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| ***Water risks and the UK planning system*** |
| **Project Outline** |
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| This studentship aims to explore how the UK prepares for water risks, with a particular focus on the (actual or potential) long term mitigating role of the UK planning system. There are a number of complex and contradictory forces at play here. It is increasingly recognised that water risks cannot be managed by the water sector alone: the rhetoric has shifted from guarantees of safety to ideas of resilience and shared responsibility between organisations and also the public. This acknowledgement of the structural and systemic nature of water risks seems to suggest an increased role for the planning system, as does the recognition that good planning and design can deliver multifunction spaces, for example, serving aesthetic, leisure and flood mitigation needs together. These pressures for greater planning control, however, are tempered by concerns about over-regulation and a proliferation of red-tape particularly in the face of pressures to build more homes. There are questions about how these forces play out in different locations with different development pressures applied. Examining one or more area of water risk (for example, flood risk management, pollution management or drought management), the project will explore how water risks are identified, managed and mitigated in case study locations. The research will focus on the interplay between the UK planning system and the wider institutional architecture for water risk management. |

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| **Primary supervisor** |
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| **The proposed project adds value to TWENTY65** |
| This research follows up on the highly successful ‘water and planning’ thought Leadership club in January 2018. An important role would be to bring a more planning-oriented member of the planning department into contact with water research. The project also has the potential to contribute to the development of an impact case study focused on the valuing of blue-green infrastructure.  |
| **Suggest titles and journals for two 4\* papers that you expect to arise from the project** |
| *(Not) planning for water: why the UK planning and development system fails to prepare for water scarcity (/drought/prevent pollution)**Multi-institutional decision making in practice: factors underlying successful collaboration in water planning* |