

Participant Information Sheet

Study Title: Livestock out of place: performing care and biosecurity outside the farm

Researcher: Kate Goldie kg5g14@soton.ac.uk

Project Supervisor: Dr. Emma Roe E.J.Roe@soton.ac.uk

ERGO number: 62629

You are being invited to take part in the above research study. To help you decide whether you would like to take part or not, it is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please read the information below carefully and ask questions if anything is not clear or you would like more information before you decide to take part in this research. You may like to discuss it with others, but it is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you are happy to participate you will be asked to sign a consent form.

What is the research about?

This research is being undertaken by a student working towards a PhD. The project will aim to explore pet-keeping practices of pig owners, specifically regarding providing care and negotiating biosecurity risks. This research is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council's South Coast Doctoral Training Partnership.

Why have I been asked to participate?

You are being invited to participate in this study due to your experience in, and knowledge of, rescuing and/or rehoming pet pigs within your organisation/charity. 10-20 representatives from similar organisations/charities will also be invited to interview.

What will happen to me if I take part?

Should you decide to take part in the research, you will be invited to select an appropriate date and time for your interview between 15th February – 31st May 2021. You will be able to ask any questions about the research before your interview and will be asked to sign a consent form to confirm you understand what your involvement in the study will involve.

Before the interview, you will be asked to gather the following information and send via email to the researcher (should you have it recorded), however, it is not a requirement to provide this.

- A yearly breakdown of the number (and breeds, where possible) of pet pigs that have come into your care in the past five years
- A yearly breakdown of the number of pigs that you have rehomed in the past five years to people who intended to keep them primarily as companion animals

The interview itself will be an online video interview and will take place on Microsoft Teams or Zoom, in line with current COVID-19 restrictions. It is expected to last roughly 30 minutes – 1 hour. Interviews will be video and audio recorded for transcription and analysis purposes.

During the interview, you will be asked about your experience with pet pigs and your opinions on their suitability as pets. The research at this stage is interested in establishing the following:

1. The popularity of pigs as pets in the U.K
2. The main challenges in keeping pigs as pets – e.g. regarding stigma, welfare issues and disease management
3. Common reasons pet pigs come into the care of rescue organisations and how easily they can be rehomed

The interview aims to be similar to an informal conversation. Before your interview, the researcher will provide you with a copy of the 'interview guide' which will outline the topics to be discussed. The interviewer will ask some pre-established questions based on these topics, however, may ask you to elaborate on certain topics where necessary. During the interview, if you are uncomfortable at any point you are able to ask to move on from a topic or to terminate the interview.

At the end of the interview, you will be asked if you would like to be considered for any future research as part of this project, which is expected to last three years. This may involve being invited to another interview at a later stage, however, this is not a compulsory requirement.

Are there any benefits in my taking part?

There are unlikely to be any direct benefits to you as a participant in this study. However, the study aims to improve our current understanding of the lives of pet pigs and the challenges faced by owners and pigs alike. This may contribute to the improvement of pet pig care and the management of biosecurity among this population.

Are there any risks involved?

This is a low-risk study. You may be asked to recall potentially distressing experiences (for instance, regarding sick or injured animals). Where this is the case, every effort will be made by the researcher to approach these topics in a sensitive manner and to minimise the possibility of psychological discomfort or distress to you as a participant. You will be reminded that you are able

to move on to another topic, to take a break or to terminate the interview at any point should you desire.

What data will be collected?

Interviews will be transcribed shortly after the interview takes place. Audio and visual recordings of your interview, transcripts and signed consent forms will be stored on a password protected device and account with your name and the name of the organisation/charity you represent. The following section outlines who will have access to your data, how it will be kept secure and how long it will be kept.

Will my participation be confidential?

Your participation and the information we collect about you during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential.

Only members of the research team (such as the researcher and project supervisor) and responsible members of the University of Southampton may be given access to data about you for monitoring purposes and/or to carry out an audit of the study to ensure that the research is complying with applicable regulations. Individuals from regulatory authorities (people who check that we are carrying out the study correctly) may require access to your data. All of these people have a duty to keep your information, as a research participant, strictly confidential.

Any hard copies of signed consent forms will be scanned electronically and destroyed as soon as possible to be stored on a password protected device and account. Your contact details (such as your email address or phone number, which may have been used to invite you to the study initially) will also be secured on a password protected device and will not be shared beyond the research team. These may be used to invite you to participate in the research at a later stage. This may include further interviews either online or in person, subject to COVID-19 restrictions. If you decide you do not want to be considered for any future participation in this research project, you may request for your contact details to be removed from the researcher's record at any time.

Recordings of your interview will be transcribed as soon as possible. Once transcripts are created, original audio and video recordings will be destroyed. Interview transcripts will be deposited in the University's institutional repository, in line with the University's Open Access Policy. These transcripts will not contain identifiable information about you. To reduce privacy risks, any reference to your interview data in outputs of this research will only include a brief description of your role (e.g. spokesperson of pig rescue centre) and will not include your name. Only the research team will have access to identifiable data linked to you.

Do I have to take part?

No, it is entirely up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you decide you want to take part, you will need to sign a consent form to show you have agreed to take part.

What happens if I change my mind?

You have the right to change your mind and withdraw at any time without giving a reason and without your participant rights being affected. Please email the researcher, Kate Goldie, if you would like to withdraw at kg5g14@soton.ac.uk.

You are able to withdraw from the study at any point up until your interview is terminated. If you decide to withdraw during the interview, you are able to decide if the information you give up until that point can be used in the study.

What will happen to the results of the research?

Your personal details will remain strictly confidential. Research findings made available in any outputs of this project will not include information that can directly identify you without your specific consent. Outputs of this project may include written reports, articles published in academic journals or conference presentations.

Your name, the name of the organisation/charity you represent, and your contact details will not be published in any outputs of this research. Direct quotes from interview transcripts may be used. However, only a brief description of the participant will be used alongside these (e.g., spokesperson of pig rescue centre).

Every effort will be made to prevent the research data being linked to you, however, in some circumstances it may not be possible to guarantee this. For instance, the research may reference some of your experiences that may be unique to you. In this instance, the researcher will ensure details are kept as brief as possible (e.g. no real names will be used and geographical location will be kept vague, unless specific permission is sought from you to use this information).

In line with the university open access policy, research work submitted as a thesis for a higher degree as set out in the University's Higher Degree Regulations must be deposited and made publicly available in the University's institutional repository. This will not contain any identifiable information about you.

Where can I get more information?

If you would like any further information, please contact the research team. Contact details are listed at the top of this information sheet.

What happens if there is a problem?

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, you should speak to the researchers who will do their best to answer your questions.

If you remain unhappy or have a complaint about any aspect of this study, please contact the University of Southampton Research Integrity and Governance Manager (023 8059 5058, rgoinfo@soton.ac.uk).

Data Protection Privacy Notice

The University of Southampton conducts research to the highest standards of research integrity. As a publicly-funded organisation, the University has to ensure that it is in the public interest when we use personally-identifiable information about people who have agreed to take part in research. This means that when you agree to take part in a research study, we will use information about you in the ways needed, and for the purposes specified, to conduct and complete the research project. Under data protection law, 'Personal data' means any information that relates to and is capable of identifying a living individual. The University's data protection policy governing the use of personal data by the University can be found on its website (<https://www.southampton.ac.uk/legalservices/what-we-do/data-protection-and-foi.page>).

This Participant Information Sheet tells you what data will be collected for this project and whether this includes any personal data. Please ask the research team if you have any questions or are unclear what data is being collected about you.

Our privacy notice for research participants provides more information on how the University of Southampton collects and uses your personal data when you take part in one of our research projects and can be found at <http://www.southampton.ac.uk/assets/sharepoint/intranet/Is/Public/Research%20and%20Integrity%20Privacy%20Notice/Privacy%20Notice%20for%20Research%20Participants.pdf>

Any personal data we collect in this study will be used only for the purposes of carrying out our research and will be handled according to the University's policies in line with data protection law. If any personal data is used from which you can be identified directly, it will not be disclosed to anyone else without your consent unless the University of Southampton is required by law to disclose it.

Data protection law requires us to have a valid legal reason ('lawful basis') to process and use your Personal data. The lawful basis for processing personal information in this research study is for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest. Personal data collected for research will not be used for any other purpose.

For the purposes of data protection law, the University of Southampton is the 'Data Controller' for this study, which means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly. The University of Southampton will keep identifiable information about you for 10 years after the study has finished after which time any link between you and your information will be removed.

To safeguard your rights, we will use the minimum personal data necessary to achieve our research study objectives. Your data protection rights – such as to access, change, or transfer such information - may be limited, however, in order for the research output to be reliable and accurate. The University will not do anything with your personal data that you would not reasonably expect.

If you have any questions about how your personal data is used, or wish to exercise any of your rights, please consult the University's data protection webpage (<https://www.southampton.ac.uk/legalservices/what-we-do/data-protection-and-foi.page>) where you can make a request using our online form. If you need further assistance, please contact the University's Data Protection Officer (data.protection@soton.ac.uk).

Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet and considering taking part in the research. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the research team.