

Qualifications

BA Economics

1983, University of the Witwatersrand

BA (Hons) Geography

1984, University of the Witwatersrand

MA Social and Economic History

1988, Birkbeck College University of London

MA Social Science Research Methodologies

1997, University of Manchester

Ph.D. Political Sociology

2006, University of Manchester

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Summary

For the last three years I have been working as an independent policy research and development consultant using the skills and experience I gained as a civil servant and through my studies to provide advice to public and third sector agencies.

I have more than 20 years experience of working in policy and strategy positions in the central Civil Service culminating in my post as National Policy Director in the Small Business Service. During this time I gained expertise in a variety of policy areas relating to employment, skills, business support and enterprise and honed my skills in analysing complex information and presenting it clearly.

My forté is in bringing together people and perspectives to conceive in depth analyses and produce workable solutions. My interpersonal skills are very well developed; I am empathetic and listen well, making me a first class interviewer and facilitator. I am quickly able to develop working relationships built on trust as people respond positively to my personal integrity.

I am a qualified social researcher specialising in qualitative research methodologies. My thesis research was undertaken in Northern Ireland where I studied the development of women's community interest groups and their impact on women's access to political power.

Specialist interests

- Economic regeneration and enterprise for disadvantaged groups
- Reducing re-offending through economic inclusion
- Promoting social enterprises for disadvantaged groups
- Equality and diversity (especially in relation to gender, sexual orientation and mental health)
- Community engagement

Examples of current work and successful projects (some examples of my reports are available on my website)

- Delivering a feasibility study on the setting up of an enterprise hub for **Enterprise Revolution** a social enterprise support based in the NE.
- Provided and an action research evaluation of the NOMS funded social enterprise pilot in **HMP Low Newton**
- Provided policy advice and facilitation for the community engagement and leadership development programme for **Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service**.
- Delivered a one year research and development contract for **ONE NorthEast** on behalf of the North East Business Support Simplification Transition Management Board
- Delivered policy advice for a one year project running an active learning network in East of England for local public and third sector partners of **East of England Development Agency**
- Delivered a feasibility study on behalf of **Acumen Community Enterprise Development Trust** for the creation of a community enterprise development asset in Easington Colliery in County Durham
- Completed a strategic review on enterprise support for disabled people for **Bradford MDC**
- Completed a strategic review for **Bradford MDC** of Northern Way funded projects aimed at helping people with disabilities to access employment in Bradford.
- Researched and produced guidance on delivery of graduate entrepreneurship support for Higher Education Institutions for the **National Council of Graduate Entrepreneurship** and **Higher Education Academy**
- Developed transnational partnerships and drafted European Union funding applications for **Train 2000 UK**, a Liverpool based social enterprise delivering economic development and enterprise support to women
- Supported the **National Council of Graduate Entrepreneurship** in the drafting of a successful application for European Union funding to deliver international Summer Academies
- Delivered an ESF funded research report on the needs of women entrepreneurs for the **Women's Electronic Village Hall** in Manchester
- Developed and delivered a project in the **Welland** (East Midlands) bringing together regional, sub-regional and local partners to join up marketing and delivery of local business support services.
- Managed the evaluation of the lessons learnt from the 150 **Phoenix Development Fund** projects

CV for Dr Vanessa Hogbin

Experience

Strategic Solutions April 2007 -

Self-employed strategic research and development consultant

Department of Trade and Industry 1998 – 2007

2005 – 2007 National Policy Director for Small Business Service (an agency of the DTI) with responsibility for West Midlands region and national policy for enterprise and regeneration, and enterprise for under-represented groups.

1998 – 2005 Various Team Leader posts with tasks and responsibilities including:

- Policy on Local Enterprise Growth Initiative
- Policy for aligning central government business support expenditure (which developed into the cross-departmental Business Support Simplification Project)
- Assessing proposals for development of Regional Skills Councils
- Policy on regional and local economic development, including input to Sub-regional review
- Project manager for re-contracting of national network of Business Link companies
- Quality Manager for the national network of Business Link companies
- Managing the pilots to transfer management of Business Link services from SBS to Regional Development Agencies
- Representing SBS as witness at Public Accounts Committee hearing on National Audit Office's report on joining up government

Departments for Employment, Education and Skills 1986 – 1998

(Including 1 year on secondment to Sheffield University - delivering customer research survey for BT's information service)

Worked in several different teams with responsibility for:

- Mergers of Training and Enterprise Councils and Business Links
- Skills development for volunteers
- Youth volunteering
- Sector skills councils
- Impact of Single European market on small businesses
- Employment policy for homeless and disadvantaged communities in inner cities
- Youth employment policy

Voluntary Work

Member of the Board of the Women's Electronic Village Hall, Manchester

Member of the Independent Monitoring Board for HMP Styal (Women's Prison near Manchester)

Women's Ambassador for Enterprise, North West Development Agency