



# Participant Information Sheet

## Evaluation of the Zero Emission Bus Regional Area (ZEBRA) Scheme in Oxford

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### Summary

The Zero Emission Bus Regional Area (ZEBRA) scheme in Oxford City Centre supports the local authority and transport providers to replace older diesel buses with zero emission electric buses. There is little research on how transitioning to electric buses impacts the health of people living, working and travelling in the cities.

This study aims to understand if the ZEBRA scheme impacts air and noise pollution, and see how this changes the health, travel behaviours and the wider health, economic, community and environmental impacts. As well as collecting data on air and noise pollution along key city centre routes, we are doing a series of interviews and focus groups with people involved in the roll out of the scheme and people who may be impacted by the scheme.

We are inviting you to participate in two interviews as you have been directly involved in the roll out of the ZEBRA scheme. It is up to you to decide if you want to take part and you are free to withdraw at any time, without giving a reason. Please take the time to read the following information carefully and take the time to consider whether you wish to take part.

The research study is conducted by the Public Health Intervention Responsive Study Team (PHIRST) PHRESH, led by researchers at the University of Birmingham in collaboration with partners at Oxfordshire County Council. This research is funded by the National Institute of Health and Care Research.

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### How to contact us

If you have any questions about this study then please talk to:

**Dr Kate Garrett**

Department of Applied Health Sciences, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TT

**Email:**

phirstphresh@contacts.bham.ac.uk

**Telephone number:** 07483426439



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## What we will ask you to do

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If you agree to take part, we will invite you to take part in an interview with a researcher at a time that is convenient for you either online (via Zoom) or via telephone in November or December 2024. During the interview, the researcher will ask you questions about your experience of being involved in the ZEBRA roll out and some initial impacts of the scheme. We may invite you to attend a second interview in March or April 2025 to discuss the impacts of the scheme in more detail. It is up to you to decide if you want to take part in the second interview.

We will ask your permission to record the interview so we can listen back to it. The interview is likely to last 30 minutes but could last up to an hour depending on how much information you provide.

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## 2 What data will we collect?

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During the interview, as well as questions about the roll out and impacts of the scheme, we will ask you to complete some brief questions about your job role. This is so that we can describe who has taken part in our study.

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## 3 What are the benefits and risks of taking part?

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The data collected from this study will be used to understand how the ZEBRA scheme has impacted health and to uncover learning from its roll out that can be applied to other areas. The findings will also be used to inform the long-term monitoring plan for the ZEBRA scheme.

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## 4 What will we do with your information?

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Any information you provide, and the recordings of the interviews will be kept confidentially on a secure database at the University of Birmingham for 10 years. Your personal details will be stored in a separate database from the other information you provide. Only members of the PHIRST PHRESH research team or representatives from relevant regulatory authorities will have access to your individual information.

A transcript will be made of the audio recording, which will be kept securely and have any information that could identify you removed from it. An external company will be used for transcription. In this case, your audio recording and transcripts will be transferred securely.

The information from the study will be used in several reports. We may also use your quotes in our research reports. You will not be named in any reports and we will endeavour to remove identifying information. However, we may not be able to guarantee full anonymity, for example, if you occupy a unique position.

The legal justification we have under data protection law for processing your personal data is that it is necessary for our research, which is a task we carry out in the public interest. For information about your rights and what we do with personal data, see our privacy notice:  
[www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/applied-health/research/phresh/zebra-study](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/applied-health/research/phresh/zebra-study)



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## 5 Who else is taking part?

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Other stakeholders with direct involvement in the ZEBRA scheme have been invited to take part in interviews. This includes staff from bus operators in Oxford and Oxfordshire County Council.

Other groups will also take part in focus groups to gain a range of perspectives on the roll out and impacts of the ZEBRA scheme. These groups include bus operator staff, bus users and residents and commuters in Oxford.

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## 6 What happens at the end of the study?

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We will write a report at the end of the study about the findings. We will share the findings of the study with key stakeholders involved in delivering the ZEBRA scheme locally and nationally. We will share the study findings with the public and a summary of the results with everyone who takes part in the research. The results will also be published in scientific journals for a variety of audiences and presented at scientific conferences and meetings.

Results and articles from the study will be published on <https://phirst.nihr.ac.uk/evaluations>.

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## 7 What if I have any more questions or do not understand something?

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You can contact the research team at University of Birmingham to discuss any questions or concerns that you may have before, during or after the study.

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## 8 What happens now if I decide to take part?

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Please complete the consent form online at [https://redcap.link/zebra\\_stakeholder](https://redcap.link/zebra_stakeholder).

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## 9 What if I change my mind?

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Participation in the study is voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any time. If at any time during the study, you no longer want to take part let us know by email or telephone. We will delete all information that we have collected about you.

If you withdraw from the study more than two weeks after the interview, we will be unable to remove your data from the analysis.

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## 10 Who has reviewed the study?

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The study has been reviewed by an independent group of people called a Research Ethics Committee, to protect your safety, rights, wellbeing and dignity. The study has been given a favourable opinion by the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) ethics committee, University of Birmingham.

You can contact the Committee by quoting the ethics [ERN-3088] by email: [aer-ethics@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:aer-ethics@contacts.bham.ac.uk)

Thank you for taking the time to consider taking part in this study.