**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET**

1. **Title of Project:**

App for pet owners and vets

1. **Legal basis for research for studies**:

The University undertakes research as part of its function for the community under its legal status. Data protection allows us to use personal data for research with appropriate safeguards in place under the legal basis of **public tasks that are in the public interest.** A full statement of your rights can be found at: [www.shu.ac.uk/about-this-website/privacy-policy/privacy-notices/privacy-notice-for-research](http://www.shu.ac.uk/about-this-website/privacy-policy/privacy-notices/privacy-notice-for-research). However, all University research is reviewed to ensure that participants are treated appropriately and their rights respected. This study was approved by the University's ethics approval process for undergraduate projects. Further information at: [www.shu.ac.uk/research/excellence/ethics-and-integrity](http://www.shu.ac.uk/research/excellence/ethics-and-integrity)

1. **Opening statement:**

We invite you to take part in a study about an app designed for pets and vets. The purpose of this research is to understand and demonstrate how this kind of app will improve communication and services. Your participation will help us better explore its potential benefits and effectiveness.

1. **Why have you asked me to take part?**

You were selected to participate in this study because you are a pet owner or have had contact with veterinary services. Your experience can help us improve our services and communications.

1. **Do I have to take part?**

It is up to you to decide if you want to take part. A copy of the information provided here is yours to keep, along with the consent form if you do decide to take part. You can still decide to withdraw at any time without giving a reason, or you can decide not to answer a particular question.

1. **What will I be required to do?**

Just browse the app, and provide honest feedback about what you liked and didn't like, or what you would have liked to find.

1. **Where will this take place?**

Sheffield Hallam University campus, Cantor building

1. **How often will I have to take part, and for how long?**

Initial interview, and the app test ( maximum 1h)

1. **If deception is involved in the study** in terms of withholding information or supplying some degree of misinformation, participants need to be alerted to it if at all feasible, e.g. some information may be withheld initially but you will be fully informed after the experiment etc., and/or the researcher needs to consult with a relevant user group about the likely acceptability of the deception to research participants.
2. **Are there any possible risks or disadvantaged in taking part**.

N/A

1. **What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

Improving veterinary services systems

1. **When will I have the opportunity to discuss my participation?**

Initial interview

1. **Will anyone be able to connect me with what is recorded and reported?**

No

1. **Who will be responsible for all of the information when this study is over**?

The researcher

1. **Who will have access to it?**

The researcher and her tutors

1. **What will happen to the information when this study is over?**

The data will be deleted after 3 months.

1. **How will you use what you find out?**

Noting feedback and reflecting, then improving the application

1. **How long is the whole study likely to last?**

10 weeks

1. **How can I find out about the results of the study?**

Contacting the researcher

Participants need to be given the opportunity to ask any further questions or seek clarification.

This information needs to be provided at the end.

Details of who to contact if you have any concerns or if adverse effects occur after the study are given below.

**Researcher/ Research Team Details:**

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| **You should contact the Data Protection Officer if:**   * you have a query about how your data is used by the University * you would like to report a data security breach (e.g. if you think your personal data has been lost or disclosed inappropriately) * you would like to complain about how the University has used your personal data   [DPO@shu.ac.uk](mailto:DPO@shu.ac.uk) | **You should contact the Head of Research Ethics (Dr Mayur Ranchordas) if:**   * you have concerns with how the research was undertaken or how you were treated   [ethicssupport@shu.ac.uk](mailto:ethicssupport@shu.ac.uk) |
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