UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

OPEN
OXFORD POLICY ENGAGEMENT NETWORK

# OXFORD POLICY ENGAGEMENT NETWORK (OPEN)

## ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26



“

OPEN is an example of something that Oxford is getting right when it comes to supporting researchers, expanding their capacities, and ensuring our research changes the world for the better.

My experience of working with the Policy Engagement Team, an incredibly supportive peer mentor, the project partners I’ve met through OPEN, and all the policy professionals I’ve come into contact with, has been at an exceptional level of professionalism, productivity, and ambition. It’s a refreshing and energizing space to be in, and it is the thing that has made my move to Oxford worth it. OPEN needs to expand so that it can support more of this positive change in how we work across the full breadth of the institution and introduce more researchers to the benefits of policy engagement.



**PROFESSOR NAOMI WALTHAM-SMITH**
**FACULTY OF MUSIC**

# CONTENTS


| | |
|---|---|
| Introduction | 01 |
| Building capability | 02 |
| Shaping policy and practice | 06 |
| Changing minds | 09 |
| Creating lasting connections | 12 |
| Our award-holders | 16 |
| Our team | 17 |


**BETWEEN 1 AUGUST 2025 AND 31 JULY 2026, OPEN SUPPORTED:**

**1,474+**
RESEARCH PROFESSIONALS AND DOCTORAL STUDENTS

**310+**
POLICY PROFESSIONALS

**95%**
OF THE UNIVERSITY’S DEPARTMENTS

**79+**
POLICY ORGANISATIONS

# INTRODUCTION

OPEN's work has a simple mission; to enable Oxford's researchers to join forces with policy professionals in shaping public policy that protects what is valuable and changes the world for the better.

This report captures learning from this work and shows how it adds value to the work of others. Research professionals and students in all four of the University's academic divisions, our libraries, and other units, as well as policy professionals, in and outside the UK, have shared their own accounts of impacts during the last academic year: growth in skills and confidence; changes to how they and others think about policy, research, and the challenges and rewards of policy engagement itself; greater levels of connectivity and trust; and, of course, impacts on policy and practice.[1]

I have been particularly struck by the development of the Visiting Fellowship programme, enabling policy professionals to be hosted in departments and faculties across Oxford, supporting hosts and visitors to develop tangible policy impact, alongside wider benefits, including new partnerships and sustainable collaborations at senior levels.

On behalf of my colleagues on the OPEN Steering Group, I would like to thank all who have shared these stories; the Policy Engagement Team, which plays a key role in all of them; the Social Sciences Divisional Office which has hosted the team; all our funding panellists, who have generously given of their time and expertise; and Research England, for their support of the network.



**DR JACQUI BROADHEAD | CHAIR, OPEN STEERING GROUP AND ACADEMIC CHAMPION FOR POLICY ENGAGEMENT**



[1] Laura Meagher and David Edwards, "A framework to evaluate the impacts of research on policy and practice", Integration and Implementation Insights (blog), 3 March 2020, https://i2insights.org/2020/03/03/research-impact-evaluation-framework

# BUILDING CAPABILITY




Susan Acland-Hood, Permanent Secretary to the Department for Education and Co-Head of the Policy Profession, welcomes this year's cohort of peer mentors

In keeping with our strategy, we remain committed to improving access to opportunities and resources to learn and engage, and to making more of policy professionals' expertise.

This year, we expanded the OPEN Peer Mentoring Scheme, matching research and policy professionals at similar career stages, and welcomed participants from Oxford Brookes University for the first time. Research professionals from across the sciences and humanities were matched with policy professionals from local government and nine government departments and agencies. (See p4.)

We were also fortunate to be able to draw directly on the expertise of other policy professionals who led or contributed to training sessions, including on routes for engagement with government and Parliament, and on science advice at the EU level. We collaborated more closely with academic departments in delivering some sessions, and in others explored new ground – such as a session on engagement with US policy facilitated by partners at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology – and new approaches, such as the Policy Quest developed at the University of Nottingham, allowing research teams to use a board-game simulation to build and test real-world policy engagement strategies. During the year, more than 350 people took part in our learning and development activities.

Meanwhile, we continued to provide students and research professionals across the University with The OPEN Alert. This personalised weekly round-up of opportunities helps ensure that any barriers to upskilling, sharing evidence and expertise, and applying for funding, remains as low as possible. In fact, many stories in the following pages have their origins in The OPEN Alert. By the end of Trinity Term, we had more than 1,300 subscribers – more than ever before.

'Involvement with OPEN has enabled me to steer my team to engage more with academia, be less risk averse, and proactively look for new ways to draw research into our work.'

*Policy professional, UK central government*

'For those of us based in the University's overseas units, accessing support to maximise the policy impact of our research can be challenging. Last year, we were delighted to host a visit from Oxford's Policy Engagement Team in Bangkok. The international perspectives they brought together with practical advice helped strengthen our skills and confidence in policy engagement, sharpened how we think about translating research into impact, and significantly improved our approach to monitoring, evaluation and learning.'

**PROFESSOR RICHARD MAUDE | MAHIDOL OXFORD TROPICAL MEDICINE RESEARCH UNIT, BANGKOK**



'The new Government Office for Science scheme for mid-career scientists and engineers has been strengthening my leadership capabilities and is giving me a granular understanding of how government actually works. I'd never have known about this scheme without The OPEN Alert.'

**DR FELIX LEACH | DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING SCIENCE**



**PARTICIPANTS IN OUR LEARNING, DEVELOPMENT AND NETWORKING ACTIVITIES INCLUDED:**

**277**
RESEARCH PROFESSIONALS AND DOCTORAL STUDENTS

**78**
POLICY PROFESSIONALS AND OTHERS

**53**
ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS, COLLEGES, AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TEAMS

**18**
POLICY ORGANISATIONS

'OPEN has been fantastic in helping me expand my skills. I feel incredibly supported by the Policy Engagement Team, who are always happy to provide guidance. I particularly enjoyed the OPEN Conversation in March, involving select committee specialists from the House of Commons, which has helped reframe how I think about presenting research. The team also recently provided excellent suggestions for stakeholders to reach out to for an event at Westminster – their knowledge, connections and experience are invaluable.'

**SARA DAVIS | OXFORD MARTIN SCHOOL**



## CASE STUDIES

### The power of peer mentoring

“The OPEN Peer Mentoring Scheme has reinforced for me the importance of sustained relationships between policy and academia. The scheme effectively bridges the gap between policy and academia, creating a space for honest conversations, new perspectives and lasting professional relationships.



**BRENDON LANCASTER**
**DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS**

“Being paired with a civil servant gave me valuable insight into how research is commissioned and used in government. Our conversations about user involvement and rapid evidence reviews helped me better understand the realities of policy engagement and identify practical approaches to take forward.



**DR SARAH BEKAERT**
**OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY**



‘OPEN training has made me more confident about writing a policy brief, and I’m now increasingly recognised as the ‘go-to’ person for policy engagement support in my department.’

*Research professional, Medical Sciences Division*

### The Agile Initiative: doing research differently

“The pandemic showed how universities, funders and policymakers could mobilise expertise at pace in an emergency. In 2022, the Agile Initiative at the Oxford Martin School, funded by the Natural Environment Research Council, set out to explore what it would take to respond more effectively to the biodiversity and climate emergencies. OPEN’s vision, mission, and values have continued to inform Agile’s approach to answering this question – and offered part of the answer. By providing Agile’s team, as well as policy professionals, with ongoing access to advice, resources, opportunities and relationships, OPEN has exemplified the kind of collaborative infrastructure that is needed to address the nature and climate crisis globally.



**PROFESSOR NATHALIE SEDDON**
**DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY**

## From history to health policy

As a doctoral student in history, I wasn't sure how best to pursue my interest in public policy. That changed when I spotted a placement in the Civil Service in The OPEN Alert. The Policy Engagement Team helped me prepare for a successful interview, to secure the necessary funding, and to persuade my funder to make similar support available for future generations.

This placement played a key role in my decision to pursue a career at the interface of research and policy, and in my ability to secure my current job with the University. I draw on the skills and experience I got from my placement almost every day in supporting engagement with the UK Health Security Agency and our other policy partners. I also make use of the ways of thinking and working I continue to learn from OPEN, and regularly share these with departmental colleagues, shaping their approach to policy engagement and, in some cases, helping them secure funding to pursue it.



**DR DANIEL GALLAHER**
**DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY CARE HEALTH SCIENCES**

'As a Humanities scholar, I've found OPEN's support particularly valuable in helping me develop my policy engagement skills and my networks.'

*Research professional, Humanities Division*






'I tended to think about policy engagement in terms of individual activities. OPEN helped me see it as an ecosystem, where researchers, professional services staff, civil servants, charities, and funders all play different but connected roles.'

*Research professional, Medical Sciences Division*

# SHAPING POLICY AND PRACTICE




Professor Robert Trager briefs Baroness Stuart of Edgbaston on AI governance during Evidence Week 2026

In parallel with the upstream work of capacity-building (see pp2-5), we also invested in a number of partnerships via 18 new awards from the Public Policy Challenge Fund and the OPEN Seed Fund. Rather than targeting any single thematic or geographic priority, the fund supports those projects with the greatest capacity to deliver policy impact and value for money.

The resulting portfolio covered a wide range of policy issues: AI and other technology; climate and the environment; the economy, trade and investment; education; health and healthcare; and human rights. It involved an equally wide range of policy partners: in the UK, elsewhere in Europe, as well as in Africa, Asia, and North America.

OPEN funding also enabled several brief visits:

- To Oxford: by policy professionals from the Departments of Education, Energy and Net Zero, Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the General Medical Council, NHS England, as well as the European and UK Space Agencies
- To Westminster: by the team behind the Oxford Martin AI Governance Initiative, who briefed MPs, peers, and others during Evidence Week.

We continued to encourage and support researchers' contributions to parliamentary scrutiny, too. During the year, nearly half of all written evidence submissions from the University in response to Parliamentary inquiries were sparked by The OPEN Alert, bringing research expertise to bear on a wide range of policy issues, such as health, housing and workplace equality; AI, digital infrastructure and transport; climate and critical minerals; and international development, research partnerships and the UK's soft power.[2]

The examples on these pages offer a glimpse into the range of this year's activities, and into the impacts arising during the year from these most recent, as well as earlier OPEN investments. A full list of this year's awards can be found on pp16-17.

[2] Analysis based on 14 evidence submissions from 60 research professionals and students published by the UK Parliament in the 12 months to 1 August 2026. Attribution rate estimated from reporting by authors. All submissions can be found at: https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/written-evidence.

'In determining UK visa policies, the government needs to balance several considerations, including those relating to security, trade and investment. Traditional modelling tools are of limited use when it comes to understanding the more granular implications of some policy options – but an OPEN Seed Fund award has enabled us to work with experts at The Institute for New Economic Thinking to explore the potential of agent-based modelling. The results have already informed ministerial decision-making, allowing for a more accurate cost-benefit analysis and clarifying the range of feasible policy options.'

**ROBIN FERDOUS**
**DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS, INNOVATION, SCIENCE AND TRADE**



'Ghana's legal framework doesn't yet adequately address the scourge of deepfake videos and other gender-based violence facilitated by AI and other new technologies. In recent months, OPEN funding has enabled us to work with partners in Oxford's Faculties of History and Law to build the broad civic and political consensus needed to change this: the government intends to withdraw a Cybersecurity Act which has references to Internet-facilitated abuse and replace it with a law that will address emerging technologies, which is to expected to be laid before Parliament later this year.'

**SHEILA MINKAH-PREMO**
**LAWA GHANA**



**42%**

**OF ALL SUBMISSIONS OF WRITTEN EVIDENCE FROM THE UNIVERSITY TO PARLIAMENT WERE SPARKED BY THE OPEN ALERT**

'As demand for data centres grows, so do questions about their energy use and wider environmental impacts. I first spotted Parliament's call for evidence on this issue through The OPEN Alert and immediately saw an opportunity for the ZERO Institute to contribute. The Policy Engagement Team then helped us identify and connect with researchers with relevant expertise across Oxford, convene an interdisciplinary discussion, and work through how best to respond. Their support enabled almost 20 researchers across the social and physical sciences to contribute to parliamentary scrutiny, while building their experience and relationships for future policy engagement.'

**ANNA DOMINEY**
**ZERO INSTITUTE**



## CASE STUDIES

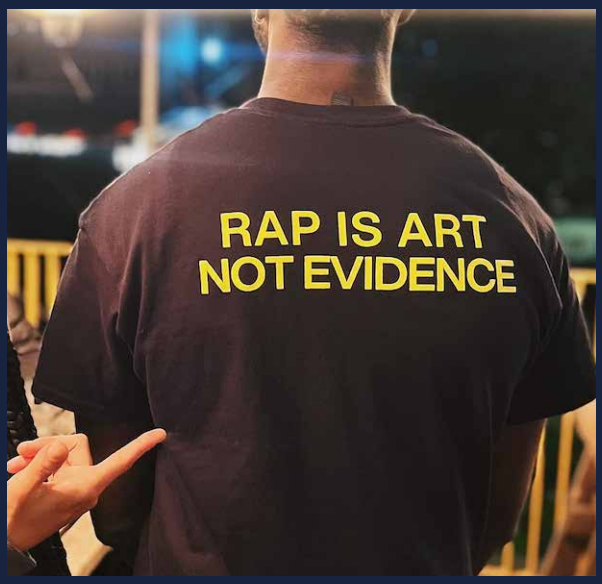
### Sound judgement: musical evidence in service of criminal justice

Misinterpretation of the relevance of rap and especially drill music in criminal prosecutions can reinforce racial stereotyping and lead to miscarriages of justice, and risks undermining the positive role that such music-making plays, especially in the lives of marginalised young people.

Thanks to OPEN funding, which sparked a collaboration with JUSTICE, I'm now part of a dynamic network of legal reform experts, youth music practitioners, and researchers that is expanding our understanding of these risks, raising awareness of them, and reducing their impact. This year, we received invaluable support for this work from the Arts and Humanities Research Council. I'm thrilled that the Crown Prosecution Service, a partner on the current project, has already committed to issuing revised guidance and to convening a national scrutiny panel.



**PROFESSOR NAOMI WALTHAM-SMITH | FACULTY OF MUSIC**




'We brought together officials from across and beyond Whitehall to explore what an integrated tertiary education system could look like, seeding relationships and ideas that have since fed into wider cross-government policy discussions.'

*Research professional, Social Sciences Division*

### Informing investment in Africa's adolescents

Across Africa, cash transfer programmes are increasingly being used to address the financial and social barriers that limit adolescents' opportunities and long-term wellbeing. In 2024, OPEN funding allowed me to collaborate with UNICEF to develop new economic models to assess the economic return on investments in social policies, which could increase climate resilience. This work has led to new relationships with the World Bank and national governments, unlocked follow-on funding and informed government and donor decision-making in several African countries. In Kenya, the work has contributed to the government's $40m investment in its Adolescent Cash Plus Programme, and in Nigeria it's informed the publication of a national costed action plan to end child marriage.



**DR WILLIAM RUDGARD DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL POLICY AND INTERVENTION**

# CHANGING MINDS



This year, one of the types of impact most often reported by OPEN members was not to policy or practice. It was more conceptual: a change of mind.

Research and policy professionals alike have testified to the ways in which participation in OPEN has changed the way they think and feel about research, policy, and the ways in which the two interact: new ways of framing problems, old and new; confidence boosted; curiosity piqued; constraints better understood. Nor are these experiences limited to individuals: some report such changes across whole teams.

These changes are the results of an approach that runs through all our programming: nurturing both the mindset and skillset that serve more as a compass[3] to navigate the fog of complex systems than as a route map to policy change. We remain committed to creating an environment, culture, and infrastructure that supports engagement as well as it supports research: while there is still some way to go, the stories on the following pages are encouraging evidence that we are moving in the right direction.

**88%**

**OF VISITING FELLOWS REPORTED GAINING FRESH PERSPECTIVES ON THEIR WORK[4]**

**75%**

**OF VISITING FELLOWS REPORTED DIRECT IMPACT ON POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

**100%**

**OF HOSTS REPORTED DIRECT IMPACT ON THEIR WORK**

**78%**

**OF HOSTS REPORTED INFLUENCE ON DEPARTMENTAL POLICY ENGAGEMENT PLANS**

[3] Duncan Green, "Where have we got to on Theories of Change? Passing fad or paradigm shift?", From Poverty to Power (blog), 16 April 2015, https://frompoverty.oxfam.org.uk/where-have-we-got-to-on-theories-of-change-passing-fad-or-paradigm-shift/

[4] Source: OPEN Visiting Fellowship 2026 evaluations. Responses: 8 of 9 Fellows; 9 of 9 Hosts.

‘The opportunity to host an OPEN Visiting Fellow from the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office has changed how we think about the connection between historical research and foreign policy, and has been hugely helpful in supporting our thinking about future impact strategies.’

**DR JENNIFER ALTEHENGER | FACULTY OF HISTORY**



‘Participating in OPEN’s learning and development events have really opened my eyes to the impact that our research can have. The OPEN Alert has ensured we’ve been aware of many more opportunities, and we’ve integrated monitoring and evaluation more effectively within our work and our strategy. As a result, we engaged more widely and purposefully – and have been able to contribute to and inform the AI and data strategies of Cancer Research UK and Kidney Research UK.’

**DR CHARLOTTE GEORGE | RADCLIFFE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE**



‘My OPEN Visiting Fellowship, hosted by the Government Outcomes Lab, created a fantastic space to develop my thinking on how we implement a whole raft of policy changes effectively. It brought new perspectives, connected me with researchers and research that I hadn’t encountered before, and definitely influenced my work.’

**SAM ROWBURY | CABINET OFFICE**



‘Policy engagement has long been vital to our work – but OPEN gives valuable legitimacy to this effort. The chance to host a visiting fellow last year has since only deepened that legitimacy. It’s raised my profile within the department and more widely. It’s also helped us build skills and capacity, widened our networks, and prompted more colleagues to get involved, including through taking up placements.’

**PROFESSOR SARA SHAW | DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY CARE HEALTH SCIENCES**



## CASE STUDIES

### The value of an OPEN mind: a Fellowship bears fruit

"The most significant impact of OPEN has been changing how I think. Through the Visiting Fellowship and subsequent collaboration with the Centre on Skills, Knowledge, and Organisational Performance, I moved beyond seeing policy engagement primarily as the dissemination of research findings and began thinking much more practically about the importance of relationships, trust, timing, co-development and sustained engagement. This has influenced how I approach policymaking, stakeholder engagement and evidence-gathering, and given me a lasting framework for thinking about how evidence can meaningfully influence policy and practice. My colleagues, too, gained access to a wider range of academic expertise, challenge, and insight on complex policy issues.



I recently moved from the Department for Education into a regional government role, and I'm already drawing on the lessons from my Fellowship. The combined authority where I now work is still a relatively new organisation, and I am helping to support how it develops relationships with universities across the region.

**DR HELEN TATTAM | EAST MIDLANDS COMBINED COUNTY AUTHORITY**

### Informing Europe's approach to human rights and migration

"Last year, the UK engaged in diplomatic efforts to secure support for a principled and international approach to restoring order to the immigration system, while reaffirming a shared commitment to the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).

In the context of negotiations on a political declaration on the ECHR and migration by foreign ministers from the 46 Council of Europe (CoE) member states, in my role at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, I was fortunate to be able to take up an OPEN Visiting Fellowship, hosted by The Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre (PEC). We took this opportunity to co-convene in Oxford relevant colleagues from across Whitehall, as well as leading academic experts, for candid exchange on the reform process. Discussions were informed by research co-produced with the PEC, highlighting the legal issues and interpretative questions in the jurisprudence. The roundtable helped ensure the government team went into negotiations with a richer analytical background informed by leading ECHR academics and practitioners. The declaration will help guide the work of the CoE as well as that of national authorities and domestic courts.

**STEVEN MALBY | FOREIGN, COMMONWEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**



# CREATING LASTING CONNECTIONS

Policy engagement is often considered – correctly – as a form of knowledge exchange. But too narrow a focus on that process can lead to linear and transactional thinking, and risks overlooking the inherent value of relationships.

These, after all, are the context in which we build trust, pool our existing knowledge and combine it with new evidence, insights and perspectives to create new knowledge and new possibilities. Creating spaces and opportunities for research and policy professionals to cultivate or deepen mutually beneficial relationships – and to share them – therefore remains central to our programming. This year our award-holders, visiting fellows, peer mentors, and others invested in more than 50 partnerships (See Figure 1 below). Others have shared updates on relationships seeded in previous years that continue to endure and bear fruit.

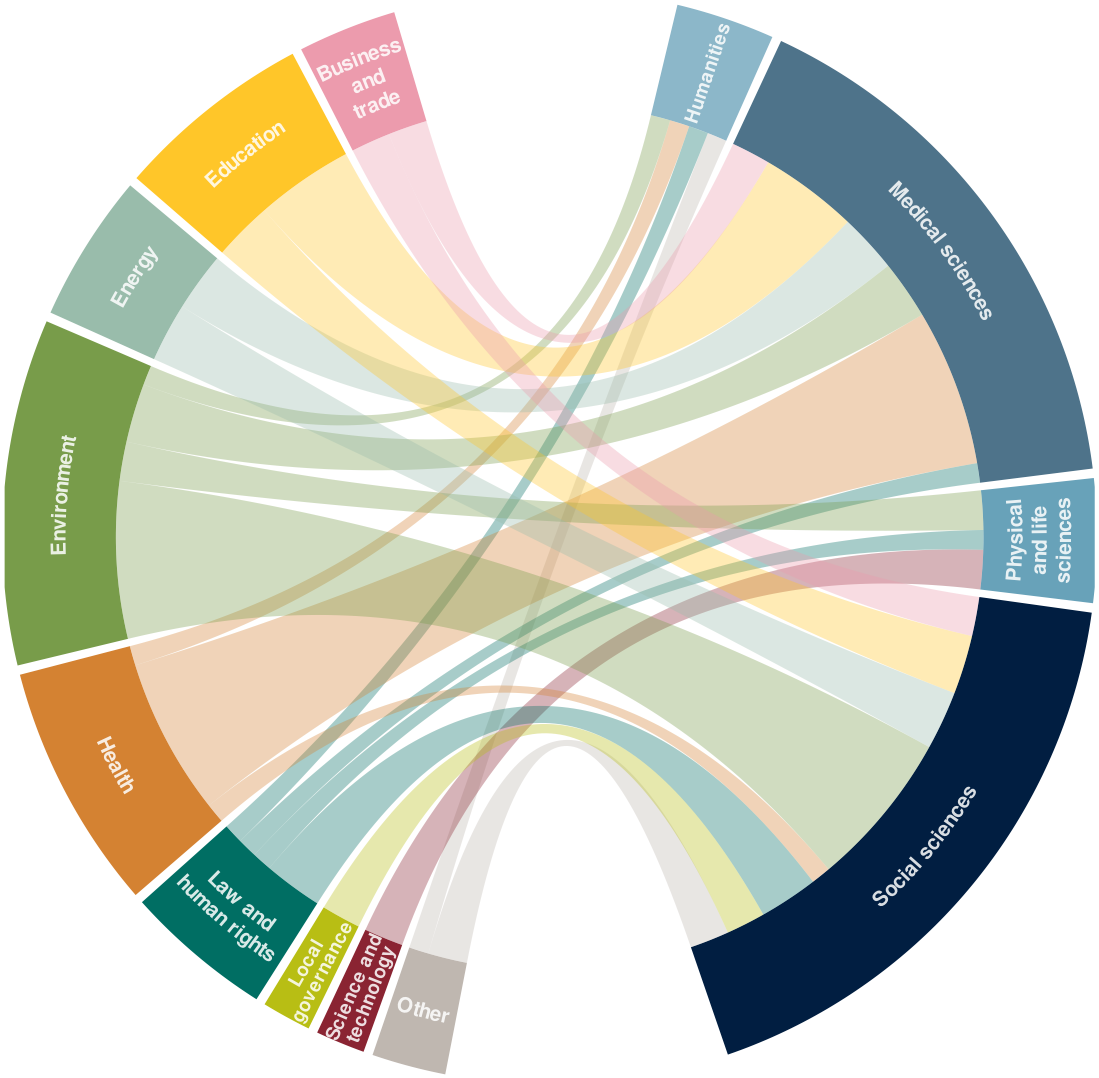



Figure 1: this year, OPEN supported 55 partnerships across a range of different policy areas (left) and research disciplines (right).

'My OPEN peer mentor and I have continued to meet for nearly a year longer than planned. We've refreshed our objectives and built on a really strong relationship to deepen our understanding of the different fields we work in. This is helping me shape my career goals and work towards them, and has given me a much better understanding of working with academics, enabling me to steer colleagues to engage more and with greater confidence. As a result, we're engaging more effectively, and using this to shape our agenda and advice to ministers.'

**KATE JARMAN | DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION**

'Policy engagement is central to our efforts to ensure the best science translates into practical, equitable solutions that strengthen preparedness for future pandemics. In the UK, this includes informing parliamentary scrutiny - for example, the latest inquiry into the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's approach to higher education and research partnerships, which we learned about from The OPEN Alert. We also need to invest in relationships ahead of any crisis: thanks to an OPEN Visiting Fellowship last year, we now have better connectivity with biosecurity experts across Whitehall.'



**DR ALICE NORTON**
**PANDEMIC SCIENCES INSTITUTE**



'Achieving circularity in space battery systems depends not only on technological innovation, but also on economic viability, business models, standards, policy, and regulation. In June, with support from OPEN, the Faraday Institution, Satellite Applications Catapult and the Henry Royce Institute, we were able to bring together in Oxford experts from government, multilaterals and industry, as well as academia, to build consensus on these challenges and identify opportunities for collaboration to help tackle them. This workshop sparked several new relationships, deepened others, and has subsequently shaped joint funding proposals.'



**DR YIGE SUN**
**DEPARTMENT OF MATERIALS**

## CASE STUDIES

### Peer review: briefing parliamentarians on the UK's access to frontier AI

In July, with support from OPEN, the team behind the Oxford Martin AI Governance Initiative had the chance during Evidence Week to brief MPs, peers, and parliamentary staff on how the UK can secure sovereign access to frontier AI. Some wanted to understand the UK's position in the rapidly evolving global AI landscape, while others were interested in implications for national security, economic growth, infrastructure, skills, or international partnerships.

'Perhaps the most valuable outcome was the relationships that began there. Many conversations concluded with an exchange of contact details and an invitation to continue our discussion. The event was a reminder that effective policy engagement is not simply about communicating research findings – it's about listening, responding to the questions that matter most to policymakers, and building the relationships that enable evidence to inform policy over time.



**SAMI WYMES | DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING SCIENCE**

### Beyond mentoring: informing multilateral approaches to environmental resilience

The OPEN Peer Mentoring Scheme introduced me to researchers working across a wide range of disciplines and helped my peer mentor and me identify some common obstacles at the research-policy interface. These included identifying the most effective mechanisms for engaging government on specific policy issues, as well as research timelines that do not always align neatly with the pace of policy development.

'Building on these insights, and supported via the OPEN Workshops Fund, we held an evidence-sharing roundtable with both researchers and UK negotiators as part of preparations for the seventh UN Environmental Assembly. This turned out to be a very effective format for early, open exchange with researchers that enabled us to question the latest evidence and discuss areas of contention, strengthening our understanding of the topics subsequently debated during the Assembly.

**HEAD OF UN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME NEGOTIATIONS AND CROSS-CUTTING POLICY | DEFRA**



## What's in a Fellowship?

Through the OPEN Visiting Fellowship, I was able to work closely with colleagues at the University to create opportunities for two-way learning, including delivering a guest lecture on policy development and research impact, and hosting a world café event on how Neighbourhood Health Services can better support people with complex health and care needs. These activities brought together colleagues from the Department of Health and Social Care, NHS England, and academia to explore shared challenges, exchange ideas, and identify opportunities for future collaboration.

'I enormously valued the chance to engage with "wicked" policy issues from new perspectives. The Fellowship created space to step back from immediate delivery pressures, reflect on longer-term challenges, and learn from people with different expertise, experiences, and ways of thinking. It strengthened my understanding of how academic research can inform policy, while also helping researchers better understand the realities of policy development and implementation. Above all, I have valued the relationships formed through the Fellowship and the sense that we have planted the foundations for ongoing collaboration long after the formal programme has ended.



**LOUISE JORDAN**
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE**

'Without OPEN and the support of the Policy Engagement Team, I would not have forged the ongoing partnership I now have, which has opened up a world of policy engagement for me.'

*Research professional, Humanities Division*

'The chance to convene key AI and copyright specialists from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport at the Bodleian was invaluable: we've found new funding to extend the visiting fellowship and deepen these relationships.'

*Research professional, Gardens, Libraries and Museums*



# OUR AWARD-HOLDERS

## Visiting Fellows

**Amy Allen** (Department for Education); hosted by the Department of Experimental Psychology

**Charlie Podschies** (NHS England); hosted by the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit in the Nuffield Department of Population Health

**Dr Diogo Martins (**Wellcome); hosted by the Pandemic Sciences Institute

**Emily Mayhew (**Department for Culture, Media and Sport); hosted by the Bodleian Libraries

**John Lunan (**Home Office); hosted by the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society

**Louise Jordan (**Department for Health and Social Care); hosted by the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences

**Sam Rowbury** (Cabinet Office); hosted by the Government Outcomes Lab in the Blavatnik School of Government

**Dr Steven Malby (**Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office); hosted by the Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre

**Dr Thanuja Galhena** (Department for Business and Trade); hosted by the Department of Materials

## Public Policy Challenge Fund

**Border malaria in the Asia-Pacific region:** Professor Richard Maude (Nuffield Department of Medicine) and Sarthak Das (Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance)

**Moving towards death penalty abolition in states that do not execute:** Carolyn Hoyle and Daniel Cullen (Faculty of Law), Matthew Goldberg (World Coalition Against the Death Penalty), and Parvais Jabbar (The Death Penalty Project)

**Organ transplantation law reform in Mexico:** César Palacios-González (Uehiro Oxford Institute) and Patricio Javier Santillán Doherty (Comisión Nacional de Bioética)

**Technology-facilitated gender-based violence in the age of AI:** Shazia Choudhry (Faculty of Law), Aincre Evans (Faculty of History) and Sheila Minkah-Premo (LAWA-Ghana)

**UK flood resilience in a changing climate:** Linda Speight (School of Geography and the Environment) and the UK Flood Hydrology Roadmap Governance Board

## OPEN Seed Fund

**Applying behavioural science to biodiversity policy in Japan:** Diogo Gaspar Verissimo (School of Geography and the Environment) and Takahiro Kubo (National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan)

**Bridging research and policy on men's health and wellbeing:** Melinda Mills and Vincent Straub (Nuffield Department of Population Health), and Nick Isles (Centre for Policy Research on Men and Boys)

**Developing evidence-based sustainable maternity care policies:** Amelia Hawbaker (Saïd Business School) and the Greener NHS Programme

**Early infection protection for winter impact:** Stuart Faulkner (Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences), Hugh McKinney (All Party Parliamentary Group for Respiratory Health) and the Centre for Applied Respiratory Research, Innovation and Impact (CARRii)

**Estimating the health and economic burden of antimicrobial resistance in Kyrgyzstan and Malawi:** Koen Pouwels and Zlatina Dobreva-Jackson (Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences) and Silvia Bertagnolio (World Health Organization)

**Forests For Resilience (F4R): science into policy:** Ellen Dyer (School of Geography and the Environment) and Chouaïbou Nchoutpouen (Conference of Ministers in charge of forests of Central Africa (COMIFAC))

**Open source modelling for net zero policymaking:** Jennifer Castle and Jonas Kurle (Department of Economics), Moritz Schwarz (Technical University Berlin) and the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

**Operationalising just transitions in European climate and energy policy:** Radhika Khosla and Gustė Gurcinaite (School of Geography and the Environment), and Tadhg O'Brian (Directorate General for Energy, European Commission)

**Generative AI Product Safety Standards for education:** Sara Ratner (Department of Education) and Department for Education

**Research, policy, and practice: verification, AI, and information integrity:** Mohsen Mosleh (Oxford Internet Institute) and Naomi Miyashita (United Nations Department of Peace Operations)

**Scenes from the fields: applying participatory visual methods to co-design contemporary policy:** Jennifer Dodsworth and Rachel Lasko (School of Geography and the Environment) and Timothy Martin

(Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs)

**Strengthening policy pathways for epilepsy and maternal health in Nepal:** Anna Minarik and Arjune Sen (Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences), and Deepesha Silpakar and Mahesh Maskey (Nepal Public Health Foundation)

**UK visitor visa policy: implications for trade and investment:** Valentina Antonaccio, Thomas Youngman and Doyne Farmer (School of Geography and the Environment), and Robin Ferdous and Rob Leck (Department for Business and Trade)

## OPEN Workshops

**Circular batteries in space:** Department of Materials, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, UK Space Agency, European Space Agency, and European Commission Joint Research Centre

**Doctors and teachers: retaining a well workforce:** Department of Education, Nuffield Department of Medicine, Department for Education, General Medical Council and NHS England

**Raising integrity in carbon and nature markets:** School of Geography and the Environment, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

**United Nations Environmental Assembly evidence roundtable pilot:** School of Geography and the Environment and Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

# OUR TEAM

## Steering Group

**Professor Alexander Betts**
Pro-Vice-Chancellor for External Engagement, Sport, and Community

**Dr Alice Norton**
Lead of PSI Policy and Practice Research Group, Pandemic Sciences Institute, Nuffield Department of Medicine

**Beth Hogben**
Head, Mid-Career Scientists Programme, Government Office for Science

**Professor Deirdre Hollingsworth**
Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, Centre for Global Health Research, Nuffield Department of Medicine

**Professor Dame E.J. Milner-Gulland**
Director, Interdisciplinary Centre for Conservation Science, Department of Biology

**Professor Emily Jones**
Director, Case Centre on Public Leadership, Blavatnik School of Government

**Dr Isang Awah**
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**Dr Jacqueline Broadhead (Chair)**
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