**Consent Form**

*‘Exploring Legal, Ethical, and Technical Barriers to Open Access Hubs’*

This study aims to understand the legal, ethical, and technical challenges in creating and maintaining open access hubs, with the goal of improving future initiatives in research dissemination.We seek to answer key questions about legal, ethical, and technical obstacles in open access hubs, and explore strategies for overcoming them. Our sample will include participants with expertise in open access repositories and relevant legal and ethical domains.

The study involves semi-structured interviews conducted via Zoom, with data analysed thematically to identify common patterns and themes.

Your participation and responses will be kept strictly confidential, and a fully anonymised interview transcript will be deposited in an open data repository at the end of the project.

For any queries, contact Jessie Sheppard at jessie.sheppard@manchester.ac.uk.

By participating, you agree to the terms outlined in this form.If you are happy to participate, please complete and sign the consent form below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Activities | Initials |
| 1 | I confirm that I have read the attached information sheet (Version 1, Date 02/04/2024) for the above study and have had the opportunity to consider the information and ask questions and had these answered satisfactorily. |  |
| 2 | I understand that my participation in the study is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason and without detriment to myself. I understand that it will not be possible to remove my data from the project once it has been anonymised and forms part of the data set.  I agree to take part on this basis. |  |
| 3 | I agree to the interviews being video recorded. |  |
| 4 | I agree that any data collected may be included in anonymous form in publications/conference presentations. |  |
| 5 | I agree that any research publications can include direct quotes of my responses in anonymous format. |  |
| 6 | I understand that a fully anonymised interview transcript will be deposited in an open data repository at the end of the project. |  |
| 7 | I understand that data collected during the study may be looked at by individuals from The University of Manchester or regulatory authorities, where it is relevant to my taking part in this research. I give permission for these individuals to have access to my data. |  |
| 8 | I understand that there may be instances where during the course of the research information is revealed which means the researchers will be obliged to break confidentiality and this has been explained in more detail in the information sheet. |  |
| 9 | I agree to take part in this study. |  |

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**The following activities are optional, you may participate in the research without agreeing to the following:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 10 | I agree that any personal data collected may be made available to other researchers |  |
| 11 | I agree that the researchers may contact me in future about other research projects. |  |
| 12 | I agree that the researchers may retain my contact details in order to provide me with a summary of the findings for this study. |  |
| 13 | I agree that any research publications can include direct quotes of my responses in identifiable format. |  |

**Data Protection**

**The personal information we collect and use to conduct this research will be processed in accordance with UK data protection law as explained in the Participant Information Sheet and the** [**Privacy Notice for Research Participants**](http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=37095)**.**

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Name of Participant Signature Date

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Name of the person taking consent Signature Date

1 copy for the participant and 1 copy for the research team (original)