

## Innovations for low carbon lives: information sheet for Carbon Conversations participants

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### About the research

The Third Sector Research Centre is an interdisciplinary research centre, based at the University of Southampton and University of Birmingham, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, Office of Civil Society and Barrow Cadbury Trust. For further information, please see [www.tsrc.ac.uk](http://www.tsrc.ac.uk). Part of the remit of this centre is to explore how third sector organisations (including charities and community groups) are helping people to lead lower carbon lives.

### Why we want to work with Carbon Conversations participants

After researching many different types of initiatives to help people reduce their impact on the environment, we want to learn more about Carbon Conversations and how it works. In particular, we want to understand more about how participants take what they have learnt through Carbon Conversations and apply it to their daily lives. If there are areas where you find it difficult to reduce emissions further, we would also like to understand more about those.

### What the research will entail

In the recent online survey that was distributed to Carbon Conversations participants in the UK, you indicated an interest in taking part in an interview and home tour. We are now contacting you to ask whether you are still willing to take part. This would involve us spending up to 2 hours with you, usually in your home, so you can explain how you have (or have not!) changed your life as a result of Carbon Conversations. This might relate to things you do in your home, your place of work or to journeys that you make frequently. During the time we spend together, we will record our conversation (if that's OK with you) and ask to take pictures of anything that you feel is relevant.

### How the research will be used

The research for this study will be used to develop a series of publications including peer-reviewed journal articles, working papers (that are available via [www.tsrc.ac.uk](http://www.tsrc.ac.uk)) and policy briefings. We will also present this work at a range of conferences and other events. Part of the remit of the TSRC is to ensure that our research is relevant and of use to the third sector and we welcome suggestions on how we can do this.

### Research ethics

The integrity of our research rests on good ethics. So, this research has been approved by the University of Southampton, Faculty of Social and Human Sciences' Ethics Committee, in line with current guidance from the Economic and Social Research Council ([www.esrc.ac.uk](http://www.esrc.ac.uk)). This means that:

- Your participation is voluntary.
- Any information that you give us will be anonymised in all research outputs. This means that we will not share your name or other details that could identify you with anyone else and they will not be mentioned in any outputs from the research (unless you tell us otherwise).
- At any time during the research process, you are able to withdraw your participation.
- Data arising from this project will be kept securely. The anonymised data from this project may be archived at ESDS Qualidata (no-one will ever be able to identify you).

### Research team

If you have any further queries about the research, please do not hesitate to contact Dr Emma Hinton at [e.d.hinton@soton.ac.uk](mailto:e.d.hinton@soton.ac.uk) or on 023 8059 5859.

