

Aspect

Transforming Society Through
Social Science Innovation

Mobilising Social Sciences to Drive Innovation

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An Introduction – The nuts and bolts

- Aspect: A Social sciences Platform for Entrepreneurship, Commercialisation and Transformation (www.aspect.ac.uk)
- Collaborative network of organisations looking to leverage commercial and business opportunities from social science research in order to create impact and sustain research
- Aiming to expand the network from 2020 onwards

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An Introduction – The nuts and bolts

- Led by LSE, the network members currently combine 7 universities (Manchester, Sussex, Oxford, Sheffield, Cardiff and Glasgow) and an innovative social mission incubator, Zinc



- Funded by Research England CCF grant

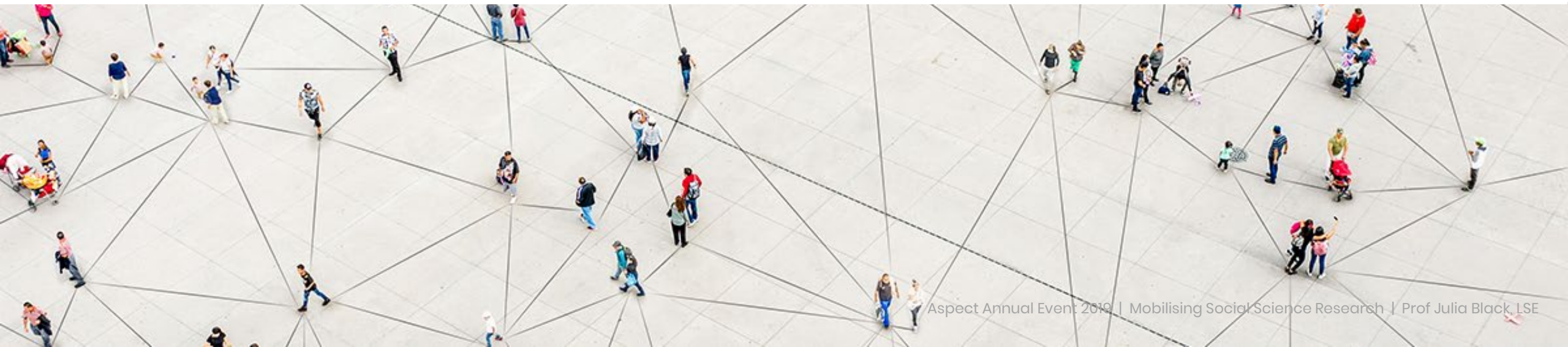


Research
England

Our vision

Aspect

- To transform the contribution that social sciences research and student entrepreneurship makes for the betterment of society, through collaboration with innovators, entrepreneurs and business leaders.



Our mission and objectives

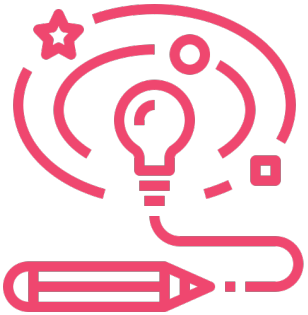


- We **mobilise leading social science research** to develop and share new methods and insights which can be used in private businesses and social enterprises.



- We **draw together** pioneering academics, businesses and entrepreneurs to turn ideas into commercial solutions and tackle the most complex societal challenges of our time.

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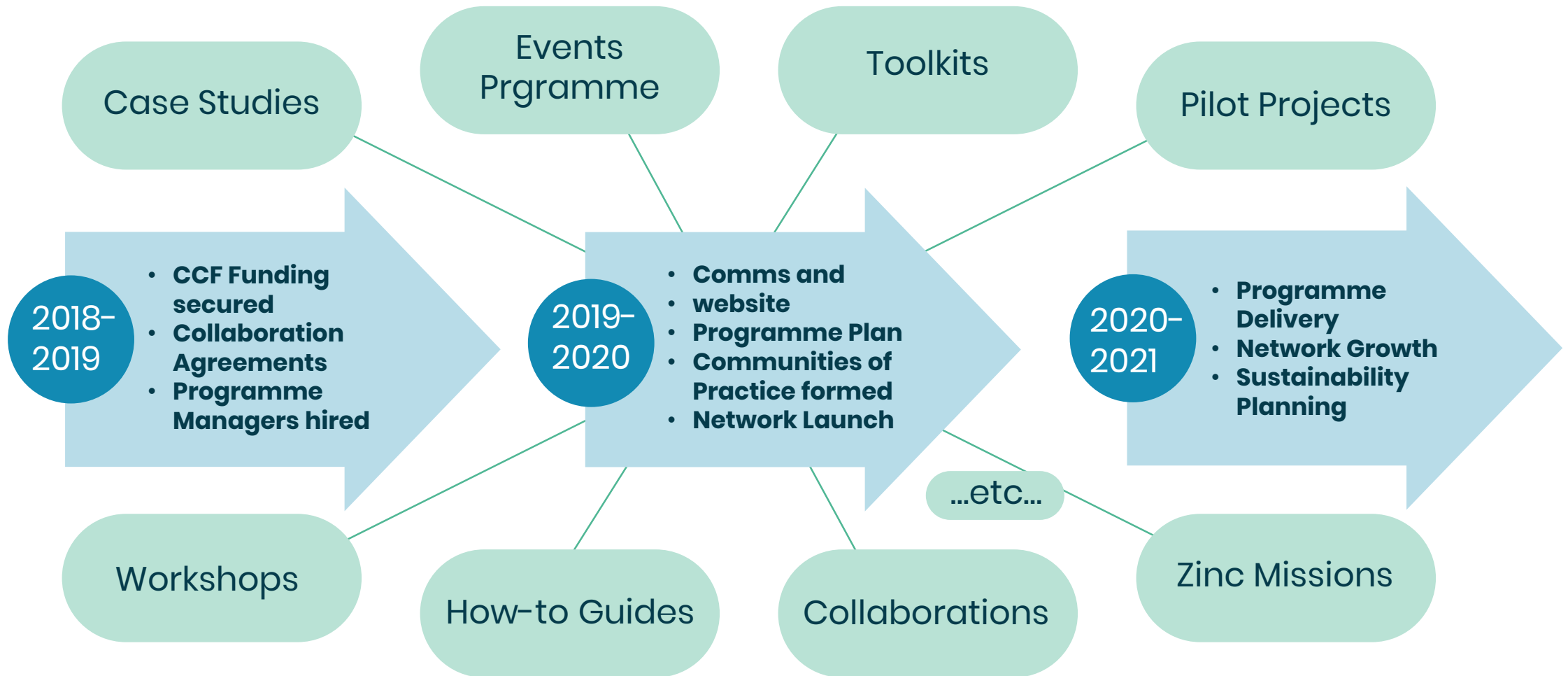


- We **inspire and encourage** commercialisation of social science research within universities



- We **support the development of best practices** to enhance the impact and financial sustainability of social sciences research through commercialisation

Progress and plans



Focusing on the challenges of environmental sustainability

- Social sciences are key to addressing the considerable challenges facing us today
- The solutions can only ever be partly technical
- Fundamentally, they require us to analyse, understand and influence human behaviours
 - Of individuals, organisations, businesses, societies, governments
 - In the design and operation of markets
 - In the design and deployment of technologies
 - In the design and operation of our built environment, including cities
 - In the management of our natural environment

And much more

- Social sciences research can help to design and inform solutions which harness the collective energy, expertise, resources and power of universities, entrepreneurs, private businesses and social enterprises

Our aims for today

- Stimulate debate, promote new interactions, prompt new collaborations
- With debates focusing on:
 - Combining profit with purpose
 - Learning from ‘green entrepreneurs’
 - Creating productive collaborations between universities and businesses which are rooted in social sciences
 - Sustaining research beyond the funding grant
 - Understanding the social impacts and unanticipated outcomes of innovation and entrepreneurship

And more...!