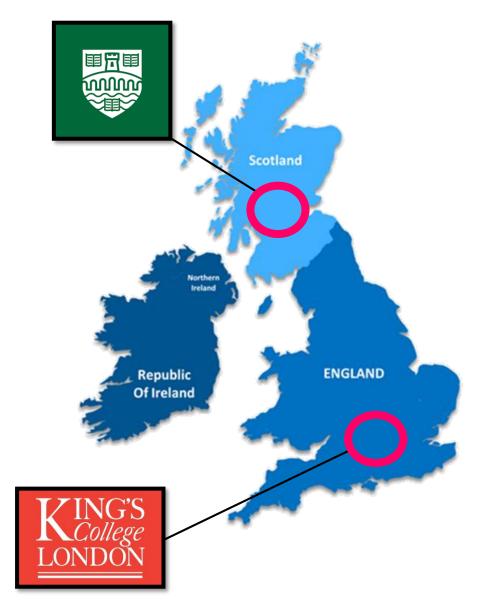
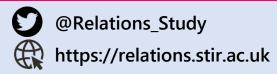
# What is the Relations Study?

1 study across 2 sites, over 3 years, delivering
4 workstreams:

- I. Relational Ethnography (Parents/Families).
- II. Relational Ethnography (Practitioners/Services).
- III. Policy Review & Analysis.
- IV. Learning Alliance.









#### **Principal Investigator:**

• Prof. Anne Whittaker, University of Stirling.

#### UK Co-Investigators:

- Prof. Jane Callaghan, University of Stirling.
- Dr. Polly Radcliffe, King's College London.
- Dr. Emma Wincup, Independent Researcher.
- Dr. Alison Munro, University of Dundee.
- Prof. Avril Taylor, University of the West of Scotland.
- Dr. Emily Finch, South London & Maudsley NHS Trust.
- Dr. Amy Chandler, University of Edinburgh.
- Dr. Hannah Carver, University of Stirling.





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STIRLING

• Prof. Thomas McMahon, Yale University.

**IZING'S** 

- Dr. Miriam Boeri, Bentley University.
- Dr. Amy Salmon, University of British Columbia.
- Dr. Fiona Martin, Dalhousie University.
- Dr. Anna Olsen, Australian National University.

#### **Research Fellows:**

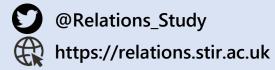
- Dr. Emma Coles, University of Stirling.
- Dr. James Todd, University of Stirling.
- Dr. Jan Flaherty, King's College London.
- Dr. Landon Kuester, King's College London.



Economic

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**Research Council** 



## **Research Questions**

- 1. How is 'the problem' of parental opioid use constituted?
- 2. What are the policies and practices governing the problem?
- 3. How are these enacted locally?
- 4. What are the impacts on parents/families and professionals/services, do they differ between locations, and in what ways?
- 5. Are there alternative ways of responding to parental opioid use?



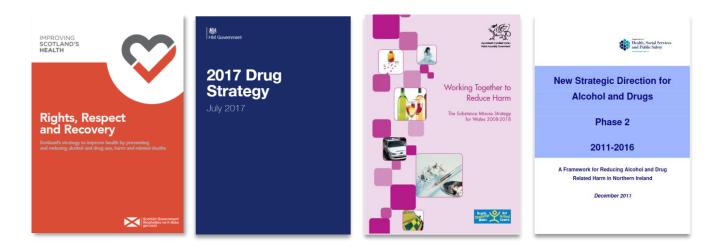


# **Policy Analysis**

**Policies:** governmental/organisational strategies, clinical guidelines, good practice guidance, everyday practice documentation.

The policy analysis will explore:

- How policies represent families and respond to their needs
- Different ways in which policies are employed in practice
- Effects on families and relationships between families and services









- Incorporates experts in their field as well those with lived experience, involving parents who use drugs, family members and young people coming together in groups to share ideas.
- The Learning Alliance will **guide the research**, to focus on what is most important for families, practitioners, services, and policymakers.
- It will provide a space for feedback and knowledgesharing, and will inform policy and practice.

### **LEARNING ALLIANCE GROUPS**

- Substance Use services
- Children & Families services
- Policymakers & Commissioners
- Parents
- Affected family members
- Young people/young adults





# Who will benefit from this study?

- Parents who use drugs and their families to show how services might better meet their needs.
- Service providers and policymakers by producing new understandings about how existing practices and policies may or may not be benefiting the people they seek to help.
- Organisations that want to develop new interventions to help parents who use drugs and their families.







### Prof. Anne Whittaker

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The Relations Study is an innovative £2.2 million research project to investigate the provision of treatment for parents who use drugs in the UK, in a bid to understand how they interact with health and social care services.

The three-year project – led by the University of Stirling and funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) – involves a team of social scientists and clinical academics from across the world. They will investigate the everyday lives of parents who use drugs and the support that they and their families receive from health and social care services.

Led by <u>Professor Anne Whittaker</u>, of the <u>Nursing. Midwifery and Allied Health Professions Research Unit (NMAHP-RU</u>), the study will engage with families and services at two sites (one in Scotland, one in England). The Stirling team will manage the Scottish site, in the Lothian area, while Dr Polly Radcliffe from the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience, King's College London, will manage the second site in London. Follow @Relations\_Study 206 fo

#### TWEETS FROM @RELATIONS\_STUDY

🔁 The Relations Study Retweeted 🖤

Alex Stevens
 @AlexStevensKent
 Replying to @AlexStevensKent

Respect and thanks to all the paid and volunteer workers who are out there providing compassion, care, naloxone and person-centred treatment to people who struggle with drugs. The death toll would be much higher without you. #stopthedeaths

♡ [→ Oct 14, 2020

e Relations Study Retweeted

