

<p>Institution: University of Bath</p> <hr/> <p>Unit of Assessment: 22: Social work and social policy</p> <hr/> <p>a. Overview</p> <p>The University of Bath is an internationally-recognised centre for social policy research, with a strong focus on policy and practice.</p> <p>Social policy research involves academic colleagues in the Department of Social and Policy Sciences (DSPS), as well as in the Departments of Economics, Education, Psychology and Health. This research is organised through CASP (Centre for the Analysis of Social Policy), founded in 1982. CASP works with a variety of other Centres and Research Groups, concerned with particular policy specialisms involved in this submission, including CDS (Centre for Development Studies); CDAS (Centre for Death and Society); and TCRG (Tobacco Control Research Group, Department for Health).</p> <p>We collaborate with research groups across the University, on inter-disciplinary problems of shared interest, and with research centres around the world. We engage with a wide variety of public, voluntary and private sector partners, in processes of research and knowledge exchange, and to secure strong impact for our research.</p> <p>Our research engages with major contemporary policy initiatives and debates. It spans the local, national, European and global levels and engages with key stakeholders at all these levels. It critically questions the conceptual boundaries and theoretical paradigms that underpin social policy studies. This research in turn infuses our teaching and public engagement.</p> <p>Colleagues advise the UN, WHO, World Bank, the EU institutions, non-government organisations and government departments in the UK and abroad. They are active in reviews of research, through UK funding bodies and internationally; and they contribute strongly to the larger research community.</p> <p>The 2011 Queen's Anniversary Prizes for Higher and Further Education recognised the excellence of Social Policy research at Bath and, in particular, our 'influential applied research into child poverty and support for vulnerable people'.</p> <hr/> <p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>i) Developments since RAE 2008</p> <p>Social Policy at the University of Bath achieved a high level of success in RAE 2008. The objectives we set ourselves for the subsequent five years were 'to produce research that is analytically and methodologically innovative, with a strong international focus, and a clear application to policy and practice'. To ensure the sustainability of our research strategy, we proceeded to set in place strategies for increasing the number of research students; creating opportunities for young researchers; mentoring new staff; maintaining and strengthening links with user communities and policy-makers at local, national and international levels; and continuing to develop inter-disciplinary research and methodological innovation.</p> <p>Subsequent sections of this statement demonstrate a high level of success in meeting these objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External research income for the REF2014 period totals around £7 million (compared with £4.4 million for RAE2008). • Significant numbers of new staff have been integrated into Social Policy research at Bath - of the 39 submitted to REF 2014, 18 are new to the University, 9 are ECRs and 4 were recruited to Chairs. • Research support to staff has been enhanced, with dedicated units in DSPS and in the Department for Health, as well as stronger support at University level, notably through the newly-established Institute for Policy Research, whose development we have led (see below). • We have developed stronger training for research students, in both technical and generic skills, expanding the numbers of research students and more than quadrupling the number of PhD completions (from 27 in the RAE 2008 period to 116 in the REF period).

ii) Strategic Aims and Goals for Research

Our **overall goal** is to undertake **high quality research of international significance in social policy** that contributes both to **critical scientific understanding** and to **policy and practice** and is oriented to **new and emerging challenges of the contemporary world**. This is consistent with the larger aims and objectives of the University Research Strategy and Corporate Plan.

In pursuit of this goal, our [Social Policy Research Strategy](#) encompasses the following aims:

- to recruit, develop and retain academic staff of the highest calibre and promise;
- to strengthen our research capacity and sustainability;
- to build and sustain world-wide research partnerships of high repute and strengthen the policy science community in the UK and internationally;
- to secure local, national and global impact for our research across the academic community and with public policy-makers, practitioners and users in public services, business, civil society and the media;
- to strengthen the alignment between our research and our teaching, and ensure that our graduates are equipped to think in a critical and research-sensitive manner;
- to enable all academic staff, contract researchers and research students to contribute to a common research culture and to find professional and personal fulfilment therein.

What follows shows how we have been pursuing these aims.

iii) Investments and new initiatives

Our strategy for pursuing these aims, during the present REF period and beyond, involves several recent initiatives and investments. Together they develop our methodological innovation and diversity; our multi-disciplinary connections to other academic expertise; our international research collaboration; and our strong engagement with policy makers and research users. They enrich our research environment and they reinforce our impact.

1. The policy problems addressed by social policy scholars are in many cases complex and even 'wicked', raising complex trade-offs which allow of no easy resolution and involving path dependencies and lock-ins which are difficult to escape. To address such problems requires an active and well-connected inter-disciplinary research community, linking up a range of methodologies and organising them for specific and well-focussed investigative projects. This is why much of our research is interdisciplinary, involving colleagues in other disciplines and encouraging methodological innovation and diversity.

The University has therefore invested in new professorial appointments (Cooke and Gregg) who have substantially enhanced our strength in quantitative methods and longitudinal studies. They are working with existing colleagues such as Harkness, Millar and Ridge, and with younger arrivals and postdocs, from DSPS but also from Economics (Dickson, James, Salgado, Vujic). This represents a step change in our capacity, relevant to both research grant capture and PGR training. Meanwhile, Room, G Brown and Johnson have been pioneering methodological and paradigmatic innovations that draw on complexity theory, historical institutionalism and social realism, applying these to social policy, international conflict and development. This makes for a research community characterised by methodological innovation, diversity and rigour, but remarkably open, not dividing into separate camps.

2. We are re-thinking the content and boundaries of social policy. Traditionally, social policy studies focused on rich countries, development studies on poor. As those divisions dissolve, in a globalising world, we are forging a shared understanding of poverty, wellbeing and socio-economic development. This is evident in the integration since 2009 of our social policy and development studies groups within DSPS, as well as many of the research outputs included in this submission. We also hosted (in conjunction with York) a first joint Social Policy Association-Development Studies Association conference (April 2013), aimed at developing shared thinking and joint activities: see the report in the SPA's [Policy World](#), October 2013.
3. We are leading a programme of strategic investment in Policy Sciences across the University of Bath as a whole. This encompasses a wider vision of policy sciences, in relation to security, environment, energy, health and the economy. In Spring 2013 the University established an [Institute for Policy Research \(IPR\)](#), with Room as Director, which we expect to become a leading international centre for policy analysis and critique.

This we also expect to have significant implications for how we think about social policy itself. Traditionally, social policy studies centred on poverty relief, family support and the insecurities faced by workers in urban-industrial societies. Now our societies face the interlinked risks of economic, social and environmental turmoil: social policy studies must be correspondingly reconfigured. The multi-disciplinary connections of the IPR will facilitate this. It will also expand our international collaborations, place us at the heart of the University's international strategy, enhance our engagement with policy makers and research users and multiply our impact.

4. We are more systematically monitoring and steering the attainment of our targets. We make increasing use of metrics to compare our progress with that of our national and international peer departments. These include Google scholar tracking of academic citations, trends in research funding, and numbers of PGR funded studentships. These actions align with the University's goal of moving up the global rankings ([12th in the world in 2012](#) of those universities no more than 50 years old).

iv) Research topics:

Our research topics grow out of RAE2008; they have also been shaped by the afore-mentioned investments; but they also strategically bring together the expertise of the different research groups involved in this submission, so as to build critical mass in relation to contemporary policy concerns. This makes for research which is rigorous and of high quality, but also agile, timely and significant in its policy impact.

Global Transformations and Insecurity (GTI): CASP and CDS

This extends earlier work on welfare regimes internationally, led by Gough, Wood and Room, and reported for RAE 2008. It has however been significantly reinforced by the integration of social policy and development studies within DSPS. The coincidence of the international economic crisis, and the period of the REF, makes such integration essential, if research is to capture these transformations and their consequences in different national situations.

Work, Welfare and Poverty (WWP): CASP, CDS and CDAS

For **CASP**, this has been a major area of additional investment, with the arrival of Cooke and Gregg, as a well as a Prize Fellow (Dickson). This research is strongly focussed on the social consequences of the present austerity - including, through **CDAS**, the cost of dying as well as living. The collaboration with **CDS** extends this research to poverty, work and wellbeing in the South and East, and the flows of migration North (Carmel, Maroukis). It also connects concerns about extreme poverty in the South to policies there on social protection, employment and economic development.

Children, Young People and Families (CYF): CASP and CDS

This research was central to our submission for the 2011 Queen's Anniversary Prize: it demonstrates the strong links between our social policy and development studies research. Working with all the Departments involved in this submission, CASP and CDS have built a wider inter-disciplinary research forum across the University, as well as a **Network on Family Regulation and Society**, with Bristol, Cardiff and Exeter.

Lifelong Health and Wellbeing (LHW): CASP, TCRG, CDS and CDAS

The **TCRG**, led by Gilmore, is part of the [UK Centre for Tobacco Control Studies](#), spanning nine universities: now expanded to become the **UK Centre for Tobacco and Alcohol Studies (UKCTAS)**, with thirteen UK and overseas universities. This involves collaboration with Griffin but also with Miller and a Prize Fellow (Ozieranski), on the corporate shaping and subversion of public health policies. Meanwhile **CDS**, which for RAE 2008 reported major funding (£3.25 million) from ESRC for research on wellbeing, continues that funded research across Latin America, Africa and South Asia. **CDAS** extends this work into old age and end of life care.

Governance and Policy Design (GPD): CASP, CDS, TCRG and IPR

While much of the above research involves conceptual and methodological innovation, some of our work also addresses issues of governance and seeks to develop tools for the analysis, design and evaluation of policies. This work, already part of our RAE 2008 submission (Room, Butler, Gould) is now enriched by collaboration with **CDS and TCRG** (Copestake, Fooks). In addition however, the **Institute for Policy Research**, encompassing a wider vision of policy sciences, and with substantial new investment by the University, prompts a re-think of social policy itself.

Each of these five topics represents a strongly developing nexus of research strength, with greater methodological self-awareness, external funding, international linkages, research impact, ECRs and PGR students. Specific examples are given in Section 4 below. Meanwhile, other elements of our research strategy – relating to staffing, funding streams and infrastructure – are addressed in Sections 2 and 3.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

Staff recruitment, development and promotion and succession planning:

Our aim is that all academic staff should contribute to a common research culture and find professional and personal fulfilment therein.

This submission involves 39 Category A staff: this includes 15 Professors, 2 Readers, 16 SLs and Lecturers and 6 Research Staff: 35.35 FTE in all. This compares with 23.7 in RAE 2008. There are 9 ECRs. There are no Category C staff.

Since RAE2008, we have lost a number of our professorial leaders. Gough and Gould both retired. Bauld left for personal reasons but continues to work with our TCRG. Howarth and Kellehear took up posts overseas, but retain links with CDAS. Against this, the University has made a substantial investment in research leadership across this area during the current REF period, involving additional Chairs through external appointment (Cooke, Gregg, Miller, Whitty), as well as internal promotions (Copestake, Gilmore, Ridge). Moreover, following the award of the Queen's Prize (see 'Overview' above), the University established a number of 'Prize Fellowships' for early career researchers with very high potential, several in this area of scholarship.

Our recent senior appointments are providing additional research leadership. Gregg is the incoming director of CASP: in addition to UK social policy analysis, he is also developing new linkages with similar centres in other countries, to expand our potential for collaborative international social policy research. As the new Director of Research, Cooke offers one-on-one discussion about individual research plans for the next three to five years, new high-impact publishing outlets, suitable sources of funding, etc., to ensure that staff at all stages of their careers develop and thrive as researchers.

These tasks are supported by the Research Development and Support Office (RDSO) of the University, which offers guided workshops, peer review panels, and developmental activities to increase our funding portfolio and multidisciplinary collaborations. These are variously geared to academic staff, research officers and PGR students.

The Research Staff Working Group represents research staff at the University, including promoting implementation of the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Research Staff and the University's own Code of Practice for the Employment of Research Staff. Like other Departments, DSPS has a Research Staff Coordinator, to ensure implementation of the RSWG Code of Practice and to provide support, information and advocacy. The University has been awarded the 'HR Excellence in Research' Badge from the European Commission, for our alignment with the principles of the European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for their Recruitment.

We are also strongly committed to ensuring equality of opportunity for career development. The University has a programme for developing women's opportunities in academic leadership positions. Millar is PVC Research; and of the professorial staff included in this submission, one third are women. Of the staff in this unit of assessment awarded University sabbaticals during the REF period, more than two thirds are women.

Research quality and integrity:

Ethical research governance is secured through Departmental and Faculty research ethics committees. With much of our work concerned with such sensitive areas as young people, vulnerable adults and those facing death and bereavement, ethical concerns are prominent at each point in the research process, from inception to dissemination.

The IPR is developing an additional range of ethical concerns in relation to policy research. Here we are posing questions in relation to academic freedom to publish; conflicts of interest; defining and avoiding 'great harm' in research; and avoiding unnecessary controversy. We are addressing these questions within social policy and social work: but we are also, from our vantage point in the

Institute for Policy Research, raising them for the University more generally, including within its Ethics Committee.

Personal research fellowships and staff development:

The research fellowships won during 2008-13 contribute to individual staff development, but have also been geared to our strategic research vision: building methodological innovation and diversity; multi-disciplinary connections to other academic expertise; international research collaboration; and strong engagement with policy makers and research users.

Room's ESRC Research Fellowship (2008-10) [RES-063-27-0130] connected complexity theory and historical institutionalism and developed new approaches in policy analysis.

In 2009 Harkness won an ESRC Placement Fellowship [RES-173-27-0119] in the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit, Cabinet Office (September-December), where she contributed to the Employment White Paper and to deliberations on multiple deprivation within the Social Exclusion Unit.

Gilmore was awarded the Health Foundation Clinician Scientist Fellowship (for 'outstanding professionals who are committed to improving practice through advances in clinical research, and are driven to inspire others'): October 2006 – April 2013.

As Lee Kong Chian Distinguished Visiting Fellow at Stanford University and the National University of Singapore (2011-2012), G Brown was able to engage critically with American political science networks and their ontological and epistemological presuppositions.

Miller won a RCUK Global Uncertainties Leadership Fellowship 2013-15 [ES/K000292/1]. This embraces a range of disciplinary approaches to 'terrorism'; it uses an innovative mixed-method approach to engage critically with evidence and 'expertise' on terrorism. It also involves knowledge exchange and impact work with the media, civil society and policy circles.

Other prestigious awards included Devine's Visiting Professorship at Nagoya University, Japan (2012-13); Hart's 2009 award from the Council for British Research in the Levant, as well as his British Academy Mid-Career Fellowship for 2013-2014 for research on 'The Moral Economy of Children's Rights: the UNCRC and International Development'; and the Max Weber post-doc at the EUI held by James, one of our ECRs, in 2011-12.

ii. Research students

We are strongly committed to our community of research students, the quality of the environment they enjoy and their full participation in our research culture. Under the leadership of Carmel and now Hart, this has been a strategic priority throughout the REF period.

We have a large, inter-disciplinary body of postgraduate research students, working as active members of our research groups and developing their own research community. Each student has a main and a second supervisor. A Faculty level Graduate School oversees six monthly reporting of progress supported by Directors of Studies at Department level. A formally constituted Board of Examiners, comprising two independent assessors, oversees confirmation of PhD status, normally after 12 months. This is based on a review of the student's written work, evaluation of a detailed progress report, and a presentation.

We have an integrated system of training for skills development, through the Departments, the Faculty and the University, tailored to meet the needs of students as they progress. The Department provision focuses on informal, peer-led training, both subject-specific (e.g. managing fieldwork abroad; researching sensitive issues) and generic (e.g. deconstructing the written thesis, understanding supervisory styles; using academic social media and developing impact pathways). This is supplemented by Faculty Graduate School training on specialist and advanced research techniques, methods and practices. The University's programme of training covers key issues in generic skills: project management, IT and writing skills, presentations, teaching, and includes access to one-to-one writing tutorial support, provided by Royal Literacy Society writing coaches.

In addition to the weekly seminars and peer-training, we run biannual 'forums' for feedback and general reflection on the development of the PGR community. Other innovations have included student peer observation of teaching and peer-writing groups. In September 2012 and again in 2013, the PGR students in DSPPS organised a day-long symposium attended by the bulk of our academic staff, a 'taster' for presenting their research at external conferences. PGRs in DSPPS also produce a quarterly bulletin.

Funds for conference attendance are available to both funded and self-funded students, with a new

Faculty scheme introduced in 2011/12 to support students and supervisors jointly presenting at international conferences. Beginning in 2013, DSPS has moreover set aside a dedicated annual fund for PGR students, to provide financial support for their research costs, including conference participation, purchase of data sets, specialized equipment, etc. Presentation of papers at conferences, leading to academic publication is regarded as an important part of research postgraduates training. For example, during 2012-13 PGR students in DSPS authored or co-authored 16 peer reviewed publications, and presented papers at 31 conferences.

In 2010, the ESRC established a new national network of 21 Doctoral Training Centres (DTCs). The South West DTC involves Bath, Bristol and Exeter. Of the ten accredited training pathways at Bath, five are 'managed' by DSPS. This demonstrates that Social Policy at Bath is a centre of excellence in research training. Its commitment to extend innovation and best practice across disciplinary and interdisciplinary fields, and to offer students access to world class research and training opportunities, has enabled Social Policy to build an active, successful and engaged postgraduate research community.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

i. Major Research Grants

We aim at growth but also diversity in our funding base - important in securing resilience and sustainability for our research in a period of austerity. During the REF period these goals have been achieved. Total external research income has been around £7 million, compared with £4.4 million in our RAE 2008 submission. The four major sources have been UK Government, Research Councils, EU Commission and UK charities, each yielding between £1.2 and £1.6 million, with around £600k from other overseas sources.

We will continue to target a diverse range of funding sources. 2014 will see the first Calls within Horizon 2020 and the University has a well-developed strategy for supporting bids. The newly established IPR also has this as a high priority.

External research grants already secured for the period beyond REF2014 have a value of £4.5 million.

ii. Strategies for generating grant income

Our support for research in general and for grant applications in particular has become more systematic and proactive during this REF period.

DSPS has a senior academic as research coordinator and a research committee, charged with guiding staff in their research applications, undertaking ethical scrutiny of grant applications, monitoring research grants and publishing Departmental research updates. They work in concert with the other Departments contributing to this submission.

The University's Research Support and Development Office (RDSO) provides support and guidance for academic staff, in applying for external research funding and in the financial administration of projects. This includes for example:

- Regular e-mail briefings through Research Professional on new funding opportunities;
- Application 'surgeries' for academics at an early stage of preparing a research application;
- Advice as to other successful bids that have been made to the funding body in question.

Advice from Directors of Research Centres and Heads of Group is made available throughout the development of proposals. The University has established a Peer Review process for grant proposals: we ensure that, with suitable advance planning, this can operate at high speed and within a time frame that can cope with 'last minute' bids. This provides applicants with feedback from at least two experienced colleagues with expertise in the field or the funder.

iii. Infrastructure and Facilities

The University ensures strategic coordination of research through research committees at University, Faculty and Departmental levels, working to the PVC Research. Also essential however is a creative research environment, responsive to new policy initiatives and new lines of curiosity-driven enquiry.

As stated earlier, **CASP** (Centre for the Analysis of Social Policy), founded in 1982, is the principal hub for social policy research in the University. Paul Gregg has been director since 2012, in succession to Jane Millar and Rudolf Klein.

Environment template (REF5)

CASP and our other research centres hold workshops to discuss research in progress and incubate new research initiatives. CDAS has promoted a regular seminar on 'sensitive research issues' which, starting from research into death and bereavement, now infuses a wider range of Social Policy research among both research students and academics. Our research centres also play a key role in connecting our international networks (see next section) and in projecting our research into the policy world.

Beyond these, the new [Institute for Policy Research](#) is organising interdisciplinary research and policy workshops, which are promoting cross-Departmental research collaboration and a research environment with competing paradigms and creative fusion of new ideas. DSPS is playing a leading role in this. The University is committing £250k annually in the initial phase, matched with strong endorsement from the most senior levels. This represents a major financial and institutional investment in our research environment.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

Fundamental to our research strategy is collaboration with colleagues, partners and research users elsewhere. It is often through these interactions that we become aware of new research and policy challenges; extend the capacities that we can deploy for research; identify those capacities that we will want eventually to bring in-house; and test the value and novelty of our research insights.

i. Interdisciplinary research

Social policy problems are often complex; to address them requires an inter-disciplinary research community, linking up a range of methodologies and deploying them for specific and well-focussed investigative projects. Key examples of our interdisciplinary research include:

Butler and Ridge are collaborating with academic lawyers, social workers and policy analysts from Bristol, Cardiff and Exeter, in the **Network on Family Regulation and Society**. This explores changes in the regulation of family and personal relationships from a socio-legal research perspective, in areas such as child protection, family justice, marriage and cohabitation breakdown and the effects of separation and divorce on children, including the impact of poverty. It has received funding from Leverhulme and Nuffield. A bid has been made to ESRC for a Socio-Legal Centre for Family Regulation and Society.

Devine's research into extreme poverty dynamics in Bangladesh has involved close collaboration with biological anthropologists and nutrition ecologists at Cambridge and with economists, political scientists, sociologists and anthropologists at BRAC University in Dhaka. This has involved training Bangladeshi researchers in interdisciplinary collaboration.

Griffin is involved in an international project 'Young adults, drinking stories and the cult of celebrity', with Massey University and the University of New Hampshire. This involves health psychologists, public health researchers, a criminologist and a media studies researcher.

Miller leads a Work Package on 'Networks of influence' within the [ALICE RAP](#) project, concerned with alternative approaches to addiction. This five year project, co-financed by the European Commission, involves over 100 scientists from more than 25 countries and 29 different disciplines. It aims to strengthen the evidence base on addiction for policy debate.

Room's work, connecting complexity theory and historical institutionalism to policy analysis, has involved detailed collaboration with colleagues, here and elsewhere, in mathematics, computer science, evolutionary biology, physical sciences, and a broad range of social sciences.

Walter has during 2008-2013 co-published theoretical/conceptual papers with colleagues in computer science, social work and medicine; and empirical papers with an archaeologist and a historian. These links have been enabled by our Centre for Death and Society and through the UK *Association for the Study of Death & Society*, founded at Bath in 2010.

We support this interdisciplinary research collaboration and the wider research base through our research centres and, increasingly, through the new Institute for Policy Research.

ii. Research Collaborations with Users

We engage with a wide variety of public, voluntary and private sector partners, in knowledge exchange and various forms of 'co-production'. These collaborations have enriched our research environment and they shape our research priorities. It is moreover often through these interactions that we become aware of new policy challenges: they serve as our early warning antennae. It is also through them that much of the impact of our research is mediated.

These users are located at local, regional and national levels, and in a wide range of countries; they include government decision-makers, professional bodies, NGOs, pressure groups and consultancies. Key examples of this research collaboration with users include:

Devine has played a leading role in a £65m programme to support the extreme poor in Bangladesh. He works with the governments of Bangladesh and the UK, but also with consultancy firms, third sector organisations and local action-researchers. These collaborations have brought fresh insights into poverty and enhanced opportunities for the co-production of knowledge.

Gregg has been a major contributor to new thinking on youth unemployment and opportunity on both sides of the political spectrum: as a member of the Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission, set up by David Cameron and chaired by Alan Milburn; and as a member of the ACEVO Commission on Youth Unemployment (2011-12), chaired by David Miliband.

Hudson, responding to concerns about determinants of productivity on the part of the South West Regional Development Agency and Welsh Assembly, investigated and uncovered the importance of spatial factors, and therefore of transport infrastructures, which he fed into both policy debates and journal publications.

James (ECR) has been involved (2010/2011) in a large-scale field experiment involving schools in over ten local authorities and thirty schools across the UK. The goal is to investigate whether providing temporary incentives could trigger long-lasting changes in children's nutritional choices, especially for boys and children from lower socio-economic status. The results will go to the school and local authorities but also the Department for Education.

Johnson has a longstanding research collaboration with Financial Sector Deepening Trust Kenya: a multi-donor trust fund which works with the financial sector, to reach low income people excluded from banking services. She and Copestake have strong links with other industry players, including the World Savings Bank Institute, NGO networks, and consultancy organisations such as Microsave and Microfinance Opportunities. These links have enriched the research environment, facilitating a Knowledge Transfer Partnership with Oxford Policy Management, and enabling further research on the political economy of financial inclusion policy, especially in East Africa.

Ridge has been working with North Somerset Council in the development and evaluation of their local child poverty strategy. This has in turn refocused her approach to understanding how children's needs and concerns can be best incorporated in local policy forums. Work with The Children's Society has likewise fed into the formulation of a unique longitudinal qualitative panel she is developing of the experiences of low-income children, tailored to The Children's Society ambition of promoting a 'Good Childhood' for all children in their lobbying work.

Sims (ECR) & **Gilmore** have been working with the regional Public Health Observatories (now part of Public Health England) to evaluate the impact of smokefree legislation: this collaboration helped secure access to NHS hospital admissions data and mortality records and enabled estimates of the savings to the NHS saving resulting from smokefree legislation.

Valentine (ECR) and **Walter** and their colleagues in CDAS have a flourishing network of affiliates from the insurance and funeral industries, the caring professions and academia who contribute to research, teaching, publishing, and policy impact.

Weyman has been involved in knowledge co-production with DWP and the NHS, involving the systematic review of evidence on behaviour change interventions for extending working life. This draws together colleagues in Economics and Health.

White leads an ESRC project [RES: 167-25-0507] on 'Wellbeing and Poverty Pathways' in India and Zambia, engaging with local universities and NGOs [White: 1-4]. This has also generated spin-off collaborative projects with international development NGOs (Traidcraft and WWF), wanting to use White's methods of wellbeing assessment for project monitoring and evaluation.

iii. International academic collaborations

Our international research networks and collaborations are core to our strategy. They extend our capacities; they help us to bring a comparative perspective to bear, sharpening our analytical insights and strengthening the evidence base on which we draw; in many cases they are indispensable when applying for large research grants; and they help us compare our progress with that of our national and international peers.

Key examples of our international research collaborations include:

Cooke is involved in a range of international research collaborations that link social policy, labour economics, sociology and social demography. She was PI on a Leverhulme Trust International Network grant (2009-2010) comprising 14 researchers in 11 countries, who harmonized large-scale national datasets to analyse the relationship between wives' employment and divorce risk in a range of policy settings. She is a named expert advisor on a current ERC Advanced Investigator grant (Esping-Andersen (PI), Pompeu Fabra University, 2010-15 "Family Polarization" SH2); and she was a Founding Member of the Work and Family Researchers Network, housed at the University of Pennsylvania and serving as a multidisciplinary research platform. At her instigation, Bath will be hosting the 2015 conference of the International Sociological Association's RC19 on Poverty, Social Welfare and Social Policy.

Copestake and **Johnson**, in their research on microfinance and financial inclusion, collaborate with the Centre for European Research in Microfinance at the Université Libre de Bruxelles. Copestake is moreover on the review panel for a large programme of evaluation of official Dutch aid to NGOs, conducted under the auspices of the Dutch Scientific Research Council (NWO).

Gilmore and her colleagues have been involved in two large FP7 consortia concerned with public health. She is also part of the Prospective Urban Rural Epidemiological study (based at the Population Health Research Institute at McMaster): the largest global study of the environmental, societal and biological determinants of obesity and other chronic health problems in low, middle and high income countries. It will follow over 155,000 individuals over 10 years and provide unique data on a number of risk factors including tobacco use.

Jawad is developing a distinctive and timely niche in research on social policy in the Middle East. Her 3-year ESRC grant includes researchers in Iran and Turkey [RES-062-23-1803]. She is now organising these contacts as a [network](#) of academics and practitioners concerned with social policy in the Middle East, supported by a Council for British Research in the Levant grant. This capitalises on her links with civil servants, NGOs and consultancies across the region: these include UN-ESCWA, the Dubai government and the French consultancy firm Moroé.

Maconachie has research collaborations with the University of Sierra Leone (2007ff) and with Bayo University in Nigeria (2010ff), funded through the British Council and DFID. Both are concerned with urban development, natural resources, food security and livelihoods; both have promoted inter-disciplinary collaboration (drawing on geography, anthropology, politics, and development/area studies); and both are contributing to environment-development policy and practice. Their value is evidenced in research publications [Maconachie 1-4]; in the mentoring of research staff at the partner institutions; and in the policy impact of the research in both countries.

Ozieranski (ECR) works with Miller and Gilmore on corporate influence on health policy in Europe. His research focusses in particular on lobbying by the pharmaceutical industry in Poland, during the period of dramatic re-structuring that followed the re-connection of Poland to the West. He has an emerging network of research colleagues in central Europe, including the Universities of Warsaw and Cracow and the Central European University (Budapest), which will be the basis for a wider study of this health policy battleground.

One indicator of the success of these international collaborations can be seen in our publications. Almost two thirds of the outputs we have submitted for the REF were co-authored; and of these, more than a third involved our international collaborators.

iv. Contribution to the wider research community

We have a long history of contributing to the larger research community, both nationally and internationally, because its health and resilience are essential for our own work. Some examples are the following:

ACSS: Butler, Millar, Ridge and Room are elected members of the Academy of Social Sciences (as also are **Ian Jamieson**, **Malcolm Johnson** and **Geof Wood**, who continue their research among us but, being retired, are not submitted to the REF). Millar is a member of AcSS Council and Executive.

International Reviews: **Cooke** served as an expert reviewer for Germany's university Excellence Initiative (February 2012) and Catalonia's *Institució Catalana de Recerca i Estudis Avançats Academia Program* in 2011, 2012 and 2013. Such service enhances excellence and best practice on both sides. **Maconachie** served on an expert panel for the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD19) in New York (2011). He also served on the Research Council of Norway

(2010-12), on an expert panel evaluating research proposals on Environment and Development; **Weyman** did the same for a panel on transport safety. **Millar** has been a member of research review and commissioning panels for research councils in Italy (2011), Portugal (2012), Poland (2013), Flanders (2013), Finland (2013) and for the NORFACE programme on 'welfare state futures' (2013). She also reviewed social work programmes at the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2010 and took part in the Research Assessment Exercise of the Italian Government in 2012. She was President of Sociology & Social Policy Section, The British Science Association Festival of Science, 2009. She was a member of the REF Impact Pilot Panel, and is currently a member of the REF sub-panel.

Professional Associations: **Carmel** was until 2010 on the Executive of the European Social Policy Analysis Network (ESPAnet), including judging their Early Researcher prize. **Deneulin** is secretary of the recently established Human Development and Capability Association, with Professor Tony Atkinson as President (700+ members globally). She was heavily involved in the organisation of the 2013 conference in Nicaragua, involving Central American governments. **Devine** is a member of the Council of the Development Studies Association. He was also (2011/12 and 2012/13) a Commission Panel Member and a Sift Panel Member for the ESRC Future Research Leaders Scheme. **Ridge** was Honorary Secretary and Executive Board member of the Social Policy Association (SPA) 2006-10. From 2010 she was an invited member of the SPRC Australian Government Gender Panel of international advisers. **Jawad** was a member of the Executive Committee and Treasurer of the SPA from 2005-2012. **Lauder** has been Executive Chair of the [United Kingdom Forum for International Education and Training](#), 2009-2013.

Seminar Series: **Lauder** won an ESRC seminar series on 'Education and the Knowledge Economy' (2008); **Butler** another on 'Revisiting Moral Panics' (2012-13); **Griffin** a third, on 'Behaviour change past, present and future: interdisciplinary responses to behaviour change in policy and research' (2014-17). **Ingram** (ECR) is co-convenor of the BSA Bourdieu Study Group, for which she has organised a series of workshops, and also of their Education Study Group. **Devine**, **Jawad** and **Room** arranged for Bath (in conjunction with Kuehner at York) to host a first joint Social Policy Association-Development Studies Association conference (April 2013), as reported above.

Keynotes: Colleagues are often asked to give keynote addresses at international conferences. In the **2012/13 academic session** alone, these included a Centre for Parliamentary Studies conference in Brussels (**Carmel**); the European Consortium for Sociological Research, Stockholm (**Cooke**); the Association of Public Policy and Management, in Washington DC (**Harkness**); the 28th Annual Richard Titmuss Memorial Lecture in Jerusalem (**Millar**).

Journals: We have been hosting three journals: *Families, Relationships and Societies* (Founding Editor: **Ridge**); *Journal of Education and Work* (Editor: **Lauder**); and *Mortality* (until January 2013). **Millar** was Chair of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Social Policy* 2005-2010. Associate or Consulting editors include **G Brown** (*Oxford Development Studies*), **Cooke** (*American Journal of Sociology*), **Deneulin** (*Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*), **Devine** (*Journal of South Asian Development*), **Gilmore** (*Tobacco Control*). We serve on many other journal editorial boards.