

PARLIAMENTARY REPORT

Contract Number: UOAX0233

Title: Strengthening Communities through Local Partnerships

Contracting Organisation: University of Auckland

Allocation: Objective Five: \$XXXXXX; Objective Six \$XXXXXX

Programme Leader: Dr Wendy Larner

The Nature and Purpose of the Programme: The aim of this research is to identify the overall range, scope and effectiveness of local partnerships. There are three research goals: 1) What forms of local partnerships are developing, and which of these generate inclusive and sustainable economic and social control? 2) What roles do local facilitators play, and how can these be enhanced? 3) How do local partnerships facilitate access to networks, information and opportunities for communities, families/whanau and individuals?

Collaborations and Relationships with other Researchers and End-users:

Research outcomes are being achieved through a partnership approach between university researchers, local government officials and local facilitators. The University of Auckland has a formal research agreement with Waitakere City Council. Collaborative relationships have also been established with Christchurch City Council staff. The research has been further refined through participation in international and national academic forums, and in end-user forums both nationally and locally.

The Main Achievements of the Third Year of the Programme: National and locality mapping exercises have been completed and results are on the project webpage. Specific attention has been paid to the role of Maori in local partnerships and separate research reports prepared on this topic. Shared Learning Groups which brought together academics, policy makers, practitioners and community representatives to discuss issues associated with local partnerships were held in both Christchurch and Waitakere during the second half of 2003. The SLG transcripts are on the project webpage, and an Issues Guide has been produced for Waitakere. A major, invitation only, end-user workshop was co-hosted with Sustainable Auckland on 22 April 2004. Our attention is now focused on a CATI survey and case study research.

The success of the research: The project is receiving international and national attention from researchers, manifest in requests to contribute book chapters and articles and give conference and end-user presentations. The April end-user workshop was over-subscribed which shows there is also considerable interest in our findings amongst both policymakers and practitioners. An overview of this forum is on the webpage.

The significance of the findings: Not only are local partnerships becoming an increasingly normalized aspect of the delivery of social services, they have implications for the broader operations of government, even though the actual programmes themselves remain a minor component of government spending. Our research has highlighted issues of organizational change, political sustainability, changing labour force requirements, and governance mechanisms. In particular, we have been concerned to highlight the political and personal costs born by many of those who 'broker' local partnerships.

For further information please contact Dr Wendy Larner, Department of Sociology, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland, Aotearoa/New Zealand

Publicly available outputs

Refereed Journal Articles

Craig, D (2003) 'Re-territorialising health: inclusive partnerships, joined up governance, and common accountability platforms in Thirdway New Zealand'. *Policy and Politics* Vol 31 No 3 335-52

Craig, D (2004) Building on partnership: sustainable local collaboration and devolved coordination. A review of core issues, with on- the- ground examples from the 'Waitakere Way'. Paper submitted to *Journal of New Zealand social Policy*. Under review

Curtis, B (2004) Partnering: The New Face of Neo-Liberalism in New Zealand. Paper submitted to *Journal of Sociology*. Under review

Elizabeth, V and W Larner (2004) Children, Families/Whanau and Communities: Gender and Ethnicity in New Forms of Social Governance in Aotearoa/New Zealand. Article submitted to *Social Politics*. Under review.

Larner, W and T Mayow (2003) 'Strengthening Communities through Local Partnerships: Building a collaborative research project.' *Journal of Social Policy New Zealand /Te Puna Whakaaro* 20: 119-133.

Larner, W and D Craig (2004) 'After Neoliberalism? Community Activism and Local Partnerships in Aotearoa New Zealand.' In L Bondi and N Laurie (eds) 'Working the Spaces of Neoliberalism'. Solicited article submitted for a special edition of *Antipode*. Under review.

Larner, W (2004) 'Neoliberalism in (Regional) Theory and Practice'. Solicited article submitted for a special edition of *Australian Geographical Studies*. Under review.

Larner, W and M Butler (2004) Governmentalities of Local Partnerships. Paper submitted to *Studies in Political Economy*. Under review.

McIntosh, T and Curtis, B. (2004) Maori and Partnering: Engagements with Local and Central Government. Paper submitted to *Studies in Political Economy*. Under review

Roelvink, G and D Craig (2004) The Man in the Partnering State: Regendering the Social through Partnership. Paper submitted to *Studies in Political Economy*. Under review

Book Chapters

Larner, W (2004) 'Brokering Citizenship Claims: Neoliberalism, Tino Rangatiratanga and Multiculturalism in Aotearoa New Zealand'. In A Dobrowolsky and E Tastsoglou (eds) *Gender, Migration and Citizenship*. Fernwood Press/Zed Press. Solicited book chapter.

Refereed Conference Proceedings

Larner, W (2003) 'The 'Partnering State'?: New spaces and subjects of social policy.' *Proceedings of the New Zealand Geographical Society*. Hamilton: New Zealand Geographical Society Inc.

Reviews and Comments

Larner, W (2004) Review of 'Local Partnerships and Rural Development in Western Europe' (3 volumes). *Journal of Rural Studies* 20(3): 377-278.

Larner, W (2003) Guest Editorial: 'Neoliberalism?' *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 21(5): 309-312

Invited Presentations

Courtney M and T Mayow (2003) Wellington visit to range of government Ministries, presentations on Waitakere approach to partnerships (achievements/challenges etc), 19 August.

Courtney M and T Mayow (2004) Waitakere City Council Staff Seminar. Presentation to 40 staff on project findings to date. 25 May

Courtney M and W Knox (2003-04) Te Taumata Runanga - presentation to Maori standing Committee on process and findings from Maori research component 17 November 2003, 15 March 2004, 17 May 2004

Courtney M (2004) Pacific Islands Advisory Board. Presentation on Waitakere Pacific partnerships component 17 March 2004, 21 July 2004

Craig, D (2004) Waitakere City Councillors' Workshop. Presentation and workshop with Councillors and some of Council's Strategic Partners on key findings from local research to date and implications for local government, Waitakere, New Zealand 12 July

Larner, W (2003) 'Headline' Local Partnerships in Aotearoa/New Zealand. Community Sector Research Forum, Department of Internal Affairs, Wellington, New Zealand 3 September

Larner, W (2003) Neoliberalism in (Regional) Theory and Practice. Keynote Address to 'Neoliberalism and Australia's Regions'. Institute of Australian Geographers, 11-12 November (Funded by the Institute of Australian Geographers Economic Geography and Rural Geography Study Groups)

Larner W and R Le Heron (2004) 'Beyond Globalization and Neoliberalism?' Department of Geography, University of Washington, Seattle, USA, 14 May.

Conference Papers

Elizabeth, V (2004) 'Shared lessons: Reflections on relationship building in a primary violence prevention project'. Society of Australasian Social Psychologists Conference, University of Auckland, New Zealand 15-18 April.

Larner W and M Butler (2003) 'Governmentalities of Local Partnerships'. Sociological Association of Aotearoa New Zealand, Auckland, New Zealand 9-11 December.

Larner, W (2004) 'The 'Partnering State'?'. Special session on Geography and Policy at the Annual Meeting of American Association of Geographers, Philadelphia, USA 14-19 March.

Larner, W (2004) 'The Partnering State?' Conference on Contemporary Governance and the Question of the Social. University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada 11-13 June.

Other Publicly Available Outputs

Butler, M (2003) Annotated Bibliography: Local Partnerships and Social Policy
<http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/lpg/resources.cfm>

Courtney, M and D Craig (2004) Waitakere Partnerships Issues Guide - blindspots and brightspots from partnership working in Waitakere. LPG, University of Auckland

Craig, D (2003). From the Wild West to the Waitakere Way: Snapshots from the development of community, local authority and government relationships in Waitakere City. D Craig, Editor: Local Partnerships and Governance Research Project Technical Report, June 2003.

Craig, D (2003) Partnerships Under the Spotlight - 4 shared learning groups in Waitakere held Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec 2003 (3 mainstream, 1 maori). Attended by around 140 different people. Reports from each published on the project website

Craig, D (2004) Regional and Local Partnerships and Governance Forum Plenary presentation, and 2 workshops on outcomes in a partnerships context 4 April

Craig, D and M Courtney (2003). "Partnerships Under the Spotlight: Major issues emerging from working in a partnering way in Waitakere":
<http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/lpg/conferenceproceedings.cfm>

Craig, D and M Courtney (2003). "Social Sector Decentralisation and Local Partnerships ~ Rhetoric, Realities and Next Steps for Waitakere".
<http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/lpg/conferenceproceedings.cfm>

Craig, D and M Courtney (2003)_"Strengthening Representation in Waitakere"
<http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/lpg/conferenceproceedings.cfm>

- Craig, D and M Courtney (2003). "Social Sector Decentralisation – Impacts and Implications for Waitakere"
<http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/lpg/conferenceproceedings.cfm>
- Craig, D and M Courtney (2003). "Partnership Agreements and Strategic Brokers: ways forward in Waitakere"
<http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/lpg/conferenceproceedings.cfm>
- Kelly, S (2004) 'The Significance of collaborative local relationships for Ngai Tahu Whanui from 1990-2002 to the future'.
- Knox, W (2004) Waitakere City Maori Community Research Report
<http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/lpg/WayneKnoxReport.pdf>
- Local Partnerships and Governance Research Group (2004) Local and Regional Partnerships and Governance Forum Summary Forum Report Back
<http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/lpg/doc/SummaryForumReport.pdf>
- Walker, A (2004) Overcoming the Neoliberal Legacy: The importance of trust for improved interagency collaborative working in New Zealand.
<http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/lpg/researchpapers.cfm>

ACCOUNTABILITY SECTION

Objective 4 – Local Partnerships in Waitakere and Christchurch Cities

100% achieved

The locality based mapping exercises have now been completed.

Outputs:

- Map of local partnerships identifying mandates, institutional location, governance arrangements, structure, personnel and funding of local partnerships in Christchurch City is now on the project webpage.
- Map of local partnerships identifying mandates, institutional location, governance arrangements, structure, personnel and funding of local partnerships in Waitakere City is now on the project webpage
- Technical reports analysing the participation and exclusion of Maori in local partnerships in Christchurch and Waitakere Cities have been completed. These will be integrated into a research report by Dr Tracey McIntosh by Dec 2004.

Objective 5 – Strategic Brokerage in Waitakere and Christchurch Cities.

90% achieved

Outputs:

- Four Shared Learning Group meetings were held in Waitakere in Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec 2003 (3 mainstream, 1 maori). These were attended by around 140 different people.
- Four Shared learning Group meetings were held in Christchurch.
- Discussion summaries for all the SLGs are on the webpage.
- A Plain English Guide for strategic brokers in Waitakere has been produced.
 - Courtney, M and D Craig (2004) Waitakere Partnerships Issues Guide - blindspots and brightspots from partnership working in Waitakere. LPG, University of Auckland
- Academic papers on the role of strategic brokers in particular policy areas include:
 - Elizabeth, V (2004) 'Shared lessons: Reflections on relationship building in a primary violence prevention project'. Society of Australasian Social Psychologists Conference, University of Auckland, New Zealand 15-18 April.
 - Lerner, W (2004) 'Neoliberalism in (Regional) Theory and Practice': The Stronger Communities Action Fund. Solicited article submitted for a special edition of *Australian Geographical Studies*. Under review.
 - Walker, A (2004) Overcoming the Neoliberal Legacy: The importance of trust for improved interagency collaborative working in New Zealand.

Objective 6 - Building Local Capacity through Local Partnerships

80% achieved

Outputs:

- A one day end-user forum co-hosted with Sustainable Auckland was held 24 April 2004. Approximately 55 people attended and participated in a series of intensive workshops. The workshop proceedings are on the project webpage.
- A report on skills and training requirements has been commissioned from Phil Harrington, School of Social Work, Auckland College of Education
- Evaluations have been collated for the 'headline' local partnerships. Key informant interviews are currently underway with strategic brokers in these local partnerships. Twenty out of twenty five interviews have been completed to date.
- A CATI survey which will examine the perceptions of local partnerships in Christchurch and Waitakere is in development.
- Academic papers on how local partnerships achieve their stated aims to enhance community capacity and develop more appropriate and responsive services include:
 - Craig, D (2004) Building on partnership: sustainable local collaboration and devolved coordination. A review of core issues, with on- the- ground examples from the 'Waitakere Way'. Paper submitted to *Journal of New Zealand social Policy*. Under review
 - Lerner, W and M Butler (2004) Governmentalities of Local Partnerships. Paper submitted to *Studies in Political Economy*.
 - Roelvink, G and D Craig (2004) The Man in the Partnering State. Paper submitted to *Studies in Political Economy*.

Objective 7 – Strengthening Communities, Families/Whanau and Individuals

60% achieved

Outputs:

- Academic and enduser papers on the effectiveness of local partnerships in specific policy areas include:
 - Kelly, S (2004) 'The Significance of collaborative local relationships for Ngai Tahu Whanui from 1990-2002 to the future'
 - Knox, W (2004) Waitakere City Maori Community Research Report <http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/lpg/WayneKnoxReport.pdf>
- Enduser events and feedback include:
 - Courtney, M and T Mayow (2003) Wellington visit to a range of government Ministries, presentations on Waitakere approach to partnerships (achievements/challenges etc), 19 August
 - Courtney, M and T Mayow (2004) Waitakere City Council Staff Seminar. Presentation to 40 staff on project findings to date. 25 May
 - Courtney, M and W Knox (2003-04) Te Taumata Runanga – presentation to Maori standing committee on process and findings from Maori Research Component 17 November 2003, 15 March 2004, 17 May 2004

- Courtney, M (2004) Pacific Islands Advisory Board. Presentation on Waitakere Pacific Partnerships component, 17 March 2004, 21 July 2004
- Craig, D (2004) Waitakere City Councillors' Workshop. Presentation and workshop with councillors and some of Council's Strategic Partners on key findings from local research to date and implications for local government, Waitakere 12 July 2004
- Lerner, W (2003) 'Headline' Local Partnerships in Aotearoa/New Zealand. Community Sector Research Forum, Department of Internal Affairs, Wellington, 3 September 2003

Objective 8 – Local Partnerships and the Future of Social Policy

50% Achieved:

Outputs:

- Academic papers on the strengths and weaknesses of local partnerships include:
 - Butler, M (2003) Annotated Bibliography: Local Partnerships and Social Policy <http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/lpg/resources.cfm>
 - Lerner, W (2004) 'Brokering Citizenship Claims: Neoliberalism, Tino Rangatiratanga and Multiculturalism in Aotearoa New Zealand' In A Dobrowolsky and E Tastsoglou (eds) Gender, Migration and Citizenship. Fernwood Press/Zed Press. Solicited book chapter
- A one day end-user forum co-hosted with Sustainable Auckland was held 24 April 2004. Approximately 55 people attended and participated in a series of intensive workshops. The workshop proceedings are on the project webpage.
 - Local Partnerships and Governance Research Group (2004) Local and Regional Partnerships and Governance Forum Summary Forum Report Back: <http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/lpg/SummaryForumReport.pdf>
- Two further MA theses on topics relevant to the project are underway