



Participant Information Sheet: Member survey

Project Title: Articulating Value in Housing Co-operatives

Project Summary: Conceptualising and assessing the social value of housing co-operatives and examining how that value is generated.

You are invited to participate in a research study being conducted by Associate Professor Louise Crabtree-Hayes, Associate Professor Neil Perry, Associate Professor Emma Power and Dr Bronwyn Bate at Western Sydney University; Dr Sidsel Grimstad, Annette Maguire and Jeremy Niass at Newcastle University of Australia; and Associate Professor Wendy Stone, Dr Piret Veeroja and Nestor Guity Zapata at Swinburne University of Technology.

What will I be asked to do?

You will be asked to complete a survey that should take approximately 30 minutes of your time. You will be asked questions about: your experiences living in a housing co-operative; the activities that you participate in as a housing co-operative member; and your views on the housing co-operative sector including its strengths, weaknesses, and challenges.

How is the study being paid for? The research is being paid for by the Australian Research Council and members of the Australian Cooperative Housing Alliance (ACHA).

How much of my time will I need to give?

The survey is designed to take no more than 30 minutes of your time.

What benefits will I, and/or the broader community, receive for participating?

The research will strengthen knowledge about the economic and social value generated by housing co-operatives in Australia. The data gathered in this questionnaire will highlight issues that can enable us to compare the different kinds of benefits that different kinds of housing co-operatives tend to deliver. This research will help Australia's housing co-operative sector by clarifying an evidence base to justify funding and other resources for the sector and highlighting service delivery issues that the sector can address. You will also be given the choice to opt into a prize draw to win one of two \$200 Mastercard gift vouchers*.

* The gift voucher is in no way related to this research.

Will the study involve any risk or discomfort for me? If so, what will be done to rectify it?

The survey is anonymous. No personal identity information is being recorded and the only identifier is the housing co-operative to which you belong. The survey question that asks for the name of your housing co-operative is for use by the research team only and will be kept anonymous with only the university researchers having access to this information. All housing co-operatives included in the research have been de-identified and given pseudonyms, which are being stored on CloudStor. CloudStor has been designed by the Australian research community, allowing researchers to share and store data securely, providing password protection for data. More information about CloudStor can be found here: https://www.aarnet.edu.au/images/uploads/resources/A0377-CloudStor_Product_Sheet-Nov-19-FINAL.pdf The information on Cloudstor will be accessible only by

the Principal Investigators and Research Assistants on the research team; Associate Professor Louise Crabtree-Hayes, Dr Sidsel Grimstad, Associate Professor Neil Perry, Associate Professor Emma Power, Professor Wendy Stone, Dr Bronwyn Bate, Dr Piret Veeroja, Nestor Guity Zapata, Annette Maguire and Jeremy Niass.

How do you intend to publish or disseminate the results?

Research results will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you and the housing co-operative you belong to cannot be identified. Confidentiality of results will be maintained by anonymising your survey response, de-identifying the housing co-operative you belong to and assigning it with a pseudonym. Reporting of results will contain no reference to the locality of an individual housing co-operative or to the housing provider that is part of the Australian Co-operative Housing Alliance.

Will the data and information that I have provided be disposed of?

Please be assured that only the researchers will have access to the raw data you provide. After no more than 5 years the raw data will be disposed of. However, your de-identified data may be used in other related projects for an extended period. De-identified data sets will be archived and made available for other research through mediated access, in accordance with Western Sydney University's Open Access Policy. Potential follow up research, which could make use of the data, includes a wider application of the methodology to other forms of housing in Australia and research comparing the housing co-operative sector in Australia to the sectors in other countries.

Can I withdraw from the study?

Participation is entirely voluntary, and you are not obliged to be involved. If you do participate, you can withdraw at any time from the survey without giving reason by ceasing to complete it and with no consequence to yourself or your co-operative. If you do choose to withdraw during the process of this survey and decline to click send at the end, then no data entry will be recorded.

Can I tell other people about the study?

Yes, you can tell other people about the study by sharing the survey link and/or providing them with the Post-Doctoral Researcher, Dr Bronwyn Bate's contact details below. They can contact Bronwyn to gain more information about the research project, or to obtain a hard copy of the survey via mail.

What if I require further information?

Please contact Dr Bronwyn Bate, Institute for Culture and Society, Western Sydney University at b.bate@westernsydney.edu.au should you wish to discuss the research further before deciding whether or not to participate. Bronwyn can also be reached by post: Bronwyn Bate, Institute for Culture & Society, Western Sydney University, Building EM, Parramatta campus, Locked Bag 1797, Penrith NSW 2751, Australia.

What if I have a complaint?

If you have any complaints or reservations about the ethical conduct of this research, you may contact the Ethics Committee through Research Engagement, Development and Innovation (REDI) on +61 2 4736 0229 or email humanethics@westernsydney.edu.au.

Any issues you raise will be treated in confidence and investigated fully, and you will be informed of the outcome.

If you agree to participate in this study, you will be asked to sign the Participant Consent Form. The information sheet is for you to keep and the consent form is retained by the researcher/s.

This study has been approved by the Western Sydney University Human Research Ethics Committee. The Approval number is H14320.