracting senior staff from Barnardos, The Office of the Children's Commissioner for England, The Oak Foundation, The Social Care Institute for Excellence. • <i>Promoting staff development</i> with mentoring strategies supporting early career staff and postgraduate students on thematic issues (for example on youth crime, gang violence and child sexual exploitation) • <i>Engaging in partnerships</i> with young people and key stakeholders to identify research agendas to promote active dissemination of evidence-based practice within training materials: e.g., developing the 'What Works for Us' group of young people disseminating evidence to peers through media and creative art activities; running the 'Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Research Forum' with Barnardo's and The National Working Group for Sexually Exploited Children and Young People'; and developing 'Frontline' Training for social work staff across the UK.
<p>b. Research strategy:</p> <p>The University of Bedfordshire's corporate strategy is to invest in disciplines with recognised national and international research profile. The unique component of the IASR strategy (as outlined in [a] above) supports engagement with the practice and policy communities to advance applied research through facilitating partnership agreements and service development. It has enabled IASR to facilitate national research forums, to extend the scope of its quarterly research seminar programme to include prestigious international visiting speakers and to cover the costs of the IASR College of Visiting Professors initiative. Visiting Professors appointed by the IASR include academics and lead Chief Executives from youth justice (Youth justice board Chief executive 2012-14) and government bodies (CE of Office of Children's Commissioner for England 2013-15). They offer guest lectures/seminars on IASR doctoral programmes and act in an advisory capacity to the IASR research teams in developing research funding applications.</p> <p>Securing an award from The Social Care Trust, The Tilda Goldberg Centre was established in 2009, confirming plans outlined in the 2008 RAE to become a centre of excellence for Social Work and Social Care research. The IASR secured the award because of the preparedness of the university to provide matching funding and to reconfigure its accommodation. The rapid expansion of IASR research and research income; its growing reputation for excellent, internationally relevant, research and scholarship; and the high status of the Institute's research leaders who are all distinguished figures in their academic and professional fields contribute to continued recognition through funding awards and through prizes for its work. This success has also resulted in an initial award of £2.7m for the first two years of running the Frontline programme, starting in 2014.</p> <p>The 2008 RAE submission noted the commitment to develop closer collaboration between IASR researchers working in the fields of young people in need, in trouble and subject to victimisation and exploitation. The number of research centres has been consolidated to achieve greater critical mass. This has been especially important in research on young people where the average size of</p>

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each of the research centres has doubled from 4 to 10 FTEs. As the impact case studies attest, this aspiration has been realised.

The strategy announced in RAE 2008 was to grow the number of doctoral candidates. New professional doctorate programmes in 'Systemic Practice' and in 'Leadership in children and young people's services' have been developed. Over forty candidates are currently engaged across routes to doctoral qualification. The 2008 strategy was also to build on existing partnerships with research commissioners and users, facilitating a growth in partnership activity designed to strengthen the range of work undertaken across the three centres of activity. Examples include work with governments (Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Scottish Government and the Northern Ireland Children's Commissioner on Guardianship, The Office of the Children's Commissioner for England, Home Office and Department for Education on work on CSE and peer on peer violence, The Welsh Government on looked after children, and the Department of Health on adult safeguarding). Partnerships are now strongly embedded with Barnardo's, The Office of the Children's Commissioner for England, Alcohol Education and Research Council, The Oak Foundation, The Paul Hamlyn foundation and the Child Sexual Exploitation Funder's Alliance (CSEFA). We will continue to prioritise the development of these partnerships as they provide the basis for funded research programmes to improve the knowledge, evidence and skills base in our applied research. Together with ongoing institutional financial and in-kind support, they have drawn and will continue to draw in new staff such as Beckett, Brown, Connolly, Firmin, Fisher, Galvani, Hadley, Harris, Cody and Warburton.

The strategy in the 2008 RAE submission included partnering less experienced with more experienced researchers. Outcomes from these mentoring arrangements are evidenced through staff publications, invitations as plenary speakers at conferences, joint authorship of articles for learned journals and teams of researchers submitting research proposals on externally funded research initiatives. The research has generated demand for short courses, and we respond by creating UG and PG course content on gang-related crime including sexual violence, unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people, adult protection, outcomes for looked after children, and child sexual exploitation. This process has been augmented by the quarterly staff research seminars and the presence of Visiting Professors with specialist expertise in our research areas.

The strategy for the next five years will consolidate and further extend research partnerships, will grow the doctoral and post-doctoral programme, and will support the development of early and mid-career researchers.

The International Centre: Researching Child Sexual Exploitation, Violence and Trafficking

The Centre has developed within six years from two to twelve FTE staff building on the recognised expertise in research on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) within the University. Its development is a direct result of the University's commitment to identifying and supporting under researched areas of social need and to developing the link between research, policy and practice. The impact of this commitment has been recognised by the recent award of the Queens Anniversary Prize (2013) for "Applied Research on Child Sexual Exploitation influencing new safeguarding policy and practice".

The International Centre undertakes research and evaluation in partnership with voluntary and statutory providers and with funders and users of children's services to prevent sexual violence against children, placing the child's voice at the centre of its work at a local, national and European level. It is the first and only academic centre in the UK that links policy, practice and research to collaborate with children affected by sexual violence as research advisers and advocates. It promotes a safe and ethically sound research environment with and for young people, having designated youth participation officers. It attracts post graduate students focusing on safeguarding older children encouraging them to join research teams and prompting future research employment opportunities.

The research environment is further facilitated through collaboration with funders to achieve evidence based research outcomes. To this end, staff from the International Centre advise and coordinate the 'Child Sexual Exploitation Funder's Alliance (CSEFA)'. CSEFA coordinates over 20 major trusts and foundations to direct funding to CSE services, receiving evidence based findings from research and evaluation emerging from The International Centre and its partners.

Maintaining the focus on a research environment that develops applied research with marginalised

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young people, The Centre has supported the development of two major charities preventing violence against children. The Centre was awarded £112,000 by Comic Relief to cover the costs of housing 'The National Working Group for Sexually Exploited Children and Young People (NWG)' which is now an independent charity with a membership of over 1000 CSE service providers, many of whom continue to engage with the Centre's research activities. It attracted £150,000 from Esmee Fairburn Foundation to house and support the development of 'The MsUnderstood Project' in partnership with Imkaan, a leading NGO promoting equal opportunities to prevent peer on peer violence amongst children. Extending the reach of the research environment into European countries, it has attracted over £265,000 from The Oak Foundation to develop children's participation in preventing sexual violence in Europe. In the longer term, this work will be rolled out internationally. Both IASR staff and students have been actively involved in these developments. For example, one former and two current PG students (Warrington, Harris and Firmin) are now full time staff members and research collaboration continues with agencies they represented, such as the Office of the Children's commissioner for England, Barnardo's and the NWG. The Centre's longer term vision is to extend the environment for safe and accountable research to prevent sexual violence experienced by young people through engagement with partner providers and students at local, national and international level.

The Vauxhall Centre for the Study of Crime

This Centre spans empirical studies of youth crime and victimisation, policing, the operation of the youth justice and community safety services, and the analysis of policy and practice in these fields. The Centre promotes a research environment for staff and students alike to engage with local, national and international research, having undertaken joint studies with universities and criminal justice and welfare agencies in Belgium, China, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation and the USA. Centre staff collaborate with 'the International Centre: researching child sexual exploitation, violence and trafficking' to promote team work across centres and facilitate multi disciplinary research. This engages research students in learning from different academic, practice and policy based initiatives. For example, in recent years, Pitts, in partnership with Pearce (International Centre), led research commissioned by the Children's Commissioner for England into *Sexual Exploitation and Victimisation in Violent Youth Gangs* (£150,000, 2011); Bateman and Melrose (International Centre) undertook research into *The Resettlement of Girls and Young women Incarcerated in the Secure Estate*, (Sir Halley Stewart Trust, £28,000, 2012), Bateman and Pitts undertook an evaluation of the Luton YOS Weapons Awareness Programme (£10,000, 2013) and contributed to the Big Lottery's *England Wide Learning and Awareness* project on *The resettlement of Children and Young People from Custody* (£1,500,000, 2011); Pitts completed an *ESRC Knowledge Exchange Partnership on The Mental Health Effects of Living in High Crime/Gang-affected Neighbourhoods* (£9,700, 2012), a study of *Crime, Victimisation and Safety in the Moss Side Somali Community* for the Greater Manchester Police (£9000, 2012) and a scoping exercise entitled *Joining the Dots, Filling the Gaps* in support of the development of the *London Borough of Lambeth Gang Strategy* (£20,000, 2013).

Vauxhall Centre staff publish consistently and in the academic year 2012/13 produced 33 publications, including 4 book chapters, 6 articles for learned journals, 5 published research reports and 18 other publications. They also delivered 19 papers to academic and professional audiences including Bateman's presentation to an EU sponsored Five Nation Biennial Conference on Children, Young People and Crime at Leuven University in Belgium in September 2012 and Pitts' keynote presentation to the International Juvenile Justice Observatory Biennale Conference in London, as chair of the Scientific Committee, in November 2012. They also contribute to the discipline via by their Membership of Editorial Boards. Bateman is co-editor of the Vauxhall Centre's journal *Safer Communities* and a member of the editorial boards of *Child and Family Law Quarterly* and *Youth Justice* Pitts is Associate Editor of *Youth & Policy*. Bateman and Pitts also serve as academic reviewers for the Policy Press, Routledge and Palgrave/Macmillan.

Bateman is a member of the *London Gangs Forum* and the *Standing Committee for Youth Justice*. He is Deputy Chair of the *National Association for Youth Justice* and secretary to the *London Association for Youth Justice*. Pitts is a member of the *Reforming Youth Justice Working Party of the Centre for Social Justice*, the *Howard League Research Advisory Committee*, deputy chair of the *London Gangs Forum*, a member of the *Home Office Expert Advisory Panel on Youth Gangs and Youth Violence* and a member of the *ESRC College of Assessors*.

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The Tilda Goldberg Centre for Social Work and Social Care (TGC)

The TGC, established in 2009 with a £1.2 million grant obtained in national competition. It aims to develop excellent social work and social care research and support the use of evidence-based practice. The core grant has enabled the TGC to create a long term programme of research on substance misuse and child protection services, and a large RCT of the effectiveness of motivational interviewing (MI) in engaging parents in child protection services. TGC also provides capacity for the development of methods of social work research, including on systematic review methods (e.g. the review of *Social Work Services and Recovery from Substance Misuse: A Review of the Evidence*), the use of randomised designs in frontline practice, and the development of quantitative analysis. In each case, the additional resources the TGC brings to bear on the work provides the opportunity for staff to develop methodological expertise and innovation. For example, methods of rapid evidence assessment were adapted to social work in order to meet policy deadlines for the systematic review. As another example, TGC is adapting randomised designs to ensure that they are feasible within the requirements of daily social services child protection practice. TGC's future direction will

- continue methodological development (strengthening the approach to evidence-based policy and practice by further development of rapid review techniques, evidence assessment and economic evaluation);
- continue to exploit its development of MI to provide the basis for expanding its work on child protection and the restructuring children's services, in particular to inform the Frontline training programme for social workers;
- will extend its work on substance misuse into new fields, including services to disabled people and older people;
- add a programme of research on services to older people, particularly on well-being, reablement services and dementia services.

c. People:**i. Staffing strategy and staff development:**

Our recruitment strategy strengthens the three research centres to generate research excellence, attract grant income and deliver commissioned projects. IASR has with support from the University invested in a research assistantship in each of the three IASR research centres, two additional post-doctoral research fellowships and ten research studentships. This, with IASR core funding supports a staff development strategy that facilitates national and international conference attendance by IASR researchers; staff attendance and/or development and delivery of short course and consultancy arrangements with key voluntary and statutory bodies; mentoring and buddying schemes with senior university and partner agency staff.

The extent of grant capture and international recognition has resulted in interest from externals to work with and be employed by the IASR. There are 38 permanent full- and part-time researchers within IASR, 8 Professors and two Readers. There are 6 Visiting Professors and 3 Visiting Research Fellows. In 2008, IASR appointed a Lead for Post Graduate Studies, with associated training programmes and mentoring for new supervisors, raising our supervisory team pool from 6 in 2008 to 18 in 2012. Our next five-year strategy prioritises embedding existing partnership relationships, and building new relationships with funders to attract grant awards and generate income. This is illustrated by £150k awarded from a collective group of funders pioneering new ways to deliver services to protect children from CSE; the Oak Foundation placing a Oak Fellow within the IASR for child sexual exploitation research; and with the Department of Health for adult safeguarding research. All are successful examples of this strategy.

The University's equality and diversity policy that follows national principles: QAA Code of Practice and UK HR Excellence in Research. In May 2013, UoB's institution-wide Concordat implementation plan was awarded the European Commission's HR Excellence in Research Award, which will be rolled out in the coming period. We ensure that we support and recruit women to senior positions, with three female IASR professors and a female Director of Institute (2006-14). University facilities are used to support staff and students with disabilities, including learning difficulties such as dyslexia.

IASR supports staff to enable impact from their research by regular supervision and reviews of

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workloads. Sabbaticals, residential workshops and research mentoring focus on writing bids and papers, or enhancing individual research plans. Funding is used to enable staff to undertake international research data collection visits. The IASR Ethics Committee chaired by Melrose and Bateman lead ethical research with marginalised communities.

ii. Research students:

Between 2008 and 2013, 21 students completed their PhD or Professional Doctorate. In 2010 the IASR Professional Doctorate programme: 'Leadership in Children's and Young People's Services' was re-validated, developed in partnerships with the Brathay Trust and Barnardo's, in each advancing the relationship between research policy and practice in the development and acquisition of core competencies in leadership. Between 2008 and 2013, 40 students enrolled on this Professional Doctorate programme and 9 graduated from it. It is a measure of the success of these innovative forms of post-graduate study that of the 12 students registered in 2010/11, 10 have published at least one article in a learned journal based upon their first year of study or their final thesis. Nine have presented papers at professional conferences. One has also published a book with Policy Press. Over the period 2008-13, 5 doctoral students have registered and been supervised by IASR research staff, 21 of whom have graduated. The Professional Doctorate in Systemic Practice commenced in 2006 in partnership with the Kensington Consultation Centre, a systemic therapy, leadership and organisational consultancy organisation. The University took over the course in 2009 and has two cohorts with a total of 20 students enrolled from systemic therapy, leadership, organisational consultancy, teaching, community work and supervision backgrounds. Six of these students graduated between 2008 and 2013. All 10 in the second cohort are on track to complete within the 60 month period. All 8 of the graduates have now published in refereed and other learned journals; 3 have published books and 2 are preparing book manuscripts in research methods; 6 have presented papers at national and international professional and research conferences.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities:

Income: In the four years from 2008/09 to 2011/12 IASR research income rose from £421k to £552k, with £2,098,403 external income generated during 2008-12. Of this, £80,751.37 came from research councils, £596,361 from central government sources in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, £507,561 from UK industry and £1,188,630 from UK charities.

Infrastructure: During 2008-14 the faculty within which IASR sits has increased its investment in learning resources for post-graduate studies by 20%, reaching £1.5 million in 2013. This figure includes strengthening access to and use of ICT in research. The university has supported Social work by investing in new senior and early career researchers. For example, Fisher joined IASR in October 2012 to strengthen its work on evidence-based policy and practice, including on evidence reviews, and to create additional research capacity in adult social care.

Facilities: As indicated in the IASR 2008 RAE submission, the University estates strategy has supported the expansion of research activity in IASR, creating three dedicated workspaces. The university's new Campus Centre, opened in 2010, provides dedicated accommodation for our post-graduate programmes. The opening of the University's new post-graduate centre in 2013 has provided dedicated space with all necessary ICT facilities for IASR post-graduate students.

e. Collaboration and Contribution to the Discipline or Research Base

The applied nature of all IASR research means that we develop long-term and sustainable collaborations with partner agencies to identify research needs, manage and deliver and disseminate research findings. These are examples of this collaboration.

i) Making Research Count: The IASR is a regional centre for Making Research Count (MRC), a national research dissemination initiative involving 10 universities and 60 member agencies. MRC is an important part of the environment because it provides a key opportunity for dialogue with the service community about the goals and findings of research. MRC based within the IASR has eighteen partner agencies, including 10 London boroughs. Its services include seminars and conferences that address current issues and disseminate new research in social work, social care and youth justice, journal clubs and access to specialist advice/consultancy. In 2011-12 MRC ran 4 conferences and 27 seminars including 14 events that drew directly upon the work of IASR staff and post-graduate students. Typical attendance is 80 to 100 practitioners and managers engaging with researchers and policy makers within interactive learning environments. MRC disseminates

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research findings, identifying new areas for research, promoting learning environments and enhancing the relationship between researchers, policy makers and practitioners.

ii) Support for interdisciplinary or collaborative research: IASR has had considerable success in collaboration with health care and advocacy organisations for children and young people. Melrose with colleagues from the University's Institute of Health Research (2012) undertook research on young people living in poverty in Luton. Pearce has supported the development of applied research into CSE in partnership with agencies and service users through collaboration with Barnardo's (running a CSE research forum for researchers, policy makers and service providers in the field), NSPCC (developing a risk assessment framework for children affected by CSE), the National Working Group for sexually exploited young people (developing child-centred practice and children's involvement in service delivery to prevent CSE), the OCC (with Pitts) (developing research to understand the dynamics of CSE in gang-affected neighbourhoods), The Oak Foundation (to develop participatory methods to prevent sexual violence against children in Europe) and with the Child Sexual Exploitation Funders Alliance (working with over 23 funding trusts and foundations to support service delivery and evaluation to prevent sexual violence against children). Each of these partnership arrangements informed collaborative efforts to safeguard children through applied research. We have also taken our work on law into medicine: Preston-Shoot has researched with two medical schools and researchers at Imperial College London and Swansea University to research the outcomes of teaching, learning and assessing law in medical education, and to compare these findings with those from a longitudinal study of the outcomes of teaching law to social work students. This work has been published in the *Journal of Medical Ethics*, *Medical Education*, *Social Work Education* and *Health and Social Care in the Community*. Staff have held prestigious research fellowships, including Preston-Shoot at the University of Gothenburg Department of Social Work and Pitts has been awarded DLit in 2011 for his standing as a leader of research in youth justice.

iii) Networks and research collaborations with national research users: Brown was a founder member in 2008 of the UK Fostering Panel Chairs Group. Melrose (2009-11) worked with London South Bank University and Eaves Housing in a Research Advisory Group for Exit Routes for Victims of Trafficking. She collaborated (2012) with Luton Borough Council & the Princes Trust to educate peer researchers to explore young people's experiences of living through poverty; the research findings were used by LBC to develop its child poverty strategy and she produced a booklet for all junior and secondary schools in Luton. Pitts was a member of the Tower Hamlets Commission into the Public Safety of Young People (2009) and of the National Youth Bureau/DCSF National Advisory Group on the government's Positive Activities for Young People programme (2009). He acted as consultant to Dying to Belong (Centre for Social Justice, 2009) and was a member of the Centre's inquiry team into the Youth Justice System of England & Wales (2011/12). He was a participant and rapporteur at the Prime Minister's 'Gangs Summit' in October 2011 and a member of the Lambeth Gang Strategy Steering Group (2013). In 2011/12 Pitts led an ESRC knowledge exchange between IASR and the Brathay Trust, focused on responding to the mental and physical health effects on young people of life in high crime, low income neighbourhoods. IASR has created ETC (evaluation, training and consultancy) as a vehicle, alongside MRC, to disseminate knowledge informing practice as well as to provide consultancy to develop best practice with organisations. Pearce is on the Director of Public Prosecutions' consultation group reviewing support for witnesses and victims of CSE and on the Home Office led steering group to implement the *2011 Action Plan: Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation*. She is a panel member of the OCC Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in gangs and groups and the secretariat to the Child Sexual Exploitation Funder's Alliance. Preston-Shoot had worked with ADASS, Independent Chairs of Local Safeguarding Boards and with local authorities on projects funded by the Department of Health to scope work with adults who self-neglect and to research governance of adult safeguarding, and to disseminate the findings through over thirty conferences, workshops and seminars.

iv) National and international collaborations: Fisher is a Visiting Professor at PSSRU (LSE), a member of the International Inter-Centre Network for the Evaluation of Social Work Practice, the Campbell Collaboration and of the Helsinki Practice Research Group. Preston-Shoot is an affiliated Professor of Social Work in the Department of Social Work at Gothenburg University, Sweden. Melrose, with Pearce and Pitts, has collaborated with Estonia University of Tartu (2007), and with

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HUMAK University, Helsinki on developing and delivering taught research programmes. Melrose (2009) was invited as an 'International Expert' to advise Belgian Federal Science Policy Office Mid-Term Evaluation on Research with 'Hard to Reach' young people (those out of school). Pearce is chair of the Eurochild Expert Reference Group on child participation and rapporteur for The Council of Europe campaign to stop sexual violence against children. Warburton represents the Oak Foundation in reviewing international Oak funded programmes safeguarding children and Pitts has worked with the International Juvenile Justice Observatory, leading presentations on youth gangs and the drugs trade at its annual conference in Rome (2010). He chaired its scientific committee at its biennial conference (2012). Kohli is a member of the Nordic Network for Research on Refugee Children (NordRC) and the Nordic Network for Research Cooperation on Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (NordURM). Within southern Europe he is a founder member of *la Plateforme d'Experts sur la Migration de Mineurs* hosted by Poitiers University in France. Kohli's contributions dovetail with the work of the Centre in focussing on the needs and human rights of children seeking asylum, including those who are trafficked in and out of the UK. Hynes has been invited speaker at Dutch Ministry workshops. Our major commissions for evaluation of systems of Guardianship in Scotland and Northern Ireland have resulted in broader research engagements with academic institutions in northern and southern European countries. One example of such engagements is available at uptv.univ-poitiers.fr/web/canal/61/theme/37/manif/444/video/3427/index.html. Forrester was involved in consultancy work in Jordan that contributed to the establishment of National Association for social workers.

v) Editorships, conference organisation, seminars: Preston-Shoot is a founding co-editor of *Ethics and Social Welfare*. With the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services he organised a national conference on adult safeguarding research for practice (2012). With Luton Borough Council he organised two conferences on adult protection. Pearce & Melrose (2010) edited a special edition of *Youth and Policy* on Young People, Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking. In 2013 they co-edited a book: *Critical Perspectives on Child Sexual Exploitation and Related Trafficking*, Basingstoke, Palgrave. Melrose organised the "Hidden from View" conference (2008) with Luton Borough Council. Pearce is Associate Editor for *Child Abuse Review* and *Youth and Policy Journals*, is co-chair of the Barnardo's and University of Bedfordshire CSE Research Forum, organised several CSE local, national and international conferences, chaired the first European round table on supporting young people to participate in preventing sexual violence, leading to Oak Foundation funding for a continued IASR-run programme of round table and practitioner exchanges. Forrester, with Galvani, edited a special issue of *Practice*, and with colleagues in the Tilda Goldberg Centre, organised several conferences, notably two on experimental methods in social work. Pitts is Associate Editor of *Safer Communities* and Associate Editor of *Youth & Policy*. Kohli is Associate Editor of *Child and Family Social Work*, an Editorial Board Member of *Children & Society* and the *Practical Social Work* Book Series (Policy Press).

vi) Contributions to professional associations and learned societies: Preston-Shoot and Fisher are nominated Academicians, Academy of Social Sciences. Fisher is co-chair of the JUC-SWEC research committee. Brown, Fisher, Forrester, Kohli and Preston-Shoot are members of the Association of Professors of Social Work. Melrose (2012) participated in a symposium presentation (young people and trafficking) to Royal College of Psychiatrists, with colleagues from the University's Institute of Health Research. Pearce is a co founder and member of Eurochild, The National Working Group for Sexually Exploited Young People (management group member 2002-11) and The Social Policy Association.

vii) Collaborative and co-operative arrangements for PGR training: Forrester has worked in partnership with University of Sussex on PGR training as part of an ESRC-funded Doctoral Training Centre. He has been co-PI on 2 and PI on 2 ESRC funded programmes to develop research capacity in social work, including running the first conferences looking at RCTs in social work and a programme of teaching in quantitative research that is being rolled out across 13 universities (thus 700+ students each year). Pearce is developing the partnership with Barnardo's to include contributions on the new short course programmes as they develop through the new IASR Evaluation, Training and Consultancy (ETC) initiative which will pump prime collaborations with NGOs and service providers in developing research, consultancy, evaluations and training.