Participant outcomes from individual projects delivered through the Fairer Futures Fund across Birmingham and Solihull

Introduction

The Fairer Futures Fund (FFF) is a large-scale funding initiative intended to deliver sustained improvement in health and well-being outcomes across all communities, reducing persistent health inequalities observed across Birmingham and Solihull. Funded by Birmingham and Solihull integrated care system (BSol ICS), it is being in delivered in conjunction with Birmingham City Council and Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise Alliance (VCFSE) sector.

So as to understand the impact of each project and the overall impact of the FFF programme we want to capture the outcomes of individual participants. This includes demographic data such as age and gender alongside any information specific to the individual project they are involved in. This project specific information might be asked for twice. Once at the start of the project and a second time after the project has ended.

Why is this evaluation being done?

Collectively the FFF is intended to deliver lasting reductions in health inequalities, contributing to the outcomes set out in the Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care Board's 10-year Integrated Health and Care Strategy. As part of the broader objectives of FFF your input is vital to understanding how successful the project was that you participated in.

Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care Board has funded the University of Birmingham to undertake this independent evaluation.

What information will I have to provide?

Demographic questions will include questions on your age, gender, and ethnicity. The questions relating to the project will depend on what the project is trying to achieve but they will be short and easy to understand.

Who is eligible to take part?

All those participating in projects funded by the FFF are eligible for participation. You are not obliged to take part and should you choose to participate you can withdraw from the evaluation within 14 days and your data will be removed. After 14 days you will not be expected to take any further part in the evaluation, but the analysis of your data will have begun and so will be included in our data set.

What will happen if I take part in this evaluation?

You will be invited to complete an online survey providing demographic data and data relevant to the specific project you are participating in. If you are unable to complete the surveys online a hard copy will be provided.

What are the potential benefits of taking part?

The information you provide will enable an improved understanding of the delivery of similar public health initiatives designed to address health inequalities.

What are the potential risks of taking part?

Participation involves completing an online (or paper copy) of the survey. It will not present any physical risks to you, and the confidentiality of the data will be ensured. No data will be presented which identifies a specific participant, instead each individual involved will be given a code by the evaluator and the data will be anonymised and aggregated with other participants.

Will my participation be confidential and information secure?

University of Birmingham are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly. All information gathered will be completely confidential. No names will be recorded and instead each participant and their organization will be given a code and this will be used to present the information. Only the evaluator will be able to link the code to a specific participant. All data collected will be kept securely, with hard copies in locked and secure facilities and digital data stored and encrypted on secure data storage devices. All information gathered will be treated as confidential by the evaluation team, and the data from completed surveys kept securely on password protected servers or if hard copies kept in locked filing

cabinets and offices. No personal identification information will be used in any reports arising out of this work. The information you provide will not be fed back to your managers.

Your rights to access, change, or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the work to be reliable and accurate. Therefore, you can withdraw from the evaluation and your data removed for up to 14 days from the date of your participation. After this point if you withdraw from the evaluation, we will keep the information about you that we have already obtained.

University of Birmingham will keep identifiable information about you from this work for 10 years after it has finished. This data will be only accessible to the evaluator and the evaluation team; data will be stored for a period of 10 years before being destroyed. No other sites will retain personal or evaluation data. You can find out more about how we use your information by contacting,
University of Birmingham's Information Compliance Manager: legalservices@contacts.bham.ac.uk.
University of Birmingham's Data Protection Officer: dataprotection@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Can I withdraw from the evaluation?

If you would like all the data deleted, please inform the evaluator. You are able to withdraw up to two weeks after the interview, contact Ian Litchfield by phone (0121 414 6006) or by email (i.litchfield@bham.ac.uk).

What if there is a problem?

If you have any complaints about your treatment as a participant during the course of the evaluation or any harm you feel has been caused to you, this can be addressed by contacting either the evaluator directly to discuss these concerns or if this is not appropriate then you are asked to contact Ian Litchfield or to follow the university complaints procedure. Furthermore this evaluation is being undertaken with the support of the University of Birmingham which has in force a Public Liability Policy which provides cover for claims for "negligent harm" and the activities here are included within that coverage.. In case of complaint you can contact Sue Cottam (ethics manager); s.l.cottam@bham.ac.uk.

Who has reviewed this work?

The evaluation has been reviewed and approved by the University of Birmingham's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) ethics committee. All such projects are approved by the STEM committee to ensure that due process has been described and will be met. If you have any questions or issues that you would like to raise you are encouraged to discuss them with evaluator, either via telephone or video call or the e-mail addresses provided.

What happens next if I want to take part in the evaluation?

If you are happy to participate you will be asked to complete a consent form either electronically or a paper copy in order before the intervention begins. If you have any further questions you are invited to contact a member of the evaluation team.



Dr Ian Litchfield

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