



Evaluating The Faith and Belief Forum's Building Closer Communities Project

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

You are being invited to take part in research evaluating The Faith and Belief Forum's (F&BF's) Community Connector interfaith dialogue programme, of which the Local Authority Faith Awareness Training is an integral part. Lucy Peacock, Research Fellow at Coventry University is leading this research. Before you decide to take part it is important you understand why the research is being conducted and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully.

What is the purpose of the study?

The purpose of the study is to determine if and how F&BF's dialogue project has created opportunities for increased understanding both within and across communities and between faith communities and Local Authorities. This research wants to understand how the project will develop a) shared British values that champion tolerance, b) more integrated communities, and c) improved skills and capacity amongst cultural, faith and community leaders which help them to challenge inappropriate behaviour and prevent faith and race motivated hate instances or hate crime.

Why have I been chosen to take part?

You are invited to participate in this research because either:

- You have been selected to undertake Faith Awareness Training by one of F&BF's 'community connectors'.

Or:

- You have been identified as someone who works for the Local Authority but who is *not* receiving the Faith Awareness Training. By comparing your responses with those who have received the training, we can determine how effective the training is.

What are the benefits of taking part?

By sharing your views with us, you will be helping F&BF and Coventry University to better understand the effectiveness of the dialogue project of which the Faith Awareness Training is an integral part. This project is the first of its kind and has the potential to break down barriers and stereotypes, forge shared British Values that challenge religion and race-related prejudice and hate, and promote cohesion and integration.

Are there any risks associated with taking part?

This study has been reviewed and approved through Coventry University's formal research ethics procedure. There are no significant risks associated with participation.

Do I have to take part?

No – it is entirely up to you. If you do decide to take part, please keep this Information Sheet. Once you have completed the survey, please note down your completion number and provide this to the lead researcher if you seek to withdraw from the study at a later date. You are free to withdraw your information from the project data set at any time until the data are fully anonymised in our records on 31st March 2021. To withdraw, please contact the lead researcher (contact details are provided below). You do not need to give a reason. A decision to withdraw, or not to take part, will not affect you in any way.

What will happen if I decide to take part?

The survey will ask you questions about your feelings towards your local community and the relationship between Local Authorities and faith communities. Most questions will be 'tick box' multiple choice questions or 1-5 scale questions, plus there are a few questions where you can write in your own response. We will also ask you demographic data, such as your gender, ethnicity and faith background. These questions are optional and are only asked because it will help us analyse the responses and study how F&BF's project affects different groups of people. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes to complete.

Data Protection and Confidentiality

Your data will be processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. All information collected about you will be kept strictly confidential. Unless they are anonymised in our records, your data will be referred to by a unique participant number rather than by name. Your data will only be viewed by the research team. All electronic data will be stored on a password-protected computer file on the lead researcher's secure university OneDrive account. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, no paper documents will be handled; all data and consent forms will be stored electronically and your consent information will be kept separately from your responses in order to minimise risk in the event of a data breach. The lead researcher will take responsibility for data deletion and all collected data will be destroyed on or before 31st March 2030.

Data Protection Rights

Coventry University is a Data Controller for the information you provide. You have the right to access information held about you. Your right of access can be exercised in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation thereafter. You also have other rights including rights of correction, erasure, objection, and data portability. For more details, including the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office, please visit www.ico.org.uk. Questions, comments and requests about your personal data can also be sent to the University Data Protection Officer - enquiry.ipu@coventry.ac.uk

What will happen with the results of this study?

The results of this study will be summarised in a project report for the Faith and Belief Forum and their funder (the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government). The report may be made publicly available. Furthermore, anonymised results may be published by the researcher in one or more academic journal articles.

Making a Complaint

If you are unhappy with any aspect of this research, please first contact the lead researcher, Lucy Peacock, on lucy.peacock@coventry.ac.uk. If you still have concerns and wish to make a formal complaint, please write to Professor David McIlhatton, Director Research Quality, Centre for Trust, Peace & Social Relations, Tel +44 (0) 24 7765 1182; Email ac1376@coventry.ac.uk. In your letter please provide information about the research project, specify the name of the researcher and detail the nature of your complaint.