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**Information Sheet for Participants**

**Energy systems**

**Information on the Research Project**

The project is being undertaken by a research team based in the School of Psychology at Cardiff University. The research is being conducted by Conor John and Steve Westlake. The principle investigator is Dr. Emily Cox.

The project explores new forms of energy, and people’s opinions on them. Information will be provided during the focus group, and participants will be asked for their thoughts. No prior knowledge of these topics is expected or required.

**What will your Participation Involve?**

Should you decide to take part in the research, your participation will involve you participating in an online focus group with around 8 members of the public from Cardiff and the surrounding areas. Information will be provided by the research team, and participants will discuss topics with one another.

The focus group will be held on Zoom. Members of the research team will be present to guide the discussion, and will be able to address any concerns you may have during the session. The focus group will be audio and video recorded.

If at any point you change your mind about taking part in the research you can withdraw at any time by contacting us at the details provided below or speaking with a member of the research team.

You will be paid an honorarium of £30 for your time. After the focus group, you will need to fill out and send a payment request form, and payment will be made within 2 weeks of sending this form (slightly longer for overseas bank accounts). The payment will be processed by the School of Psychology finance team at Cardiff University.

**Anonymity and Confidentiality**

All data will remain anonymous in accordance with British Psychological Society (BPS) “Ethical principles for conducting research on human participants”. Actual names will be changed to “aliases” after transcription. In addition, the aliases will be used by the project team in day to day discussion of the research.

If you have any complaints about this research or the way it has been carried out, you can contact the School of Psychology Ethics Committee at Cardiff University (contact details provided below). The data controller is Cardiff University and the Data Protection Officer is James Merrifield, [merrifieldj1@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:merrifieldj1@cardiff.ac.uk). The lawful basis for the processing of the data you provide is public interest.

**How will the data be used, and who will have access?**

The focus group will be audio and video recorded, and then transcribed. All names and identifying details will be changed, so that no participant can be identified. The anonymised transcript may be shared with members of the research team and other select researchers, and may be used in teaching activities. It will also be archived in line with Open Access Data guidelines. Participants may ask to see the data or request that it be destroyed at any time.

**Who is funding the research?**

This research is funded by the publicly-funded UK Research Councils. Funding has been allocated for the project for a period of 6 months beginning on 15 March 2021.

**The research team**

Conor John, Research Assistant and PhD researcher, Cardiff University

Steve Westlake, Research Assistant and PhD researcher, Cardiff University

Dr. Emily Cox, Research Associate, Cardiff University

**Contact details**

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