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**CURRENT EMPLOYMENT:** Doctoral Researcher, IDS

**NATIONALITY:** British

**LANGUAGES:** Conversational French

**THEMATIC EXPERTISE:** Homelessness, social housing and health, gender, asbestos diseases, digital inclusion for healthcare

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## OVERVIEW

Heather is a doctoral researcher at IDS. Heather's professional experience and research interests span homelessness, social housing and health, gender, asbestos diseases, and digital inclusion for healthcare for marginalised people. Heather has 30-years' experience of working in homeless, social housing and research settings and has published research on environmental health and social housing. Heather's PhD focuses on the role of gendered social stigma in the lives of homeless women with multiple and complex needs who experience deep social exclusion.

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## EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

**2008 - 2011** MA in Development Studies  
IDS, Sussex University

**1991 - 1993** Postgraduate Diploma in Housing Studies and Test of Professional Practice in Housing  
University of Salford, UK

**1985 - 1989** BA (Hons) in Urban Studies  
Sussex University, UK

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## RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

**2019 – PRESENT** **Part-time PhD, TA at IDS, and Front-line Support Work in Homeless Services during Covid-19 lockdowns, UK**

**2016 – 2018** **Lead Participative Research and Development Officer, Seaview Project, UK**  
Good Things Foundation and NHS Digital, Widening Digital Participation (Homeless Pathfinder)  
NHS Digital Scoping Project: Investigation into access to digital inclusion for healthcare for the homeless population.  
CUPP Feasibility Study with Brighton University: Investigation into the feasibility to developing an Application to support access to personal health records and GP registration for homeless and insecurely housed people.

2014 – 2016

**Specialist Women's Worker & Drug and Alcohol Outreach, Seaview/Equinox, UK**  
Fulfilling Lives, Big Lottery funded action research project supporting people with multiple and complex needs

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## SELECTED EXPERIENCE

2009 - 2010

**Research Consultant and Research Assistant to the Directorate, IDS**  
Supporting Operations Manager with matters relating to the Institute of Development Board of Trustees  
Involvement in coordinating Time To Reimagine Development? Project  
Involvement in organising an institute wide 2 day bi-annual learning event, working closely with Robert Chambers OBE to incorporate his participatory methodologies in the organisation of the event  
Conducting research on asbestos in social housing with Dr Linda Waldman on behalf of the construction trade union UCATT.

1993-2003

**Estate Manager, The City Corporation of London**  
Management of 4 central London situated social housing estates (450 units), including a 2 year capital project to remove asbestos from a 92 unit housing estate with residents in-situ. 1 year secondment to the role of Operations Manager for the City Corporation of London social housing estates (1995).

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## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

Public Sector Focus (2017) '[Reaching the Furthest First](#)', September 2017 (accessed 10 November 2023)

Waldman, L. and Williams, H. (2013) '[Calculations of Risk: Regulation and Responsibility for Asbestos in Social Housing?](#)' *International Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health*, 19(2):91-103, DOI: 10.1179/2049396713Y.0000000022 (accessed 10 November 2023)

Waldman, L. and Williams, H. (2009) '[As Safe as Houses? Dealing with Asbestos in Social Housing](#)', London: Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians (accessed 10 November 2023)

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