

I am an agile social policy researcher, with specialist knowledge and experience of creative interventions and participatory methods. With over 20-years experience working across the voluntary/community, social enterprise, public, and higher education sectors, I am passionate about mobilising research and evidence to address complex policy issues to bring about transformational change.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Creative Listening Practitioner & Evaluation Consultant, Brighton & Hove Music for Connection, Mar 2021-ongoing, Freelance (started as a volunteer 2017)

- Lead for monitoring, evaluation and impact for community music projects commissioned for health & wellbeing outcomes
- Co-development and delivery of creative listening projects, including Interactive Listening Walks, online shared-space soundscape composition instrument and soundmapping workshops
- Developing engagement pathways including partnerships, networks, e-newsletter, social media videos, and website content
- People-centred and needs-led creative facilitation and engagement with groups experiencing intersecting marginalisation: older people, racially minoritised communities, refugees and migrants, people experiencing disabilities, mental health issues, and health inequalities

SKILLS

Working together: strong mutually-beneficial relationship builder; inclusive & equity-driven approach; highly resourceful & curious problem solver for shared solutions.

Initiative: integrity & authenticity; adept at emerging situations & experimental approaches; effective in managing diverse & competing workloads.

Supportive: sustainable working practices; supportive, reciprocal & caring team-worker; socially responsive & responsible; collaborative & empowering techniques.

Communication: clear & accessible communicator for myriad audiences; agile & innovative content-creator; adept at transparent cross-sector partnership-building.

EDUCATION

PhD in Social Policy, University of Brighton, ESRC Scholarship, 2018-2022

MSc in Social Research Methods (Distinction) University of Southampton, 2017-2018

MA in Migration Studies (Merit) University of Sussex, 2006-2008

BSc(Hons) in Philosophy & Politics (2:1) University of Bristol, 2001-2005

RECENT TRAINING

Research: Qualitative analysis software (Nvivo, MAXQDA)

Communications: WordPress; Community Music Facilitation & Safeguarding

Organisational: Data Privacy & Security; Diversity, Equality & Inclusion; Health & Safety; Risk Assessment; Project Management.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Research Fellow in Policy Engagement, *University of Brighton*, Oct 2023-Apr 2025

- Led a community and policy engagement project about seaside gentrification
- Co-designed and piloted listening tools with sonic artists, residents, community groups, and policy-related professionals
- Created digital outputs e.g. short films, podcasts, website, blogs, social media
- Curated knowledge exchange events & networking, including for the Centre for Arts & Wellbeing

Research Associate, *Lloyds Bank Foundation*, Oct 2022-Oct 2023

- Led on creation and implementation of research strategy & work plan for £300k research portfolio investment to build evidence for policy advocacy
- Developed research projects including into the distinct value and role of by-and-for (equity and user-led) organisations and established an advisory board
- Sustained existing and initiated new partnerships across national, regional and local organisations: academic and independent research centres, independent funders, government agencies, and small charities
- Created infrastructure: Small Charities Data website, research blog, ethical framework, research commissioning processes, learning opportunities and training for charity leaders on research and evaluation

Doctoral Researcher & Lecturer, *University of Brighton*, Oct 2018 – Sept 2022

- Experienced collaborative researcher, embedding participation across all stages of design, ethics, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination
- Led interdisciplinary project in fields of seaside, gentrification, social/spatial/mobile justices, mobilities, listening and sound, participatory and creative methods
- Lecturer in undergraduate Community Engagement and postgraduate Advanced Methods and Community Psychology modules

Development Manager, *Community University Partnership Programme, University of Brighton*, Dec 2012-Sept 2017

- Developed research partnership and networks across a range of academic, public, voluntary/community and social enterprise sectors
- Managed the Community Helpdesk & Community Knowledge Exchange seed funding programmes across the Sussex region

Development Manager, *MOSAIC Black & Mixed Parentage Family Group*,

Apr 2009 - Nov 2012

- Managed the development of services, new business opportunities and strategic planning for the organisation
- Successful development of anti-racism school package, Cric!Crac!, from inception, consultation and pilot through to launch and marketing including strategic partnerships with local pilot schools, Healthy Schools Team, education professionals and Black & Asian storytellers, graphic artists and designers

Youth Advice Worker, Volunteer Coordinator & Safe Space Coordinator, *Sussex Central YMCA*, Jan 2007-Nov 2012

- Project coordination and frontline advice roles supporting 16-25 year olds.

REFERENCES available on request