

## Research impact: marking a difference.

**Recognising the** 





work had also shown that followers' loyalty depended on their leaders' capacity to get things done, which had a significant effect on community cohesion.

Stafford brought to the project his expertise in the social consequences of separation within families and wider communities. He showed the importance of what the Chinese call 'social capacity': the knowledge needed to maintain networks of relationships, both locally and across long distances. Equally relevant was his work on Chinese collective identity and the moral imperative for community members to look after each other. Stafford's research



from the judges for having overcome "the huge linguistic and cultural barriers and the problems of accurately identifying communities and sub-communities".

The report's launch in 2009 enabled the Chinese in Britain Forum to re-establish relations with the Department for Communities and Local Government and its then Minister for Social Cohesion, Shahid Malik MP, and with the social entrepreneur Nat Wei, British-born of Hong Kong parents, who went on to advise the subsequent Coalition government on the 'Big Society'.

At the Department's request, the Forum convened a workshop for top policy officials. Communities Minister Andrew Stunell also responded by convening a roundtable meeting with members of the Chinese community at which they explored matters of common concern.

At a local level, the report was distributed to over 200 local authorities. Westminster City Council shared





*Charisma in southern Fujian and northern Taiwan.* His research interests are the relations between politics and religion and the anthropology of history. This was extended into comparative research on the transmission of great events of state violence, in China, Taiwan and Germany, resulting in a book: After the Event. Another of his topics of research is place in urban and rural landscapes, on which he published as editor and contributor, *Making Place: State projects, globalisation and local responses in China.* He is currently engaged in coordinating six researchers in four cities in China studying officials and residents in inner and outer city areas on the subject of community development, the planning of urban spaces and the increasing segregation of housing types and tenures. This is part of a large EC-funded project 2011-2015 on sustainable urbanisation in China.

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