

ESRC PhD Studentship, School of Applied Social Science, University of Stirling

Institutional innovation and the housing pathways of young householders on Scottish Hebridean Islands

Supervisors: Dr Madhu Satsangi and Professor Douglas Robertson, in collaboration with the Rural Housing Service.

Closing Date: May 3rd, 2013

Research summary

This research will critically examine the applicability of the 'housing pathway' concept to the housing opportunities and decisions of young householders on Scottish Hebridean islands. These opportunities will be examined in light of the research evidence that the islands comprise particularly constrained rural housing markets and with specific reference to *Our Island Home*, a three-year programme of innovations in housing supply for young islanders (http://www.ruralhousingscotland.org/Rural_Housing_Service/Our_Island_Home.html). The research will make a new contribution to the literature through its focus on neo-feudal, island environments. The research methods will include documentary analysis and semi-structured interviews and invite innovation in data gathering techniques from young islanders participating in this housing supply innovation. It is anticipated that the research will be communicated to academic audiences via conference presentations and refereed journal submissions. Further, the research has direct policy/practice outcomes as it allows the project partners, the Rural Housing Service, a means of reflexive engagement through providing an independent commentary on project implementation. As a consequence, it is anticipated that dissemination will also engage with a wider policy and practice audience.

Applicants

This is a 3-year research award from the ESRC DTC, commencing in October 2013. A criterion for receipt of this award is to have Masters level social science research training from

- Either a MSc in social science research methods
- Or another Masters qualification together with appropriate research experience.

ESRC has residential criteria for awards, shown at <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/funding-and-guidance/guidance/postgraduates/prospective-students/eligibility/index.aspx>.

Your covering letter should show that you meet the research training and residential criteria.

The student will be expected to undertake field work on the Scottish Hebridean islands.

Applications should include a covering letter, a full CV and a 500 word summary research proposal. The proposal will be assessed for candidates':

- Awareness of relevant research literature
- Capacity for rigour and creativity in the design of research methods

Applications should be sent to:

Ms Linda Campbell,
School of Applied Social Science,
University of Stirling,
Stirling,
FK9 4LA
l.c.t.campbell@stir.ac.uk

Further information

You are invited to contact Dr Madhu Satsangi with any questions. Details: School of Applied Social Science, University of Stirling, Stirling, FK9 4LA, madhu.satsangi@stir.ac.uk, (0)1786 467986