**Participant Information Sheet**

The following material will be integrated (copied and pasted) into Qualtrics and the participant will only be able to continue with the study if they click to tick a box confirming they have read the information provided.

1. **Research Project Title:**

Gambling Personality and Behaviour

1. **Invitation paragraph**

*You are being invited to take part in a research project. Before you decide whether or not 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 discuss it with others if you wish. If you have questions, you can email Eliot Kelly-Reilly (emkelly–reilly1@sheffield.ac.uk) Thank you for reading this.*

1. **What is the project’s purpose?**

The purpose of this study is to investigate associations between gambling behaviour, personality, and how people spend their time.

1. **Why have I been chosen?**

You have been selected via Prolific’s integrated screening system.

The eligibility criteria are as follows:

* You are a UK based resident
* You regularly partake in online gambling activities
* You have some interest in crypto currency.

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

You are under no obligation to take part in this study; it is completely your choice. If you do decide to take part, you are free to withdraw at any time before the study (by selecting “cancel reservation” on Prolific) or during the study (by selecting “stop without completing” on Prolific) without giving a reason and without incurring a disadvantage.

1. **What will happen to me if I take part? What do I have to do?**

If you decide to take part in this study, you will be asked some questions about your gambling behaviour, your perception of meaning in life and various life attitudes, experiences and behaviours.

It is important to note that some question topics may cause discomfort to certain individuals. These topics include gambling behaviour, purpose in life and life history. Examples of these questions include providing level of agreement to the statements presented below:

* My life has no clear purpose.
* Lately I have found that many experiences make me unhappy.
* I often manipulate others to get what I want.

If you do experience any discomfort, distress or uncomfortable urge to gamble when you are completing the study, you can withdraw at any time before the study (by selecting “cancel reservation”) or during the study (by selecting “stop without completing”) without giving a reason and without incurring a disadvantage.

The entire study will take less than XXX minutes, and upon completion you will receive £XXX to your Prolific account.

1. **What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?**

For some people who gamble regularly, answering the questions about their gambling may result in them becoming concerned about their gambling behaviour. If you would like information about support for problems with gambling, the following organisations can help:

The NHS <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/gambling-addiction/>

GamCare <https://www.gamcare.org.uk/>

The National Gambling Helpline (0808 8020 133)

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

Whilst there are no immediate benefits for people who participate in this specific project, the broader aim of this programme of research is to understand more about how purpose is perceived by regular gamblers.

1. **Will my taking part in this project be kept confidential?**

All the information that we collect about you during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential. Your responses will be identified only by your Prolific ID.

1. **What will happen to the data collected, and the results of the research project?**

Your anonymised data will be stored on a secure University of Sheffield network drive where it will be accessible to members of the research team. Anonymised data will be placed in an online repository so that they can be shared with other researchers, in line with open science practices.

1. **Who is organising and funding the research?**

This research is organised and funded by the Department of Psychology, University of Sheffield.

1. **Who is the Data Controller?**

The University of Sheffield will act as the Data Controller for this study. This means that the University is responsible for looking after your information and using it properly.

1. **Who has ethically reviewed the project?**

This project has been ethically approved via the University of Sheffield’s Ethics Review Procedure, as administered by the psychology department.

1. **What if something goes wrong and I wish to complain about the research?**

If you are unhappy at any point in the study with your treatment by researchers, or if there is a problem that occurs during / following your participation in this study, please contact the Research Supervisor: Matt Field, 0114 2226510, matt.field@sheffield.ac.uk.

If the complaint relates to how your personal data has been handled, information about how to raise a complaint can be found in the University’s Privacy Notice: <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/govern/data-protection/privacy/general>.

1. **Contact for further information**

If you wish to obtain further information about the project, please contact Eliot Kelly-Reilly:

emkelly-reilly1@sheffield.ac.uk.,

Department of Psychology

University of Sheffield

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