



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

2020

2021

ANNUAL REPORT

August 2020–July 2021

IPR Institute for
Policy Research

IPR

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Executive Summary

Key highlights 2020–2021

The Institute for Policy Research (IPR) is a leading public policy research institute, based at the University of Bath. We aim to further the public good through research into issues of significant relevance to policy debate and decision-making, building links with the worlds of policy and practice, and increasing public understanding of policy research through our public events and publications.

We deliver activities for policymakers, researchers and practitioners to enable dual learning and original contributions to both research and practice, delivered through our Policy Fellowship Programmes, International Visiting Fellows scheme, and postgraduate programmes including a Masters in Public Policy and Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice.

Research



We successfully attracted new funding and continued to work on projects to the value of £389,086.



We published 19 academic journal articles across our five research streams.



We received funding from the Quality Related Strategic Priority Fund (QR SPF) for three research projects, enhancing our civic engagement research.

Postgraduate Teaching



27



Our Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice successfully enrolled a seventh international cohort.

27 students enrolled in the third cohort of the MSc in Public Policy.

Dr David Young became the fourth full time IPR PhD student to successfully complete his doctorate.

Programmes

17



17 Policy Fellows took part in our Policy Fellowship Programmes involving over 100 meetings with more than 90 Bath academics.

We welcomed Fellows from Friends of the Earth, Bank of England, Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation, Public Health England, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, and Save the Children.

As part of the COP26 Universities Network, we helped lead and deliver Climate Exp0 – the leading academic and policy conference ahead of the COP26 UN Climate Change Conference in November.

Events and communications



Over 3,000 people attended our events.

We ran a total of 26 events including a publication launch, 11 public lectures, a webinar, two panel debates and 12 co-hosted events.

We posted 47 blog posts and received over 77,000 views.

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IPR Structure



IPR Team

- Professor Nick Pearce, IPR Director
- Dr Matt Dickson, Reader in Public Policy
- Professor Jane Millar, Professor of Social Policy (Emeritus Professor as of July 2021)
- Professor James Copestake, Director of Studies for Professional Doctorate
- Dr Charlie Larkin, Director of Research
- Amy Thompson, Head of Policy Programmes and Communications
- Dr Iulia Cioroianu, IPR Prize Fellow (until October 2020)
- Dr Predrag Lažetić, IPR Prize Fellow (until October 2020)
- Dr Rita Griffiths, Research Fellow
- Dr Aida Garcia-Lazaro, Research Associate
- Dr Thomais Massala, Research Associate (until January 2021)
- Dr Marsha Wood, Research Assistant
- Dr Geoff Bates, Research Associate
- Elena Ahonen, Research Assistant (until June 2021)
- Sophie O'Brien, Events and Communications Officer
- Claudia Torres-Cervantes, IPR Coordinator IPR interns

IPR Interns

- Rachel Hochman, MSc International Development, University of Bath
- Danny Mtonya, MSc International Development, University of Bath
- Scott Shepherd, MRes Health and Wellbeing, University of Bath
- Samiya Usmani, BSc Sociology and Social Policy, University of Bath
- Anastasia Di Leo, BA Economics and Politics, University of Bath
- Linda Jankovicova, BA Sociology, University of Bath (Completed September 2021)
- Jingwen Zhang, BA Economics, University of Bath
- Thomas Wright, BA Economics, University of Bath
- Theresa Lightbown, MA International Relations, University of Bath
- Nadine Shannon, Research Assistant, Trinity College Dublin
- Xianqing (Lucy) Shao, MSc Education, University of Oxford
- Sanmoy Mukherjee, MRes Economics, University of Bath (Completed August 2021)



IPR Advisory Board

We are very grateful to all Advisory Board members for their continued contributions throughout 2020–2021.

- Lord John Eatwell (Chair), former President of Queen’s College, University of Cambridge
- Dawn Austwick, former Chief Executive of The National Lottery Community Fund
- Marcial Boo, Chief Executive, Equality and Human Rights Commission
- Dr Claire Craig, Provost of The Queen’s College, University of Oxford
- Van DuBose, former investment banker and consultant
- Mats Karlsson, Advisor (analysis), Swedish Foreign Ministry
- Gail Kent, Director of Data at DG Connect, European Commission
- Paul Maltby, Chief Digital Officer, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
- Carey Oppenheim, Cross Cutting Project Lead, Early Childhood, Nuffield Foundation
- Ryan Shorthouse, Director, Bright Blue
- Lord Christopher Tugendhat, former Chancellor of the University of Bath, and former EU Commissioner
- Penny Young, Librarian and Director General of Information Services at the House of Commons Library



IPR Visitors

IPR Visiting Professor

Professor Allister McGregor is a former IPR Visiting Fellow and previously worked as Professor of Political Economy in the Department of Politics at the University of Sheffield. Before that he was Head of the Vulnerability and Poverty Team at the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex.

During his time with us, he continues to work on issues of inclusive development and on initiatives that bring the University and local community together. He also supports doctoral supervision for the Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice and provides teaching support in the Department of Social and Policy Sciences.

Professor Dr Ricardo García Mira is Professor of Social and Environmental Psychology at the University of Coruna, and a former Member of the Spanish parliament. He was appointed IPR Visiting Professor from 2016–2018, and his appointment was extended for a further four years. During his time with us he will continue to help develop our policy research networks and collaborative research projects in Europe.

IPR Honorary Professor

Professor Sue Maguire joined us in July 2016 as an Honorary Professor. She is an expert on post-16 education and training and is currently working on a multi-year EU project on young people not in education, employment, or training (NEET). She has considerable expertise in evaluating government policies.

IPR Visiting Fellows

Hong-Seok Jeong has worked for the Ministry of Employment and Labour (MOEL), Republic of Korea, for over 10 years. He is currently the Director of the Bucheon Job Center in the Bucheon Regional Labour Office, where he is responsible for employment support, including unemployment benefits and subsidies related to employment retention. During his time with us, he has continued his research project, 'A study on cases of relieving youth unemployment through customised vocational education and employment support service'.

Steve Webb is Partner at Lane Clark & Peacock and a public policy expert with considerable political experience, including roles as Pensions Minister (2010–2015) and MP (1997–2015). Prior to his political career, he was an academic at the University of Bath. During his time with us, he is conducting research to examine later life financial prospects through a holistic lens. Using secondary datasets, he is looking at financial trend projection, pension provision, and other facets affecting household wealth. Through his research, Steve seeks to influence pensions policymakers and public policymakers more broadly, when formulating policy around later life wealth.

Fran Bennett is an Honorary Researcher in the Department of Social Policy and Intervention at the University of Oxford. She is also an independent consultant, who has written extensively on social policy issues for the UK government, NGOs and others; a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences; former Director and Deputy Director of the Child Poverty Action Group; and former policy advisor on UK and EU poverty issues for Oxfam GB. At the IPR, Fran continues to lead on the ESRC-funded IPR project, 'Couples balancing work, money and care: exploring the shifting landscape under Universal Credit'.

Dr Jane Kennedy is Head of Policy, Performance and Insight at Babergh and Mid Suffolk Councils. Jane is also a Continuing Fellow at the University of Cambridge's Centre for Science and Policy. Jane has previously led Audit Commission national studies on police value for money and partnership working and led policy in local government. At the IPR, she is researching the use of policy and innovation labs in central and local government and internationally.

IPR Visiting Policy Fellow

Dr Jorge Sainz is an Associate Professor in the Applied Economics and Moral Philosophy Department at the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos. He has more than 10 years of management experience in public educational policy design. After returning to us in July 2019, Dr Sainz continued to work on his research bridging the gap between academic research and public policy in higher education.

A fond farewell to Professor Jane Millar

After more than 30 years at the University of Bath, **Jane Millar** retired in July as Professor of Social Policy but will continue as Emeritus Professor.

Since joining the University in 1988 Jane has held several impressive roles at the University. She was Head of the Department of Social and Policy Sciences (1997–2000), Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (2003–2005), Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Development) (2006–2008) and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) (2008–2015).

Throughout her time at the University, Jane has led world-class research on the design, implementation and impact of social policy, particularly family policy, social security and employment policy, with particular reference to gender and changing family patterns. Her work has included cross-national and comparative studies across Europe and a number of visiting fellowships in Australia. Most recently, she leads on the ESRC-funded project '*Couples balancing work, money and care: exploring the shifting landscape under Universal Credit*' at the Institute for Policy Research (IPR). In 2001, Jane was awarded an OBE for her services to social policy research and teaching.

Outside of the University, Jane has held multiple roles across several organisations. Currently, she is Trustee of the British Academy and of the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG), and Chair of the Social Sciences Panel for REF2021.

Prior to this, Jane was elected as a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences (2000) and as a Fellow of the British Academy (2014); a Special Adviser to the House of Commons Select Committee for Work and Pensions (2004 and 2007) and to the House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee (2020); Chair of the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Grants Assessment Panel C (2016–2020) and Chair of the Social Policy Association (SPA) from (2016–2019).

As Emeritus Professor, Jane will remain with the IPR to support the final stages of 'Couples balancing work, money and care: exploring the shifting landscape under Universal Credit' and continue doctoral supervision; as well as continue in her roles for REF2021, the British Academy, and CPAG.

We would like to sincerely thank Jane for her years of dedication and support to the IPR, to the Department of Social and Policy Sciences and to the University and wish her all the very best in this next chapter.

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IPR Research

IPR Research Overview

Our research activity and expertise are currently organised across five research streams:

- The welfare state, family and work
- Evidence, data and democracy
- Government, politics and policymaking
- Science, technology and innovation
- Widening participation in higher education



The Welfare State, Family and Work

About this research stream

We research the reform of welfare states through a particular focus on political economy, its tools, methods, and explanatory frameworks. We are active in researching contemporary public policy welfare and social protection issues, such as proposals for universal basic income (UBI).

We are concerned with the ways in which post-financial crisis government policies, labour market changes and socio-technological developments produce new social risks and vulnerabilities; and the range of political, public policy and social responses to these challenges, and the options for better securing social justice.

Research projects (2020–2021):

- The economics of basic income
- The social and economic consequences of health:
Causal analysis using intergenerational UK data
- Couples balancing work, money, and care: Exploring the shifting landscape under Universal Credit
- Freiburg Institute for Basic Income Studies, Microsimulation group

Some of the key highlights from this research stream are outlined as follows:



Universal Basic Income (UBI) research projects

We have published extensively on UBI micro-simulations, the economics of UBI, and the political economy of welfare state reform. Our UBI research formed an Impact Case Study for the University's 2021 REF submission.



The economics of basic income

We are currently undertaking a donor-funded project – 'The economics of basic income' – which includes Dr Aida Garcia-Lazaro, Professor Nick Pearce, and Professor Chris Martin (Department of Economics). The study's main aim is to examine the scope and space for basic income as a required social policy in economies with high technological progress.

In the primary stage of the project, we have looked at whether automation is causing significant displacement of workers and contributing to falling labour shares and shrinkage in consumers' incomes. New research under this strand will undertake innovative macro-economic modelling of UBI schemes.

Our UBI research formed an Impact Case Study for the University's 2021 REF submission



Freiburg Institute for Basic Income Studies, Microsimulation group

We have agreed a new research partnership with the University of Freiburg Research Institute of Basic Income Studies (FRIBIS), to lead a European group of scholars applying microsimulations to the study of UBI. We will undertake microsimulation studies of UBI proposals across the UK and the EU, and link microsimulations to macro-modelling.



Couples balancing work, money, and care: Exploring the shifting landscape under Universal Credit

Dr Rita Griffiths, Dr Marsha Wood, Professor Jane Millar, Fran Bennett (University of Oxford), and Levana Magnus, have continued their research for this project, funded by the ESRC. The project remains the first independent in-depth study of the experience of couples receiving Universal Credit.

Following the publication of the first set of findings in June 2020, the second round of face-to-face interviews was due to take place in the summer of 2020 but was postponed due to COVID-19. A second round of interviews took place via telephone throughout September and October 2020 and focused on the ways in which couples make decisions about work and care and manage their household finances in the context of Universal Credit, and the coronavirus pandemic.

Over the last year, we have engaged with MPs, House of Lords and House of Commons Committees, civil servants, third sector and other non-government organisations and academics working in this area to discuss the findings, submit evidence and raise awareness of the policy implications and issues highlighted. Oral evidence was presented by Dr Griffiths to the House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee enquiry into Universal Credit, and Professor Millar and Fran Bennett were appointed Specialist Advisers to the House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee.

Written submissions were made to, and acknowledged by, the All Party Parliamentary Group on Poverty, to the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) call for evidence into in-work progression; and to the Work and Pensions Select Committee on child poverty measurement. In May, we also provided written evidence for Bright Blue on social security systems after COVID-19. Research findings have also been presented to the DWP and at various conferences and seminars and been included in written blogs and articles. A roundtable to discuss policy implications of the research was also held, involving senior DWP civil servants and policymakers.

The project team is now conducting the longitudinal analysis across both rounds of interviews. The report will explore couples' work-care decisions over time and include further discussion of the policy implications of the findings in relation to Universal Credit, working-age benefits, gender roles and relations and work-family reconciliation policies more widely. A policy brief on the £20 per week

Through policy engagement, the IPR continues to serve the public realm by providing creative, practical ideas, and it has further enhanced the impact of the University's research.

Lord John Eatwell, Chair
of the IPR Advisory Board

uplift in response to the pandemic, and a final report on the project's findings, are due for release in Autumn 2021.



Evidence, Data and Democracy

About this research stream

We work collaboratively with policymakers and other policy publics around the creation and use of data and the role of evidence in aiding policy deliberation and decision-making. We are interested in the contested role of data and evidence in democratic societies and in particular how they are employed in policymaking and implementation.

We develop creative methods for working with data in policy design and evaluation, both nationally and internationally. In addition, we apply our expertise in data and evidence for policy and democratic participation to research projects and activities across other areas of our programme.

Research projects (2020–2021) include:

- IPED use in the UK
- Advice services and health outcomes
- The Public Data Lab
- Efficiency, effectiveness and public trust in policing in the era of austerity (PhD project)

Some of the key highlights from this research stream are outlined as follows:



Advice services and health outcomes

This project, which was awarded funding from the Quality Related Strategic Priority Fund (QR SPF) in 2021, is led by Dr Geoff Bates,

Professor Nick Pearce, and Dr David Young. It is a systematic review of the role of advice services in health and well-being outcomes, and seeks to assist local decision-makers in Bath, including the Local Authority and the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG), in making decisions about the role that advice services play in the local health and care system.

The team have completed its systematic review looking at the association between advice services and health outcomes, and are preparing a paper reporting their findings.



Social media analysis and cryptocurrencies

Dr Charlie Larkin has continued to work with the recently completed IPR Prize Fellow, Dr Iulia Cioroianu, on the application of social media sentiment analysis to the price and volatility performance of equities and cryptocurrencies. This work is in collaboration with Professor Shaen Corbet of the Dublin City University School of Business.

Dr Cioroianu, who is now a lecturer in the Department of Politics, Languages and International Studies, has worked with Dr Larkin to collect Twitter data and then subject it to analysis using different sentiment and financial lexicons and study how social media influences share prices and cryptocurrency price movements in response to firm product announcements, aviation crashes and COVID-19 announcements. There has been a particular focus on the equity price movements of Kodak following the announcement of Kodakcoin and the share price movements of Boeing stock and airlines following the 787 Max crashes and grounding.

Additional work is underway looking at cryptocurrencies and announcement effects related to COVID-19 and expanding into the application of more sophisticated lexicons to Twitter and Reddit forum data. This work has resulted in publications in *Economics Letters* (ABS 3) and the *Journal of Corporate Finance* (ABS 4).



Government, Politics and Policymaking

About this research stream

We are interested in the evolution of politics, the changing role of the state and the political ideas and values that define contemporary political parties, political identities and public policies. Working with colleagues across the University, we study political parties, public policy and policymaking.

Research projects (2020–2021) include:

- Tackling the Root causes Upstream of Unhealthy Urban Development (TRUUD)
- Bath and North-East Somerset Compassionate Communities Hub: Evaluation
- The UK pensions policy project

Some of the key highlights from this research stream are outlined as follows:



The UK pensions policy project (1997–2015)

This project explored how and why the UK pensions system, unlike other areas of public policy, was successfully and sustainably reformed. It focused on the pension reforms that were initiated in the early 2000's with the Pensions Commission ('Turner' Commission) and implemented during the 2010's. Led by Professor Nick Pearce, and supported by Dr Thomais Massala, we worked in collaboration with the National Employment Savings Trust (Nest) Insight on this project.

Thirty elite semi-structured interviews were conducted with former UK prime ministers, including Tony Blair and Gordon Brown; secretaries of state, ministers, and their special advisers; civil servants; pension stakeholders; academics and journalists.

Thirty elite semi-structured interviews were conducted with former UK prime ministers, including Tony Blair and Gordon Brown; secretaries of state, ministers, and their special advisers

In addition to the interviews, several documents were collected for this project, related to the Pensions Commission and the reforms which resulted from its recommendations. This material, along with the 24 video-recorded interviews, has been stored and is now openly available to researchers and anyone interested in the UK's pension reforms, through the University of Bath's Library Research Data archive.



Tackling the root causes upstream of unhealthy urban development (TRUUD)

With colleagues from the University of Bath, University of Bristol, UWE Bristol, the University of Manchester and the University of Reading, Professor Nick Pearce, Dr Charlie Larkin and Dr Geoff Bates are engaged in a five-year long project, 'Tackling the root causes upstream of unhealthy urban development (TRUUD):

Launched in May 2020, the research primarily aims to understand the main components of the UK's urban development system and how it functions, and how health impacts might be better integrated into this system.

The COVID-19 pandemic has drawn further attention to the importance of improving our urban environments to reduce risk relating to both communicable and non-communicable diseases. There is increasing interest therefore in how health can be considered as part of decision-making in urban development, and in approaches to reduce health inequalities related to urban environments. Early input has been through literature reviews, including a review of urban housing and transport policy in England, and through leading the development of a process for the co-design and evaluation of interventions in this large transdisciplinary programme.

The team are undertaking interviews with key government stakeholders aiming to understand the urban development system and to identify potential leverage points for interventions supporting the development of healthier urban environments. Data is being

analysed throughout 2021 to inform the design of interventions in the next phase of the project.



Bath and North-East Somerset (BANES) Compassionate Communities Hub: Evaluation

Led by Dr Charlie Larkin, Professor Nick Pearce and Professor Allister McGregor this project received QR SPF funding in 2021. A research team has been evaluating the Community Well Being Hub in Bath and North-East Somerset (BANES) which has supported urgent social, economic and health needs amongst the residents of BANES during the coronavirus pandemic.

This collaborative project, which also involves other colleagues across the University, has used qualitative and quantitative methods to evaluate the support system put in place during the pandemic. A final IPR report will be published in Autumn 2021.



Science, Technology and Innovation

About this research stream

We seek to bring together scientists, engineers and social scientists to research and develop solutions to the interconnected economic, social and environmental challenges we face in the UK and globally.

We have a particular focus on the role of education, skills and industrial strategy in national and regional economies, and the implications for global trade and global value chains of political and economic change.

Research projects (2020–2021) include:

- Build back better in Bath
- REDAWN: Reducing Energy Dependency in Atlantic Area Water Networks
- NextGen: Circular Water Solutions

Some of the key highlights from this research stream are outlined as follows:



Build back better in Bath

Collaborating with The Good Economy, 'Build Back Better Bath' was led by Dr Charlie Larkin, Mark Hepworth (The Good Economy), Professor James Copestake (Department of Social and Policy Sciences) and Catrin Owen. The project focused on a choice: should we try to rebuild the systems we had, or should we build new ones? Our early conversations with local stakeholders confirmed that people want to 'build back better'.

This project had dual aims. First, to flesh out what the 'build back better' agenda means for the City of Bath, as a local framework for pursuing innovative policies and building dynamic partnerships across sectors and geographies.

Second, within this framework, to explore the 'anchor institution' role of the University as a coordinator and supporter of local economic activity, using its large resource base of knowledge and skills for business and public services innovation, as well as its local purchasing power and job creation potential.

Anchor institutions – universities, local councils and NHS trusts, as well as housing associations – also have a social role to play in developing mutually beneficial and sustainable relationships within their host communities.

In December 2020, the project culminated in a final report, 'Bath beyond 2020: Creating a resilient economy together' and accompanying launch event online. This included a set of recommendations for BANES and the local anchor institutions, focused on economic, environmental, and social policy priorities for the City of Bath and its surrounding areas.



REDAWN: Reducing energy dependency in atlantic area water networks and NextGen: Circular water solutions

Our participation in the Horizon 2020 funded projects of REDAWN and NextGen have both concluded as of August 2021. Our contribution was to provide a financial model to enable micro-hydropower and circular economy (water systems) investments.



Widening Participation in Higher Education

About this research stream

We research widening participation in higher education in order to better understand the factors that promote participation from a broader range of students, and the policies and practices that enhance wider successful participation in higher education.

We are concerned with ensuring that all students with the talent and desire to attend university can do so and go on to achieve their full potential in education and beyond.

Research projects (2020–2021) include:

- Addressing risks of graduate un-/under-employment in the COVID-19 labour market
- Analysing employment and earnings returns to higher education degrees using administrative data
- Identifying pupils at risk of poor socio-economic outcomes: The role of educational institutions
- Degree apprenticeships as a route for widening participation-based access to higher education
- The socio-economic foundations of education-to-work trajectories of higher education graduates in the UK

Some of the key highlights from this research stream are outlined as follows:



Addressing risks of graduate un-/under-employment in the COVID-19 labour market

In November 2020, this project led by Dr Matt Dickson, and involving Dr Predrag Lazetic, Dr Michael Donnelly and Kalyan Kameshwara (Department of Education), was awarded QR SPF funding.

Through this project, we continue to research the graduate labour market outcomes of previous generations to determine the individual level (gender, ethnicity, educational attainment, socio-economic background) and institutional (higher education institution, subject) factors which increase risks of poor graduate outcomes.

The key finding from the project is that an individual's likelihood of being under-employed – defined as not being in a graduate job – when surveyed 3.5 years after graduation, is significantly predicted by his/her employment status six months after graduating. We estimate that on average an individual who is under-employed at six-months post-graduation is approximately 20 percentage points more likely to be under-employed three years later than someone already in a graduate job six-months after finishing at university.

We find this strong effect even after accounting for various factors relating to the individual's higher education (institution, subject and attainment), schooling (prior qualifications, type of school attended) and background (socio-economic status, region, ethnicity, age and gender).

For policy purposes the key message is that the transition from higher education to initial post-graduate employment is crucial for future employment prospects, and this is even more the case for young people from groups under-represented

in higher education. It is therefore going to be even more important in the post-COVID labour market that higher education institutions continue to work with employers to smooth the transition from education to the labour market and that widening participation staff at institutions are engaged in this process.

We are developing policy proposals and engaging with policymakers from the Department for Education Graduate Outcomes and Skills Analysis Division. In January 2021, we held a seminar to gather their observations and inputs into the research. We will hold a second seminar to present our findings and policy recommendations, ahead of the Comprehensive Spending Review planned for the Autumn. Additionally, findings will also be published in a report, and a social policy journal.

We are developing policy proposals and engaging with policymakers from the Department for Education Graduate Outcomes and Skills Analysis Division



Identifying pupils at risk of poor socio-economic outcomes: The role of educational institutions

Within this work stream, Dr Matt Dickson has worked on a project commissioned by the Wales Centre for Public Policy at Cardiff University, modelling the potential impact that a Raising the Participation Age (RPA) policy might have should it be introduced in Wales. The analysis has been completed and preliminary results were presented to policymakers and special advisors from the Welsh Assembly Government. The findings are now being written up into a final report, due for release in Autumn 2021.

Dr Matt Dickson is also a co-investigator on a £231,000 grant awarded by the Nuffield Foundation investigating 'The causes and consequences of youth custody'. Building on his research looking at the impact of RPA, part of the project will examine the impacts of youth custody on later educational pathways, including the prospects for higher education.



International Connections

Through our research, we continue to develop our international collaborations. Professor Pearce, Dr Dickson and Dr Larkin remain visiting Research Associates of the Trinity Business School, Trinity College Dublin, and Dr Larkin has also maintained research and teaching collaborations with the Krieger School of Arts and Science at Johns Hopkins University, Dublin City University and the University of Waikato, New Zealand.

In addition to our involvement in the University of Freiberg Microsimulation Group, we are also continuing our research with Professor Armando Sanchez-Vargas, Director of the Institute of Economics Research, from the Autonomous National University of Mexico (UNAM).

We are also continuing to strengthen our research collaborations with the Republic of Korea, through the Korean Government Overseas Fellowship. This year we welcomed Hong-Seok Jeong,

who is currently the Director of the Bucheon Job Center in the Bucheon Regional Labour Office, where he is responsible for employment support, including unemployment benefits and subsidies related to employment retention. During his time with us, he has continued his research project, 'A study on cases of relieving youth unemployment through customised vocational education and employment support service'.



Publications

Table 1: IPR published journal articles and books (August 2020–July 2021)

Research Theme	Research Area	Publication Reference
Welfare State, Family and Work		Platt, D., Riches, K., Wijedasa, D., and Wood, M. (2020). Assessment of parental capacity to change where children may be at risk of harm: Evaluation of the c-change pilot project. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i> , 105265.
		Wood, M. (2021). Childcare costs and Universal Credit: Awareness, affordability and the challenge of an embedded system. <i>Journal of Poverty and Social Justice</i> .
		Bryant, K., Huang, C.C., Millar, J. and Whiteford, P. (2021). The importance of minimizing the risk of repayment when delivering monthly child tax credit payments: Lessons from the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada.
		Cameron, C., Dewar, L., Fitzpatrick, C, Garthwaite, K., Griffiths, R., Hill, K., Ladlow, L., McHardy, L., Millar, J., Patrick, R., Pickett, K., Reader, M., Robertshaw, D., Scullion, L., Summers, K., Tarrant, A., Webber, R. (2021). More, please, for those with less: Why we need to go further on the Universal Credit uplift, <i>British Politics and Policy at LSE</i> .
		Keating, N., McGregor, J.A., and Yeandle, S. (2021). Sustainable care: Theorising the wellbeing of caregivers to older persons, <i>International Journal of Care and Caring</i> .
Evidence, Data and Democracy		Bates, G., Schmidt Vinther, A. (2021). Applying insights from implementation and intervention science to improve the evidence base on image and performance-enhancing drugs (IPEDs) interventions, <i>Performance Enhancement & Health</i> , 100193.
		Bates, G., McVeigh, J., and Leavey, C. (2021). Looking beyond the provision of injecting equipment to people who use anabolic androgenic steroids: Harm reduction and behaviour change goals for UK policy, <i>Contemporary Drug Problems</i> , 48(2), pp. 135–150.
		Corbet, S., Hou, Y., Hu, Y., Larkin, C., Lucey, B., and Oxley, L. (2021). Cryptocurrency liquidity and volatility interrelationships during the COVID-19 pandemic, <i>Finance Research Letters</i> , 102137.

**Government,
politics and
policymaking**



Cioroianu, I., Corbet, S., and Larkin, C. (2021). The differential impact of corporate blockchain-development as conditioned by sentiment and financial desperation, *Journal of Corporate Finance*, 101814.

Fletcher, E., Larkin, C., and Corbet, S. (2021). Countering money laundering and terrorist financing: A case for bitcoin regulation, *Research in International Business and Finance*, 56.

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Meegan, A., Corbet, S., Larkin, C., and Lucey, B. (2021). Does cryptocurrency price response to regulatory intervention depend on underlying blockchain architecture? *Journal of International Financial Markets, Institutions and Money*, 70.

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IPR Postgraduate Teaching



Teaching

We offer postgraduate courses and doctoral supervision through our Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice (DPRP) and our joint MSc in Public Policy. We also supervise seven full-time doctoral students, as well as joint supervision through the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) Centre for Doctoral Training in Accountable, Responsible and Transparent AI and the Institute for Advanced Automotive Propulsion Systems (IAAPS).

Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice (DPRP)

By the end of 2020, more than 60 mid-career policy professionals from over 15 countries were registered on our Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice (DPRP).

The annual two-week residential took place online in September 2020, and students presented work to each other on topics ranging from 'Rethinking smart urbanism in India' to 'Analysing judicial quality and performance management in the Caribbean'.

Since then, students have continued to study remotely, while sharing global experiences of the impact of COVID-19, and public policy responses. Two students have also submitted their final thesis, and a seventh cohort of ten students has been recruited to start the programme in September 2021.

Masters in Public Policy

By the end of 2020, more than 47 students from over six countries were enrolled on our MSc in Public Policy (MPP) across both years of the programme. In September 2021 we welcomed a further 18 students to the fourth cohort, currently employed in governmental organisations such as the Ministry of Defence and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy; national regulators; political party and parliamentary officers from several countries; as well as international

I've enjoyed refreshing and exploring my own thinking further around key policy areas and learning more about the different approaches to policymaking.

Claire Hazelgrove,
MSc Public Policy
graduate, Organising
and Political Engagement
Director, FutureGov

By the end of 2020, more than 60 mid-career policy professionals from over 15 countries were registered on our Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice (DPRP)

organisations such as the World Food Programme, Red Cross and UN.

In 2020–2021 the residentials took place online and garnered a very positive response from students, although we are hoping to meet in person in 2021–2022. Interest in the programme continues strongly despite the constraints facing policy professionals under COVID-19, which has impacted recruitment in 2021 somewhat. Many students have gained promotions in their professional roles since starting the programme, and they frequently reference the programme

and their ability to apply their learning in their work-life as a key contribution to their professional and personal development.

Our PhD students

We have several PhD students studying a range of topics including degree apprenticeships, policing and social security.

This year Dr David Young completed his doctorate on 'Managing insecurity and change: Low-income households and social security'.

PhD students in 2020–2021

- Xinyan Cheng: Efficiency, effectiveness, and public trust in policing in the era of austerity
- David Young: Managing insecurity and change: Low-income households and social security
- Jane Mackay: Degree apprenticeships as a route for widening participation-based access to higher education
- Seren Essex: Do subject requirements of degree courses impose unfair or inappropriate constraints on who can apply, and impair efforts to widen access to higher education?
- Levana Magnus: The Jobcentre, welfare-to-work agencies, and the household: The network of labour-market activation under Universal Credit

5

**IPR Policy
Engagement**



IPR Policy Programmes

During 2020–2021, all our policy engagement work was carried out and delivered virtually. We adapted and continued to develop our activity and relationships between University of Bath academics and policymakers across Whitehall, the West of England, and enabled international policy engagement through our virtual programme offer.

Our policy engagement activities align with core areas of university research strengths and our own expertise, as well as the needs of local, national and, at times, international policymakers. Over the past year this has been achieved through seven streams:

1. The IPR Policy Fellowship Programme – adapted to virtual offering
2. The IPR Policy Fellowship Programme: Artificial Intelligence – adapted to virtual offering
3. Our affiliate agreement with the University of Cambridge Centre for Science and Policy (CSaP) Fellowship Programme
4. Bespoke policy workshops
5. Engagement with the Universities Policy Engagement Network (UPEN)
6. Membership of the COP26 Universities engagement network
7. Leadership roles in Climate Exp0

The IPR Policy Fellowship Programme (PFP)

Between August 2020 to July 2021, 17 Policy Fellows took part in our PFP and affiliate programme, involving over 100 virtual meetings with Bath academics. More than 90 University of Bath academics from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Engineering, the School of Management, the Institute for Mathematical Innovation (IMI), the Institute for Advanced Automotive Propulsion Systems (IAAPS) and the IPR met with Fellows.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we adapted our PFP model to a rapid response virtual programme initially aimed at policymakers working on COVID-19 priority areas. This model

Between August 2020 to July 2021, 17 Policy Fellows took part in our PFP and affiliate programme, involving over 100 virtual meetings with Bath academics

has seen great success, with our highest number of Fellows to date, and through its accessibility we have recruited international fellows from Nigeria, Syria, the USA and Ireland.

IPR policy programmes

Some of the spin offs from the PFP, over the past year, have included:

- A much wider and embedded policy network across multiple government departments, third sector organisations and institutions
- A much broader network of academics across the University of Bath engaging with the programme
- Wider international policy engagement, including policy advice to the Nigerian government
- £144,000 funding from the Food Standards Agency, for a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in behavioural economics of regulatory compliance
- Professor Julie Barnett invited by the Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation (CDEI) to join and present at the Public Attitudes to Data and AI (PADAI) network
- Letters of support for individual research bids
- Applications to the Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice
- On-going relationships between Fellows and the University, particularly in the area of AI and DWP

Table 2: Policy Fellows during 2020–2021

Policy Fellow	Job Title	Organisation
Hugh Knowles	Interim CEO (Job Share)	Friends of the Earth
Walter Maria Pasquarelli	Consultant at the Open Data Institute	Manager at Oxford Insights
Paul Bristow	Director, Policy, and Partnerships	Arts Council England
Seth Thomas	Global Engagement – Policy & Strategy Division International Directorate	Bank of England
Bethan Charnley	Head of Strategic Projects	Centre for Data, Ethics, and Innovation
Alex Beres	Senior Policy Analyst	United States Department of Transportation, Office of Infrastructure Finance and Innovation
Craig Skerrit	Policy and International Programmes Manager	Royal Irish Academy
Tracy Daszkiewicz	Deputy Director of Population, Health and Wellbeing	Public Health England
Cailean Osborne	International Policy Lead	Centre for Data, Ethics and Innovation
Sam Robinson	Senior Researcher	Bright Blue
Les Redwood	Chief Executive	Citizens Advice BANES
Isabelle De Pauw	Head of Data Rights	Domestic Data Protection and Data Rights Team Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport
Folawiyo Kareem Olajoku	Technical Advisor on Innovation and Strategy	Honourable Minister of Interior, Nigeria
Jacob Ohrvik-Stott	Principal Policy Adviser	Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)
Hannah Spiro	Public Engagement Lead	Centre for Data, Ethics and Innovation
Amjad Yamin	Director: Policy, Advocacy & Campaigns, Media & Communications	Save the Children, Syria Response
Max Beverton-Palmer CSaP-PFP	Head of Internet Policy	Tony Blair, Institute for Global Change

The IPR Policy Fellowship Programme: Artificial Intelligence

Since the last reporting period this programme has continued to grow and develop. We have had multiple Fellowships from the Centre for Data, Ethics and Innovation (CDEI) as well as visits from The Information Commissioner; Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and the Bank of England.

The IPR Affiliate Agreement with The University of Cambridge (CSaP)

During 2020–2021, we hosted one visit to the university under this affiliation.

Policy workshop

On 2nd February 2021, we co-hosted a joint Areas of Research Interest (ARI) Workshop with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).

Chaired by Dr Charlie Larkin, speakers included the DWP Chief Scientific Advisor and Chief Analyst, Trevor Huddleston, and spotlight presentations on the topic of Security in Later Life (Area of Research Interest (ARI) Objective 3) from: Professor Ania Zalewska on pensions; Dr Ricky Kanabar on ageing, social mobility, and health; Professor Nick Pearce on the pensions reform project; and Steve Webb on policy around later life wealth.

Afternoon spotlight presentations were on the theme of Employment and Progression (ARI Objective 1) with presentations from: Professor Jane Millar on in-work progression: taking a long view; Dr Rita Griffiths on employment progression for couples claiming Universal Credit; Dr Matt Dickson on graduate earnings and employment; and Dr Aida Garcia-Lazaro on technology and the labour income share in industrialised countries. Remarks and next steps were delivered from DWP's Central Analysis and Science Strategy Unit.

The Universities Policy Engagement Network (UPEN)

UPEN is a network of 80 UK universities who are working together to increase the public policy impact from their research. UPEN offers a dedicated contact point for policymakers, and a collective response to requests for evidence. It organises knowledge exchange events with government, parliament, devolved bodies, and identifies mechanisms to take forward specific projects. Since the last reporting period Amy Thompson has joined the UPEN Futures Advisory Group.

Activities over the past year have included disseminating, to relevant parties, 54 opportunities of engagement such as: calls for evidence, academic advice on COVID-19 priority areas, and academic experts on climate change.

Some impact highlights include:

- Professor Sue Maguire appointed to the Government Equalities Office's Workplace and Gender Equality (WAGE) Academic Network
- A member of staff invited to join the International Trade Select Committee as a special advisor
- Dr John Troyer presented a seminar as part of The Open Innovation Cabinet Office's COVID-19 Seminar Series and the DHSC's Seminar Series
- Professor Jan Hoffman applied to join the COP26 Climate and Sustainability Roundtable UK-Israel
- Amy Thompson appointed as Advisory Member of the UPEN Futures group

The COP26 Universities Network

The COP26 Universities Network is a group of more than 75 UK-based Universities working together to raise the ambition for tangible outcomes of the COP26 Climate Summit, taking place in Glasgow in November 2021.

The network seeks to ensure that the UK academic sector and universities play their role in delivering a successful COP26 and getting all players on track to delivering a low-carbon, resilient world. Working with colleagues in the Cabinet Office, learned academies

We were also part of the leadership team for Climate Exp0 - the first virtual conference from the COP26 Universities Network and the Italian University Network for Sustainable Development (RUS)

and institutions, the network aims to drive change at a central government level and make a real positive difference in the lead up to COP26 and beyond, by easing access to evidence and academic expertise for COP26 for government, NGOs, and other actors.

Activities to date include: adding Bath academics to the COP26 expert database; a co-authored Briefing Paper on Climate Finance from Dr Charlie Larkin and Professor Ania Zalewska; a co-authored Briefing Paper on curriculum transformation from Dr Steve Cayzer; connecting Dr Dan Maskell to

the Cabinet Office on sustainable building materials; connecting colleagues from the Centre for Sustainable and Circular Technologies (CSCT) for a Briefing Paper on sustainable chemical technologies; and connecting Professor Jan Hoffman with the Singaporean High Commission on the future of cities and water.

We were also part of the leadership team for Climate Exp0 – the first virtual conference from the COP26 Universities Network and the Italian University Network for Sustainable Development (RUS). Supported by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and Cambridge University Press we worked with Imperial College London and the University of Cambridge, across a team of over 80 committee members from more than 70 institutions, in the organisation and delivery of the conference.

Climate Exp0 took place at a critical juncture in the COP26 pre-meetings and negotiations (17–21 May) and was part of the All4Climate Italy 2021 official pre-COP26 initiatives. Across five days, covering five themes, it marked a unique occasion at which global policymakers, academics, practitioners, students and members of the public gathered online to collaborate, share and debate climate change policy, ahead of the COP26 negotiations in November.

Overall, the conference welcomed over 500 speakers, including eight government ministers, such as President for COP26, The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, three Italian Ministers, as well as High Level Climate Action Champion for COP26, Nigel Topping, and Chairman of the Committee on Climate Change, Lord Deben. Through our involvement,

Thank you all for the amazing Fellowship experience. This has really helped with some of [our] research challenges... and the greater challenges around the better integration of Citizens Advice BANES into the health, social care and wellbeing sector.

Les Redwood, Strategic Lead
for Welfare and Benefits,
Citizens Advice

The conference welcomed over 500 speakers, including eight government ministers, such as President for COP26, The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, three Italian Ministers, as well as High Level Climate Action Champion for COP26, Nigel Topping, and Chairman of the Committee on Climate Change, Lord Deben

over 20 colleagues from across the University of Bath were also involved in the programme.

More than 5,000 people from over 159 countries attended the conference; and it also received coverage across government websites, as well as media coverage in Times Higher Education and several Italian outlets.

Amy Thompson is also part of the leadership team working on a Youth Voices project, with the University of Cambridge. The project includes producing a film, ActNowFilm, which will collate young people's views, priorities, experiences, and perspectives from across the world, in relation to their lived experiences of climate change, and to showcase these directly to the climate negotiators, policymakers,

academics, and the public at COP26. The film will also retain these voices in perpetuity as an account of what was important to young people in 2021. We have applied to showcase the film at the IMAX and in the Youth Pavilion.

Additionally, we have been invited to run a joint session, with Cambridge Zero, in the Youth Pavilion on policy engagement.

The impact of our policy engagement work

Our policy engagement work has brought important benefits to the IPR and the University. Over the past seven months all policy engagement has been carried out virtually, and while this has had its challenges, there have also been positives. Our numbers of Fellows are up, and we have engaged with international Fellows more widely and effectively. We have also engaged with a much wider portfolio of Bath academics, notably in the areas of science and engineering.

Significant numbers of policy-academic links and relationships have been established across multiple government departments, local organisations and institutions. These relationships have

helped strengthen our policy networks, and our ability to get policy relevant research to policymakers, and we have seen growth in more two-way conversations following initial meetings, and have the potential for relevant policy support and engagement for future research bids.

Through the UPEN and Climate ExpO work we are well connected to the UK university and policy sector as well as new international links. Our work with both networks has increased the reputation of the IPR and the University of Bath and have enabled opportunities for future collaboration.



Events and Communications



Our Events

Between August 2020 and July 2021, we delivered a varied and highly engaging programme of 26 events which included a publication launch, 11 public lectures, a webinar, two panel debates, and 12 co-hosted events with Bristol Ideas; Coventry University Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations; and the University of Bath Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Department of Economics, Department of Social and Policy Sciences (SPS), Department of Education, and UKRI CDT in Accountable, Responsible and Transparent AI (ART-AI).

Over 3000 people attended our events this year and we have gained an additional reach through our Policy Podcast series, which

currently has more than 57,000 listens, and our online lectures, which have received over 16,500 views.

Our high-profile speakers have included: Deputy Director of Population Health and Wellbeing at Public Health England, Tracy Daszkiewicz; former Cabinet Secretary, Head of the Civil Service and National Security Adviser, Lord Mark

Sedwill; President Emeritus of Olin College of Engineering, Professor Richard K. Miller; and Director General for Regulation at the Office for Statistics Regulation, Ed Humpherson.

Between August 2020 and July 2021, we delivered a varied and highly engaging programme of 26 events

The future is in our lands

Through our ongoing series, 'The future is in our lands', we have also welcomed speakers including: Director of Environmental Strategy at Wessex Water, Ruth Barden; Director of Water, Land and Biodiversity at the Environment Agency, David Dangerfield; Riverlands Programme Manager at the National Trust, Richard Higgs; Principal Specialist for People and the Environment at Natural England, Dr Rose O'Neill; Co-Founder of Forum for

the Future, Jonathan Porritt; environmental psychologist and Director of the Centre for Climate and Social Transformations (CAST), Professor Lorraine Whitmarsh; and London Assembly Member and Co-Leader of The Green Party, Sian Berry.

Is it time for universal basic income?

In October 2020, we co-hosted an all-day conference online with Bristol Ideas on, 'Is it time for universal basic income?' The conference welcomed leading thinkers, politicians, and policymakers to debate and explore new approaches to macro-economic policymaking, the prospects for universal basic income, and the political economy of social and economic change. Speakers included: Chair of the Resolution Foundation, Gavin Kelly; European Economics Commentator at the *Financial Times*, Martin Sandbu; Executive Director of the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR), Carys Roberts; Head of RSA Scotland, Jamie Cooke; Jon Cruddas MP; and *The Guardian* columnists, John Harris and Polly Toynbee.

The conference was a success with over 500 attendees, and a second has been scheduled for October 2021.



Our Publications

We produced one report during the reporting year, entitled 'Bath beyond 2020: Creating a resilient economy together: A situation report' as part of our civic engagement research.

The report was delivered to strategic and key contacts working in relevant fields to the report's findings, and launched at an online event featuring key speakers including Dr Charlie Larkin; Professor James Copestake; Director of Research and Policy at The Good Economy, Mark Hepworth; Chair of Royal United Hospital Bath, Alison Ryan; and former Director of Partnerships and Corporate Services at Bath and North East Somerset (BANES) council, David Trethewey.



Media

We have assisted in the development of press opportunities for several academics, where there have been strong links or relevance to our research. As a result, we have received coverage in over 50 media outlets, including BBC and *The Sunday Independent*, on topics ranging from Universal Credit to cryptocurrency.

Highlights include:

- Dr Charlie Larkin appeared in several episodes of the BBC World series, 'The Golden Age of Gold' to discuss the future of gold and cryptocurrency
- Dr Matt Dickson appeared on BBC Radio Bristol and BBC Radio Wiltshire to discuss prospects for young people in the post-COVID-19 labour market
- Dr Rita Griffiths appears on Hits Radio and BBC Bristol to discuss the Universal Credit £20 per week uplift



Social Media, IPR Policy Podcast, IPR Videos, IPR Blog

We utilise social media platforms to engage with interested individuals and organisations. Over the last year we have developed our use and engagement on all platforms, and significantly increased our following.

IPR policy podcasts

Our Policy Podcast series was launched to enable people who miss our events, or those located internationally, to catch up on the best

Our blog offers expert analysis, debate, and comment on recent developments across UK government, policy, and academia

of our lectures and seminars. To-date, we have 91 podcasts with over 57,000 listens.

The Policy Matters series, produced by Dr Matt Dickson and Professor Franz Buscha (University of Westminster), was also added to our Policy Podcast series. In this series, special guests, alongside Dr Dickson and Professor Buscha, engage with issues in contemporary public policy, addressing areas such

as social mobility, education, health, crime, transport, the labour market and the ways in which inequality affects many of these policy domains. In each episode they discuss the ideas, delve into what the academic research has to say, helping us to better understand the complexities and constraints facing policymakers.



IPR videos

Our videos enable people who miss our events to catch up or re-visit the best of our lectures and seminars. Our videos also inform viewers about the variety of programmes we offer. This year, we developed our own YouTube channel as the host for all our online lectures. To-date, we have over 100 videos, 289 subscribers, more than 17,500 views, and over 325,000 impressions.



IPR blog

Our blog offers expert analysis, debate, and comment on recent developments across UK government, policy, and academia. The blog is for researchers, academics, and policy experts to comment on a range of topical policy-relevant issues, with the potential to reach a wide audience.

We publish posts that reflect the expertise in research at the University of Bath and mirror the current priorities of external policy stakeholders and research funders. To date we have published over 400 posts and received a total of 245,862 blog hits. We achieve an average readership of c.9,000 a month.



IPR newsletter

We are continuing to distribute a fortnightly newsletter to our mailing list, which summarises our latest news, events, research, and publications. This continues to be an effective method for engaging with external stakeholders who are not on social media.

www.bath.ac.uk/ipr