
Appendix 1: Sampling and recruitment

This appendix provides detail of the sample sought and achieved for the summit. It also includes the invitation sent to participants.

Achieved sample

The table below shows the number of attendees for each of the sessions that were invited and attended against the original target quotas. In total, 75 participants took part in the research (71 participants took part in the first workshop, and this grew to 75 in part following the recruitment of participants to a condensed form of participation across two sessions). Of these, 58 participants attended all four workshops and 66 attended the final workshop.

The target quotas in the table below are based on the original target sample size of 100 participants. In the end 85 were invited to the first workshop and 75 participated in at least one workshop. All these participants had experience of the housing emergency and met socioeconomic sampling criteria (majority C2DE). The achieved sample included participants from across the country, although South West residents were under-represented. The reduced sample size also meant the following characteristics had reduced representation than initially planned:

- People identifying as male, people identifying as trans/non-binary/other or who preferred not to state their gender identity.
- Gay and lesbian participants.
- Bangladeshi, White Other, Black African, and Black Caribbean participants.
- Participants from a rural location.
- Participants living with a partner and children, or participants living with a partner but without children.
- Participants who stated they had experienced discrimination relating to their housing situation.

	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
Gender						
Male	40-50	31	26	26	27	25
Female	50	51	42	38	42	37
Trans/non-binary/other/prefer not to say	5-10	3	3	3	3	3
Age	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
16-24	7	8	7	6	7	7
25-34	24	18	12	10	11	10
35-44	19	22	19	18	21	19
45-54	18	26	24	23	23	19
55-64	14	11	9	10	10	10
65+	18	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual orientation	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
Gay	10	4	3	3	3	2
Lesbian	10	3	3	3	3	3
Bisexual	10	9	7	7	7	5
Heterosexual	60	65	54	50	55	51
Other/prefer not to say	10	4	4	4	4	4
Disability/long-term illness	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
Day-to-day activities limited either a little or a lot because of a physical or mental health problem or disability	Min. 30	38	31	29	30	26
Ethnicity	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
White British	Max. 50	55	46	41	45	40
White other	8	5	3	3	3	3
Pakistani	7	2	2	2	2	2
Bangladeshi	7	0	0	0	0	0
Other Asian/ Asian British	3	4	4	4	4	4
Black African	7	2	2	2	2	2
Black Caribbean	7	2	2	2	2	2
Other Black/Black British	3	5	3	4	4	3
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	8	8	7	7	8	7
Other	N/A	2	2	2	2	2

Location (total of 8-10 per hub)	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
Birmingham	9	12	11	10	10	9
Lancashire	9	7	7	7	7	6
South West (Bristol, Devon, Dorset)	27	7	5	4	8	8
London	9	14	11	12	11	10
Manchester	9	7	6	6	5	5
Merseyside	9	12	10	9	11	9
East of England	9	11	8	7	8	6
North East	9	8	6	6	6	6
Sheffield	9	7	7	6	6	6
Urban/semi-urban/rural	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
Urban	70	58	49	46	51	47
Semi-urban	10	22	20	19	19	16
Rural	15	4	1	1	1	1
Unspecified	N/A	1	1	1	1	1
Social Grade	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
A-B	Max. 40	0	0	0	0	0
C1	(No quota set)	18	13	14	13	11
C2-E	Min. 60	66	57	52	58	54
Unspecified	N/A	1	1	1	1	0
Household characteristics	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
Household below average take home income (latest ONS release places average at: £34,000 – non-retirees)	Min. 60	70	61	56	63	57
Ability to pay rent	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
I/ we are keeping up without any difficulty	Max. 25	6	5	5	5	4
Net: struggling or falling behind	Min. 70	76	64	60	65	59
I/ we are keeping up, but struggle from time to time		27	18	17	16	16
I/ we are keeping up, but it is a constant struggle		35	32	31	36	33
I/ we are falling behind with payments		14	13	11	12	9

Other	N/A	3	3	3	3	3
Household composition	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
Single adult living with children	Min. 20	28	23	20	24	21
Couple living with children	Min. 20	18	13	12	13	12
Adult living alone	Min. 30	27	25	24	25	23
Couple living alone	Min. 20	4	3	4	3	3
Other	N/A	8	7	7	7	6
Property Occupying Status	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
Social renters	40	41	33	29	34	30
Private renters	40	30	24	26	26	24
Temporary accommodation	10	7	7	5	5	4
Unspecified	N/A	7	7	7	7	7
Housing problems in last three years	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
Not having enough bedrooms/overcrowding	Min. 15	21	18	17	18	18
Significant mould, condensation, or damp problems	Min. 25	49	42	41	44	39
Home cannot be warmed in winter	Min. 25	37	34	31	35	33
Safety hazards e.g., faulty wiring or fire risks	Min. 15	24	20	20	22	19
Home not structurally sound (i.e., it has significant defects/issues to the walls and/or roof)	Min. 15	22	20	20	19	15
Having to cut back on household essentials, such as food or heating, to pay the rent	Min. 25	46	41	38	41	40
Worry that they might be evicted	Min. 25	20	19	18	20	19
Been evicted or sent an eviction notice	Min. 15	16	13	13	14	12
Experiencing discrimination relating to my housing situation	Min. 25	17	16	16	16	14
Rough sleeping	Min. 5	15	15	15	15	13
Living in temporary accommodation	Min. 10	15	14	12	12	11
Unspecified/other	N/A	3	2	2	3	2
Impact of housing issues on life	Target	Invited	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
They have had a great deal of impact on my life	50	58	52	48	50	43
They have impacted my life somewhat	50	27	19	19	22	22

Invitation

The invitation below was sent to participants following their recruitment to the project.

Dear [INSERT NAME],

My name is [INSERT NAME] and I'm a researcher with the National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) – we are an independent research charity. I'm getting in touch because you recently agreed to take part in a project which we are holding to discuss the housing system in England. This email includes the dates and times when the discussions will be held, a link to the first session, and some further information on why we are holding these discussions.

Discussions dates and times

The four discussions will be taking place on the following dates and times:

- Thursday 25 May (online over Zoom from 5:30-8:30pm)
- Thursday 1 June (online over Zoom from 5:30-8:30pm)
- Thursday 8 June (online over Zoom from 5:30-8:30pm)
- Saturday 17 June (in-person from 11-5)

As a thank you for attending all four sessions, you will receive a **£250 Love2Shop voucher**. To participate in this study, you are required to attend all of the online and in-person events.

Session 1 Link

Please find the Zoom link to the first session below:

<https://zoom.us/j/95432181117?pwd=MCTwNUVWZEJnSG16N3RNZ09Sam10UT09>

Meeting ID: 954 3218 1117

If you are asked for a Passcode, please enter: 840779

How to attend

The first three discussions will be held online, so all you will need is a computer with internet access, a camera, and a microphone to take part. If you are unable to access a suitable device we will try and provide you with this, so if this sounds like it could be of

help to you, please do get in touch with us via the email address or phone number at the end of this email to discuss how we can support you to attend. We will also provide training on accessing and using the video calls for these online discussions.

The final discussion will be held in-person in Birmingham. We will be able to support you to attend this by covering any expense incurred by getting there. More details about this will be included in information documents you will be sent a few weeks before the event.

Don't worry – you don't need to be an expert on housing to participate in this research project, we hold these discussions to learn from people's everyday experiences. I'll explain this in a bit more detail below:

In more detail ...

We regularly bring members of the public together to discuss policy issues like the housing system in a process known as a 'citizens' assembly'. In the citizens' assembly we are running for this project, participants like yourself will be invited to discuss topics such as the impact of poor-quality housing and how it can be improved, discrimination in housing, the difficulties in finding a suitable place to rent, and ideas on how to create a better housing situation in England. The views and experiences that you share with us will help to inform UK housing policy going forward. Everything you say will be treated confidentially in line with the GDPR. You will have received information about how your data will be collected and used during your recruitment, but we have included it alongside this email too.


Thank you very much for agreeing to take part in this exciting project. We will be back in touch shortly with further information, but if you have any questions in the meantime please feel free to get in touch with us via the contact details below.

Best wishes,
[INSERT NAME]

Who are NatCen Social Research?

We are the largest independent social research institute in Britain. We conduct research into a range of social issues. Find out more at: <http://www.natcen.ac.uk>

Contact us:

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