

## **Project information: BUDDIE-PACK research on lunch packaging**

You are invited to take part in a research project on lunch food and drink packaging and lunch routines. Before deciding whether you would like to take part, we would like to explain why we are carrying out this study, and what taking part will involve. If you have any questions about the project we will be happy to answer them.

### **What is the purpose of the project?**

The University of Sheffield is working with partners in Europe on a project called BUDDIE-PACK, which will develop and test new reusable plastic packaging prototypes based on insights from research. As part of this project, we are interested in people's experiences and opinions about reusable packaging for lunch when eating out.

### **Why is it important?**

We hope the research will identify opportunities to encourage the use of reusable, sustainable alternatives to single-use plastics and reduce packaging waste.

### **Why have I been invited to take part?**

We are doing this research through businesses that offer [Takeaway Scheme A] reusable cups and containers for customers to borrow when they order food and drink to go. You have been invited to take part as a regular customer of one of these businesses.

### **What will it involve?**

If you agree to take part, you will be invited to an in-person focus group on campus that will last between 60 and 90 minutes. You will take part in a discussion with a small group of other people, which will include topics such as lunch routines, food and drink packaging, and your experiences and views on reusable packaging. This discussion will be audio recorded and transcribed, and you will be anonymised to maintain confidentiality. As a thank you, you will receive a £15 Love2Shop voucher at the end of the focus group.

### **Do I have to take part and will my participation be confidential?**

Your participation is completely voluntary; it's up to you to decide whether or not to take part in the study. All recordings and information will be treated in confidence and all information will be stored securely in password-protected files that only the research team and commissioned translators can access. Please feel free to

discuss this with us if you need to through the contact details at the bottom of this leaflet.

### **What will happen to the information I give?**

It is up to you what, if any, information you decide to share. Your personal details and any identifying information will not be shared. Data collected for this research project will be translated into English and analysed as part of a European study. Anonymised quotations will be used for illustration in reports, academic papers, and conference presentations, and a summary of our findings will be shared with [BUDDIE-PACK research partners](#). We are also required to offer the data we collect for archiving with the [UK Data Service ReShare](#). This archive is accessible only to approved researchers.

### **Who is funding the research?**

The project, 'BUDDIE-PACK - Business-Driven Systemic Solutions for Sustainable Plastic Packaging Reuse Schemes in Mass-Market Applications' is funded through the EU Horizon Europe scheme (grant agreement no: 101059923).

### **Has it received ethical approval?**

The research has received formal approval from the University of Sheffield and complies with the university's ethical policy on research involving human participants: <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/rs/ethicsandintegrity/ethicspolicy>

### **What if I have any complaints about the research?**

If you are dissatisfied with any aspect of the research and wish to make a complaint, please contact the research team (details below) 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 Geography, Prof. Jenny Pickerill: [hodgeography@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:hodgeography@sheffield.ac.uk).

### **For further information, please contact one of the members of the research team:**

Dr Kristina Diprose - Email: [k.diprose@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:k.diprose@sheffield.ac.uk) Tel: 07517829784

Dr Rorie Beswick-Parsons - Email: [r.parsons@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:r.parsons@sheffield.ac.uk)

Or visit the project website at: [www.buddie-pack.com](http://www.buddie-pack.com)