**Participant Information Sheet**

**Research project title: ProSHARE: Enhancing Diversity, Inclusion and Social Cohesion through Practices of Sharing in Housing and Public Space**

**ProSHARE** is a ‘JPI Urban Europe’ funded Research conducted by xxxx

**Before you decide whether to participate, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and feel free to ask me if you would like more information or if there is anything that you do not understand. I would like to stress that you do not have to accept this invitation and should only agree to take part if you want to.**

**Thank you for reading this.**

1. **What is the purpose of the study?**

The project aims to explore: 1) forms and conditions in which residents of socially mixed neighbourhoods share spaces and resources in housing and public space, and 2) the potential and limits of sharing for bringing diverse populations together.

The underlying assumption is that practices of sharing can reduce unnecessary space competition, enhance diversity in urban space through civic engagement and in the long term, contribute to social cohesion of neighbourhoods. This project seeks to understand practices of sharing within the R-Urban hubs located in Poplar, London and Bagneux, Paris.

"Sharing" means giving something to others, taking something from them, and borrowing, exchanging, or using something together, on a non-commercial basis. Objects such as tools or books, bikes and cars, can be shared, but also flats or places in the neighbourhood, such as community gardens, activities and knowledge.

By deepening the understanding of practices of sharing (resources) within these projects we hope to inform future community hub approaches and build cohesion through the shared findings in each community. The key learnings from this study will be used to inform wider thinking on sharing across Europe, but most importantly will directly inform the local approach within the R-Urban hubs.

1. **Why have I been chosen to take part?**

You’ve been selected through conversations with our local partner R-Urban. Who recommended your involvement given your expertise in the local community and involvement in important local organisations who practice sharing in the neighbourhood.

1. **Do I have to take part?**

Participation is voluntary and you are free to withdraw at anytime without explanation and without incurring a disadvantage.

1. **What will happen if I take part?**

You will be invited to a one-on-one interview with a research assistant working as part of the University of Sheffield Research Team.

The interview will be approximately 40 minutes long and will be semi-structured with some prompting questions, but the participant is invited to reflect openly on the role and places of sharing in the local community.

The Participant will be invited to reflect on their involvement within their organisation, as well as describe the neighbourhood being researched.

The participant will be invited to reflect on perceived hurdles and barriers to sharing within the community.

The participants responsibilities are to answers questions freely, there are no wrong answers this interview is an opportunity to expand the research frame.

1. **Are there any risks in taking part?**

Participating in the research is not anticipated to cause you any disadvantage or discomfort. No potential physical or psychological harm or distress is expected.

1. **What if I am unhappy or if there is a problem?**

It you are dissatisfied with any aspect of the research and wish to make a complaint, please contact xxxxx in the first instance. If you feel your complaint has not been handled in a satisfactory way you can contact the Head of the Department of School, xxxxxx

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If the complaint relates to how your personal data has been handled, you can find information about how to raise a complaint in the University’s Privacy Notice: <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/govern/data-protection/privacy/general>."

1. **Will my participation be kept confidential?**

Any data collected will be anonymised to protect all participants personal data in accordance with GDPR and UK Data protection. Any data will be stored on encrypted University Laptops and will only be used for the purposes of research.

1. **Will I be recorded, and how will the recorded media be used?**

Your answers will be recorded and analysed by the research team only, and all the records will be stored in a form protected by passwords or in a locked space.

1. **What type of information will be sought from me and why is the collection of this information relevant for achieving the research project’s objectives?**

The research wants to learn from individual experiences of sharing within the local neighbourhood. The aim is to learn what enables and inhibits sharing to take place between neighbours and what conditions can be changed to encourage more sharing to take place.

1. **What will happen to the results of the research project?**

Results of the research will be published in an academic context as part of the ProSHARE project, this will include the production of academic papers and policy advice.

1. **Who is organising and funding the research?**

The ProSHARE project is a European research collaboration between eight European cities (i.e., Berlin, Stuttgart, Kassel, Vienna, Uppsala, Stockholm, London and Paris), coordinated by the University of Kassel.

It is funded by JPI Urban Europe.

1. **Who has ethically reviewed the project?**

Yes, this project has been reviewed and approved by the University of Sheffield Ethics approval board.

1. **What will happen if I want to stop taking part?**

You can withdraw at anytime, without explanation.

1. **Who can I contact if I have further questions?**

Please see below contact details for research lead and supervisor.