

# CRESR Annual Report 2021/22



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
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
This report has been published by the Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research (CRESR) at Sheffield Hallam University and is designed to give an overview of the activities in the Centre between the dates of 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021 and 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022.

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 @CRESR\_SHU

# Welcome

## Reflections on another busy successful year.

Writing this in the closing months of 2022, reflecting not only on the past calendar year but the previous academic year, highlights an uncomfortable irony. In one of the most challenging years in modern history for populations around the world and at home – aggression in Europe, the long-term consequences of the pandemic, the frailty of global food and energy systems – the need for objective, evidence and research on social and economic issues has never been more urgent. Many of CRESR's successes which we report in this review stem – unfortunately – from our ability as academics to seek out, generate and communicate the evidence of socioeconomic inequalities and outcomes which we wish weren't there. But if there's a grain of comfort in this, it is that our work does have impact. It may not change the world, but it does – bit by bit – change the policies and practices and worldviews which can contribute positively to social change.

So, the 'celebrations' around the publication of the Research Excellence Framework will always be bittersweet in many ways. Yes, CRESR led the Hallam submission to Unit of Assessment 13 (Architecture, Built Environment and Planning) and once again the results demonstrate our status as one of the country's leading centres for applied policy research across the ranges of academic fields which address concerns around the impact of policies on people and places. The world-leading nature of our impact in particular stands out and we are proud of that in its own right. But our real world impacts – ensuring those in poverty are helped to afford basic utilities like water and energy; that the welfare benefits system is designed sensitively in relation to housing need; that the value of social prescribing in tackling ill health and loneliness is better understood – testify simultaneously to the power of our research and the unfortunate, persistent need for it.

It has been an eventful year for CRESR but one which has continued to see significant success and growth. Our research portfolio, income and staffing base have continued to grow and diversify. Although

we have said goodbye to some valued staff members, we have also welcomed many more gifted colleagues who bring new ideas and research. We have also supported the promotion of our own staff into more senior positions – demonstrating our ongoing commitment to developing our own people and investing in a permanent, dedicated and flexible team.

Our investments have yielded some notable payoffs, and in the 2021-22 we have secured and kicked off a number of very large projects for academic research funders and government departments.

In general, the year has been one of true success in our ambition to sustainably grow our 'regulated' income portfolio comprising projects funded by UKRI and other key research grant funders.

To provide a flavour of these: Professor Aimee Ambrose was successful in the highly competitive European CHANSE scheme, to which the UK's Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) participates, to establish the €1.4 million JUSTHEAT research programme looking at how major changes to home heating and heating technology over the last 70 years have been designed, managed and experienced, and what lessons we might learn for the current transition to low carbon systems. Dr Kesia Reeve, Dr Emma Bimpson, Dr Beth Speake and Ian Wilson are leading CRESR's inputs to a significant Nuffield Foundation project, 'Holding on to Home', led by our associate Professor Paul Hickman and examining the critical issue of tenancy sustainment amongst recipients of welfare benefits.



**Ed Ferrari**  
CRESR Director



**Ian Wilson**  
CRESR Deputy  
Director

CRESR is playing a critical role in no fewer than three new Research England projects which together represent a game-changing investment into the research, knowledge exchange and policy engagement capacity within Yorkshire. Professor Will Eadson supported by Dr Phil Northall are leading a work package on Just Transitions in the £5 million South Yorkshire Sustainability Centre, with our partners in University of Sheffield, Hallam's National Centre for Food Engineering, and the South Yorkshire Combined Authority (SYMCA). Building on Hallam's successful leadership of the National Civic University Network, Research England is funding the £3.8 million National Civic Impact Accelerator (NCIA) designed to accelerate and extend the reach of the Higher Education sector's impacts on its places. Dr Julian Dobson and Professor Ed Ferrari are leading two work packages alongside colleagues at the Institute of Community Studies (ICS) and the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement (NCCPE). Finally, we are delighted to be a key player in Y-PERN – the Yorkshire & Humber Policy Engagement and Research Network, led by Yorkshire Universities on behalf of our region's HEIs. Catalysed by a £3.9 million Research England Development Fund investment, Y-PERN will enhance the effectiveness of inclusive regional development policy and strategy, working with the region's local authorities to identify actions and solutions to some of the major opportunities and challenges facing our places. CRESR's work with Y-PERN is being led by Professor Peter Wells.

Our reputation for excellence in government research and evaluation was further enhanced this year by the award of several new contracts. Most significant among these is our success in a consortium led by Kantar Public to provide the Department of Levelling Up Communities and Housing (DLUHC) with a five-year programme of housing and planning research. This will mean that our academic strengths and our evaluation expertise will be brought to bear on a range of major policy areas being focused on within the current parliament as part of the commitment to levelling up and reforms to planning and housing legislation. Further developing our credentials in research on active travel, we are also delighted to have been awarded the contract to evaluate the impact of Department for Transport's £2 billion investment in the Active Travel Fund and related funding aimed at getting the infrastructure and behavioural change programmes in place to herald a revolution in how we move

around our towns and cities. The work is being led by Dr Stephen Parkes and Professor Ed Ferrari in CRESR along with Maxine Gregory in Hallam's Sports Industry Research Group (SIRG) and our colleagues in NatCen and Mosodi, a specialist active travel consultancy.

Although the rest of the report provides much more detail on the vast range of activities we've been involved in during the year, there are perhaps just a few final things we'd like to highlight. Thanks to the amazing efforts of our fantastic professional services team, led by Gail Hallewell, November 2021 saw the launch of our new website which provides as a resource the richness of content that CRESR's website has also provided but with a cleaner and more accessible new branding which also works better on modern devices. The new website provides us with a better way of showcasing the work of our five research themes – which all went from strength to strength in 2021-22 under the leadership of Professor Aimee Ambrose, Dr Richard Crisp, Dr Chris Damm, Dr Tony Gore and Dr Steve Green.

Our annual People, Place and Policy conference was back in person in Sheffield, held on 6 July, and was a great success. The following day we also provided one of the earliest opportunities for South Yorkshire's incoming Mayor, Oliver Coppard, to set out his mayoral priorities on a panel alongside Hallam's Professor Sarah Pearson, Dame Julie Kenny MBE, and Professor Ed Ferrari.

We hope you find the remainder of this report of interest. As ever it provides but a snapshot of the richness of our work and our impact. We're always open to new collaborations, contacts and conversations – please do drop us a line!



**Mayor Oliver Coppard (right) sets out his mayoral priorities at a panel discussion hosted by CRESR on 7 July 2022. [Photo © Cristina Cerulli]**

# About the Centre

## Key information and figures for 2021/22 academic year.

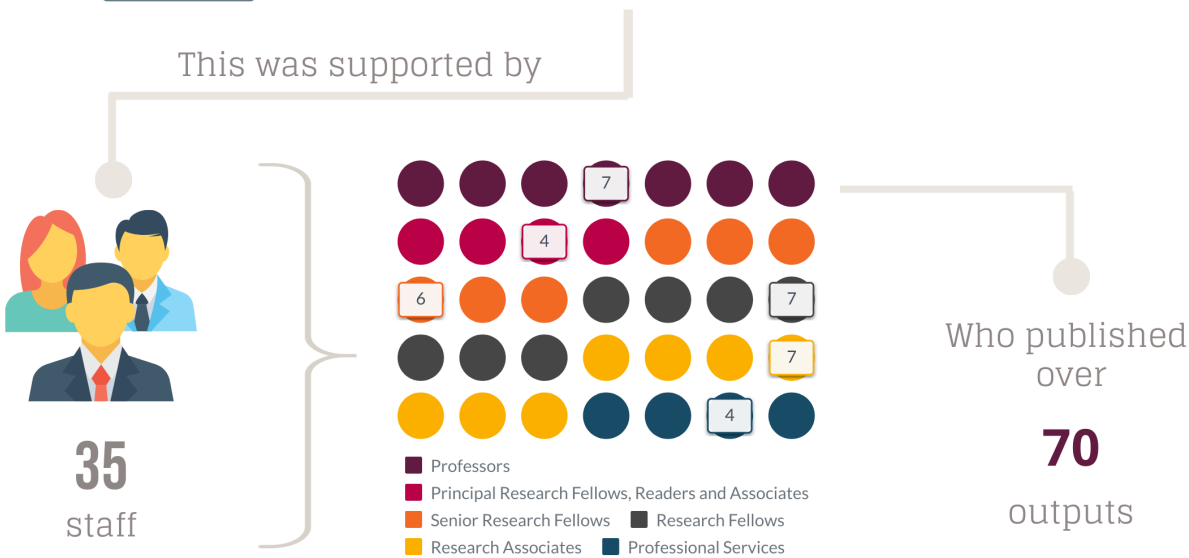
As a leading UK policy research centre, CRESR seeks to understand the impact of social and economic disadvantage on places and people, and assess critically the policies and interventions targeted at these issues. Clients include government departments and agencies, local authorities, charities and foundations, international organisations, and the private sector. We offer research expertise covering a wide range of qualitative and quantitative methods, evaluation, policy advice and guidance, and consultancy.

### CRESR in numbers



Our total income was **£1,899,092**

We had **39** projects awarded with a win rate of **78%**



 We had a total of **20** students including, **3** new students and **2** students who completed their PhDs.

# Our Research

Here is a selection of our projects from 2021/22 organised by theme.

Since their establishment in 2020/21, our five Research Themes have increased their relevance and impact. The events of the past 12 months have revealed how the contemporary global and national challenges related to economic inclusion, environmental sustainability, the role of non-governmental actors and the need for safe, affordable housing are deeply interlinked. During such uncertain and tumultuous times, governments at home and abroad require more than ever before the robust and objective evidence they need to guide critical policy decisions.

The following pages of this report provide a snapshot of the work in each of our themes, introduced by our Theme Leads.



## *Housing and Place*

Housing; homelessness; regeneration; planning; neighbourhoods and community



## *Sustainable Futures*

Energy policy; fuel poverty; environmental policy; green and blue infrastructure; transport



## *Inclusive Economy*

Labour market analysis; employment initiatives; skills; welfare reform; benefits analysis; spatial inequalities and inclusive growth; industrial strategy and productivity



## *Voluntary and Community Sector*

Infrastructure; funding; social finance and social investment; public services reform; social prescribing; health and social care



## *Policy Research and Evaluation*

Policy devolution and implementation; systems analysis; governance; politics; evaluation and research methods



# Housing and Place



The Housing and Place theme builds on CRESRs outstanding housing-based research and evaluation. It provides evidence and analysis to support and influence effective social policy and practice that promote social justice and fairness.

**Dr. Steve Green (Theme Lead)**



## Featured project

### Housing 21: A new model for inclusive cohousing?

*Funder: Nuffield Foundation*

*Project Lead: Yael Arbell*

*Project Duration: 2022-2023*

#### **CRESR team members**

- Tom Archer

#### **About the project**

How will greater accessibility affect the practice and vision of cohousing? The project explores a new approach to community-led housing, that aims to deliver affordable, rented homes to older BAME (Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic) people of modest financial means. Housing 21 is a registered provider working with a number of communities in Birmingham to design and develop cohousing communities. Unlike other community-led housing projects, here the initiative comes from a registered provider, that buys the land, secures planning permission and manages the building - key stages that communities often struggle with. While not directly involved in the project's management, potential residents are consulted with the architect on the use of the shared spaces: a common house with a communal kitchen, shared garden and growing space and shared rooms that can be used for a range of activities, from prayer to chair zumba.

The research follows the project as Housing 21 and its partner community organisation, Legacy West Midlands, engage with new communities and work with residents to consolidate as a community and hopefully develop the skills required for self-management.

Through this case study, we gain a better understanding of the process of co-production with communities and housing providers; an understanding of the aspirations and capacities of people who were so far excluded from the cohousing sector, with a focus on the intersections of race, class, age and gender; and an opportunity to define cohousing through a model that pushes the boundaries of the term. Findings will inform other communities and housing organisations about good practice and potential challenges to this top-down collaboration approach.

## Other key projects

- [Holding onto Home: Tenancy Sustainment in Social Housing](#)
- [Trauma-informed approaches in homelessness practice: an exploration of practitioner understandings and implementation](#)
- [Motherhood and Homelessness - Intersectional challenges of Parenting, Health and Identity](#)

# Inclusive Economy



Understanding how social and spatial inequalities are shaped through economic life is critical to addressing the defining challenges of our time, such as the rise of in-work poverty and regional disparities in prosperity.

CRESR's Inclusive Economy theme develops this research agenda by asking: What are the processes contributing to labour market vulnerability and economic insecurity? And how can we create more inclusive economies that provide greater economic and social wellbeing within ecologically sustainable boundaries?

Our researchers combine expertise in applied policy research with interdisciplinary interests across sociology, geography, economics and urban studies to engage in leading research on a range of themes around inclusive economies including:

- welfare reform
- worklessness
- labour market precarity
- governance of spatial inequalities
- regional and industrial policy
- inclusive growth and alternative economic development

**Dr. Richard Crisp (Theme Lead)**



## Featured project

### Inclusion Plan Evidence Base

*Funder: South Yorkshire Combined Authority*

*Project Lead: Richard Crisp*

*Project Duration: 2022*

#### **CRESR team members:**

- Christina Beatty
- Tony Gore
- Ed Ferrari
- Joe McMullan

#### **About the project**

CRESR is developing an evidence base to support the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) in their work to create an inclusion plan to complement the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) which outlines a vision for a stronger, greener

and fairer economy that creates prosperity and opportunity for all. We will provide data analysis of social and economic inclusion challenges in South Yorkshire and, drawing on new thinking around alternative economic development, make recommendations for how SYMCA might embed inclusion objectives and activities in their strategies. This includes reflecting on work that is being undertaken by other combined and local authorities to support inclusion objectives, and how this good practice and learning may inform SYMCA's approach.

## Other key projects

- [The Real Level of Unemployment 2022: The myth of full employment across Britain](#)
- [Evaluation of the Working Well Early Help programme](#)
- [Evaluation of Your Work Your Way](#)



# Policy Research & Evaluation



Applied policy research with impact lies at the core of all that CRESR does. The Policy Research and Evaluation theme focuses on this interface between academic research and real-world practice. We seek to explore and improve our research methods and the concepts that underpin them; and to increase the impact of our work. At a theoretical level, we are interested in complexity, systems change, institutions and governance. Methodologically, we are interested in approaches that bring us closer to the experiences of the people who are affected by or who make policy. In terms of impact, we are interested in how best to inform policymakers and practitioners, and bring the stories of our research findings and participants to life.



**Dr. Julian Dobson (Theme Lead)**

## Featured project

### Evaluation of Your Work Your Way

*Funder: Child Poverty Action Group*

*Project Lead: Sarah Pearson*

*Project Duration: 2021-2023*

#### **CRESR team members**

- Elaine Batty
- Christina Beatty
- Cathy Harris
- Elizabeth Sanderson

#### **About the project**

Your Work Your Way (YWYW) provides intensive, personalised support to help potential second earners in low-income families to move into paid work. The programme is being delivered by the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) in four areas of England (Bury, Coventry, Luton and Taunton) and aims to support 100 individuals across the 4 areas. The programme delivers a flexible support package to help participants address barriers and challenges to taking up work. This includes

- Engagement with a personal support coach providing motivational support for a period of up to 12 months.
- Welfare rights support to address issues associated with benefits and household

income, and undertaking better off in work calculations.

- Access to a £2000 personal budget to support progression towards employment through, for example, participation in training.

Participation in the programme is voluntary, although some participants are facing conditionality associated with receipt of Universal Credit. Referral routes include other agencies (including JobCentre Plus), community outreach and self-referral.

CRESR is using a mixed-methods approach to carry out process and impact evaluation of the programme designed to meet two objectives:

- To understand how to improve the programme and encourage effective wider adoption of a sustainable approach, and to understand which barriers could not be overcome without a change of policy.
- To understand the impact YYWY has on removing barriers to work for potential second earners in couple families with children, both during the intervention and up to 6 months after.

The project team also includes Professor Colin Lindsay (University of Strathclyde).

## Other key projects

- [National Civic Impact Accelerator](#)
- [Community Improvement Districts: learning and policy recommendations](#)

# Sustainable Futures



The climate emergency is the greatest challenge facing humanity. Transitions to a zero carbon society and the restoration of the natural world are urgent and overdue. The Sustainable Futures theme explores the implications and experiences of these transitions from social, economic, socio-technical, historic and policy perspectives, prioritising the perspectives of citizens, particularly those disadvantaged in society.

We are particularly concerned with how transitions play out in the energy and transport sectors and how policy change interacts with disadvantage and impacts upon the day to day lives of citizens. We use robust research evidence to promote just transitions and also advocate for policies and approaches to transition that extend beyond justice and promote thriving and a reversal of fortunes for those disadvantaged within a fossil fuelled society.

We contribute to these agendas nationally and internationally and are currently engaged in the delivery of qualitative and quantitative research and evaluation funded by regulated funders (i.e. the Arts and Humanities Research Council, Horizon Europe, Research England) and contract research commissions for governmental and non-governmental policy and practice organisations.

**Prof. Aimee Ambrose (Theme Lead)**



## Featured project

### Local and regional responses to connected and autonomous vehicles

*Funder: Regional Studies Association*

*Project Lead: Stephen Parkes*

*Project Duration: 2020-2022*

#### **CRESR team members**

- Ed Ferrari

#### **About the project**

An impending influx of increasingly Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CAVs) poses a new set of policy problems for local policymakers. Concerns around safety, urban design, and infrastructure (amongst others) will not be solved immediately and instead will form part of a long transitional period as CAVs compete for a place in already complex transit systems.

This project explored the extent to which national and local governments are planning for CAVs, highlighting the disparities between countries from

the Global North and South. Challenges faced includes the uncertain time horizons, problematic ownership scenarios, and ambiguity over the role that CAVs could fulfil in urban environments. We also examined the impact on competing policy agendas, such as the promotion of liveable cities, and identified some key areas of potential conflict. Evidence was gathered through a global 'Call for Evidence', alongside focus groups, interviews with key stakeholders, and several case-studies.

A set of recommendations for policymakers were developed, including on the role of national government in providing leadership, effective best-practice sharing, and the importance of bringing a broader range of countries (particularly those further behind the curve on CAV development) into the dialogue to ensure a broad range of voices are heard to shape the field more equitably. Further insights and recommendations can be found in the key output from this project, a [Regional Studies Policy Impact Book](#).

## Other key projects

- [Looking back to move forward: a social and cultural history of heating \(JUSTHEAT\)](#)
- [Active Travel Portfolio Research and Evaluation Programme](#)

# Voluntary & Community Sector



CRESR, and Sheffield Hallam more widely, is one of the most important centres of expertise on the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in the UK. As well as conducting prominent research projects in partnership with both VCS organisations and funders, we are at the forefront of academic research on the sector. We publish and present academically on topics including VCS public service delivery, infrastructure, policy, funding, data, social value, volunteering, and social investment.

**Dr Chris Damm (Theme Lead)**



## Featured project

### The value of small charities during the COVID 19 pandemic

*Funder: Lloyds Bank Foundation for England*

*Project Lead: Chris Dayson*

*Project Duration: 2020-2021*

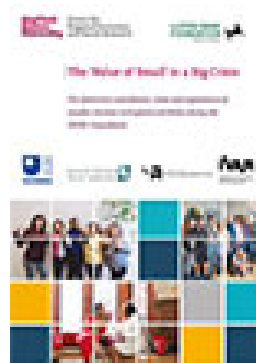
#### About the project

The purpose of this latest 'Value of Small' research was to test the findings from the 2018 report in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. It was hoped that by exploring how smaller charities responded during the COVID-19 pandemic and why this mattered to vulnerable individuals and communities, the research would generate an even deeper understanding of the distinctiveness and value of small charities and provide further evidence of how their work could be promoted, developed and supported. The study focussed on the initial period of 'lockdown' between March-June 2020, and the subsequent period of 'opening-up' (July-September 2020). The Research Team revisited the four case study areas from the original study – Bassetlaw, Ealing, Salford and Wrexham – to capture rich qualitative insights about how smaller charities responded to the crisis and how this was experienced by local stakeholders.

## Key outputs



[The 'Value of Small' in a Big Crisis: The distinctive contribution, value and experiences of smaller charities in England and Wales during the COVID 19 pandemic - Summary report](#)



[The 'Value of Small' in a Big Crisis: The distinctive contribution, value and experiences of smaller charities in England and Wales during the COVID 19 pandemic](#)

## Other key projects

- [Mapping Funding into the UK Women and Girls' voluntary sector](#)
- [National Evaluation of the Preventing and Tackling Mental Ill Health through Green Social Prescribing Programme](#)
- [Our Bigger Story: the Longitudinal Multi Media Evaluation of Big Local](#)

# CRESR in the REF

## 2021 Results

Our submission to REF 2021 was our biggest ever to a research assessment exercise. CRESR worked closely with researchers from Sheffield Hallam University's Department for the Natural and Built Environment to lead our submission to the Architecture, Built Environment and Planning unit of assessment (unit 13).

The 2021 exercise has confirmed our position as one of the leading centres for the impact of our research.

## Our case studies



1

### Our research informed the design of Universal Credit

Our research resulted in changes in the design of Universal Credit, benefitting both claimants and social housing landlords.



2

### How community support can help patients and save the NHS

Our researchers have shown how local voluntary groups improve the wellbeing of patients with long-term health conditions - and make us all happier and healthier.



3

### Turning the tide on water poverty

Our research is helping the water industry rebuild trust and reduce bills for struggling households.



4

### Uncovering the regional cost of welfare reform

Our researchers have shown how local voluntary groups improve the wellbeing of patients with long-term health conditions - and make us all happier and healthier.

# Staff updates

Details of new staff members and promotions.



**Dr Ellie Munro** joined CRESR in May 2022 as a Research Associate. She is working on the evaluation of the Black Thrive project in Lambeth, and on the final phase of Our Bigger Story, a longitudinal study of Big Local projects. Her research interests include local voluntary action, voluntary sector policy, leadership and equity, and institutional theory. Her PhD was on the history of voluntary action in Birmingham from 1965 to 2010. Her background is in policy, research and campaigns in the voluntary sector, working in policy areas including children's rights, women's rights, disability and charity policy. She works part time for CRESR and part time for the University and College Union (UCU).



**Dr Beth Speake** joined CRESR as a Research Associate in April 2022. She works primarily on projects which research the lives of people experiencing multiple disadvantage and marginalisation, and policy responses to their needs. Her current projects include an OHID-commissioned evaluation of the rough sleeping drug and alcohol treatment grant, and two evidence reviews with Sonnet, looking at the provision of trauma-informed, housing-related support. Her main research interests include social security policy, social harm, homelessness, gendered violence, and mental health and trauma. Beth's PhD research provided insight into how social security policies in the UK constitute a form of violence, and the ways in which

policy can create and compound harm for marginalised groups, specifically survivors of sexual violence. Prior to academia, Beth worked at Sheffield Rape Crisis and the Citizen's Advice Bureau.



**Emerald Tofte** joined CRESR in July 2022 as a Senior Research & Innovation Administrator. She supports the CRESR project teams in the delivery of contract research and the day-to-day operation of the centre, primarily working on tender processing, project support, and project monitoring. Emerald joined SHU in May 2021 as a Research & Innovation Administrator in the Health Research Institute (HRI), where she provided support to the Director of the HRI and the Head of the Sport and Physical Activity Research Centre (SPARC) as well as support for the centre including communications and social media support, travel coordination, finance administration, and event organisation and support. Prior to joining Sheffield

Hallam, Emerald worked in project, customer, and supply chain support in the medical and aerospace engineering industry. She has previously worked and volunteered in a variety of industries including hospitality, heavy industry, theatre, and children's activities programming.

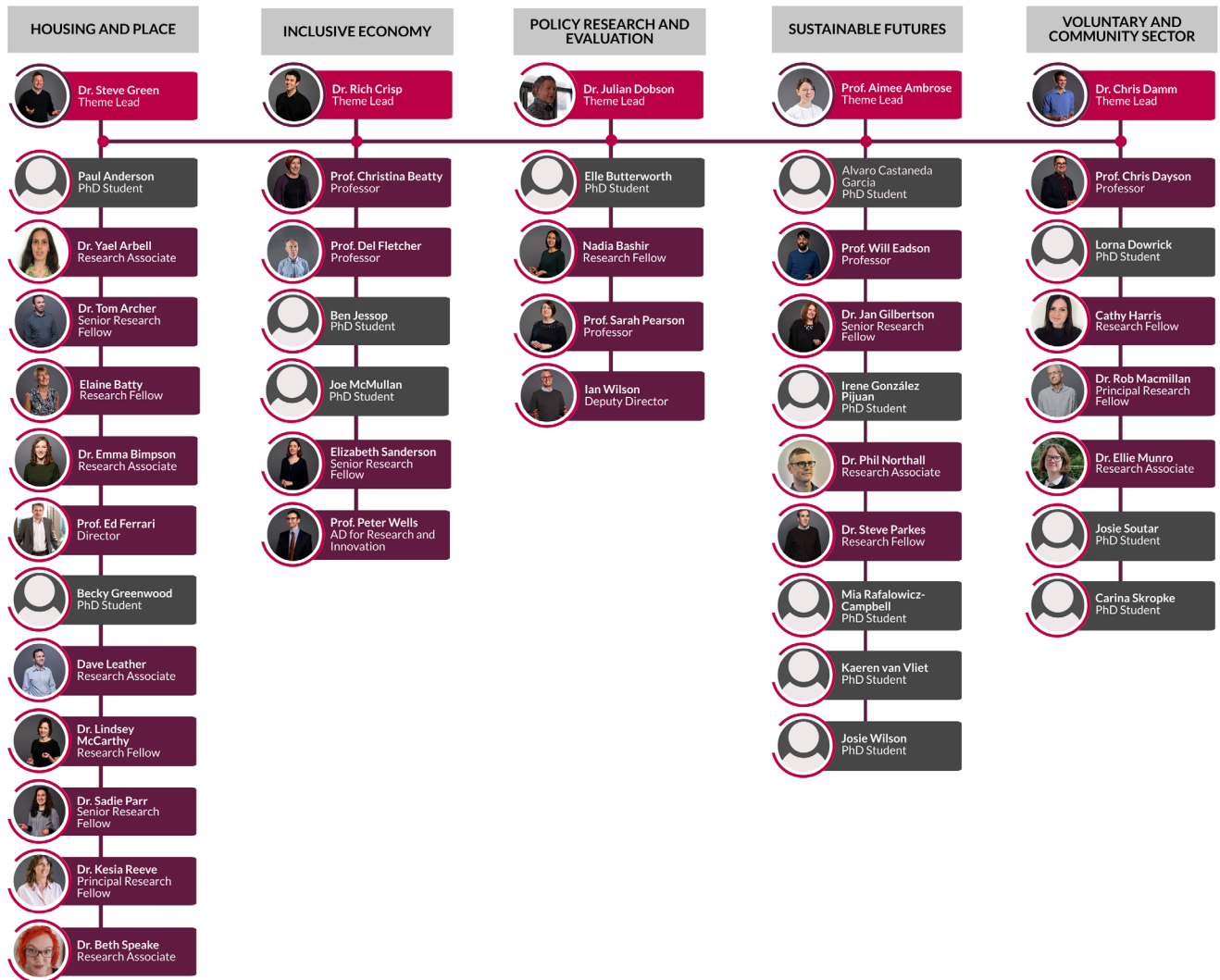
## Other staff news

- We said goodbye to Joseph Chambers and Melissa McGregor, who both left CRESR to pursue new opportunities.
- Tom Archer has been appointed to Senior Research Fellow.
- Chris Dayson has been promoted to Professor of Voluntary Action, Health & Wellbeing.
- Tony Gore retired this year, but has been appointed as an Emeritus Fellow and will continue to collaborate with CRESR.

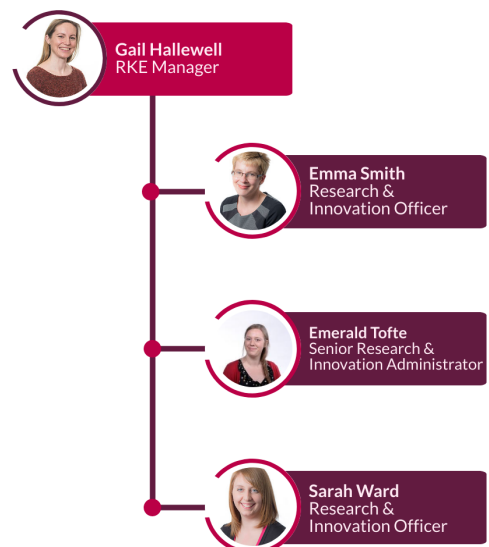




## CRESR Organisation Chart: Team Structure



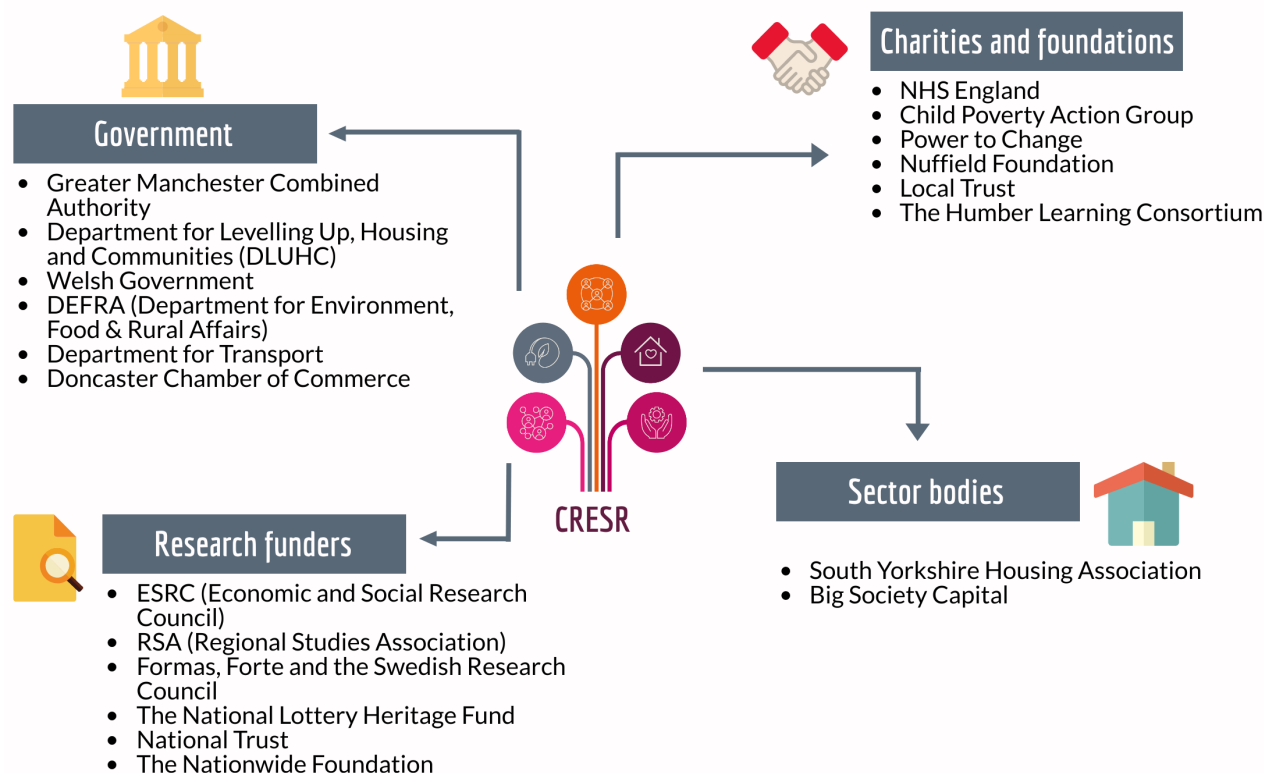
### Professional Services Staff





# Our Clients

An overview of some of our clients over the last year and their experience.



“

CRESR have yet again proved to be valuable project partners. They have supported high quality evidence of the role of the maximum commission on park homes and added value to the project.

**Richard Dunning**  
University of Liverpool

“

The team were really pleasant to work with and understood our brief entirely. They took the time to summarise after each discussion to make sure they understood the brief and get the best from the interviews they conducted on our behalf. We really enjoyed working with the team too and felt we could be completely honest about what we were struggling with, which helped them to understand the best approach when carrying out the research.

**Kerri Marshall-Duckett**  
Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire

# CRESR in the News

Here is a snapshot of CRESR research news coverage over the last year.



1  
Research



2  
Outputs



3  
News

## Jobs need to change to make cities like Sheffield greener and cleaner - Dr Will Eadson do?

*Yorkshire Post | 21 October 2021*

Read this piece in the [Yorkshire Post](#) by [Will Eadson](#) about how jobs will change in order to create greener and cleaner cities.

## New multi-million-pound research centre to lead net-zero drive in South Yorkshire

*Yorkshire Post | 9 March 2022*

Sheffield Hallam is a major partner in the South Yorkshire Sustainability Centre which brings together world-leading experts with regional partners to support organisations across South Yorkshire to decarbonise. [Read more in the Yorkshire Post.](#)

## ‘Carbon footprint gap’ between rich and poor expanding, study finds

*The Guardian | 4 February 2022*

[The study found](#) the gap in energy consumption between the most affluent and the poorest in society was growing.

## Overconsumption is killing the planet. What can we do?

*Popular Science | 24 April 2022*

PhD student Ivano Castano Garcia commented in [Popular Science](#) on overconsumption, using more than the planet can feasibly make.

## Where will all the skilled workers come from?

*FE News | 1 July 2022*

Research led by colleagues in Hallam’s Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research on the real levels of unemployment in Britain. [Read more in FE News.](#)

## Impact of Covid-19, welfare reforms and rising living costs on social housing tenants’ ability to pay rent

*SHU News | 13 December 2021*

This research project, funded by a grant from the Nuffield Foundation aims to provide a better understanding of the current context in which tenants pay their rent as well as identify the factors that impact tenants’ ability to pay. [Read more on the SHU website.](#)

## Sheffield Hallam secures up to £1.2m to evaluate Government funding to encourage more active travel

*Sheffield Chamber of Commerce | 11 July 2022*

Sheffield Chamber of Commerce has covered the news - [read more on their website.](#)

# People, Place and Policy (PPP)

## Background

PPP is an open access journal and we invite researchers, policy makers and practitioners to discuss and disseminate research, reflection and ideas related to contemporary debates within all aspects of social policy. To learn more about the journal, read articles and join our mailing list, please visit the [PPP official website](#).

## What have we been up to?

Over the 2021/22 academic year we have published two issues with papers encompassing topics such as Universal Credit, civil society infrastructure and geographies of local governance, to name a few, and we have several Early View articles available for the highly anticipated Special Issue on Decarbonisation and Energy Poverty.

## Annual conference 2022

The PPP Annual Conference, held each summer, returned once again to in-person event, hosted by CRESR at Sheffield Hallam University's City Campus. Taking place on the 6th July, the conference theme was 'Breaking down barriers: increasing inclusion across society' with the opening keynote address delivered by Professor Ellen Helsper of the London School of Economics.

The conference attracted a diverse audience from policy, practice, and academia with a day of engaging sessions. Sessions ranged from the role of the Voluntary and Community Sector supporting

underserved communities to the importance of the development of inclusive economics. You can see our full programme of speakers as well as abstracts and slides interactive [conference programme](#).

## Submitting an article

If you are interested in [submitting an article](#) to PPP, please visit the website and read about the different paper types - see below:



## Finally

The PPP Editorial Team would like to take this opportunity to thank all our authors, reviewers and conference speakers this year - your support of the journal is really valued.

We would also like to extend a particular thanks to Dr Sadie Parr and Dr Tony Gore who have been Editorial Team members for many years, but who have now moved on to other opportunities. We do however welcome Dr Emma Bimpson onto the team this year and we're excited about the experience and skills she brings to our team.

[Click here to visit the PPP website](#)

## Meet the team



Ellen Bennett  
Editor



Emma Bimpson  
Editor



Dave Leather  
Graphics Editor



Lindsey McCarthy  
Editor



Stephen Parkes  
Editor



Sarah Ward  
Journal Manager

# CRESR Seminar Series

## What is it?

The CRESR seminar series brings together academics, policy experts and sector-based professionals to present and discuss key issues across a range of areas linked to [CRESR's areas of interest](#). Seminars are attended by academics, students and practitioners and are open to anyone with an interest in the subject, providing opportunities for learning, discussion and networking.

## The 2021/22 programme

The CRESR seminar series for the 2021/22 academic year was a combination of online events and hybrid events as a result of the ongoing uncertainty following the Covid-19 pandemic.

The 2021/22 series featured seven seminars which explored a range of themes including the UK Government's levelling up agenda, youth unemployment and homelessness prevention and the 'policing' of homelessness. The seminars were well-attended with between 30 and 60 attending across the series. Furthermore, the seminars have been viewed over 250 times on the [CRESR YouTube channel](#).

### Our seminars

- **The UK Government's levelling-up agenda**  
Speakers: Steve Fothergill, Philip McCann, Malcolm Leitch
- **The other America: white working class perspectives on race, identity and change**  
Speakers: Harris Beider
- **Globalising youth unemployment**  
Speakers: Ross Fergusson and Nicola Yeates
- **Success of interventions to stimulate conservation behaviour and load shifting in energy communities**  
Speakers: Julia Blasch

- **Educating for 'Public Good': a critical exploration of how philanthropic citizenship is encouraged in primary education**  
Speakers: Alison Body
- **Homelessness prevention and the 'policing' of homelessness in England and Wales**  
Speakers: Anya Ahmed, Alexandra Black, Chris Devany and Vicky Heap
- **Excess mortality in Glasgow: a 'Glasgow Effect' or just another political effect?**  
Speakers: David Walsh

[View abstracts and recordings from 2021/22 programme](#)



## Finally

Finally, thank you to everyone who supported the CRESR seminars this year: helping to set up and run the sessions, suggesting speakers, promoting the series, and chairing and attending sessions. Thank you also to all the speakers who helped make it a really engaging series, with interesting presentations and discussions across the sessions.

[View the 2022/23 programme](#)

# Publications

## Reports

Ambrose, A., Castano Garcia, A., Hawkins, A., Parkes, S., Rafalowicz-Campbell, M. and Smith, M. (2022) [It's high time to talk about the climate impacts of high consumers](#). Sheffield Hallam University.

Ambrose, A., Parkes, S., Eadson, W., Bull, R., Thidell, Å., Kojonsaari, A.R., Hedström, S., Reindl, K. and Smith, M. (2021) [Walking with Energy: overcoming energy invisibility through research participation](#). Swedish Energy Agency.

Archer, T. and McCarthy, L. (2021) [Community-led housing and the speed of development: Briefing Note](#). Nationwide Foundation.

Archer, T., Moore, T. and Mullins, D. (2021) [How to enable Community-Led Housing - Learning Brief 1: Enabling and catalysing community-led housing](#). Power to Change.

Archer, T., Moore, T. and Mullins, D. (2021) [How to enable Community-Led Housing - Learning Brief 2: Building Positive Relationships with Hub Stakeholders](#). Power to Change.

Bashir, N. and Dayson, C. (2021) [Evaluation of Age Better in Sheffield: BAME involvement and experience – what have we learnt?](#) South Yorkshire Housing Association.

Bashir, N. and Dayson, C. (2021) [Evaluation of Age Better in Sheffield Deep dive: BAME involvement and experience – what have we learnt? Key Lessons and recommendations](#). South Yorkshire Housing Association.

Bashir, N., Dowrick, L. and Dayson, C. (2022) [An Evaluation of Sheffield's COVID-19 Vaccine Taskforce for people from ethnic minority backgrounds](#). BAMER 5.

Bashir, N., Dowrick, L. and Dayson, C. (2022) [Key Messages from the Evaluation of Sheffield's COVID-19 Vaccine Taskforce for people from ethnic minority backgrounds](#). BAMER 5.

Bashir, N., Dowrick, L. and Dayson, C. (2022) [Evaluation of Sheffield's COVID-19 Vaccine Taskforce for people from ethnic minority backgrounds: Summary of Key Findings](#). BAMER 5.

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Beatty, C. and Fothergill, S. (2021) [Beyond the Pandemic: Older industrial Britain in the wake of the crisis](#). Coalfields Regeneration Trust and Industrial Communities Alliance

Beatty, C., Fothergill, S., Gore, T. and Leather, D. (2022) [The Real Level of Unemployment 2022: The myth of full employment across Britain](#). Sheffield Hallam University.

Bimpson, E., Green, H. and Reeve, K. (2021) [Women, homelessness and violence: what works?](#) Centre for Homelessness Impact.

Bullas, A., Dayson, C. and Leather, D. (2021) [An exploration of the impact of participation in buddyboost on health, wellbeing, and physical activity levels](#). Sheffield Hallam University.

CRESR (2021) [CRESR Annual Report 2020-21](#). Sheffield Hallam University.

Crisp, R. and Sanderson, E. (2022) [Bolsover Skills Audit](#). Bolsover Council.

Damm, C., Leather, D. and Dayson, C. (2021) [Evaluation of the Community Investment Enterprise Facility Deep dive: CDFIs' response to the COVID-19 pandemic](#). Big Society Capital.

Damm, C. and Kane, D. (2021) [Charity field classification: Main project report](#). Esmee Fairburn.

Dayson, C. and Batty, E. (2021) [An Evaluation of the Rotherham Social Prescribing Service during the COVID-19 pandemic](#). Voluntary Action Rotherham, NHS Rotherham CCG.



- Dayson, C. and Damm, C. (2021) [Evaluation of the Community Investment Enterprise Facility Second Annual Report](#). Big Society Capital.
- Dayson, C., Downey, J., Polley, M., Sabey, A. and Golder, E. (2022) [Social Prescribing and Physical Activity: Scoping an Agenda for Policy, Practice and Research](#). Sheffield Hallam University.
- Dayson, C., Gilbertson, J., Chambers, J., Ellis-Paine, A. and Kara, H. (2022) [Leeds Neighbourhood Networks report](#). Centre for Ageing Better.
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- Eadson, W., Northall, P., Johnston, A., Parkes, S., Wells, P. and While, A. (2022) [South Yorkshire low carbon energy supply chains: Heat Networks sector summary](#). Sheffield City Region and Higher Education Innovation Fund.
- Eadson, W., Northall, P., Johnston, A., Parkes, S., Wells, P. and While, A. (2022) [South Yorkshire low carbon energy supply chains: Heat Pumps sector summary](#). Sheffield City Region and Higher Education Innovation Fund.
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- Eadson, W., Northall, P., Johnston, A., Parkes, S., Wells, P. and While, A. (2022) [South Yorkshire low carbon energy supply chains: Insulation sector summary](#). Sheffield City Region and Higher Education Innovation Fund.
- Eadson, W., Northall, P., Johnston, A., Parkes, S., Wells, P. and While, A. (2022) [South Yorkshire low carbon energy supply chains: Nuclear sector summary](#). Sheffield City Region and Higher Education Innovation Fund.
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- Hamer, R. (2022) [Travelling Through Trauma: Voices in Partnership, 2021-22 - Executive Summary](#). Sheffield Hallam University.
- Hamer, R. (2022) [Travelling through Trauma: Voices in Partnership, 2020-2022 - Service Evaluation](#). Sheffield Hallam University.
- Harris, C., McCarthy, L., Speake, B., Hulbert, A. and Clifford, J. (2022) [Evaluation of Ask and Act](#). Welsh Government.
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- Kimberlee, R., Bertotti, M., Dayson, C., Elston, J., Polley, M., Burns, L. and Husk, K. [On behalf of the NASP Academic Partners Collaborative] (2022) [\(Sustainable\) funding models for social prescribing](#). National Academy for Social Prescribing.
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Parkes, S., Gore, T., Weston, R. and Lawler, M. (2021) [Room to Move: Impacts of road-space reallocation](#). Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (DecarboN8 Network).

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Tierney, S., Cartwright, L., Akinyemi, O., Carder-Gilbert, H., Burns, L., Dayson, C. and Chatterjee, H. [On behalf of the NASP Academic Partners Collaborative] (2022) [What does the evidence tell us about accessibility of social prescribing schemes in England to people from black and ethnic minority backgrounds?](#) National Academy for Social Prescribing.

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Woodward, A. (2021) [Exploring the relationship between bereavement, loneliness and social isolation in older people](#). South Yorkshire Housing Association.

## Blogs

Ambrose, A. (2022) [Cost of living: the unhealthy coping strategies which are likely to rise as energy bills soar – plus how to get help](#). The Conversation, 26 May 2022.

Ambrose, A. and Chambers, J (2021) [Forgotten residents: considering the impact of retrofit on biodiversity](#). HSA, 15 October 2021.

Archer, T. (2021) [How to enable community-led housing](#). Power to Change, 29 November 2021.

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Dobson, J. (2022) [Access to green space is a question of justice, not just distance](#). SIPS Blog, 15 July 2022.

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## Academic outputs

Ambrose, A., Baker, W., Sherriff, G and Chambers, J. (2021) [Cold comfort: Covid-19, lockdown and the coping strategies of fuel poor households](#). Energy Reports.

Arbell, Y. (2021) [Beyond Affordability: English Cohousing Communities as White Middle Class Spaces](#). Housing, Theory and Society.

Brewis, G., Ellis Paine, A., Hardill, I., Lindsey, R. and Macmillan, R. (2021) [Transformational Moments in Social Welfare: What Role for Voluntary Action?](#) Policy Press.

Brewis, G., Ellis Paine, A., Hardill, I., Lindsey, R. and Macmillan, R. (2021) [Co-curation: Archival interventions and voluntary sector records](#). Area.

Castano Garcia, A., Ambrose, A., Hawkins, A. and Parkes, S. (2021) [High consumption, an unsustainable habit that needs more attention](#). Energy Research & Social Science, Volume 80.

Dayson, C., Bennett, E., Damm, C., Rees, J., Jacklin-Jarvis, C., Patmore, B., Baker, L., Turner, K. and Terry, V. (2021) [The distinctiveness of smaller voluntary organisations providing welfare services](#). Journal of Social Policy.

Dobson, J. (2021) [Wellbeing and blue-green space in post-pandemic cities: Drivers, debates and departures](#). Geography Compass, 15 (10).

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Fletcher, D. and Redman, J. (2022) ['The sanctions are good for some people but not for someone like me who actually genuinely does their job search.'](#) [British JSA claimant views on punitive welfare reform: hegemony in action?](#) *Capital and Class*.

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Johnston, A., Wells, P. and Woodhouse, D. (2021) [Examining the roles of universities in place-based industrial strategy: which characteristics drive knowledge creation in priority technologies?](#) *Regional Studies*.

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Parr, S. (2022) ['Navigating' the value of lived experience in support work with multiply disadvantaged adults](#). *Journal of Social Policy*, 1-18.

Penton, H., Dayson, C., Hulme, C. and Young, T. (2022) [A qualitative investigation of older adults' conceptualisation of quality of life and a think-aloud content validation of the EQ-5D-5L, SF-12v2, WEMWBS and ONS-4](#). *Value in Health*.

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Robinson, D. and Wilson, I. (2021) [Specialist housing for older people in an era of neoliberal transformation: exploring provision in England](#). *Housing Studies*.

Taylor Aiken, G., Eadson, W., Hobson, K. and Dinnie, L. (2022) [Vicarious scale and instrumental imaginaries in community sustainable transitions](#). *Global Environmental Change*, 75.

While, A. and Eadson, W. (2021) [Zero carbon as economic restructuring: spatial divisions of labour and just transition](#). *New Political Economy*.

# PhD Students 2021/2022

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## Completed during 21/22 academic year

Name	Supervisors	Thesis Title
<a href="#">Chris Devany</a>	Richard Crisp and Tony Gore	'Hidden NEETs'; Understanding marginalisation through relational class
Sophie Negus	Paul Hickman, Lindsey McCarthy and Kesia Reeve	Blurring the Boundaries between the 'deserving' and 'undeserving': experiences of in-work Conditionality

## New starters

Name	Supervisors	Thesis Title
<a href="#">Oluwaferanmi Olaoluwa Adeyemo</a>	Peter Wells and Chris Damm	The Changing Role of the Voluntary Sector in Delivering Youth Employment Services
Jess Scott	Sadie Parr and Lindsey McCarthy	How do young adults (aged 18-35) living in long-term residential care settings make sense of and understand their home environment?
<a href="#">Molly Turrell</a>	Kesia Reeve, Sadie Parr, Jacqui Theobald and Melissa Graham	Investigating Reproductive Experiences and Decision-Making Among Homeless Women in England and Australia

## Current students

Name	Supervisors	Thesis Title
<a href="#">Paul Anderson</a>	Stephen Green, Kesia Reeve and Paul Hickman	Relocation as a way of ending homelessness
Elle Butterworth	Will Eadson, Stephen Parkes and Ellen Bennett	A Political Analysis of the Scalar Arrangements of UK Urban Air Quality
<a href="#">Alvaro Castano Garcia</a>	Aimee Ambrose and Will Eadson	Reconnecting with energy: using innovative research methods to overcome energy invisibility
<a href="#">Lorna Dowrick</a>	Chris Dayson, Rob Macmillan and Chris Damn	The representation of women's charitable organisations 2008 to 2020 and the implications for gender equality
<a href="#">Irene Gonzalez Pijuan</a>	Aimee Ambrose and Lucie Middlemiss	Growing up in Energy Poverty
<a href="#">Rebecca Greenwood</a>	Lindsey McCarthy and Kesia Reeve	Exploring the role of informal urban community support in homeless women's sense of dignity
Rebecca Hamer	Del Fletcher, Kesia Reeve and Ed Ferrari	Recovery Pathways Project Focussing on Women's Recovery in Scotland
<a href="#">Laurie Heykoop</a>	Will Eadson, Richard Crisp and Aiden While	Green Jobs: The Low Carbon Economy and Labour Market Disadvantage
<a href="#">Ben Jessop</a>	Bob Jeffery and Richard Crisp	Precarity among migrant workers and barriers to accessing formal support
<a href="#">Joseph McMullan</a>	Richard Crisp and Bob Jeffery	A Working-Class Backlash"? An Exploration of How Class, Culture and Identity Shape 'Rupture' in a Post Brexit World
<a href="#">Larissa Povey</a>	Del Fletcher, Richard Crisp and Tony Gore	Female Ex-offenders and Welfare Conditionality
<a href="#">Mia Rafalowicz-Campbell</a>	Ed Ferrari, Stephen Parkes and Rebecca Sharpe	Equity in the provision of active travel infrastructure - learning from a city-region approach
Elizabeth Sanderson	Ian Wilson and Ryan Powell	Negotiating Transitions: Marginalised youth today and the move to adulthood
<a href="#">Carina Skropke</a>	Ed Ferrari, Ian Wilson and Tom Archer	Community ownership of physical assets in changing times
<a href="#">Josie Soutar</a>	Chris Dayson, Ellen Bennett and Peter Wells	Social Impact Bonds and the implications for small and medium-sized UK charities
Kaeren Van Vliet	Aimee Ambrose, Sadie Parr and Ed Ferrari	Public and Space and Public Private Interface in Contemporary UK Residential Development
<a href="#">Josie Wilson</a>	Ed Ferrari and Stephen Parkes	Active Travel and the School Commute