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Participant Information Sheet for Young People and Parents/Guardians

Research about urban space, transport, and young carers

Central University Research Ethics Committee Approval Reference: 2842696

1. Introduction

This research is part of the international project entitled ***Caring and Youth-centric Mobilities for Inclusive Urban Proximity*** (CAMINUP). You can find out more about it here: www.caminup.com

You are being invited to take part in our research. Before you decide if you want to take part, please take time to read the following information carefully, discuss it with others, and ask us any questions you have.

You can take part by yourself, or with your parent/guardian. If you are over 18, you may choose to bring a different family member or a friend instead.

2. Why is this research being conducted?

This project is about the everyday mobility of young carers in London. We want to learn about some of the places you usually go to, how you get there, and what if any difficulties you face in accessing these places. We will remove information that identifies individual people from the data we collect, and will share our findings with relevant organisations, including the London Borough of Hounslow. We believe this information will help organisations to support young people better, and make cities better for everyone.

3. Why have I been invited to take part?

You have been invited to take part because you have signed up in response to an advert, or been approached by the research team via one of our local partners.

4. Do I have to take part?

No, you don't have to. It is entirely up to you. You can withdraw yourself / your child(ren) from the research, without giving a reason and without any negative consequences. The deadline by which you can withdraw any information you have contributed to the research is 31 July 2027. After that date, your anonymised data will have been mixed with our other data.

If you decide to withdraw, the data that would have been collected will be permanently deleted. It is also possible to revise, amend or retract parts of the information you have shared with us without withdrawing from the research.

5. What will happen if I take part in the research?

If you agree to participate, we will ask for your/your parent/guardian's informed consent. This means you will either sign a consent form, or confirm verbally that you want to take part.

There are different parts in the research, and you can decide to take part only in some, in all of them, or not to take part at all. The parts are:

- A short online survey. This will ask a few questions about yourself, your care responsibilities, and how you get around in everyday life. This can take around 15 minutes to complete. You will have the option to sign up for an interview at the end of the survey. You can change your mind about this.
- A research interview. This involves meeting with a researcher, and discussing the topics of care responsibilities and everyday journeys in more depth. The researcher will bring a paper map to the interview to make it easier to discuss specific places.
If it is helpful, we can share a copy of the interview questions with you in advance, so you know what to expect.
- A group mapping activity. With a group of other young people, you will make a map of the local area and the places that are important to you. No personal information will be recorded as part of this.
- A workshop with people representing different groups – young carers, local government, and NGOs. We will send you an invitation to a workshop if you said you would be interested, but you can change your mind about this. At the workshop, approximately 10 people will work together in a half-day session to discuss how urban mobility can work better for young carers.

If you agree, some of this material (for example anonymised quotes) may also be used in research publications, reports, or activities with stakeholders (such as community events or policy workshops).

6. What are the possible disadvantages and risks in taking part?

Taking part in the research will take some of your time. You might need to fit an interview or activity around school, homework, work, care responsibilities, or other daily routines.

Many children and adolescents may find it helpful to share their experiences, but we understand that the subject matter may be emotionally or psychologically challenging at times.

Should you feel overwhelmed at any point, please know that we can take a break or stop altogether.

Any personal information you share with us will be kept confidential, unless someone is at risk of harm. All write-ups of audio recordings will be anonymized to protect your identity and the identity of other people you mention. You will be able to choose a pseudonym, which will be used to replace your name in the interview transcription, results, and publications. Nonetheless, there is always a risk that you will be identified by others in the research depending on what information you choose to share with us.

If we have reason to be concerned for the safety of anyone involved in the research, whether they are a child, a parent/carer or another adult including a member of the research team, we have a duty to break confidentiality to protect the wellbeing and safety of all involved. If we think there may be an immediate risk of serious harm to a child or an adult at risk, we will contact the emergency services or the police without delay and then notify the relevant University's Safeguarding Officer of the case. In cases where disclosures are made or we have concerns of abuse and/or neglect that do not present an immediate serious harm, we will refer to the relevant Safeguarding Officer in the University who will assess and, where appropriate, contact the relevant statutory agency for advice (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub for matters involving children and the Safeguarding Adults Service Consultation Line for matters involving adults).

7. Are there any benefits in taking part?

Taking part in this study can provide a meaningful opportunity for children and adolescents, parents, carers, and relevant stakeholders to reflect on and share their experiences of urban mobility. While there are no measurable, immediate personal benefits, it is hoped that this research will lead to results which can help better planning of urban space and urban mobility.

8. Expense and payments

You will receive an 'All4One' gift voucher as an honorarium for participation in a mapping session, interview or workshop. The amount depends on which activities you choose to take part:

- £30 for taking part in an interview;

- £20 for taking part in a workshop with local stakeholders;
- £15 for taking part in a group mapping session.

If you decide to withdraw during an interview or workshop, you will still receive a small compensation of £10 for the time you have already given.

9. What information will be collected?

Identifiable data (including consent forms and audio recordings) will be collected and stored in a secure location and/or on an encrypted device. All identifiable information in video and audio recordings will be blurred and anonymised and any quotes will be pseudonymized in all study materials, such as presentations, publications, and community reports. All identifiable data will be deleted by the end of the study period on 30 June 2028. Other research data will be stored for three years after publication or public release of the work of the research and only the research team named on this information sheet will have access to the research data.

10. Will the research be published? Could I be identified from any publications or other research outputs?

The findings from the research may be written up for academic journal publications, conference presentations, community reports and/or policy briefs. There will be no direct information about you such as your name, address, or the names of your family members. People would have to know you very well to identify you from the research outputs.

11. Data Protection

The University of Oxford is the data controller with respect to your personal data, and as such will determine how your personal data is used in the research. The University will process your personal data for the purpose of the research outlined above. Research is a task that is performed in the public interest. Further information about your rights with respect to your personal data is available from the University's Information Compliance web site at <https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/individual-rights>

12. Who is funding the research?

The research is funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council.

13. Who has reviewed this research?

This research has received ethics approval from a subcommittee of the University of Oxford Central University Research Ethics Committee.

14. Who do I contact if I have a concern about the research or I wish to complain?

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, please contact the Principal Investigator, Dr Anna Plyushteva, who will do her best to answer your query. Your concern will be acknowledged within 10 working days and you will receive an indication of how it will be dealt with. If you remain unhappy or wish to make a formal complaint, please contact the Chair of the Research Ethics Committee at the University of Oxford who will seek to resolve the matter as soon as possible: The Chair, Social Sciences & Humanities Interdivisional Research Ethics Committee; Email: ethics@socsci.ox.ac.uk; Address: Research Services, University of Oxford, Boundary Brook House, Churchill Drive, Headington, Oxford OX3 7GB.

15. Further Information and Contact Details

If you would like to discuss the research with someone beforehand (of if you have questions afterwards), please contact:

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