Excellence in social policy research

Annual Report

2010

THE UNIVERSITY *of York*

spru | Social Policy Research Unit

Annual Report **2010**

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Introduction by the Director

Writing the introduction to an annual report is rather like composing a Christmas 'round robin' letter. It is an opportunity to review the year's activities and, with some selective editing and a little boasting, present a glowing account of its achievements.

As with the 'round robin', however, there is a danger of presenting the achievements without properly signalling either the amount of hard work that went into securing them or the challenges they presented along the way. Below I describe some highlights and challenges of our year; I hope you will enjoy reading about them here and in the rest of this report.

As we are coming to the end of our last, five-year programme of research for the Department of Health Policy Research Programme, it is good to look back and reflect on what this long-term relationship has achieved. As with all good relationships, there have been ups and downs but, overall, the journey we have taken with policy makers of different hues and ideological orientations has been extraordinarily productive.

Our early programmes uncovered the extent, costs and consequences of childhood disability; highlighted the importance of 'informal' caring and its impact on carers' lives and set a research agenda that influenced much that was done subsequently; and we explored how children growing up with very severe impairments make the transition to adulthood. All these streams of work influenced change in the benefits system and the ways in which support and services were delivered, and we subsequently evaluated how some of those changes had worked out. Later programmes identified user-defined outcomes for younger disabled people and carers, and then worked with those who deliver services and support to embed an outcomes-oriented approach in their everyday thinking and work. In our current programme, groundbreaking longitudinal research has started to trace the ways in which the policy emphasis on 'choice' plays out in younger and older disabled people's lives and those of their families.

At the same time as delivering these substantial programmes, we have responded to fast moving policy objectives, providing information and analysis that enabled policy makers to deliver 'evidence-based policy making' long before this became a fashionable term. This responsiveness often meant long hours and testing timetables, but we are proud of the legacy our work has generated. We look forward to a new type of relationship with the Department of Health, via the NIHR School for Social Care Research.

Changes of government inevitably throw up challenges and uncertainties for researchers in the policy field, but our influence continues. Two areas stand out in particular this year. The Welfare and Employment team's work on simplification of the benefits system for working age people has been included in Green and White Papers from the last and the present government. Similarly, the Adults, Older People and Carers team recently completed an evaluation of re-ablement services commissioned by the last government but whose messages the present government has taken on board. This work forms one of our special features on page 6.

We are as proud of our record in influencing how research is done, as we are with how its findings affect policy. Pioneering research by the Children and Families team over many years has changed the ways others now carry out research with children and young people, and this year it informed part of an on-going ESRC seminar series (pages 5 and 34). Developing new methods and approaches, coupled with partnership working with disabled children, young people and adults, has enabled voices that were previously unheard to be included in our research. You can see this type of approach in action in a short film we made about the Unit this year (page 8). Other inclusive work you can read about in the annual report – from the Children and Young People's Social Work Team - involves training young people who have had experience of the care system as peer researchers for a project on corporate parenting (page 27).

We have worked on 36 different projects through the year and we also have five research students based in the Unit. Project funders include, among others: Department of Health, Department of Work and Pensions, Department for Children, Schools and Families (now Department for Education), Big Lottery, National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) Service Delivery and Organisation, NIHR School for Social Care Research, European Commission, ESRC, Social Care Institute for Excellence, Nuffield Foundation, the Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (C4EO), Youth Justice Board, and Cancer Research UK. Our thanks go to them all.

Managing and delivering so many projects – the hard work behind our achievements - and to such a wide range of funders, requires skilled, experienced and highly committed researchers and support staff alike. We are lucky in having both in SPRU, and I thank them all, too.

Despite our continuing successes, it would be odd not to signal here the very substantial challenges that the research world is experiencing, as more and more people compete for static or reducing funds. We are experiencing the choppiest and chilliest seas that most of us can remember, but we sail on, as ever, with hope and a commitment to influencing change in the real world.

Gillian Parker
Director

How can we best research the lives of disabled children from their perspective?

One of our main objectives as a Unit is to involve service users in shaping our work so that they are not the passive 'subjects' of research.

For some years now we have worked with the local special school for secondary aged pupils, some of whose pupils belong to our Young People's Consultation Group. Members of the Children and Families Team meet up with this group twice a term. Talking to them enables us to learn first-hand about how services work for them, what their main interests and concerns are, and how to word questions and approach other young people for our research projects.

The group recently contributed to the ESRC research seminar series reported below. We worked with the group to produce a multi-media presentation about their lives which was shared at one of these seminars in the series. An ex-member of the group contributed the artwork used in this presentation.

The recent SPRU video (see page 8) shows the group discussing this project during one of their meetings.

Every summer the group visits SPRU and, as part of the trip, we show them some of the University's work and facilities. In 2010, we visited the Clinical Simulation Unit in the Health Sciences Department. The Unit replicates a hospital ward and enables trainee nurses to practice in a work environment before they go to a real hospital. The young people had great fun trying out the facilities, from electric beds and electronic thermometers to the multisensory room. After lunch in one of the campus cafes the young people choose to look round something that particularly interests them, such as the campus nursery, estates department, sports hall, back-stage in the concert hall and one of the campus restaurant's kitchens.

ESRC Research Seminar

In May an invited audience of experts from across the UK gathered for a day at SPRU to identify, share and develop cutting edge theory and research about disabled children's views and experiences.

The seminar was one of a series planned around the theme of looking at the research process with a focus on the perspective of the children and young people themselves and is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council. This seminar focused on methodological approaches and included a paper from Dr Borgun Ytterhus, Chairperson of the Nordic Network for Disabilty Research, on **'Longitudinal ethnography in childhood: one way to examine everyday life segregation in day-care nurseries and schools'.**

Allan Colver of the James Spence Institute, Newcastle, spoke on **'Using large-scale surveys to explore disabled children's quality of life'.**

Artwork for the group's presentation to the seminar

The group with one of the simulation patient models used in the CSU

Using an electronic thermometer in the ear

Debby Watson from the University of Bristol presented **'Participatory research with disabled children and young people'.**

Bryony Beresford gave a talk on **'The experiences of doing research with children and young people with autistic spectrum conditions: lessons and wider implications'.**

There was a lively contribution from the invited audience, with debate and reflections on the day as well as thoughts on the future.

The day also involved workshops on different methodological approaches, presented by researchers familiar with their application.

Research on the impacts of home care re-ablement shows the way forward for services

This year saw the publication of a major piece of research into home care re-ablement services, after a two-year study to ascertain whether these services were cost effective and which service features produced the best practice and outcomes for users.

Older person is shown an aid to help her eat independently

Publication of the study in autumn 2010 coincided with the announcement of a new £70 million allocation to NHS Primary Care Trusts to develop re-ablement services; this will be followed by an additional £150 million in 2011/12, rising to £300 million per annum from 2012 to 2015. With the SPRU study cited in the NHS Operating Framework for 2011/12,[1] we expect it to be widely referred to as local health and social care partners invest these resources in new service developments.

The new study showed that re-ablement has a positive effect on service users' lives. It was an intervention that cost more than standard home care, but enabled people to regain their ability to live with less support in the longer term. Over the course of the year that the team followed people who had received initial re-ablement, the costs between re-ablement and standard home care were roughly equal but the people who had received re-ablement services had better outcomes and needed less on-going support. Using the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence cost-effectiveness thresholds, re-ablement was cost effective in terms of health and social care costs.

SPRU's lead in this research, Professor Caroline Glendinning, highlights another finding from the study that could help to shape effective services in the future: "Many local authorities are developing inclusive re-ablement services, accepting most new service users. However, there was widespread agreement among managers and front-line staff in the study that re-ablement was of greater benefit for people recovering from acute illnesses, falls or fractures than those with chronic or progressive health problems. As new services develop, commissioners and providers will need to consider the best balance between being selective and inclusive in their intake."

The need for good staff training and on-going supervision in order to produce effective re-ablement services was a main recommendation of the report. It also encourages the setting of clear outcomes for users, the flexibility to adapt these as needs change, and prompt supply of equipment. At the end of the re-ablement period, prompt transfer to home care for those who need it is essential to maintain capacity and efficiency in re-ablement services.

This research built on a previous retrospective study by SPRU[2] which had suggested that the reduction in the need for longer-term social care support following re-ablement could last for over a year. In 2008 the Department of Health commissioned SPRU, in collaboration with the Personal Social Services Research Unit at the University of Kent, to provide more robust evidence on the longer-term impacts of re-ablement services.

The new longitudinal study compared people in five English local authorities who received home-care re-ablement with those receiving conventional home care services in five other authorities. The study involved more than 1,000 people. Further information about the project can be found on page 23.

Final report

Glendinning, C., Jones, K., Baxter, K., Rabiee, P., Curtis, L., Wilde, A., Arksey, H. and Forder, J. (2010) *Home Care Re-ablement Services: Investigating the longer-term impacts (prospective longitudinal study)*, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

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[1] DH (2010) The Operating Framework for the NHS in England, 2011/2, London, Department of Health.

[2] *Glendinning, C.* and Newbronner, E.,(2008) *The effectiveness of home care reablement - developing the evidence base*, Journal of Integrated Care, 16, 4, 32-39.

Newbronner, L., Baxter, M., Chamberlain, R., Maddison, J., Arksey, H. and Glendinning, C., (2007) *Research into the Longer Term Effects/Impacts of Re-ablement Services*, Re-ablement Workstream, Care Services Efficiency Delivery Programme, London, Department of Health.

Expert workshop on the issues surrounding different methods of interviewing research participants - telephone versus face-to-face interaction

A recent ESRC-funded study in SPRU explored whether there are differences in the type and quality of spoken interaction that takes place in research interviews conducted face-to-face compared to those conducted via telephone.

A one-day workshop on 13 May 2010 discussed the methods, findings and implications of this research. An invited group of 15 experienced research practitioners and leading academics took part in the workshop.

The workshop brought together qualitative social researchers engaged in applied policy research, market research and sociological research with academics specialising in qualitative research methodology and conversation and discourse analysis. Convening a group with diverse but related interests proved fruitful and stimulating, providing multiple perspectives on the central theme and highlighting a wide range of further questions that could be explored.

The study was led by Annie Irvine (SPRU) with co-investigators Professor Roy Sainsbury (SPRU) and Professor Paul Drew (Centre for Advanced Studies in Language and Communication, University of York). The study drew upon the techniques of Conversation Analysis to explore what differences there were (if any) in a set of semi-structured qualitative research interviews, some of which were conducted face-to-face and some by telephone.

The workshop was jointly facilitated by the three members of the research team. After a welcome and introduction from Roy Sainsbury, Annie Irvine presented the background to the research, including the rationale and design of the study. This was followed by a data session facilitated by Paul Drew, where participants were able to listen to and discuss audio extracts from two of the interviews in the study's dataset (one telephone and one face-to-face). In the afternoon, Annie Irvine presented a number of emerging findings from the study. Roy Sainsbury then chaired a final session where participants reflected on the study's approach, its emerging findings and the potential for future research in this area.

Discussion was lively and wide ranging and themes debated included:

- rapport
- the relevance of gender
- burden and fatigue
- delicate topics
- relevance of the physical context
- the flow and structure of interviews
- transcription styles
- potential value of a Conversation Analysis approach.

A summary of the discussion in greater detail is available on the website.

Positive feedback during the day itself and in later email correspondence indicated that it had been enjoyable, interesting and thought provoking for participants. Some participants commented that their perceptions about telephone interviews had begun to alter, having taken part in the workshop. There were also comments about the potential for a greater focus on telephone interviewing in research methods training. While this study concentrated on fairly fine-grained differences in interaction, there was interest in further analysis of how interview mode might affect the substantive content and ultimate research output.

Although initiated by questions about interview mode effects, it was clear that the workshop had provided a valuable opportunity to reflect more generally on the practice of qualitative research interviewing, from both theoretical and practical perspectives. The group agreed that there is scope for further investigation, not only into mode effects in qualitative interviews but also – and perhaps as a prerequisite – a more systematic, critical and evaluative programme of research into the fundamental practices of qualitative interviewing.

More information on the project is available here:
http://php.york.ac.uk/inst/spru/research/summs/mode.php

SPRU makes a video

In 2010 we made a short, five-minute video about our work which was screened at the National Children and Adult Services Conference in Manchester in November.

The idea was to provide an insight into some of the issues that concern us, how we influence current policy and practice, and how we engage with our research participants.

Choosing which parts of SPRU's wide portfolio of work to include in the video was not easy, but knowing the audience for the conference we decided to showcase our work with young people and older care users.

The first clip takes us to Applefields School in York, a new school for secondary aged pupils with special educational needs. It shows SPRU researchers, Bryony Beresford and Wendy Mitchell, talking to a group of pupils who make up our Young People's Consultation Group. The group has been running for a number of years and helps researchers understand the real issues that affect their lives, giving the young people a voice in shaping their services and engaging them with the community around the school. You can read more about the group on page 5.

The next clip illustrates how we ensure that people with communication needs are not excluded from research projects. We show Wendy Mitchell conducting an interview with a young man with muscular dystrophy using a Talking Mat ™. This technique allows him to convey his thoughts in a non-verbal way on a range of subjects that affect his life, and in this way he can take part directly in the research rather than have his experiences relayed by an intermediary.

The third area of our work that we highlight is a new service, Re-ablement, which helps older people to regain confidence and re-learn self-care skills so that they can live at home. The service was evaluated by SPRU for the Department of Health. The clip shows a client in her home being helped to think about how she can prepare her own food. You can read more about this work on page 6.

In summarising the video, SPRU Director Gillian Parker talks about how the Unit has always sought to make a difference to policy and practice through producing high quality academic research. She finally pays tribute to current and past researchers in SPRU whose work over 35 years was recognised by the prestigious award of the Queen's Anniversary Prize for Further and Higher Education 2009 in a ceremony at Buckingham Palace in February 2010.

You can see the video on our website, on Local Government TV, and on YouTube. Follow these links:

SPRU: *http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/spru/news/video.html*

Local Government TV:
http://www.localgovernmentchannel.com/conference_tv/#/v/research_in_education/

YouTube: *http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p_IVM_xBITU*

Jonathan Bradshaw elected as Fellow of the British Academy

SPRU is delighted to announce that Professor Jonathan Bradshaw, SPRU's first Director, was elected as a Fellow of the British Academy on 23rd July 2010 at their Annual General Meeting.

The British Academy, established by Royal Charter in 1902, is the national body that champions and supports the humanities and social sciences. It aims to inspire, recognise and support excellence and high achievement across the UK and internationally.

Each year, the British Academy elects to its Fellowship outstanding scholars who have achieved distinction in the humanities and social sciences.

Speaking of his election Professor Bradshaw said: *"It is a great honour to have been elected a Fellow of the British Academy and I feel that it is also a tribute to the many colleagues I have worked with over the years."*

Professor Bradshaw was founding Director of the Social Policy Research Unit from 1973 to 1987 and served two terms as Head of the Department of Social Policy and Social Work at the University of York, 1988-1994 and 2003-2007. He also served as Director of the Institute for Research in the Social Sciences 1994-1998. He was president of the Foundation for International Studies in Social Security 1999-2003 and has been on the research committee of the International Social Security Association since 1998. He was appointed Academician of the Learned Societies for the Social Sciences in 1996, and made a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in 2005 for services to child poverty.

SPRU Seminar Series 2010

The 2010 SPRU Seminar Series explored the issues around the functioning of the modern state and its relationship to its citizens, hearing from many different speakers about their research and perspectives on this new emphasis in health and social care policy and practice.

People, Policy & Personalisation: Critical Perspectives

Personalisation and citizenship: A critical international and gendered review of markets and independence

Professor Kirsten Rummery, University of Stirling

Problems with personalisation: issues and dilemmas for adults with learning disabilities

Dr Rachel Fyson, University of Nottingham

Personalised conditionality and support in welfare to work policy

Professor Paul Gregg, University of Bristol

Exploring the potential impact of personalisation for social care with rural older people

Dr Martin Stevens, King's College London

Investing in personalised lifetime care and support: disability policy reform in Australia

Dr Michele Foster, University of Queensland

Partnerships and personalisation: what do direct payments and personal budgets mean for health care?

Professor John Glasby, University of Birmingham

Individualism, collectivism and social care

Dr Iain Ferguson, University of Stirling

Queen's Anniversary Prize Lecture

Personal Choice in Public Services: Illusion or Solution?
Professor Julian Le Grand, London School of Economics

Where should we go next on child well-being research?
Professor Jonathan Bradshaw and Gwyther Rees

Queen's Anniversary Prize Lecture 2010

The 2010 SPRU Seminar Series culminated in the Queen's Anniversary Prize lecture given by Professor Julian le Grand. With a large and responsive audience, Professor Le Grand examined the increasing emphasis on personalisation in health and education, and posed the question of whether this emphasis will promote quality, equity and efficiency in public services or prove a recipe for exploitation, inequality and waste. The debate continued afterwards at the drinks reception, giving attendees a chance for one-to-one discussion with Professor Le Grand of this complex and vital issue.

Professor Le Grand is an economist by background, but has been a key figure in social policy for many years and currently holds the Richard Titmuss Chair in Social Policy at the London School of Economics. He has not only a distinguished academic reputation but also an impressive track record of advice giving - to both national and international governments, to the World Bank and the World Health Organisation, to the NHS and to research funding bodies.

Professor Le Grand and SPRU Director, Professor Gillian Parker

The Social Policy Research Unit (SPRU) is a research centre based at the University of York. Since it was established in 1973, it has become recognised as one of the leading centres for research in social policy in the UK. SPRU has an international reputation for excellence in research in key areas of social policy, especially children, disability, social work, health and social care, poverty, welfare, family and employment.

Research within the Unit is organised around four research teams, each of which is led by a Research Director:

Children and Young People's Social Work Team
- led by Professor Nina Biehal

Children and Families Team
- led by Dr Bryony Beresford

Welfare and Employment Team
- led by Professor Roy Sainsbury

Adults, Older People and Carers Team
- led by Professor Caroline Glendinning

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Social Policy Research Unit
Director: Professor Gillian Parker

Adults, Older People & Carers
Research Director:
Professor Caroline Glendinning

Children & Families
Research Director:
Dr Bryony Beresford

Welfare and Employment
Research Director:
Professor Roy Sainsbury

Children & Young People's Social Work
Research Director:
Professor Nina Biehal

SPRU Support Staff
The administration of the Unit is organised by the Support Staff Team – led by Jeanette Whalley

The Welfare and Employment Team is led by Professor Roy Sainsbury. Its research focuses on employment, welfare to work policy, health, work and well-being, sickness and disability, families and children, and social security.

Welfare and Employment

Research projects during 2010

Health, Work and Well-being Co-ordinators and the Challenge Fund

Ongoing project

Department for Work and Pensions

January 2010 to November 2012

Roy Sainsbury, Anne Corden, Linda Cusworth, Annie Irvine, Katharine Weston, in collaboration with Ipsos MORI

A review by Dame Carol Black of the health of Britain's working age population, *Working for a Healthier Tomorrow*, was published in 2008. One of its recommendations was the appointment of Health, Work and Well-being Co-ordinators in the nine English regions and in Scotland and Wales. The co-ordinators, working with Regional Directors of Public Health (and their equivalent in Scotland and Wales) have the task of promoting action on health, work and well-being in a number of ways, including:

- acting as a catalyst for action, developing and encouraging partnerships between employment, health and other relevant networks within their area
- administering the Challenge Fund (see below)
- recognising and promoting best practice and innovation within firms on health, employment and skills.

The Health Work and Well-being Challenge Fund is a grant scheme open to small and medium enterprises and local partnerships to improve workplace health and well-being through innovative initiatives.

The research being carried out by SPRU aims to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of the co-ordinators and the Challenge Fund. The evaluation programme includes:

- a survey of businesses and organisations with whom co-ordinators have contact
- a survey of Challenge Fund winning organisations
- in-depth case studies of a sub-sample of Challenge Fund winners
- collection and analysis of quantitative data on the work of the co-ordinators
- a series of qualitative interviews with co-ordinators, Directors of Public Health and key policy makers.

The introduction of Health Work and Well-being co-ordinators and the establishment of the Challenge Fund are fresh initiatives designed to lead to improvements in the health of the UK working age population. This evaluative project will therefore produce analysis on which decisions about future policy will be based, and will generate examples of effective practice that can inform the development of health and well-being services across the UK Regions.

Evaluation of the Fit for Work services pilots

Ongoing project

Department for Work and Pensions and the Department of Health

February 2010 to December 2011

Roy Sainsbury, Jacqueline Davidson, Katharine Weston, Annie Irvine in collaboration with the Institute for Employment Studies, University of Liverpool, National Institute of Economic and Social Research and Gfk NOP

A review by Dame Carol Black of the health of Britain's working age population, *Working for a Healthier Tomorrow*, was published in 2008. One of its recommendations was the establishment of services (known as Fit for Work services) for people off work through sickness or disability to help them return to work. Many companies have occupational health services that carry out this function so the new services were intended mainly for employees in SMEs (small and medium sized enterprises).

The services have initially been set up as pilots in 11 sites in the UK. This evaluation is intended to assess the impact of the pilots, to understand effective practice and to gauge their cost-effectiveness.

The evaluation consists of:

- longitudinal process visits in each of the 11 pilots
- a two-wave survey of users of the services
- a qualitative, longitudinal study of users' experiences
- analysis of sick note data
- a focused study of GPs' views and use of Fit for Work services.

The evaluation was delayed as a result of the general election of 2010 and subsequent review of research funding. The project was resumed in September 2010 and data collection for the process visits began in October. The other components of the research design will be carried out during 2011.

Lessons learned from the evaluation will help policy makers decide whether and how a national Fit for Work Service should be rolled out in the future.

A qualitative study exploring employers' recruitment behaviour and decisions: small and medium enterprises

Completed project
Department for Work and Pensions
August 2009 to November 2010
Roy Sainsbury and Jacqueline Davidson

This study explored the factors which influence the decision-making processes in small and medium firms' recruitment decisions. Small and medium firms are prevalent in the UK economy yet little was known about their recruitment processes. This was at a time when raising the employment rates of disabled people and other disadvantaged groups was a key government priority.

Much research on decision-making processes is generated from retrospective accounts. This project targeted specific job vacancies as they arose in two local labour markets. This innovative methodology allowed the mapping of employers' decision-making processes before and after a successful candidate had been selected. Methods included a literature review as well as face-to-face and telephone follow-up interviews with 30 employers in small and medium enterprises.

The findings of the research will be used to inform the Department for Work and Pensions' policy for supporting and engaging with small and medium enterprises in their recruitment of disabled people.

A draft report was submitted to DWP in November 2010.

Publication
Davidson, J. (forthcoming) *A Qualitative Study Exploring Employers' Recruitment Behaviour and Decisions*: *Small and medium enterprises,* HMSO, Norwich.

The measurement of extreme poverty in the European Union

Completed project
European Commission
August 2009 to October 2010
Jonathan Bradshaw and Emese Mayhew

Since the expansion of the European Union (EU), the problems of accurately measuring poverty rates have intensified. The Commission is now exploring ways to reflect better the most extreme forms of poverty as they persist across the EU.

The purpose of the study was to investigate and to discuss the feasibility of meaningful and agreeable concepts, definitions and ways to measure extreme poverty at EU level. The research included:

- a critical review of approaches to measuring extreme poverty
- secondary data analysis of the European Union Survey of Income and Living Conditions (SILC) which tested out some indicators of extreme poverty
- a review of extreme poverty thresholds in use in member states, using national informants
- comparative analysis of the level of social assistance schemes in the existing EU countries using model family methods.

The project provided the EU with a range of options for measuring extreme poverty across the disparate economies of the current and accession states. Presentations and papers are available on:
http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/spru/research/summs/extreme.html

Publications
Bradshaw, J. and Mayhew, E. (2011) *The Measurement of Extreme Poverty in the European Union,* European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, Brussels.

Bradshaw, J. and Mayhew, E. (2010) Understanding extreme poverty in the European Union, *European Journal of Homelessness*, 4, 171-186.

Single working age benefit qualitative research

Completed project

Department for Work and Pensions

September 2009 to June 2010

Roy Sainsbury and Katharine Weston

There is widespread acceptance that the social security system is too complex. All the main political parties over the past few years have acknowledged that the system is so complex that it has become dysfunctional, causing problems for claimants and officials alike and hampering welfare to work policy. In response, the previous government began developing policy ideas for the simplification of the benefit system, one example of which was the 'single working age benefit'.

The idea behind the 'single working age benefit' was to merge Job Seekers Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support and Incapacity Benefit into a single out-of-work benefit for working age claimants.

Although simplification was the subject of intensive discussion within government, little was known about public attitudes to such radical benefit reform. Hence DWP commissioned the Social Policy Research Unit to carry out exploratory qualitative research to understand the views of claimants and benefit advisers about simplification in principle and about the single working age benefit in particular.

The study used qualitative research methods. Separate focus groups of benefit recipients and benefit and employment advisers were held in November and December 2009 in four locations in Great Britain. The groups addressed a number of policy questions, including:

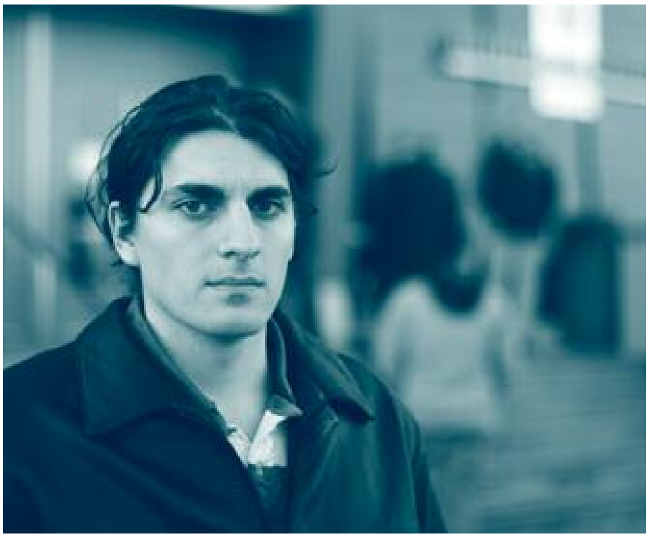
- is there support for moving towards a single working age benefit?
- would it reduce uncertainties about entitlement and about trying work?
- would people's diverse needs be met by a single working age benefit?

The findings suggested that there was considerable support for the principle of radical simplification of the benefit system, and that many features of the single working age benefit appealed to benefit claimants and advisers alike. However, most research participants said that the fine detail of any new benefit system (especially benefit payment levels and conditionality requirements) would ultimately determine whether they supported proposals for reform.

Publication of the report from the project was delayed by the 2010 General Election but it was eventually released in June 2010. The report has subsequently informed the development of thinking within the new Coalition government about welfare reform and was cited in the Government White Paper *Universal Credit: Welfare that works*, published in November 2010.

Publication

Sainsbury, R. and Weston, K. (2010) *Exploratory Qualitative Research on the 'Single Working Age Benefit'*, Department for Work and Pensions Research Report, No. 659, HMSO, Norwich.



UK expert on National Action Plans for Social Inclusion

Ongoing project

European Commission

January 2003 onwards

Jonathan Bradshaw; Fran Bennett (University of Oxford)

In 2003 we were asked by the European Union to perform the role of UK National Experts for the Network of Independent Experts on Social Inclusion. The Network was established to provide an independent report on the National Action Plans for Social Inclusion. These are prepared by the member states every two years. This process is part of the Open Method of Coordination which was established by the European Commission following the Lisbon Council in 2000.

Every year we write three 'Semester Reports' for the Commission and a coordinating team writes a synthesis report. In 2010 we wrote three reports:

- Bradshaw, J. and Mayhew, E. (2010) The Measurement of Extreme Poverty in the United Kingdom.
- Bradshaw, J., Bennett, F. and Mayhew, E. (2010) In-work Poverty, Labour Market Segmentation and Active Inclusion.
- Bennett, F. and Bradshaw, J. (2010) Social Impact of the Crisis and Developments in the Light of Fiscal Consolidation Measures: A Study of National Policies.

Publications

Not all the reports are published but some are made available by the EU on this website: http://www.peer-review-social-inclusion.eu/network-of-independent-experts

Mode effects in qualitative interviews: a comparison of semi-structured face-to-face and telephone interviews using conversation analysis

Completed project
Economic and Social Research Council
July 2009 to June 2010
Annie Irvine and Roy Sainsbury; Paul Drew (Department of Sociology)

This study explored what interactional differences (if any) exist between semi-structured qualitative research interviews conducted by telephone or face-to-face. A range of pragmatic and ethical arguments have been presented in the literature as to why one or other of these two modes might be preferable. However, the ways in which the spoken interaction and resulting data are affected by qualitative interview mode have received little systematic investigation. The study drew upon existing data from a project that had used both interview modes. Six telephone interviews and five face-to-face interviews were compared using techniques and concepts from the method of conversation analysis.

The study's overall aim was to increase knowledge about how interview mode (telephone or face-to-face) influences the structure and content of qualitative interview interactions and to consider the implications of any differences for the data that is thereby generated. While the study was small scale, our findings tentatively suggest that there are some interactional differences to be found between telephone and face-to-face interviews. However, the practical and ethical implications of these differences may vary according to the specific aims of any given study.

The project had a primarily methodological focus and its main impact has been to stimulate critical thinking and discussion among practising social researchers on the use of telephone interviews and the potential implications for research practice. Our methods and findings have been presented at a number of conferences and workshops, and several individual enquiries have been received from post-graduate students and researchers. A key dissemination activity was a one-day workshop, held in May 2010, involving an invited group of 15 experienced research practitioners and leading academics from diverse qualitative research backgrounds (see page 7). Among this group, there was significant interest in further analysis of how mode might affect the substantive content of the interview data and comments about the potential for a greater focus on telephone interviewing in research methods training.

Published and forthcoming outputs from this study include academic articles and practical guidance for researchers on conducting qualitative interviews by telephone.

Publications

Irvine, A. (2010) *Using Phone Interviews*, Realities Toolkit 14, Realities, University of Manchester, Manchester.

Irvine, A., Drew, P. and Sainsbury, R. (2010) Mode effects in qualitative interviews: a comparison of semi-structured face-to-face and telephone interviews using conversation analysis, *Research Works*, 2010-03, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

The Adults, Older People and Carers Team is led by Professor Caroline Glendinning. Research carried out within the Team focuses on social care and other services for adults and older people with disabilities or long-term illnesses, and their families.

Adults, Older People and Carers

Research projects during 2010

Department of Health Programme, 2006-2010: Choice and independence across the lifecourse

Ongoing research programme
Department of Health, Policy Research Programme
January 2006 to February 2011
Programme leader: Caroline Glendinning;
Hilary Arksey, Kate Baxter, Bryony Beresford, Jane Madison, Wendy Mitchell, Parvaneh Rabiee, Alison Wilde

Increasing choice for users of public services is at the heart of government policy. In 2005 a raft of policy proposals was announced aimed at increasing choice and control by users of social care services. Subsequent developments have extended these ambitions and include the piloting of Individual Budgets (IBs); the roll-out of personal budgets across English adult social care services; and the piloting of personal health budgets (PHBs) in the NHS. Reflecting the focus of SPRU's previous Department of Health (DH) funded research programme, social and healthcare services now aim to achieve personalised outcomes for users as well as improve independence and quality of life.

These policies have prompted major academic debates about consumerism and choice in welfare services. Some argue that increased choice is a necessary response to changing expectations in post-modern societies; others question the appropriateness for public policy of assumptions derived from private consumer practices and the transfer of risk from public bodies to individual users. These debates underpin SPRU's Department of Health-funded research programme.

The programme focuses on the experiences of choice and personalisation by disabled young people, adults and older people; the information and other support needed to exercise choice; the consequences of making choices; and the responses of service providers to increased opportunities for individualised commissioning or purchasing. The programme addresses the following questions:

- What kinds of choices over social care and other services are important to disabled and ill young people, adults and older people and their families/carers, and why? How do these choices vary between the different groups? How do choices relate to experiences of independence and well-being?
- What opportunities do disabled and chronically ill young people, adults and older people and their families/carers have to make choices that are important to them? What information and other support are needed to facilitate choice?
- What roles do carers and professionals play in supporting choice and what are the implications for their own choices and quality of life?
- What are the consequences of choice on the part of disabled and chronically ill young people, adults and older people and their families/carers?
- How do service providers respond to increased opportunities for user choice?

Ongoing project within SPRU's DH programme:

- Choice and change: extending choice and control over the lifecourse - a qualitative longitudinal panel study

This study forms the core of the DH programme. It examines the realities of exercising choice in the context of changing circumstances, whether these arise from changes in illness or disability or from other social transitions. This includes investigating the consequences of past choices; the roles of family and professionals in making choices; the responses of service providers, and the impacts of choices on experiences of independence and well-being (page 19).

Completed projects within SPRU's DH programme:

- Scoping studies
  1. *Understanding the dynamics of decision-making and choice about social care and related services*
  2. *Welfare consumerism, disability and social care*
  3. *Examining the dynamics of choice: the context of informal care (complementary to the DH Programme)*

  These three scoping studies have critically appraised existing research in order to: identify gaps in evidence; contribute to theoretical debate and conceptual frameworks relating to choices about social care and related services; and inform the empirical studies carried out within the programme.

- *Domiciliary care agencies' responses to increased user choice: perceived threats, barriers and opportunities from a changing market*
- *Individual budgets: impact and outcomes for carers*
- *Reforming long-term care: recent lessons from other countries*
- *Transition to adult services of disabled young people leaving 'out of authority' residential schools*

Completed 'responsive' mode projects
SPRU's DH programme funding included a responsive element that allowed additional research that was urgently required by DH policy makers to be commissioned at short notice:

- *Access to information about social care - response to recommendation from the Better Regulation Task Force*
- *Review of research on risk and social care*
- *Home care re-ablement services: investigating the longer-term impacts (prospective longitudinal study) (page 23)*
- *Scoping review of research on interventions to support carers (page 24)*

Other research projects that complement SPRU's DH Programme:

- *National Evaluation of Individual Budgets Pilot Projects (IBSEN)*
- *Investigating the longer-term effects of home care re-ablement services (retrospective longitudinal study)*
- *Care provision within families and its socio-economic impact on care providers*
- *The meaning of independence for older people (page 25)*
- *National evaluation of Personal Health Budget Pilot Projects (page 22)*
- *Personal Budgets: learning from experiences of older people and people with mental health problems (page 23)*

Choice and change: extending choice and control over the lifecourse – a qualitative longitudinal panel study

Ongoing project

Department of Health, Policy Research Programme

May 2006 to February 2011

Caroline Glendinning, Hilary Arksey, Kate Baxter, Jane Maddison, Wendy Mitchell, Parvaneh Rabiee, Alison Wilde

This panel study forms the core of the Department of Health Programme. It examines the service user's experience of making choices about services in the context of changing circumstances, whether these arise from changes in illness or disability or from other social transitions. It also examines the consequences of past choices, including the responses of service providers; and the impacts of choices on perceived independence and quality of life.

The study involves three groups of people likely to experience changes over time in their support needs:

- young people with deteriorating conditions and their parents
- adults and older people with fluctuating support needs
- adults and older people who have experienced the sudden onset of a disabling condition.

Participants have been interviewed at regular intervals over three years. Complementary interviews have also been conducted with subsamples of key professionals and/or family members who have been heavily involved in specific recent choices. As well as tracking changes in individual circumstances and interviewees' responses to these, cross-cutting themes are examining issues such as:

- the role of carers and professionals in supporting choices
- the perceived responses of service providers to user choice in the context of subsequent changes
- the use of information and other sources of help in making choices.

Fieldwork for the study began during 2007, with the last round of interviews taking place in autumn 2009. 2010 has been spent analysing the data from the study; synthesising findings for academic, policy and practitioner audiences; writing journal articles and continuing an extensive schedule of presentations to academic and practitioner audiences at home and abroad. Details available here: *http://php.york.ac.uk/inst/spru/research/summs/DHPpanel.php*

Publications

Baxter, K. and Glendinning, C. (in press) Making choices about support services: disabled adults' and older people's use of information, *Health and Social Care in the Community* (Available online from 15 December 2010).

Mitchell, W. (2010) 'I know how I feel': listening to young people with life-limiting conditions who have learning and communication impairments, *Qualitative Social Work*, 9, 2, 185-203.

Mitchell, W. and Sloper, P. (in press) Making choices in my life: listening to the ideas and experiences of young people in the UK who communicate non-verbally, *Children and Youth Services Review* (Available online from 2 June 2010).

Rabiee, P. and Glendinning, C. (2010) Choice: what, when and why? Exploring the importance of choice to disabled people, *Disability & Society*, 25, 7, 827-839.

Glendinning, C. (2008) Increasing choice and control for older and disabled people: a critical review of new developments in England, *Social Policy and Administration*, 42, 5, 451-469.

Assessing outcomes of integrated care for long-term neurological conditions

Ongoing project

The National Institute for Health Research Service Delivery and Organisation (NIHR SDO)

April 2010 to September 2012

Gillian Parker, Fiona Aspinal, Sylvia Bernard, Gemma Spiers

Recent policy promotes integrated care provision 'to enable partners to join together to design and deliver services around the needs of users rather than worrying about the boundaries of their organisations' (DH, 2008). It is assumed that these 'arrangements should help eliminate unnecessary gaps and duplications between services' (ibid). However, although policies that promote integration assume that we know integrated care does make a difference, the research literature is equivocal on the subject.

The research will address several different issues around this theme. First, it will explore models of integrated care and how the structures within which they are delivered affect them. Secondly, it will investigate the outcomes people with long-term neurological conditions (LTNCs) want. It will then develop ways of routinely assessing these outcomes in models of integrated care. This will enable a proper examination of whether an integrated approach can help deliver these outcomes. Finally, the project will explore if and how outcome assessment influences practice in the different models of integrated care.

The project is based on qualitative case studies in four areas in England that have an innovative model of integrated practice. Methods include in-depth interviews, documentary analysis and non-participant observation.

The project will produce messages about integrated health and social care that can be used to improve services in further areas, including how structures and ways of working can support how integrated services are delivered at the individual level. It will: indicate which models of integration offer potential for being implemented in other places; outline the outcomes that people with LTNCs, rather than professionals, want from integrated services; demonstrate ways in which these outcomes can be used to influence the ways services are delivered.

Given the forthcoming structural changes in public services, this research also provides a real-time observation of the impact of policy on integrated approaches to health and social care provision and commissioning in general, as well as its effect on the models of integrated practice involved in the research.

(For a related project see page 25)

Care and support for people with complex and severe needs: innovations and practice. A scoping study

Ongoing project

National Institute for Health Research, School for Social Care Research

June 2010 to January 2012

Kate Gridley, Jenni Brooks, Caroline Glendinning

People with complex and severe needs constitute a relatively small proportion of all adult social care users. However, they are growing in number, and meeting their needs can be problematic for service commissioners and providers. In particular, they often need personalised, co-ordinated and specialised services from a wide range of providers, which can be difficult to commission and deliver.

This study aims to identify:

- key features of the service and support arrangements desired by different groups of disabled adults and older people with severe and complex needs
- examples of initiatives to deliver support to disabled people with complex and severe needs. These should have features desired by users and carers and the potential to constitute examples of 'good practice'. Examples may focus on some or all of the different levels of commissioning, operational organisation and front-line delivery.

To do this we will:

- consult with key stakeholders, including organizations of and for service users and carers
- review recent research and literature on relevant service developments and initiatives
- conduct up to six case studies of good practice in service provision or commissioning, identified through the above two stages.

The detailed descriptions of the case studies will provide an invaluable starting point for the future evaluation of service models.

The study aims to generate evidence to inform social care practice in commissioning and providing personalised support to people with complex and severe needs. An important feature of these services models is that they will be in accordance with those service features that are highly valued by services users and carers themselves. There will be a particular focus on the role of social care in co-ordinating or collaborating with other providers over the commissioning, organisation and delivery of services. Another important aspect is in identifying examples of good practice that have the potential to be transferrable to other similar groups of service users.

Summaries of the study findings will be disseminated widely to all English adult social care departments, NHS primary care trusts and relevant voluntary sector organisations. The results of the study will also be disseminated through the NIHR School for Social Care Research's knowledge transfer activities.

Home care for the elderly and disabled in foreign countries

Ongoing project

Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports, France

January 2010 – March 2011

Caroline Glendinning, Alison Wilde (SPRU); Tine Rostgaard, National Centre for Social Research, Denmark (co-ordinator); Cristiano Gori, Personal Social Services Research Unit, London School of Economics; Teppo Kröger, Department of Social Sciences, University of Jyväskylä, Finland; August Österle, Institute for Social Policy, Vienna University of Economics, Austria; Marta Szebehely, Department of Social Work, University of Stockholm, Sweden; Virpi Timonen, School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland; Mia Vabø, NOVA, Oslo, Norway

The study aims to identify how European countries have reformed their home help and home care systems in order to achieve:

- high quality care which meets increasingly diversified and individualised needs
- effective and efficient services
- stronger user orientations in the provision of care
- an optimal balance of responsibility between formal and informal care
- the best way of attracting and retaining home care workers.

Key areas of interest include:

- drivers/pressures for reform
- boundaries of home care
- arrangements for organisation, funding, provision and regulation of home care
- home care workforce
- quality assessment
- impacts on users.

Each participating researcher is contributing a report on developments in her/his own country, written to a common structure, but emphasising particular unique national features where relevant. All participating researchers will contribute to a concluding comparative chapter.

The English contribution draws on SPRU's extensive body of research into the funding, organisation and delivery of personalised home care services and will inform debates within France about the reform of these services.

National Evaluation of Caring with Confidence

Ongoing project

Department of Health

June 2008 to May 2011

Hilary Arksey (SPRU); Lisa Buckner, Ana-Claudia Bara, Gary Fry, Viktoria Joynes, Benedict Singleton, Sue Yeandle, (University of Leeds)

Caring with Confidence (previously known as the Expert Carers Programme) was a Government initiative designed to make a positive difference to the lives of unpaid carers of chronically sick, disabled or older people and those they support. Carers aged 18 years and over living in England could access training modules via group face-to-face sessions, self-study packs or online resources. The training sessions were intended to:

- help carers build on their strengths as a carer
- give carers the opportunity to share experiences and learn from others in similar situations
- give carers useful information and ideas about care-giving
- help carers decide what they might like to change about their caring role.

Initially, the Programme was planned to run until March 2011, but the Coalition Government terminated it six months early at the end of September 2010. The evaluation is continuing and will report at the end of May 2011 on: the Programme's impact as a source of support to carers in England and the effects of the Programme as perceived by both carers and the providers delivering it.

The evaluation has adopted a mixed-methods approach. This includes three surveys, at different points in time, of carers who have taken part in Caring with Confidence sessions. The longitudinal survey work is designed to shed light on the longer-term effects of the Programme. In addition, in-depth case study work with a number of training providers has been undertaken. Providers have been selected to represent a range of organisation types, geographical spread and training media. The case studies are intended to determine what design, styles and delivery of training work best for different groups of carers.

The final report will provide a robust evidence base for decision-making about the way Caring with Confidence-type training should be developed and focused in the future.

National Evaluation of the Personal Health Budget Pilot Projects

Ongoing project

Department of Health

November 2009 to October 2012

Caroline Glendinning, Jacqueline Davidson, Annie Irvine (SPRU); Julien Forder, Karen Jones, James Caiels, Lizzie Welch, Karen Windle (Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent); Paul Dolan (LSE); Dominic King (Imperial College, London)

Personal Health Budgets (PHBs) make transparent the resources available for an individual's care, and give patients choice over how best to achieve desired health-related outcomes. PHBs are held by healthcare professionals or by patients themselves in the form of a cash direct payment. PHBs are being piloted in 70 English Primary Care Trusts from 2009. The evaluation aims to establish whether PHBs lead to better health and social care outcomes, compared with conventional services. The evaluation is examining:

- processes of implementing PHBs
- impacts of PHBs on different groups of patients and carers
- cost-effectiveness of PHBs, compared to conventional services
- impacts of PHBs on healthcare professionals, NHS organisations and the wider health and social care systems.

The evaluation has a quasi-experimental design; clinical and experiential outcomes for specific groups of patients receiving PHBs are compared with those for patients using standard healthcare.

SPRU's role in the evaluation is to conduct and analyse semi-structured interviews with subsamples of PHB holders. These interviews take place three months after the offer of a PHB, to assess experiences of planning how to use a PHB; and again at nine months, to assess longer-term outcomes from patients' perspectives. Patients included are those:

- receiving NHS Continuing Care
- with diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, long-term neurological conditions and mental health problems
- suffering from stroke.

Single semi-structured interviews will also be conducted with PHB holders using maternity services and with carers of people who received PHBs for end-of-life care.

PHBs represent a major change to NHS practice. The evaluation will determine whether PHBs should replace or supplement traditional ways of allocating resources and delivering health care. The evaluation will also inform decisions on the wider implementation of PHBs beyond the pilots.

Publications

Jones, K., Caiels, J., Forder, J., Windle , K., Welch, E., Dolan, P., Glendinning, C. and King, D. (2010) *Early Experiences of Implementing Personal Health Budgets*, PSSRU Discussion Paper, 2726/2, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

Jones, K., Welch, E., Caiels, J., Windle, K., Forder, J., Davidson, J., Dolan, P., Glendinning, C., Irvine, A. and King, D. (2010) *Experiences of Implementing Personal Health Budgets: 2nd interim report*, PSSRU Discussion Paper, 2747/2, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

Reforms in long-term care policies in European Union countries

Ongoing project

National Research Centre of SPI-CGIL (Italian Pensioners' Trade Union)

November 2009 to January 2011

Caroline Glendinning, SPRU, England; Costanzo Ranci, Polytechnic of Milan, Italy (co-convenor); Emmanuele Pavolini, University of Macerata, Italy (co-convenor); August Österle, Institute for Social Policy, Vienna University of Economics, Austria; Viola Burau, University of Aarhus, Denmark; Claude Martin, French School of Public Health and University of Rennes, France; Blanche LeBihan, French School of Public Health and University of Rennes, France; Hanne Marlene Dahl, University of Roskilde, Denmark; Hildegard Theobald, University of Vechta, Germany; Marta Szebehely, Department of Social Work, University of Stockholm, Sweden; Barbara daRoit, University of Utrecht, Netherlands; Gregorio Rodríguez-Cabrero, University de Alcalá de Henares, Spain

In response to the twin pressures of demographic ageing and the reduced availability of family care, many EU countries have reformed arrangements for long-term care over the past 15 years. Using a common theoretical framework derived from political science and sociological studies of institutional change, this study aims to:

- describe changes in long-term care policies in nine Western European countries over the past two decades
- examine how far reforms are leading to a convergence between models that were originally developed in very diverse institutional and economic contexts.

Each participating researcher is contributing a report on reforms in her/his own country, written to a common structure, but emphasising unique national features where relevant. Participating researchers will also contribute to a concluding comparative chapter.

Developing appropriate and sustainable long-term care arrangements is a major challenge for all welfare states; many have hitherto not provided adequate coverage for the new risk of dependency. The study will contribute to the development of theoretical approaches to comparative social policy. It will also add to the understanding of the recent changes in the contexts of common demographic, social and economic pressures.

Personal Budgets: learning from experiences of older people and people with mental health problems

Completed project

Social Care Institute for Excellence

November 2009 to November 2010

Hilary Arksey, Caroline Glendinning (SPRU); Liz Newbronner, Ruth Chamberlain, Chris Bartlett, Kate Bosanquet (ActonShapiro); Sue Bott, Bernd Sass (National Centre for Independent Living)

Personal budgets are at the core of current developments in adult social care policy and practice. They offer greater choice and control to people needing social care, by specifying the resources available and allowing individual support needs to be met flexibly from a wide range of sources. However, some groups of service users appear to derive fewer benefits from personal budgets than others.

The project involved primary research into the experiences of older people and people with mental health problems, and their respective carers, in planning for and using personal budgets. This research evidence will be used to develop learning materials and other support for good practice. The project had two phases:

- a search of research and other relevant literature, and interviews with representatives from key national organisations, to identify examples of good practice
- case study work in eight local authorities, to examine front-line practice and the experiences of personal budget holders and carers.

Service users were actively involved in all stages of the project, including conducting interviews with personal budget holders and carers.

By identifying good practice from the experiences of personal budget holders and using these experiences as the basis of learning materials for front-line staff and others, the project will help local authorities to develop appropriate arrangements for assessment, support planning and on-going budget management. This will maximise the benefits of personal budgets for these groups.

Publication

Newbronner, L., Chamberlain, R., Bosanquet, K., Bartlett, C., Sass, B. and Glendinning C. (2011) *Keeping Personal Budgets Personal: Learning from the experiences of older people, people with mental health problems and their carers*, Adults' Services Report, 40, Social Care Institute for Excellence, London.

Home care re-ablement services: investigating the longer-term impacts. A prospective longitudinal study

Completed project

Department of Health

April 2008 to November 2010

Caroline Glendinning, Hilary Arksey, Kate Baxter, Parvaneh Rabiee and Alison Wilde (SPRU); Karen Jones, Julien Forder and Lesley Curtis (Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent)

English local authorities are increasingly developing specialist home care re-ablement teams that work intensively with people, newly referred for home care support, to increase their skills, confidence and ability to live independently. Previous research suggests that the benefits of re-ablement may be significant and sustained, possibly delaying subsequent needs for services by up to two years. Many re-ablement services started as selective schemes, primarily accepting people discharged from hospital; however most are now highly inclusive, accepting almost all those referred for home care services.

This study aimed to:

- examine the immediate and longer-term effects of home care re-ablement
- identify factors affecting the level and duration of benefits
- describe the content and costs of home care re-ablement and the relationships to service outcomes
- identify any impacts on, and savings in, the use of social care and other services that could be set against the costs of re-ablement services.

The study followed users of home care re-ablement services in five different local authorities for up to a year. It compared their outcomes and use of services against the experiences of service users in five other localities who used conventional home care services. The study included an examination of the organisation and delivery of home care re-ablement services, in order to identify those features that appear to contribute to optimum outcomes for service users. The study used both quantitative and qualitative methods and included semi-structured interviews with re-ablement service users and their carers.

The study found that:

- There were no net cost savings to health and social care in the first year of re-ablement, compared with conventional home care. However, home care re-ablement is almost certainly cost-effective because of improved outcomes for users.
- Re-ablement was associated with a significant decrease in subsequent social care service use. The costs of the social care services (excluding the cost of re-ablement itself) used in the 12-month study period by people in the re-ablement

group were 60 per cent less than the costs of the social care services used by people in the conventional home care group. However, these lower costs were almost entirely offset by the higher cost of the re-ablement intervention.

- Effective re-ablement services require good initial staff training and on-going supervision; clear outcomes for users and flexibility to adapt these as needs change; and prompt supply of equipment. Prompt transfer to home care for those who need it at the end of re-ablement is essential to maintain capacity in re-ablement services.
- Users and carers were positive about the impact of re-ablement on their independence and confidence, although some would have liked more help with mobility and activities outside the home.

Since the study was commissioned, additional resources have been allocated to NHS organisations to develop re-ablement services, in collaboration with local authority partners; £70 million was allocated to NHS Primary Care Trusts; this will be followed by an additional £150 million in 2011/12, rising to £300 million per annum from 2012 to 2015. This study will inform these new service developments.

Publications

Glendinning, C., Jones, K., Baxter, K., Rabiee, P., Curtis, L., Wilde, A., Arksey, H. and Forder, J. (2010) *Home Care Re-ablement Services: Investigating the longer-term impacts (prospective longitudinal study)*, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

Jones, K., Baxter, K., Curtis, L., Arksey, H., Forder, J., Glendinning, C., and Rabiee, P. (2009) *The Short-term Outcomes and Costs of Home Care Re-ablement Services: Interim report*, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

Rabiee, P., Glendinning, C., Arksey, H., Baxter, K., Jones, K., Forder, J. and Curtis, L. (2009) *The Organisation and Content of Home Care Re-ablement Services: Interim report*, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

Rabiee, P. and Glendinning, C. (forthcoming) Organisation and delivery of home care re-ablement; What makes a difference? *Health and Social Care in the Community*.

Scoping review of research on interventions to support carers

Completed project
Department of Health
August 2009 to January 2010
Gillian Parker and Hilary Arksey

Policy and research interest in carers – those who provide support, on an unpaid basis, to sick, disabled or older people to enable them to live in their own homes – has grown in importance over the past 30 years. Since the first UK review of evidence on carers in 1985, the national and international body of research literature has grown substantially. It now covers data on, inter alia, the prevalence of care-giving; the impact and outcomes of caring for people with care-giving responsibilities; issues related to combining paid work and care; and the effectiveness of support and services for carers. Since 1995, the UK Government has introduced legislation and policy measures aimed specifically at carers, as well as setting up a cross-departmental Standing Commission on Carers. The revised 2008 national strategy contains the Government's ten-year vision for carers.

The aim of the scoping review was to provide the Department of Health with an overview of the evidence base relating to the outcomes and cost-effectiveness of support for carers of adults and older people. Specific objectives of the proposed study were:

- to undertake a scoping review of existing literature reviews, including systematic reviews, on support and interventions for carers
- to map out the extent, range and nature of the identified reviews on support and interventions for carers
- to summarise the main findings of the identified reviews
- to identify gaps and weaknesses in the evidence base.

The scoping review covered national and international literature reviews published since 2000 and written in English.

The findings have informed the work of the Standing Commission on Carers. They are intended to inform policy and practice, as well as identifying areas where research on the effectiveness of interventions to support carers is required.

Publication

Parker, G., Arksey, H. and Harden, M. (2011) *Meta-review of International Evidence on Interventions to Support Carers*, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

Integrated services for people with long-term neurological conditions: an evaluation of the National Service Framework

Completed project

NIHR Service Delivery and Organisation programme

May 2006 to January 2010

Gillian Parker, Sylvia Bernard, Fiona Aspinal, Kate Gridley

The National Service Framework (NSF) for Long-Term Neurological Conditions (LTNCs) encourages service providers to integrate specialist and non-specialist services within the health service, social services, the voluntary or independent sectors and other services. However, there is little guidance about what helps organisations to do this, or about how to judge whether they have achieved it.

This project aimed to:

- identify which models of service provision work well in delivering continuity of care from the perspectives of service users and the professionals who deliver them
- identify what helps or hinders integrated services
- design a national benchmarking system, based on these factors.

We carried out a scoping exercise and rapid review of evidence on the impact and costs of integrated models of care for people with LTNCs. Next, in-depth case studies were undertaken in six neurology 'service systems' to identify the key indicators of good quality, integrated service provision. They also sought to understand its impact on service users and their families or carers, and professionals.

The information from these two stages was used to develop benchmarks to assess the type, quality and impact of integrated services. A national baseline benchmarking survey was completed in summer 2009.

The research will help inform policy makers and commissioners about the barriers and facilitators in providing integrated services and the types of services valued by service users. The benchmarks can be used to assess the development of integrated services nationally and locally as the NSF is implemented.

This project was part of the Department of Health Research Initiative for LTNCs. We also worked closely in an advisory and evaluative role with ‘Quality Neurology’. This was a project undertaken by a group of charities representing people affected by LTNCs, to develop an audit tool for self-assessment against NSF Quality Requirements by local health and social care organisations, with validation by local service users and carers.

(For a related project see page 20)

Publications

Bernard, S., Aspinal, F., Gridley, K. and Parker, G. (2010) *Integrated Services for People with Long-term Neurological Conditions: Evaluation of the Impact of the National Service Framework: Final Report*, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

Parker, G., Bernard, S., Gridley, K., Aspinal, F. and Light, K (2010) *Rapid Systematic Review of International Evidence on Integrated Models of Care for People with Long-term Neurological Conditions: Technical Report*, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

Bernard, S., Aspinal, F., Gridley, K. and Parker, G. (2008) Integrated policy making in England for adults with long-term neurological conditions (LTNCs): some preliminary findings from a scoping study, *International Journal of Integrated Care*, 8, 3, 1-8.

The meaning of independence for older people

Ongoing project

Sally Baldwin Studentship - SPRU

January 2008 to February 2011

Alison Allam

This is a PhD study funded by the Sally Baldwin Studentship. Taking a qualitative approach, the study aims to develop an understanding of the meaning and perceptions of independence for older people.

As part of the study a scoping literature review and a review of relevant policy have been completed. Drawing upon these findings, the next stage will involve empirical research using semi-structured interviews with older people; the design, conduct and subsequent analysis of these interviews will adhere to the principles of grounded theory.

The aim of these interviews is to gain an insight into older people’s subjective views of independence. At a wider level this research aims to contribute to the ongoing conceptual and policy debates surrounding independence and ageing.

The Children and Young People's Social Work Team is led by Professor Nina Biehal. Its research focuses on children in and on the edge of care, leaving care, family support, family reunification, abuse and neglect, adoption, young offenders and asylum-seeking children.

Children and Young People's Social Work

Research projects during 2010

Corporate parenting: making the difference?

Ongoing project

The Big Lottery

July 2010 to June 2014

Mike Stein and Jo Dixon (seconded to NCAS/Catch22) in collaboration with the National Care Advisory Service and Catch 22

In England around 60,000 young people are looked after in care at any one time. For those who need to remain in the care system there is a legal duty on local authorities to support them and prepare them for the transition to adulthood. Alongside this statutory framework is the concept of corporate parenting, founded on the principle that a local authority should offer the kind of support that any good parent would provide for their own children.

Despite the legislative duties to support young people and the theoretical framework of corporate parenting, young people from care tend to have poorer outcomes than their same age peers and are over-represented in indicators of social exclusion such as low educational achievement, contact with the criminal justice system, poor health, homelessness and unemployment.

The research will focus on how corporate parenting is being interpreted and delivered across local authorities in England to support young people in and from care. It will aim to identify the key elements of effective corporate parenting. It will examine the impact of corporate parenting policy and practice on the progress and outcomes for young people in and leaving care. These aspects will be judged from the perspective of the young people and those caring for them. The recommendations arising from the research will be used to inform further policy and practice developments.

The study will employ both qualitative and quantitative methods and will include a policy survey, an annual snapshot survey of young people in and from care and a follow-up study of a sub-sample of young people from the year one snapshot. Annual reviews of local and national statistics will also be undertaken. Importantly, young people will be central to the research, as participants, as members of the research steering group and as peer researchers. The peer researcher approach will involve training care-experienced young people in a range of research skills including sample recruitment, data collection, analysis and dissemination.

Evaluation of the social pedagogy pilot programme in residential children's homes

Ongoing project

Department for Education

September 2009 to March 2011

Nina Biehal and Manuel Palomares in partnership with David Berridge, Eleanor Lutman and Lorna Henry

Concerns have long been expressed about the functioning and low status of children's residential care in England. In contrast, an established, higher status, more coherent, professional approach to children's services is evident in several other European countries in the form of social pedagogy. This model is currently being piloted across two areas of England in 18 residential homes. In collaboration with colleagues at the University of Bristol, SPRU is evaluating this national pilot programme.

Social pedagogy is a continental European field of policy, practice and research for working with children, young people and adults. It can be defined as 'education in the broadest sense of the term' and provides a theoretical and practical framework for understanding children's upbringing. Social pedagogy generally emphasises the child as a whole person and provides support for the child's overall development. It has a particular focus on building relationships through practical engagement with children using skills such as art or music or outdoor activities. In residential care for children, it provides a particular expertise in working with groups and using the group as a support for individual children.

The overall aim of the research is to evaluate the implementation and impact of the social pedagogy pilot programme; and to consider whether a social pedagogic approach would be likely to have a positive effect within the context of English residential children's homes. The evaluation will:

- compare the quality of care and outcomes for children and young people placed in 18 homes served by social pedagogues with those for children in 12 comparison homes which are not
- investigate the factors that maximise the likelihood of successful adoption of a pedagogic approach and lessons learned during the course of the pilot programme
- explore children's, pedagogues' and staff views on their experience of living and working in homes which employ social pedagogues.

The results of this evaluation will:

- help policy-makers decide whether a social pedagogical approach should be more widely adopted in children's residential care
- provide guidance on issues which may arise in implementing this approach in an English context.

Fostering unaccompanied asylum-seeking and refugee children

Ongoing project

The Big Lottery Fund

June 2009 to December 2011

Jim Wade, Ala Sirriyeh (SPRU); John Simmonds (British Association of Adoption and Fostering); Ravi Kohli (University of Bedfordshire)

The Big Lottery has funded the British Association of Adoption and Fostering (BAAF), in partnership with Universities of York and Bedfordshire, to carry out research into the fostering experiences of unaccompanied children and their foster carers. The study will describe these experiences, identify specific features of the fostering task in the context of the broad resettlement needs of these children, appraise the support provided to placements by children's services, and assess the factors that facilitate or constrain the making of placements for this group of children.

The project is taking place in four contrasting local councils and involves a number of phases:

- A census study will provide a profile of all unaccompanied children looked after in these councils on a given census date and identify the full range of placements in use.
- A postal survey will be conducted with all foster carers who, on 31 December 2009, were providing a placement for an unaccompanied child. The survey will provide information on the characteristics and history of the child in their care, an assessment of the child's progress, the background and fostering experience of carers, their perceptions of key aspects of the fostering role, and their experiences of training and support provided by children's services.
- A case study sample of 24 children will be selected and interviews will be conducted with them and their foster carers to provide a deeper understanding of their experiences, progress and support.
- Alongside this work, a policy study will be conducted in each area involving practitioner focus groups, key informant interviews and analysis of relevant documents.

The findings will be used to prepare practice guidance to support the development of effective fostering policies and practice with unaccompanied children.

Safeguarding young people: responding to young people (aged 11-17) who are maltreated

Completed project

The Big Lottery Fund

January 2007 to June 2010

Mike Stein (SPRU); Gwyther Rees (The Children's Society); Sarah Gorin (NSPCC)

Young people aged 11 and above are just as likely to be on the child protection register as younger children, and research has highlighted the need for age-specific approaches to child maltreatment. However, in the UK this issue had received little attention, and the little research which had been carried out suggested that older children and young people - those aged 11-17 - were less likely to get a 'child protection' response. We did not know what influenced practitioners when making decisions about referring young people and about what happened when referrals were made. We also knew very little about how young people accessed child protection services.

This research project addressed these issues by exploring current attitudes, practice and policy in relation to the maltreatment of young people. The focus of the research was on initial access to children's services. The main components of the study included:

- a review of the international research literature to identify different approaches to defining maltreatment issues for young people and models of practice
- a study of policy and guidance, including the views of senior policy makers and managers
- a study of attitudes to, and individual definitions of, maltreatment, by professionals working with young people
- a study of practice within children's services and referring agencies in relation to potential child protection cases involving young people.

The study was completed during 2010 and complements research carried out by the same partnership (SPRU, The Children's Society and the NSPCC) on 'adolescent neglect'. The release of the report received widespread media coverage.

One key issue highlighted by the study was that young people find it extremely difficult to disclose maltreatment. Not only do they struggle to strike up trusting relationships with a consistent professional (social workers are often overworked and a young person's social worker can often change), but even when they have this relationship they are acutely aware of the potential ramifications for themselves and their family of disclosing abuse.

The study also highlighted a problem with some professionals' perceptions of the abilities of older children. It found that 11-

17 year olds were often seen as more competent to deal with maltreatment than younger children, including being able to escape abusive situations and seek help, as well as being perceived by some professionals as more 'resilient' – that is, more able to cope with experiences of maltreatment. These perceptions are not supported by research evidence on this topic.

It is important that the evidence on this issue is given more effectively to practitioners and commissioners. The implications for training, practice and service provision must be fully considered. Full recommendations for improvements to policy and practice were made in the report and are also available from the executive summary.

Publication
Rees, G., Gorin, S., Jobe, A., Stein, M., Medford, R. and Goswami, H. (2010) *) Safeguarding Young People: Responding to young people 11 to 17 who are maltreated,* The Children's Society, London.

Outcomes for children placed in care for reasons of abuse or neglect: the consequences of staying in care or returning home

Completed project

Department for Children, Schools and Families, Safeguarding Children Research Initiative

June 2006 to February 2010

Jim Wade, Nicola Farrelly, Nina Biehal and Ian Sinclair

This project was part of a wider Government research initiative on safeguarding children. The study focused on children first placed in care for reasons of abuse or neglect. It compared outcomes for those who remained looked after with those who returned to their families, over an average period of four years. We wanted to understand how decisions for them to remain looked after or return home were reached, the factors that were taken into account when reaching these judgements, and the consequences of these decisions for children some time later with respect to their safety, stability and in relation to a range of psychosocial outcomes.

The study built on our recent Pursuit of Permanence study (undertaken by Professor Ian Sinclair and colleagues) and followed up the same children who participated in that study (a total of 3,872 children in seven local authorities).

Key findings included:

- Maltreated children were less likely than children looked after for other reasons to leave the care system within the study timeframe. Placing children at home whilst the subject of a care order was an important avenue for attempting their reunification, although breakdowns were higher for this group.
- Outcomes for maltreated children who remained looked after were better than for those who went home with respect to stability and well-being. Those who had experienced one or more breakdowns at home fared worst, but even those children whose reunifications had endured had lower levels of well-being than those who had not gone home. This was especially so for neglected and emotionally abused children.

- Provision of services, often at quite high intensities, will be needed to support successful reunions for as long as these are required. Although services helped children's stability at home, there was little evidence that they improved children's overall well-being at home significantly.
- There were major variations by local authority and social work teams in children's care pathways and in planning and decision-making. Although the reasons for these require further investigation, they do provide potential for shared learning about 'best practice'.

The study has contributed evidence to support assessment, planning and decision-making where the reunification of maltreated children with their families is being considered. Evidence on how these children fare in comparison to those who remain in the care system will help local authorities to assess the range of support and services that may be needed to improve the prospects for successful reunion.

Publications
Wade, J., Biehal, N., Farrelly, N. and Sinclair, I. (2010) Maltreated children in the looked after system: a comparison of outcomes for those who go home and those who do not, *Research Brief*, DFE-RBX-10-06, Department for Education, London.

Wade, J., Biehal, N., Farrelly, N. and Sinclair, I. (forthcoming, 2011) *Caring for Abused and Neglected Children: Making the Right Decisions for Reunification or Long-Term Care*, Jessica Kingsley, London.

Allegations of abuse by foster carers: research review

Completed project

The Nuffield Foundation

October 2009 to July 2010

Nina Biehal and Elizabeth Parry in partnership with The Fostering Network

Since the 1980s there has been growing concern among foster carers, social work professionals and policy makers about allegations of abuse by foster carers. Such allegations are upsetting for foster carers, can lead to the removal of children from their care and may result in some carers giving up fostering. Unsubstantiated allegations create immense stress for both children and carers, may cause placement disruption and may reduce the already limited supply of foster carers. In cases where such allegations are substantiated, the implications are even more serious.

Despite the importance of this issue, there is little awareness in the policy, practice and academic communities of the research evidence that exists. Although much has been written about abuse in residential care, less is known about abuse in foster care.

The review identified and synthesised the evidence on the:

- prevalence and nature of allegations of maltreatment by foster carers
- prevalence and nature of substantiated maltreatment in foster care
- perpetrators of maltreatment in foster care
- severity of maltreatment in foster care
- thresholds for defining behaviour in terms of maltreatment or, alternatively, as poor standards of care
- agency responses to foster carers subject to allegations of maltreatment.

The findings of the report drew attention to the need to improve practice in order to better safeguard children in foster care, and better support foster carers who are subject to an allegation. One finding was that thresholds for defining behaviours as abusive appear to be lower for foster carers than for parents. Some studies suggest that maltreatment in foster care is often a question of poor standards of care rather than gross abuse or neglect, but in relation to milder incidents the boundary between the two is often unclear. No evidence is available on the proportion of cases involving more, or less, serious maltreatment.

Publication
Biehal, N. and Parry, E. (2010) *Maltreatment and Allegations of Maltreatment in Foster Care: A review of the evidence*, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

Increasing the number of care leavers in 'settled, safe accommodation'

Completed project

Department for Children, Schools and Families and the Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (C4EO)

July 2009 to December 2010

Mike Stein

For most young people today, being in 'settled, safe accommodation' of their choice represents an important landmark during their journey to adulthood. However, for young people leaving care, achieving this goal may be more difficult than for other young people. They may feel they have been forced to leave care before they are ready, often at just 16-17 years of age, whereas most young people leave their family home in their mid-twenties. Some young care leavers are also likely to be living in unsuitable accommodation, move frequently and become homeless. Being in 'settled, safe accommodation' also has to be considered in the context of connected and reinforcing pathways to adulthood, such as: entering further and higher education or training; finding satisfying employment; and achieving good health and a positive sense of well-being. For all these pathways there is evidence of care leavers being disadvantaged in comparison to other young people.

Completed work includes:

- the preparation of a full knowledge review with updated research findings, including examples of validated local practice and the views of service users, providers and experts in the field
- a research review of the best research evidence about how to increase the levels of care leavers in 'settled, safe accommodation', including UK and international literature
- the presentation of the findings at regional knowledge workshops and progression events aimed at children's services and service users.

This research provides the best available evidence for those involved in implementing policy and overseeing change at a local level, in order to increase the numbers of young people leaving care in 'settled, safe accommodation'. Key messages for professionals are available from the Knowledge Review (see below).

(For further research on leaving care see page 32)

Publications
Stein, M., data annexe by Morris, M. (2010) *Increasing the Number of Care Leavers in 'Settled, Safe Accommodation'*, Knowledge Review, 3, C4EO, London.

Stein, M., data annexe by Morris, M. (2009) *Increasing the Number of Care Leavers in 'Settled, Safe Accommodation', Vulnerable/Looked-after Children*, Research Review, 3, Centre for Excellence in Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (C4EO), London.

Evaluation of Multi-dimensional Treatment Foster Care for looked after children and young people (MTFC-A)

Completed project

Department for Children, Schools and Families

December 2004 to April 2010

Nina Biehal, Jo Dixon, Elizabeth Parry and Ian Sinclair in collaboration with the Department of Psychiatry, University of Manchester

Building on the team's programme of work on foster care, this study evaluated the Multi-dimensional Treatment Foster Care for Adolescents (MTFC-A) programme. This model of treatment foster care was developed and tested by the Oregon Social Learning Centre in the USA and has been piloted by the former Department for Children, Schools and Families in 18 English local authorities for use with older looked after children with complex needs.

The study had two components: a small randomised controlled trial embedded within a larger quasi-experimental study. It aimed to compare outcomes for two groups of young people:

- those who enter treatment foster care placements
- those who enter the other types of care placement usually available to this group of young people, including both foster and residential care.

Outcomes were assessed one year after baseline. The primary outcomes of interest were child mental health and general social functioning, but a number of secondary outcomes were also assessed, including placement stability, behaviour and participation in education.

Previous evaluation of MTFC has been undertaken in the USA and has focused on groups of children and young people who were different in important ways from those in the current study. This evaluation provides valuable information to policy makers and practitioners on the outcomes of MTFC when implemented:

- in an English context
- with older children and young people in the care system, a group for whom it has not previously been evaluated.

The study was completed in April 2010 and findings will be published during 2011.

Evaluation of the Youth Justice Board's Intensive Fostering Scheme

Completed Project – late report release

Youth Justice Board

November 2005 to December 2008

Nina Biehal, Sarah Ellison, Ian Sinclair, Catherine Randerson, Andrew Richards in association with the University of Manchester and The London School of Economics and Political Science.

This project evaluated the Intensive Fostering programme for young offenders at risk of custody, which was piloted by the Youth Justice Board in three areas of England. Like its companion programme (MTFC-A, see previous column), Intensive Fostering is modelled on the evidence-based intervention Multi-Dimensional Treatment Foster Care, which has been developed and tested by the Oregon Social Learning Centre in the USA.

This study evaluated the effectiveness of Intensive Fostering in reducing reconviction by one-year follow-up. Outcomes for young people in Intensive Fostering placements were compared to those for a matched group entering custody and then discharged to the community. The aims of the study were:

- to examine whether placement in Intensive Fostering is more successful in reducing reoffending than the alternative sentences that this group of young people would otherwise receive, namely custody or a place on an Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme (ISSP)
- to examine whether placement in Intensive Fostering is associated with improvements in aspects of functioning which may help to prevent future offending, including general social functioning, emotional and behavioural difficulties and engagement with education, training or employment.

The primary outcome measures for the evaluation were reconviction, time to reconviction, frequency and gravity of offences for which reconvicted, and entry to custody. Secondary outcomes included stability of accommodation, participation in education, employment or training and peer relationships. It also compared the cost of Intensive Fostering placements with custodial placements and assessed the cost of services used. Mental health outcomes were evaluated by Catherine Kay and Jonathan Green at the University of Manchester and costs were assessed by Eva Bonin and Jennifer Beecham at LSE.

Publication
The final report for this study was submitted to the Youth Justice Board in December 2008 and was published in 2010 as:

Biehal, N., Ellison, S., Sinclair, I., Randerson, C., Richards, A. Mallon, S., Kay, C., Green, J., Bonin, E. and Beecham, J. (2010) *A Report on the Intensive Fostering Pilot Programme*, Youth Justice Board, London.

Transitions to adulthood of young people leaving public care international research group (INTRAC) (representatives from 16 countries)

Ongoing project

Department for Children, Schools and Families (start-up funding)

2003 onwards

Co-ordinators: Mike Stein (SPRU); Harriet Ward and Emily Munro (Loughborough University)

A growing body of international research findings has revealed the poor outcomes for looked-after children, in comparison to children who have not been in care, especially in relation to their education, health and well-being. These findings have also shown the high risk of social exclusion of young people making the transition from care to adulthood who are far more likely than young people who have not been in care to have poorer educational qualifications, be younger parents, be homeless, and have higher levels of unemployment, offending behaviour and mental health problems.

In 2003, a seminar brought together, for the first time, researchers from Europe, the Middle East, Canada and the United States, to begin to explore in depth the issues underpinning these research findings. Between 2003 and 2008, representatives from 16 countries met and their work contributed to the first comparative publication in the field (Stein and Munro, eds., 2008).

In 2010, the annual meeting of INTRAC was held at the University of Groningen, Netherlands. Major work carried out during 2010 includes a special edition of *Children and Youth Services Review*, containing international research papers on transitions from care to adulthood, due to be published in 2011.

It is intended that sharing international research, policy and practice in respect of young people during their journey from care to adulthood, will contribute to a substantial comparative evidence base to underpin improvements in outcomes for this very vulnerable group of young people.

(For further research on leaving care see page 30)

Publications

Stein, M. and Munro, E. (2010) Young people's transitions from care to adulthood, the challenges of making international comparisons in Knorth, E.J., Kalverboer, M. and Knot-Dickscheit, J. (eds.) *Inside Out, how interventions in child and family care work, An international source book*, Garant, Apeldoorn, pp. 67-69.

Stein, M. (2009) Promoting the resilience of young people leaving care: messages from research in V. Lerch (ed.) *Preparation for Independent Living*, SOS Children's Villages International, pp. 8-11.

Munro, E. and Stein, M. (2008) Young people's transitions from care to adulthood: cross national perspectives, *CCFR Evidence*, 13, Centre for Child and Family Research, Loughborough University, Loughborough.

Stein, M. and Munro, E. (eds.) (2008) *Young People's Transitions from Care to Adulthood: International research and practice*, Jessica Kingsley, London.

Stein, M. and Munro, E. (2008) The transition to adulthood for young people leaving public care: international comparisons and perspectives, in *Care Matters: Transforming Lives - Improving Outcomes Conference, 7-9 July 2008, Keble College, Oxford, UK: Digest of Papers,* Centre for Child and Family Research, Loughborough University, Loughborough, pp. 289-92.

Stein, M. and Munro. E. (2008) The transition to adulthood for young people leaving public care: developing an international research group and the challenges of comparative work, in C. Canali, T. Vecciato and J. Whittaker (eds.), *Assessing the Evidence-base of Interventions for Vulnerable Children and their Families*, Fondazione Emmanuela Zancan, Padova, Italy, pp. 177-179.

Munro, E., Stein, M. and Ward, H. (2005) Comparing how different social, political and legal frameworks support or inhibit transitions from public care to independence in Europe, Israel, Canada and the United States, *International Journal of Child & Family Welfare*, 8, 4, 191-201.

The Children and Families Team is led by Dr Bryony Beresford. Its main focus is applied policy and practice research relating to the health and social welfare of children and young people with disabilities and/or chronic or life-limiting illnesses and their families, including service delivery and organisation issues.

Children and Families

Research projects during 2010

Supporting health transitions for young people with life-limiting conditions: Researching positive practice - the STEPP project

Ongoing project

Big Lottery Research Programme

April 2010 to July 2012

Bryony Beresford, Mairi Harper, Suzanne Mukherjee, Gemma Spiers (SPRU) with Jennifer Beecham (Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent)

Project partners: Children's Hospices UK, ACT, Help the Hospices, the National Council for Palliative Care and the University of Kent

Advances in the treatment of many life-limiting conditions mean that children are living longer and many now survive into adulthood. Managing the transfer of their health and other care needs to adult services has proved challenging. Adult services can also struggle to provide appropriate services for young adults.

A case study approach is being used to investigate services which have successfully overcome the barriers specific to meeting the needs of older teenagers and young adults with life-limiting conditions, including supporting the transfer from paediatric to adult services. Six case study sites will be used to identify and investigate the strategic, organisational, operational and individual factors which need to be in place in order to support these young people's health transitions.

Different groups will be interviewed for their views:

- professionals overseeing or working in the service
- people who have contact with the service through their work
- young people who use the service
- parents of young people who use the service.

Data to allow costs estimates of the services will also be collected.

The purpose of this project is to develop an evidence-based resource which will support implementing and embedding good practice in the health and palliative care of young people and young adults with life-limiting conditions.

Researching the lives of disabled children and young people, with a focus on their perspectives

Ongoing project

Economic and Social Research Council

January 2010 to May 2011

Bryony Beresford (SPRU); Professor Kirsten Stalker (University of Strathclyde) (lead researcher); David Abbott and Professor John Carpenter (University of Bristol); Professor Roy McConkey (University of Ulster); Professor Nick Watson (University of Glasgow)

Dr Bryony Beresford is part of a team of researchers drawn from across the UK which is running an ESRC-funded research seminar series on researching the lives of disabled children and young people.

The main aim of the seminar series is to identify, share and develop cutting edge theory and research about disabled children's views and experiences. Five seminars are being held across the UK focusing on the following areas:

- theoretical perspectives
- methodological approaches
- policy developments
- substantive issues in disabled children's lives
- a final seminar will synthesise the work of the earlier seminars.

This multi-disciplinary seminar series will be attended by a core group of 35 researchers and representatives from policy and voluntary sector organisations.

SPRU organised and hosted the second seminar in the series (methodological approaches) which took place in May 2010. Dr Borgun Ytterhus, Chairperson of the Nordic Network for Disabilty Research and Professor Allan Colver (University of Newcastle and lead researcher of the cross European project on the participation of disabled children - the SPARCLE project) were keynote speakers (see page 5 for further details). The third seminar in the series, focusing on policy, took place at the University of Ulster. A multi-media presentation of the work with our Young People's Consultation Group on well-being and identity was shown at this meeting and will inform discussions at the final two seminars which take place in 2011 in Bristol and Cardiff.

Transition to adult services and adulthood for young people with autistic spectrum conditions

Ongoing project

Department of Health

November 2009 to January 2012

Nicola Moran, Patricia Sloper, Wendy Mitchell, Linda Cusworth (SPRU); Jennifer Beecham (Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent)

There is some evidence from research that for many young people with autistic spectrum conditions (ASC) the process of transition from child to adult services is problematic. Current policy developments and the growth of multi-agency working may lead to improvements in this situation. However, there is little research which can identify the components of models of good practice in transition services or the costs of such services for young people with ASC and their families.

This study is:

- investigating the roles of multi-agency transition services in relation to young people with ASC, and the arrangements that are in place for co-ordinating services for young people with and without learning disabilities
- exploring young people's and parents' experiences of planning for transition and making the transition from children's to adults' services
- exploring the costs and outcomes for young people of the transition process
- investigating sources of funding and costs of different models of transition services
- identifying aspects of good practice in this area of work – what works and how?

Case studies examine in depth the differing models of transition services in five geographic areas and identify factors within the models that contribute to greater or lesser effectiveness. Interviews have been undertaken with managers and staff to explore the organisation and operation of transition services and staff views of the effectiveness of the services. Questionnaires to all young people with ASC and their parents who are receiving, or have received, transition services, will focus on amount of service use, satisfaction with the services, and met and unmet needs. In order to explore views of the services in more depth, interviews will be carried out with a sub-sample of young people with ASC and their parents. Cost-related analyses will provide descriptive results on costs of such services.

This research will identify the components of good practice that are associated with more positive experiences for young people and their parents. This will inform standards of good practice in services for young people with ASC and their families at transition.

The effectiveness, cost-effectiveness and costs of behavioural approaches to the management of sleep and behaviour problems among disabled children

Ongoing project

Centre for Excellence in Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (C4EO)

August 2008 to June 2011

Bryony Beresford, Lucy Stuttard, Susan Clarke, Tricia Sloper (SPRU); Jennifer Beecham (Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent)

This project is investigating the effectiveness and costs of:

- interventions to help parents of disabled children better manage their child's sleep problems
- interventions to help parents of disabled children better manage their child's behaviour problems.

It will also produce evidence on parents' experiences of receiving an intervention, professionals' experiences of delivering an intervention, the factors which affect maintenance and generalisation of skills, and positive changes achieved by an intervention.

The project consists of two main phases. First, rapid reviews of evidence have been conducted on:

- the effectiveness of behavioural approaches to managing sleep problems in disabled children
- the effectiveness of parent training in behavioural approaches to managing behaviour problems among disabled children.

The second, and main, phase of the research is investigating the effectiveness, costs and cost-effectiveness of four sleep and four behaviour interventions currently being delivered to parents of disabled children by statutory agencies or voluntary sector organisations. A controlled trial design is being used. Evidence on the effectiveness of sleep and behaviour interventions will be obtained from the following sources:

- standardised measures of sleep/behaviour, parenting confidence and ratings of parent-set goals/outcomes administered at baseline, post intervention and three months follow-up (further follow-up will be possible in some cases)
- collection of costs data from services and families
- interviews with practitioners and parents.

Sleep and behaviour problems are common and persistent in disabled children. They can have a severe impact on their quality of life and that of their parents and other family members. This project will produce much needed evidence on how best to support parents as they seek to manage these difficulties.

Publications

Beresford, B. (2009) *The Effectiveness of Behavioural Interventions Which Involve Parents in the Management of Behaviour Problems Among Disabled Children: A rapid review*, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

McDaid, C. and Sloper, P. (2009) *Evidence on Effectiveness of Behavioural Interventions to Help Parents Manage Sleep Problems in Young Disabled Children: A rapid review*, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

Development and validation of a measure of work-related stressors and rewards: The 'Life in Paediatric Oncology Project' (LIPOP)

Ongoing project

Cancer Research UK

February 2009 to January 2011

Suzanne Mukherjee, Bryony Beresford (SPRU); Alan Tennant (University of Leeds)

The health and well-being of the NHS workforce is an area of concern and NHS trusts have been tasked with addressing this issue. There is evidence that staff working in particular disciplines may be at increased risk of burnout and psychiatric morbidity (illness).

Research on adult oncology staff suggests that such staff may be one of these ‘at risk’ groups. However, it is not known whether these findings can be generalised to staff working in paediatric and adolescent oncology. In the past, research on this group has been hampered by a lack of psychometrically robust measures of work-related stressors and rewards which can be administered to all staff groups (clinical and non-clinical) working in paediatric oncology.

This project is developing measures of work-related stressors and work-related rewards for staff working in paediatric oncology. As well as being used in future research on work-related stress and well-being, these measures also have the potential to be used for individual clinical supervision and for investigating the effectiveness of staff support interventions.

Publication

Mukherjee, S., Beresford, B., Glaser, A. and Sloper, P. (2009) Burnout, psychiatric morbidity, and work-related sources of stress in paediatric oncology staff: a review of the literature, *Psycho-Oncology*, 18, 10, 1019-1028.

Evaluating models of care closer to home for children and young people who are ill

Completed project

National Institute for Health Research

April 2007 to May 2010

Gillian Parker, Gemma Spiers, Kate Gridley, Suzanne Mukherjee, Jan Heaton, Linda Cusworth (SPRU); Karl Atkin, Yvonne Birks (Department of Health Sciences); Karin Lowson, Diane Wright (York Health Economics Consortium)

Since the 1950s, children, their families and campaigning organisations have argued that care for children and young people who are ill should, whenever possible, be provided outside hospital. There have been various attempts to develop 'care closer to home' (CCTH), but progress has been slow. While the National Service Framework for Children emphasised the importance of providing CCTH for children and young people who are ill, the extent to which these services are available is unknown. The purpose of this study was to examine if and how these services were delivered, whilst also identifying examples of good practice and ways in which service delivery could be improved.

The methods used for this study included: a systematic review of the evidence for CCTH; a review of UK descriptive literature on models of CCTH; a national survey of Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) and acute trusts to determine the extent of CCTH provision; qualitative in-depth case studies of CCTH provision in four PCTs; and economic modelling of the cost-effectiveness of CCTH.

This study has contributed to the evidence base on CCTH, by reviewing international evidence on the cost and clinical effectiveness of such care, identifying the extent and range of provision in England, and understanding the implications of CCTH for those who commission, deliver and use such services. The findings have implications for both the quality and accessibility of care received by families and the development of future CCTH services.

The final reports were submitted to the funder in June 2010.

Publications

Parker, G., Spiers, G., Gridley, K., Atkin, A., Cusworth, L., Mukherjee, S., Birks, Y., Lowson, K., Wright, D., and Light, K. (Forthcoming) *Evaluating Models of Care Closer to Home for Children and Young People who are Ill. Final report.* NIHR Service Delivery and Organisation programme, Southampton.

Parker, G., Spiers, G., Gridley, K., Atkin, A., Cusworth, L., Mukherjee, S., Birks, Y., Lowson, K., Wright, D., and Light, K. (Forthcoming) *Evaluating Models of Care Closer to Home for Children and Young People who are Ill: A systematic review. Final report*. NIHR Service Delivery and Organisation programme, Southampton.

Decisions about technological support for children and young people with degenerative conditions

Ongoing project

Economic and Social Research Council, CASE Studentship and Martin House Children's Hospice

October 2007 to June 2011

Jo Nicholson

This qualitative research examines decision-making for children and young people with degenerative conditions for whom life-sustaining technology is able to compensate for the partial failure or loss of a body function, and thus prolong life. After completing in-depth interviews with parents and young people who have made a decision about technological support, specifically artificial nutrition and assisted ventilation, the research also collected the views of key professionals identified by families in the study. Underpinned by the model of shared decision-making, the study will explore the exchange and utilisation of information, and the processes of participation and deliberation. The study also aims to identify good practice in information giving and support for decision-making.

Participation of parents with disabled children in service development

Completed project

Economic and Social Research Council, CASE Studentship and Contact A Family

January 2007 to January 2011

Julie Bruce

This study investigated the occurrence and effects of parental participation in the development of services for disabled children. A survey mapping participation practice across the UK and in-depth qualitative interviews with parents, service staff and managers have been used to explore this issue. The study intends to identify the factors which support and promote good practice, factors which are barriers to the process and outcomes of parents' effective participation.

A review of evidence on disabled children and young people's access to positive and inclusive activities

Completed project

National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) for the Centre for Excellence in Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (C4EO)

January 2009 to October 2010

Bryony Beresford, Susan Clarke (SPRU); Rachel Borthwick (Acton Shapiro)

This was a rapid review of evidence on improving disabled children and young people's access to positive and inclusive activities. It addressed four questions:

- What evidence is there of practice in children's centres, extended schools and youth services in fully including disabled children and young people?
- What do disabled children and young people think about the positive activities on offer (including access to physical activities) in their area and how can their awareness of activities on offer be increased?
- What support is needed for children and young people to access inclusive activities?
- What evidence is there that improving access to positive activities improves the well-being of disabled children and young people?

A scoping review conducted by NFER was a key resource for this rapid review. The review and a summary were published in July 2009. During 2010 the review was updated and exemplars of 'validated good practice' included. This revised, and final, version of the review was published in June 2010 by C4EO.

This review was one of three being conducted regarding disabled children and young people for the disability theme of the Centre for Excellence and Outcomes and Children and Young People's Services (C4EO). The reviews are being used to inform and support evidence based changes and improvements within children's services.

Publication

Beresford, B., Clarke, S., Borthwick, R. with data annexe by Morris, M., White, K. and Bergeron, C. (2010) *Improving the Wellbeing of Disabled Children and Young People through Improving Access to Positive and Inclusive Activities*, Disability Knowledge Review, 2, Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (C4EO), London.

Beresford, B. and Clarke, S. (2009) *Improving the Wellbeing of Disabled Children and Young People Through Improving Access to Positive and Inclusive Activities*, Disability Research Review, 2, Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (C4EO), London.

Unit information

Widespread and effective dissemination of the results of our research is central to SPRU's purpose. Our work often communicates the needs and desires of hard-to-reach groups in society, and as such makes a distinctive contribution to policy, practice and public debate. To these ends we write and disseminate research reports, summary findings and good practice guides as well as engage with the media on issues of public interest. Last year we published 29 full research reports, 7 published by us and 22 by external organisations.

We also advance academic debate via articles in peer reviewed journals, chapters in academic books and by presenting our work at relevant national and international conferences. We arrange a series of public seminars on topical subjects with eminent external speakers (page 9) and host visiting scholars from around the world.

SPRU invests heavily in the training of its staff to help them achieve their full potential. As well as their research work, our staff are engaged in many external activities, such as peer-reviewing articles for prominent journals in the field, advising on external research projects, membership of the boards of charitable and government organisations. These activities enhance our role in the wider community and make the best use of our expertise to make a positive difference.

SPRU **Staff 2010**

Director

Professor Gillian Parker

Adults, Older People and Carers Team

Research Director - Professor Caroline Glendinning
Hilary Arksey
Fiona Aspinal
Kate Baxter
Jenni Brooks
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Parvaneh Rabiee
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Susan Clarke
Mairi Harper
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Suzanne Mukherjee
Professor Patricia Sloper
Gemma Spiers
Lucy Stuttard
PhD Student – Julie Bruce
PhD Student - Jo Nicholson

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Jo Dixon
Manuel Palomares
Visiting Associate - Gwyther Rees
Emeritus Professor - Ian Sinclair
Research Professor - Mike Stein
Ala Sirriyeh
Jim Wade

Welfare and Employment Team

Research Director - Professor Roy Sainsbury
Associate Director - Professor Jonathan Bradshaw
Anne Corden
Linda Cusworth
Jacqueline Davidson
Annie Irvine
Katharine Weston

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Unit Manager - Jeanette Whalley
Information Assistant - Ruth Dowling
Research Support Administrator - Teresa Frank
Finance Officer - Simon Johnson
Project Administrator - Michelle Maynard
PA to the Director – Rachel Peña
Information Officer - Rachel Pitman
Office Manager - Sally Pulleyn
Research Support Administrator - Dawn Rowley
Research Support Administrator - Lisa Southwood
Administration Assistant - Rebecca Thompson

SPRU **Publications**

Journal Articles

2010

Baxter, K. and Glendinning, C. (in press) Making choices about support services: disabled adults' and older people's use of information, *Health and Social Care in the Community,* (Available online from 15 December 2010).

Beresford, B., Clarke, S. and Greco, V. (2010) Referrers' use and views of specialist mental health services for deaf children and young people in England, *Journal of Mental Health,* 19, 2, 193-201.

Bradshaw, J. and Mayhew, E. (2010) Understanding extreme poverty in the European Union, *European Journal of Homelessness*, 4, 171-186.

Bradshaw, J., Keung, A., Rees, G. and Goswami, H. (in press) Children's subjective well-being: international comparative perspectives, *Children and Youth Services Review*, (Available online from 1 July 2010), 9 pages.

Corden, A., Hirst, M. and Nice, K. (2010) Death of a partner: financial implications and experience of loss, *Bereavement Care*, 29, 1, 23-28.

Crawshaw, M. and Sloper, P. (2010) 'Swimming against the tide' - the influence of fertility matters on the transition to adulthood or survivorship following adolescent cancer, *European Journal of Cancer Care*, 19, 5, 610-620.

Glendinning, C. (2010) Reforming adult social care: what can England learn from the experiences of other countries?, *Quality in Ageing and Older Adults,* 11, 4, 40-46.

Glendinning, C. and Moran, N. (forthcoming) Personalisation and partnership: competing objectives in English adult social care? The individual budget pilot projects and the NHS, *Social Policy and Society.*

Glendinning, C. and Moran, N. (forthcoming) Recreating the 'Berlin Wall'? Implementing Individual Budgets in social care and the interfaces with health, *Social Policy and Society.*

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Irvine, A. (forthcoming) Something to declare? The disclosure of common mental health problems at work, *Disability & Society.*

Jorgensen, D., Parsons, M., Jacobs, S. and Arksey, H. (2010) The New Zealand informal caregivers and their unmet needs, *New Zealand Medical Journal,* 123, 1317.

Kemp, P.A. and Davidson, J. (2010) Employability trajectories among new claimants of Incapacity Benefit, *Policy Studies,* 31, 2, 203-221.

Knapp, M., Manthorpe, J., Mehta, A., Challis, D., Glendinning, C., Hastings, G., Mansell, J. and Netten, A. (2010) Developing the evidence base for adult social care practice: The NIHR School for Social Care Research, *Journal of Care Services Management*, 4, 2, 167-179.

Lau, M. and Bradshaw, J. (2010) Child well-being in the Pacific Rim, *Child Indicators Research*, 3, 3, 367-383.

Manthorpe, J., Stevens, M., Rapaport, J., Challis, D., Jacobs, S., Netten, A., Jones, K., Knapp, M., Wilberforce, M. and Glendinning, C. (in press) Individual budgets and adult safeguarding: parallel or converging tracks? Further findings from the evaluation of the Individual Budget pilots, *Journal of Social Work,* (Available online from 21 September 2010).

Mitchell, W. (2010) 'I know how I feel': listening to young people with life-limiting conditions who have learning and communication impairments, *Qualitative Social Work*, 9, 2, 185-203.

Mitchell, W. and Sloper, P. (in press) Making choices in my life: listening to the ideas and experiences of young people in the UK who communicate non-verbally, *Children and Youth Services Review*, (Available online from 2 June 2010).

Moran, N., Glendinning, C., Stevens, M., Manthorpe, J., Jacobs, S., Wilberforce, M., Knapp, M., Challis, D., Fernandez, J-L., Jones, K. and Netten, A. (forthcoming) Joining up government by integrating funding streams? The experiences of the Individual Budget pilot projects for older and disabled people in England, *International Journal of Public Administration.*

Nice, K. and Irvine, A. (2010) Living on a low income and using banks to pay bills, *The Journal of Poverty and Social Justice,* 18, 1, 53-67.

Rabiee, P. and Glendinning, C. (2010) Choice: what, when and why? Exploring the importance of choice to disabled people, *Disability & Society*, 25, 7, 827-839.

Sainsbury, R. (2010) 21st Century Welfare - getting closer to radical benefit reform?, *Public Policy Research*, 17, 2, 102-107.

Sinclair, I. (2010) Looked after children: can existing services ever succeed? A different view, *Adoption & Fostering*, 34, 2, 8-13.

Stevens, M., Glendinning, C., Jacobs, S., Moran, N., Challis, D., Manthorpe, J., Fernandez, J-L., Jones, K., Knapp, M., Netten, A. and Wilberforce, M. (forthcoming) Assessing the role of increasing choice in English social care services, *Journal of Social Policy.*

Books and reports

2010

Beresford, B., Clarke, S., Borthwick, R. with data annexe by Morris, M., White, K. and Bergeron, C. (2010) *Improving the Wellbeing of Disabled Children and Young People through Improving Access to Positive and Inclusive Activities,* Disability Knowledge Review, 2, Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (C4EO), London.

Bernard, S., Aspinal, F., Gridley, K. and Parker, G. (2010) *Integrated Services for People with Long-term Neurological Conditions: Evaluation of the Impact of the National Service Framework: Final Report,* Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

Biehal, N. and Parry, E. (2010) *Maltreatment and Allegations of Maltreatment in Foster Care: A review of the evidence,* Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

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Bradshaw, J., Bennett, F. and Mayhew, E. (2010) *In-work Poverty and Labour Market Segmentation: A study of national policies, United Kingdom, European Commission,* DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, Brussels.

Chamberlain, R., Sanderson, D., Curtis, J., Newbronner, L. and Glendinning, C. (2010) *The Impact of the Economic Slowdown on Adult Social Care: A report for the Local Government Association,* Local Government Association, London.

Coles, B., Godfrey, C., Keung, A., Parrott, S. and Bradshaw, J. (2010) *Estimating the life-time cost of NEET: 16-18 year olds not in Education, Employment or Training,* University of York, York.

Corden, A., Sainsbury, R., Irvine, A. and Clarke, S. (2010) *The Impact of Disability Living Allowance and Attendance Allowance: Findings from exploratory qualitative research,* Department for Work and Pensions Research Report, No. 649, HMSO, Norwich.

Drew, P., Toerien, M., Irvine, A. and Sainsbury, R. (2010) *A Study of Language and Communication Between Advisers and Claimants in Work Focused Interviews,* Department for Work and Pensions Research Report, No. 633, HMSO, Norwich.

Glendinning, C. (2010) *Dartington Review on the Future of Adult Social Care: What can England learn from the experiences of other countries?,* Evidence Review 1, Research in Practice for Adults, Totnes.

Glendinning, C., Jones, K., Baxter, K., Rabiee, P., Curtis, L., Wilde, A., Arksey, H. and Forder, J. (2010) *Home Care Re-ablement Services: Investigating the longer-term impacts (prospective longitudinal study),* Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

Hicks, L. and Stein, M. (2010) *Neglect Matters: A multi-agency guide for professionals working together on behalf of teenagers,* Department for Children, Schools and Families, London.

Hirst, M. and Corden, A. (2010) *Trends and Changes in Household and Personal Circumstances on Death of a Partner in England and Wales, 1971 to 2001*, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

Irvine, A. (2010) *Using Phone Interviews,* Realities Toolkit, 14, Realities, University of Manchester, Manchester.

Irvine, A., Sainsbury, R., Drew, P. and Toerien, M. (2010) *An Exploratory Comparison of the Interactions Between Advisers and Younger and Older Clients during Work Focused Interviews,* Department for Work and Pensions Research Report, No. 634, HMSO, Norwich.

Jones, K., Caiels, J., Forder, J., Windle, K., Welch, E., Dolan, P., Glendinning, C. and King, D. (2010) *Early Experiences of Implementing Personal Health Budgets,* PSSRU Discussion Paper, 2726/2, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

Jones, K., Welch, E., Caiels, J., Windle, K., Forder, J., Davidson, J., Dolan, P., Glendinning, C., Irvine, A. and King, D. (2010) *Experiences of Implementing Personal Health Budgets: 2nd interim report,* PSSRU Discussion Paper, 2747/2, Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury.

Nice, K. and Davidson, J. (2010) *Provider-led Pathways: Experiences and views of Condition Management Programmes,* Department for Work and Pensions Research Report, No. 644, HMSO, Norwich.

Parker, G., Bernard, S., Gridley, K., Aspinal, F. and Light, K (2010) *Rapid Systematic Review of International Evidence on Integrated Models of Care for People with Long-term Neurological Conditions: Technical Report,* Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

Parker, G., Corden, A. and Heaton, J. (2010) *Synthesis and Conceptual Analysis of the SDO's Programme's Research on Continuity of Care, National Institute for Health Research Evaluations,* Trials and Studies Coordinating Centre, Southampton.

Rees, G., Bradshaw, J., Goswami, H. and Keung, A. (2010) *Understanding Children's Well-being: A national survey of young people's well-being,* The Children's Society, London.

Rees, G., Gorin, S., Jobe, A., Stein, M., Medford, R. and Goswami, H. (2010) *Safeguarding Young People: Responding to young people 11 to 17 who are maltreated,* The Children's Society, London.

Rees, G., Goswami, H. and Bradshaw, J. (2010) *Developing an Index of Children's Subjective Well-being in England,* The Children's Society, London.

Sainsbury, R. and Weston, K. (2010) *Exploratory Qualitative Research on the 'Single Working Age Benefit',* Department for Work and Pensions Research Report, No. 659, HMSO, Norwich.

Saunders, P. and Sainsbury, R. (eds.) (2010) *Social Security, Poverty and Social Exclusion in Rich and Poorer Countries,* International Studies on Social Security, 16, Intersentia, Antwerp.

Sloper, P., Beecham, J., Clarke, S., Franklin, A., Moran, N. and Cusworth, L. (2010) *Models of Multi-agency Services for Transition to Adult Services for Disabled Young People and Those with Complex Health Needs: Impact and costs,* Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

Stein, M., data annexe by Morris, M. (2010) *Increasing the Number of Care Leavers in 'Settled, Safe Accommodation',* Knowledge Review, 3, C4EO, London.

Wade, J., Dixon, J. and Richards, A. (2010) *Special Guardianship in Practice*, BAAF, London.

Contributions to books

2010

Ben-Galim, D. and Sainsbury, R. (2010) Back to work? The journey towards sustained employment in C. McNeil (ed.) *Now It's Personal? The new landscape of welfare-to-work*, Institute for Public Policy Research, London, pp.13-26.

Biehal, N. (2010) Looking inside interventions for young people with behaviour problems in E. Knorth, M. Kalverboer and J. Knot-Dickscheit (eds.) *Inside Out. How Interventions in Child and Family Care Work: An International Source Book*, Garant, Antwerp, pp. 47-49.

Biehal, N. (2010) Stability in long-term foster care in E. Knorth, M. Kalverboer and J. Knot-Dickscheit (eds.) *Inside Out. How Interventions in Child and Family Care Work: An International Source Book*, Garant, Antwerp, pp. 231-232.

Biehal, N. and Rees, G. (2010) Children in public care in England: well-being, poverty and rights in W. Vandenhole, J. Vranken and K. De Boyser (eds.) *Why Care? Children's Rights and Child Poverty*, Intersentia, Antwerp, pp. 71-90.

Bradshaw, J. (2010) An international perspective on child benefit packages in S. Kamerman, S. Phipps and A. Ben-Arieh (eds.) *From Child Welfare to Child Well-being: An international perspective on knowledge in the service of policy making*, Springer, Dordrecht, pp. 293-307.

Bradshaw, J. (2010) Child poverty and child well-being in the European Union, Policy overview and policy impact analysis: A case study: UK in TÁRKI (ed.) *Child Poverty and Child Well-being in the European Union. Report prepared for the DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (Unite E.2) of the European Commission*, TÁRKI Social Research Institute, Budapest, Hungary.

Bradshaw, J. and Finch, N. (2010) Family benefits and services in F. Castles, S. Leibfried, J. Lewis, H. Obinger and C. Pierson (eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of the Welfare State,* Oxford University Press, Oxford, chapter 32.

Bradshaw, J. and Holmes, J. (2010) Child poverty and social exclusion in B. Roberts, M. Kivilu, Y. Davids (eds.) South *Africa in South African Social Attitudes: 2nd Report: Reflections on the Age of Hope,* HSRC Press, Cape Town, pp.167-182.

Bradshaw, J. and Holmes, J. (2010) Child poverty in the first five years of life in K. Hansen, H. Joshi and S. Dex (eds.) *Children of the 21st Century: The first five years*, The Policy Press, Bristol, pp.13-31.

Bradshaw, J., Rees, G., Keung, A. and Goswami, H. (2010) The subjective well-being of children in C. McAuley and W. Rose (eds.) *Child Well-Being: Understanding children's lives*, Jessica Kingsley, London, pp.181-204.

Glendinning, C. (2010) Continuous and long-term care: European perspectives in D. Dannefer and C. Phillipson (eds.) *The SAGE Handbook of Social Gerontology*, Sage Publications Ltd, London, pp.551-562.

Sainsbury, R. (2010) Personalisation at the front line: looking within the work-focused interview in D. Ben-Galim and A. Sachrajda (eds.) *Now It's Personal: Learning from welfare-to-work approaches around the world*, Institute for Public Policy Research, London, pp.11-12.

Saunders, P. and Sainsbury, R. (2010) Social security, poverty and social exclusion in rich and poorer countries: introduction and overview in P. Saunders and R. Sainsbury (eds.) *Social Security, Poverty and Social Exclusion in Rich and Poorer Countries,* Intersentia, Antwerp, pp.1-10.

Stein, M. and Munro, E. (2010) Young people's transitions from care to adulthood, the challenges of making international comparisons in E. Knorth, M. Kalverboer and J. Knot-Dickscheit (eds.) *Inside Out, how interventions in child and family care work, An international source book*, Garant, Apeldoorn, pp. 67-69.

SPRU International Presentations

SPRU researchers presented a vibrant programme of public presentations to a wide range of different audiences in 2010. The forums which we spoke at included: international and national conferences on the main topics of the day; local government practice workshops; academic association conferences; Making Research Count workshops; invited University lectures; workshops for campaigning organisations and charities; report launch events and political party conferences. In total we spoke at over 130 events that were open to the public. We also speak formally to many advisory groups and to the funders of our work about what our research is revealing and the implications of this for policy and practice. Below are the main international presentations to give you a flavour of our work in this area:

Aspinal, F. (2010) **Altogether ... how? Promoting continuity of care for people with long-term neurological conditions,** *All Together Now: Exploring the Many Faces and Facets of Integrated Care, 10th International Conference on Integrated Care*, Tampere, Finland, 16-18 June 2010.

Biehal, N. (2010) **Comparing long-term foster-care and adoption: perceptions of belonging,** *International Conference on Adoption Research* (ICAR3), University of Leiden, The Netherlands, 14 July 2010.

Biehal, N. (2010) **Looking inside interventions for young people with behaviour problems**. **Keynote**, *Inside Out: How Interventions in Child and Family Care Work, European Scientific Association on Residential and Foster Care 11th Biennial International Conference*, University of Groningen, The Netherlands, 23 September 2010.

Biehal, N. (2010) **What affects the stability of long-term foster care?,** *Inside Out: How Interventions in Child and Family Care Work, European Scientific Association on Residential and Foster Care 11th Biennial International Conference*, University of Groningen, The Netherlands, 24 September 2010.

Biehal, N. (2010) **Using a randomised controlled trial to evaluate children's services: issues in design,** *Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches for Assessing Outcomes: Looking Ahead for the Next 10 Years Seminar*, Volterra, Italy, 27 September 2010.

Biehal, N. (2010) Permanence, progress and belonging: comparing long-term foster care and adoption, *Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches for Evaluating the Effectiveness of Services for Children and Families Conference*, Innocenti Institute, Florence, Italy, 29 September 2010.

Bradshaw, J. (2010) **Child poverty research and policy in Europe**, *Changes in Patterns of Poverty, Social Exclusion and Other Outcomes in the Nordic Countries Seminar,* Aarhus, Denmark, 11 January 2010.

Bradshaw, J. (2010) **Using indicators to monitor child well-being,** *UNICEF Conference*, Madrid, Spain, 13 May 2010.

Bradshaw, J. (2010) **Child poverty in Armenia**, *Standing Committee on Social Affairs of the National Assembly of Armenia Meeting*, Yerevan, Armenia, 21 May 2010.

Bradshaw, J. (2010) **Minimum income schemes in CEE/CIS countries: the failure of a model**, *Minimum Income Protection Seminar*, Institute for Futures Studies, Stockholm, Sweden, 15 June 2010.

Bradshaw, J. (2010) **Measurement of extreme poverty in the European Union**, *The Global Crisis: Impact and Challenges for Social Security, Foundation for International Studies on Social Security Conference*, Sigtuna, Sweden, 17 June 2010.

Bradshaw, J. (2010) **The measurement of extreme poverty in the European Union**, *Social Policy Association of Finland Conference*, Helsinki, Finland, 24 August 2010.

Bradshaw, J. (2010) **Trends in child subjective well-being in the UK**, *Child Well-being International Symposium*, Dublin Castle, Ireland, 3 September 2010.

Bradshaw, J. (2010) **Child poverty and social protection**, *UNICEF Dialogue Series on Child Sensitive Social Protection Conference*, Namibia, 19 October 2010.

Bradshaw, J. (2010) **Child poverty and vulnerability in East and Southern Europe**, *East and South Africa Parliamentary Regional Workshop*, Namibia, 20 October 2010.

Bradshaw, J. (2010) **The measurement of extreme poverty in the European Union**, *European and National Practices in Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion Conference*, University of Macedonia, Skopje, Macedonia, 19 November 2010.

Davidson, J. and Kemp, P. (2010) **Duality in sickness benefits in a Liberal welfare regime**, *Social Policy and the Global Crisis: Consequences and Responses, European Network for Social Policy Analysis Conference*, Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest, Hungary, 2-4 September 2010.

Dixon, J. (2010) **The use of respite residential placements as part of an integrated family support service for young people on the edge of care**, *Inside Out: How Interventions in Child and Family Care Work, European Scientific Association on Residential and Foster Care 11th Biennial International Conference,* University of Groningen, The Netherlands, 22-25 September 2010.

Glendinning, C. (2010) **Choice for users of long-term care in England. Keynote,** *Long-term Care in Europe - Discussing Trends and Relevant Issues Conference*, Budapest, Hungary, 22-23 February 2010.

Glendinning, C. (2010) **Cash payments and user choice - evidence from England**, *OECD Expert Seminar on Long-term Care*, Paris, France, 15-16 November 2010.

Glendinning, C. (2010) **Informal care**, *OECD Expert Seminar on Long-term Care*, Paris, France, 15-16 November 2010.

Meyer, D., Skinner, C. and Davidson, J. (2010) **Child maintenance obligations, complex families and equity for children**, *Social Policy and the Global Crisis: Consequences and Responses, European Network for Social Policy Analysis Conference*, Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest, Hungary, 2-4 September 2010.

Mitchell, W. (2010) **'I know what I want': listening to the ideas and experiences of children and young people who have learning and/or communication impairments: adapting project wide research methods and lessons learnt**, *Children, Young People and Parents, University of Washington-Seattle and University of York Joint Seminar*, University of Washington, Seattle, USA, 1-3 June 2010.

Mitchell, W. (2010) **Young people with life-limiting conditions making decisions with family and peers: how can health professionals support and facilitate this?**, *Communication in Healthcare International Conference*, University of Verona, Italy, 5-8 September 2010.

Palomares, M. (2010) **Understanding the educational underachievement of children in care in rich countries: a local preliminary analysis**, *Discourse and Narrative Approaches to Social Work and Counselling (DANASWAC) Network Seventh Meeting*, Basel, Switzerland, 18-20 August 2010.

Parker, G. (2010) **Care closer to home for children and young people who are ill: how far can we go?**, *3rd Congress of the European Academy of Paediatric Societies*, Copenhagen, Denmark, 23-26 October 2010.

Sinclair, I. (2010) **Inside the black box: what makes for success in care? Keynote,** *Inside Out: How Interventions in Child and Family Care Work, European Scientific Association on Residential and Foster Care 11th Biennial International Conference*, University of Groningen, The Netherlands, 22-25 September 2010.

Spiers, G. (2010) **The experiences of staff and families managing children's care closer to home: implications for policy and practice**, *Transforming Healthcare Through Education and Research, 11th Annual Interdisciplinary Research Conference*, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland, 4-5 November 2010.

Stein, M. and Munro, E. (2010) **Young people's transitions from care to adulthood: the challenges of making international comparisons. Plenary,** *Inside Out: How Interventions in Child and Family Care Work, European Scientific Association on Residential and Foster Care 11th Biennial International Conference*, University of Groningen, The Netherlands, 22-25 September 2010.

Wade, J. (2010) **Pathway planning for unaccompanied asylum-seeking and refugee young people leaving care in England: a review of evidence**, *Inside Out: How Interventions in Child and Family Care Work, European Scientific Association on Residential and Foster Care 11th Biennial International Conference*, University of Groningen, The Netherlands, 22-25 September 2010.

External advisory positions and activities

……

Hilary Arksey
Member, National Carers Strategy Demonstrator Site National Evaluation Team Advisory Board

……

Kate Baxter
Proposal refereeing
NIHR School for Social Care Research

……

Bryony Beresford
Member, Research Advisory Group, University of Stirling

Member, Disability Thematic Advisory Group for the Centre for Excellence and Outcomes (C4EO)

External examiner
University of Sydney, Australia

……

Nina Biehal
Member, International Association for Outcome-Based Evaluation and Research on Child and Family Services (iaOBERfcs)

Member, Research Group Advisory Committee, British Association for Adoption and Fostering

Member, Advisory group, 'At Home in Care', Queen's University, Belfast

Member, Advisory group, 'Planning for Permanence in Foster Care', University of East Anglia

……

Jonathan Bradshaw
Board member, Foundation for International Studies in Social Security

Board member, Research Committee, International Social Security Association

Board member, International Society for Child Indicators

Chair, Management Committee, North Yorkshire Welfare Benefits Unit

Chair, Scientific Advisory Board on the Centres for Excellence on the Welfare State (Nordwell and Reassess), Nordic Research Council

Consultant, UNICEF Regional Office in Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States

Fellow, The British Academy

Honorary Director, Family Budget Unit

Honorary Visiting Professorial Fellow, University of Oxford

Honorary Research Fellow, Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa

Honorary Fellow, Faculty of Public Health Medicine

Member, OFWAT Advisory Committee on water poverty

Member, UNICEF Research Advisory Committee on Breast Feeding

Member, Research Advisory Committee on Healthy Start

Trustee, Social Research Unit, Dartington

UK Expert, European Union Group of Experts on the National Action Plans for Social Inclusion

……

Anne Corden
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