

# PSSRU at Kent – Business Plan 2017

---

## Mission

The PSSRU's mission is to conduct high-quality research on social and health care and related issues to inform and influence policy, practice and theory.

## Aims

1. Deliver **high-quality academically and methodologically robust research** across social care, health, housing and education
2. **Influence** policy, practice and research using effective knowledge transfer, including through websites and social media, and identifying new areas for research and methodologies
3. Sustain and develop a **reputation** for high-quality research and impact, both nationally and internationally
4. Sustain and develop **networks** within the wider research community, including funders, researchers and research users
5. Ensure **resources** are adequate to allow delivery of high-quality research and impact
6. Sustain and develop a high-quality, qualified and motivated **workforce**
7. Maintain a good **working environment**

## On-going objectives (Indicators are bulleted. Specific metrics are sub-bullets)

### Producing research

- Outputs
  - Number of publications in peer-review and practice journals (Aims 1, 2, 3):  
For the next REF we aim to achieve: Grades 6 and 7 – an author of 1 per year (pro rata) on average, with at least one as first author if possible; Grade 8 and above – 1 first authored publication per year (pro rata), on average
  - Number of publications in books and monographs (Aims 1, 2, 3)
- Making grant applications (Aims 1, 6)
  - Number of applications

### Delivering high-quality research on time (Aim 1)

- Avoiding no-cost extensions
  - Number of extensions
- Timely dissemination of research activity (Aim 2)

### Involvement of service users and the public in research (Aims 1, 2)

- Ensuring appropriate public involvement at project level
- Embed public, patient and service user involvement in research
- Embed our data security procedures

### Workforce development

- Identifying and meeting training needs (Aim 6)
- Reporting back on training undertaken (Aim 6)

- Proportion of feedback reports completed
- Registration and completion of PhDs/Masters (Aims 3, 6)
- Project time allocations well understood and managed
  - Individual plans for staff time allocation on programmes shared
- Regular appraisals (Aim 6, 7)
  - Proportion of appraisals completed on time

### **PSSRU citizenship with School, Faculty and University**

- Contribution to corporate activities (citizenship) at School, Faculty and University level (Aims 4, 6)
  - Record examples of citizenship within PSSRU, SSPSSR and the University (e.g. membership of subcommittees, involvement in School ethics committee, Equality/Diversity committee representation, etc.)
- PSSRU contribution to REF, especially regarding impact (Aims 2, 3)
- PSSRU contribution to teaching (including unfunded) (Aims 4, 6)
- All appropriate PSSRU staff to be active on SRC panel (Aims 4, 6)

### **Reputation/esteem**

- Invitations to tender (Aims 3, 4, 5)
  - Personal invitations received
- Involvement in external collaborative research projects (Aims 4, 5)
- Wider impact (Aims 2, 3)

### **Knowledge transfer and exchange**

- Disseminating research through blogs and tweets (Aims 2, 3, 4)
  - Numbers of blogs posted
- Website usage
  - Record numbers of clicks-through
- Conference presentations (Aims 3, 4, 6)
  - Produce list of conference presentations

### **Sound financial status (Aim 5)**

- Successful grant applications (Aims 1, 3)
  - List of funded applications
- Financial statements available on intranet (aim for small surplus) (Aim 5)

### **Working environment**

- IIP status reviewed regularly (Aims 6, 7)
- Reliable IT support (Aim 7)
- Regularly monitor health and wellbeing (Aim 6, 7)
- Transparent and effective internal communications

## Specific objectives for 2017

Increase publication rates: publication strategy agreed with line managers; set up SUAW sessions.

Encourage all research staff to come up with research ideas suitable for PRU, SSCR or other funding applications through appraisals and lunchtime sessions.

Identify possible case studies for REF 2020

Organise lunch-time SRC session to facilitate SRC panel membership by Grade 7 researchers and above.

Improve joint Kent and LSE PSSRU website (extranet and intranet), showing all research interests (e.g. QORU, ESHCRU, EXCELC)

Improve our use of social media to create impact: aim for two blogs per project for 2017 and to increase Twitter followers to at least 1,700 by the end of 2017)

Make available an online feedback form for staff training activities

Put PSSRU data security policy in public domain

Health and Wellbeing Group to report on the Survey and circulate strategies. (Current activities; walking, meditation, Big Society)

Move out of Cornwallis George Allen Wing into Rutherford car park offices with minimal disruption.

Liaise with Estates, SSPSSR and CHSS about refurbishment of new Cornwallis Central (and planned return in 2018).

Investigate use of various research platforms such as ORCID, ResearchFish, ResearchGate, Academia EDU, ResearcherID (Alan). Identify minimum requirement for researchers and the links with MySpace on the new website and the University-recommended Vertigo.