Participant Information Sheet

# **Title of the Project:** AI-Powered Fair Shift Scheduling System for Enhanced Workforce Management in Restaurants

## Invitation Paragraph:

You are invited to take part in research undertaken by a student at the University of the West of England, Bristol. Before you decide whether to participate, it is important for you to understand why the study is being conducted and what it involves. Please read the following information carefully. If you have any queries or would like more information, please contact Sai Kaung Khant Zaw, MSc Data Science at UWE Bristol at [sai2.khantzaw@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:sai2.khantzaw@live.uwe.ac.uk).

## Who is Organising the Research?

The research is being conducted by Sai Kaung Khant Zaw, under the supervision of Dr David Wyatt, Senior Lecturer in Computer Science. For more details, you can view the supervisor’s profile here: <https://people.uwe.ac.uk/Person/David2Wyatt>.

## What is the Aim of the Research?

The research aims to develop an AI-powered system to ensure fair shift scheduling within a restaurant setting. This system intends to utilize sales data and employee feedback to achieve equitable shift distribution, particularly during peak operational times and holidays.

## Why Have I Been Invited to Take Part?

Your experience as an employee at the involved restaurant is invaluable for assessing both the current scheduling practices and the proposed AI system's effectiveness and fairness.

## Do I Have to Take Part?

Your participation in this research is entirely voluntary. If you choose to participate, you will sign a consent form. You may withdraw from the study without giving any reason until the specified withdrawal deadline, which is **10/07/2024**, two weeks after data collection.

## What Will Happen to Me if I Take Part?

If you agree to participate, you will be asked to **participate in an interview** to discuss your current work schedule and perceptions of workload. The interview is expected to take approximately 10 minutes. Your responses will be fully anonymized before analysis.

## Audio Recording Consent:

You will be audio-recorded during the interview to ensure accurate capture of information. These recordings will be managed confidentially, stored securely, and will be deleted after the data has been anonymized.

## What are the Benefits and Risks of Taking Part?

There are no direct benefits to you from participating, but your input will help improve scheduling practices. There are no anticipated risks to participating, and all responses will be handled confidentially.

## What Will Happen to Your Information?

All information you provide will be kept confidential. It will be anonymised at the point of data analysis and stored securely on UWE’s OneDrive system. Identifiable information will only be accessed by the research team and will not be shared outside of the university.

Where Will the Results of the Research Be Submitted or Published?

The findings will be compiled into a dissertation, which may be published in academic journals or presented at conferences. Results will be reported in a way that no individual can be identified.

## Who Has Ethically Approved This Research?

This project has been reviewed and approved by Dr David Wyatt, Senior Lecturer in Computer Science, under delegated authority from the UWE Bristol Research Ethics Committee.

## What if I Have a Concern or Something Goes Wrong?

If you have any concerns or complaints about how the research has been conducted, please contact Dr David Wyatt at David2.Wyatt@uwe.ac.uk, or the UWE Bristol Research Ethics Committee at [researchethics@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:researchethics@uwe.ac.uk).

## What if I have more questions or do not understand something?

If you would like any further information about the research, please contact either:

Dr David Wyatt at [David2.Wyatt@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:David2.Wyatt@uwe.ac.uk) and Sai Kaung Khant Zaw at [sai2.khantzaw@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:sai2.khantzaw@live.uwe.ac.uk).

## Thank You

Thank you for considering participation in this study. Your involvement is highly valued and will play a crucial role in enhancing workforce management practices within our restaurant environment.