



## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL IMPACT REPORT

**Reference:** RES 437 25 0003

**Investigator/s:** P.I.: Bren Neale (Leeds)

**Co-I's:** Janet Holland (Co-Director); Katherine Backet-Milburn (Edinburgh); Joanna Bornat (Open); Rosalind Edwards (Southampton, formerly London South Bank); Nick Emmel (Leeds); Sheila Henderson (London South Bank); Karen Henwood (Cardiff); Kahryn Hughes (Leeds); Sarah Irwin (Leeds); Rachel Thomson (Sussex, formerly Open).

**Title: Relationships and Identities through the Life Course (Timescapes)**

Funded under the ESRC Changing Lives and Times Qualitative Longitudinal Initiative 2007-12.

### **Description:**

'Timescapes' was a methodological and resource driven initiative. The five year programme was designed to scale up and develop Qualitative Longitudinal (QL) research through the following strands of activity:

- 1) New empirical research conducted through a network of thematically related projects;
- 2) Creation of an archive of QL data and showcasing re-use of the datasets;
- 3) Capacity building in QL research methods, ethics, archiving and secondary analysis.

**Empirical Research.** The empirical research focused on the dynamics of personal lives and relationships across the generations, with a particular focus on processes of growing up (projects 1, 2, 3 and 5), growing older (3, 6 and 7); and the dynamics of parenting practices and identities (projects 2, 3, 4 and 5). Two further projects were designed to test out methods for creating longitudinal case histories from a classic QL dataset (Making the Long View: Henderson, Holland et al); and to showcase and advance methods for data re-use (the Secondary Analysis project: Irwin and Winterton). The following empirical projects were conducted:

- Project 1: Siblings and Friends: Edwards and Weller
- Project 2: Young Lives and Times (+ Following Young Fathers): Neale and Lau Clayton
- Project 3: The Dynamics of Modern Motherhood: Thomson and Kehily
- Project 4: Men as Fathers: Henwood, Shirani and Coltart
- Project 5: Work and Family Lives: Backett Milburn, Harden et al
- Project 6: Intergenerational Exchange: Hughes and Emmel
- Project 7: The Oldest Generation: Bornat and Bytheway

**Data Archiving and Re-use** The rich datasets from the projects were gathered together to create a specialist resource of QL data (the Timescapes Archive) for sharing and re-use. The archive was developed in collaboration with the UK Data Archive, and is built on an institutional repository platform at the University of Leeds. Data can be assigned to different levels of access: public, registered, approved and embargoed. Eight datasets from the network and one affiliated dataset, plus accompanying metadata, were deposited during the period of funding. The archive is currently undergoing further growth and technical development (migration to a new open source software platform, funded through ESRC's Changing Landscapes for the Third Sector, 2013-14, Hughes and Neale).

**Methodological Advances.** The projects have pioneered, documented and built capacity in Qualitative Longitudinal research methods. This strand of our work was boosted through the merging of this programme with Neale's ESRC fellowship (RES 000 27 0131), which was designed to advance QL research. An impact report for the fellowship was submitted to ESRC in 2011.

**This project has achieved scientific impacts**

**This project has achieved economic and societal impacts**

## 1. Scientific impact

A Please **summarise** below the scientific impact(s) your project has had. *[Max 2000 Characters]*

### **Empirical Research: Substantive, Theoretical and Policy Related Impacts**

We have made a substantial intellectual contribution to the fields of family, life course, gender and generational research in varied disciplinary contexts (Sociology, Social Policy, Oral History, Childhood Studies, Gerontology, Psychology and Psycho-Social Research). Our focus has been on trajectories of growing up and growing older, transitions to parenthood and the construction of parental identities and practices; and the dynamics of both lateral (sibling and friendship) and intergenerational relationships. The research is theoretically informed, empirically driven and policy relevant. As a theoretical construct and orientation, time is an important and complex topic of enquiry; we have demonstrated the value of engaging *qualitatively* with time in order to better understand the processes and lived experiences of change in varied disciplinary and substantive contexts. We have contributed new understandings of the iterative relationship between past, present and future; the scales of time (the pace and velocity of lived experience); and the dynamic intersection of biographical (individual, micro); generational (collective, meso) and historical (structural, macro) social processes. We have contributed to policy debates about family resilience, young people's life chances, future aspirations across the life course, parenting practices and processes, work-life balance, and inter-generational care and support. We have generated evidence and engaged in debates on how these processes relate to family-based policy and practice under New Labour and the Coalition Government. We have demonstrated the value of a 'Timescapes' approach to social enquiry that takes temporalities and lived experiences seriously and shows their salience in understanding life course trajectories and processes of social change across disciplinary contexts.

### **Data Archiving and Re-Use: Creating a Step change in Research Practice and Agendas.**

We have made a substantial and unique contribution to resources and methods for archiving and re-using Qualitative Longitudinal data. Our projects have produced extensive datasets and metadata (data about data), on the topics outlined above, for re-use by other researchers. These are of high quality, enhancing their value for longer term preservation and re-use. We have brought these datasets together to create a specialist, national level resource for the curation and re-use of QL data: the Timescapes Archive. Built within an institutional repository, the archive is a satellite of the UK Data Archive, designed for specialist curation of QL data. The Archive holds an extensive collection of data (2,952 data files) comprising 9 thematically related datasets, 8 of which are drawn from our network of projects and one from an affiliated project. This is a significant achievement, given the challenges of archiving QL data, and the relatively short time frame for development during the programme; it reflects a high level of commitment to archiving among our network of researchers and a very high rate of consent among participants (over 95% agreement). Since opening in 2010, the archive has attracted 215 registered users who have accessed 6,890 data files. Holdings and data usage statistics are encouraging and set to grow under our newly funded ESRC project. Through this work we have substantially increased the range and availability of QL datasets in the UK for re-use.

This was made possible through the development of an innovative ‘stakeholder’ model of archiving that is in tune with the needs of QL researchers and that productively harnesses archiving to collective research endeavours (rather than seeing it as a stand alone, instrumental process). Building on this approach, our longer term strategy is to curate collections of related datasets through collaborative research that integrates archiving with the sharing and synthesis of data and findings across thematically linked projects. Three projects investigating Third Sector organisations are scheduled for archiving and secondary use over the next 18 months, while further research is planned for our networks of affiliated projects investigating issues of poverty, welfare, and the environment. We have showcased secondary use of Timescapes data and built a community of users for the resource.

We have also advanced methods for managing QL data during the life time of a project, to support the process of longitudinal, cumulative analysis by the primary team, alongside secondary analysis by others. While Timescapes is part of broader developments in these areas, there is a discernible shift towards planning for archiving early in the data life cycle, and for more collaborative models between researchers and archivists in implementing institutional data policies (e.g. new Jisc funded data policies and new requirements for data management planning for applicants to ESRC ([www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/programmes/researchmanagement](http://www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/programmes/researchmanagement))). In both these instances, Timescapes has played an important role in shaping debates and advancing practice.

Integral to these developments, we have played a leading role in advancing scholarship and debate on QL data archiving, sharing and secondary analysis – across disciplines and in both national and international contexts. This has been achieved through an extensive corpus of high quality publications (Bishop 2009; Hadfield 2010; Irwin and Winterton 2011a, and 2011b; Irwin and Winterton 2012a and b; Irwin, Bornat and Winterton 2012, Neale and Bishop 2012a and b, Irwin 2013a; Irwin 2013b; Bornat et al 2012, Neale 2013, Bornat 2013, Bornat 2014).

In collaboration with CESSDA (Council for European Social Science Data Archives) we have promoted these developments in Europe, running an international workshop, editing a double special issue of a journal, and setting up the European Qualitative and QL Archiving Network (EQUALAN) with members drawn from 14 European and Eastern European countries (Neale and Bishop 2010-11; Bishop and Neale 2010-11). Overall, we have contributed to a major step change in the culture and ethos of qualitative data archiving and re-use both in the UK and internationally.

### **Methodological Impact**

We have made a substantial intellectual contribution to the field of Qualitative Longitudinal research methodology and played a leading role in building capacity in QL methods and ethics across academia. It is increasingly recognised that QL research gives unique and compelling insights into processes of social change and continuity, and provides a robust understanding of the connections between individual biographies and wider structural and historical patterns of change (McLeod and Thomson 2009; Neale, Henwood and Holland 2012, Neale 2014). QL research derives its explanatory power from addressing how and why questions in their temporal context, discerning lived experiences over time, and subjective understandings of life course

dynamics and processes. The potential to engage with time both as the medium through which to carry out research and as a rich and compelling topic of enquiry, seems to have fired the imagination of a wide range of researchers across disciplines and in both national and international contexts.

The scope of engagement with methodological and ethical issues across the programme has been impressive. We have supported the design and development of over 50 QL projects, and acted as a magnet for the development of many more. QL methods have gained enormously in popularity over the course of the programme. They are now being applied across a wide range of disciplines, with studies funded across the research councils, including the EPSRC, and commissioned through major research charities and government departments throughout the UK and internationally. Timescapes has acted as a catalyst for this growth, demonstrating the value of QL research as a powerful way of knowing and understanding the social world. It has enabled QL research to take its place as an established method of social enquiry that offers unique insights into mechanisms and processes of social change.

The Timescapes teams remain at the cutting edge of methodological innovation in QL research. Our training and capacity building programmes continue to attract large audiences and we have expanded these over the past year with funding and support from the NCRM. Initiatives include: a new Network of Methodological Innovation (New Frontiers in Qualitative Longitudinal Research, 2012-13, led by Thomson); two new Methodological Innovation Projects that advance methods for sustaining samples and communicating with and generating data from children and young people (2013-14; projects 1, Weller, and 3, Thomson and Kehily); and funding for a suite of QL Training Workshops and Master Classes (convened by Hughes, Irwin and Emmel, with trainers drawn from the Timescapes network). From Autumn 2013 our QL Training Workshops and Master Classes will form part of the advanced training programme of the White Rose Doctoral Training Centre (Leeds, Sheffield and York). The programme will incorporate training on the new methods that Timescapes researchers are evaluating through the NCRM methodological innovation scheme.

B Please outline the **findings and outputs** from your project which have had the scientific impact(s) outlined in 1A. *[Max 2000 Characters]*

### **Theoretical and Substantive Findings.**

**Conceptual Advances** The tempo of daily lives, including life course transitions and orientations to past and future, are key dimensions of social experience. They have a significant impact on the construction and dynamics of relationships and identities and a bearing on the future trajectories and life chances of individuals. These temporal dimensions of experience can be understood biographically (within the unfolding of an individual life), generationally (within the context of collective lives), or historically (within the context of shifting policy or structural landscapes). The organising principle of the life course enables an exploration of individual life journeys, the meaning and salience of turning points or critical moments (Holland and Thomson

2009) and more gradual processes of transition in individual biographies. Time in this study is the medium through which we carried out our research but is also an important topic of enquiry in its own right (McCleod and Thomson 2009, Thomson 2010; Bytheway 2011; Harden et al 2012a; Neale 2014). As a substantive topic time can be understood and 'sliced' in a variety of creative ways: for example, through the scales of time (the pace and velocity of lived experience); the intersections of 'clock' time and 'family' time; and of time and space – when and where - to locate and contextualise experiences and events. Spatial metaphors (the notion of life journeys, for example, and Timescapes itself) abound in QL research as a way to encapsulate and grasp abstract temporalities. Perhaps the most vital and fruitful way of 'slicing' time in QL research concerns the shifting, recursive relationship between past, present and future. The past (hindsight, memory, heritage) is pivotal in understanding the subjective dimensions of social processes and the construction and reconstruction of biographies; while capturing imaginary futures at each follow up interview is a powerful way to understand the changing aspirations of individuals, and how and why their life chances are forged, enabled or constrained over time (e.g. Harden et al 2012b). Exploring these complex flows of time, the projects in Timescapes have contributed new insights on temporality in personal and family lives, and in the process, created an important bridge between social theories of time and more empirically driven life course and longitudinal studies (Neale 2014). The approach is exemplified in two edited collections that bring together substantive findings from the Timescapes projects (Edwards and Irwin (eds.) 2010, Holland and Edwards (eds.) 2014).

**Substantive and Policy related findings.** Taking these temporal dimensions of lived experience into account is crucial if we are to generate more robust evidence on changing patterns of family life, parenting and inter-generational relationships and identities. Sensitivity to temporal processes is vital in policy processes and professional practice, where individuals may be required to change their behaviour, adapt to changing environments or transitions, or survive through difficult times (Edwards and Irwin eds. 2010). Our research has pointed to the limitations of short term and overly instrumental approaches to service provision and family and parenting intervention under New Labour and the Coalition, approaches which may fail to chime with the rhythms and tenor of real lives (see for example, Bornat and Bytheway 2010; Neale et al 2013). The substantive focus and findings of our network of empirical projects are set out more fully in our final report; summary examples are given below.

**Austerity Britain** A Timescapes special collection (Edwards and Irwin 2010 (eds.)) explored lived experiences of the recession, drawing on contemporary and past accounts from varied household across the generations. The contributions highlight the acute impact of recession on specific populations of working and non working families, and the important social, cultural and relational factors that affect resilience and well being over time. The findings show how decisions surrounding having children, moving house, taking early retirement or changing career are materially affected; how professional support becomes vital for survival in families with long-term experiences of low income and vulnerability; and how, despite it all, families may pull together in hard times, offering support across the generations.

**Sibling Relationships (project 1).** Sibling relationships are significant in shaping young people's gendered identities over time. Their feelings and ideas about gender and sexuality can be

confirmed, challenged and negotiated as part of their everyday sibling interactions as they grow from childhood into adulthood (Edwards and Weller 2010). Cohort and family generations are complex relational practices. Siblings can be part of the same family generation but of a different cohort; they provide an important range of resources, support and care for each other, the nature of which shifts over time. The young people in this study wanted to repay their parents' efforts, shifting from a focus on giving back material goods to returning care. The findings challenge simplistic, categorical portrayals of intergenerational justice that obscure inequalities of class, gender and ethnicity in young people's lives (Edwards, Weller and Baker 2014).

**Young People's Educational Trajectories (Secondary Analysis of project 2).** The secondary analysis project presented new insights on data from the Young Lives and Times dataset (project 2). The team carried out a longitudinal case based secondary analysis of the Young Lives data. They traced the varied educational trajectories of a stratified sample of young women, and explored contextual parental, friendship, peer and teacher influences on their educational identities and aspirations for going to university. The qualitative longitudinal analysis offered insights into how influential processes intersect and play out for those with different backgrounds and circumstances, shaping expectations in divergent ways. The project contributes to understanding the structuring of social inequalities in higher education expectations (Winterton and Irwin 2012).

**The Making of Modern Motherhood (Project 3).** The project generated detailed case studies of families as they sustained and developed their parenthood, capturing how planning and decision making took place around the arrival of a second child, and how questions of care, paid employment and personal identity/well being were implicated in these processes. The study revealed the complexity of timing and decision making at this biographical stage and the interdependency of different family members. It also revealed a shift in the identification and time horizons of grandmothers during this period. The magnetic centre of the family moved from mother to daughter as relationships, resources and identities were reconfigured. At the same time, the past became a growing resource and anchor for older women during this reconfiguration (Thomson et al 2011; Kehily and Thomson 2011a and b).

**Work and Family Lives: The Changing Experience of 'Young' Families (Project 5).** The project explored family experiences of juggling work and family life, taking into account both parents' and children's perspectives. The challenge of 'being there' is both a moral narrative and a reality in which the competing demands of parents' and children's time is experienced. The lives of children and parents are structured by the need to synchronise their times, and both expressed a sense of living life at speed, with routines and good organisation key to managing these demands. Children were actively supportive of working parents, although there were limits to their involvement in the 'family work' project. On occasion they expressed a need for their parents to 'be there' more often, but had limited agency in effecting changes – the 'family work' project was considered unavoidable and was to a large extent normalised (Harden et al 2012a).

**Growing up in Northern Ireland (substantive findings from Making the Long View).** The lives of young people in Northern Ireland were traced through seven waves of interviews from 1996 to 2010. This coincided with a turbulent period of Irish history, from the time of the IRA ceasefire, through the Good Friday agreement and the peace process, to the volatile start to the

Northern Ireland Assembly and the resurgence of sectarian violence. The project explored the effects of these historical processes on the personal and collective (family, community) lives of the young people, revealing the long term, limiting effects of the ‘Troubles’ on their life trajectories – specifically, the effects of segregated schooling, housing and communities on the sustaining of their family and personal relationships. Gaps and failures in policies for young people were also identified, including a silo mentality that meant young people could fall through the fissures between the range of agencies charged with supporting their varied needs (McGrellis 2011, McGrellis and Holland 2012 and, 2014).

### **Archiving and Secondary Analysis Findings.**

Qualitative Longitudinal datasets require specialist curation, involving strong access controls and additional levels of security, if they are to be archived and shared during the life time of a project or in its immediate aftermath. Primary researchers retain strong and ongoing commitments to their projects and the development of their datasets, which need to be acknowledged and accommodated in archiving strategies. In a context where there is no clear point at which primary analysis ends and secondary analysis begins, flexibility over the timing of archiving, and safeguards for the benefit of primary researchers are essential.

Our stakeholder model of archiving was designed to address these issues. It offers specialist curation and access controls to meet the above requirements and is a necessary complement to the generic archiving of the UK Data Archive. In a climate where economic pressures are fostering self-deposit and political pressures are moving toward open access, Timescapes has demonstrated the value of depositor engagement and flexible dissemination options, such as regulated access. The stakeholder model provides secure access facilities that enable researchers to store and manage their data for their own cumulative analysis over time, and to retain control over the wider re-use of their datasets while a project remains ‘live’ (to access restricted data, secondary users must seek permission from the depositing team) (Bishop and Neale 2012a and b; Neale and Bishop 2012; Neale 2013). The stakeholder model offers a productive synergy between research and archiving, working effectively with the overlapping dynamic of QL primary and secondary research practice. It supports the research endeavours of primary researchers as a necessary precursor to supporting secondary use and synthesis. It is a model we have subsequently built on for phase 2 of the archive (under ESRC Changing Landscapes for the Third Sector) working closely with the UK Data Archive and the University of Leeds Repository team.

Over the past year, the Timescapes resource has become a test case for exploring the viability of managing, preserving and archiving research data at institutional level – through the University of Leeds JiSC funded Road Map project ([www.library.leeds.ac.uk/roadmap-project](http://www.library.leeds.ac.uk/roadmap-project) reporting July 2013; Proudfoot, 2013). This is in a context where the growing volume of research data is placing stress on national archiving resources. Our work on this project has supported the development and implementation of a new Research Data Management policy at Leeds, and in the process, has brought the Timescapes Archive more centrally under the umbrella of the Leeds Institutional Repository, paving the way to secure institutional support for the longer term



sustainability of the resource.

**Secondary analysis.** Drawing on Timescapes data, the secondary analysis team produced new substantive insights on young people's educational trajectories and future orientations and on gender and work-family conflict (Winterton et al 2011, Winterton and Irwin 2012; Irwin and Winterton 2014). Methodologically they sought to develop a critical secondary analysis, exploring the challenges of developing a rounded conceptual understanding of context, and its importance for working across datasets. Meaningful analysis relies on a robust understanding of the structure and internal diversity of a primary dataset, and knowledge of the way it is embedded within and reflects the contexts in which it was produced - including sampling decisions, recruitment strategies, and methodological tools utilised (Irwin and Winterton 2012a; Irwin, Bornat and Winterton 2012). This is based on the insight that research data bears the imprint of the methods and circumstances through which it is generated. For data that are differently constituted and not directly comparable, the team developed a strategy of *translating* evidence to enable analytic conversations across datasets (Irwin et al 2012, Irwin and Winterton 2012b; Irwin and Winterton 2014). Additionally, they have documented standards and good practice in the supply of metadata to aid secondary use, and have given guidance for those depositing data for re-use (Irwin and Winterton 2011b; Irwin and Winterton 2012b).

A model for data sharing and re-use beyond the archive – collaborative data sharing workshops - was also developed and tested out under our broader secondary analysis strand of work (Bornat et al 2008, Irwin, Bornat and Winterton 2012). The approach, which works at the interface between primary and secondary research, enables primary researchers to revisit their data collectively, bring it into conversation with other data and draw on differing interpretive frameworks to enhance insights. This has proved very effective and is now being utilised in newly funded ESRC projects where synthesis and scaling up of data and evidence across projects is central to the research (Following Young Fathers, and Changing Landscapes for the Third Sector). Additional partnerships with secondary analysts were developed in four of our projects, including Siblings and Friends (Baker, 2010) and The Oldest Generation (Sheldon 2009). Overall, we have found that data sharing and re-use requires an ethos of collaboration and mutual respect between primary and secondary researchers, based on an accommodation of their different historical and/or intellectual endeavours and standpoints (Bornat et al 2012; Neale and Bishop 2012c, Neale 2013).

### **Methodological Findings**

Qualitative Longitudinal research is a craft that requires a combination of rigour and creativity. Working creatively with time, we have refined understandings of the complex links between temporal theory and method and documented ways of designing research to engage with complex flows of time, including prospective, retrospective, cross-generational and revisiting studies. We have generated data in the field through recursive and life history interviewing, and captured transitions and trajectories using the devices of critical moments and turning points, visual imagery, timelines and accounts for mapping and narrating the past and future (see methods guides). Imagining the future has proved to be a fruitful approach across our primary and secondary projects (Bornat 2012, Harden et al 2012b, Edwards et al 2014; Winterton and Irwin 2011, Winterton et al 2011). We have combined approaches, for example, extensive life

history data with intensive diary data to capture the contingencies of everyday life (project 7). We have developed new analytical approaches (eg. I poems, Edwards and Weller, 2012) and advanced multi-dimensional analysis and interpretation, particularly in the use of case history methodology (Thomson 2010; Henderson et al 2012) and framework matrices to capture the intersection of cases, themes and waves over time (Neale 2014). We have advanced the field of temporal ethics, showing how time is a challenge but also a resource in the ethical conduct of a study (Henderson et al 2012, Neale, 2013). We have explored the use of QL research in different disciplinary contexts (e.g. Energy Use and International Development Studies), and in relation to different methodological traditions (for example Psycho-Social Research, Oral History, Ethnography, Narrative Research, Action Research and Evaluation Research).

### **Outputs.**

The findings outlined above are documented in our extensive corpus of outputs, including: 6 books; an edited collection, two special issues of journals; 41 book chapters; 60 journal articles; a Policy Briefing Series (13); a Methods Guides Series (20); a Working Paper Series (8); and web resources (see below and full publication list on the Timescapes website).

C Please outline **how** these impacts were achieved. *[Max 2000 Characters]*

The programme used a variety of **Dissemination, Training, Capacity Building and Networking** strategies to create academic impact in our substantive fields of research and to advance QL methods, data archiving and re-use. An extensive corpus of substantive, theoretical, methodological and policy related publications, presentations and web based outputs has been produced, including:

- **Published Outputs:** Publication of books, edited collections, special issues of journals, articles in high impact, internationally peer reviewed journals; and invited chapter contributions in edited collections and special issues, with national and international editorships.
- **Web resources:** including project findings, conference abstracts and power point presentations, training materials; working papers and reports, QL knowledge bank and Ethics knowledge bank; streamed video and audio presentations; animated films; methods and archiving guides ([www.Timescapes.leeds.ac.uk](http://www.Timescapes.leeds.ac.uk)). The Timescapes website continues to be well used (6,061 visitors over the past year, 19,567 visits to the web pages). We will continue to maintain and update the site for the foreseeable future. Individual project websites including film resources, have been produced for projects 1 (Your Space: [www.lsbu.ac.uk/ahs/research/yourspace/index.html](http://www.lsbu.ac.uk/ahs/research/yourspace/index.html)), project 3 (Modern Motherhood: [www.modernmotherhood.org](http://www.modernmotherhood.org)) and Making the Long View (Inventing Adulthood: [www.Inventingadulthoods.org](http://www.Inventingadulthoods.org)). The New Frontiers in QL Research website includes resources from the seminar series, an active twitter feed and an effective blog (1,200

visits) (<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/esw/circy/research/currentresearch/newfrontiers>).

- **Published Series:** in-house publication of Working papers, Policy Briefings and Qualitative Longitudinal Methods Series, professionally produced in both on-line (web) and print versions.
- **Journal Development:** over the past three years we have advanced family and parenting research internationally by helping to secure funding for two successful new journals: *Families, Relationships and Societies* (Policy Press: founding members include Neale, Bornat, Jamieson, Cunningham Burley); and *Studies in the Maternal*, (new online open access journal: founding members include Thomson). The journals have placed family and parenting research more firmly on the international map, with FRS providing a major forum for family and life course research, including Timescapes publications.
- **Timescapes Events:** Organisation of extensive range of dedicated Timescapes events: Two launch events (the Timescapes programme 2008 and the Timescapes Archive 2009); Three international conferences (Westminster, Cardiff, Edinburgh); eight conference symposia including three at the Research Methods Festivals (2008, 2010, 2012), two at the BSA, ESA, and the Euroqual international methods conference); monthly seminar series, including one and half-day seminars; residential expert workshops; and exhibitions for both public and academic audiences (eight in total over the course of the programme).
- **Oral Presentations/Lectures/Master Classes/Doctoral supervision:** Numerous invited presentations and keynote addresses given by Timescapes researchers at national and international conferences, seminars and expert meetings (over 150 in the UK; over 40 internationally); Invited lectures and master classes, delivered at post graduate conferences and seminars for early career researchers; invited 1 and 2 day workshops delivered at Universities in Maynooth, Vienna and Amsterdam (with future engagements in Denmark, Vilnius and Finland); five one-day workshops in the UK for early career researchers (2012-3) as part of the New Frontiers in QL research network; supervision of Timescapes affiliated doctoral studentships at partner universities (five at Leeds, three at Cardiff).
- **Cross Disciplinary Engagement:** Substantive and methodological contributions to national and international conferences, workshops, expert seminars and specialist research networks in Sociology, Social Policy, Psychology, Education, Oral history, Gerontology, Health Research, Geography, Third Sector Research, International Development Studies, Psychiatry, Transport and Environmental Research, Community Studies, Cultural, Arts and Humanities Research, Data archiving and re-use; contribution to mixed longitudinal methods through research advisory roles on the NCDS, and Life Study (Fatherhood expert working group).
- **Dedicated Training Workshops:** for QL research, archiving and secondary analysis, delivered in various locations in the UK by Timescapes teams, aimed at students, early career researchers and established academic and policy and practice researchers seeking to update their skills. With support from NCRM, these have been consolidated into an annual methods programme comprising three one-day events. From Autumn 2013, these will form part of the advanced training programme of the White Rose Doctoral Training Centre. Our training events are attended by international delegates and are consistently over subscribed (we have run at a maximum capacity of 40 participants, with a waiting list

for each event over the past year). Feedback has been consistently excellent.

- **Tailored Methods Support and Advice:** delivered through membership of Research Advisory Groups, Timescapes Networks and the Affiliation Scheme, and bespoke consultancies and advice to individual research teams and programmes. Through this route we have supported the methodological development and execution of over 50 cross disciplinary and policy-led projects since 2007, both national and international.
- **National and International Collaborations:** Wide ranging collaborations with leading scholars, centres of excellence and existing networks interested in the theoretical, substantive and methodological areas of our research (as listed below). These have been vital in building capacity in temporal theory, methodology, empirical enquiry and in archiving and secondary data use. Internationally, these include collaborations with and consultancies for research groups and projects in Australia (Melbourne and Sydney); Canada, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, the US (Pennsylvania, Arizona, Wisconsin); and Europe and Eastern Europe. Our network of affiliated projects includes projects funded in Canada, Sweden and Australia. Our researchers have forged links with projects through visiting fellowships, and the delivery of lectures, seminars and workshops. Researchers from Australia (Melbourne and Sydney), Vienna, Maynooth, Poland, Germany, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Qatar, and from varied locations within the UK have taken up visiting fellowships at Leeds and London South Bank since 2007.
- **New Network Development:** Beyond our core Timescapes network of projects, we developed two new networks to advance QL research across disciplines: the Timescapes affiliation network; and EQUALAN (the European Qualitative and QL Archiving Network) which includes members from 14 European and Eastern European countries. We have subsequently set up new networks to further advance QL research in different disciplinary fields, and to bring together specialist groups of QL projects: New Frontiers in QL Research; Following Young Fathers; Changing Landscapes for the Third Sector; Welfare and Poverty; and Environmental Sustainability. Selected networks are developing new research agendas using methodologies developed under Timescapes.
- **Media Contributions** (see societal impact for details).

D Please outline **who** the findings and outputs outlined above had an impact upon. This can include specific academics/researchers through to broader academic groups. *[Max 2000 Characters]*

Timescapes has engaged with and had impact on a variety of organisations and groups of researchers, as follows:

- **QL Research Methods.** Researchers in both academic and policy and practice settings, both nationally and internationally, doctoral to advanced level, with an interest in QL research and micro processes of change, both contemporary and historical. The largest group of beneficiaries of our training and capacity building activities are doctoral and early career researchers from both academic and policy and practice communities. **Key**

**Groups:** National Centre for Research Methods (Hub and Qualitative Nodes); the Research Methods Programme (to 2008); National Centre for Social Research/Research Methods Festival (2008-12); CRESC (Centre for Research on Socio-Cultural Change (Manchester and Open); Third Sector Research Centre (Birmingham and Southampton); Social Futures Institute (Teeside); Scottish Government; Welsh Government; Centre for Narrative Research (UEL); Social Policy Research Centre University of New South Wales; School of International Development, UEA. **Selected Individuals:** Graham Crow (NCRM), Angela Dale (RMP; Methods at Manchester), Mike Savage (York), Niamh Moore (Manchester), Amanda Coffey (Qualiti, Cardiff); Sue Heath (Realities, Manchester); Tracy Shildrick (Teeside), Peter Dwyer (York), Caroline Glendinning (York), Roy Sainsbury/Anne Corden (York), Miles Tight (Birmingham), David Watling (Leeds), Ian Cole (Sheffield Hallam), Kate Burningham (Surrey), Pete Alcock/Rob Macmillan (Third Sector Research Centre, Birmingham), Rose Lindsey/John Mohan (Third Sector Research Centre, Southampton), Nick Pidgeon (Cardiff), Stephen Osborne (Edinburgh), Kay Barclay (Scottish Government), Stephen Farrell (Sheffield), Anne Power (LSE), Julia Johnson (Historical revisiting studies, Open); Tony Chapman/Fred Robinson (Durham); Ian Cunningham (Strathclyde); Mollie Andrews (UEL), Jen Skattebol (New South Wales), Laura Camfield (UEA).

- **Temporal Theory.** Researchers with a theoretical interest in temporal processes. **Key Groups:** Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences; Time and Space in Education consortium; Temporal Belongings and Connected Communities (AHRC). **Selected Individuals:** Barbara Adam (Cardiff), Andrew Abbott (Chicago), Glen Elder (North Carolina), Michael Flaherty (Eckerd College, US), Herwig Reiter (HWK, Delmenhorst, Germany), Catherine Compton Lily (Wisconsin), Kate Pahl (Sheffield), Michelle Bastian (Edinburgh).
- **Longitudinal and Lifecourse Research** – A quantitatively led field, including researchers with an interest in ‘mixed’ longitudinal methods. **Key groups:** The Bremen Life Course Archive; National Longitudinal Strategy Committee; Society for Longitudinal and Life Course research. **Selected Individuals:** Walter Heinz (Bremen), Heather Laurie (UKHLS, Essex), Jane Elliott (NCDS, IoE), Jackie Scott (Cambridge), Sheila Green (Growing up in Ireland, Dublin), Vernon Gayle (Growing up in Scotland, Edinburgh), Kathleen Kiernan (Life Study: the Birth Cohort Facility: expert working group on fatherhood).
- **Family and Life course Research.** Researchers with an interest in temporal processes in the context of family, parenthood, childhood, youth, older life, and inter-generational relationships. **Key Groups:** CRFR (Edinburgh); Weeks Centre (LSBU); FLaG Centre (Leeds); CASP (Bath); SPRU (York); Centre for Research on Children and Families (East Anglia); Centre for Childhood Studies (Sheffield); Thomas Coram Research Institute, IoE; Morgan Centre (Manchester); Mamsie Network; International Fatherhood Research Network, Post Separation Families (AHRC Research Network); ESA Sociology of Families and Intimate Lives Group, BSA Families and Relationships Studies Group, ESA Childhood and Youth Studies Groups; Graduate School for Family Studies, Tampere. **Selected Individuals:** Julia Brannen (Thomas Coram, IoE), Anne Phoenix (Thomas Coram, IoE); Fiona Williams (FLaG Centre, Leeds), Val Gillies (Weeks Centre LSBU),

Allison James (Sheffield), Sue Heath (Manchester), Tess Ridge and Jane Millar (Bath), Jenny Hockey (Sheffield), Kathleen Kiernan (York), Thomas Scharf (Irish Centre for Social Gerontology, NUI Galway), Margaret O'Brien (East Anglia), Brid Featherstone (Open), Jane Ribbens McCarthy (Open), Tina Miller (Oxford Brooks), Heather Draper (Birmingham, Post Separation Families Network), Andrea Doucet (Brock, Canada), Harriet Bjerrum Nielsen (Oslo), Julie McLeod, Johanna Wynn (Melbourne), Lisa Bariatser (Birkbeck), Hannele Forsberg (Tampere).

- **Data Archiving, Management and Re-use.** Organisations concerned with Qualitative Data Archiving, Data resources, Data Management and Secondary Data Use. **Key Groups:** UK Data Archive, Economic and Social Data Service, Digital Curation Centre; University of Leeds Institutional Repository and JiSC RoadMap project, Mass Observation Archive, Sussex; ARK (Northern Ireland Archive, Belfast); Irish Qualitative Data Archive (National University of Ireland, Maynooth); WISDOM Qualitative Archive (Vienna); British Library, London; CESSDA (Council for European Social Science Data Archives); EQUALAN (European Qualitative and Qualitative Longitudinal Archiving Network). **Selected individuals:** Matthew Woollard/Louise Corti (Essex UKDA); Brian Clifford/Bo Middleton (Leeds Repository and Road Map), Dorothy Sheridan (Mass Observation, Sussex), Gillian Robinson ARK (Ulster); Robert Miller (ARK, Belfast), Jane Gray (IQDA, Maynooth; and chair of EQUALAN), Andrea Smioski (WISDOM, Austria), Jude England (BL London), Kevin Shurer (CESSDA).

## 2. Economic and societal impact

A Please **summarise** below the economic and societal impact(s) your project has had. *[Max 2000 Characters]*

We outline below the societal impact of the Timescapes Programme.

### **Substantive Impact.**

Much government policy under New Labour and the Coalition has sought to redress widespread social inequalities through interventions in family and parenting practices, giving rise to debates about the nature and dynamics of family relationships and the availability of intergenerational care and support. The distinctive forms of knowledge produced under Timescapes about the realities of personal and family lives have fed into these debates and influenced their implementation at local level. We have worked with national, regional and local government agencies, and through statutory and third sector organisations to support the development of 'family-friendly policies and research-informed practices that are aligned with the realities of inter-generational relationships and the tenor of real lives (see, for example, Holland and Edwards (eds.) 2014 forthcoming). We have also critiqued state policies where effectiveness may

be compromised by overly prescriptive interventions, the selective use of evidence, or narrowly conceived or short term targets and measures. We have imported a new language of ideas and new ways of framing debates and issues into policy and practice. Such conceptual impacts, which enable individuals and groups to see things in a different way, are the vital precursors to creating instrumental impacts (changes in practice and behaviour).

### **Methodological Impact.**

Engaging with policy and practice communities in Timescapes has revealed new insights about impact: it is as much a methodological as a substantive issue. In policy and practice communities, no less than in academia, there has been a significant increase in the uptake of QL research methods and evidence since the inception of Timescapes. This impact has occurred at both national and local level and across policy and practice sectors (statutory provision at national, regional and local government levels, and third sector provision). Increasingly, organisations are seeking to use QL methods in their commissioned research and to engage with the evidence emerging from QL research to guide their practice. This reflects a growing awareness of the value of understanding the temporalities of lived experience. QL research has particular purchase in policy related research, where individuals or groups are required to change their behaviour, adapt to changing circumstances, survive through difficult times or where individuals and their families (or the organisations that support them) are seeking to effect changes in their lives. QL research methods are now firmly embedded in the portfolio of methods used by a range of central and local government agencies (including Scottish Government, Welsh Government, DWP, DoH; DoE, DiFd, DEFRA, North West Regional Development Agency (until 2010). There is now a growing willingness to take into account forms of evidence produced by QL research, for example in the new Early Intervention Foundation, and the All Party Parliamentary Group on Fatherhood. For the Third Sector, a range of agencies have engaged in research using this method, for example, Home-Start, Institute for Public Policy Research, National Council for Voluntary Organisations, Institute for Voluntary Action Research, New Economics Foundation, and the Family and Childcare Trust. Major studies have been funded by The Big Lottery Fund and Northern Rock.

### **Archiving and Data Sharing.**

Timescapes has made an important contribution to supporting and encouraging data sharing and re-use in policy and practice communities. Our experience indicates a strong interest in and willingness among policy makers and practitioners to engage in these processes; and a growing commitment to share data as part of good professional practice and to improve policy processes. However there is a lack of impetus and knowledge at local level to make progress. To date we have been able to support the archiving of a major dataset funded by the DoH, and have secured permission to archive two further datasets on third sector organisations (funded by the Scottish Government and the Big Lottery Fund).

B Please outline the **findings and outputs** from your project which have had the economic and societal impact(s) outlined in 2A. *[Max 2000 Characters]*

We set out below summaries of selected findings in relation to policy and practice issues. A key message is that **what works** in family policy, depends on a prior understanding of **what matters** to people, including **what matters over time**. See section 1B for outputs and the list appended to this report, and section 2A for details of the societal impact of our methodological and archiving findings.

- **Young Fatherhood (project 2):** The project tracked a small group of young fathers over an 18 month period to discern the opportunities and constraints of entering fatherhood at a young age and in disadvantaged circumstances. The project found high levels of commitment and emotional attachment to their children among the young men, but, at the same time, a raft of practical, emotional and structural challenges to the development of their parenting roles. These included low educational attainments, lack of training or employment opportunities, unsuitable housing for a young child, highly volatile family relationships, and lack of a stable home life. Specialist professional support was vital and most effective where it was sustained, flexible and offered on a one to one basis. The young fathers were generally marginalised from professionals support services, particularly from universal services such as midwifery and health visiting. The findings challenge the ingrained notion that young fathers are feckless, and reveals the value of sustained specialist support that is tailored to the needs of the young men and chimes with the sometimes chaotic and unpredictable tenor of their daily lives (Neale and Lau Clayton 2011, Neale et al 2013, Neale and Lau Clayton 2014). Findings from the study have fed into a new service delivery plan, and have been disseminated widely via our strategy group of practitioners.
- The **Men as Fathers** project (project 4) tracked men of diverse ages and socio-economic backgrounds through the major transition to first time fatherhood. An extensive follow up enabled the team to consider the longer term implications of fatherhood for men's changing identities and relationships (e.g. Finn and Henwood, 2009; Henwood, Shirani and Coltart, 2010; and Shirani and Henwood 2011). Exploring the socio-economic dimensions of fatherhood, the researchers found a strong imperative among men to provide and secure a good future for their children, an integral part of masculine identity which became even more heightened in straightened times and could lead to anxieties and more uncertainty over the future for the family. Situations in which this happened extended beyond low income families and prompted significant life changes - such as taking greater risks to secure a family's lifestyle. The team suggests there is considerable scope to improve public discussion and understanding of fatherhood in the context of changing socio-economic circumstances (Henwood et al 2010; Shirani et al 2012).
- **Modern Motherhood.** Hadfield and Thomson, writing in *Practising Midwife* (2009 July), distilled messages from project 3 about the disparity between women's aspirations for the process of giving birth and the reality of their experiences. Their evidence suggests the



need for a review of the processes by which birth plans are created and implemented in professional practice. Through this and other routes, the team was able to import key ideas and narratives from the research (e.g. the significance of age in shaping mothering projects, intergenerational tensions and the commercialisation of mothering) into policy and popular discourse.

- **Early Grandparenthood and Poverty (project 6).** The researchers (Hughes et al 2009; Emmel and Hughes 2010, Hughes and Emmel 2011) highlighted the nature of early grandparenthood in a social housing community, which is marked by highly levels of disadvantage and social exclusion, early parenthood and a close layering of the generations. ‘Walking alongside’ grandparents over 2 years and documenting and updating their life histories reveals that their lives are far from the ‘leisure and pleasure’ ideal, but are more akin to ‘fire fighting’, or ‘rescue and repair’, especially where they become front line kin carers. Families rely heavily on intergenerational support and resources (time, money, food) across households. However, much of this support is invisible to health and social care service providers, who remain unaware of the wide-ranging needs of these families in a context where trust with professionals is low, and families fear that children will be removed into the formal care system. Where trusting relationships with practitioners could be established families were able to gain access to particular services and resources without the risk of these relationships becoming punitive. Overall, the team found that interventions may be more effective where the tenor of grandparents’ lives is better understood, relationships of trust are built, and where comprehensive ‘fire fighting’ help can be provided alongside sustained support.
- **Every day Risk in Older Lives (project 7).** The project identified patterns in the ways in which family members judged risk and safety in the everyday lives of older people and what steps they took to reduce or prevent perceived threats. They show how elders draw on their biographies – the long sweep of a life – to weigh the balance between, on the one hand, living with some risk in order to retain their identity and independence, and, on the other, prioritising safety in ways that constrain their quality of life. Older people often prefer to prioritise their quality of life over immediate safety. The team highlighted the implications of their findings for health and social care policies and service providers who may use overly narrow understandings of what is risky to older people and fail to take into account the salience of older people’s narratives of resilience and survival drawn from their earlier lives (Bornat and Bytheway 2010).

C Please outline **how** these impacts were achieved. *[Max 2000 Characters]*

We used a variety of strategies to create societal impact, as set out below:

- **Tailored and Targeted Outputs:** including publications in practice journals, policy briefing series (see reference list and [www.timescapes.leeds.ac.uk/policybriefings](http://www.timescapes.leeds.ac.uk/policybriefings)) and collaborative outputs. Examples of practitioner outputs include Hadfield and Thomson

(2009); and Shirani, Henwood and Coltart's research report (2009) which was widely distributed through the National Childbirth Trust, disseminating messages about the need for tailored support for fathers. In collaboration with Barnardos, findings from the Following young Fathers study (on the housing and educational journeys of young fathers) were fed into case studies for a Family Strategic Partnership report on Young Fatherhood (Cundy, J. 2012). The team helped to frame the report in terms of pathways through varied policy landscapes. Tailored resources such as this can be used for a variety of purposes. For example, Shirani and colleagues used their report as an engagement tool with groups of learners, adult returners to education, and at community events in deprived areas in South Wales

- **Policy Consultations and Bespoke Advice and Engagement with Government initiatives:** In 2009, four Timescapes teams contributed to the DCSF consultation on families. Project 6 took part in national consultations on the health visitors implementation plan and on government reports on poverty and early intervention. Timescapes researchers have held advisory roles for Government-led research (e.g. for the North West Regional Development Agency '20 up' study, designed to track and evaluate the implementation of a new 20 year strategic plan for the region). Neale is a member of the expert evidence committee for the new Early Intervention Foundation; while Neale and Harden are advisors to the Scottish Government on QL methods, archiving and data sharing.
- **Practitioner conferences and events.** We have contributed extensively to practitioner conferences and events, engaging in dialogue with policy and practice audiences and importing new knowledge and ways of seeing particular issues. Supporting practitioner communities through organising and hosting collaborative events is also very effective. Project 5, for example, organised a one day event with key policy makers, practitioners and researchers to discuss and sharpen the new Scottish Government's Parenting Strategy, and fed findings from their project into this event. Project 6 organised an end of project workshop to bring together practitioners and researchers concerned with kin care among grandparents. Our key practitioner dissemination event was an international 2 day conference, **Understanding and Supporting Families over Time** (Westminster, June 2011), organised in collaboration with the Family and Parenting Institute and the Social Policy Association. This involved contributions from a range of practice organisations as well as leading academics (Paul Boyle, Caroline Glendinning, Alan Deacon, Kath Kiernan). Key note speakers were Frank Field MP and Graham Allen MP. This was an effective vehicle to bring research, policy and practice communities into conversation and debate (Patrick 2012 and conference report at [www.timescapes.ac.uk](http://www.timescapes.ac.uk)).
- **Collaborations with Independent and Third Sector Organisations.** We have worked with and provided methodological advice to a range of organisations, for example, ECORYS, (independent research consultants, specialising in local authority evaluation research using QL methods); and Home-Start UK (who have used QL methods to gather data and produce new forms of evidence to gauge the effectiveness of their service provision).
- **Engaging policy and practice partners on Research Advisory Groups.** This strategy was used by most of the Timescapes empirical teams to good effect, providing input

during the life time of a project and a mechanism for dissemination (e.g Project 3: Family and Parenting Institute and the Maternity Alliance; project 6: Grandparents Association and Grandparents Plus). Following Young Fathers set up a professional strategy group that meets twice yearly. This brings together practitioners from a range of statutory and third sector agencies to review and share good practice and advance strategies for improving service provision.

- **Integrated Engagement with Practitioners: a ‘Knowledge to Action’ approach.** This more intensive method of user engagement was tried out to good effect in the Following Young Fathers study. It entails the sustained involvement of local practitioners in the conduct of the research, as well as in its dissemination, creating a strong pathway to impact as the research progresses (Neale and Morton 2012). The practitioner (an educational worker) became an honorary member of the research team, a local champion for the research, and internal research broker, jointly presenting findings with the research team, circulating the policy briefing paper, and working with local practitioners to translate the evidence into practitioner goals and service delivery plans. He also adopted some of the methods used in our research – gathering life histories to better inform his practice, and using time lines as tools ‘to think with’, supporting the young men in forging new aspirations for the future. With follow on funding, we are currently developing this method in our work in evaluating service provision for young fathers. The elongated time frames for QL enquiry can facilitate effective, ongoing working relationships and give time for a productive iteration between research, policy and practice as a project unfolds. Overall, the project shows that the way that research is conducted can, in itself, create the right conditions for ‘making a difference’ to policy makers and practitioners.
- **Public Engagement, Exhibitions, Media and Web Resources.** This has entailed a number of activities:
  - We set up a partnership with BBC memoryshare (a website that records memories of personal and historical events). This has enabled memories of personal or family life to be tagged as ‘Timescapes’ memories on the BBC site. We have used festival of social science funding to create public accounts for the Memoryshare site (see below).
  - Between 2007 and 2011, we organised eight public exhibitions, in five cases with funding from the ESRC Festival of Social Science. These were very successful interactive events that engaged the public with the substantive and archiving dimensions of our research (described in detail in our final report).
  - We have had good media coverage of key milestones (the launch of Timescapes and of the Archive, and the final Policy Conference). Projects have produced press releases and contributed to press coverage and radio programmes. Drawing on findings from Project 1, for example, Edwards was the ‘expert voice’ on the ‘Sibling Rivalry’ series of three programmes for BBC Radio Wales, and the ‘expert voice’ on changes in parent-child relationships for the ‘Reasons to be Cheerful’ programme for BBC Radio 4. Project 3 has consistently worked with the media to disseminate findings about motherhood, including radio programmes, online forums and collaborations with journalists. Thomson

advised the BBC on a *Thinking Allowed* series on family life, to which both Thomson and Neale contributed. The project has also been featured in a Woman's Hour programme about grandparenting, and has contributed to two episodes of the radio four series Generations Apart. Project 6 has received extensive press coverage for its work on grandparenting in disadvantaged localities and provided consultancy to documentary film makers on grandparenting in the UK.

- We have used the Timescapes website and dedicated project websites for creative outputs and public engagement. Films about Timescapes have been streamed onto the main site. Projects 1 and 3 and the Inventing Adulthoods study have created filmed interviews, animations and videos, for example on You Tube. (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E10ph9yV13I>)

D Please outline **who** the findings and outputs outlined above had an impact upon. This can be at a broad societal level through to specific individuals or groups. *[Max 2000 Characters]*

Our target audiences were policy makers and statutory service commissioners and providers at national, regional and local levels of government; and third sector organisations and service providers (including organisations that 'broker' research to policy audiences). The list below reflects our work stretching back to 2006, and straddles the change in government. Specific local authority information is not included here for reasons of confidentiality.

- **Government (national, regional, local) and national bodies**, including local authority service commissioners and providers. **Key Groups:** DCSF (to 2010); DoE; DoH; DWP, Scottish Government; Welsh Government; North West Regional Development Agency; Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Health Authority; Early Intervention Foundation; All Party Parliamentary group on Fatherhood, Families First Initiative (Wales) We have worked with a range of local authority statutory agencies (Education, Health, Social Care, Midwifery, Children's Centres, Play Group Associations) in varied parts of the UK. **Selected Individuals:** Kay Barclay/Sue Northrop/Carol Brown (Scottish Government), Sue Duncan (Chief Social Researcher, Westminster); Diana Wilkinson (Chief Social Researcher, Scottish Government); Tracy Ofeosi/Sam Manners (DoE); Kate Billingham (DoH); Graham Allen MP/Leon Feinstein (EI Foundation); David Lammy MP (APPG)

Fatherhood)

- **Third Sector Organisations** concerned with support for families, children, older people. **Key Groups:** Family and Child Care Trust (formerly Family and Parenting Institute); Children's Society; Maternity Alliance; The Children's Bureau; Fatherhood Institute; Barnardos; Home-Start UK; Young Voice; Big Talk Education; Young Dad's TV; Family Matters; Grandparents Plus; Grandparents Federation; Age UK, National Council for Voluntary Organisations, Institute for Voluntary Action Research; ECORYS. **Selected Individuals:** Clem Henricson, Mary McLeod (formerly FPI); Adrienne Burgess (Fatherhood Institute); Gwyther Rees (Children's Society); Jessica Cundy (Barnardos); Elizabeth Young (Head of Research, Home-Start UK); Adrienne Katz (Young Voice); Lynette Smith (Big Talk Education); Scott Colfer (Young Dad's TV); Matt Buttery (Family Matters); Veronique Joachim (NCVO); Ben Cairns (IVAR); Joe Clark and Tim Fox (ECORYS).

### 3. Unexpected and potential future impacts

#### A Unexpected Impacts

Please note which, if any, of the impacts that your research has had were *unexpected* at the outset of the project, explaining where possible why you think this was the case. *[Max 2000 Characters]*

The impacts outlined above were anticipated, but the scale of the impact of our methodological and archiving contributions has exceeded our expectations. At the outset we did not anticipate:

- The take up of QL methodology, including archiving and data sharing, across a wide range of disciplines, including STEM disciplines; and the interest in combining QL research with related methodologies, for example action and evaluation research, and arts based methods.
- Widespread international interest, particularly across Europe, Scandinavia, US and Australia.
- The significant interest in this methodology and commitment to archiving and data sharing in policy and practice communities. This includes the impact of a 'knowledge to action' approach when working collaboratively with practitioners over time; and the potential impact of building networks that bring together academic and policy-led projects to scale up and synthesise knowledge and enhance evidence for the public sector (Changing Landscapes project).

## B Potential Future Impacts

If you have a clear idea of the impact your project is likely to have in the future please detail these below.

*[Max 2000 Characters]*

We modified our programme to accommodate the developments outlined above.

- The Timescapes Archive has expanded in scope to become a resource for interdisciplinary QL research, including policy-led projects, rather than a more specialised resource for family and life course researchers. We will be migrating the Archive to a new open source software platform (Eprints) and improving the user interface to facilitate searching and retrieval of data. This will create further impact on data sharing and re-use.
- We have extended our 'knowledge to action' approach developed in the Following Young Fathers project to further test its capacity to create impact for policy and practice.
- We have extended our training and capacity building activities to meet ongoing demand, and embedded them within the advanced training programme of the While Rose Doctoral Training Centre. We have also extended our networking activities to develop new forms of research synthesis based on a combination of primary and secondary research. With our new funded projects (below) these developments will ensure further methodological impact. (Additional proposals are under development).

### Recently Funded Projects:

- **ESRC Energy Biographies: Understanding the Dynamics of Energy Use for Energy Demand Reduction** 2010-15 £574,538.94 and £283,032.00 (Henwood, with Pidgeon, Butler and Parkhill, Cardiff).
- **ESRC Following Young Fathers** 2012-15 £550,000 (Lau Clayton and Neale, project 2)
- **ESRC Changing Landscapes for the Third Sector:** Knowledge Exchange scheme, 2013-14. £125,000 (Hughes and Neale, Leeds). A network and archiving project across academic and practice organisations and projects.
- **ESRC NCRM Networks for Methodological Innovation: New Frontiers in QL Research.** 2012-13, £32,000 (Thomson, Sussex) Seminar Series/Doctoral Workshops
- **ESRC NCRM Methodological Innovation Project: Face 2 Face: Tracing the real and the mediated in children's cultural worlds** 2013-14 £152,000 (Thomson & Kehily, project 3)
- **ESRC NCRM Methodological Innovation Project: The potential of Video Telephony in Qualitative Longitudinal Research: A participatory and interactionist approach to assessing remoteness and rapport.** 2013-14, £88,590 (Weller, project 1).

## 4 Impact limitations

### A Limited scientific impact

Please state below any major scientific difficulties that have limited the scientific impact of your project. The statement should refer to an effect on *impact* rather than simply detail research difficulties or other project activity problems. *[Max 2000 Characters]*

### B Limited economic and societal impact

ESRC recognises that some of the research it funds will not have an economic or societal impact in the short term. Please explain briefly below if this is the case for your project, and refer to your grant application where relevant. *[Max 2000 Characters]*

## Declarations

**Please read the statements below. Submitting this Impact Report through this system confirms your agreement.**

- This Impact Report is an accurate statement of the impacts of the research to date. All co-investigators named in the proposal to your Research Council or appointed subsequently have seen and approved the Report.
- Details of any subsequent impacts will be submitted via an Impact Record as they occur.

## CONFIDENTIAL:

### Nominations

In this section, you are invited to nominate the following:

- **Rapporteurs**  
At least two independent reviewers who will be able to evaluate your research
- **Outputs**  
Two outputs which you would like to be considered in the evaluation of your research

#### Nominated Rapporteurs:

Full name	Email address	Postal address	Telephone
Professor Julia Brannen	<a href="mailto:j.brannen@ioe.ac.uk">j.brannen@ioe.ac.uk</a>	Thomas Coram Research Centre, Institute of Education,	0207 612 6951

		University of London, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL	
Louise Corti	<a href="mailto:corti@essex.ac.uk">corti@essex.ac.uk</a>	Associate Director, UK Data Archive, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex. C04 3SC	01206 872 145

**In addition we would like to nominate Kay Barclay, Scottish Government (Third Sector Research Project):** Dr. Kay Barclay, Scottish Government Researcher, Victorial Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ. Tel 08457 741741

**Nominated Outputs:**

<b>Output type</b> (eg journal article, book, newspaper article, conference proceedings, toolkit, online resource)	<b>Publication details</b> (eg author name, title, date, publisher details, URL for an online resource)	<b>Uploaded to the ESRC website? (Yes/No)</b>
Special issue of Journal	Edwards, R. and Irwin, S (eds.) (2010) Lived Experience through Economic Downturn in Britain: Perspectives across time and across the life course. <i>21<sup>st</sup> Century Society: journal of the Academy of Social Sciences</i> 5 (2) Contributions from across the Timescapes projects.	Yes.
Special issue of Journal	Henwood, K, Neale, B and Holland, J. (eds.) (2012) Advancing Methods and Resources for Qualitative Longitudinal Research: The Timescapes Initiative <i>Qualitative Research</i> Feb 2012 Vol 12 (1)  Methodological contributions across the Timescapes teams, including case history methods, archiving and secondary analysis.	Yes

**In addition, we would also like to nominate the following outputs:**

**The Timescapes Archive.** Access requires registration via the Timescapes Website; We can fast track access for rapporteurs via email to Bren Neale: [b.neale@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:b.neale@leeds.ac.uk).

**Holland, J. and Edwards, R. (eds.) (2014).** *Understanding Families over Time: Research and Policy*. Palgrave, forthcoming. Chapters from this volume are available from the lead editor. [Hollanj@lsbu.ac.uk](mailto:Hollanj@lsbu.ac.uk)