

Institution: University of South Wales

Unit of assessment: Social Work and Social Policy

1. UNIT CONTEXT AND STRUCTURE, RESEARCH AND IMPACT STRATEGY

A. The institutional context and structure of the Unit as related to its primary strategic aim and key research and impact achievements

The institutional context and the primary strategic aim

The Social Work and Social Policy Unit of Assessment (UoA 20) represents Humanities and Social Sciences research, combining 24 (20.3 FTE) staff from both the Faculty of Business and Society (FBS), and the Faculty of Life Sciences and Education (FLSE). Unit staff engage in cutting edge empirical and theoretical research across a wide range of subject areas, developing innovative methodologies, with a focus on interdisciplinary research. The primary strategic aim of the UoA, consistent with the University of South Wales' (USW) Research Strategy 2018-2028, is to apply its research to 'real world' issues. This involves sustaining and enhancing meaningful impact for the societies and groups of people studied, and for various relevant stakeholders, such as governments, policymakers, public service authorities, service-users and other citizens.

The structure of the Unit of Assessment and its achievements in implementing its primary strategic aim

The UoA comprises three Research Centres:

Centre for Criminology

Within the UoA, the [Centre for Criminology](#) was the first Research Centre to be established (2001), encouraging and supporting high impact research and publishing activity. During this REF cycle, Centre staff have engaged in research at local, national and international levels. They have won research funds from prestigious national sources, including the ESRC, British Academy, Leverhulme Trust, Big Lottery, Ministry of Justice and Home Office. Funding for research in Wales has been secured from *inter alia* the Welsh Government, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Gwent Police and a number of third sector organisations.

The Centre contains five research groups, covering a wide range of the staff's core research interests: specifically, violence/homicide (**Brookman**), major crime investigation/cold case reviews (**Brookman, Allsop**), substance abuse (**Holloway, May**), prisons and resettlement (**Maguire**), probation service including youth justice (**Williams, Deering, Evans**). Other interests include comparative criminal justice (**Wardak**), animal abuse and environmental crime (**Maher, Pierpoint**), vulnerabilities (**Pierpoint**) and the penal third sector (**Williams, Maguire**). Consistent with the primary strategic aim above, most research has been empirically based, aiming to influence policy and practice, and contributing to theory, knowledge and ideas.

The Centre maintains close links with external agencies locally and nationally, aided in Wales by the work of the **Welsh Centre for Crime and Social Justice**, set-up in 2011 by **Maguire** and **Williams** to facilitate research collaboration between criminologists in Welsh universities and forge closer links with policy and practice. Chaired by **Williams**, it runs a well-attended annual Criminology Conference for academics and practitioners. Finally, several Centre staff are members of external advisory or decision-making bodies, including the Correctional Services Accreditation and Advice Panel, and the Home Office Advisory Panel on Serious Violence Policy, and/or have given evidence to government inquiries, including Select Committees on knife crime and animal trafficking.

Centre for Social Policy

Established in 2008, the [Centre for Social Policy](#) also facilitates impactful research. This includes studies on: migration (**Thompson**); The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act and the implications for health and social care (**Law**); comparative public and social policy, and multi-level perspectives on governance (**Sarter**); environmental politics (**Jones** and **Proedrou**); global social and public policy, and international development (**Kamruzzaman**); policies affecting young people in countries covered by the Council of Europe (**Williamson**); marriage and family law (**Gaffney-Rees**); understandings of social justice, equality, and well-being in policy and welfare/health practice (**Smith**). Since its inception, the Centre has variously engaged in policy and practice analysis, and proactively connected with the policymaking, professional, and service-user communities. It has provided new empirical evidence, and has developed policy and welfare practice theory, and innovative and impactful policy and practice solutions to various social issues/problems. Members of the Centre have also been successful in securing external grants from prestigious sources, including the British Academy, the Economic and Social Research Council, and the Welsh Government.

Moreover, members have occupied leading advisory roles in developing policy and practice, nationally and internationally. For example, via the Council of Europe, **Williamson** has coordinated reviews of national youth policy for twenty-one of its member states from 1997-2016. **Smith** was Chair of the Newport City Council Fairness Commission 2012-2018, and **Saltus** is a member of the Welsh Government Sub Committee examining the impact of COVID-19 on BAME populations.

Centre members have also made significant contributions to highly impactful cross-institutional research bodies, occupying executive and other leadership roles. **Smith**, for example, is a member of the Management Executive of the Primary and Emergency Care Research (PRIME) Wales Network (funded by Health and Care Research Wales), and is a member of the steering group for the Wales School for Social Prescribing Research (WSSPR), (funded by Health and Care Research Wales). He is also a Co-Director of the ESRC-funded Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research, Data and Methods (WISERD).

International Centre for Policing and Security

In REF 2014, policing research was included in this UoA. However, in recognition of its growing international links, an [International Centre for Policing and Security](#) was established in 2014 under the leadership of **Rogers**. The Centre was strengthened by **Kaunert**, joining USW in 2017 as Professor of Policing and Security, and it now has two main work programmes relating to policing (led by **Rogers**) and security (led by **Kaunert**). The Centre produces world-leading inter-disciplinary research grounded in the 'real-world' of policing and security, impacting service delivery, policy and education.

In 2018, **Kaunert** was awarded a prestigious Jean Monnet Chair in Policing and Counter Terrorism in Europe, undertaking a work programme focussing on the evolution of EU counter terrorism policy, EU internal security, and the impact of technological developments. He is also Co-Director of the European International Studies Association (EISA) and was an invited Expert for the European Parliament. In 2018, he was joined by **de Deus Pereira** (an Early Career Researcher) who secured a Marie Curie Fellowship, exploring the security industry's role in European migration. Policing research (**Rogers**) includes focussing on models of policing, the impact of IT, vulnerable groups, and police education. **Rogers** has advised police forces in the UK and internationally (Australia, Germany and Abu Dhabi).

B. Strategic development since 2014 supporting the primary strategic aim and evidence of its implementation.

The UoA's REF 2014 environment statement noted that the (then) two centres – Criminology and Social Policy – were at differing stages of maturity and required a more detailed strategy to focus research development over the coming years.

This strategy needed to support the primary strategic aim of the Unit as detailed in 1 (A) and the wider USW Research Strategy. Hence it facilitated the continued development of high quality, impactful research with a focus on 'real world' issues. Consistent with these aims, the UoA's more detailed strategy developed during this REF cycle, containing four elements. To build and maintain:

- (i) A healthy balance of staff recruitment including Early Career Researchers (ECRs) and senior researchers appointed to lead research in key subject and impact areas related to this Unit.
- (ii) Inclusive Research and Scholarly Activity networks integrated into, and operating within academic faculties, and across relevant research centres, and other research groupings.
- (iii) Sustainable institutional financial support and prestige recognition for staff engaged in high quality impactful research.
- (iv) Institutional and faculty structures, supporting the increased recruitment, supervision, and successful completion of Postgraduate Research (PGR) studies.

Evidence for implementing the above and the progress made from 2014:

Regarding (i): The current UoA submission includes 20.3 FTE staff with significant responsibility for research (SRR) (compared with 14.4 FTE submitted in 2014), and three Research Centres (compared with two in 2014), demonstrating increased critical mass, and the further development of a sustainable research culture. These outcomes have been achieved via the following more specific strategies.

The Unit used QR funding from REF 2014 to appoint six post-doctoral research fellows on fixed-term contracts, three of whom moved into full-time, permanent lecturing posts in the UoA, whilst also retaining a focus on research (**Kamruzzaman, Proedrou, and Sarter**). An ECR (**de Deus Pereira**) was also appointed via EU funding (Marie Curie Fellowship). Moreover, strategic senior appointments (**Kaunert** and **Williams**) have further strengthened the Unit's research leadership. There is now a healthy balance between ECRs and more experienced staff, supporting the future sustainability of impactful research.

Regarding (ii): Fourteen staff within the UoA were previously members of the USW Crime, Justice and Society Research Institute. However, in 2018, USW moved away from the institutional wide Research Institute structure and established Heads of Research within each faculty. The aim being to support greater integration of Research and Scholarly Activity into the management and development of staff workloads, Research Centres, and other relevant research groupings across USW. This change in strategy has enabled a more consistently inclusive approach to developing research across the university, with the three Research Centres from this unit being supported within this new structure.

For example, in both faculties related to this UoA (FBS and FLSE) thematic research and scholarly activity groupings have been established, with all academic staff becoming members of a group. These groups (6 in FLSE and 14 in FBS) provide a focus for disseminating research activity, and the support and mentorship for staff looking to

enhance their research and scholarly work. Each group is led by senior researchers, and in relation to this UoA, includes Sociology, Social Policy and Public Services (**Smith**), Criminology (**Brookman**), Law (**Gaffney-Rhys**), and Policing and Security (**Rogers and Kaunert**).

Regarding (iii): Researchers from the UoA have been consistently recognised by the institution as having made significant contributions to high quality impactful research. For example, in the competitive USW Annual Impact Awards, which celebrates impactful research across the institution, **Maguire**, in 2018, received the best future impact award for his work developing innovative policies and practices with prisoners and their families, in the UK and elsewhere. From within the Social Policy Research Centre in 2019, the student best impact award was won by one of its PhD students, for her work promoting ethno-cultural empathy and racial tolerance in Welsh secondary schools.

At a Faculty (FBS) level, the Dean's Research Funding Scheme invited ECRs to bid for research funding. Subsequently, in 2018, **Sarter** secured £6,788, for her project 'Implementing Equality Sensitive Public Procurement: A Focus on Knowledge-building Activities', and **Kamruzzaman** received £6,469 to pursue a pilot study on National Development Experts in Ghana and Bangladesh.

Regarding (iv): An important element of capacity building is the support provided for PGR students. This includes maintaining and developing institutional and faculty structures for increased recruitment, supervision, and the successful completion of PGR studies. The institutional strategy during this assessment period, included creating the USW Graduate School (see REF5A), providing a central focus for co-ordinating postgraduate studies. While individual students remain attached to the faculty where their Director of Studies is located, this central resource supports staff and students to manage the 'student journey' from application to graduation. The processes associated with this journey are also now coordinated via the PhD Manager system implemented in 2018, providing a single source of information to assist with monitoring progress.

Each of the Research Centres identified (in Part A above) have PGRs who contribute to the centres' research cultures. Moreover, various activities promote the visibility of research, supporting its development across the faculties and the wider university, including this Unit's PGR community. For example, the 'Research work-in-progress' seminar series (internally known as Wednesday@1) within the Faculty of Business and Society (FBS) encourages discussion on research activities. It also promotes closer engagement among staff and potential collaborators, partners or funders, and raises the external profile of the UoA. Wednesday@1 also offers a friendly and constructive platform for PhD and other PGR students to present their research and work-in-progress.

Developing a high-quality, 'outward-looking' research culture for impact

Supporting all four elements of the research strategy listed above, a further aim is to enhance the outward profile of the Research Centres to promote research activities, and benefit from enhanced external/international status, thereby attracting research funding from diverse and prestigious sources. Relatedly, significant progress has been made during this assessment period in strengthening external links with various non-academic organisations, making the Unit's research more impactful, both nationally and globally, consistent with the primary strategic aim outlined in 1 (A). For example, funded research has been undertaken for Welsh Government (**Holloway and Saltus**), the UK Government (**Brookman and Williams**), the EU (**Kaunert and de Deus Pereira**), and UK and other international police services (**Rogers and Pierpoint**). International links regarding police research has also taken place in Australia (**Rogers**), criminology research in Afghanistan (**Wardak**), and public policy research in Bangladesh (**Kamruzzaman**).

The primary strategic aim in 1. (A) above of producing research that impacts on communities and wider society is supported by these external links. Working in close collaboration with these organisations, provides a sustainable pathway to impact as the Unit's research has 'real world' relevance and is used to inform policy and practice developments. Emphasising research impact is reflected in the impact case studies (ICSs) for this submission: 'Influencing and advising national and international policy and practice in the investigation and prevention of homicide' (**Brookman**); 'Reducing harm and saving lives in situations of substance misuse' (**Holloway**); and 'A hybrid model of justice system in Afghanistan: promoting inclusive and restorative justice' (**Wardak**). However, there are other examples of research impact, which include: providing predictive analysis and future demands on police resources in the Gold Coast, Australia (**Rogers**); providing a research report on prisoners' family contacts influencing the recommendations of the Farmer Review (House of Lords) (**Maguire**); chairing the Newport City Council's Fairness Commission with its main aim to critically scrutinise local government policy and practices (**Smith**); and membership of the Youth Justice Practice Development Panel working with policymakers and practitioners to design and test a new system of working with young prolific offenders, based on her research (**Williams**).

Other institutional support mechanisms to support research

UoA staff are required to deposit copies of publications and other outputs within the USW PURE system, supporting open access and increasing the visibility and potential impact of their research.

Finally, the research undertaken within this UoA is often complex and raises significant ethical challenges and risks. Supported by the institution's central team based in Research Innovation Services (see REF5A) and the University Ethics Subgroup, the Faculty Ethics Committees provide oversight of ethical and risk-related issues, advice and ethical approval, for proposed projects and during their lifetimes. Each committee has a designated Chair with a time allowance to undertake this role, with training provided for Chairs and committee members. As Chair of the FBS Ethics Committee, **Williamson** is also a member of the University Ethics Subgroup and other Unit staff are members of their Faculty Ethics Committees (**Williams, Saltus, Kaunert**). All Unit staff have also undertaken training in information management and GDPR requirements to ensure the appropriate governance of research projects.

C. Future planning and strategic direction

Ahead of the next REF assessment period, the UoA is experiencing institutional change, given a recent faculty restructure (August 2020) within USW. Staff at the [Centre for Social Policy](#) have moved from the former Faculty of Business and Society (FBS) to the Faculty of Creative Industries (FCI). Whereas members of the [Centre for Criminology](#) have joined the Faculty of Life Sciences and Education (FLSE). These developments afford opportunities for greater synergy and collaborative working between, for example, the [Centre for Criminology](#) and the [International Centre for Policing and Security](#) as these are now both located within FLSE and within one School (Health, Sport and Professional Practice).

Other synergies are anticipated in FCI, as the [Centre for Social Policy](#) is now located in the South Wales Business School. For example, **Sarter and Law**, are linking social policy research focused on public service procurement, with Business School researchers, focussing on public sector organisational management behaviour. As previously stated, the strategic development of the Unit is highly consistent with the USW Research Strategy 2018-2028 (see REF5A), again reflecting the Unit's primary strategic aim outlined in 1. (A) above. The future strategic direction also reflects a further commitment to collaborative interdisciplinary inquiry, where the positive impacts of the Unit's research is significantly

felt in the lives of the local, national and international communities and businesses it serves. The future strategic direction will also be informed by the 'USW 2030 Vision' (see REF5A) with its focus on:

- Internationally excellent research.
- Impact from research and innovation.
- Knowledge and skills exchange.

Specifically, a key institutional mechanism for advancing this agenda is the creation within USW of four 'Accelerated Development Areas' (ADAs), one focused on 'Crime, Security and Justice', and another on 'Health and Well-Being', with both these ADAs being especially relevant to the UoA. As a result, it is fully anticipated that this Unit will play a leading role in taking this agenda forward. In addition, the University's strategy in creating these ADAs is, in part, to encourage and facilitate impactful high quality research both within *and* between faculties. This is consistent with what is now widely recognised across the HE sector and global policy communities, that complex social issues need this kind of broadly collaborative and interdisciplinary work to positively impact on policy and practice development.

That the UoA is now more evenly located *across* two faculties is highly conducive to the above strategy, working alongside and supporting USW's wider strategic aim to generate and engage in impactful research. For example, both of the above ADAs will provide a clear strategic focus for further developing a range of inter-disciplinary and collaborative research across the institution directly relevant to this UoA, and will encourage new and innovative links with various organisations at national, UK, and international levels. These include public and third sector organisations, policymaking communities, and professional bodies relevant to this UoA – for example, in health settings, social work, youth work, policing, prisons and the probation service. Through such engagement and collaboration, it is anticipated that the vitality of the research undertaken within the Research Centres will be enhanced, and the sustainability of key programmes of research will be strengthened, facilitating even clearer pathways to impact.

Specific aims and strategic direction for the future

To provide the above direction over the next REF assessment period the Unit aims:

- To consolidate and expand national and international links, in developing applied programmes of interdisciplinary research that are internationally excellent and world leading.
- To further grow research capacity through recruiting PGR students, the recruitment and support of ECRs, and other academic staff to develop their research activities, research leadership skills, and promotion to leadership positions.
- To increase grant funding from quality sources to ensure sustainability and the development of research programmes.
- To ensure that impact activities are considered at the planning stage of all research projects, that innovative approaches are widely disseminated, and that all impact achieved is systematically recorded.
- To expand knowledge exchange activities internally, for example, through the integration of research findings into existing courses and into new course development, and externally, through increasingly working in partnership with outside organisations.

Specific activities to support the achievement of these objectives

The foundations for achieving these aims are already laid and include:

- Building on the recent success of securing research income from various sources, this momentum is being extended to develop further collaborations across and between disciplines and institutions. For example, in 2019, **Smith** was appointed as a Co-Director of the ESRC-funded Wales Institute of Societal and Economic Research Data and Methods (WISERD). In 2019, WISERD was awarded £6.4 million as one of four large social science research centres in the UK funded by the ESRC. It partners with HE institutions across Wales, including USW, supporting funding bids and the future development of research capacity and impact, including research which is highly relevant to this UoA.
- The [International Centre for Policing and Security](#) has various national and international partners and in September 2020 secured funding to lead the Excellence Network on EU Counter Terrorism (EUCTER), comprising fourteen international partners. In September 2020, the Centre was also designated as a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence for Research by the European Commission. This prestigious award, along with the extension of international networks, provides an excellent base for developing a future programme of collaborative and impactful research. The Centre has also secured EU funding for a further two Marie Curie Fellowships, recruiting ECRs in September 2020.
- **The Criminal Investigation Research Network (CIRN)**, established and led by **Brookman**, brings together leading academics, practitioners and policy-makers from around the world with expertise in major crime investigation. CIRN has already generated numerous successful international collaborations.
- Finally, building on the success of securing prestigious research funding, further funding will be sought to support and expand existing programmes of research and also to respond to emerging 'real world' challenges. This will include seeking funding for PGR and post-doctoral fellowships, as well as for ECRs. It is anticipated that ECRs will increasingly take on leadership roles through (for example) becoming Principal Investigators (PIs) for prestigious funding bids, supported by more senior staff.

2. PEOPLE**A. Flexible working, research allocations, and staff development**

In addition to the staff recruitment strategy outlined in 1 (B), the Unit has supported staff recruitment and retention, partly based on providing opportunities for part-time and flexible working hours. Furthermore, all staff included in this submission, having Significant Responsibility for Research (SRR), are allocated at least 20% of their time to research. Moreover, across USW, all Associate Professors have an automatic time allocation of 20% for research, with Professors having 30%. Some staff in the Unit have also secured a greater allocation of research time, either through securing funding to 'buy out' time, or through negotiation with their line manager. As also noted in 1 (B), a significantly higher number of staff are being returned in this assessment compared with 2014, reflecting the effectiveness of these initiatives.

All staff undergo an annual Development and Performance Review (DPR), where objectives are set reflecting the strategic goals of the University and Faculty, and the career development needs of the staff member. Time allocation for research is discussed and agreed, providing an opportunity to identify and agree training requirements. A six-monthly interim review is held each year to review progress.

Moreover, a range of continuing professional development opportunities are provided within USW, including those focused on research impact, grant development, writing for publication, and PGR student supervision. Further external opportunities for professional development have also been secured by members of this UoA. For example, in 2017, **Pierpoint** secured a place on the Welsh Crucible, an award-winning programme of personal and professional development for future research leaders. In 2019, **Saltus** and **Proedrou** won Welsh Assembly Academic Fellowships which supported their time working with Assembly Members to undertake research that informs policy development.

Finally, USW provides a framework for internal promotion through the Higher Academic Awards Framework. During this period of assessment, two members of the UoA have been promoted to Professor (**Wardak and Evans**) and one to Associate Professor (**Deering**). Workshops are held regularly to support staff in developing their applications for promotion, and individual mentoring is also provided.

B. Support, training and development of Postgraduate Research (PGR) students

All PGR students are allocated a Director of Studies, and at least one other supervisor, and are attached to a Research Centre via their Director of Studies. In a number of instances, additional supervisors may be located from another centre, with a view to promoting interdisciplinary research, appropriate to the student's needs, and providing support from a wide range of disciplines and methodological approaches. In addition, all staff supervising PGR students are required to undertake relevant training (provided by USW), updated at regular intervals. Compliance is overseen by the relevant Faculty Research Degrees Committee which includes representation from this Unit (**Gaffney-Rhys, Williamson, Kamruzzaman, Kaunert**). These committees also oversee processes of PGR recruitment, the identification of supervision teams, and the monitoring of student progress.

The USW Graduate School provides an annual programme of educational sessions available to all PGRs. The PGR experience within the UoA's Research Centres is further enhanced by opportunities to participate in the activities of the centres, enabling research students to extend their knowledge and networks. Individual programmes of development are agreed through discussion between each student and their supervisory team. Where appropriate, PGRs are also encouraged to access external training opportunities and attend conferences to enhance their development. A central USW fund is available via the Graduate School to which PGR students can apply for their support and attendance at such events.

The Graduate School also provides a physical space for researchers, including seminar rooms, small meeting rooms, an informal open space, and a quiet space where students can access computers or use laptops. This environment is a highly valued resource for students to work and meet and network informally. Students are also allocated desk space in a shared room located within their faculty, with a view to ensuring they are an integral part of the relevant Research Centres and subject teams, and enabling productive formal and informal engagements with colleagues.

Since REF 2014, the UoA has successfully supervised 28 PhD students to completion. The table below lists doctoral completions by academic year for Doctoral Degrees and Professional Doctorates:

Date period	Number of Doctoral Degrees	Number of Professional Doctorates	Total
1 August 2013 to 31 July 2014	1 doctoral degree	0 professional doctorates	Total 1
1 August 2014 to 31 July 2015	2 doctoral degrees	1 professional doctorate	Total 3
1 August 2015 to 31 July 2016	4 doctoral degrees	2 professional doctorates	Total 6
1 August 2016 to 31 July 2017	1 doctoral degree	1 professional doctorate	Total 2
1 August 2017 to 31 July 2018	8 doctoral degrees	0 professional doctorates	Total 8
1 August 2018 to 31 July 2019	4 doctoral degrees	0 professional doctorates	Total 4
1 August 2019 to 31 July 2020	4 doctoral degrees	0 professional doctorates	Total 4
Total for all years	24 doctoral degree	4 professional doctorates	Total 28

The above shows a marked increase in PGR completions compared with REF 2014 for this Unit (the latter listing 11 doctoral completions). Capacity for supervision has also expanded during this assessment period, especially given the key appointments of more experienced or senior staff. Moreover, ECRs are being supported to occupy the role of PGR supervisor through partnerships with experienced supervisors. It is therefore anticipated that the number of students and completions will further increase as the Unit enters the next REF cycle.

C. Promoting Equality and Diversity

USW (see REF5A) and the UoA are committed to promoting equality, inclusivity and diversity. This is evidenced in the achievement of the Athena SWAN Institutional Bronze Award and the status of Stonewall Champion. Various strategies have been implemented to ensure that the objectives set out in the USW Equality and Diversity Plan are translated into practice. For example, all UoA staff are required to undertake mandatory equality and diversity training. A number of staff (including **Saltus**) occupy the role of Dignity at Work Advisors to provide an independent structure and mechanism for staff support in these matters.

The profile of staff returned within the Unit reflects a range of ages and experience from ECRs through to more senior colleagues, and also includes colleagues with other protected characteristics. For example, in relation to gender, while the institutional level environment statement (see REF5A) anticipates that overall, 39% of staff returned will be female (an increase from 2014), in this UoA, 46% of those returned are female, and spanning all stages of career development. Introducing more flexible working patterns for staff across a range of junior and senior appointments, is seen as the main contributor to the Unit's healthy gender balance. In addition, three UoA staff (**Saltus, Allsop, and Holloway**) have undertaken the USW Women in Academia development programme.

UoA staff returned have been identified in accordance with the procedures outlined in the USW REF Code of Practice as those who meet the criteria for SRR, or as independent researchers. Transparency has been maintained through regular communication to staff via general USW communications, and individual staff emails. In addition, all staff with decision-making responsibilities regarding staff inclusion have attended workshops on equality and recognising unconscious bias.

3. INCOME, INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES

A. Income generation

UoA members have been successful in generating external income to fund high-quality research from major bodies, including the ESRC, Leverhulme Trust, British Academy, Home Office, Ministry of Justice, Welsh Assembly Government, and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Most were won in the face of highly competitive tenders, and all led to highly quality research outputs. For example, **Brookman** secured £216,531 from the Leverhulme Trust to investigate homicide investigation, forensic sciences and technologies. **Williams** and **Maguire** were partners on a substantial Leverhulme Trust funded project led by Keele University (total award approximately £300,000), exploring the changing role of the third sector in criminal justice. In 2016, **Maguire** obtained a six month funding extension from the Big Lottery for his long-running study of prisoners' families, implemented from 2012-2017. In 2018, **Kamruzzaman** won a £300,000 grant from the British Academy (with **Williams** and **Wardak**) to conduct a study on the experiences of violence and loss of dignity among Rohingya in Bangladesh and Internally Displaced People in Afghanistan. **Williamson** was awarded €20,000 to act as rapporteur-general and academic adviser to the 3rd European Youth Work Convention. **Kaunert** secured €50,000 from the EU Jean Monnet Lifelong Learning Programme for a Jean Monnet Chair, with a programme of work focused on 'Explaining and Understanding Policing, Intelligence and Counter-Terrorism in Europe'. **Kaunert** (with **de Deus Pereira**) also secured funding from the European Commission Horizon 2020 Marie Curie Programme, for an International Fellowship to study 'Shaping European Migration Policy: the role of the security industry'. In 2020 **Kaunert** secured a further €225,000 funding from the same programme for an International Fellowship to study 'Uberization of Europol's cyber-crime strategy'.

Other prestigious awards include **Wardak** obtaining a grant of £21,936 from the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs to research primary justice in insecure contexts, using South Sudan and Afghanistan as case studies. **Holloway** was awarded £138,000 from the Welsh Government for research to evaluate the impact of introducing minimum price for alcohol in Wales. **Holloway** also won £58,000 from the National Offender Management Service (NOMS) Cymru to evaluate the Women's Pathfinder Diversion Scheme; and received £20,000 from the USW Humanities and Social Sciences (HUMSOC) Research Institute, to undertake the Higher Education Alcohol and Drug Survey (HEADS) in collaboration with Welsh Government. **Holloway** also received a grant of £23,632 from the Welsh Government to study 'Substance Switching and Minimum Unit Pricing for Alcohol'.

Pierpoint (with **Maguire** and **Williams**) secured £79,728 from the Welsh Government to evaluate homelessness services provided to young people. She also received £35,542 from the St. Giles Trust charity to evaluate the 'Through the Gates' Resettlement Service. **Pierpoint** (with **Williams**) received £76,754 for a Knowledge Economy Skills Scholarships (KESS)/Youth Justice Board Cymru PhD studentship to study 'The rights and voice of children in pre-court criminal proceedings'. **Williams** (with **Holloway**) secured a grant of £45,000 from the Big Lottery, Gwent Police and Newport Women's Aid to undertake an evaluation of the Gwent Domestic Abuse Assertive Outreach Scheme. **Maher** received a research grant of £17,000 with Northumbria University to undertake scoping research on the sourcing of pet dogs from illegal import. **May** and **Brookman** (alongside another USW colleague not submitted to this UoA) won £10,234 from Rhondda Cynon Taff Crime Safety Partnership to investigate the prevention of offending in the night-time economy by 18- to 25-year-olds. **Brookman** also secured £6,691 from the Home Office to assess the impact of forensic science on the investigation and prosecution of homicide cases, from crime scene to court. **Saltus** secured £16,000 for a KESS studentship to evaluate peer support

groups delivering interventions, reducing loneliness and improving social connections for older persons living in retirement housing.

Smith was a Co-Applicant and part of an interdisciplinary, cross-unit and inter-university collaboration that secured a total grant of £2.7 million from Health and Care Research Wales in 2015 to develop the Wales Centre for Primary and Emergency Care Research (PRIME). An extension grant of £1,799,935 was awarded in 2018, and a further application in 2020 secured an additional total grant of almost £4.9 million, with £221,916 being awarded specifically to USW to establish the Wales School for Social Prescribing Research (WSSPR). **Smith** also contributed to a bidding team that won £352,178 for USW to fund activities in the Wales Institute of Economic & Social Research Data and Methods (WISERD). Finally, **Saltus** was part of a research team that secured a grant of £200,000 from the ESRC for a rapid response UK-wide study entitled 'Go Home: Mapping the unfolding controversy of Home Office Immigration Campaigns'.

B. Infrastructure & Facilities

Infrastructural support in the UoA includes University-wide provision of IT and computing facilities, library resources and access to online publications, print room printing and duplication services, plus formalised time allocation for research and scholarship. The major source of research and income generation support in the University is provided through **Research Innovation Services (RISe)** (see REF5A). The UoA staff have drawn upon this central support to achieve their aims, and while some examples have already been referred to previously, others are also noteworthy.

Working specifically with the USW **Income Generation Team**, this Unit's researchers have secured over £500k of funding from a range of sources as detailed elsewhere. Moreover, USW's **Research Infrastructure Team** has supported UoA staff with the introduction of the PURE system and ensuring Open Access compliance requirements. Advice regarding ethical and governance issues has also been accessed by UoA members, and the USW **Research Impact Team** has provided considerable support for researchers concerning the identification of pathways to, and documenting evidence of, research impact. This is evidenced via the impact case studies submitted for this UoA, and in the increased impact activities among Unit staff during the assessment period.

The **Graduate School** (see REF5A, and 1. (B) above) provide a named staff member to support each faculty in all aspects of the PGR journey, from application and registration, through to examination, and ensures that faculties can systematically monitor student progress, to achieve timely completions. The Graduate School also acts as a one-stop shop for advice and guidance regarding university regulations pertaining to research degrees, ensuring that quality processes are adhered to.

USW also runs doctoral scholarship schemes which provide full fees and maintenance costs for PhD students. This Unit has been successful in securing three PhD studentships from the Knowledge Economy Skills Scholarships (KESS) scheme (**Holloway, Williams, Pierpoint**). In addition, 2 MPhil/ PhD studentships (**Williams, Wardak**) and 4 PhD studentships (**Allsop, Saltus, Brookman [x2]**) have been secured via the QR funded Doctoral Training Academy scheme.

Research staff and PGRs also have access to additional specialist facilities to support their research in innovative ways. For example, the Hydra Minerva Suite located in FLSE provides a facility in which scenario-based simulations can be used to explore decision making and problem solving in the context of (for example) policing. Also, the Crime Scene House located on Campus provides an environment where crime scenes can be both simulated and researched.

4. COLLABORATION AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE RESEARCH BASE, ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

Staff members of this UoA are involved in wide-ranging cross-organisational/institutional collaborations and partnerships, creating a world-class research environment that also significantly benefits the economy and society locally, nationally, and internationally.

Collaborative activities, networks and partnerships

Holloway has been working closely with colleagues from Glyndwr University and Figure 8 Consultancy on Welsh Government-funded research into the new minimum price for alcohol being introduced in Wales. The team has completed a study on the potential consequences of the new legislation and has won funding to conduct three further projects investigating the *actual* consequences. **Holloway** has also been working with Welsh Government on a project investigating the misuse of prescription drugs, opioid substitute treatment, and over-the-counter medications.

Brookman collaborated with a colleague from Arizona State University (USA) to examine gang homicide in Trinidad and Tobago, in order to inform an inspection of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS).

Sarter received €2,000 to contribute to a collaborative study with the National University of Ireland, Galway, that compared pension reforms in Germany and Ireland. **Sarter** also received €1,940 to contribute to a collaborative study with Bar Ilan University, Tel Aviv (Israel) that explored support for older workers to extend their working lives through the development of a gender sensitive framework to analyse services. **Proedrou** was selected as an Academy Fellow at the Welsh Government to lead a policy study on the climate 'policy gap' in Wales. **Rogers** has undertaken research work with the Police Service on the Gold Coast, Australia.

The range of Visiting Professors and Fellows attached to the Research Centres also provides further evidence of extensive national and international networks and collaborations. For example, through such visiting positions located within the [International Centre for Policing and Security](#), a number of international collaborative links have been established. These include Visiting Professors from the Centre for Security Studies at the Metropolitan University of Prague; from Ausberg University (Germany); from the College of Europe (Bruges and Warsaw); and from the Department of National Defence Research and Development at the Centre for Security Science, Canada. The [Centre for Criminology](#) has also hosted several visiting Professors and Fellows, especially in the fields of probation and youth justice. These have included senior practitioners (e.g. an ex-Chief Probation Officer and former senior detective) as well as distinguished academics.

Contributions to the research base, economy and society

Williamson, as a member of scientific boards and Horizon 2020 advisory boards, has been involved in organising the annual European Forum Alpbach Conference held in Austria, as well as a conference on 'Social Policy in Islamic societies' in Iran. **Williamson** also collaborates with various other institutional partnerships, such as the EU Horizon 2020 funded project 'Spaces and styles of participation' (PARTISPACE) led by Goethe University, Frankfurt and the 'Young people in TTTTransition: transversality, transition transformation' (JetTTT) action research project with the University of Rennes.

Williamson also co-supervises postgraduate students across Europe (France, Germany, Austria, Malta, Netherlands). He also regularly provides governmental advice on youth research, policy and practice to various European countries including Ukraine, Estonia, Romania, Azerbaijan, and Italy.

Brookman took part in a Ministerial Roundtable in April 2019 to discuss best practice in law enforcement as part of the UK Prime Minister's Serious Youth Violence Summit at 10 Downing Street; provided oral and written evidence to the Youth Select Committee Inquiry on Knife Crime in July 2019; and written evidence to the House of Lords Science and Technology Committee's inquiry into forensic science. These contributions were informed by findings gathered from her 'Homicide Investigation & Forensic Science: Tracing Processes, Analysing Practices' (HIFS Project) (a four-year ethnographic study funded by the Leverhulme Trust). The evidence addressed three broad areas covered by the Inquiry: the forensic science research landscape, the use of forensic science in the Criminal Justice System, and digital forensics.

Maher provided evidence to the Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (EFRA) Select Committee's via a remote meeting with the Defra Minister, Lord Goldsmith, on the subject of pet smuggling.

Smith was appointed Chair of Newport City Council's Fairness Commission from 2012-2018, with its main aim to improve local government scrutiny of policy, in relation to the social value of 'fairness', and other associated values, notably 'equality' and 'well-being'.

Allsop established an international cold case partnership involving the Police Expert Network on Missing Persons, Alert Europe and Locate International, the Police Academy of Lower Saxony, Leeds Beckett, UCLAN and Staffordshire Universities, and Murdoch and Newcastle Universities in Australia.

Unit staff have also organised and helped to organise important national and international conferences at USW and elsewhere.

For example, **Williamson** has been one of the programme organisers for the youth research strand of the International Sociological Association (ISA) since 1998. He has also played leading roles in organising international youth research, most recently at the World Congress of Sociology (Canada 2018) and will continue this role for the World Forum of Sociology (Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2020).

In 2015, **Saltus** was involved in organising and co-organising the Black Studies Association International Conference (Birmingham, 2015) and the 'Go Home?' end of project national conference (Warwick, 2015).

In 2015, **Smith** was on the Organising Committee for the Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research and Data (WISERD's) annual conference, held at The University of Cardiff, and for the same annual conference in 2018, held at USW; in 2016, he was also on the Organising Committee for the journal *Ethics and Social Welfare* conference, held in London.

In 2016 and 2017, **Kamruzzaman** was involved in organising the British Association for South Asian Studies (2016, 2017), and the International Political Science Association (2016), and for the Development Studies Association (2019, 2020). In 2018, he also convened a postgraduate conference on Global Governance and Expertise in Policymaking. A number of PGR students from across the world (including Hong Kong, China, India, Pakistan and Portugal) participated in the conference, which was funded by USW.

In 2017, **Maher** organised international conferences on Environmental Crime and Technology in Cardiff; In 2018, Environmental Crime and Security in Sarajevo; and in 2019, on Environmental Crime and Power in Ghent.

In 2018, **Sarter** received €2,560 to organise a conference entitled 'Gender equality in uncertain times' at USW, as part of the European Sociological Association (ESA) Gender Relations in the Labour Market and the Welfare State Research Network 14.

In 2019, **Holloway** organised a conference titled: 'Street Drugs Wales: Is the dragon still smoking?', the third in the Street Drugs series developed by Professor Jo Neill (University of Manchester). This also involved **Holloway** collaborating with two major third sector drug treatment providers (Barod and Kaleidoscope).

In 2019, **Brookman** convened an international symposium on 'Homicide Investigation and Forensic Science' (HIFS) in Cardiff. This event brought together leading academics, practitioners and policy makers with expertise in police investigation, forensic science and digital technologies and followed a four-year collaborative study of the uses of forensic sciences and technologies in homicide investigation in Britain.

In 2019, **Maguire** organised a conference bringing together academics, policymakers and practitioners to discuss issues facing prisoners' families and children. This was held at USW's Newport City Campus and Professor Mark Drakeford (First Minister of Wales) was a guest speaker.

In 2019, **Kaunert** was involved in co-organising six research panels for the European International Studies Association (EISA) 13th Pan-European Conference on International Relations, in Sofia, Bulgaria (2019).

In 2020, **Maguire**, **Holloway** and **Williams** set up a series of public online seminars on 'Lessons from the Lockdown', bringing together academics, practitioners and policy-makers to discuss current and future impact of the pandemic on criminal justice.

Thompson has also organised a series of high-profile public talks at USW titled 'Global Choices' (<https://www.southwales.ac.uk/about/events/global-choices/>) by leading activists, politicians, campaigners and diplomats discussing some of the major cultural, economic and political public issues of our age. Notable past speakers include former UK Prime Minister Sir John Major; former GCHQ Director Sir David Omand; former UK Home Secretary the Rt Hon. Jack Straw; former Head of MI5 Sir Jonathan Evans; former NATO Secretary General George Robertson; former CEO of HSBC Dyfrig John; and former Head of MI6 Sir Richard Dearlove. Most speakers also offer a masterclass to PGRs, discussing their experience and critical insights. **Thompson** also played a key role in bringing the British Conference of Undergraduate Research (BCUR) to Wales for the first time in April 2019 to USW.

Unit staff have also been invited to present their research at prestigious national and international conferences.

For example, **Brookman** gave a keynote speech on the facilitation, inhibitors and measures of success in homicide investigation at the 'Homicide: Precursors and Prevention Conference' hosted by the Violence Research and Prevention Program at Griffith University and the Australian Institute of Criminology in Brisbane, Australia (2014).

Rogers gave a speech on the implications of degree education for devolved policing in Wales at the 'Future of the legal system in Wales: The market for legal services, modernisation and potential further devolution' symposium, hosted by the Policy Forum for Wales (2016).

Smith gave keynote speeches on social prescription and the mental health of people with physical disability at the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Festival of Social Science (2019); on challenges and solutions relating to equality and austerity at the Welsh Local Government Association and NHS Centre for Equality and Human Rights Joint Annual Conference (2014); and on the implications of issues relating to the resilience and well-being of young people for youth and community practice for an international conference organised by the USW, University of Wales, Trinity St David, and The Professional Association of Lecturers in Youth and Community Work (2018).

Wardak was an invited speaker in Dubai at the 2019 Hemaya International Forum on drug trafficking, organized by the Dubai Police and UN Office on Drugs and Crime.

Williamson gave keynote speeches on the principles and practice of sociological and educational research at the 'Sociological and educational research: principles and practice', for the Research Seminar 'Evidence-based approach in Erasmus+: Methodological aspects', at Warsaw, Poland (2019); on youth policy in Europe at the National Youth policy and Youth Work conference held at the University of Iceland, (2019); and on 'non-formal' education and learning at the 1st World Non-Formal Education Conference held in Rio de Janeiro (2019).

Kamruzzaman gave keynote speeches relating to poverty and Goal 1 of the Sustainable Development Goals in Bangladesh at the University of Portsmouth (2016) and the University of Essex (2017); and also in 2014 at the UK House of Lords on people's participation in Bangladesh's democracy; and in 2015 on the journey to success of Bangladesh and the role of the international community to an event organised by Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Association.

Members of this UoA are also actively engaged in various editorial responsibilities.

Kaunert has been co-editor (since 2015) of the Book Series 'European Security and Justice Critiques'. He is also co-editor of the *Journal of Contemporary European Studies*.

Rogers has been Editor of the *Police Journal: Theory, Practice and Principles* (2013-2017), the *Australian and New Zealand Society of Evidence Based Practice Journal* (2015-2019), and the *Australasian Journal of Policing* (2013-2018). UoA members also sit on the editorial boards of international journals. For example, **Smith** is an Editorial Board Member of the journal *Ethics and Social Welfare* (since 2013). **Kaunert** sits on the Editorial Board of *Perspectives on European Politics and Society* (since 2013). **Brookman** has been an Editorial Board member of the *American Journal of Criminal Justice* (since 2017), the *Journal of Qualitative Criminal Justice & Criminology* (2011-2020), and the *International Criminal Justice Review* (since 2011). **Wardak** is on the Editorial Board of *International Criminology*.

UoA members have also served on various important committees in the UK and abroad.

Saltus is an Advisor for the Welsh Government's Covid-19 Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Socio-economic Sub-Group. She also acts as an Advisor for the Audit of Public Monuments 'Task and Finish Group' for the Welsh Government. **Pierpoint** is the Co-Chair of the British Society of Criminology Vulnerability Research Network (since 2019). She is also a Member of the Steering Group of the British Society of Criminology Green Criminology Research Network (since 2018), and an Independent Member of the South Wales Police Independent Ethics Committee (since 2015). She also served as a Member of the Executive Committee (Regional Groups and Specialist Networks Co-ordinator) of the British Society of Criminology (2010 to 2020).

Williams advised the UK Minister of Justice regarding the changes to the probation services in 2017. She also sits on the Ministry of Justice's Academic Steering Board of Youth Justice Board, one of only six academics from across the UK to advise the Ministry

on youth justice matters. **Williams** was also the Academic Lead on the Welsh Government and Youth Justice Board Cymru 'Youth Justice Blueprint for Wales' working group. She also played a lead role in building a central repository of learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews and other Homicide Reviews – the first in the UK. This is led by the Police and Crime Commissioners and Welsh Government, supported by the Ministry of Justice.

Holloway is a member of the Welsh Government's National Implementation Board for Drug Poisoning Prevention, and of the Executive Board of the DIGDDAS (Dyfodol, Iris, Gwent and Dyfed Drug and Alcohol Service) Consortium. **Maguire** is a member of the Correctional Services Accreditation and Advice Panel, which accredits rehabilitative interventions in prisons and probation across England and Wales. He is also on the Research Governance Group of the Parole Board of England and Wales, and chairs the Information and Research Committee, Integrated Offender Management Cymru. **Brookman** is an Expert Advisor to the UK Ministry of Justice and part of their Academic Network (since July 2020), and an invited member of the Home Office Advisory Panel on Serious Violence Policy, the National CCTV Working Group, and the National Police Chiefs' Council Transforming Forensics Programme. She is also Chair of the Criminal Investigation Research Network (CIRN). **Maher** was expert advisor to the UNODC Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime (2019).

Williamson is an International Trustee for the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award for Young People. He is also the Organisational Secretary of International Sociological Association Research Committee 34 (youth research) and sits on the Scientific Advisory Board of the European Forum Alpbach (Austria), and the Education Board of the Indore Institute of Law, India. **Smith** is a member of Management Executive Committee for the PRIME Wales Research Centre and part of its strategic leadership team (since 2015). He is a Co-Director (since 2019) for the Wales Institute for Social and Economic Research and Data (WISERD), and a member of the Steering Group (since 2018) for the Wales School for Social Prescribing Research (WSSPR). **Smith** was also commissioned by the British Academy in 2019 to complete a case study ('The Childhood Policy Landscape in Wales') for its study of Childhood Policy across the UK entitled 'Reframing Childhood'.

Rogers sits on the Community Consultative Committee for the Independent Police and Crime Commissioner, South Wales Police. He is an academic advisor for the policing education of police officers in Cyprus and a member of the Hong Kong Council for Vocational Qualifications (since 2018). **Kaunert** is the Director of the European International Studies Association (EISA) Standing Section on International Migration (since 2019), his role involving the creation of this new standing section and taking a lead in its development. He is also Director of the European Union Studies Association (EUSA), Special Section on the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (since 2012). In this role he has led various research initiatives, organised conferences, and has developed relationships with practitioner communities. **Kaunert** was also commissioned by the European Parliament to write two key reports for the Terrorism Committee of the European Parliament: (1) 'The preparedness of the civil protection mechanism in the EU towards a CBRN attacks on EU member states'; (2) 'The counter-terrorism role of the EUROPOL'.

UoA members have also externally examined PGR degrees in universities across the UK and internationally. These include the London School of Economics and Political Science (**Kaunert** 2016); University of Swansea (**Williamson** 2019, **Holloway** 2015, **Williams** 2018, 2019), Cardiff University (**Williamson** 2020, **Brookman** 2018); Glyndwr University (**Holloway** 2018); Bangor University (**Kamruzzaman**, 2020); University of Wales Trinity St David (**Smith** 2015); Dundee University (**Kaunert** 2015); University of Nottingham (**Kaunert** 2014). Internationally, colleagues have also examined PhD theses

at Edith Cowan University, Australia (**Holloway** 2016); Deakin University, Australia (**Holloway** 2015); Universidad de Deusto, Bilbao, Spain (**Kaunert** 2018); Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa (SNS) Florence, Italy, (**Kaunert** 2017); Central European University, Budapest (**Kaunert** 2016), and University of Amsterdam, Netherlands (**Kaunert** 2015).

UoA staff have also held Visiting Professorships and external consultancy roles for various international HE institutions. These include: Charles Sturt University, Australia (**Rogers**); Institute of Technology Carlow, Republic of Ireland (**Smith**); University of Malta (**Williamson**); University of Cairo, Egypt (**Kaunert**); Renmin University, China (**Kaunert**), and University of Berkley, California (**Kaunert**).

Other external evidence of esteem

Finally, UoA staff have obtained other significant recognition for their research and other related activities from a number of highly prestigious external sources. For example, **Williamson** received the Youth Work Excellence Award in 2019 from the First Minister of Wales for Outstanding Contribution to Youth Work. **Saltus**, in 2019, was awarded a National Assembly for Wales Fellowship, and was also named as one of the '100 Brilliant, Black and Welsh' people by *Wales Online* in its celebration of African Caribbean and African Welsh people. **Holloway** won the Partnership Award 2019 from Kaleidoscope, a third sector substance misuse treatment provider. And **Maguire** received the British Society of Criminology's Outstanding Achievement Award in 2020.