



MAKING THE CASE

FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

No.10 WALES

Foreword from the Academy of Social Sciences and its Campaign for Social Science

Given its size, population, cultural heritage, language and political characteristics, Wales offers the perfect environment for undertaking social science research of the highest quality. World-leading social science research in Wales is informing the development of policies, services and innovation and addressing some of the most pressing societal challenges in Wales, the UK and internationally.

This booklet gives a brief taste of the broad range of exciting and innovative social science research being carried out across five leading universities in Wales. The case studies provided span a wide range of disciplines and provide evidence for the real-world economic and societal impacts this research has achieved.

The case studies focus on a range of important political and social issues, from reducing childhood obesity to treating dementia and from tackling the trafficking of human beings to fighting the global 'war on drugs'. This booklet reflects the cross-cutting nature and impact of social science generally and more specifically the depth and breadth of activity and expertise in Wales.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Roger Goodman".

Professor Roger Goodman FAcSS
Chair, Academy
of Social Sciences



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James Wilsdon".

Professor James Wilsdon FAcSS
Chair, Campaign
for Social Science

Foreword from the Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research, Data & Methods (WISERD) and the Research Institute for Applied Social Sciences (RIASS)

WISERD is an interdisciplinary and multi-institutional research institute spanning five universities in Wales. The Institute was established in 2008 and aims to develop and promote social science research in Wales. RIASS is a flagship Swansea University collaborative research institute, bringing together the very best research expertise within the social, human, health and environmental sciences.

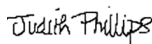
It has been a great pleasure for WISERD and RIASS to work together on this publication to highlight some of the key contributions that researchers in Wales have made and the impact they have achieved locally, nationally and internationally. This booklet is a window on the part Wales has played, and is continuing to play, in pushing the frontiers of social science knowledge in a challenging economic climate.

This booklet has been produced by the Academy of Social Sciences in partnership with WISERD and RIASS.

We hope you find this booklet informative and interesting.




Professor Ian Rees Jones FAcSS
Director, Wales Institute of Social
and Economic Research, Data and
Methods (WISERD)

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Public opinion and Welsh devolution

The very narrow public endorsement of devolution in a 1997 referendum raised questions about the legitimacy of devolved government in Wales.

What people in Wales think about how they are governed has been the subject of detailed research since the late-1990s, which has been led by **Professor Richard Wyn Jones FAcSS** and **Professor Roger Scully FAcSS** initially at Aberystwyth University and now at Cardiff University.

A series of detailed surveys have explored public experiences of, and attitudes towards, devolved government in Wales.

The researchers have found a surprisingly rapid decline in opposition to devolution after 1997, particularly amongst groups (British, rather than Welsh, identifiers, and non-speakers of Welsh) which were originally most hostile to it. They also found that evaluations of the Welsh government's

performance have little impact on underlying attitudes to the principle of devolution, and that there is significant public support for devolution to be extended.

The research directly influenced the work and conclusions of both the All-Wales Convention and the Silk Commission. The former led directly to the 2011 referendum where the public endorsed the Welsh Assembly gaining full law-making powers. Silk produced two reports: the first led directly to the 2015 Wales Act, while recommendations from the second are central to current inter-party talks about further reforms of Welsh devolution. In addition, the research has led directly to an on-going collaboration with YouGov and ITV-Wales to provide the first-ever regular political polling in Wales – the Welsh Political Barometer:

<http://blogs.cf.ac.uk/electionsinwales/>



Improving the evidence base for policy in the areas of employment and public sector pay

In the Autumn Statement of 2011 the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that the public sector pay freeze would come to an end in 2012/13 and emphasis would be placed on making public sector pay more responsive to local labour market conditions. He quoted evidence from the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) which showed a public/private sector pay premium of around 8 per cent with substantial differences in the regional pay premium.

Professors David Blackaby and Phil Murphy, with **Dr Nigel O'Leary** and **Anita Staneva**, all from Swansea University looked at how robust the IFS research was and found that it was very sensitive to measurement issues and the choice of time period. In particular the researchers found that regional differentials varied over time and were generally much smaller in periods before the current recession and also when some additional variables, which have been found to influence pay, were included.

The Welsh Government quoted this research in its evidence to the Pay Review

Bodies, which the Chancellor had asked to consider the evidence for market-facing pay, arguing against the introduction of regional pay. Margaret McEvoy, Deputy Director and Chief Economist Office of Manpower Economics stated (2012), *"The research by Blackaby, Murphy, O'Leary and Staneva (2012) played a valuable role in helping Review Boards assess the evidence on the issue."*

In the Autumn Statement 2012 the Chancellor announced he would not be pursuing market-facing pay in the public sector.

<http://www.wiserd.ac.uk/research/inequalities/current-projects/labour-market-implications-changes-public-sector>



Tackling child obesity

Child obesity has now reached epidemic proportions worldwide, leading to a steep rise in avoidable illnesses such as heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, and some cancers.

Although it is well known that a diet high in fruit and vegetables can help prevent obesity, many children refuse to eat, or even taste these foods.

The traditional approach of simply telling children that they should eat lots of fruit and vegetables in order to stay healthy has no lasting effect, most probably because it makes no contact with children's psychology.

Professor Fergus Lowe, Professor Pauline Horne and their research team at Bangor University have developed a unique Role Modelling and Rewards intervention that inspires children to learn a lasting liking for fruit and vegetables through repeated tasting of those foods. Children see role modelling videos featuring the Food Dudes

– child characters who enjoy eating fruit and vegetables – which provide the 'special energy' they need to defeat the forces of evil. Food Dude rewards are also given to the children, initially just for tasting the fruit and vegetables, and later for eating a whole portion.

Food Dudes has been delivered to more than 700,000 children worldwide (Ireland, UK, Italy and the US), producing large and lasting increases in their fruit and vegetable consumption.

Recent UK studies have also found that as fruit and vegetable consumption increases, high calorie foods are displaced from children's daily diets, strengthening impact on child obesity. Interestingly and importantly parents report similar changes in their own diets.

This research has permanently changed Ireland's health policy and practice at national level: all Irish primary school children have



taken part in Food Dudes over the course of an 8-year rollout, with further delivery planned for Ireland's 'next generation'. The same is true for health policy and practice at regional level in the UK where Food Dudes is now increasingly the Commissioners' health intervention of choice.

www.fooddudes.co.uk





Preventing teenagers taking up smoking

Smoking remains an issue of public health concern and research suggested that a new approach to youth smoking was needed. This prompted researchers at Cardiff University to develop a schools-based smoking prevention intervention which trained influential Year 8 students (peer supporters) to encourage their peers to be smoke-free. The intervention uses social networks to exploit peer influence in order to promote smoke-free norms and so reverse peer pressure to take up risk behaviours in adolescence.

Promising results from a small feasibility study led to funding by the Medical Research Council of a large scale randomised trial to test its effectiveness.

The trial was led by **Professor Mick Bloor** and then **Professor Laurence Moore** at Cardiff, along with researchers at the University of Bristol.

Almost 11,000 12-13-year-old students in 59 schools in England and Wales took part

in the trial which primarily aimed to assess the impact of the intervention on smoking rates 2 years later. On three occasions students completed questionnaires about smoking. They also provided saliva samples, which objectively measured whether or not they smoked. Findings published in The Lancet show that, over the two-year period following the intervention, students who received the intervention were 22% less likely to take up regular smoking than those who did not.

Cardiff and Bristol universities set up a not-for-profit company to run the DECIPHER-ASSIST programme and to support its delivery in secondary schools. Thirty UK public health providers have bought licences and now deliver it. The programme has been highlighted in numerous national strategy documents and was recommended in NICE guidance. Most importantly, since 2010, over 86,000 Year 8 students (including over 15,000 peer supporters) have taken part in DECIPHER-ASSIST, which has resulted in an estimated 2,400 fewer teenage smokers.

For further information, go to <http://decipher.uk.net/research-page/assist/>



Cognitive stimulation – improving quality of life and cognition in people with mild to moderate dementia

Dementia is the most significant challenge for health and social care in the 21st century. In 1996 **Professor Bob Woods FAcSS** of Bangor University and **Professor Martin Orrell** of University College London called for rigorous evaluation of psychological approaches in dementia care. These had been under development for 30 years, but there was little evidence on their effects. Medications to slow down the rate of dementia decline were becoming available – could psychological approaches be just as effective?

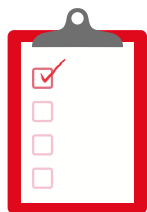
This was the impetus for a joint Bangor/ UCL research programme on Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (CST) that continues to this day. Professors Woods and Orrell were joined by Aimee Spector at UCL. Together they reviewed the existing evidence and developed a structured programme of enjoyable, mentally stimulating activities that could be carried out in small groups with people with dementia in care homes and day centres.

A rigorous trial indicated that the approach significantly improved quality of life and scores on cognitive tests over a two-month

period. Subsequent studies have shown that cost-effective improvements in quality of life continue over a further six-month period if the person continues to attend weekly CST sessions. The effects add to any associated with the (now) widely available medications.

CST is recommended in current evidence-based clinical guidelines for the treatment of dementia in the UK and by international bodies such as Alzheimer's Disease International. Easy-to-use manuals have been made widely available, and training courses developed. It is estimated that over 200 clinical teams in the UK use the approach, one of 22 countries to do so. Tens of thousands of people with dementia have benefitted from a practice which one carer described as a 'lifeline', restoring her mother's confidence as "she felt she was doing something to help herself."

For more information on CST visit <http://www.cstdementia.com/>



Enhancing the capacity to act and democratic accountability of parish, town and community councils

Town, parish and community councils play an increasingly important role in local governance in England and Wales, yet until recently little accurate information was available about their activities, membership or challenges. A series of research studies by **Professor Michael Woods** and colleagues at Aberystwyth University addressed this knowledge gap in the early 2000s. The research team collated election data, carried out detailed questionnaire surveys of over 1,000 town, parish and community councils in England and Wales, held interviews and focus groups with key stakeholders, and put together several detailed case studies.

The research revealed a very diverse sector, with significant variations in the size and activity of councils, available resources and levels of participation in elections. The team found that fewer than a third of councillors had been elected in contested ballots, and young people were particularly under-represented on councils. Whilst more active councils were eager to expand their role and expressed frustration with legal and financial constraints, many smaller councils were concerned about being forced to do more.

The research team's findings led directly to changes in legislation and guidance in England and Wales. In Wales, recommendations from the research report to the Welsh Government (now known as the 'Aberystwyth Report') directly underpinned parts of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, including changes to arrangements for establishing and dissolving town and community councils, community meetings and polls, appointing youth representatives (16-25) and a power for town and community councils to promote well-being in their area. In England, the research has informed the development of the Quality Parish and Town Councils Scheme.

These changes have empowered town, parish and community councils to play a greater role in service delivery and community development; promoted wider citizen engagement in community governance; and increased the democratic accountability of local councils.

More information: <http://www.aber.ac.uk/en/iges/research-groups/new-political-geographies/research-intro/community-town-councils/>



Do banks compete?

Professor Philip Molyneux of Bangor University looked at the public-policy question of whether banks operate competitively or if they behave more like monopolists?

If banks compete effectively this should be reflected in lower prices, more efficient operations and higher quality of services for customers.

He used advances in the modelling of the competitive features of banking markets using price-cost and/or price-revenue relationships as well as various concentration indicators to look at this question. He also sought to model bank efficiency using a range of techniques and relate these to bank risk and the competitive environment.

He measured three critical dimensions of bank behaviour – competition, efficiency and risk-management – that cannot be viewed in isolation and (for accuracy and policy relevance) must be considered as related and modelled accordingly.

The research found that regulators may allow more efficient banks to take on greater risks and this can positively influence competition.

A variety of financial organizations at national, European and international level have used Professor Molyneux's findings in formulating policy. For instance, Roberto Violi, Senior Director of Banca d'Italia, noted: *"This work has had an important influence on policy analysis of banking sector competition and efficiency. These approaches are now widely used in policy circles to gauge the competitive nature of banking systems"*



Improving control over illicit money flows and recovering the proceeds of crime

In spite of official goals about making the UK a safer place to do business and reducing the threat of organised crime moving in on business, it was clear there was a need to generate better data on the various forms of such crime and on how they were organised and dealt with so **Professor Michael Levi FAcSS** of Cardiff University looked into this. He obtained information from both private and public sector bodies about what they saw as their key objectives and how they were organising themselves internally, nationally and internationally to deal with them. He also carried out intensive observation and interviews about how these bodies did their work and how they measured their effectiveness.

Professor Levi found that the problems were not where they were thought to be.

There have been enormous advances in technology which have, for example, enabled motor insurance claims to be connected up so that patterns of false claims can be identified and closed down, but they also

found this often did not lead to prosecutions because police had other priorities. The situation proved to be similar with regard to fraudulent social security and tax claims. They found that the police managed fraud prevention working groups with the travel and employment vetting sectors, for example, where there was some confusion about the precise objectives and little evaluation of impacts.

Other findings were that, contrary to popular and policing assumptions, there was little evidence that online gambling was used for significant money laundering and that, although it was a good idea to have Financial Intelligence Units in many countries, it was unreasonable to expect those in developing countries to be able to collect, investigate and take official action against Grand Corruption in their own countries as their leaders would find it too easy to frustrate intervention.

The work provided a better evidence base for the Serious and Organised Crime Agency, Europol and police cyber-units to focus their interventions and obtain

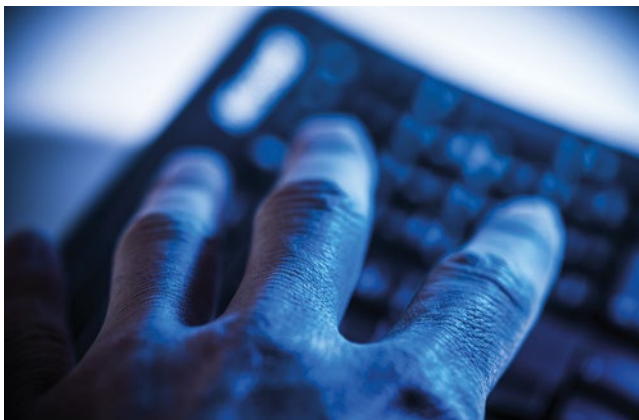


investment in high harm areas in which they could make an impact and Professor Levi was appointed as an adviser to Europol and to the European Commission Group of Experts on Corruption.

The work also led to a de-emphasis by European regulators and police on the money laundering risks from e-gambling compared with other harms arising from online and offline gambling.

It led to more systematic clarity in the public-private efforts at financial crime prevention, and indirectly stimulated private sector investment in police units to combat those crimes - to the extent that criminal justice can impact on serious crime for gain by creating some downside risks for at least some serious offenders.

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/people/view/38041-levi-michael>





Human rights of children and young people in Wales

A commitment to children's rights is often claimed as a defining feature of government in Wales. Despite this it is apparent that there has been an implementation gap between political rhetoric and the reality of children's lives.

Jane Williams and **Dr Simon Hoffman** of Swansea University, who are co-Directors of the Wales Observatory on Human Rights of Children and Young People, carry out collaborative research on legal and administrative mechanisms to secure children's rights, including work on suitable legal and other accountability mechanisms in respect of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) implementation. This work has been applied research, involving engagement with the Welsh Government, statutory bodies and NGOs, coupled with comparative analysis of other jurisdictions.

Findings from their research confirmed the need for a variety of legal and administrative mechanisms to ensure that political and executive decision-makers pay proper attention to children's rights. It also identified a legal duty on Welsh Ministers and other

public officers in Wales to have due regard to the UNCRC when exercising their functions as a potential mechanism for incorporation of the UNCRC into Welsh Law.

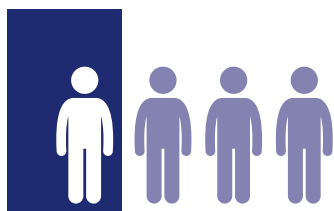
In May 2012 the Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011 came partly into force and Professors Williams and Hoffman's research was instrumental in securing support for it.

They found that insights from the research had been key to persuading stakeholders, including Ministers, to adopt a legislative mechanism which regulates the conduct of Ministers in all their functions within the framework of children's rights. The Measure also led directly to the introduction of a Children's Scheme to support implementation of the due regard duty and children's rights and a Child Rights Impact Assessment tool as an aspect of policy and law-making processes in the Welsh Government. There has also been



consequential structural and procedural change to support implementation of the due regard duty by officials, training for officials to ensure compliance, and greater scrutiny of the conduct of Welsh Ministers through reporting on compliance to the National Assembly for Wales.





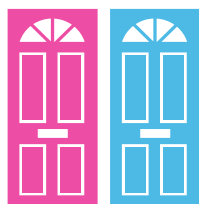
Trafficking in human beings

Trafficking in human beings (THB) is one of the unforeseen negative consequences of the fall of the Berlin Wall, collapse of communism and opening up borders in Europe. Globalisation and poverty have encouraged and even forced migration around the world, as people search for a better life. Increasingly, traffickers have taken advantage of the vulnerability of such people, taking them to other countries for sexual and labour exploitation and for body parts.

Professor Ryszard Piotrowicz at Aberystwyth University analysed the right of trafficked people to refuge in other countries and the duties of those countries to assist and protect them. He also considered the duty of countries not to punish people for offences they were forced to commit as a result of being trafficked, such as growing cannabis, entering a country illegally, working without permission, shoplifting and benefit fraud.

This research has contributed to the increasing recognition that trafficked people should not be criminalised or punished for the offences they are forced to commit and that they are entitled to protection from the state.

In 2013 the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe published guidance for all European countries, drafted by Professor Piotrowicz, which developed this principle. The guidance has been cited by courts and used by prosecutors and judges in cases concerning trafficked persons.



Neighbourhood policing

Researchers at the Universities' Police Science Institute (UPSI), led by **Professor Martin Innes** of Cardiff University, have been conducting a research programme designed to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of Neighbourhood Policing.

The Institute's pioneering research, using a programme of face-to-face interviews with the public, has made police more effective at understanding and responding to the crime and disorder problems which drive insecurity within and across different communities. It has provided an evidence base about how to engage effectively with communities so that policing interventions target those issues that influence how people think, feel and act about their safety.

Following a pilot study in Cardiff in 2008 the approach was integrated across the whole of South Wales as part of a strategy to improve public confidence. One notable success of this work was Operation Michigan where interviews generated 'community intelligence' about a drugs market that police were unaware of, ultimately resulting in: 184 individuals arrested for Class A drug supply; a 36% reduction in serious acquisitive crime

in the target areas; and a 25% reduction in Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB).

UPSI's 2010 report to Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, *Re-thinking the Policing of Anti-Social Behaviour*, advised focusing on the harms of ASB and adopting a more victim-centred approach in policing it. The findings informed a fundamental change to Home Office policy, resulting in widespread improvements to police responsiveness for victims in England and Wales.

UPSI also worked with the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) to assess how effective 'prevent' policing is in reducing the risks of terrorist attacks, which shaped the coalition government's counter-terrorism strategy. The study, which looked at data from the British Crime Survey alongside in-depth interviews with counter-terrorism police and local community members, found that community engagement through neighbourhood policing was the best way to understand and respond to the risks of violent extremism within communities.

Further information is available at:
www.upsi.org.uk



Helping to improve homicide investigations

Homicide investigation is one of the most publicly visible yet least understood aspects of policing. Despite the significant resources deployed to investigate these high impact crimes, it is not clear why some homicides are particularly difficult to solve or what makes an investigation successful. In tackling these questions, **Professor Fiona Brookman** from the University of South Wales explored the culture, processes and practices that inform investigations and identified ways of improving investigations in terms of outcome and impact. This led on from her previous research on homicide already reproduced in the Murder Investigation Manual and used to help Senior Investigation Officers to better plan an effective investigative strategy based on case characteristics.

Professor Brookman conducted in-depth interviews with 30 homicide detectives and other senior officers across Britain and 38 in the United States.

She also analysed numerous case files and 'shadowed' detectives and other specialists (such as forensic scientists) during eight 'live'

investigations for over 350 hours to observe decision-making in action. She also held many informal conversations with detectives and senior officers at homicide units, crime scenes, court buildings and forensic science facilities.

This research produced multiple findings, some as yet unpublished, concerning the culture and practice of investigation.

Subsequently, in collaboration with Professor Martin Innes of Cardiff University, Professor Brookman developed a framework for judging success, which is broader than the traditional measure of whether a suspect is charged and convicted. This includes: (i) outcome success, (ii) procedural success, (iii) community impact reduction success, and (iv) preventative success.

This four-fold measure of success has been included in the 2013 International Association of Chiefs of Police publication *'10 Things Chiefs can do to Positively Impact Homicide Investigation Outcomes'* and was



disseminated to Chiefs across all forces in the USA. Briefings by Professor Brookman to Police Chiefs in the USA have also led to proposals in at least one police force to introduce the role of Family Liaison Officer (FLO) to dedicated homicide squads. In 2012, Professor Brookman established the Criminal Investigation Research Network

(CIRN). It now comprises over fifty members from around the world and aims to enhance international collaborations between researchers, practitioners and policy makers and to produce new insights into major crime investigation.

<http://www.theiacp.org/10ThingsLECanDo>





Dyspraxia

Until relatively recently developmental disorders were thought of as childhood conditions that 'just' miraculously disappear in your teens. However, research over the last 10 years has blown away that myth. Developmental Co-ordination Disorder, one of the key developmental disorders, is also known in the UK as Dyspraxia. It affects up to 3% of the adult population and impacts on many areas of their lives. Often adults will also have Dyslexia and ADHD as well.

A lack of screening or assessment tools for those over 16 years of age meant there was a big gap in the clinical and research armoury.

Professor Amanda Kirby of the University of South Wales led the work, with **Professor Sara Rosenblum** from Haifa University and **Professor David Sugden** from Leeds University. The researchers knew that about 70% of children continued to have substantial problems in adulthood but, if they had been missed or misdiagnosed, there was no means of screening or providing appropriate support.

Professor Kirby had personal as well as professional reasons for undertaking this

research, having a child (now 29 years old) with DCD. When he was young she set up The Dyscovery Centre which is now based at University of South Wales and which has been seeing children clinically for more than 16 years, so it was in the unique position of having acquired a large database of families who had come to the Centre. Many of the individuals were now adults and were keen to help with this work. This allowed a comparison to be made of those diagnosed with DCD in childhood with other adults with symptoms but no diagnosis in childhood, as well as with adults with no co-ordination difficulties either as an adult or child and identify the differences.

The work resulted in the development of the first screening tool for this age group and it was also able to highlight some of the impact and related common challenges in other areas of life such as with organisational and social skills.



The screening tool is now being used by colleges and universities to screen students for DCD, within offender settings as well as in Welfare to Work. It is also being used for research purposes in several different languages.

The tool has helped to increase our understanding of adults' challenges e.g. relating to mood and wellbeing, as well as where specific difficulties are in gaining employment. This new knowledge has also contributed to greater understanding for employers in the UK as a part of the Hidden Impairment National Campaign on how to support adults with DCD in the workplace increasing their Disability Confidence (a UK government campaign).

<http://psychology.research.southwales.ac.uk/research/developmental-psychology/amanda-kirby/>





Reframing the way drug policy is talked about

Recent years have witnessed a growing appreciation of the complexities of illicit drug markets and the challenges associated with policy responses designed to counter them. With this has come increasing discussion of, and engagement with, policy shifts away from what has become known as the 'war on drugs'. This process has been taking place at various levels of governance, including not only within many countries, but also within multinational structures like the European Union and the United Nations.

Building upon nearly a decade of direct engagement with the issue area, **Professor David Bewley-Taylor** of Swansea University's research has enhanced understanding of policy change within high-level debates on international drug control policy. Specifically, he has pioneered concepts that help explain the increasing tensions between the overarching UN drug control conventions and national policies on controlled drugs that deviate from punitive-prohibition; for example, policies that incorporate harm reduction practices like needle exchange programmes and opioid substitution therapy

as well as the decriminalisation of cannabis possession for personal use.

Through presentations and face-to-face consultations in national capitals and at the UN in Vienna, he has helped change the way national, UN and EU drug policy officials, national ambassadors and representatives of non-governmental organisations understand and describe the history, current dynamics and future transformation of the multilateral drug control system. In helping reframe discourse about drug policy, his research has helped facilitate decision-makers to consider innovative approaches that aim to reduce a range of drug-related harms.

As Madame Ruth Dreifuss, Member of the Global Commission on Drug Policy, Former President of Switzerland and Minister of Home Affairs has noted, "Bewley-Taylor's ideas on 'soft detection' from the control regime and 'regime weakening' provide a useful conceptual lens through which to consider a global system more able to accommodate the complex and specific needs of individual nation states."

Other titles in the series are:

1. Wellbeing
2. Ageing
3. Sustainability, the Environment
and Climate Change
4. Crime
5. Sport and Leisure
6. Management
7. Scotland
8. Longitudinal Studies
9. Mental Wellbeing

Copies can be ordered from the Academy office at the address overleaf or downloaded in PDF format from the Academy and Campaign websites.



The Academy of Social Sciences is the national academy of academics, learned societies and practitioners in the social sciences. Its mission is to promote social sciences in the United Kingdom for the public benefit. The Academy's Campaign for Social Science was launched to raise the profile of social science in the public, media and Parliament. Its activities include lobbying government, organising events, promoting social sciences in the media and monitoring the health of academia in the UK.

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Established in 2008, the Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research, Data & Methods (WISERD) draws together social science researchers from a number of disciplines including sociology, economics, geography and political science. The Institute is based within five Universities in Wales: Aberystwyth, Bangor, Cardiff, South Wales and Swansea, and works in partnership with other UK Universities.

<http://www.wiserd.ac.uk>

**Research Institute for
Applied Social Sciences**



The Research Institute for Applied Social Sciences (RIASS), at Swansea University, is a flagship, cross-University collaboration bringing together the very best research expertise within the social, human, health and environmental sciences.

<http://www.swansea.ac.uk/riass>