

# PIVOTAL

<b>Title of project:</b>	<b>Vision 2040: An exploration of social and political attitudes towards life in Northern Ireland.</b>
<b>Chief Investigator:</b>	<b>Dr Ben Harper</b>
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## **Participant information sheet**

Study title: **Vision 2040: An exploration of social and political attitudes towards life in Northern Ireland.**

### **1. What is Pivotal?**

Pivotal is an independent think tank that aims to help improve public policy in Northern Ireland. Pivotal is independent of government and has no political alignment. Pivotal was established to promote greater use of evidence and research in policy making in Northern Ireland and to engage a wider range of people in public policy debate. We complete research to explore the economic and social challenges facing Northern Ireland, for example low productivity, under-investment in infrastructure and climate change.

Pivotal is led by Director Ann Watt who has over twenty years' experience within the Civil Service. The team includes a senior administrator, a research assistant and research manager, Dr Ben Harper. Ben has over 17 years' experience of completing research using qualitative and quantitative methods in NHS, social care and community settings. Further information about Pivotal may be obtained on our website, [www.pivotalppf.org.uk](http://www.pivotalppf.org.uk).

### **2. What is the purpose of this research?**

This project is part of a long-term research plan to engage the views and experiences of people across Northern Ireland on their vision for 2040. The project will commence by engaging working aged adults aged 18 and over. The project will develop independent evidence about public opinion on six major areas of societal concern with participants across Northern Ireland.

The data collected from this research will be used to inform evidence based policy recommendations and influence future research projects. This study is part of a phased approach to exploring views and experiences of citizens in Northern Ireland.

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You may be invited to take part in an online survey or an online focus group. We wish to ask you about the following six key areas:

- *The economy in Northern Ireland*
- *Health and Social Care*
- *Education*
- *Poverty and Disadvantage*
- *Climate change*
- *Community relations*

### **3. Why have I been invited to take part?**

Pivotal wish to invite anyone aged 18 and over to complete the survey to inform evidence based policy recommendations and influence future research projects. This study is part of a phased approach to exploring views and experiences of citizens in Northern Ireland.

### **4. What does taking part in this study mean for me?**

You may be asked to take part in an online survey or an online focus group. You will be asked two questions related to six key areas:

- *The economy in Northern Ireland*
- *Health and Social Care*
- *Education*
- *Poverty and Disadvantage*
- *Climate change*
- *Community relations*

You do **not** have to answer any question that you do not feel comfortable with.

### **5. How long will it take?**

The online survey will take approximately 5-10 minutes and the focus group may take between 30-45 minutes.

### **6. What are the risks of taking part?**

There are no known risks associated with taking part. We will not ask you any personal questions, for example questions related to your mental health, personal relationships etc. The survey format is based on your opinion of the six key areas identified in point 4.

### **7. Can I withdraw from the study?**

Being involved in the study is completely voluntary. You can withdraw from the study at any period. Please contact Dr Ben Harper ([ben@pivotalppf.org](mailto:ben@pivotalppf.org)) who can remove your data.

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## **8. How will you keep my information confidential?**

There will be no identifying information stored about your responses. The research team will not use your name, address or any other identifying information.

During a focus group, confidentiality may be broken if you disclose something that indicates that you or someone else is at risk of harm. In this instance we will always try and discuss this issue with you directly before we contact an outside party (e.g. GP).

## **9. How will my data be stored?**

Data will be stored on a secure, password protected, online database ([www.qualtrics.com](http://www.qualtrics.com)). This data based is fully compliant with GDPR regulations. Data is not shared with any external parties outside of the Pivotal research team.

## **10. What does taking part in data analysis mean?**

We wish to work with community members who take part in our research by including them in each step of the analysis. Once the data begins to be confidentiality collected you could help the team analyse the responses and co-write the report and recommendations. There are different levels of involvement all of which can be completed remotely or in person (Covid regulations dependent).

Please contact Ben for further details about participation in the analysis stage.

## **11. Who can I contact with questions about the study?**

You can contact the Chief Investigator Dr Ben Harper ([ben@pivotalppf.org](mailto:ben@pivotalppf.org)). If for some reason you are unhappy with the communication with Dr Harper, you may contact Ann Watt, Director ([ann@pivotalppf.org](mailto:ann@pivotalppf.org)).