

# Involvement Group Information Sheet

Please contact us if you would like to receive this information sheet in a different format or a different language. Email: [r.c.odonnell@stir.ac.uk](mailto:r.c.odonnell@stir.ac.uk)

We are a group of researchers from the University of Sheffield, the University of Stirling and University College London (UCL). We are recruiting people to join one of two public involvement groups (one based in England, and one based in Scotland and Wales) to help us with a research study looking at how the changes to the alcohol duty (tax) system in the United Kingdom (UK) affect people's alcohol consumption and health.

## What is the purpose of the groups?

The purpose of the groups is to bring together members of the public and researchers to share ideas and to help shape a research study about the impact of the changes to the UK's alcohol duty system. We want to ensure that people from different backgrounds and who have different experiences of purchasing and consuming alcohol have their voice heard so that we can make our research more relevant to the people it aims to benefit.

## Who can join the groups?

We are looking for adults (aged 18+) from different backgrounds and who have different experiences of purchasing and consuming alcohol. You do not need to have any qualifications or any knowledge of science or research to join the groups.

## Who is setting up the groups?

Dr Rachel O'Donnell (from the University of Stirling) is setting up the groups alongside researchers from the University of Sheffield and an experienced public contributor, Grahame Reid.

## What will I have to do as a group member?

Being an involvement group member means that you will be actively involved in shaping the study. **It does not mean that you are a participant in the study.** As a group member there are different activities that you can take part in. These include: attending online group meetings, providing written feedback on documents (such as surveys), and helping us to share the findings of the study. Most of the activities will be carried out online and not everyone will have to attend any in-person activities.

## How often will I have to take part?

We will ask you to take part in different activities for around 10 hours per year up until the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2026. If you decide you no longer want to be a group member, you can leave the group whenever you want.

## Will I be paid?

You will receive £25 in Love2Shop vouchers (which can be spent at a range of high-street shops and some supermarkets) for each hour that you take part (plus travel and other expenses where necessary).

## How can I sign up?

If you are interested in joining the involvement groups, please complete a short expression of interest form at this link: [https://shef.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cZJuB5clD8ay5uK](https://shef.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cZJuB5clD8ay5uK)

If you have any questions, please contact Rachel O'Donnell: [r.c.odonnell@stir.ac.uk](mailto:r.c.odonnell@stir.ac.uk)

## What will you do with the information I give?

The information that you give us will be handled in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This means that your information will be treated as confidential. We will store your details in a secure password protected computer database, which will be stored on a secure computer drive that will only be accessible to members of the research team and the Group Facilitator, Grahame Reid. Researchers will collect, store and use the data you have supplied for the involvement group only. All identifying details you have supplied will be destroyed when you are no longer part of the group.

## Where can I find more information?

You can find out more information about the University of Sheffield's Division of Population Health's Information Governance Policy, which complies with the GDPR, at: <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/scharr/research/information-governance/scharr-information-governance-policy>

If you have any further questions, please contact us. Email: [r.c.odonnell@stir.ac.uk](mailto:r.c.odonnell@stir.ac.uk)

**Conflict of interest statement: People who have personal or professional links with the alcohol industry (including current employment in the hospitality trade) or with alcohol companies (e.g. AB InBev, Heineken, Carlsberg, Diageo) will not be able to join the public involvement groups.**

