

Gypsy/Traveller Accommodation Fund Evaluation

Participant Information (Residents)

Who are Diffley Partnership?

We are Diffley Partnership, which is a research agency based in Edinburgh. We carry out interviews and surveys as part of our day-to-day work.

The team working on the research are below:



Scott



Mhairi



Haley



Mark

What are Diffley Partnership doing?

The Scottish Government have asked us to carry out an evaluation of the up to £20 million Gypsy/Traveller Accommodation Fund so they can learn from it.

Your site successfully applied for funding, which is why we're keen to understand more about the changes have taken place recently (that were funded in part by the Gypsy/Traveller Accommodation Fund) and how you feel about them.



We are carrying out interviews with residents to see if the changes made have worked well for you and if they meet your needs. We're also interested in hearing about your experiences during the project and how well you've been kept informed and how much you have been involved throughout the works. We want to visit each site twice – once now and once later on (likely next year) to see how you feel about the changes now, and once you've had a chance to use the changed site for a while.

We will also be talking to other people involved, including Local Authorities and other groups to see what they think about how it has gone.

It is important that you have all the information you need about this study. This sheet has information about the study to help you decide if you would like to take part, so please read it carefully.

You will have the chance to ask any questions about the study before deciding whether to take part. If you'd like to know more, you can email or call us to ask. Our email and phone numbers are below.

What would I be asked to do?

You would be asked to speak to us (take part in an interview) that would take around 60 minutes. This can happen in different ways, depending on what you would like:

- We can come to your site and speak to you alone or with a group of other people from your community. This could be in a community space or your home. Please be aware that if you take part in a group interview, this will take around 60-90 minutes.
- We can also speak to you by phone or online (i.e. by Zoom or MS Teams) if you would rather.
- You can also ask for support taking part from a friend, family member, or MECOPP if this would help.

We would like to record your interview so that we can remember all that you've said and get it right. We will check with you before we start your interview that you are okay with this. Recordings and notes from the interviews will be kept securely by us and won't be shared with anyone else. All notes and recordings will be kept separate from any personal information like your name and contact information. All files (digital and printed) that have your personal information will be destroyed by the Diffley Partnership three months after the study has ended.



Since we want to speak to residents now and again in the future, you can choose if you want to be interviewed once, twice, or not at all. If you are happy to speak to us twice, that can help us to see how site changes have held up, or how your experiences have changed over time.

What topics will I be asked about?

During the interview we will ask you about your opinions on:

- The recent changes to your site
- What the site is like now, compared to before
- What the build was like for you, including what it was like if you had to move off site or not while changes were happening

What should I do if I want to be interviewed?

We will be visiting your site at an arranged date and can speak to you then. Or, if that date doesn't work for you, let us know and we can arrange another day, either in person or online.

If you are happy to speak to us, please email me at scott@diffleypartnership.co.uk or call me on 07587004215 and I can arrange an interview at a time that suits you.

If you want to speak to MECOPP about being there to support you on the day, please email info@mecopp.org.uk.

Deciding whether to take part

It is completely up to you whether you decide to take part. Your decision will not affect your services in any way.

If you do decide to speak to us, you can change your mind at any time before or during the interview. You also don't have to answer any questions that you don't want to, and don't have to tell us why.

If you decide **after the interview** that you don't want your information included, you can do so at any point up until a couple of weeks after your interview.

Why should I take part?

- Your experience of the Gypsy/Traveller Accommodation Fund project on your site is very important. This will help Scottish Government and others to learn what has worked well on your site and what needs to improve



- You will receive a £30 Love2Shop voucher for taking part. This voucher won't affect any benefits you might receive and we can give you a letter to say so.

Why might I not want to take part?

- The interview will take up some of your time.
- The interview might cover topics that are stressful to you, or you have strong feelings or emotions about.

If you do decide to take part, remember you can **stop the interview at any time**, and don't have to answer any questions that you don't feel comfortable answering.

Will anyone know that the things I tell you were said by me?

If you take part in a group interview, or ask someone to come along to support you, the other people in the interview will know what you say, but we will never name you when writing about, or talking about, this research. We may name your site when writing about the research, to compare what people in different sites have said.

Only the Diffley Partnership team will have access to this information, for the purposes of research and reporting. It will not be shared with anyone else including Scottish Government and your local authority. The **privacy notice** that goes along with this sheet has more about how we will protect your data.

What happens when the study is finished?

We will write a report for the Scottish Government which will be published online. We will also get in touch with you and other site residents to let you know what we found.

Contact us

You can contact Scott Edgar at scott@diffleypartnership.co.uk or call 07587004215.