

WHITE ROSE ESRC DOCTORAL STUDENTSHIP

'THE INCIDENCE AND SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND NEIGHBOURHOOD EFFECTS OF INVOLUNTARY HOME MOVES'

Application deadline 23.59pm on 24th March 2013.

This ESRC PhD studentship at the [Centre for Housing Policy, Department of Social Policy and Social Work](#), University of York, is part of the [White Rose](#) Doctoral Training Centre ESRC Network on the Urban Housing Experience in the Age of Austerity.

THE URBAN HOUSING EXPERIENCE IN THE AGE OF AUSTERITY STUDENTSHIP NETWORK

This studentship is one of three based at the Universities of Sheffield, York and Leeds, which form the White Rose Doctoral Training Centre ESRC Network on the Urban Housing Experience in the Age of Austerity.

Each studentship pays Home/EU tuition fees for the 3 years of full-time study for the PhD, and an annual maintenance grant at the standard Research Council rate, and a contribution to research expenses. In 2012/13 the maintenance grant was £13,590 per year. The studentships commence in October 2013.

The [White Rose](#) University Consortium is a strategic partnership between Yorkshire's leading research universities of Leeds, Sheffield and York. Each university is offering a three-year Research Studentship for students commencing full-time PhD research study in Session 2012/13. Each student project will be supervised by two members of academic staff, one each from two of the partner universities. Students will register at one university but will have access to the research facilities of the partner institution. Network students and supervisors will meet regularly throughout the study period. The network will additionally be supported by an Advisory Group of academics, policymakers and practitioners. Student and staff network members will publish key findings on a weblog and will run a public events series. We will seek funding to organise a major international public conference in 2016, and aim to publish an edited book collection of results, as well as special themed journal issues.

THE INCIDENCE AND SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND NEIGHBOURHOOD EFFECTS OF INVOLUNTARY HOME MOVES STUDENTSHIP

Supervisors: Prof Rebecca Tunstall, Centre for Housing Policy, University of York (lead); Dr Lee Crookes, Department of Town and Regional Planning, University of Sheffield.

Objectives

This studentship aims to produce new conceptual and empirical insights into a neglected but integral aspect of housing studies, namely the involuntary dimension to housing mobility. All home moves, by individuals or whole households, may exist on a spectrum from fully voluntary to involuntary. The project focuses on those with a strong involuntary element caused fully or partly by mortgage repossessions, rent arrears, housing benefit changes, household reformation, and closure of services such as care homes. It is timely as one of the emerging concerns of the credit crunch-recession-austerity cycle since 2008 is a reported increase in the number of involuntary home moves, which appear to be having a significant social impact on affected households and relevant agencies and should be included in understandings of 'housing deprivation' and economic change. It is novel because involuntary home moves may have a significant effect, and an increasing one, on the overall social geography of Britain's cities, or at least on the population of certain neighbourhoods. The project is likely to include both national level work and perspectives from individual housing markets, both within the 'White Rose' region and, potentially, others. There will be potential for imaginative and innovative use of data, building on the previous work of Tunstall on a wide range of housing policy areas and of Crookes on housing demolition.

In detail, the PhD aims:

- 1) To explore the incidence and impact of all forms of involuntary housing mobility combining quantitative and qualitative description of numbers, type, direction and destination of moves, and a broad view of the social impact with a focus on the period 2008-2016;

- 2) To examine moves with different precipitating factors and from different parts of the housing system in parallel, in order to strengthen understandings of most existing studies that focus on one tenure, one process and often, one social group;
- 3) To explore the extent to which impacts vary between households;
- 4) To conceptualise and describe the particular geography of involuntary mobility, drawing theoretically on a variety of literatures including the psychology of home, neighbourhood dynamics,, mobility, and gentrification.

Resource and facilities

In addition to the resources of the network, the student will have access to all University of York and Department of Social Policy and Social work resources: computing, library, training and social and academic networks. These include the lively PhD student community in the broader Department of Social Policy and Social Work and staff-student departmental seminars. The student will be based physically at the Centre for Housing Policy, alongside one other PhD student at present, and will probably have their own office. The Centre constitutes one of the biggest concentrations of housing researchers in the UK (see www.york.ac.uk/chp). The student will be included in collective centre activities, and will be exposed to a high quality contract research environment. In addition to the support from supervisors, CHP will be able to provide specific support critical to this studentship: in particular, experience of relevant data sources, and initial contacts with housing organisations.

The student and their supervisors will develop a training plan at the start of the PhD. In addition to the student-supervisors relationships and the support of the network, PhD students at York have access to a wide range of training provision, through departmental, University and the White Rose DTC courses. This will provide support in all the skills critical for this studentship: quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis; and software training.

For any queries on this studentship please contact the lead supervisor Becky Tunstall (becky.tunstall@york.ac.uk; 01904 321 475).

How to apply

Applicants for the studentship need to meet all the requirements for PhD study at the Department of Social Policy and Social Work, University of York.

Application Deadline: 23.59pm on 24th March 2013.

Interview Date: Interviews will take place in York on 8th April.

Instructions:

The application process takes place in two stages.

The first stage is to apply for an academic place at the University of York through the Online Application Service:

<https://www.york.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply>

Please fill out all sections of the Online Application Service process, with the following stipulations:

- When asked to name a 'Preferred supervisor or research group, or field of research', please insert 'Rebecca Tunstall, CHP'
- When asked for a 'Research Proposal', please insert the following wording: 'ESRC White Rose Network Studentship 2013/14: The Urban Housing Experience in the Age of Austerity.' Then insert your Research Proposal explaining how you would undertake the studentship project.
- When asked for a 'Personal Statement', insert a statement explaining why this project is of interest, and how undertaking this PhD ties in with your future career plans.

The second stage is to complete the studentship application form:

<https://www.york.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees-funding/postgraduate/esrc/>

Applicants must first ensure that they meet the 'Eligibility and Availability' criteria. They should then click on the 'Applying' tab, complete the '2013 ESRC WR DTC Application Form' and send it to both sharon.harrison@york.ac.uk (Departmental postgraduate administrator) and research-student-admin@york.ac.uk by 24th March 2013. Please fill out all sections of the form, with the following stipulations:

- You are applying for a '+3' ESRC studentship.
- With regard to the box 'Please explain why this is the most appropriate ESRC studentship', please insert 'Not Applicable'.
- Your training pathway is 'Social Policy and Social Research'.
- With regard to the box 'Project Title', please insert only the following wording 'The Urban Housing Experience in the Age of Austerity'.

- With regard to the box 'Project Description', please insert your Research Proposal explaining how you would undertake the studentship project. This is the most important part of the application process.
- Please ignore the 'Advanced Quantitative Methods Students' section.

The other projects in the network are:

CITY LIVING AND SOCIAL CLASS: THE IMPACT OF WELFARE REFORM AND HOUSING RE-PRIVATISATION ON CLASS AND TENURE MIX IN CENTRAL URBAN AREAS (based at Sheffield)

Supervisors: Prof Sarah Blandy, Department of Law, University of Sheffield; Dr Stuart Hodkinson, Department of Geography, University of Leeds

GOVERNING VULNERABILITY IN A TIME OF AUSTERITY: THE PRIVATE PROVISION OF HOME OFFICE-COMMISSIONED ACCOMODATION FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS (based at Leeds)

Supervisors: Dr Rachael Dobson, Department of Sociology and Social Policy, University of Leeds; Dr Julie Rugg, Centre for Housing Policy, University of York