

First Annual Report

October 2002

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SUMMARY

The mission of the Scottish Centre for Research on Social Justice (SCRSJ) is (i) to develop research capacity, conceptual clarity, expertise and research methods on social justice in Scotland and (ii) to enhance the evidence-base by providing substantive research findings for Scotland, including comparisons where appropriate with other parts of the UK and Europe. The Centre has been established successfully, with five staff and a further eight collaborators involved in research during 2002. It has met the targets set under three headings for the first year, with several months remaining of the first year of full operation. Key achievements are

- Research: work has started on five projects, and another four have been externally funded and in two cases completed;
- Collaboration: the Centre itself is a collaboration and further collaboration has taken place with others within the two host institutions and more widely; further collaboration is anticipated in externally funded research; and
- Impact: two high profile launch events and a well-attended seminar have enabled SCRSJ to be publicised through the media and in other ways.

INTRODUCTION

The mission of the Centre is (i) to develop research capacity, conceptual clarity, expertise and research methods on social justice in Scotland and (ii) to enhance the evidence-base by providing substantive research findings for Scotland, including comparisons where appropriate with other parts of the UK and Europe. The mission has been pursued through a variety of measures and actions and in line with the timetable set down in the proposal. The following paragraphs describe the progress made since the Centre was established, to 30 October 2002, against objectives. This shows how the activities meet SCRSJ's objectives. The activities are then described in greater detail. The progress reported here applies to the period prior to launch of the new Centre and to the first ten months of operation (eight with full staffing). The Centre stands to meet all the targets specified in the proposal for year 1 within 12 months of starting work.

ACTIVITIES

Staff appointments

- Staff appointments were made in the last weeks of 2001 and early in 2002. Two researchers (Nick Bailey and Rebekah Sterling) and two support staff (Dr Kate Thompson and Jeane Jenkins) based in Glasgow started work in January 2002. In Aberdeen, a researcher (Dr Karen Wren) took up post in March. Staff and the posts they occupy are listed in Appendix 1.1.

Advisory Committee

- The Advisory Committee (Appendix 1.2) was appointed, chaired by Mrs Susan Rice, Chief Executive Lloyds TSB Scotland. The Committee is composed of 18 senior representatives of a variety of academic, public and voluntary sector agencies in Scotland (see Appendix). Additional appointment of an academic from overseas is anticipated. The first meeting took place in September 2002 and further meetings have taken place with ten individual members of the committee. The first meeting of the Advisory Committee was postponed until mid-September 2002 to coincide with the launch conference in Aberdeen. Committee members had previously been sent draft papers on the early work programme and on the conceptual framework being adopted. Members of the Committee have made a demonstrable contribution to the work of SCRSJ and collaboration in research or other projects has developed with some in their capacities as representing key agencies in the public and voluntary sectors.

Research strategy and projects

SCRSJ's research strategy was developed, partly through an 'away day' meeting of all staff in March 2002. All projects are listed in Appendix 1.3. A conceptual framework has been developed to enable research to address the impact of, and interactions between, a range of spatial and aspatial factors. This is being applied at different

levels of the urban-rural hierarchy, and to different socio-economic and demographic groups. It also addresses the processes of governance and the distribution of goods and burdens in society.

The Community Regeneration Statement conference and the Aberdeen launch conference on urban and rural dimensions of social injustice (see *events* below) provided useful fora for exploring relevant issues in the interactions between spatial and aspatial policies and other factors in creating social justice and injustice.

The conceptual framework is influencing work on five projects:

- Nick Bailey and Annette Hastings' work on *satisfaction with public services in deprived and other areas*;
- Karen Wren's research *the role of voluntary organisations in providing refugee care in Scotland*
- *Partnerships to secure inclusion*, a project conducted by Rebekah Sterling and Mark Shucksmith;
- Nick Bailey and Ivan Turok's work on *transitions between work and non-Work*; and
- A synthesis of evidence about *patterns of social injustice*, led by Robina Goodlad, to be completed in 2003.

A sixth RDG-funded project on gypsy travellers is being developed.

In addition, a series of externally-funded projects are intended to extend the Centre's research capacity, in line with its objectives, and to explore new funding options, with sustainability in mind.

Research into engagement in the process of governance has been advanced through starting and completing a project (*Not Just a Treat*) on participation in arts and culture within Social Inclusion Partnership areas. This was carried out collaboratively with the Centre for Cultural Policy Research (CCPR) and funded by the Scottish Arts Council. Further, explored with CCPR funding is being sought for a project to look at the outcomes of participation in a variety of community settings and one application for funds to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation was unsuccessful. Other funding opportunities for that project are being pursued.

Research into the needs of a particular social/geographical group – *older people in rural areas* – was advanced through a Scottish Executive funded project, led by Lorna Philip. A SCRSJ contribution has also been made to another Scottish Executive funded project. Suzanne Fitzpatrick, Emily Lynch and Robina Goodlad are well-advanced with research into *Women's Refuges in Scotland: Current and Future Provision*.

Another vulnerable age group – children – are the focus of preparations for a research grant application. In collaboration with others, funding is to be sought for a project on *Children living in Poverty in Scotland: what do they do without?* The collaborators are Save the Children and Professor Malcolm Hill, Centre for the Child and Society, University of Glasgow.

Public policy on social justice depends for its legitimacy, and even its implementation on public support. A project is being developed to further understanding of the variety of interpretations that social justice and injustice might have. This project, *Public Conceptions of Social Justice*, is being developed in collaboration with the National Centre for Social Research, and funding is to be sought from ESRC.

Several projects address the objective of surveying a selection of types of area. The Centre is focusing on all types of areas, not just deprived communities. Most of the focus in the research so far has been on the small area level and a project to be commenced in 2003 – *people and places: changing perceptions of life in Scotland* – will illuminate the impact of spatial and aspatial policy in people's lives and communities, at small area level. As intended, comparators for the UK and Europe respectively have been identified in some projects. Details are:

- Nick Bailey and Ivan Turok's work on labour market transitions is exploring the barriers to movement from unemployment and inactivity into employment using the longitudinal element of the Labour Force Survey. This work provides the opportunity to make comparisons between different regions of Scotland and the rest of the UK, and hence to explore how these processes vary in very different labour market contexts.
- Robina Goodlad collaborated with CCPR in a bid to the European Commission to conduct research into the links between social inclusion and cultural policy in a selection of European countries. The outcome is unknown at the time of writing.
- Along with partners in five European countries: UK, Sweden, Netherlands, Italy and Spain, we hope to secure EU funding to continue work on migration and work-related health. This builds on Karen Wren's earlier work on refugee policy in Denmark. A journal article has been accepted for publication and a report (based on research in Britain, Italy and Sweden) has been published. Karen has presented this work at a conference in Germany and has been invited by the National Institute for Working Life to offer seminars in Sweden to interested parties such as trade unions, immigrant organisations, and confederations of employers.
- Mark Shucksmith led a successful bid to the EU under its ESPON programme to study the impact of the EU's agricultural and rural development policies on social cohesion. The 460,000 euro project involves partners in Austria, Ireland, Germany, Sweden, Hungary and Spain, and has been commissioned to inform the Third Cohesion Report in 2003.

Further, methods and techniques of research and analysis are being applied in new ways. This has involved the secondary analysis of existing large scale data sets, such as the Scottish Household Survey and the Labour Force Survey, to provide new insights into the quality of public services in deprived neighbourhoods and barriers to entry to the labour market, respectively; and the development of the use of qualitative methods at small area level to explore processes of social exclusion and inclusion, for example in the project examining the role of the voluntary sector in supporting refugees and asylum seekers; in the project we hope to do on children living in poverty; and in the people and places project to start in 2003. Other work in this area includes:

- a written response to the Scottish Executive's review of the Scottish Household Survey, which encouraged an expansion of certain areas relevant to social justice; and
- a written response to the Department of Work and Pensions' consultation paper, *Measuring Child Poverty*.

Building research capacity

- The Centre is providing research expertise to the Poverty Alliance and to other agencies on a more limited scale. Support has been provided to the Poverty Alliance's Poverty Watch initiative, which is seeking to present grass roots evidence about the impact of poverty to policy makers at small area and Scottish levels in a way that is empowering for people living in poverty. In addition, advice and support on social justice-related research has been provided to several voluntary and public sector agencies, including a Social Inclusion Partnership.
- The Centre has established contact with colleagues across the UK through conferences and in other ways; researchers working on social justice elsewhere have been approached with a view to applying for funds to ESRC for a seminar series.
- The Centre has been encouraged to convene a research forum early in 2003 to review research capacity and needs in the area of community participation and public involvement. The audience would be a mix of researchers and research funders/users. This will be a pilot for further events of this type.
- Three research students (in two cases working in collaboration with Scottish Enterprise and Highlands and Islands Enterprise respectively) and seven associates, working on social justice themes, are associated with SCRSJ (see Appendices 1.4 and 1.5).
- Research funders such as the Scottish Executive and Communities Scotland have discussed research needs and priorities with SCRSJ.
- Collaboration is extending beyond immediate colleagues to other agencies, including Save the Children, the National Centre for Social Research, and the University of Glasgow's Centres for the Child and Society and CCPR, the latter another RDG-funded Centre.
- An Australian academic, from a social justice research centre, plans to visit for two months in autumn 2003.

Policy/practitioner links

- Mark Shucksmith continued to act as Programme Director for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's Action in Rural Areas programme, which has now reached its 'policy, practice and development' phase. Mark also acted as expert adviser to the Scottish Parliament's Rural Development Committee on the scrutiny of the budget. Furthermore, he made presentations on social exclusion in rural areas to the Welsh Assembly, Department of Work and Pensions, the Countryside Agency, and the Highland Council. He was also successful in obtaining ESRC Seminar Series funding to build researcher-user alliances across the devolved administrations in relation to New Rural Economies.

- Nick Bailey provided
 - a contribution to the Scottish Executive's Housing Improvement Task Force through membership of a working group on renewal of tenement property
 - a contribution to Glasgow City Council/Scottish Enterprise Glasgow's Review of Joint Economic Strategy through membership of the review group.
- Robina Goodlad served as a member of Shelter Scotland's Advisory Committee and on the advisory committee for a Joseph Rowntree Foundation project on poverty and social exclusion in Scotland.
- Meetings with key voluntary and public sector agencies who are research funders and users have taken place.

Events

- Two launch events were planned and organised: a conference on rural and urban aspects of social justice in Aberdeen and an inaugural lecture in Glasgow. These took place slightly later than originally intended to accommodate guest speakers. The First Minister, Mr Jack McConnell MSP, delivered an address on social justice at the launch at the University of Glasgow on 1 July 2002. This attracted an audience of over one hundred drawn from a wide range of institutions throughout Scotland. Mrs Margaret Curran MSP, Minister of Social Justice, opened the launch conference in Aberdeen on 13 September 2002, with an audience of 90 drawn from a wide range of policy and academic backgrounds.
- A programme of events was developed. A day seminar on *Better Communities in Scotland* on 31 July attracted over 100 participants in July 2002. This over-subscribed event was moved to accommodate demand and was organised in collaboration with the Department of Urban Studies, and held at the University of Glasgow. It was organised at short notice in response to the Scottish Executive's Communities Regeneration Statement. A seminar organised for November 2002, in collaboration with the Division of Community Based Sciences, Medical Faculty, University of Glasgow is also attracting a large audience. This is intended to form part of an occasional series, deliberately *ad hoc*, to be hosted in Glasgow or Aberdeen as appropriate.

Communications and dissemination

- The Centre's communication strategy was developed, the website was launched in May and links were established with several major search engines. A database of over 1000 contacts was established. Reports of all SCRSJ events can be found on the SCRSJ's website (<http://www.scrsj.ac.uk>). We have also produced a publicity leaflet and a fact sheet and a newsletter is planned for issue before the end of 2002.
- *Media impact*: Our launch events were covered extensively in the Scottish press, particularly the First Minister's address in Glasgow. Nick Bailey, Robina Goodlad and Mark Shucksmith have made several contributions on radio or in print medium journalism in Scotland, on social justice-related issues.

- Publications from SCRSJ's research programme are beginning to appear (Appendix 1.6).

MEETING OBJECTIVES

SCRSJ's objectives are to:

- (i) develop a critical mass of quality research capacity and other resources focussed on social justice in Scotland;
- (ii) enhance the evidence-base by providing substantive research findings for Scotland, including relevant comparisons with other parts of the UK and Europe; and
- (iii) contribute to the establishment of a new research-led policy community for Scotland that has implications for other sub-national governments.

The Centre's objectives have been met as follows:

Objective (i): critical mass

The targets for this objective have been met:

- Three research staff, two at very early stages of their careers, were appointed. In addition to these and the two co-directors, a further eight researchers have been associated with the Centre through collaboration in research projects. Further projects will soon widen this net further.
- Two new research students have become associated with the Centre, to add to one already on course. All are working on aspects of social exclusion.
- Progress is being made with collaboration in advancing the research agenda beyond immediate colleagues, with academic and other agencies. Links have been developed with colleagues in other Departments in the two host universities, with colleagues elsewhere in the UK, particularly at Heriot-Watt and Glasgow Caledonian Universities, and with research users. Key funders have been contacted and research needs, proposals and collaboration discussed.
- Progress has been slower with the visitors' programme though several short visits have been made to the Centre and a longer visit is scheduled for 2003.

Objective (ii): extend the evidence-base

The targets for this objective have been more than met. RDG resources have been devoted to starting five projects, two more than planned. Each has been the subject of discussion with the Advisory Committee and with other relevant interests. In addition, two projects have been completed and another two have been started, as a result of external funding.

The Centre's task – to apply new conceptual frameworks to available data to provide new insights and evidence about processes of social injustice – has been progressed through a conceptual framework that is being applied in the research programme. A

synthesis of evidence will apply this framework to meet the objective of completing such a review in 2003. Another project to be commenced on schedule in 2003 will address the objective of surveying a selection of types of area. As intended, comparators for the UK and Europe respectively have been identified in some projects. Further, methods and techniques of research and analysis are being applied in new ways.

Objective (iii): contribute to the establishment of a new research-led policy community for Scotland

The targets for this objective will be fully met by the end of the first full year of operation. Some have been more than met already through launch events, seminars, website, newsletter and other publication plans, our advisory committee, support to research elsewhere, and plans for research seminars and a research forum.

Appendix 1.1 Staff

Prof Robina Goodlad	Co-Director, Glasgow
Prof Mark Shucksmith	Co-Director, Aberdeen
Nick Bailey	Research Fellow, Glasgow
Rebekah Sterling	Research Fellow, Glasgow
Dr Karen Wren	Research Fellow, Aberdeen
Kate Thompson	Administrator, Glasgow
Jeane Jenkins	Secretary, Glasgow
Rona Kennedy	Arkleton Centre Secretary, Aberdeen (to 18 October 2002)

Appendix 1.2 Advisory Committee

Susan Rice (Chair)	Lloyds TSB
Mark Batho	Scottish Executive
Stephen Maxwell	Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations
Damien Killeen	The Poverty Alliance
Graham Atherton	COSLA
Dharmendra Kanani	Commission for Racial Equality
Namasiku Liandu	Scottish Trades Union Congress
Susan Elsley	Save the Children in Scotland
Theresa McDonagh	Joseph Rowntree Foundation
Glen Bramley	Heriot Watt University
Gill Scott	Scottish Poverty Information Unit, Glasgow Caledonian University
Raymond Young	University of Glasgow
David Donnison	University of Glasgow
Agnes Rennie	Crofters Commission
Alastair Grimes	Community Enterprise in Strathclyde
Kathy Galloway	Church Action on Poverty
Elizabeth Gray	University of Glasgow, R & E
Elaine Noad	Disability Rights Commission

Appendix 1.3

Research Projects (all SHEFC RDG funded unless otherwise stated)

1: Completed projects

Not Just a Treat: An Evaluation of the Scottish Arts Council's National Lottery 'Arts and Social Inclusion' Scheme (funder: Scottish Arts Council)

Older People in Rural Areas: a scoping study (funder: Scottish Executive)

2: Current projects

Patterns of Social Injustice in Scotland

Transitions Between Work and Non-Work (collaboration with Department of Urban Studies)

Satisfaction with Public Services in Deprived and other Areas (collaboration with Department of Urban Studies)

Partnerships to Secure Inclusion

The Role of Voluntary Organisations in Providing Refugee Care in Scotland

Women's Refuges in Scotland: Current and Future Provision (collaboration with Department of Urban Studies) (funder: Scottish Executive)

EU rural policy and social cohesion (collaboration with Arkleton Centre)(funder: European Commission)

3 Projects under development

Gypsy travellers

People and places: changing perceptions of life in Scotland

Participation (collaboration with CCPR, funding to be sought)

Public Conceptions of Social Justice (collaboration with National Centre for Social Research, funding to be sought from ESRC)

Migrant Deskilling and Health (collaboration with European partners, funding to be sought from European Commission)

Children living in Poverty in Scotland (collaboration with Save the Children and Centre for Child and Society, University of Glasgow, funding to be sought)

Social inclusion and cultural policy in Europe (tender submitted to European Commission)

Appendix 1.4

Research students

Jane Mirren Grant

Project title: 'Social Exclusion in Rural Areas: the Case of Older Men'

Marcia Gibson Project title: ‘Social Exclusion and ICT: Barriers and Access Points in Digital Inclusion’

Deborah Sharp Project title: ‘Ending the cycle of social exclusion? Supported housing for young adults’.

Appendix 1.5 Associates

University of Glasgow

Christine Hamilton Director, Centre for Cultural Policy Research
Annette Hastings Lecturer, Department of Urban Studies
Ivan Turok Professor, Department of Urban Studies
Suzanne Fitzpatrick Lecturer, Department of Urban Studies
Emily Lynch Research Fellow, Department of Urban Studies

University of Aberdeen

Lorna Philip Lecturer, Department of Land Economy
Euan Phimister Senior Lecturer, Department of Land Economy

Appendix 1.6

Publications (inc. reports to funders)

- Atkinson, A. and Goodlad, R. (2002) *Reforming House Sales in the Social Rented Sector: implications for Northern Ireland’s housing associations*, Belfast: NIFHA.
- Bailey, N. (ed) (2002) *Better communities in Scotland: will the Community Regeneration Statement close the gap? Conference report*. Glasgow: SCRSJ, University of Glasgow.
- Bailey, N. (2002) ‘Social indicators: the EU and social inclusion by Atkinson, T., Cantillon, B., Marlier, E., and Nolan, B. Oxford: OUP’ in *SPA News*, Summer.
- Gallent, N., Shucksmith, M. and Tewdwr-Jones, M. (eds.) (2002) ‘Housing in the European Countryside: A review of International Experience’, Ashgate. (circ sent to publishers in April 2002).
- Goodlad, R. (2002) ‘Neighbourhood regeneration policy: rebuilding community?’ in: *Reclaiming Community*, editor V. Nash, London: Institute for Public Policy Research, pp. 65-84 (ISBN: 1 86030 192 4).
- Goodlad, R., Hamilton, C. and Taylor, P. D. (2002) *Not Just a treat: Arts and Social Inclusion – A report to the Scottish Arts Council*, Glasgow: Centre for Cultural Policy Research and Department of Urban Studies, University of Glasgow.
- Goodlad, R. (2002) ‘Area policies and inequality in Scotland, 1999-2001’ in: *Health Inequalities in the New Scotland*, editors: K. Judge and P. Hanlon, Glasgow: Public Health Institute of Scotland, pp. 34-39.
- Goodlad, R. (2002) ‘Council Housing and Culture: The History of a Social Experiment by Alison Ravetz’, *Urban Studies* 38:10.
- Goodlad, R., Docherty, I. and Paddison, R. (2002) ‘Citizen Participation in Urban Governance: A report on the citizen participation sub-project of the Central

- Scotland Case Study: "Cities, Competitiveness and Cohesion in Central Scotland", to the Scottish Executive.
- Jentsch, B. and Shucksmith, M. (eds.) (2003) 'Policies and Young People in Rural Europe', Ashgate (crc sent to publishers September 2002).
- Philip, L. and Shucksmith, M. (2003) 'Conceptualising Social Exclusion in Rural Britain', *European Planning Studies*. Accepted.
- Scott, S., Houston, D., and Sterling, R. (2002) *Working Together, Learning Together: An evaluation of the national training programme for Social Inclusion Partnerships*. University of Glasgow, Department of Urban Studies. Report to the Scottish Executive.
- Shucksmith, M. (2002) 'Social Exclusion and Poverty in Rural Areas', *Belgeo: the Belgian Journal of Geography*, 2001-3, 165-184.
- Shucksmith, M. (2003) 'Processes of Change and Social Exclusion in Rural Areas', *Sociologia Ruralis*, 43, 2. Accepted.
- Shucksmith, M. and Conway, E. (2002) 'The Development of Rural Housing Policy in Scotland', in Gallent, N., Shucksmith, M. and Tewdwr-Jones, M. (eds.) *Housing in the European Countryside: A review of International Experience*.
- Shucksmith, M. and Herrmann, V. (2002) 'Future Changes in British Agriculture: Projecting Divergent Farm Household Behaviour'. *Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 53, 1, 37-50.
- Turok, I. and Bailey, N. (2002) 'Does Central Scotland need a spatial strategy?', *Scottish Affairs* (39): 71-95.
- Wren, K. (2003, forthcoming) 'Refugee Dispersal in Denmark: From macro-scale to micro-scale analysis', *International Journal of Population Geography* 9(1).
- Wren, K. and Boyle, P. (2002) 'Migration and work-related health in Europe: A pilot study', *SALISA report no 1: 2002*, Stockholm: National Institute for Working Life.

Conference etc papers

- Bailey, N. and Hastings, A. (2002) 'Public services in deprived neighbourhoods: evidence of "neighbourhood effects" in mainstream public services'. Paper presented at the Social Policy Association conference *Localities, regeneration and welfare*, University of Teeside, 16-18 July 2002.
- Bailey, N. and Hastings, A. (2002) 'Public services in deprived neighbourhoods: "spatial injustices" from mainstream service'. Paper presented at the Scottish Centre for Research on Social Justice Aberdeen launch conference *Social justice in Scotland: urban and rural dimensions*, Aberdeen, 13 September 2002.
- Goodlad, R. 'UK Housing Policy after Devolution: A Disunited Kingdom?', *Housing policies for the New UK*, HSA Spring Conference, 3/4th April 2002, York
- Goodlad, R. 'Conceptualising social justice in Scotland: urban and rural dimensions', presented to SCRSJ Conference '*Social justice in Scotland: urban and rural dimensions*', Aberdeen, 13 September 2002.
- Goodlad, R. and Atkinson, R. 'Restructuring the welfare state: the Right to Buy and the limits to privatisation', paper presented at the ENHR 2002 Conference, *Housing Cultures – Convergence ad Diversity*, Vienna, 1-5 July 2002
- Goodlad, R., and Docherty, I. 'Citizen Participation and Urban Governance', Seminar at Department of Development and Regeneration Services, City of Glasgow, 8 April 2002.

- Goodlad, R. and Hashagen, S. 'Citizen Participation and governance: are we doing enough?', presented to Chartered Institute of Housing in Scotland, annual conference, Dundee, March 2002.
- Shucksmith, M. (2002) 'Comparative rural development research', Oslo, March.
- Shucksmith, M. (2002) 'The role of social capital in rural development', *Euromontana Conference*, Inverness, May.
- Shucksmith, M. (2002) 'Learning Across the North: the transfer of rural development practice between Scotland and the Nordic countries', Inverness, May.
- Shucksmith, M. (2002) 'Habitus and reflexivity among farm households', *International Sociological Association World Congress*, Brisbane, July.
- Turok, I. and Bailey, N. (2002) 'Planning for polycentric urban regions: examining the case for Central Scotland.' Paper presented at the *Planning Research Conference*, Dundee, April.
- Wren, Karen (2002) 'Migrant deskilling and health in Europe' to conference on *Health of Migrants*, University of Bielefeld, Germany, April 19-20th.