

Participant Information Sheet

Furniture Provision in Social Housing and Furniture Poverty

You are being invited to take part 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.

In everything we do, we work to reduce and ultimately End Furniture Poverty. Someone is in furniture poverty when they are unable to afford to buy, or maintain, furniture and appliances at a level which allows them to adequately participate in society. In order to achieve this, we conduct research to help us better understand how prevalent furniture poverty is, what its causes are, and crucially, what can be done to eradicate it.

What is the purpose of this research?

The aim of this project is to help us to better understand the attitudes and experiences of both social landlords and tenants towards furniture in the homes they let and rent, and find out what is currently offered.

Although we see furniture provided with housing as a possible solution to furniture poverty, we don't currently know how many furnished tenancies are available to tenants in the UK. We also know don't much about how tenants and landlords perceive furnished tenancies, what barriers there are when establishing or running a furnished tenancy scheme, and whether or not they can be a lasting remedy for furniture poverty. We therefore aim to build and expand on existing research which suggests that both social landlords and tenants value furniture provision and consider it to be an overall worthwhile endeavour.

This project consists of two methods: an online survey, face-to-face and telephone interviews with social landlords and tenants. You have been invited to be a participant in the interview part of this project.

Why have I been asked to take part?

You have been invited to take part because you have recently moved into a new house that is currently owned by a housing association or your local council. If you have furniture, then we want to understand how you are got hold of it, where it came from, how it has helped you, and who helped you get it. If you don't currently have furniture (or much furniture) we want to understand your experience and what help you would like to get. Ultimately, we want to get a sense of what works best for people who have just moved into their home and don't have access to much furniture.

What will happen if I decide to take part?

If you decide to take part then you will interviewed by phone or video call (i.e. Skype). This will take around 30 minutes to complete and will not last any longer than 40 minutes. Your interview responses will be recorded and typed up, all of which will be stored securely, anonymised, and

analysed. This will help us to produce a report and understand more about furniture provision in social housing.

Once the telephone interview is complete, you will receive a £20 gift voucher. You can choose any one voucher from list below:

- Love2Shop
- Amazon.co.uk
- Tesco
- Asda
- Sainsbury's
- Morrison's

We will ask you which one of these you would like before the interview.

Will my details be kept private?

Yes. All of your details will be kept safe at all times. At the end of the data collection stage all you will be given a unique identifying number, or false name, so that they cannot be identified in any way. This means that no identifiable data or information will appear in the final report.

Only End Furniture Poverty staff will have access to the data which we collect for this project. We will never share that data with any third party without your consent. All of the data will be kept for no longer than is necessary and will be deleted once the project has been completed.

All of the information and data collected will not be used for anything other than this specific research project. If you wish to know more about End Furniture Poverty, and you want to keep up to date with what we are doing please visit our website and subscribe to our mailing list.

Under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) we are required to set out our legal basis for the processing of data. All data collected during this project will be processed as part of our 'legitimate interests' for the purpose of better understanding the role that furniture provision in social housing can play in the reduction of furniture poverty.

Do I have to take part?

No. You do not have to take part in this study.

What will happen to the results of the study?

Once the data has been collected and analysed we aim to produce a report based on our findings. If you would like to receive a copy of this report, and be kept updated about the project, then please get in touch by emailing us at info@endfurniturepoverty.org.

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

If you are unhappy, or if there is a problem, then please feel free to get in touch by emailing info@endfurniturepoverty.org

Who can I contact if I have further questions?

If you have any further questions then please get in touch and a member of the team will get back to you as soon as possible.

Email: info@endfurniturepoverty.org

Phone: 0151 305 5229 End Furniture Poverty, Brunswick Dock, Tenant Participant V1.4

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