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| <b>Institution: University of Brighton</b> |
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| <b>Unit of Assessment: C22 Social Work and Social Policy</b> |
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| <b>a. Overview</b> |
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Our research in Social Work and Social Policy delivers a long-standing mission to collaborate with users to tackle key challenges arising in public policy and service delivery. We achieve this through the production of socially relevant knowledge having impact on policy, practice and the lived experiences of service users and citizens. This research is located in the School of Applied Social Science (SASS) where, since 2008, we have pursued a strategy designed to strengthen our position as an influential centre for social policy research. To facilitate this, we have restructured into three multidisciplinary research clusters: *Care, Health and Well-being; Crime, Resistance and Security, and; Culture, Identity and Society*. Enhanced leadership and mentoring has encouraged flexible multidisciplinary team working and advanced the school's reputation for collaborative research with impact. New recruitment of staff has led to a 13% increase in the staff base submitted to REF2014 (24 FTE in RAE2008 compared to 27.1 FTE in REF2014). Doctoral awards increased by 100% compared to RAE2008. We have doubled the proportion of research income from RCUK and significantly enhanced the research environment with the support of a university-wide investment of £8.8m in sabbaticals, doctoral studentships, early-career researcher (ERC) support schemes and innovation grants. In keeping with our user-engaged mission, SASS has provided the academic leadership for Brighton's distinctive and award-winning Community University Partnership Programme (CUPP) which receives £300k per annum baseline funding from the university.

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| <b>b. Research Strategy</b> |
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**Vision and strategy:** The strategic vision since 2008 has been to strengthen further SASS as a major centre for research in social policy that has a distinctive mission involving collaboration with service users and providers. In support of this mission we produce new knowledge and innovations that impact on policies, practices and wider society. After RAE2008, a strategic review was undertaken that confirmed our commitment to this mission and identified the following new strategic aims for 2009–14 in order to deliver better the strategy:

- AIM 1: refocus the research environment into three multidisciplinary research clusters to support the production of higher-quality publications
- AIM 2: recruit and promote excellent research staff at all career stages to strengthen research leadership and enhance interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research
- AIM 3: enhance the participation of service providers and users in research collaborations to maximise research with impact
- AIM 4: improve research income by increasing the proportion from RCUK
- AIM 5: advance support for the career development of researchers especially through workload planning and targeted sabbaticals
- AIM 6: enhance the research environment for postgraduate research students (PGR) and increase PhD registrations

**Research achievements since 2008:** During the census period, the new strategy, objectives and research clusters have delivered research outputs and activities that illustrate the degree to which our strategic aims have been achieved. A growing reputation for high-quality research outputs (AIM.1) may be indicated through the sustained production of scholarly monographs and publications in high-quality journals. These include, for example, research on the mixed illegal economy of firearms in the UK cited in the Academy of Social Science's *Making the Case for the Social Sciences* 2011 booklet [SQUIRES, output 2] and the nomination of a monograph for the 2012 Stein Rokkan Prize [HAYNES, 4]. McGARRY's monograph, completed shortly after being an ECR, was the subject of a three-book review in *Citizenship Studies* covering the most important books on Roma issues in recent years. All three of these monographs, along with two others, were the outputs of targeted sabbatical leave (AIM.5) which also supported the production by researchers of over 50 articles in high-quality international journals.

A professor of social informatics (HENWOOD) with expertise in e-health was appointed in 2009 to strengthen interdisciplinary and cross-cluster research (AIM.2). Subsequently HENWOOD was

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invited to join a multidisciplinary research project working on electronic patient record keeping in primary care. The research was funded by the Wellcome Trust with a total grant of £600k and involved clinicians, IT specialists, sociologists and medical statisticians from the Brighton and Sussex Medical School, University College London and the Technical University of Vienna (AIM.4). The Impact Case Studies (REF3b) provide evidence of participatory research supported by the university CUPP initiative. Involving service users and community based co-researchers (AIM.3), this has improved the well-being of older people, LGBT communities and disadvantaged families. The collaborative methodologies for working with LGBT communities (JOHNSON and BROWNE) have been adopted by LGBT organisations in Canada and Australia, and disseminated through a research monograph based on novel co-writing practice with community partners [BROWNE, 4].

The research income targets were achieved (AIM.4), with the proportion of the total research income that came from RCUK in the census period rising from 10% in RAE2008 to 22% in REF2014. Research income has also been generated through increased levels of international multidisciplinary research collaboration with academic and community partners (AIM.3, see section e). This resulted in staff being Co-Is or collaborators on funded projects worth over £3m, including a current three-year collaborative project developing interdisciplinary methodologies on gender inequalities in Asia, funded by the Research Council of Norway (Kroner 5m 2011–14) with major research partners from Norway, Denmark, Malaysia, Thailand and China (ELMHIRST). Targets for the PGR environment (AIM.6) have been achieved with PGR awards doubling from six (RAE 2008) to 12, and PhD enrolments going up 64% (14 to 22).

**Advancing the research environment since 2008:** The review after RAE2008 resulted in the implementation of a more systematic approach to the delivery of the research strategy with the three new research clusters being created to improve the research environment, management and governance structures. Collectively, these changes have created a rich multidisciplinary environment, providing mentoring, leadership and peer support, to raise the quality of outputs and generate findings that have impact. New knowledge and approaches relating to social policy, social work, counselling and psychotherapy have been generated through the rigorous application of theories and methodologies from the underpinning disciplines of sociology, psychology, criminology, anthropology, human geography and politics. Each cluster contributes to their respective intellectual field as follows:

**Care, Health and Well-being:** UoB researchers have advanced the interdisciplinary development of social policy research through the incorporation of psychosocial theory (TAYLOR) and the development of relational approaches to care, health and well-being – specifically, ethics of care (BARNES, WARD) – that challenge dominant policy agendas. A further contribution has been to the theory and practices of participation and community engagement. These critiques have been developed and applied using co-produced research to address key societal challenges in the fields of age and ageing (BARNES, WARD, REF3b [4]), mental health (WALKER, JOHNSON, REF3b [3]) and information technology in health and social care (HENWOOD). Research in social work has led agendas on resilience therapy for children in crisis [HART, 1], (REF3b [2]), and enhanced understanding of child homicide (STROUD). Counselling and psychotherapy researchers have developed a ‘cross-modality’ approach for understanding therapeutic encounters (HOWARD) and contributed new insights in eco-psychology concerning the benefits of ‘taking therapy outside’ (JORDAN).

**Crime, Resistance and Security:** Leading experts in criminology have developed agenda-setting approaches to the analysis of social exclusion and marginality, especially as regards their ‘crimogenic’ risks and consequences for young people (SQUIRES). They have also set out the characteristics of ‘neoliberal security’ (LEA) and gendered cultures of resistance (MEASOR). Two international conferences, hosted at UoB, explored the work of Loïc Wacquant and Guy Standing, resulting in an edited collection and a special journal issue. The intellectual focus of this work is originally and creatively developed through critical conceptions of ‘pre-criming’, precautionary criminalisation’, ‘gangsterisation’ and ‘weaponisation’ (SQUIRES, LEA, MEASOR). SQUIRES’ research on gun crime and on urban safety has received extensive media attention and is internationally recognised for its impact on both policy and practice (REF3b [1]).

**Culture, Identity and Society:** Interdisciplinary research has revealed the interaction of politics, social structures and identities in different cultural contexts to extend the boundaries of social

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policy research. In particular, international insights on the implications for social policy and politics of different forms of transnational politics and social movements have been set out in four influential monographs by researchers in mid- or early career, including: [KHAN, 2], *Mohajir militancy in Pakistan: violence and transformation in the Karachi conflict*, [ARTARAZ, 2, 4], *Cuba and Western intellectuals since 1959* and *Bolivia: refounding the nation*, and [McGARRY, 2], *Who speaks for Roma? Political representation of a transnational minority community*. The significance for social policy of gendered mobilities is revealed in papers in leading international journals by MAND on South Asian and Afghan communities in Britain, MURRAY on youth mobilities and by European Commission-funded collaborative research into gender, migration and human security in SE Asia (ELMHIRST). Psychosocial research has provided new insights on the changing nature of social identities in the context of gender, sexuality and sexual orientation (JOHNSON, BROWNE), sexual refusals and rape (FRITH), ethical consumption and 'fairtrade' (ADAMS, RAISBOROUGH) and class and death (KLEIN).

**Monitoring of targets and quality:** Research is overseen by the school's Research Strategy Committee (RSC), which is responsible for the determination of research priorities and the allocation and monitoring of research development funds and research sabbaticals. RSC membership includes staff at all career levels to ensure full engagement in research priority setting and delivery across the school. The RSC also manages supportive activities such as away days, seminars and master-classes and works closely with the Brighton Doctoral College (BDC) (section c) and Research Office (section d) to ensure a seamless and inclusive approach to the development and sustainability of research in social policy at UoB.

The SASS RSC reports to the University's Research Strategy Committee using the common framework for Annual Research Monitoring (ARM) introduced by the university in 2010 to bring greater rigour to the continuing process of evidence-based evaluation. Ethics procedures for PGR students and all staff projects operate through the Faculty of Health and Social Science Research Ethics and Governance Committee (FREGC) and up through a three-tier system in line with the ethical policies and guidelines of the university and national bodies. The FREGC has adopted an innovative online assessment and refereeing system based on *Scholar One* that matches academic journal procedures to give PGR students and ECRs, in particular, a good understanding of the electronic paper submission process.

**Future strategic goals:** The strategic vision for research in SASS to 2020 is to continue to strengthen the depth and quality of the interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research base in the three clusters and further enhance UoB's reputation for distinctive research collaborations with service users and providers. Four new strategic aims and associated delivery actions have been identified that build on our achievements since RAE2008. They are to:

- strengthen the leading-edge research in existing areas of expertise and open up new multidisciplinary areas of enquiry in each of the three clusters
- sustain our existing critical mass of influential and emerging researchers through recruitment and strengthening international and UK-based collaborations
- develop a next generation of researchers by enhancing the career development opportunities for ECRs and PGR students and improving leadership and mentoring
- maximise the impact of our research on beneficiaries through further embedding impact planning and strengthening our novel participatory approaches to collaborative co-research with policymakers and service users.

Our research priorities over the next five years are anchored in the existing work of the three research clusters that, address key challenges in the foundational disciplines that underpin social policy and social work research at UoB. The research agendas prioritised for development are:

- *Develop collaborative research between social work and social policy researchers.* The researchers will work closely with relevant practitioners and service users, to address key societal challenges, including: individual and collective (community) resilience building with reference to disadvantaged young people, older people (including research on dementia) and LGBT individuals and communities.
- *Build on developing partnerships with health and social care providers to further advance the critical agenda on e-health and assistive technologies.* The partnerships will, in particular,

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bring the lived experiences of consumers, citizens and service users to bear on policy and practice agendas in relation to self-care and independent living.

- *Mobilise national and local links with public safety organisations* (eg SQUIRES with the UK Association of Chief Police Officers) *to develop collaborative opportunities in the criminology area*. New collaborative research will further develop the core academic themes and trajectories around social exclusion and marginality (criminalisation, weaponisation, gangsterisation) and continue to integrate academic and policy research on policing, public safety and weapons misuse through engagements in public discourse and policy debate.
- *Develop collaborations between community psychology and psychotherapy/counselling researchers*. Collaborative research will further develop the newly emerging area of eco-psychology.

These agendas will be addressed through targeting relevant funding schemes, funding PGR studentships to support emerging research areas, and improved administrative and management support for research development provided by the university's new Centre for Research and Development in Social Sciences (section d).

**c. People, including:****I. Staffing strategy and staff development**

We have continued to invest significantly in the intellectual capital of our researchers by prioritising the following three staffing strategy objectives that map onto our current and future aims:

- invest in researcher development for all staff in line with the university's Research Concordat Action Plan
- sustain the current and future leadership of research
- ensure research opportunities are available to all, in line with equality and diversity policy

**Researcher development and concordat implementation:** The ethos and values of our commitment to researcher development is guided by the university's Research Concordat Action Plan that gained the EC Human Resources Excellence in Research Award in 2012. Since 2011, a major strategic university investment (£8.8m) has focused on initiatives for researcher development in order to deliver the action plan. Staff from all career levels in SASS have benefited from these university investments, including: one postdoctoral fellowship (McGARRY); twelve periods of sabbatical leave (value £140k); two Research Challenge awards involving four staff; £11.5k to support the international dissemination and networking of social policy research from Brighton.

These university initiatives are complemented by SASS-specific investments, including: a further 14 school-funded sabbaticals (value £150k); a school conference fund (value £46.2k), and; a competitive £10k per annum fund for pump-priming research activities that build international, interdisciplinary collaborations and research with impact. SASS workload planning (AIM.5) is supportive in ensuring that all research active staff have 40% of their time allocated to research. An indication of success from the roll-out of the Concordat Action Plan is provided by data from the 2013 Careers in Research Online Survey (CROS), which show UoB respondents to be well above sector average for: integration into the research community (91% compared to 78% nationally); opportunities to present at conferences (96% compared to 81% nationally); engagement with policymakers and end users (64% compared to 30% nationally); public engagement (52% compared with 40% nationally), and; visibility on websites and staff directories (91% compared with 75% nationally).

**Researcher development and early career staff:** Specific university initiatives for ECR support include an annual ECR *The Future's Bright* conference and the appointment of a University ECR Ambassador, a role filled between 2012–13 by ECR HANNA, submitted in this UoA. All ECRs receive support and mentoring from research cluster leaders and are encouraged to bid for both school and university research development funds, to develop skills in bid writing and in managing their first research project. ECRs have also been supported to attend the university's proposal writing course 'Proposal.Net'. Evidence of success for our approach to early career staff development includes the cases of McGARRY, MURRAY and ECR WARD, who are all now leading research programmes – in social movements, mobilities research, and age and ageing research,

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respectively. Since 2008, McGARRY, who completed his PhD in 2007, was awarded a Faculty Post-doctoral Fellowship and is now emerging as an internationally recognised expert on European Roma policy. A fellowship at the European Centre for Minority Issues was followed by hosting an international symposium at the UoB (2012) on social movements and identity this resulted in a co-edited book with Professor James Jasper (CUNY). MURRAY followed the completion of an ESRC-funded PhD research in 2007 by winning an ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowship (20 months, ending Feb 2009) and, following participation in an EPSRC-funded ‘sandpit’ on sustainable transport, collaborated with seven other universities to develop a successful bid worth an overall £1.1m (with £191k to UoB). ECR WARD, appointed as a Research Fellow at the start of the census period, was successful in securing promotion to a permanent post as Senior Research Fellow (2012) in recognition of research on older people’s well-being with BARNES and has since led the ESRC-funded ‘follow-on’ project (developed as part of ProposalNet training; see section d) underpinning REF3b [4]. WARD successfully co-hosted an international conference on the ethics of care (2012) and is co-editing a book based on papers from the conference, with international collaborators (Policy Press, 2014).

**Leadership:** Strategic research leadership (AIM.2) has been sustained and future-proofed through succession planning and promotions at all levels. Research leadership in the school has been held successfully by BALLOCH (retired 2008), BARNES (2008–10) and HENWOOD, who replaced BARNES in 2010 when she took on the leadership of the newly created *Care, Health and Well-being* cluster, which will, from February 2014, be led by a newly appointed Professor (Bendelow from the University of Sussex). The other two research clusters are led by Professor of Criminology SQUIRES and by FRITH. Significant internal promotions recognising and enhancing leadership (AIM.2) include: FRITH to Principal Lecturer in recognition of her research leadership of a cluster; HAYNES to Professor of Public Policy (also Head of School); TAYLOR to Professor of Social Theory and Social Policy (also Dean of Faculty of Health and Social Sciences), and; BROWNE to Readership. HART, Professor of Child, Family and Community Health, leads on community engagement as part of her university wide role as Academic Director of the university’s Community University Partnership Programme (CUPP) (2005 to date, see section d and REF3a). These experienced research leaders take responsibility, via research management, cluster mentoring and peer support, for ensuring the standards of research quality, including advising on bid development, ethics procedures and authorship policies.

**Equality and diversity:** In line with the university’s Equalities and Diversity Policy, the SASS RSC and the Head of SASS promote fairness and consistency in the recruitment and progression of research staff. Embodied in SASS research is a distinctive commitment to equality and diversity through influential outputs that explore human rights and social justice (eg BARNES, BROWNE, McGARRY, SHERRIFF). The combination of research interests and organisational practices around equality and diversity in SASS is evidenced by the development and training for all staff on these issues through online and face to face provisions. Indicative of the school’s commitment to equality is that all research staff (not working solely on specific externally funded projects) are now on permanent contracts. During the census period, two members of staff in the submission have been supported through customised workload planning to resume their research careers after returning from periods of maternity leave and part-time staff have been supported to develop a research profile suitable for submission to the REF2014 through targeted sabbatical funding (AIM 5). Two staff with registered disabilities have received occupational health assessments, support and advice, including purchase of specialist equipment, and have been provided with flexible staff support and working arrangements to fit with specialist medical and treatment needs.

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| <b>c. II. Research students</b> |
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**The Brighton Doctoral College (BDC):** Research students in SASS benefit from significant strategic changes that have been made to the environment at UoB in the census period as part of developing a more systematic approach to the next generation of researchers. All the PGR students are now based within the BDC that was established in 2011 under the leadership of a new Dean who is responsible for postgraduate research. A recent QAA report (March 2013) noted ‘*since its [BDC] establishment the trajectory of almost all success indicators has been upward.*’ The core work of the BDC is to:

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- oversee the application-to-graduation process for all PhD students
- provide a training needs analysis to establish each student's skills profile that is then mapped against the Vitae Researcher Development Framework (RDF)
- arrange compulsory formal training for all new students via the university RDF.

The BDC also facilitates an annual PGR conference and up to £1,200 is available to all students during their studies from a PGR Conference Support Fund established in 2012. All research students have at least two supervisors and a thesis panel to monitor progress. All supervisors undergo dedicated training, including equalities and diversity training, prior to joining the approved register and this must be refreshed every five years. Supervision is complemented by a series of formal milestones ensuring that satisfactory progress is taking place, the supervisory team is fulfilling its responsibilities and the project will be completed on time. Further improvements in support for PGR will be based on new forms of career planning to be introduced in 2014. The implementation of the BDC procedures in social science is supported by two dedicated administrators.

**The local PGR environment:** Our expanded and vibrant doctoral environment now includes 22 enrolled PGR students in SASS. Former PhD students have successfully obtained academic jobs at the UoB, Kingston, Portsmouth and the National Dong Hwa University, in Taiwan. In 2011, a competitive allocation process for university PGR studentships recognised the increase in the quality of the PGR environment in SASS by investing £256k in four full-time social science doctoral studentships. These have been matched by SASS funding for two studentships and two fees-only bursaries, plus one studentship under the EU DAPHNE III project (see section d).

All PGR students benefit from: annual research student presentation opportunities, away days, dedicated fortnightly reading groups led by ECRs, and opportunities to chair conference and workshop sessions at UoB. SASS has a long-running fortnightly research seminar series that fosters a vibrant research culture in which research students participate. SASS also holds an annual public social science lecture, which attracts a large local academic and community audience and is part of the Brighton Festival Fringe. Recent speakers have included Professors George Ritzer (Maryland, 2012), Roger Burrows (York, 2011) and Richard Wilkinson (Nottingham, 2010). A further distinctive element available to PGR students has been the introduction of master-classes, through which world-leading specialists engage in day-long discussion sessions with selected staff and students. Master-class visiting scholars and their topics have included Gumbrecht, 'Cultural 'Presence' (2011); Ritzer, 'McDonaldization' (2012); and Wegner, 'Community of Practice as Social Learning' (2013).

### d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

**Research funding strategy:** In accordance with the strategic research aims (AIM.4), funding bids have focused on RCUK and equivalent (NIHR) funding sources as well as systematically targeting funding streams that support innovative co-research with community organisations, service providers and users. Total research income in the census period was circa. £1.75m, of which 22% came from RCUK and a further £274k has been awarded by the NIHR as part of our strategy to develop collaborative research on health, care and well-being with service providers and users. RCUK-funded research has produced high-quality research monographs by SQUIRES [2] and HAYNES [4]. The impact template and impact case studies indicate how multidisciplinary research in which community partners play a key role in defining the direction and nature of the research is a distinct feature of Social Work and Social Policy research at the UoB (AIM.3). Over a third of research income in the census period was from grants (including ESRC, AHRC and NIHR) that involved close co-operation with voluntary and public sector organisations, including Age Concern, Alzheimer's Society, and local authority youth, mental health and social care services (see section e and REF3a).

Funding from RCUK and EU sources awarded during the census period will enable us to further advance our distinctive community and user-engaged research based on collaboration. Examples include: £384k for a community-led study of the processes that make community university research partnerships resilient (part of the ESRC Imagine project, total project: £2.3m); €241k to undertake research into child-to-parent violence (from EU Daphne III, total project: €752k), and; €659k funding for UoB to lead a €5m EU FP7 large-scale project examining Strategic Transitions

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for Youth Labour in Europe (style-research.eu) from 2013 to 2017 in which HART as a Co-I will explore resilience and aspirations amongst Looked After children. HART is also PI on an AHRC Connected Communities 'Follow-On' project that has developed a UK community partner network to inform the strategic direction of AHRC research involving community partners.

**Research funding strategic support:** The development of a more coherent research infrastructure at the university during the census period included strategic initiatives to advance high-quality research by systematically improving the quality control of grant applications and the scale of research income. The university's expanded central Research Office administers the new Grant Support Panel (comprising RCUK grant panel members providing feedback to ensure the quality of applications), enhanced university research grants and an expanded post-grant support team. 'ProposalNet' is the university's action-oriented programme of ten three-hour sessions over six months in which research bids are developed via a mentoring model; it has been attended by nine SASS staff in the review period, leading to successful bids with partner universities to EPSRC and ESRC worth a total value of £1.2m. The faculty that includes SASS has a dedicated Business Development Manager (BDM), part of the university's Economic and Social Engagement (EASE) team, who works with staff to support a coherent approach to knowledge exchange with practitioner and community partners (REF3a).

**Infrastructure and facilities:** The UoB manages its research in three areas: *Arts and Humanities; Social Sciences, and Life, Health and Physical Sciences*. Each area has a Director of Research and Development (DRD) reporting to the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (PVC) Research, providing leadership and strategic oversight. The DRD (Social Sciences), along with senior social scientists in this submission, supports the development of social sciences across the university and in SASS. Of particular relevance to research in social policy and its mission to generate socially relevant knowledge is the university's internationally recognised Community University Partnership Programme (CUPP), established in 2003 and funded with £300k per year (see impact template). CUPP supports social policy researchers in brokering reciprocal research partnerships with community, voluntary and statutory organisations in the UK and internationally, many of which underpin the four impact case studies. SASS researchers are located in Mayfield House on the university's Falmer site, and this was chosen as the location for CUPP offices and infrastructure to strengthen interaction with HART, the Academic Director of CUPP, and SASS researchers, who are the lead researchers on many CUPP projects and initiatives.

In SASS infrastructural support for research has been advanced with new management and governance structure (see section b. for details). Two full-time research administrative staff in SASS support all aspects of research, including developing bids, hosting dissemination and impact events and collating research data for research monitoring activities. Permanent research fellows/senior fellows (4.6 FTE, managed by the Head of Research) work flexibly to support bid development, data collection and analysis across all research clusters, providing a valuable resource for research development. Technical support for specialist research software and hardware is provided by a school-based full-time technician. Staff and PGR students all have access to a dedicated social science information officer in Information Services for support on the procurement of specialist research information.

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| <b>e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base</b> |
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**Collaboration with users:** Partnerships with service providers, service users and wider communities, along with interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary collaborations, form a central part of our research strategy. They also generate co-produced research addressing key challenges arising in public policy and service delivery. The Impact Template (REF3a) describes our systematic approach to developing collaborations by working with users, professional networks and the university's CUPP.

**Interdisciplinary research collaborations:** Three substantial EPSRC-funded interdisciplinary and collaborative projects on 'tackling gun crime' begun in the previous review period resulted in a world-leading monograph on gun crime [SQUIRES, 2] and an influential collaborative output addressing firearm misuse [SQUIRES,3]. Support for collaborative research is available through research development funds, including sabbaticals, and for co-hosting international conferences (see below). Collaborations have resulted in significant outputs, including: MAND [3, 4] with anthropologists at University of Sussex as part of AHRC-funded research linked to the *Diaspora*,

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*Migration and Identities* programme; HENWOOD [3, 4] with information studies and rhetorician researchers whilst on sabbatical at the University of Western Ontario.

**Co-produced outputs with users:** Collaborative research with service-sector providers and user groups has created opportunities for both participation in research and the co-production of knowledge. Consequently, improvements have occurred in the lives of people from different communities including, LGBT, older people and disadvantaged youth and families. These collaborations also enrich the SASS research environment by facilitating open dialogue across the research-practice divide, leading to further research bids and networks. In addition, the open dialogue has led to the production of a series of high-quality research outputs involving co-authoring by community and academic partners. Examples include:

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| WARD [1] and BARNES with Gahagan | Age UK, <i>Brighton and Hove</i>  |
| HART [3] with Aumann             | Amaze, <i>A community sector organisation working with disabled children and their families</i> |
| BROWNE [4] with Bakshi           | Spectrum and MindOut, <i>LGBT community organisations</i>                                       |

**Collaborations in PGR student training:** Collaborative staff exchange for PGR student training enriches our PGR environment and those of partner institutions. Staff collaborate on training with Mälardalen University, Sweden (on methodologies for community university partnership). Funding from the European Commission Asia-Link supports collaboration with Andalas University, Indonesia and Chulalongkorn University, Thailand (for PGR student training on theory, methodology and policy design for research into gender and migration).

**Contributions to the wider research base:** Our research strategy since 2008 has focused on strengthening SASS as an intellectually influential location for social policy research. The delivery of this strategy has involved researchers at all career levels contributing to the research base through international academic leadership, including: editorial positions on leading journals; key roles in professional associations; visiting professorships; network leadership; keynote presentations; conference hosting, and contributions to research strategy, peer review and grant awarding bodies.

**Editorial positions:** SASS researchers play major roles in promoting excellence in social policy and social work through their editorships of key journals and their memberships of 11 editorial boards during the census period, including: *Social Policy and Administration* (CAHILL, Reviews Editor to 2013); *Social Policy and Society* (HAYNES, elected by SPA editorial board to 2010); *Journal of Social Policy* (BARNES to 2009). BARNES and TAYLOR have advanced the interdisciplinary development of social policy by emphasising psychosocial theory in their work on the editorial collective of *Critical Social Policy*, co-editing a special issue on psychosocial welfare in 2008. BARNES has also been chosen as a co-editor for *Ethics and Social Welfare*. JOHNSON and FRITH, as members of the Editorial Board for *Feminism & Psychology*, received a rare group award by the American Psychological Association for 'Distinguished Leadership in Psychology of Women'.

**Professional Associations:** Key influential roles during the census period include:

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| SQUIRES  | British Society for Criminology, Executive Secretary and Executive Committee     |
| SHERRIFF | British Psychological Society, media contact for discussing social policy        |
| WALKER   | British Psychological Society, National Community Psychology Committee           |
| HOWARD   | Universities Psychotherapy and Counselling Association, Chair Research Committee |

**Prestigious visiting professorships and fellowships:** HART's research on resilience and university community engagement is recognised by a three year Visiting Professorship for Collaborative Research (Mälardalen, University, Sweden) and a two-week lecture tour on the 'Engagement Australia' Visiting Scholar's Programme. SHERRIFF, for his work on HIV prevention and fathers' support for breastfeeding, has received two invitations to international fellowships in Japan that will support collaborative research. Visiting professorships were also held by BARNES (Autonomous University of Barcelona) and HENWOOD (University of Western Ontario).

**International research networks:** HART, in a novel collaboration with a community interest company (boingboing), established the Resilience Forum in 2009, a world-leading academic,

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practitioner and community network on resilience building, with nearly 500 members in Europe and USA. It operates online and face to face to promote debate about resilience and co-productive research practices in social work and social policy. ELMHIRST has been the UK lead in three funded international networks with key research institutes in the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and Vietnam to build capacity for research, teaching and evidence-based policy relating to gender and migration (EC, €336k, Research Council of Norway 5m Kroner, and; Rockefeller Foundation, \$97k).

**International conference organisation:** SASS has contributed to a number of strategically important areas of social policy research, by hosting a series of major international workshops and conferences producing important collaborative outputs on user involvement/participation, resilience, care, marginality and crime, and social movements:

- Critical Perspectives on User Involvement, 2009, (edited collection, BARNES, Cotterell Policy Press, 2012)
- Resilience: Why Bother? 2011 (attracted over 150 practitioners and young people as well as nearly 100 academics)<sup>2</sup>
- Critical Care: Advancing an Ethic of Care in Theory and Practice, 2012 (forthcoming edited collection, Polity 2014)
- Advanced Marginality in the Criminal State: Exploring the Work of Loïc Wacquant, 2011 (edited collection, SQUIRES and LEA, *Criminalisation and Advanced Marginality*, Polity Press, 2012)
- Exploring the 'Precariat': an Interdisciplinary Conference, 2012 (special issue of *Criminal Justice Matters*, 2013)
- Contested Identities in Social and Political Movements, co-hosted with Professor James Jasper (CUNY), 2012 (forthcoming edited collection, Palgrave, 2014)
- Migration, Gender and Human Security in an Era of Global Structural Change and Crisis, in collaboration with the International Institute for Social Studies, Rotterdam, 2010
- European Ethics of Care Conference, co-hosted with University of Stuttgart in Stuttgart, 2013.

**Keynote presentations:** Contributions to social work and social policy research have been recognised by 50 invited keynotes (over 50% to international conferences). Key examples include: Guns, Crime, Weaponisation and Social Order, at York University, Toronto, 2008 (SQUIRES); UK Social Policy Association Conference, 2009 (BARNES); Taiwan International Social Policy Conference, 2010 (HAYNES); Dutch Annual Criminology Society Conference, Leiden, 2012 (SQUIRES); Addressing Filicide: Inaugural International Conference for Cross National Dialogue, Monash University, Prato, Italy, 2013 (STROUD).

**Contributions to research strategy, peer review and grant-awarding bodies:** We have encouraged researchers to contribute their knowledge and expertise to peer-review processes, RCUK strategies and grant-awarding panels. The years 2008–14 saw a significant overall increase in our contributions to the research base through these types of activity. Two members of staff are on the REF2014 panel (BARNES and SQUIRES). A quarter (seven) of our submitted researchers are on national and international academic peer-review colleges and grant-awarding panels, including ESRC, NIHR Research for Patient Benefit programme, the Research Council of Norway, SSHRC (Canada), the Danish Council for Independent Research/Social Sciences, the Association of Southeast Asian Studies, the New Zealand Marsden Research Fund, and the Government of Ireland Post-doctorate Fellowship Fund. HENWOOD was an interview panel member for RCUK's *Grand Challenges in Information Driven Healthcare* (value £6m) and a member of the review panel and steering group for the Technology Strategy Board *Assisted Living Innovation Platform*. Consequently, in the census period our researchers have made a significant contribution to the research base in Social Work and Social Policy. Our aspiration for 2020 is to advance this contribution whilst strengthening our position as an international and influential centre of excellence that delivers a distinct mission involving practitioners and users.