

Motivations to visit green and natural spaces: How perceptions of 'quality' vary across different communities

Version 1.1 (11/07/2022)

You are being invited to participate in a research study. Before you decide whether to participate, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and feel free to ask us if you would like more information or if there is anything that you do not understand. Please also feel free to discuss this with your friends and relatives if you wish. We would like to stress that you do not have to accept this invitation and should only agree to take part if you want to.

What is the purpose of the study?

The purpose of this study is to gain a deeper understanding of the reasons people from ethnic minority backgrounds do or do not engage with nature, for example visiting greenspaces. Unfortunately, research has shown that people from ethnic minority backgrounds visit less and show less engagement with nature. Previously, this has been associated with unequal access and issues surrounding the inclusivity of outdoor spaces. The findings from this study will help make outdoor spaces more accommodating and welcoming to people from all background and inform programmes designed to increase engagement.

Why have I been chosen to take part?

If you are reading this because you have been asked to take part by someone, then you may fit the criteria for involvement in this study. We are looking for individuals from ethnic minority backgrounds in the Bristol or surrounding area who are 18 years old or above.

Do I have to take part?

Participation in this study is completely voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any time.

What will happen if I take part?

Firstly, participants will complete a consent form with a few demographic questions. Participants will have the **choice** to keep a record of events and experiences relating to the outdoors over the course of 1 to 2 weeks. Participants may choose several ways to do this (i.e., photos, videos, drawing, written etc.). Participants will then take part in an interview which will take approximately an hour with the main researcher Andrew. In this interview, we will discuss the material produced in the task and some other topics relating to engagement and inclusivity.

This interview can take place online, over the phone or face-to-face and will be audio recorded and later transcribed.

Referring other participants:

We hope that participants will be able to refer friends who may also wish to take part in this study. Please ask a friend or acquaintance who may be interested in taking part and provide them with access to this sheet, show them the invitation poster or direct them to <http://naturalspacesresearch.co.uk/take-part.html>

How will my data be used?

The University processes personal data as part of its research and teaching activities in accordance with the lawful basis of 'public task', and in accordance with the University's purpose of "advancing education, learning and research for the public benefit.

Under UK data protection legislation, the University acts as the Data Controller for personal data collected as part of the University's research. The Supervisor acts as the Data Processor for this study, and any queries relating to the handling of your personal data can be sent to Dr Mark Riley (see details at the bottom of this page).

Further information on how your data will be used can be found in the table below.

How will my data be collected?	Consent form, questionnaire, audio recordings, participant-produced material.
How will my data be stored?	Securely with University of Liverpool on a password protected drive.
How long will my data be stored for?	Anonymised data will be stored securely with the university for ten years.
What measures are in place to protect the security and confidentiality of my data?	Securely stored on password protected drive. All data will be presented in an anonymised form.
Will my data be anonymised?	Yes.
How will my data be used?	Thesis, publications, webinars, conference paper, public even in aggregated and anonymised form.
Who will have access to my data?	The named researchers.
Will my data be archived for use in other research projects in the future?	No.
How will my data be destroyed?	Physical copies shredded and digital copies deleted from drives.

Expenses and / or payments

Participants will be reimbursed for their time through either a:

- £20 bank transfer to the participant's UK bank account.
- £20 donated to a choice of charity.

Are there any risks in taking part?

We do not foresee any serious risks to taking part in this project. However, depending on the interview, there may be discussion of topics that could be deemed sensitive or distressing such as racism, prejudice, or mental health. The researcher will not press on these issues and **participants are free to refrain from answering any questions they do not wish to**. If distress is caused, the interview will be paused and can be rescheduled or cancelled. Participants should also take care when using a smartphone in a public place as it increases the risk of being a victim of crime.

Are there any benefits in taking part?

We hope that this research will be an enjoyable experience and participants will have the opportunity to contribute to findings that will be presented to Natural England. Natural England are interested in improving engagement and inclusion of natural spaces. This research project strives to provide a platform for voices to be heard, however we cannot guarantee any immediate benefits.

What will happen to the results of the study?

The results of this study will be accessible on the project website: naturalspacesresearch.com, and available in academic publications. All participants will be invited to a focus group to discuss the findings before they are published.

What will happen if I want to stop taking part?

Participants can withdraw their participation in the study at any time, without explanation. After taking part in the study, participants will have 1 month to decide whether they wish to request for their results to be destroyed.

If you wish to withdraw or request that your results are destroyed, please contact andrew.palmer@liverpool.ac.uk.

What if I am unhappy or if there is a problem?

If you are unhappy, or if there is a problem, please feel free to let us know by contacting Mark Riley (see below) and we will try to help. If you remain unhappy or have a complaint which you feel you cannot come to us with then you should contact the Research Ethics and Integrity Office at ethics@liv.ac.uk. When contacting the Research Ethics and Integrity Office, please provide details of the name or description of the study (so that it can be identified), the researcher(s) involved, and the details of the complaint you wish to make.

The University strives to maintain the highest standards of rigour in the processing of your data. However, if you have any concerns about the way in which the University processes your personal data, it is important that you are aware of your right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office by calling 0303 123 1113.

Who can I contact if I have further questions?

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