

Participant Information Sheet

Project title: Age-Friendly Illawarra, What Does It Look Like? A Scoping Study

Purpose of the research

This research aims to understand the perceptions of the middle-aged and older people (defined as age \geq 45yrs) about age-friendliness in Illawarra. The purpose is to generate our community's vision about what "Age-Friendly Illawarra" looks like. Participation in this study is voluntary.

Methods

You are invited to accept an interview by a qualified researcher to discuss a range of topics about age-friendliness in Illawarra. The conversation will be focused on your needs for outdoor space and buildings, social participation, and information and communication; how and whether these needs have been met currently, and what the community and government can do to improve your experience.

Researchers

- Associate Professor Ping Yu, School of Computing and Information Technology (SCIT), Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences (EIS), 0479 086 978, ping@uow.edu.au
- Professor Lorna Moxham, School of Nursing, Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health, 02 4239 2559, lmoxham@uow.edu.au
- Mr Mark Jones, Age Friendly Illawarra Alliance, mark@aej.com.au
- Ms Amy Tapsell, Global Challenges Program, atapsell@uow.edu.au
- Mr Ting Song, SCIT, EIS, ts783@uowmail.edu.au

Expected benefits to participants

Your opinion will help to construct the dimensions of the concept "Age-Friendly Illawarra", and it will be published to inform the local government and the relevant organisations, i.e., local builders, shop owners, and community facility operators, to improve facilities and services for older people in Illawarra.

Demands on participants and confidentiality

With your consent, you will be asked a list of questions to share your opinion about age-friendliness in the Illawarra region through telephone or Zoom interview. You could choose the type of interview you prefer in the consent form.

Please be assured that your confidentiality and anonymity is strictly protected. All the information you provide will be entered into a computer and securely stored in Associate Professor Ping Yu's password-protected office computer. The information you provide will only be used for research purposes and will not be shared with anyone outside of the research team. The final report will not mention any particular person.

You can review the audio transcripts if you tick this option in the consent form. The transcripts will be e-mailed to you for review. You will also be provided with support if you experience distress as a result of the interview.

Participation

Participation in this research is completely voluntary. You have the right to withdraw or discontinue participation at any time. You can do this by informing the researchers either by a phone call or e-mail notification. Your refusal or withdrawal will not affect your relationship with the researchers or the University of Wollongong. Any questions you may have concerning the research and procedures will be welcomed and answered by the researcher. If you would like to discuss this research further, please contact Associate Professor Ping Yu on 0479 086 978 or e-mail: ping@uow.edu.au.

Research sources

This research is sponsored by Global Challenge Seed Fund, University of Wollongong.

Ethics review and complaints

This study has been reviewed by the Social Sciences Human Research Ethics Committee at the University of Wollongong (Reference:2020/299). If the participant has any concerns or complaints about the way this research conducted, please contact the Ethics Manager, Human Research Ethics Committee, the University of Wollongong on 02 4221 4457 or e-mail rso-ethics@uow.edu.au.