

Participant Information Sheet

Who are we and what are we doing?

We are researchers at the University of Edinburgh working on a project about woodlands in Scotland (Woodlands in and Around Towns). We would like to invite you to take part in this research study. Before you decide if you would like to take part it is important for you to understand why the research is being undertaken and what it will involve. Please take a few minutes to read the following information carefully.

What is it all about?

The aim of this research is to find out what people think of and how they use their local woodlands.

What are we asking you to do?

We need your help to understand what you think about the woodlands in your local area. We would like to take a group of local residents for a walk in the woodlands with two of our researchers. The walk will take about 30 minutes, and we would like to hear what you have to say about those particular woodlands. We are hoping to ask for your help in this on a few occasions (summer and winter) over the next few years.

How will the information be used?

We will use what we learn from you to identify the important things about the experience of walking in the woodlands. The information will help us to advise a range of professionals such as foresters, planners and designers to better design and maintain woodlands.

Weather and clothing

The walk is taking place in a woodland, so please make sure you have appropriate clothing and footwear for going outdoors. If the weather is poor please make sure you have with you waterproof clothing, waterproof walking boots/wellington boots, hat and gloves. (In summer: if the weather is sunny please apply some sunscreen and wear a sun hat).

Please remember!

- ✓ It is entirely your decision to take part.
- ✓ You are free to withdraw at any time for any reason.
- ✓ You do not have to give us a reason if you do not want to participate.
- ✓ You are free to change your mind after agreeing to participate.
- ✓ Anything you tell us will be kept strictly confidential and names will not be used in any reports that we write.
- ✓ Wear appropriate outdoor footwear and clothing.

If you would like to ask some questions before deciding whether to take part please do speak to us. For further information please contact:

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