

# 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.



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# Relations Study

GOVERNING PARENTAL OPIOID USE:  
A RELATIONAL ETHNOGRAPHY



UNIVERSITY OF  
**STIRLING**

**KING'S**  
*College*  
**LONDON**



Economic  
and Social  
Research Council

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# 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?

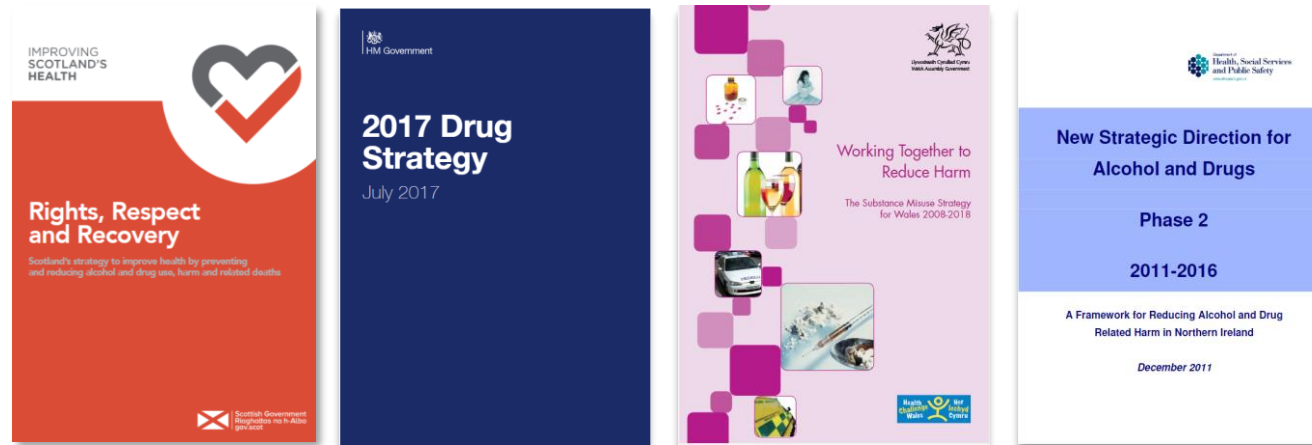


# Policy Analysis

**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



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- 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 knowledge-sharing**, and will inform policy and practice.

## LEARNING ALLIANCE GROUPS

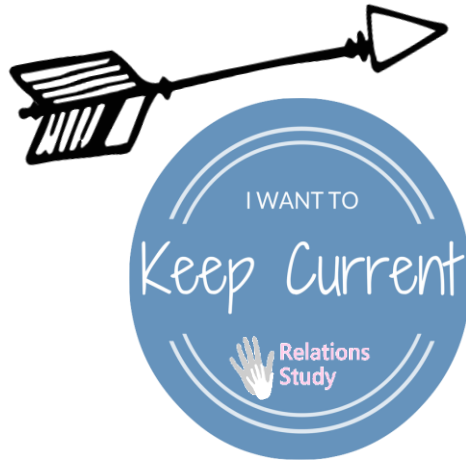
- Substance Use services
- Children & Families services
- Policymakers & Commissioners
- Parents
- Affected family members
- Young people/young adults

# 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.





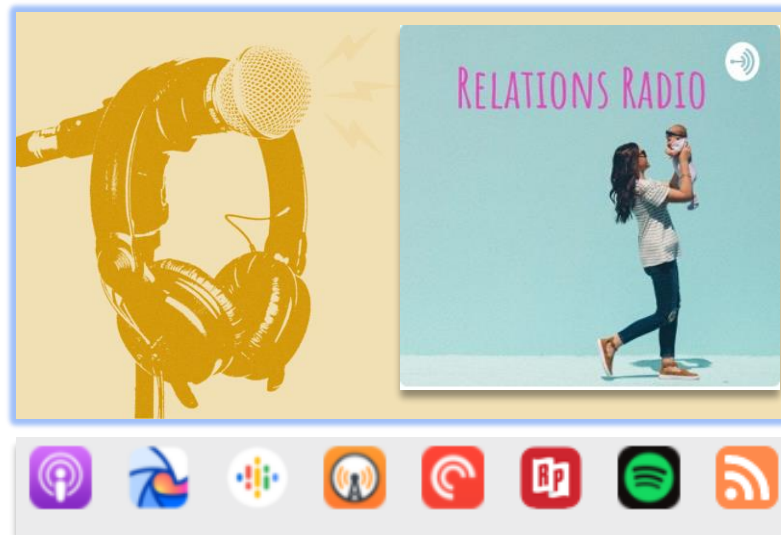
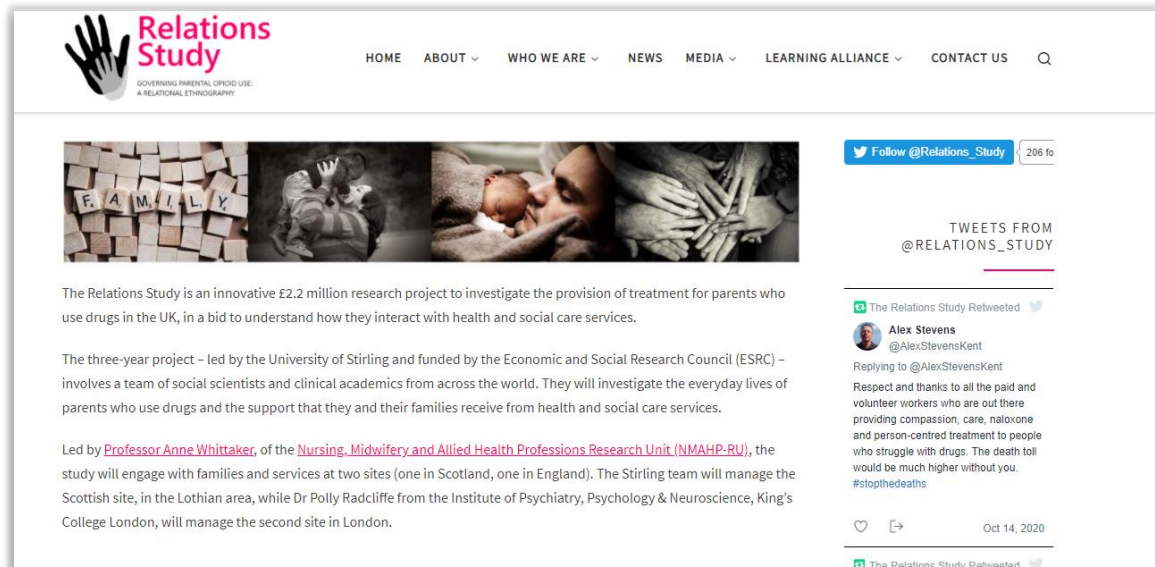


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