

Participant Information Sheet: Gambling Health Needs Assessment (HNA)

Thank you for your interest in this research.

Public Health Wirral is carrying out research to better understand the lived experience of gambling-related harms in Wirral.

What is the purpose of the project?

We have been tasked with supporting the development of the Wirral Gambling Related Harms Health Needs Assessment (HNA). Part of this support involves understanding the experiences of individuals with lived experience of gambling-related harms in Wirral, including both those who have gambled and those affected by another person's gambling.

Who is running this project?

This research is being led by researchers from the Qualitative Insight Team in Public Health in collaboration with Jonathan Bennett (Gambling Related Harms Reduction Lead).

Who can take part?

You are invited to take part if you have lived experience of gambling-related harms (including gambling yourself and/or if you were affected by another person's gambling).

What will taking part involve?

You will be asked to take part in a semi-structured, informal interview. This can be online (via Teams) or in-person at a location that is suitable to you.

Will I be compensated for my time?

You will receive a **£25 high street voucher** as a thank you for your contribution.

How long will it take?

In-depth interviews will last approximately 45-90 minutes.

Do I have to take part?

Taking part in this study is voluntary, so you can choose not to participate. If you do decide to take part and change your mind, you can withdraw from the study at any time without giving a reason. After your interview, you will have 7 days to withdraw information you have provided in the interview. After this time, you will no longer be able to withdraw because data will have been anonymised and analysis will have taken place.

What will happen to the information I share?

We will take notes and, with your permission, audio record the interview (for note taking in case we miss anything). A report of findings will be shared with Public Health. The findings may be shared with other Wirral Council colleagues and partners working to improve services. They may also be published in the public domain, such as on Council websites. You will be given a consent form to choose how your information is used.

Will the information I provide be anonymised?

Yes, the information you provide will be anonymised. Researcher notes and interview transcripts will be anonymised ahead of analysis and reporting.

How will my information be stored?

Your information will be stored securely by the Qualitative Insight Team who adhere to Wirral Council's GDPR and Privacy Policy.

Identifiable information such as audio recordings will be destroyed within 7 days of the interview taking place.

This is with the exception of your consent form which will be stored by Wirral Council indefinitely.

Anonymised data will be stored indefinitely, to support transparency and independent verification of the research findings.

If you choose to share your contact details so we can contact you about future opportunities with the Qualitative Insights Team, this data will not be shared with anyone else and will be destroyed within 2-years unless you choose to later extend this time-period.

What if I have questions? If you have questions, please contact the Qualitative Insight Team by email: qualitativeinsightteam@wirral.gov.uk or jennifernew@wirral.gov.uk (lead researcher).

To submit a complaint or compliment, please visit: <https://www.wirral.gov.uk/about-council/complaints-compliments-and-feedback>.