



**CCRI**

COUNTRYSIDE  
AND COMMUNITY  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE

# Workshop Information Sheet

## UK Commercial Fishing Social Survey

### **About the research**

A robust social dataset is needed to enable policy makers to develop policies and mechanisms that enable long-term social benefits from UK fisheries, a statutory duty set out in the Fisheries Act (2020). Currently social evidence is limited to a few socio-economic indicators, such as gender, nationality, education, and working patterns. There is a lack of data on the socio-cultural impacts of fisheries management, health and wellbeing of fishers. As such, this Defra-funded project, aims to inform development of a national-scale survey of commercial fishers. The vision is to design the survey in a co-produced way, whereby key industry stakeholders have an opportunity to say what they feel needs to be included.

Before you decide whether to take part in the workshop, it is important to read the following FAQs so you can make an informed decision about taking part.

### **Who are the CCRI?**

The CCRI, within the University of Gloucestershire, is a specialist rural research institute working at the interface of agriculture, society and the environment. Learn more about the institute here: <http://www.ccri.ac.uk/about-the-ccri/>. As part of this project, we are also working with partners from Heriot-Watt University and Fishing into the Future. Please note, members of the Defra Fisheries Social Science Fisheries Team will also be attending the workshops.

### **Why am I being asked to participate in this workshop?**

The workshop is an important part of achieving our project objectives. It is important opportunity to learn what key industry stakeholders consider important survey topics. This is important to ensure that the survey is helpful to the industry.

### **If I participate, what is my workshop data going to be used for?**

In the first instance, workshop data (such as handwritten notes) will be typed up and simultaneously anonymised (so any identifiable data will be removed). The data will then be analysed by the research team (this might involve production of charts and tables, as well as ways of looking at patterns in the verbal responses using specialist software). This will then be used by the team to write a report which will make recommendations for the commercial fishing survey. This report will be sent to Defra and eventually made publicly available. We may also publish academic articles using the data. Anonymised data may be kept indefinitely and used for future research.

Any personal data (e.g. your name, email address) used will be for recruitment purposes **ONLY** and will be held both securely and confidentially in line with our GDPR requirements. These details will only be held for the duration of the project (until 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023) before being securely deleted.

All data will be stored on encrypted, password protected computers and on the University of Gloucestershire Teams site.

### **Do I have to take part?**

No – participation is voluntary. It is entirely up to you whether you decide to participate.

### **Why are you asking to audio record the workshop? What will happen to that recording?**

Depending on how many people attend, we may ask to audio record the workshops. This just means we can be more efficient and accurate in capturing the workshop content. This recording will be used solely for the purposes of writing up the workshop content and will be securely destroyed after this (in line with GDPR requirements). Until they are written-up, recordings will be stored on encrypted, password protected computers and on the University of Gloucestershire Teams site

### **What are the possible benefits of participation?**

This commission offers a unique opportunity to feed into the design of a social survey of fishers. This may help ensure any future social surveys reflect issues that are important to fisheries stakeholders, such as yourself or those you represent.

### **Are there any risks?**

The main risk relates to anonymity beyond the workshop session. We therefore request workshop participants do not repeat workshop discussions / content outside of the session. Of course, we cannot guarantee this is the case, so remind participants particularly concerned about this, that they do not have to answer all questions or share thoughts if they do not wish to. We also encourage participants uncomfortable about sharing fully in this context to communicate with the research team on a one-to-one basis.

There is also a risk of being identified in any reporting, but by not linking your name to your contributions (anonymising them), we are confident this is unlikely to happen. Do let our team know if you're particularly concerned about being identified.

Whilst we do not anticipate the topics of discussion being challenging, you are reminded that you are participating voluntarily and can exit the workshop at any time, or can decline to contribute.

### **Can I change my mind?**

Yes. You can withdraw from the workshop process at any time during the session and your contributions to the workshop can be removed up to 10 days after the workshop date (by emailing [jurquhart@glos.ac.uk](mailto:jurquhart@glos.ac.uk)). Although we will endeavour to withdraw contributions from the data after the workshop has ended, there may be limits to this (mainly because with many people contributing it can be hard to identify who said what), but please talk to the research team and we will do our best to accommodate requests.

### **Will I remain anonymous if I take part? Will my responses be held confidentially?**

As above, results will be anonymised before being reported, with any (direct or indirect) identifiable details removed or reduced. Whilst we request that workshop participants do not repeat content of the workshop beyond the session, we cannot guarantee this is the case. Although we are bound by confidentiality, we may be required to disclose confidential information regarding their participants to the appropriate authorities when required by law or if there is a special duty to report.

### **Who has reviewed this research for ethical clearance?**

The research has been granted approval from the University of Gloucestershire Ethics Committee and steps have been taken to ensure the workshop (and the wider project) fully complies with the necessary personal data management procedures in place at the University (more info: <https://www.glos.ac.uk/research/research-ethics>).

**What if I have any questions / concerns?**

Please email the Dr Julie Urquhart ([jurquhart@glos.ac.uk](mailto:jurquhart@glos.ac.uk)). Alternatively, please contact the University of Gloucestershire Research NSS Ethics Lead (Dr Danielle Stephens-Lewis [nssethics@glos.ac.uk](mailto:nssethics@glos.ac.uk)).