**PCAN research: Exploring decision-making in response to heatwaves in the UK**

22 September 2022

Thank you for participating in this study which will take place October-December 2022. This information outlines the purpose of the study and provides a description of your involvement and rights as a participant, if you agree to take part.

The research is led by Dr Candice Howarth and Dr Sara Mehryar of the LSE Grantham Research Institute, the university leading the Place-based Climate Action Network.

**1. What is the research about?**

This research will collect time-sensitive data on responses to heatwaves, in the immediate aftermath of the 2022 UK heatwaves to overcome barriers to inclusive resilience to extreme heat in the UK. The research is funded by the UK’s Economic and Social Research Council’s Place-based Climate Action Network (PCAN) and the LSE Urgency Fund. Data will be collected via semi-structured interviews and focus groups with individuals involved in decision-making processes in responses to heat risk in the United Kingdom.

**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 a consent form (below) which you can sign and return in advance of the interview or sign at the meeting.

**3. What will my involvement be?**

If you agree to participate in this research, you will be asked to take part in an interview and/or a focus group about your experience and knowledge of the 2022 summer heatwaves. The interview should take up to 1 hour and the focus group up to 2.5 hours.

**4. How do I withdraw from the study?**

You can withdraw from the study at any point within 2 weeks of your interview or focus group taking place without having to give a reason. If any questions during the interview or focus groups 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 for the purposes of writing academics papers, a project report and for informing future policy and research.

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

The records from this study will be kept as confidential as possible. Only myself and the project team will have access to the files and any audio files. Your data will be anonymised – your name will not be used in any reports or publications resulting from the study. All digital files, transcripts and summaries will be given codes and stored separately from any names or other direct identification of participants. Any hard copies of research information will be kept in locked files at all times.

**Limits to confidentiality:** confidentiality will be maintained as far as it is possible, unless you tell us something which implies that you or someone you mention might be in significant danger of harm and unable to act for themselves; in this case, we may have to inform the relevant agencies of this, but we would discuss this with you first.

**7. Who has reviewed this study?**

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

**8. Data Protection Privacy Notice**

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”. The legal basis used to process special category personal data (e.g. data that reveals racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, health, sex life or sexual orientation, genetic or biometric data) will be for scientific and historical research or statistical purposes.

To request a copy of the data held about you please contact: [glpd.info.rights@lse.ac.uk](mailto:glpd.info.rights@lse.ac.uk)

**9. What if I have a question or complaint?**

If you have any questions regarding this study please contact the lead researcher, Dr Candice Howarth, on [c.howarth@lse.ac.uk](mailto:c.howarth@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](mailto:research.ethics@lse.ac.uk).

**PARTICIPATION IN THIS RESEARCH STUDY IS VOLUNTARY**

If you are happy to take part in this study, please complete/sign the consent information below.

Email:

I have read and understood the study information dated [22/09/2022], or it has been read to me. I have been able to ask questions about the study and my questions have been answered to my satisfaction.\*

* Yes
* No

I consent voluntarily to be a participant in this study and understand that I can refuse to answer questions and that I can withdraw from the study at any time within 2 weeks of my interview taking place, without having to give a reason.\*

* Yes
* No

I agree to the interview being audio recorded \*

* Yes
* No

I understand that the information I provide will be used forresearch publicationand that the information will be anonymised.\*

* Yes
* No

I agree that my (anonymised) information can be quoted in research outputs.\*

* Yes
* No

I understand that any personal information that can identify me – such as my name, address, will be kept confidential and not shared with anyone beyond the study team.\*

* Yes
* No

I give permission for the (anonymised) information I provide to be deposited in a data archive so that it may be used for future research. \*

* Yes
* No

Signature: Please enter your full name\*

Your answer

Please enter today's date\*

Date