Participant information sheet

PROJECT TITLE: Australian Housing Conditions: A Data Infrastructure

HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE APPROVAL NUMBER: H-2020-069

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Professor Emma Baker

Dear Participant,

You are invited to participate in the research project described below.

What is the project about?

This research project aims to collect information on the housing conditions of 20,000 tenants and homeowners across all Australian states and territories. Researchers and policy-makers know very little about housing conditions. This data infrastructure will provide the knowledge base and comparison sample for national and international research, and allow better urban, economic and social policy development.

Who is undertaking the project?

This project is being conducted by researchers from the University of Adelaide, the University of South Australia, the University of Melbourne, Swinburne University of Technology, Curtin University and Torrens University led by Professor Emma Baker. The research is funded by the Australian Research Council’s Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities scheme in partnership with the universities.

Why am I being invited to participate?

You are being invited to participate in this research because you are over the age of 18 years old and you rent privately, live in community or public housing, or own your home either with or without a mortgage.

What am I being invited to do?

You are being invited to complete a short questionnaire that seeks to understand more about your housing conditions. We will also ask several questions about your household, household finances and health. You will also be asked if you would like to be contacted about similar research in the future at the end of the survey; this is completely voluntary and would only be by the named research team. The questionnaire will be completed online (you might have already received an email invitation).

How much time will my involvement in the project take?

The questionnaire is expected to take about 15 minutes to complete.

Are there any risks associated with participating in this project?

We don’t anticipate any risks involved with your participation in this survey. The time spent answering the questions may be a small inconvenience, but participation is completely voluntary, and you are welcome to opt out of the questionnaire at any point.

What are the potential benefits of the research project?

The research has no direct benefits to participants, however, we hope that the dataset produced from the survey will enable researchers and policy-makers to better understand and respond to housing conditions in Australia.

Can I withdraw from the project?

Participation in this project is completely voluntary. If you agree to participate, you can withdraw from the study at any time up until the submission of the completed questionnaire.

What will happen to my information?

*Confidentiality and privacy:* A de-identified version of the dataset will be lodged with the Australian Data Archive 12 months after the end of the project. All identifying information will be removed from the dataset. Your personal, identifying information will be stored separately from the main dataset. Only the research team will have access to your identifying information.

*Storage*: In addition to lodgement with the Australian Data Archive, the dataset will be stored by the research team on secure University and EY Sweeney servers for at least 5 years after the publication of research findings or public interest.

*Publishing:* Users of the dataset will publish analyses of the de-identified data through a range of channels, including in journal articles, conference papers, books and book chapters, and via contributions to mainstream and social media.

*Sharing:* A Data Descriptor paper will be published on the project website. Please contact the research team if you would like to be sent a copy of the report on its release.

Your information will only be used as described in this participant information sheet and it will only be disclosed according to the consent provided, except as required by law.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the project?

If you have any questions about the project, please contact the research team:

**Primary contact:**

 Ms Claire Morey

 Phone: +61 8 8313 0506

 Email: claire.morey@adelaide.edu.au

**Secondary contacts:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Professor Emma Baker | emma.baker@adelaide.edu.au  |  |
| Assoc. Professor Lyrian Daniel | lyrian.daniel@adelaide.edu.au  |  |
| Professor Andrew Beer | andrew.beer@unisa.edu.au  |  |
| Professor Rebecca Bentley | brj@unimelb.edu.au  |  |
| Professor Wendy Stone | wmstone@swin.edu.au  |  |
| Professor Steven Rowley | steven.rowley@cbs.curtin.edu.au  |
| Assoc. Professor Andi Nygaard | anygaard@swin.edu.au  |  |
| Professor Kerry London | [kerry.london@torrens.edu.au](https://research.torrens.edu.au/en/persons/kerry-london) |  |

What if I have a complaint or any concerns?

The study has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee at the University of Adelaide (approval number H-2020-069). This research project will be conducted according to the NHMRC National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research 2007 (Updated 2018). If you have questions or problems associated with the practical aspects of your participation in the project, or wish to raise a concern or complaint about the project, then you should consult the Principal Investigator. If you wish to speak with an independent person regarding concerns or a complaint, the University’s policy on research involving human participants, or your rights as a participant, please contact the Human Research Ethics Committee’s Secretariat on:

Phone: +61 8 8313 6028

Email: hrec@adelaide.edu.au

Post: Level 3, Rundle Mall Plaza, 50 Rundle Mall, ADELAIDE SA 5000

Any complaint or concern will be treated in confidence and fully investigated. You will be informed of the outcome.

If I want to participate, what do I do?

Please complete the survey either via the link in the email invitation that you received. Submission of your survey responses is considered as your consent to participate in the survey, and that you have read and understood the above information.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Emma Baker

Associate Professor Lyrian Daniel

Professor Andrew Beer

Professor Rebecca Bentley

Professor Wendy Stone

Professor Steven Rowley

Associate Professor Andi Nygaard

Professor Kerry London

Ms Claire Morey