



Participant Information Sheet

UNDERSTANDING IMPACTS OF HOME ENERGY SAVING IMPROVEMENTS ON INDOOR AIR QUALITY

The way we heat and power our homes — including using gas and electricity — plays a part in climate change by adding greenhouse gases to the air. One way to help reduce this is by improving energy efficiency at home. The WM Net Zero study is looking at how these home improvements — like better insulation or heating systems — affect the air we breathe indoors. This matters because we spend most of our time inside, and indoor air quality, temperature, and damp can all have an impact on our health. To explore this, we're working with two groups of homes — some making improvements and some not — and using small sensors to measure indoor pollution, moisture and temperature over time. By comparing the two, we can understand how these changes affect our health and help create healthier homes across the West Midlands.

Who can participate in this study?

We're inviting up to 50 householders — people who own or rent their homes — in the Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council area. This includes homes making energy-saving improvements and those that aren't. By comparing both, we can see how these changes affect air quality, temperature, and damp over time.

What will happen in your home?

We'll place a small, quiet sensor, the size of a WiFi router, in your home to measure air quality, temperature, and moisture for up to two years. The sensor uses very little electricity, connects to your WiFi, and we'll only visit-contact you if there's a problem.

What are the benefits of taking part in this project?

By taking part, you'll learn more about your home's environment — including air pollution, moisture, and temperature. You'll receive advice on how to improve air quality and reduce damp, plus up to £50 in shopping vouchers. You'll also support research that helps create healthier homes and tackle climate change.

Are there any risks to taking part?

There are no known risks to taking part in this study.

For more information, please contact:

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Study Title: WM Net Zero: A Health-Centred Systems Approach towards Net-Zero: Transforming regional climate mitigation policies, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TT.

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