

Institution: University of Northumbria at Newcastle
Unit of Assessment: UoA 20 Social Work and Social Policy
<p>1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy</p> <p>Overview</p> <p>This submission from Northumbria University encompasses academic research from the disciplines of criminology, political science, social policy, social work and sociology, demonstrating particular expertise in crime and policing, insecurity, violence and harm, international development, international relations and power, culture and identities. We are submitting 79.1 FTEs to REF2021, a substantial increase on the 30.6 returned in 2014 which was, in turn, a tripling of the 11 returned in 2008. Unit researchers engage with pressing economic, social and policy issues at a global, national and sub-national level, including: transnational organised crime; global south migration, transnationalism and development; the politics of the European Union; contemporary policing practice and policy in the UK, Africa and South America; disability, inequality and identity in the UK and East Asia; gendered violence and domestic abuse within the UK; mental health within the UK prison estate and mental health policy across NHS organisations in the UK; and de-industrialisation, social policy, disadvantage and crime in the north east of England. Our research has also had a clear impact beyond academia, in areas such as combatting international wildlife trafficking and animal trading, tackling food poverty and the extent of holiday hunger amongst UK schoolchildren and the creation of the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal, a significant economic intervention on both sides of the English-Scottish border.</p> <p>Research and Impact Strategy</p> <p>Our unit research and impact strategy is best viewed within the context of the university strategy and the overall university mission since 2008 wherein, as articulated within the REF 5a (Institutional) Environment Statement, Northumbria embarked upon a transformational journey to place research at its heart, with the aim of becoming a 'research-rich...University...with a global reputation for academic excellence' (Vision 2030). The unit shares this university mission which sees academic staff research as all-pervading. Thus, we place high-quality social work and social policy research and impact work at the centre of everything that we do. This enables us to investigate and influence significant and contemporary societal challenges, whilst our research also shapes the full range of our academic activities.</p> <p>Our submissions to this UoA in 2008 and 2014 captured two progressive stages in our development as an emerging group of social work and social policy researchers. REF2021 will show that we have successfully met our strategic aims for research and impact for the period 2013-20. As set out in our 2014 submission, these were to: further develop research centres and</p>

clusters; maintain and strengthen links with user communities and policy-makers at local, national and international levels and strengthen our impact on policy; deliver continued growth in the quality of our research publications; further increase the number and quality of research students; and to expand research council income. We are now a mature unit that has made dramatic progress in the volume and quality of our research, publications, impact and research students, as well as in the equality and diversity of our research processes, since 2014. Key features are the growth in our research expertise within criminology, the development of our research centres and clusters, a transformation in the gender composition of our unit, an expansion of major research council, as opposed to contract research, income and stronger, direct impact upon policy beyond academia. This has all been enabled by a strategic university investment in the unit through staff recruitment and through a sustained mentoring and development of existing staff by senior researchers. Our growth in research and impact volume, quality and diversity is illustrated by:

- The unit now consisting of 82 staff (79.1 FTEs) with significant responsibility for research, within which 60% are female as compared to the 75% male 2014 submission and where there has been a threefold increase in BAME representation;
- Annual PhD enrolments increasing from 35 in 2014, which had increased from 11 in 2008, to 54 in the current cycle, with PhD completions growing from 24 in REF2014 (which was a doubling of the 10 in RAE 2008) to 60 in REF2021;
- Research funding awards of over £6.2 million in this current cycle, doubling those of REF 2014, within which UKRI research council income has more than doubled and has increased fourfold in the last two years of the REF2021 period. Funding is now drawn from, among others, ESRC, NERC, AHRC, Leverhulme, British Academy, Newton Fund and UKRI GCRF. During this REF period, we have also hosted our first British Academy International Visiting Professor, Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellow and AHRC DTP funded PhD student via the Northern Bridge consortium;
- The significant social, economic, cultural and political impact of unit research, which is detailed throughout this document.

Whilst we see research assessment exercises as instruments to capture our significant research development since 2008 rather than as ends in themselves, it is worth noting that a key, specific university objective following RAE2008 was to grow REF research volume and quality, to double the number of staff submitted, as an indicator of a 'research-rich' university. The unit achieved this in 2014. A focus upon 'research power with quality' remains central to the university strategy and mission. Our 2021 unit strategy has focussed upon growing research and impact volume and quality within distinctive areas of expertise which were identified within our 2014 submission as

emerging specialisms: **criminology**, particularly policing and transnational organised crime; **international development**, specifically global south migration, transnationalism and development; **insecurity, violence and harm**, in particular gendered domestic abuse and de-industrialisation, neo-liberalisation, social policy and crime; **power, culture and identities**, specifically disability, inequality and identity, food poverty, mental health policy and social theory; **international relations**, especially the politics of the EU, gendered international political organisations and the rising powers of East and South-East Asia. Our considerable investment in new staff has been within these specialisms, whilst we have also resourced research centres and clusters, as well as national and international, academic and non-academic, research collaborations in these areas, the detail of which is provided below.

We have delivered our strategy through an inclusive and collegial research management process and culture which encourages, mentors and enables *all* academic staff to be active in research and impact work, to pursue their own individual research interests, as well to work collaboratively with partners (academic and non-academic) within the institution and externally (regionally, nationally and internationally). Continual growth in the volume and quality of our research and impact, alongside the active promotion of equality and diversity within research processes and research careers, is the driving force behind staff recruitment, staff development and academic promotions within the unit. Our overriding aim is to enable all staff, whatever their career stage and individual circumstances, to maximise their research potential and to fully develop their research careers. This is particularly exemplified by our submission to REF2021 of a number of unit staff (e.g. **Biddle, Cohen, Davies, Dyer, Lewis, R., McInnes, Ramshaw, Ridley, Soppitt**), each in an academic post for over 20 years, who have not previously been entered into an RAE or REF exercise and who have benefitted from research workload, mentoring and sabbatical schemes to produce high quality outputs in leading journals and significant research impact. **Davies** and **Soppitt** are authors of two separate Impact Case Studies submitted from this unit.

Unit Context and Structure

Staff within the unit are drawn from three university departments – 57.1 FTEs from the Department of Social Sciences, five FTE from the Department of Arts, within the Faculty of Arts, Design and Social Sciences, and 17 FTE from the Department of Social Work, Education and Community Wellbeing (SWE CW) within the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences. Research and impact work is organised through two university multi-disciplinary research themes (MDRTs), **Global Development Futures** and **Integrated Health and Social Care**, two university research centres, the **Centre for International Development** and the **Centre for Crime and Policing**, one cross-university research network, the **Gender, Violence and Abuse Research Network (GVARN)**, a cross-university research, training and evaluation group, the **Healthy Living Lab**, and three research clusters titled **Insecurity, Violence and Harm**, **Power, Culture and Identities** and

International Relations. These groups have played a central role in delivering our research and impact strategy.

The unit's submission to REF2014 identified four research clusters: 'International Development'; 'Offenders and Offending'; 'Civil Society and Citizenship'; 'International Public Policy' All have been strengthened and have benefitted from significant investment, with two (International Development and Offenders and Offending) growing into inter-disciplinary, cross-university research centres (**Centre for International Development, Global Development Futures MDRT** and the **Centre for Crime and Policing**) with strong international profiles. We have sharpened the focus of the Civil Society and Citizenship and International Public Policy clusters to more fully reflect, and communicate, the research and impact expertise of the unit through the development of the **Insecurity, Violence and Harm, Power, Culture and Identities** and **International Relations** clusters. We have also seen the growth, during this REF cycle, of the **Gender, Violence and Abuse Research Network (GVARN)**, which was founded by staff (**Lewis, R., Oak, Vincent**) within this unit and involves research collaboration with colleagues in law and business, and the **Healthy Living Lab** which investigates and enables public health interventions and is led by staff from this unit (**Defeyter** and **Stretesky**), while also being part of the **Integrated Health and Social Care MDRT** (led by Lhussier) which has enabled contributions from other areas of the university, such as psychology and sport and exercise.

All of our research centres and research clusters have regular seminar series (and in the case of the Centre for Crime and Policing a Public Lecture Series) involving external and internal speakers, as well as more informal meetings where staff members present and discuss initial research ideas and work in progress. They also act as a space for the development of collaborative, interdisciplinary research and impact projects, funding applications, publications and PhD supervision. Membership of our research centres and clusters is intentionally fluid, with many staff and postgraduate researchers belonging to more than one group and periodically changing affiliation where this fits the development of their research interests. Our centres and clusters operate to encourage synergy and cross-pollination of ideas across disciplines and to facilitate cross-disciplinary engagement. Examples of interdisciplinarity within this unit, and between UoA20 and other REF units across the university, include: research collaboration, such as **Hensengerth's** (International Relations) and Baillie-Smith's (UoA14) research on the development of global long-term partnerships to enable sustainable futures for people living in river deltas in Vietnam, Bangladesh and India, part of a UKRI GCRF-funded *Living Deltas* Research Hub; joint publications from **Brandon** (Social Work), Cassidy (UoA14), **Dyer** and **Ridley** (both Criminology) on mental health within the penal system, as well as **Biddle** (Criminology), **Brandon** and **Daly** (Politics and International Development) on volunteering and philanthropy within learning disability charities; impact work from **Defeyter** (Social Work), Graham (UoA3) and

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Stretesky (Criminology) on food poverty, and from Gibson (UoA27) and **Ralph, S** on media representations of girls and young women and its relationship to self-worth and well-being; and joint PhD supervision across disciplinary boundaries, for example by **McInnes** (Social Work) and **Lewis, R.** (Sociology), **Davies** (Criminology) and **Southall** (Social Work), Cassidy (Geography/UoA14) and **Taylor** (Sociology/International Development) and **Cieslik** (Sociology) and Holt (Arts/UoA32).

Centre for International Development and Global Development Futures

The former research cluster in International Development has grown into the **Centre for International Development (CID)** which has, in turn, led to the creation of a University MDRT - **Global Development Futures (GDF)** - both led by Baillie-Smith. Staff within **CID** and **GDF** have secured significant research grant income (in excess of £3 million), particularly via GCRF funding streams, work closely with academic and non-academic partners in Africa, South America, South-East Asia and South Asia on key global challenges (e.g. poverty alleviation, environmental degradation, civil society), produce high quality research outputs and deliver research impact. There are 10 University Vice-Chancellor's (post-doctoral) Fellows (VCFs), a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, 10 Professors and 12 Associate Professors attached to the MDRT, which also has a senior Research Manager to support research, funding applications, communication and administrative activities. Both **CID** and **GDF** are inherently inter-disciplinary and although originating from this unit in REF2014, it now encompasses staff working across the disciplines of social science, geography, business, law, engineering, psychology, computer and information sciences, arts, design and humanities. Consequently, staff located within **CID** and **GDF** are being submitted to a number of UoAs for REF2021.

The **Centre for International Development** has four main thematic areas of expertise and those associated with one of these – 'mobilities' – who work principally within the disciplines of sociology, criminology, social work and social policy (**Dedotsi, Frilund, Hall, Hwang, Peck, Sutherland, Taylor, Wyatt**) are part of this UoA20 submission and include three Professors (**Sutherland, Taylor, Wyatt**) and one Associate Professor (**Hall**). This group of staff have received major awards during this REF cycle from ESRC, AHRC, The Leverhulme Trust and The British Academy and produced research outputs in leading international journals and monographs, such as **Frilund's** analysis of Tibetan migration to Nepal, India and the global north and **Sutherland's** work on migration, belonging and representations of ethnic minorities in South-East Asia. **Frilund** was one of three VCF appointments to the unit during this REF cycle.

The mobilities team also collaborate with international partners in migration, transnationalism and mobility research. For example, **Wyatt's** work on international wildlife trafficking, animal conservation and transnational animal rights involves partnerships with leading global authorities

in this area, such as Sollund (Norway) and Arroyo-Quiroz (Mexico), collaborations which led directly to the award of an AHRC Leadership Fellowship for **Wyatt** in 2018, and further awards from the Norwegian Research Council and the Newton Fund, a Newton Advanced Fellowship, to further these international research partnerships. **Taylor's** research collaboration with the globally recognised Centre for Development Studies (CDS) in Kerala, India through his work on international migration and inclusive development in India led directly to the award of a British Academy International Visiting Fellowship for Rajan, the leading authority on the international migration-development nexus in India, at Northumbria. This, in turn, led to further collaboration between Taylor, Rajan, the Institute for Development Studies (IDS), Sussex and the South Asia Institute at SOAS, as well as leading directly to the recruitment of three high quality PhD researchers (Panicker, Shajan and Suresh), all working on the Indian migration-development nexus, from CDS to Northumbria, the AHRC Northern Bridge PhD studentship award to Stevenson (which has Rajan as an external consultant and CDS as the fieldwork host) and the award of a Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship to **Peck** in 2019 for a project examining the relationship between diasporic groups, civil society and development in India and Jamaica.

Centre for Crime and Policing

The 2014 research cluster in 'Offenders and Offending' was a broad criminology research cluster. Given the significant increase in criminology staff within the unit from 2014 to 2021 (from eight to 32), we now have two, more focussed research groups – the **Centre for Crime and Policing** and the research cluster **Insecurity, Violence and Harm**. Building upon one aspect of our criminological expertise identified in REF2014, policing, we have invested heavily to develop the **Centre for Crime and Policing** (led by **Rowe**). This is an inter-disciplinary research centre, principally working across social sciences, law and forensic science, but largely staffed by criminologists from this unit (e.g. **Akinlabi, Davies, Dresser, Francis, Malik, Miranda, Oxburgh, Ramshaw, Rangel, Soppitt, Stockdale, Wiper**).

In 2014, four staff within our submission were policing specialists, with one Professor and no Associate Professors. In 2021 we have 14 policing experts, five of whom are Professors (**Rowe, Davies, Francis, Oxburgh, Soppitt**), with one Associate Professor (**Ramshaw**). Staff working in this group have secured significant funding, in excess of £2 million, particularly from the N8 Policing Research Partnership and the ESRC and are producing high-quality research outputs, including **Rowe's** work on race, policing and crime, **Wiper's** on policing human trafficking and **Dresser's** analysis of counter-terrorism strategies. Staff within the centre are also delivering significant research impact, for example **Malik's** research on police authority and police governance in Scotland conducted in partnership with, and directly influencing the activities of, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS). There are also two University post-doctoral VCFs (**Lewis, D.M.** and **Weinroth**) and an ESRC post-doctoral research fellow

(Ralph, L.) attached to the Centre for Crime and Policing, carrying out empirical research, producing high quality research outputs and leading/supporting research funding applications in this area, as well as a Research Assistant (Weedy) to support research, impact, funding and administrative activities. The Centre also has an international focus, as evidenced by **Rangel's** work on policing in Mexico and **Akinlabi's** on Nigeria.

Insecurity, Violence and Harm

A further research cluster has also been developed amongst criminology, sociology, social work and social policy staff, focussed around the themes of **Insecurity, Violence and Harm**. This primarily builds upon the expertise and interests of non-policing staff from the broader 'Offenders and Offending' research cluster from 2014, for example **Cook, Laing and Wyatt**. We have also invested heavily in developing this area of research and impact expertise, particularly through the addition of experts in criminological theory and its application to understand the interrelationships between insecurity, violence and harm within the UK (e.g. **Raymen, Tudor, Winlow**) and transnationally (**Hall**), leading figures within the study of green/environmental harm and violence (e.g. **Stephens-Griffin, Stretesky**) which has complemented the existing expertise and international reputation of **Wyatt**, and expertise on different aspects of the prison estate (particularly children/family experiences and mental health), for example the addition of **Atkin** and **Disney** to build on the existing research of **Brandon**. The mentoring and development of existing staff has also been important to the growth of this cluster, for example **Davies, Lewis, R.** and **Vincent** working in the area of gender, violence and abuse, who have since been joined by **Walker** and **Wiper** researching honour crime (and who are also an important part of **GVARN**), and **Biddle** and **Dyer** who examine insecurity, violence and harm within the penal system. 30 members of the unit are attached to this research cluster, including three Professors (**Stretesky, Winlow, Wyatt**). It is led by **Farrand-Carrapico**, an Associate Professorial appointment within this REF cycle, with expertise in European Union internal security, focussing particularly on the governance of organised crime and cybersecurity. The cluster also includes an ESRC/NERC post-doctoral research fellow (**Szolucha**).

Power, Culture and Identities and International Relations

Both the 'Civil Society and Citizenship' and 'International Public Policy' research clusters from 2014 have been refocussed in order to build upon research and impact strengths identified in 2014 – e.g. the work of **Stephenson** on class and gendered inequalities within the workplace, the research of **Shaw** on regional political and policy inequalities and divides, **Hardill's** work on age, inequality and exclusion, **Hwang's** expertise on disability, inequality and identity and **Haack's** and **Hensengerth's** work within international relations. Consequently, the two clusters from 2014 named above are now focussed around **Power, Culture and Identities** (under the leadership of

Casey and **Coleman-Fountain**, new appointments within this REF cycle) and **International Relations** (under the leadership of **Cerny**, also a new appointment) respectively.

We have invested in staff recruitment and in the mentoring and development of all staff in order to develop the above research clusters. For example, the **Power, Culture and Identities** cluster has seen the addition of both **Coleman-Fountain** and **Oak**, with their expertise in disability, sexuality and identity, **Bowman, Hault, Luby** and **Addison**, recognised authorities on the study of educational inequalities and disadvantage, **Ralph, S.** and **Domeneghetti**, ECRs working on the relationship between media representation, power and inequality, **Casey**, whose focus is upon classed and gendered inequalities and identities in consumption, **Southall** and **Robson's** analyses of contemporary social work with UK children and families, and both **Reynolds'** and **Crossley's** work on UK social policy in relation to social exclusion and poverty. The cluster has also seen the mentoring and development of **Cieslik**, now an expert on the sociology and social policy of happiness and identity, and **Ragnedda** who works on digital inclusion/exclusion. This particular research cluster involves 35 staff, including 5 Professors and 1 EU-funded post-doctoral Research Fellow (**Pegan**), and it has been successful in attracting high profile Visiting Professors to Northumbria, via applications to the University's Visiting Professorship/Fellowship scheme, such as the 2019 appointment (for a 3 year period) of Imogen Tyler (Lancaster), who will be delivering a number of seminars and a public lecture, as well as informal group discussions with staff within, the cluster. Staff from this cluster have also led (**Defeyter** and **Stretesky**) and contributed to (**Foster, Harding, Vincent**) the development of the **Healthy Living Lab**. The **International Relations** cluster has developed from the existing work of **Haack** on gendered inequalities and mobilities within international political organisations, **Hensengerth** on Chinese and South East Asian foreign and environmental policies and **Shaw** on comparative European public policy, through the addition of **Arana** and **Farrand-Carrapico** with their work on EU policy, security and governance, **Cerny's** expertise on middle-east politics and IR and **Jackson's** research on gender and Islamophobia. Also important has been the mentoring and development of existing staff, such as **Mullen's** work on EU politics and integration and **Basthard-Bogain's** analysis of French politics, terrorism and human rights.

Research Impact

Links with user communities and policy makers have always been integral to the work of this unit, however, as noted above, strengthening the non-academic policy impact of our research has been a significant part of our research strategy within this cycle. We have particularly and strategically supported research which tackles, and directly intervenes within, some of the most pressing social, cultural and policy issues within contemporary society at a sub-national, national and global level. This has shaped the six submitted impact case studies from the unit, which draw upon and develop our areas of expertise identified above: gendered violence and domestic abuse; crime and

policing; transnational organised crime; mobilities; UK social policy in relation to disadvantage and social exclusion. The development of the impact in these case studies has been resourced by staff impact sabbaticals, provision for impact activities on staff workloads, research impact research assistants, a UoA20 Impact Lead (**Shaw**) and, since 2014, support from a dedicated impact team within the University's Research and Innovation Services (RIS), with specific impact officers (aiding in the identification of research impact and the collection of evidence) allocated to particular University Faculties. The submitted case studies are:

- **Davies'** research on uncovering, understanding and communicating the multi-faceted and interwoven elements of victimisation in gender-based violence which has directly led to the Domestic Abuse Whole Systems Approach (DAWSA) being adopted by multiple UK police forces – Northumbria, Cleveland, Durham, North Yorkshire, West Yorkshire and Humberside. The research has also informed the most recent Domestic Abuse Bill currently proceeding through parliament to become law;
- **Defeyter** and **Stretesky's** research on 'holiday hunger' which has directly influenced the development and expansion of the UK government's Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) and the allocation of £20,400,000 by the Department for Education (DfE) to provide healthy food and enriching activities for 1.1 million disadvantaged children. This research has also directly shaped both the UK government's response, via the DfE and the Cabinet Office, for food security during the COVID-19 pandemic and the 'Rashford Campaign';
- The work of **Ralph, S.**, an ECR, into the representation of girls in media culture which has led to the creation and development of *Girl-Kind*, a creative programme utilising media-making to advance self-worth and well-being among young women (aged 11-16) from disadvantaged backgrounds in the north east of England. *Girl-Kind* has then directly shaped the national policies of Plan International UK, and the Young Women's Film Academy;
- **Shaw's** work which identified and created *The Borderlands Initiative*, a new political and institutional space for economic intervention across the English-Scottish border. Working in partnership with local authorities (e.g. Northumberland, Dumfries and Galloway, Carlisle and Cumbria), local MPs, the UK and Scottish governments, Shaw's research has led directly to the £394 million 2019 Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal;

- **Soppitt's** research on the use of work as an agent of social integration, recovery and desistance from crime, via *The Skill Mill*, which has directly influenced youth justice policy across 10 UK cities and three major European countries;
- **Wyatt's** work on wildlife trafficking and animal trading which has directly influenced both national (e.g. UK government, Scottish government and UK Charity) international (e.g. EU and WWF) policy.

It is important to recognise that these case studies are not exhaustive of the significant impact work within the unit during the REF period. Research impact is embedded throughout our unit and is a key element of our staff recruitment, research mentoring, workloading and staff development/promotion processes. Examples of research impact beyond our case studies are provided in Section 4 below.

Future Strategic Objectives

Having achieved the aspirations identified in 2014, the unit is extremely well-placed to meet its strategic objectives in the period beyond REF2021. These are:

- To further develop our research clusters and centres, enhancing our expertise in crime and policing, global development, international relations, power, culture and identity and insecurity, violence and harm. We will invest further in staff recruitment to, and the mentoring and development of existing researchers within, these centres and clusters. Indeed, we have continued to recruit new staff to these since the REF2021 census date. Future recruitment will focus upon investment in high-quality researchers with specific areas of expertise in: social and criminological theory; transnational organised crime; social work with, and social policies relating to, disadvantaged UK children and families; migration and development; the politics of the EU; policing; disability; gendered violence and domestic abuse policy; and mental health policy;
- To further develop our inter-disciplinary work, particularly through further cross-university collaborations with geography (global development), law (crime and policing; gendered violence and domestic abuse; politics of the EU) and health (mental health policy; social work with, and social policies relating to, disadvantaged children and families; disability);
- To recruit a higher proportion of externally funded postgraduate researchers, building upon our success with global development students through the AHRC's Northern Bridge consortium, to also encompass crime and policing, international relations, social work,

social policy and sociology research students through the expansion of applications to Northern Bridge and through further engagement with NINE, an ESRC DTP;

- To further enrich our research culture through the infusion of an increased number of visiting scholars with the above areas of expertise;
- To further expand our engagement, esteem activities and impact working within the above areas of expertise and thereby further increase our direct policy influence and our benefit to regional, national and international partners, publics, learned societies and the wider economy, culture and society at sub-national, national and global level;
- To extend our particularly strong practice in ECR and mid-career researcher (MCR) development to enhance effective peer support and research mentoring at Professoriate level;
- All of the above will enable us to continue our strategic objectives of delivering continued growth in the quality of our research publications, further increasing the number and quality of research students and further expanding research council income within our areas of expertise.

Open access and ethical research practice

We are committed to making our findings freely available to the widest audience possible in compliance with the principle of open access. Staff have been briefed on Open Access requirements through a series of OA roadshows led by the University's Research & Innovation Services (RIS), and through regular email reminders from the UoA Lead. 99.1% of our submitted outputs published after April 1st 2016 meet the REF open access policy requirements. Research carried out in the Unit complies with Universities UK's 'Concordat to Support Research Integrity', and we promote good research practice with regard to matters such as plagiarism, the impartiality of peer review, data management protocols, and research ethics and governance. The University operates an online research ethics system which requires researchers to assess the level of risk posed by their projects. This is overseen by both Departmental and Faculty Ethics Directors. No research project can be undertaken by staff or PGRs without an ethical audit, a peer review process, having been conducted. All researchers undergo ethics training every three years and are not permitted to supervise doctoral students unless their training log is up-to-date, whilst also being guided by the ethical guidelines and standards of relevant professional associations and learned societies, such as Social Work England and the British Sociological Association (BSA). Research ethics expertise is widespread throughout the unit. For example, **Rowe** is Ethics Director across the Faculty of Arts, Design and Social Sciences, while **Stretesy** was a founder member (2014-17) of the Ethics Committee of the American Society of Criminology.

2. People

Staffing Strategy

The Unit grew considerably during the previous REF period, tripling in size. 75% of those submitted in 2014 were new recruits and 20% were ECRs. This represented a significant investment in research. Our staffing strategy during the 2021 cycle has been to retain and develop staff with significant responsibility for research, develop existing staff who were not previously research active to become so, and to recruit excellent researchers where they add value and diversity to what we already do within our research centres and clusters. 38 new appointments (28 female) have been made to the unit since 2014, with seven (4 female) at Professor/Associate Professor which, combined with the internal promotion of 12 existing unit staff (7 female) to Professor/Associate Professor during the REF cycle, has significantly bolstered our research leadership and mentoring capacity. 10% of our current submission are ECRs. From REF2014 to REF2021, we have seen a net increase of 166% in the number of Social Work and Social Policy staff (from 31 to 82) with significant responsibility for research.

Research and impact excellence lies at the heart of our recruitment process, with a separate research interview panel, involving the relevant departmental Research Director and the UoA20 Lead (**Taylor**) who all closely review candidate research outputs, impact work and potential contribution to the research environment, being held for every academic post. Consequently, we have replaced those who have departed with excellent new researchers within our areas of expertise. For example, Ongaro was replaced by **Sutherland** at Professorial level in Politics, allowing us to continue our development of international and comparative politics and policy as an area of growth and excellence but also with links to our established global development, mobilities and international relations research. Meer, Ashutosh and Baker, who departed Sociology and Politics following the 2014 REF were replaced by **Casey, Coleman-Fountain** and **Cerny** at L/SL level, the former two further developing our sociological interests and excellence in power, culture and identities, the latter allowing us to expand our expertise in international relations. Roulstone and Duschinsky were replaced by **Defeyter** and **Hoult** (both at Professorial level) within Social Work and Social Policy, whose work on food poverty and educational inequalities respectively, fits with our **Power, Culture and Identities** research cluster specifically and takes its focus in new directions. Jones departed from Criminology following REF2014 and was replaced by **Hall**, to further develop our interests and excellence in transnational organised crime and mobilities.

Since 2014, we have also recruited excellent new, additional staff, for example **Stretesky** and **Winlow**, two new Professors of Criminology, globally recognised for their research within areas that we were looking to grow from within our existing staff base – green criminology, environmental harm and activism, and criminological theory, insecurity, violence and harm. We have substantially added to our existing expertise and critical mass of research excellence in policing, for example

with the recruitment in this cycle of **Addison, Akinlabi, Dresser, Fohring, Malik, Miranda, Oxburgh, Ramshaw, Rangel, Stockdale** and **Wiper**. In our submission to REF2014, there was one Criminology Professor (**Rowe**), in 2021 there are eight (**Davies, Francis, Oxburgh, Rowe, Soppitt, Stretesky, Winlow, Wyatt**) across the **Centre for Crime and Policing** and the research cluster **Insecurity, Violence and Harm**. **Davies, Soppitt** and **Wyatt** achieved Professorial status within this REF period through our internal promotion process, within which research excellence, and an external assessment of this, is a central criterion. Neither **Davies** nor **Soppitt** were submitted to REF2014. Their current status is a testament to our research mentoring and staff development processes (see below).

Staff Development

The average research and impact workload allowance across all staff with significant responsibility for research within the unit is 40% of their total academic workload. These researchers have also benefited enormously within the REF cycle from access to a research sabbatical once in every seven semesters. Most staff submitted to REF2021 in this unit have had a research sabbatical during the REF cycle, with some staff having more than one. 88 research sabbaticals have been taken by staff within the unit since 2014. Staff on fractional contracts have equal access to sabbaticals. The Unit has sponsored six colleagues in this cycle in making a case for an 'accelerated sabbatical' where the sabbatical semester is brought forward in light of a pressing publication deadline. The Unit also ensures that staff receive the full value of teaching buy-out from funded projects and that staff are not penalized for funding success, for example enabling access to research sabbaticals in addition to teaching buy-out for research. Workload allowances are also provided for the research leadership roles of Departmental Research Director (30%), UoA20 Lead (30%), UoA20 Impact Lead (25%) and Departmental PGR Director (20%), while all Professor and Associate Professor workloads contain an allowance for research mentoring.

In REF2014, we submitted seven researchers who met the REF ECR definition, and the Unit has since then invested significantly in the development of this cohort of researchers, and further ECRs who have joined since 2014, such as **Coleman-Fountain, Dedotsi, Disney, Mailk, Stephens-Griffin, Wiper**. The University runs an ECR Forum and the ECR voice is influential through University and Faculty research committees and via implementation of feedback from the Careers in Research Online Survey (CROS). Several of our ECRs have benefitted from an ECR Development Programme delivered by RIS, which introduces ECRs to the funding landscape, funding application preparation, impact and the larger contexts of academic research. Additional recent ECR events supported by RIS have included a 'world café' style event on developing our research culture, and a researcher resilience event facilitated by an external consultant. The Unit upholds the principles set out in the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers and in the 'Review' of the Concordat published in June 2018. We are now consciously bringing

the Concordat to the attention of our doctoral students; and have recently introduced mandatory training for PIs to ensure they create an appropriate developmental culture for PDRAs on their projects.

All new members of staff must complete a probationary period of 12 months (or 22 months where the staff member has not held a permanent academic contract for three years), and this includes the satisfactory completion of research objectives in relation to outputs, impact, funding applications and environment. Probationary staff and ECRs have a reduced teaching load, and we aim where practicable to accelerate the access of ECRs to sabbaticals, subject to satisfactory probation. ECRs are also permitted to act as principal supervisors to PhD students, providing they are embedded in an experienced supervisory team with three completions overall, and in which a strong mentoring dynamic is operative. RIS provides specific training for ECRs on research funding applications to appropriate schemes and the unit actively encourages collaboration between ECRs and senior research staff in relation to funding applications, research projects and research outputs. Our development of ECRs has been very successful. For example, **Wyatt**, appointed in the last REF cycle and who met the REF ECR definition at the census point, has been promoted to a Professorship and has been in receipt of an AHRC Leadership Fellowship (2018-20) during this current REF period.

The unit has also participated and invested in the University's staff PhD programme, wherein a member of staff committing to undertake a part-time PhD receives a workload allowance (30% of overall workload) and is supervised by a senior unit researcher. We have seen 11 PhD completions within the unit through this programme, including: **Irving**, supervised by **Harding**; **Southall** and **Lonbay**, both supervised by **Brandon**; and **Reynolds**, supervised by **Hardill**.

Central to our staff development strategy is our research mentoring, which we have continued to develop over the current REF cycle. All staff are allocated a research mentor (a Professor or Associate Professor), drawn from their appropriate research centre or cluster. The choice of research mentor is negotiable with the mentee. Individual preferences (including for same-sex mentoring and cross-disciplinary mentoring) are always accommodated. Interactions between mentor and mentee occur on a monthly basis, with mentors expected to read outputs, funding application drafts, and other work on request. We see a key role of the mentor as being to challenge the mentee's level of ambition, in terms of aiming at the most prestigious outlets for their research, with the greatest international reach. The unit consciously guards against the mentoring relationship drifting towards a line managerial one, with mentoring being seen as responsive and developmental rather than directive. Mentors, in conjunction with line managers, are expected to help staff members map themselves against the promotion criteria and create a personalized route map for promotion, which, in turn, map on to the strategic research objectives of the unit. Further

examples of the success of our staff development and research mentoring include the promotions of **Casey, Hensengerth, Lewis, R.** and **Ramshaw** to Associate Professor, and **Brandon and Taylor** to Professor, within this REF cycle. **Hensengerth** was an ECR in REF2014, while **Lewis, R.** and **Ramshaw** were not submitted. Our future strategic objectives (outlined in Section 1) will be clearly communicated to all unit staff by the UoA Lead, heads of department and research centre/cluster leads, and then translated into individual aims for staff within the unit by research mentors for discussion in monthly meetings with research mentees. We highlight in our future strategic plan a commitment to apply our good ECR and MCR development practices to more senior levels. We are especially conscious of the difficulty of retaining research momentum faced by staff who may be moving in and out of leadership roles. Thus, for the first time, we are also recognising development needs within the professoriate. In keeping with this, the unit has recently introduced mentoring for all professors, making a clear statement that progression within professorial bands requires the same developmental support as promotion at other levels.

The unit has created a supportive culture which acknowledges success in research and celebrates achievement. Colleagues are kept informed of developments in the external research climate and reminded of the unit's own research objectives through departmental away days and the research sections of departmental communications. All funding awards are publicized via an email from the relevant research director or head of department. Large grant awards will also be recognized through an email from the Faculty Pro-Vice Chancellor to the whole Faculty. It is conventional for all PhD viva successes to be marked by a department-wide email from the supervisor congratulating the student. Significant publications are listed and communicated via subject and research centre/cluster newsletters. Relevant research groups host book launches to recognize groups of associated publications, for example an edited collection from **Lewis, R.** was showcased in the 'Gendered Subjects Book Launch' in February 2019. The successful hosting of symposia and conferences (including ones run by PGRs) is always recognized by a public email from relevant research directors, heads of department and PGR directors thanking the organizer. The unit also incentivizes research activity. For example, grant holders benefit from the university's QR reward scheme which provides a small proportion of the grant overhead (with a *pro rata* departmental contribution in the case of charitable funding) through a personal research account, to be used on research-related travel or materials. Where a research event generates a surplus, we ensure that some of this is ringfenced for further use by the successful organizers.

Our staffing strategy and staff development processes have enabled the unit to deliver the key strategic objectives set out in 2014. For example, we have seen a significant growth in the quality of research outputs during this REF cycle. Staff within the unit are now publishing within the central peer-reviewed disciplinary journals associated within our areas of expertise, including: *The British Journal of Social Work*; *The European Journal of Social Work*; *Child and Family Social Work*;

Disability and Society; Sociology; The Sociological Review; The British Journal of Sociology; Current Sociology; The British Journal of Criminology; The European Journal of Criminology; Theoretical Criminology; Mobilities; Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies; The British Journal of Political Science; The British Journal of Politics and International Relations.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The Unit is strongly committed to an equality and diversity agenda, and to fostering an inclusive and empowering culture. All departments have EDI Directors, roles which have a workload allowance of 30%. Northumbria has been awarded an institutionally wide Bronze Athena SWAN Award. SWECW have submitted, and Social Sciences (led by **Casey**) and Arts are currently preparing, an application in this category. All interviews for jobs or studentships are conducted by mixed gender panels, and all participants undergo fair selection training. Our staff recruitment during this REF period has been 70% female, as we have sought to address a gender imbalance in the unit from 2014 when the submission was 75% male. Our 2021 FTE submission is 60% female and the majority of our submitted outputs have been authored by women. In 2014, one senior member of the unit (at Professor or Associate Professor level) from six was female. In 2021, this is 12 from 20.

Relevant departments have set aside full away days for all members to undertake unconscious bias training and to participate in a wide-ranging discussion of EDI matters relating to our disciplines, research and the REF. The University's Code of Practice used in preparing this submission was developed with an underpinning commitment to fairness and EDI. LGBTQ and Women's staff networks were launched in 2019. In addition, information is regularly circulated on upcoming regional and national events and webinars exploring, for instance, the implications of racial inequality for higher education. A BAME staff network was established in 2020 to provide a confidential environment for all staff who self-identify as coming from a Black, Asian or other Minority Ethnic Background. This network, along with the Race Equality Charter Consultative Group, plays an important advisory role in the diagnostic work and action planning of the Northumbria Race Equality Charter team with its commitment to understanding, removing or overcoming racial inequalities at Northumbria. BAME representation within our FTE and output submission has grown from 3% in 2014 to 13% in 2021. Our diversity is also reflected in the international origins of 25% of our submitted staff, 18% from Europe and 7% from non-European countries who contribute 24% and 10% of our submitted outputs respectively. Support was provided to reassure and guide EU staff throughout the Brexit process, including refunding of application fees for EU colleagues seeking permanent residence in the UK or British Citizenship. Northumbria also provides immigration costs for international colleagues and operates an Immigration Fees Short Term Loan Scheme for those needing assistance with other costs.

The unit has adopted a range of measures to promote equal opportunities for all staff. Our line management structures support flexible working. 8% of our submitted outputs are attributed to staff on fractional contracts, as well as one of our submitted impact case studies (**Shaw**), and 26 of our submitted staff have taken maternity/other family leave in this REF period. Research directors and the UoA Lead work with heads of department to ensure mentoring and resources are made available to staff returning to work following career breaks including maternity/parental leave, medical leave and caring responsibilities; these staff can also access an HR-led Coaching Transition Programme supporting their return to work. A Parenting Network provides informal member-led support for staff. We have also created bespoke packages of research leave and early sabbaticals to support colleagues returning from maternity/family leave (such as **Daly** in 2018) to get back on research track and recover their momentum. All seminars are organised to facilitate the attendance of staff with family responsibilities, committees are scheduled in standard working hours and not allowed to overrun, and meetings are transparently minuted with clear action points. We guarantee one day per week free of teaching for each member of staff, though with the possibility of more than one clear day subject to the vagaries of the timetable. We are a Level 2 member of the Disability Confident Scheme and staff with underlying conditions or a declared disability are supported by reasonable adjustments to their workload/workspace where needed. Our submission includes one person with a declared disability.

Throughout all aspects of our PGR processes – recruitment, supervision, progression and completion – we work very hard to maintain equality of opportunity for all, and the diversity of our PGR population. Our PGR population is 70% female and 20% BAME, with nearly 40% from ‘non-standard’ educational backgrounds. One of our awards during this REF period (in 2018, **Coombes**, supervised by **Taylor**) was 82 years old, completing a life-time project on Anglo-Indian Migration and Identity. We offer, fully support and fund part-time and flexible modes of PGR study, enabling and empowering students to combine postgraduate research with domestic/caring responsibilities, health conditions or employment. The Faculty of Arts, Design and Social Sciences has also annually subsidised the PGR fees for some international students, enabling us to recruit from a range of ODA countries, including Nigeria, Rwanda and Nepal.

The Unit’s holistic engagement with the principles of equality and diversity is also embedded throughout our research, for example the work of **Addison, Hault** and **Robson** on class and gendered inequalities within education, including higher education, the research of **Coleman-Fountain, Hwang** and **Oak** on sexuality and disability; **Brandon’s** expertise on mental health; and **Rowe’s** analysis of race and ethnicity within UK policing culture and policy. On the basis of her research, **Lewis, R.** delivers training across the university on dealing with disclosures of sexual violence.

Research Students

The unit's research student population has grown significantly since 2014. This increase reflects our growing reputation as a provider of doctoral education, while also being driven by more prominent advertising of our PhD opportunities. Each year, candidates to be supervised by staff from this unit compete for around 28 fully-funded PhD studentships allocated to each Faculty through the University's Research Development Fund Studentship Scheme (RDFSS). The unit has been awarded, on average, eight RDFSSs per year over the current REF cycle. Our success in the internal competition is an endorsement of our capacity to attract high quality candidates and our record of supervising students to timely completion. Some of these RDFSS projects have been funded and supervised in partnership with external policy-orientated organisations. For example, Danks, who successfully completed in 2018, was jointly funded by the university and NHS England Health and Justice (North-East) to undertake a project examining the impact of health improvement initiatives within north-east prisons and was supervised by **Dyer** and a senior employee from the partner organisation. Our enhanced reputation for high-quality social work and social policy research within this REF cycle, combined with increased workload allowances for research and PGR supervision as well as targeted communication of PGR opportunities within the unit through relevant national and international research networks and collaborations, such as the British Society of Criminology (BSC) and its specialist networks and the BSA and its Study Groups, has also enabled us to increase our numbers of self-funded PhD students.

The unit has dedicated PGR leads within respective Departments. Their role is: to process applications, including identifying appropriate supervisory teams; to oversee induction for incoming students; to construct an annual Departmental PGR training programme; to oversee student progression and completion, including attending the Faculty Research Degrees Sub-Committee which approves progression decisions; and to act as subject contacts for the Unit's engagement with the AHRC's Northern Bridge (NBC) and the ESRC's NINE DTPs, including convening scrutiny panels to assess applications to NBC and NINE. Student progression is assessed through an initial Project Approval stage, followed by annual monitoring. Doctoral candidates have a minimum of two supervisors who share a workload allocation of 50 hours per annum for supervision. Our regulations require formal and documented contact between supervisor(s) and supervisee (normally a face-to-face meeting) on a monthly basis, with a synopsis of the discussion, and agreed next steps, logged on an electronic system.

PhD students in the Unit can apply for funding for fieldwork, conference attendance or event organization through the relevant departmental QR budget. Larger-scale expenses, such as for data collection overseas can be accommodated so long as the research costs are flagged at Project Approval. Attendance at relevant research centre/cluster seminar programmes is considered mandatory for funded students. Funded studentships map on to our areas of expertise

and research centres and clusters, and students are encouraged to attend group meetings. Students are also required to present their research at one of our Faculty PGR student conferences, organized by a PGR student planning committee under the guidance of departmental PGR leads. All PhD students are encouraged to construct a public-facing profile via the University's research portal. Student satisfaction is monitored through an internal survey and through PRES, with PGR coordinators being tasked with implementing an 'Action Plan' following each survey.

We take seriously our responsibility to prepare students for life beyond the PhD. All students enrol on the University's 'Professional Development and Researcher Training Programme' (PDRT), which is mapped against the four Vitae learning domains covering intellectual abilities, personal effectiveness, research governance, and engagement. Training is mixed between attended sessions and interactive courses accessed through Blackboard. While most courses are optional, those relating to induction, progression, and research ethics are mandatory. Departmental PGR training programmes include sessions on conference presentation and organization, academic publication and open access, CV drafting, impact and searching for jobs within and outside academia. We have recently introduced additional sessions enabling students to identify Athena SWAN and the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers as providing relevant contexts for their career progression. Students are required to compile a Professional Development and Research Training Plan, an outline of which must be submitted as part of their Project Approval documentation. The supervisory team, as well as supporting the student in developing their thesis, are required to oversee the student's satisfactory engagement with their training programme. Evidence of a completed training log is required before the student is granted permission to submit.

Our PhD students have also been able to access training and development programmes provided by NINE, for example those covering fieldwork within the global south and the use of visual methods in social research, and some of our staff (e.g. **Hardill, Stretesky**) have contributed to these. Within this REF period, **Hardill** has undertaken various roles within the development of the ESRC's doctoral training nationally, serving for example on the Commissioning, Monitoring and Mid-Term Review Panels for DTPs between 2014-19, experience and expertise which has influenced our own current doctoral supervision and training programmes within the unit and which will be important in shaping our application to be part of an ESRC DTP in social science within the next REF cycle.

Indicators of the increased quality of our research students since our previous submission, also illustrating the delivery of one of our strategic objectives set out in 2014, include the quality of their publishing outlets during/following their PhD and the prizes/awards that have been obtained. The

following are some examples. **Hall** (supervised by **Taylor**) who completed her PhD within this REF cycle, is now an Associate Professor within the unit and has published 2 monographs and over 5 peer reviewed international journal articles, including within *The British Journal of Criminology* and *The European Journal of Criminology* as well as being an RDFSS PhD supervisor herself, while Cao (supervised by **Wyatt**) published within *The Asian Journal of Criminology* during his PhD which was awarded in 2016. **Wiper** (supervised by **Lewis, R.** and completed in 2018) is also a member of staff within the unit, with outputs in *The British Journal of Criminology* and *The Journal of Gender-Based Violence*. The first of these won the ‘best paper’ award from the Hate Studies Network of the British Society of Criminology in 2018. **Ruiu** (supervised by **Mullen**) published in *Sociology, Housing and Society* and *The Journal of Rural Studies* during her PhD, which she completed in November 2019, and she is now a member of staff within the unit with over 10 peer-reviewed international journal publications, while McKie (supervised by **Stretesy**) published in *Sociological Inquiry* before the completion of her PhD in 2018. Reidy (supervised by **McLean**) won the 2019 award for the best PhD from the Terrorism Research Initiative. **Irving** (supervised by **Harding**), a staff PhD completion in 2018 and now a Senior Lecturer within this unit was awarded the Valerie Karn Career Researcher Prize from the UK’s Housing Studies Association for her PhD work in 2019, while **Southall** (supervised by **Brandon**), also a staff PhD (completed in 2017) and now a member of this unit, has now published in *The European Journal of Social Work*.

3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Income

We have seen an increase in our RGCI from £2.2 million to £2.7 million since REF2014, funding which has increased year on year during the 2021 cycle. Most noteworthy is the increase in the proportion of our UKRI research council funding within this total – from 11% in 2014 to 27% across the 2021 period. In the last two years of the 2021 cycle, research council funding rose to 50% of our RGCI. This must be seen in the context of a previous dominance of contract research income from the public sector within the unit, for instance from the Department for Work and Pensions, income which was submitted to REF2014. As the opportunities to secure such contract research income have considerably declined, the unit has expanded its capacity to secure substantial research income from ‘gold bar’ academic funding bodies. Many of our awards are in collaboration with partners and/or involve significant partner payments. For example, **Shaw’s** £3.5 million COGOV project includes 70% partner payments. **Hensengerth** manages one work package (from five) within the £15.2 million UKRI GCRF *Living Deltas* research hub. Our overall partnership payments also amount to £2.7 million during this REF cycle, demonstrating the importance of academic, non-academic and international collaboration to our research and our capacity to lead major research council projects. We have also received a number of recent research council

awards that will not be fully captured in the RGCI figures returned to REF2021, some of which are detailed below.

Our success in improving research council grant capture in the unit is underpinned by our structures and culture. Research is overseen by departmental research directors in conjunction with the UoA Lead, supported by RIS. Researchers work closely with a RIS Research Development Manager, who gives guidance on funding opportunities, and with dedicated Faculty pre-award and post-award officers. Research directors are responsible for developing and monitoring a two year research funding plan for all staff. The emphasis here is upon fully supporting and enabling realistic funding objectives appropriate to career stage

Building on the ECR Development Programme (noted above) RIS also run an elite training programme ('Next Generation of Large Award Holders') for researchers who have already won small or medium-sized grants to help them transition to larger-scale applications. **Wyatt** attended the programme in 2017 before writing her successful AHRC Leadership Fellowship application. Successful recipients of major awards and fellowships run workshops targeting particular funding schemes for other staff within the unit. Relevant faculties also run funding application workshops in connection with particular schemes such as BA/Leverhulme small grants, Leverhulme mid-career Fellowships, and ESRC/AHRC Leadership Fellowships and standard grants, and the research development manager runs regular bidding clinics. Staff from SWECW work closely with the Research Design Service supported by the NHS in the north east of England for applications to NIHR. We emphasize the importance of long lead-in times when researchers are aiming at schemes with fixed deadlines. All funding applications are required to be submitted to our Faculty Peer Review College and will be scrutinized by two reviewers. Applications sent to the Faculty for final sign-off are accompanied by a statement on how the PI has addressed issues identified through the peer review process. The process is designed to ensure that all bids leaving the Faculty are competitive. Researchers can also apply to a Faculty Research Bidding Fund which allows for the hiring of an RA to scope out a potential project. All staff can apply to have research expenses covered from relevant departmental QR allocations, with a nominal £1500 being allowed p.a. for each researcher. All requests are expected to align with research objectives.

RIS also provides departments and research centres/clusters with lists of appropriate funding schemes for particular members of staff, depending upon their career stage. Research directors and heads of department, working with colleagues in RIS and the UoA(20) Lead, have particularly targeted research council fellowships during this REF period, including British Academy International Visiting Fellowships, Leverhulme Trust Fellowships and Senior Fellowships, ESRC and UKRI Early Career Fellowships, AHRC Leadership Fellowships, Independent Social Research Fellowships and Early Career Fellowships and Newton Fund Fellowships. As noted

above and below, we have subsequently had some success with awards from these schemes during this REF cycle, for the first time in the history of the university. As we have developed this expertise and a track record of success, we expect to build upon this even further in the next REF period.

The support mechanisms described above have reaped notable dividends and demonstrate the success of our research strategy over the current REF cycle. The following are some examples of recent awards:

Shaw is PI (with **Daly** as CI) on a four year European Commission Horizon 2020 funded project (£3,587,119) COGOV, working with a consortium of universities, municipalities and private companies to understand the transformation of European public administrations;

Hensengerth is CI on a five year (from 2019) UKRI GCRF funded (£15,287,288), *Living Deltas* Research Hub, managing a work package exploring the role of young people envisioning and creating a future in major river deltas in times of environmental change in Vietnam, Bangladesh and India. He was also a PI on a 2 year (2016-7) Newton Fund project (£56,000) researching flood management in Vietnam. The research from this latter project was shortlisted for the Newton Prize in 2017;

Stretesky is PI on a three year (2018-2021) £8 million project funded by ESRC/NERC, 'The Social Construction of Unconventional Gas Extraction', exploring the social impact of hydraulic fracturing on communities;

Miranda is PI on a two year (2019-21) ESRC/UKRI/Japan Science and Technology Agency funded project (£750,000) investigating 'Emotional AI in Cities: Cross Cultural Lessons from the UK and Japan';

Coleman-Fountain, an ECR, is PI on a three year (2020-23) NIHR funded project (£228,466), in collaboration with Disability North, project titled 'Personal Assistance for Intimate Citizenship: A Co-Production Project to Improve Sexuality Related Support for Disabled Young Adults';

Oxburgh is PI on a 2020 UKRI-funded (£323,000) COVID-19 Rapid Response project, 'Supporting the Interviewing and Legal Representation of Crime Victims and Suspects Using Digital Communication Methods';

Hardill was PI on a two year (2016-18) ESRC funded project (£470,000), 'Discourses of Voluntary Action at Two Transformational Moments of the Welfare State – the 1940s and 2010' and is PI on

a 2020 UKRI Covid 19 Rapid Response project (£420,000), 'Mobilising Voluntary Action in the 4 UK Jurisdictions';

Rowe was PI on a two year (2018-20) project funded by ESRC (£329,385), 'Visible Policing: The Affective Properties of Police Buildings, Images and Material Culture';

Wyatt was PI on a British Academy funded project in 2015 (£37,000) investigating 'International Trade in Wildlife', PI on a Scottish Government funded project (£70,000) on 'Illegal Puppy Trade and Farming'; PI on an AHRC Leadership Programme (£185,000) investigating the international trade in endangered species and CI on a 2020 UKRI GCRF/Newton Fund Agile Response bid (£364,000) 'Identifying and Mitigating the Impacts of COVID-19 on Legal and Sustainable Wildlife Trade in LMICs';

Raymen, an ECR, is CI on a two year (2020-22) Norwegian Research Council funded (£681,000) project titled 'Luxury, Corruption and Global Ethics: Towards a Critical Cultural Theory of the Moral Economy of Fraud';

Ragnedda, Harding, and Daly were in receipt of British Academy and Leverhulme small grants during this REF period.

Infrastructure and Facilities

The unit has also benefitted from university investment in physical facilities and infrastructure in order to develop our research centres and clusters. The **Centre for International Development**, the **Centre for Crime and Policing** and the **Healthy Living Lab** have been allocated building and office space which has brought researchers, research assistants and PGR students with shared interests and expertise together. These spaces also have break out rooms for group and informal discussions and seminar rooms for more formal presentations. The **Power, Culture and Identities, Insecurity, Violence and Harm** and **International Relations** research clusters also have access to a dedicated space – the Policy Hub – at the City Campus for cluster events and seminars. There are also four dedicated, newly developed (2018) research suites at the City and Coach Lane campuses available for seminars and conferences. Research students belonging to the unit are housed in postgraduate suites, located close to relevant staff offices and allowing access to a shared student-staff common room. Our students also can access the 'Research Commons' space in the City Library, a dedicated area for PGRs and academic researchers.

The University Library works in partnership with academic staff to develop a multidisciplinary collection that meets the evolving research needs of the unit. The library collection encompasses print and electronic books and journals and sources of subscribed scholarly content including

databases, practitioner resources and digital archives. During the REF period, the university has invested £1,480,172.57 in these resources specifically for UoA20 research. In addition to this discipline-focussed investment, the library also procures multidisciplinary databases, ebook and ejournal packages for use across all research areas. These include Science Direct, Sage, Emerald, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, OUP, Springer, *Nature* and *Science* journals, JSTOR Arts & Sciences and Nexis. The library's investment in multidisciplinary resources over the REF period has been £6,418,036.50.

4. Collaboration and contribution to the research base, economy and society

Contribution to Economy and Society

Section 1 outlines our impact strategy, to support research which tackles, and directly intervenes within, some of the most pressing social, cultural and policy issues within contemporary society at a sub-national, national and global level emerging from our previously identified areas of expertise, and how this has generated our six submitted impact case studies. Here, we outline how impact work goes beyond these case studies and is embedded throughout the unit's research. This work is supported through dedicated impact funds within Departmental and Faculty QR budgets and through the mentoring and staff development processes outlined above.

Some unit staff work explicitly from within a participatory and public engagement paradigm. Thus, for example, **Atkin**, **Brandon** and **Southall** have worked with people experiencing mental health distress and mental health professionals to co-design and co-produce research with the aim of improving mental health services. This research, and the overall co-creation approach, has directly influenced the policies and activities of the Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust and local mental health charities such as ReCoCo and Chilli Studios in relation to mental health in the north-east of England. **Hwang** has developed participatory action research with disabled service user organisations in the UK and South Korea, directly leading to the creation of social supports for disabled people's leisure time by Gateshead Council (UK) and Korean government policies which have increased disabled people's financial choice and freedom over the support they can commission.

During this REF cycle, at the local level, **Rowe** and **Dresser** have worked in collaboration with Northumbria Police, **Rowe** around issues of domestic abuse and hate crime and **Dresser** engaging in evidenced-based analyses of counter-radicalisation with a particular focus upon the UK government's PREVENT programme. **Robson** leads partnerships of local authority, NHS, higher education and voluntary sector partners to develop health, care and education services for families with 0-2 year olds in Newcastle upon Tyne and **Brandon's** participatory research within mental health has been adopted as a mainstream practice by a range of third sector and NHS

organisations in the north east of England. At the national level, **Stretesky** and **Szolucha** are working with a range of statutory bodies, communities and policy-makers across the UK to assess and communicate the benefits and burdens of hydraulic fracturing in the UK. **Farrand-Carrapico** has contributed to the governance of Brexit, specifically in relation to policing and judicial cooperation, through several calls to provide evidence to the House of Commons and the House of Lords. Internationally, **Shaw** works with a range of universities, municipalities and private companies across six European states to investigate the current transformation of European public administration, with recent work examining the impact of COVID-19, while **Taylor** has collaborated with the Indian government's Ministry of External Affairs to understand the relationship between international migration, caste and inclusive development, having a direct influence upon migration policy and governance. **Hall's** research into the on-line sale of fake medications internationally has directly shaped the design of systems and software used by law enforcement and health regulatory agencies across the world, including Interpol and the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction. **Oxburgh** has worked with the UN and the International Criminal Court (ICC) on international human rights, training investigators, lawyers and judges within the ICC in non-coercive interviewing methods and sitting on a UN-led steering committee which developed a universal protocol for non-coercive interviewing and procedural safeguards. Collaboration with user communities and research impact is now embedded, and intrinsic to, the social work and social policy research of staff across the entire unit, and this also extends to our PhD students. Thus, McBride (supervised by **Lewis, R.**, who completed in 2020) used her PhD research findings to produce a short animation film about sexual harassment in the night-time economy. This was funded by QR monies from the Department of Social Sciences and has since been used by third sector organisations and schools within the north-east of England to educate young people about the dangers of sexual harassment and abuse. All of this impact work will continue into the next REF period, with the potential to generate further, high quality and powerful social work and social policy impact case studies.

Collaboration and Contribution to the Research Base

Staff within the unit have also made considerable contributions to the research base through their participation in national and international academic and non-academic networks and partnerships, as well as through the development of their disciplines and their role within relevant professional and subject associations and learned societies. Thus, staff within the unit have produced a wide range of highly original monographs during this REF period, which take their disciplines in new directions and define new areas of study. For example, **Cieslik's** *The Happiness Riddle and the Quest for the Good Life* (2017) defines and develops the sociology of happiness as an area of study, **Winlow's** (with Hall, S.) *Revitalising Criminological Theory: Towards a New Ultra-Realism* (2015) defines a new direction in criminological theory which has had a hugely significant impact within the discipline and both **Stretesky's** (with Lynch, M.) *Exploring Green Criminology: Toward*

Unit-level environment template (REF5b)

a *Green Criminological Revolution* (2014) and **Wyatt's** (with Nurse, A) *Wildlife Criminology* (2020) define and develop new sub-disciplines within criminology, facilitating huge growth in academic research within these areas. Similarly, unit staff have been involved in editing special issues of leading international, peer reviewed journals and volumes during the REF period which have been discipline-defining. For instance, **Taylor** was part of a team who edited, and authored an editorial introduction to, a 2016 special issue of *Sociology*, the flagship journal of the BSA, titled 'Bringing it "Home": Sociological Practice and the Practice of Sociology', an edition to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the journal which defined the nature of the discipline over the past half century and established boundaries and priorities for the future. **Casey** has also edited a special issue of *Sociology* (2020), while **Cieslik** edited a special issue of *Sociological Research Online* in 2015 and **Taylor** was part of a team editing a special issue of *Migration and Development* in 2019. **Wyatt, Davies** and **Francis** edited a hugely influential edited volume in 2014, *Invisible Crimes and Social Harms*, part of Palgrave's Critical Criminology book series, which defined a new direction in criminological study, as did **Raymen's** jointly edited collection with the same publisher, *Deviant Leisure* (2019), and **Lewis's** (with Anitha) *Gender-Based Violence in University Communities* (Policy Press, 2018). **Raymen** has also led, in conjunction with colleagues from the **Insecurity, Violence and Harm** research cluster, the development of a new (2020) peer-reviewed, open access journal, *The Journal of Contemporary Crime, Harm and Ethics*. **Stretesky** is co-editor (since 2011) of Routledge's Green Criminology book series.

Staff within this submission have been part of a range of editorial boards of leading international and disciplinary peer-reviewed journals during this REF period, further demonstrating their academic esteem and roles in developing their disciplines. Examples include: **Winlow** (*The British Journal of Criminology*); **Stretesky** (*Sociological Quarterly*); **Rowe** (*Policing and Society*); **Taylor** and **Casey** (*Sociology*); **Hwang** and **Brandon** (*Disability and Society*); **Lewis, R.** and **Coleman-Fountain** (*Sociological Research Online*); **Wyatt** (*The International Journal of Wildlife Law and Policy*) and **Hall** (*Trends in Organised Crime* and *The Journal of Extreme Anthropology*). Both **Winlow** and **Stephenson** have been on the editorial board of *Frontiers in Sociology*, a publication aimed primarily at sociology 'A' Level and further education students, an example illustrating the commitment of unit staff to the sustainability and development of their disciplines. Further evidence of this can be found through the prominent roles which unit members have played within professional associations, learned societies and the ESRC during the REF period. For example, **Winlow** was Vice-President of the British Society of Criminology from 2016-19, while **Hall** was Chair of the north-east branch of the same organisation (2017-19). **Dedotsi** was elected in 2017 to the board of the European Association of Social Work Research, while both **Casey** and **Cieslik** have convened study groups within the BSA and **Heslop** has chaired a work group for the British Association of Social Work during the REF period. **Defeyter** was elected a Fellow of the British Psychological Society in 2015 and **Farrand-Carrapico** chaired a working group (2016-20) within,

and organised the annual international conference (2019) of, The British International Studies Association. **Hardill** is an elected Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences and was appointed to the ESRC's Training and Skills Committee (2014-17), Capability Committee (2015-18) and Strategic Advisory Network (2018-20), as well as being a member of their COVID-19 Commissioning Panel 2020-21, during this REF cycle, while **Hensengerth** is a Fellow at Chatham House. Researchers also regularly share their expertise as external examiners. Across the unit, staff have examined 88 UK-based PhDs and 22 overseas.

Staff within the unit have received a number of awards during the REF period, including **Defeyter** being recognised by *The Big Issue* as one of the UKs top 100 'Change Makers' for her research and policy impact on childhood food poverty, as well as being in receipt of a 'Food Heroes' award from *Sustain* for her work on school breakfast clubs and holiday hunger programmes (both in 2020). There have also been appointments to Visiting Professorship/Fellowship roles during the period, for example **Taylor** was a Visiting Professor within the South Asia Institute at SOAS (2017-20), University of London, **Wyatt** was a Visiting Fellow to the University of Oslo (2018) and **Coleman-Fountain** was appointed as a Fellow at the NIHR School for Social Care Research in 2020.