

## Contact details

University of Birmingham DTC  
Web: [www.graduateschool.bham.ac.uk/rsa/researchcouncils/esrc.shtml](http://www.graduateschool.bham.ac.uk/rsa/researchcouncils/esrc.shtml)  
Email: [studentships@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:studentships@contacts.bham.ac.uk)

Bloomsbury DTC  
Web: [www.bloomsburydte.ac.uk/](http://www.bloomsburydte.ac.uk/)  
Email: [a.tolmie@ioe.ac.uk](mailto:a.tolmie@ioe.ac.uk)

University of Cambridge DTC  
Web: [www.admin.cam.ac.uk/students/studentregistry/fees/funding/councils/esrc](http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/students/studentregistry/fees/funding/councils/esrc)  
Email: [Isobel.Humphrey@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:Isobel.Humphrey@admin.cam.ac.uk)

University of Essex DTC  
Web: [www.essex.ac.uk/dtc/](http://www.essex.ac.uk/dtc/)  
Email: [lcrow@essex.ac.uk](mailto:lcrow@essex.ac.uk)

Kings College London DTC  
Web: [www.kcl.ac.uk/study/pg/funding/sources/esrc](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/pg/funding/sources/esrc)  
Email: [kissdte@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:kissdte@kcl.ac.uk)

London Business School DTC  
Web: [www.london.edu/phd](http://www.london.edu/phd)  
Email: [jfry@london.edu](mailto:jfry@london.edu)

LSE DTC  
Web: [www2.lse.ac.uk/study/graduate/enquirer/typesOfStudy/ESRCDTC.aspx](http://www2.lse.ac.uk/study/graduate/enquirer/typesOfStudy/ESRCDTC.aspx)  
Email: [s.plater@lse.ac.uk](mailto:s.plater@lse.ac.uk)

North East DTC  
Web: [www.nedtc.ac.uk](http://www.nedtc.ac.uk)  
Email: [chris.harrop@durham.ac.uk](mailto:chris.harrop@durham.ac.uk)

North West DTC  
Web: [www.nwdtc.ac.uk](http://www.nwdtc.ac.uk)  
Email: [hmeloy@liv.ac.uk](mailto:hmeloy@liv.ac.uk)

University of Nottingham DTC  
Web: [www.nottingham.ac.uk/esrc-dtc/index.aspx](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/esrc-dtc/index.aspx)  
Email: [esrc-dtc@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:esrc-dtc@nottingham.ac.uk)

University of Oxford DTC  
Web: [dtc.socsci.ox.ac.uk/](http://dtc.socsci.ox.ac.uk/)  
Email: [dtccollaboration@socsci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:dtccollaboration@socsci.ox.ac.uk)

Queen Mary and Goldsmiths DTC  
Web: [www.londonsocialscience.org.uk/](http://www.londonsocialscience.org.uk/)  
Email: [a.pickering@gold.ac.uk](mailto:a.pickering@gold.ac.uk)

Scottish DTC  
Web: [www.socsciscotland.ac.uk](http://www.socsciscotland.ac.uk)  
Email: [admin@socsciscotland.ac.uk](mailto:admin@socsciscotland.ac.uk)

University of Southampton DTC  
Web: [www.southampton.ac.uk/research/dtc/esrcdte.html](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/research/dtc/esrcdte.html)  
Email: [Esrdtc@soton.ac.uk](mailto:Esrdtc@soton.ac.uk)

South East DTC  
Web: [www.southeastdte.ac.uk](http://www.southeastdte.ac.uk)  
Email: [enquiries@southeastdte.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@southeastdte.ac.uk)

South West DTC  
Web: [www.swdte.ac.uk](http://www.swdte.ac.uk)  
Email: [sallybarnes@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:sallybarnes@bristol.ac.uk)

University of Sussex DTC  
Web: [www.sussex.ac.uk/doctoralschool/esrc](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/doctoralschool/esrc)  
Email: [esrdte@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:esrdte@sussex.ac.uk)

University College London DTC  
Web: [www.ucl.ac.uk/shs/esrc](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/shs/esrc)  
Email: [k.vyas@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:k.vyas@ucl.ac.uk)

Wales DTC  
Web: [www.walesdte.ac.uk](http://www.walesdte.ac.uk)  
Email: [WalesDTC@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:WalesDTC@cardiff.ac.uk)

University of Warwick DTC  
Web: [www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross\\_fac/socialsciencesdte/](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/socialsciencesdte/)  
Email: [c.lury@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:c.lury@warwick.ac.uk)

White Rose DTC  
Web: [www.wrdte.ac.uk/](http://www.wrdte.ac.uk/)  
Email: [enquiries@wrtdte.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@wrtdte.ac.uk)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL



## Supporting Partnerships with the next generation of social scientists



## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

### Supporting Partnerships with the next generation of social scientists

**The Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) is the UK's largest organisation for funding research on economic and social issues. Funding independent, high quality research into the big social and economic questions facing us today, we directly inform strategy and practice in both the private and public sectors.**

Closer engagement with the private, public and civil society sectors is an ESRC priority and we are committed to working in partnership to facilitate academic collaboration and ultimately help drive innovation and growth. Our approach is flexible, with a range of opportunities to engage with a world leading social science knowledge base.

The ESRC funds PhD studentships to supply the next generation of world leading academics and to ensure the UK has a highly skilled workforce, equipped to contribute to a competitive, knowledge based UK economy. We are the single largest funder of social science PhD training within the UK, offering more than 600 PhD places a year through our national network of 21 Doctoral Training Centres (DTCs) – centres of excellence for social science research training in the UK. Our DTCs cover the full range of social science disciplines as well as a strong and growing focus on interdisciplinary research.

Our 21 DTCs sit within institutions with an established history of collaboration with an extensive range of organisations across the private, public and civil society sectors. ESRC works closely with non-academic organisations to fund research that is of mutual interest, ensuring its relevance to policy, practice, and the interests of the partner.

There are many significant benefits in engaging with the ESRC funded students; not least you can gain access to top quality, highly talented, skilled and knowledgeable students who can help drive innovation and growth in your organisation. Collaboration between organisations and students can take effect in a number of different ways: some emerge from informal network contacts between individuals, while others result from a formal approach to an institution.

DTCs have the flexibility to design relationships to suit the needs of collaborative partners. Collaboration does not need to involve co-funding, some of the very best collaborative activity is simply through the exchange of knowledge.

#### Examples of collaborative relationships between partner organisations and ESRC DTCs

- **Collaborative PhD research** – This provides an opportunity for organisations to work with a DTC student throughout their PhD. The research goals are developed in collaboration with the partner organisation and should involve substantial user engagement. Opportunities provide collaborative partners with the chance to have a high-quality PhD student undertaking cutting-edge research relevant to the priorities and objectives of the organisation.



#### A selection of experiences from organisations that have previously collaborated with ESRC studentships:

I would definitely say the relationship has been very useful. For my own project, it was very productive to have a dedicated researcher to do the legwork and bring academic rigour and investigative ability to the knotty and overwritten realm of making a business case for environmental awareness. The partnership also had the benefits of educating the student in the corporate world and the different needs and drivers within that arena. A win-win for both sides.

**Tesco**

The intern's outside view, strong analytical skills and quick assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of our approach led to a more far-reaching output than we had envisaged, and one which we are committed to enacting. Our expectations of the intern and therefore the project were surpassed.

**Thomas Pocklington Trust**

Turning the analysis into a student project enabled us to discover that the data is not freely available, without us having to spend the time ourselves, and was therefore still a great benefit to the business despite us not getting any true results. I think the good thing about the scheme is that the sponsor can define the project themselves and can therefore decide before the start how involved they want to be and therefore the project needn't have a huge impact on their day to day business if they don't want it to. **Whitbread**

The internship has allowed an important piece of work to have been taken forward that would otherwise have been carried out at a much slower pace or not at all. The interns' technical experience was a great asset to the Branch over the three months and allowed her to add value to areas of work other than those initially identified.

**Welsh Assembly Government**

**Employers have reported that students bring new energy and fresh insights to their business and the value of them exceeded all expectations.**

## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

# Supporting Partnerships with the next generation of social scientists

### 1 University of Birmingham DTC

Birmingham DTC has particular strengths in research on Cognitive Psychology, Europe, the Global Economy, Health and Well-being, Household Wealth and Personal Finance, Public Services & the Third Sector, Security & Conflict and Transnationalism & Super diversity. Birmingham DTC wishes to develop collaborative relationships in all these areas, and more widely across the social sciences. The DTC also has important links with the DTCs at Nottingham and Warwick.

### 2 South West Doctoral Training Centre – University of Bristol (lead institution), University of Bath and University of Exeter

As recognised research leaders, the three institutions have a strong collaborative record in advancing knowledge through high quality research and teaching in partnership with business, public services, the third sector and other research and learning providers. The DTC offers a placement scheme to generate widespread and effective use of knowledge exchange strategies. The SWDTC covers 12 Disciplinary pathways of major Social Science areas as well as five new Interdisciplinary Pathways addressing the major issues facing Society today, including: Health and Wellbeing; Environment, Energy and Resilience; Security, Conflict and Justice; Global Political Economies and Advanced Quantitative Methods.

### 3 University of Cambridge DTC

Cambridge DTC hosts flourishing research centres including the UK Innovation Research Centre, and Centres for Research in Finance, Business Research, Population and Social Structure, Family Research, Prisons Research and Psychometrics. It offers an active research environment with a range of collaborative opportunities. Social scientists form links with other disciplines to address global research questions and to engage with policymaking. There are particular strengths in family research, environmental policy, food security, energy, infectious diseases and digital research methods. Successful student placements with business and third sector organisations have taken place in, for example, Criminology, Business Studies, Geography and Politics.

### 4 Wales DTC – Cardiff University (lead institution), Aberystwyth University, Bangor University and Swansea University

The Wales DTC works with organisations in the public, private and third sectors in tailored collaborative arrangements that range from in-kind support for regular knowledge exchange, to substantial co-funding of studentships. Such organisations currently include: the Welsh Government, NHS, WJEC, Countryside Council, Shell Global Solutions (UK), The WEA, Aneurin Bevan Health Board, Royal Bolton Foundation Trust, Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens, The Probation Service, and Research Councils. The DTC includes 16 pathway clusters that span the major social sciences, whilst having firmly established strength and breadth in research methods of all kinds. It is also distinctive for its focus on social science issues in Wales and on inter-disciplinary work, e.g. in Bilingualism.

### 5 The Scottish Graduate School of Social Science DTC – University of Edinburgh (lead institution), Dundee University, Edinburgh Napier University, Heriot-Watt University, The Robert Gordon University, University of Aberdeen, University of Glasgow, University of St Andrews, University of Stirling, University of Strathclyde

The Scottish DTC is the largest ESRC DTC, offering 65 ESRC funded studentships per year to the most promising researchers in the social sciences. Training is available from 10 universities across 24 pathways encompassing all social science disciplines covered by the ESRC. Students will benefit from more than 20 years of ESRC-recognised Scotland-wide collaboration in postgraduate training and education as well as access to the quantitative methods network AQMeN (aqmen.ac.uk). The DTC forms the core of the new Scottish Graduate School in the Social Science, generously supported by a 5-year Horizon Fund grant from the Scottish Funding Council. This grant will support activities such as an annual Summer School, discipline-based training events and a Scotland-wide eLearning network.

### 6 University of Essex DTC

Essex hosts unique, national data resources, including the Understanding Society survey which tracks the lives and attitudes of 40,000 UK households, the British Election Study which analyses how and why people vote, and the UK Data Archive, the country's largest collection of social and economic data. Collaboration with a wide variety of organisations underpins research excellence in the social sciences at the University of Essex. It informs practice and skills development through training in consultancy and project management, and fosters opportunities for refreshed thinking for each party, at both organisational and individual levels. Recent doctoral students have worked with the Office of National Statistics, BT, the Tate Gallery and international human rights organisations as well as with local authorities, primary care trusts and voluntary organisations. All doctoral students work with academic supervisors with a track record of collaborative research and industry experience.

### 7 University College London DTC (UCL)

The UCL DTC is based in a leading research centre with a long history of successful collaborations. Situated in the heart of Bloomsbury, it already has extensive links with London's unique network of global businesses, government agencies, non-government organisations, cultural institutions and creative industries. External partnerships play a vital role in addressing UCL's 'Grand Challenges' research areas of global health, human wellbeing, intercultural interaction and sustainable cities. Collaborative research in areas such as these helps to tackle issues of global significance and guide public policy.

### 10 10 King's Interdisciplinary Social Science DTC (KISS) King's College London

KISS serves four major cross discipline fields; health, regulation, social change and security. KISS promotes partnerships between social scientists at King's and end user (public or private or third sector) organisations. The involvement of the partner institution should be a genuinely collaborative enterprise, providing real added value to the studentship while also advancing the activities of the partner institution.

### 11 LBS DTC – London Business School

Business leaders, government, professionals and the media rely on London Business School for the latest ideas on business practice and theory. The DTC works at the forefront of global business research and teaching. PhD students work closely with faculty on cutting-edge research that spans a broad range of disciplines and topics – Accounting; Economics; Finance; Management Science and Operations; Marketing; Organisational Behaviour and Strategy and Entrepreneurship.

### 14 North West DTC (NWDTC) – University of Liverpool (lead institution), University of Manchester and Lancaster University

NWDTC offers studentships across the full range of social sciences disciplines. It contributes to the nationwide development of specific research areas such as Management and Business Studies, Language Based Area Studies and Economics and also focuses on the development of Advanced Quantitative Methods across the social sciences. There is strong and growing emphasis on interdisciplinary and cross-institutional projects, fostered by the NWDTC's methodological training centre, MethodsNorthWest www.methodsnorthwest.ac.uk. NWDTC is committed to building collaborative partnerships that provide a real opportunity for students to gain first-hand experience of work outside the academic environment.

### 15 North East DTC (NEDTC) – Newcastle University and Durham University

NEDTC is a leading centre for interdisciplinary doctoral research with a proven track-record of collaboration and external engagement. Students have collaborated with a wide variety of partners, ranging from government departments to international businesses and local charities. The DTC offers a complete package of tailored support, including intellectual property management, training and mentoring to ensure partners realise the full benefits of collaboration. Areas of expertise include: Economic performance and management – encompassing regeneration, innovation and organisational development; Health and well-being – focusing on quality-of-life, ageing and health inequalities; Individual behaviour – including social inclusion, identity and civic participation; and Environment and resilience – embracing planning, risk, renewable energy and rural sustainability.

### 16 University of Nottingham DTC

Nottingham social science researchers collaborate with a range of organisations across the public, private and third sectors. Recent PhD students have been involved in projects with Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust; Commission for Rural Communities; Driving Standards Agency; The Princess Royal Trust for Carers; MacMillan Cancer Research; FTSE Group and many others. Nottingham's internship programme includes placements with, for example, Microsoft Research, BBC, Nokia, and Network Rail. Nottingham also has distinctive international strengths and offers unique opportunities for students to collaborate with a variety of international partners through its campuses in Malaysia and China and through the Universitas 21 international network.

### 17 University of Oxford DTC

Oxford is home to many research centres and initiatives addressing a wide range of important contemporary issues. They include: ESRC Centre for Skills, Knowledge and Organisational Performance; ESRC Centre for Migration, Policy and Society; Refugee Studies; Social Entrepreneurship; Criminology; Oxford-Man Institute of Quantitative Finance; Environmental Change Institute; International Growth Centre; Young Lives project on childhood poverty; Oxford Internet Institute; and Oxford Martin School (interdisciplinary research on global challenges). Oxford DTC provides a stimulating research environment encouraging students to work in partnership with UK and international organizations within government, public and private sector bodies and charities. Oxford is keen to establish new collaborations across the sectors for its ESRC Doctoral Training Centre.

### 18 White Rose DTC – University of Sheffield (lead institution), University of Leeds and University of York

The White Rose Universities have an established record of collaborative research, including doctoral internships and co-financed studentships, and are keen to build mutually beneficial relationships with non-academic partners. The WRDTC trains social science doctorates to meet the demands of the contemporary economy whether working within commercial, academic, government or third sectors. They build on strengths in qualitative and quantitative methodologies, sector-leading skills training and international leadership in core social science subject areas. Areas of expertise include: Social Policy; Politics and Governance; Economics and Management; International Development; and Health and Wellbeing. Interdisciplinary strengths include: Environment and Energy; Security and Justice; and Science and Technology Studies.

### 19 University Southampton DTC

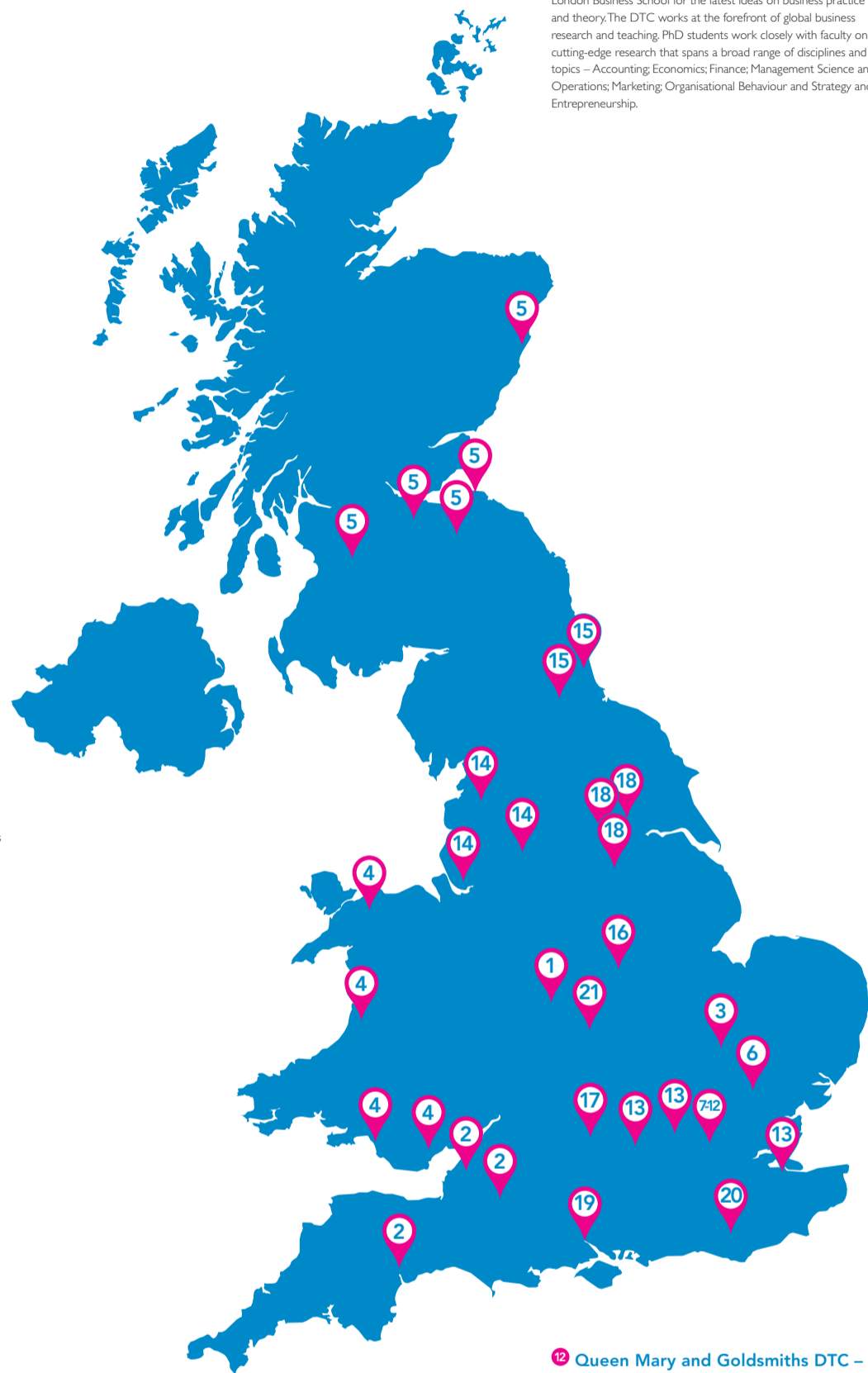
Southampton DTC offers supervisory expertise across the full breadth of the human and social science disciplines and the thriving community of postgraduate students is supported by a first class research training infrastructure. There are strong links with the public, private and voluntary sectors. Southampton currently hosts four ESRC centres of research excellence, including the National Centre for Research Methods (NCRM), the Centre for Population Changes (CPC), the Third Sector Research Centre (TSRC) and the Census Programme, as well as the ESRC Retail Industry Business Engagement Network (RIBEN), working with partners in the retail industry. Coupled with the University's reputation for excellence in research methods and advanced methodological techniques, the DTC offers a unique academic environment for doctoral training within the social sciences. The DTC is keen to develop partnerships with organisations in the public, private and third sectors. Recent partner organisations include the Office for National Statistics, and the Charity Commission.

### 20 University of Sussex DTC

Sussex has an established reputation for globally focused research, and research at the interface of the social and behavioural sciences. Collaboration not only informs choice of research topics, but also promotes a problem-focused approach with interdisciplinary solutions. Sussex is a leading centre for research on International Development; Innovation and Sustainability Management; Migration; European Politics; Rights, Justice and Security; Childhood and Education; Behavioural Change; Health and Medical Interventions; and Identity and Collective Behaviour. Recent doctoral students have collaborated with local NHS Trusts, UK Home Office, DFID, YMCA, United Nations and a range of Governmental and Non-governmental Organisations throughout the world.

### 21 University of Warwick (Social Sciences) DTC

Warwick University is renowned for its commitment to collaborations with private, public and voluntary sector organisations. Drawing on well-established models of good practice, as well as expertise in knowledge transfer and knowledge exchange, the Warwick DTC actively seeks out collaborations, as well as responding to interest from organisations who believe they can benefit from the outstanding research being carried out across the social sciences. Our doctoral students will have the guidance of experienced supervisors as well as receiving training in advanced methods, project management, dealing with complex situations, and communication and presentation skills.



### 8 LSE DTC – The London School of Economics and Political Science

LSE is a world leading research University with a wide range of research interests which is reflected in the breadth of the courses on offer. Set up to improve society and to 'understand the causes of things', LSE has always put engagement with the wider world at the heart of its mission. Research students are involved in this in a number of ways – from taking short term placements in leading financial institutions, non-governmental organisations and government bodies through to basing themselves in an organisation to develop their research in an area of benefit to the host organisation.

### 9 Bloomsbury DTC – Institute of Education (lead institution), Birkbeck, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, School of Oriental and African Studies

IOE has extensive strengths in research relating to all aspects of educational practice; and, with LSHTM, in analysing complex data to inform policy on education, employment and health. Birkbeck and IOE psychologists are developing pioneering applications of brain science to teaching within the Centre for Educational Neuroscience. Birkbeck's Centre for British Politics and Public Life brings together academics and practitioners with shared interests, whilst SOAS offers unique specialisms in the study of Africa, Asia, the Near and Middle East. The London International Development Centre is developing groundbreaking linkages between agriculture and health.

### 12 Queen Mary and Goldsmiths DTC – Queen Mary and Goldsmiths, University of London

Queen Mary and Goldsmiths DTC spans interdisciplinary social science with an emphasis on linking theory and practice, including world-class human and physical geography research; diverse investigations of underlying psychological mechanisms; influences across cultures and the human lifespan; and cutting-edge scholarship in media, communications theory and practice, including UK-leading research on linguistics. The DTC also leads wide-ranging investigations of finance, economic theory, econometrics and applied economics, along with business and management research on corporate and ethical social responsibility. Academics and doctoral students also engage in broad-ranging internationally-respected research in anthropology, cultural studies and sociology. As well as working with other universities, the DTC seeks to extend collaborative research and training partnerships, around the world, with human and environmental rights organisations, NGOs, schools, museums, galleries and cultural enterprises, entertainment and digital media organisations, and the financial sector.

### 13 South East DTC – University of Surrey (lead institution), University of Kent, Royal Holloway University of London, University of Reading

South East DTC delivers leading-edge doctoral research with real-world impact in nine social science disciplines. There is an emphasis on interdisciplinary research exemplified by the Environment, Energy and Resilience pathway. Our current research priority areas include: Crime; Trust; Security and Conflict; Energy; Environment; Economic Performance and Sustainability; Disaster Management and Resilience; Behavioural and Social Aspects of New Technologies; Health; Ageing; Cognition; and Identity and Culture. The consortium is keen to build partnerships with non-academic organisations within the private, public and third sector. Our students are currently working with a range of partners including The Body Shop, the Cabinet Office, the National Trust and RUSI.