



The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.



## UNDERSTANDING PUBLIC ATTITUDES TO POLITICS

### INFORMATION SHEET

This research aims to explore public attitudes to politics in the UK and how people come to form their opinions. Fourteen discussion groups are being held in different parts of the country, each involving up to a dozen participants. During these groups, participants will discuss their understanding of politics, how it relates to them, how they think the political system works and how it could be made to work better. Each group discussion will be recorded (through note-taking and audio recording). The transcripts will then be analysed by the research team who will be looking for patterns in people's attitudes to politics and ideas for change. The research is being conducted jointly by the Hansard Society, the University of Southampton and the University of Sheffield.

Before agreeing to take part in this research it is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it involves. Please read the following information carefully.

- Your participation in this research is voluntary. You can withdraw from the study at any time and can refrain from answering any question.
- The information provided by you remains anonymous. This means that you will not be identified in the results.
- All information you provide will be treated as confidential. This means that it will not be passed on to anyone else in any way that could identify you.
- The information you provide will be analysed by us and what you say might be presented as a direct quotation in a report or academic paper but not in a way that could identify you. The transcripts of the discussion groups may be lodged with an archive – however any personal information (e.g. names) will be anonymised.
- The data collected for this project will be stored by us on a computer network accessible only with the use of a password or in a locked and secure cabinet.

#### **Data Protection Act 1998**

Some personal data might be required in order to satisfy the research requirements (for example, we might need to contact you for further information and to update our project). Where personal information is collected it will be treated in strict confidence and your personal information will not be used in the results. Only aggregate analyses will be used for publication.

If you would like more information about the project you can write, telephone or email the Principal Researchers:

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