

Supporting the Business Response to COVID-19: Survey on Technology Adoption
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Information for participants

Thank you for participating in this study, which will take place in the second half of July 2020. This information sheet outlines the purpose of the study and provides a description of your involvement and rights as a participant, if you agree to take part.

1. What is the research about?

This survey of businesses seeks to understand the extent to which the COVID-19 crisis has led businesses to adopt new technologies or practices, the impacts of these changes on the business, and to identify the type of policy that would help businesses through this crisis and into the recovery phase.

Information will be gathered from participants in an online survey. We will also seek to follow up with participants after a year to understand the longer term impacts of COVID-19 related disruption and change on the business.

2. Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. You do not have to take part if you do not want to. If you do decide to take part we will ask you to sign an online consent form (via the tick boxes below) as part of the online application process.

3. What will my involvement be?

Your involvement in this study consists of filling out this brief online survey, and a follow up survey after a year, should you choose to.

4. How do I withdraw from the study?

You can withdraw at any point of the study, without having to give a reason. If any survey questions make you feel uncomfortable, you do not have to answer them. Withdrawing from the study will have no effect on you. If you withdraw from the study we will not retain the information you have given thus far, unless you are happy for us to do so.

5. What will my information be used for?

We will use the collected information to write up a report summarising our findings, and for future research/academic papers. This work will ultimately help to inform business policies for recovery from the COVID-19 economic crisis.

6. Will my taking part and my data be kept confidential? Will it be anonymised?

The records from this study will be kept confidential. Your data will be anonymised – your name will not be used in any reports or publications resulting from the study. All digital files and summaries will be given codes and stored separately from any names or other direct identification of participants. Only the researchers engaged on this study will have access to the data.

8. Who has reviewed this study?

This study has undergone ethics review in accordance with the LSE Research Ethics Policy and Procedure.¹

9. Data Protection Privacy Notice

¹ Research ethics review must be completed and approved before you undertake any data collection. Details of the LSE Research Ethics Policy and Procedure can be found at: <https://info.lse.ac.uk/staff/divisions/research-and-innovation/research/research-ethics/research-ethics>

The LSE Research Privacy Policy can be found at: <https://info.lse.ac.uk/staff/divisions/Secretarys-Division/Assets/Documents/Information-Records-Management/Privacy-Notice-for-Research-v1.1.pdf>

The legal basis used to process your personal data will be public task. To request a copy of the data held about you please contact: glpd.info.rights@lse.ac.uk

10. What if I have a question or complaint?

If you have any questions regarding this study please contact the researcher, [Anna Valero](mailto:Anna.Valero@lse.ac.uk) on A.A.Sivropoulos-Valero@lse.ac.uk

If you have any concerns or complaints regarding the conduct of this research, please contact the LSE Research Governance Manager via research.ethics@lse.ac.uk.

If you are happy to take part in this study, please tick the boxes in the survey