

DUNDALK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
School of Informatics & Creative Arts
Ethical Approval Form for Research Projects

Researcher Name: Ginu Varghese Year: 2021-2022 Course: MSc in Data Analytics

Title of project: Analysis of House Pricing in Ireland

Name of supervisor: Jack Mc Donnell Date: 22/03/2022
(if applicable)

This application is to be completed by the researcher and where appropriate, in conjunction with the project supervisor. The lead researcher/supervisor is responsible for submitting the completed form to the appropriate Research Ethics Committee (details below)

Please note: If your submission is incomplete or unclear, your application will be returned to you and your project may be delayed.

Section 1

Type of Researcher

Please tick the appropriate box below to indicate the type of researcher you are:

Undergraduate
(proceed to section 2)

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Completed Ethical Approval forms for undergraduate research should be submitted to the relevant Departmental Research Ethics Committee (DREC).

Drec.dcam@dkit.ie – Department of Creative Arts Media and Music

Drec.dcs@dkit.ie – Department of Computing Science and Mathematics

Drec.dvhcc@dkit.ie – Department of Visual and Human Centred Computing

Postgraduate
(proceed to section 3)

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Completed Ethical Approval forms for Postgraduate research should be submitted directly to the School Research Ethics Committee (SREC).

Srec.ica@dkit.ie

Staff
(proceed to section 3)

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Completed Ethical Approval forms for Staff research should be submitted directly to the School Research Ethics Committee (SREC).

Section 2

Please complete questions 1-4 listed below.

	Human and / or Animal Research	YES	NO
1	<p>Does your research involve human participants other than the following¹?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research using exclusively secondary sources. • Research using materials legally accessible to the public that have legal protection, e.g., record of court judgements, data archives. • Research using materials that are publicly accessible and where there is no reasonable expectation for privacy, e.g., books, published third party interviews. • Observations of human behaviour in public where (i) those being observed have no reasonable expectation of privacy, (ii) there is no intervention on the part of the researcher nor any interaction between the researcher and those observed, and (iii) individuals are not identifiable in the results. <p>If 'YES', please complete B and C below.</p>		
2	<p>Does your project involve working with animals?</p> <p>– If 'YES', please complete B and C below. – Please note that for ethical consideration: 'Animals' are classed as vertebrate animals including cyclostomes and cephalopods (DIRECTIVE 2010/63/EU)</p>		
3	<p>Does your project involve working with participants from any of the following categories?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minors (under 18 years of age) • People with learning or communication difficulties • Patients • People in custody • People engaged in illegal activities <p>If 'YES', please complete D below.</p>		
4	<p>Does your project have any possible ethical implications other than those outlined in questions 1, 2 and 3?</p> <p>If 'YES', please complete E below.</p>		

A. I consider that this project has no significant ethical implications² to be brought through the ICA School Ethics Review Process
Please complete Section 4

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¹ If there is any doubt, researchers should contact the Chair of the SREC.

² In determining significant implications, please consider all potential risks attached to this project. If there is any doubt, researchers should contact the Chair of the SREC.

B.

I. **Is this study part of a larger project that already has ethical clearance?**

YES / NO

If **YES** please answer question B II.

If **NO** please answer question C.

II. If this study is part of a larger project that already has ethical clearance, are you proposing any changes to the operational plan already ethically approved?

YES / NO

If **YES**, please complete *Sections 3 and 4*.

If **NO**, then please provide the project details below and complete *Section 4*.

Title of project with ethical clearance: _____

C. **Could this project have ethical implications that should be brought before the appropriate ICA Departmental Ethics Review Committee as it will be carried out with human participants?**

YES / NO

If **YES**, please complete *Sections 3 and 4*.

If **NO**, please complete *Section 4*.

D. **I consider that this project may have ethical implications that should be brought before the School Research Ethics Committee as it will be carried out with human participants in a “vulnerable” category.**

Please complete Sections 3 and 4

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All research carried out with human participants in a vulnerable category must be referred by the Departmental Research Ethics Committee to the School Research Ethics Committee for approval.

E. **Could this project have ethical implications, other than those previously outlined, that should be brought before the appropriate ICA Departmental Ethics Review Committee?**

YES / NO

If **YES**, please complete *Sections 3 and 4*.

If **NO**, please complete *Section 4*.

Section 3

3.1 Application Form Checklist

Please complete Section 3 and provide additional information as attachments.

My application includes the following documentation:	INCLUDED (mark as YES)	NOT APPLICABLE (mark as N/A)
Recruitment advertisement		N/A
Participant Information Leaflet		N/A
Participant Informed Consent form		N/A
Questionnaire/Survey		N/A
Interview/Focus Group Questions		N/A
Debriefing material		N/A
Evidence of approval to gain access to off-site location		N/A
Ethical approval from external organizations. If ethical approval from external organizations is pending give details below		N/A
Details N/A		

3.2 Project Details

a) Lay description (Maximum 200 words)

Please outline, in terms that any non-expert would understand, what your research project is about, including what participants will be required to do. Please explain any technical terms or discipline-specific phrases.

The property prices in Ireland is increasing day by day. In this situation, I have chosen my project as to analyze the property prices in Ireland and find out what are the factors that are contributing towards the increase in the house prices. There are no external participants required in the project. The analysis will be done based on the data available from the property prices website and no personal information is needed here. I am planning to incorporate the different statistical as well as machine learning techniques to analyze the property prices.

Analysis will be done for the data from 2010 to 2022. There is information about the county in which the property is situated, the price of house, description of property address and date of sale. I would like to add the province and latitude-longitude information to the dataset for better analysis.

b) Research objectives (Maximum 150 words)

Please summarise briefly the objectives of the research.

- Find out the property prices in each year.
- Find out the counties in which most of the houses are sold.
- Find out the counties in which the least number of houses sold.
- Find out the house prices in each county/province.
- Find out the year in which most houses were sold.
- Find out the trend in the property pricing over the years.
- Find out either the New or secondhand dwelling has the highest prices and is it inclusive of VAT.
- To analyze how the house prices depends on the type of house and its size.

c) Research location and duration

Location(s)/Population*	DkIT Campus
Research start date	01/06/2022
Research end date	16/09/2022
Approximate duration	3 Months

* If location/Population other than DkIT campus/population, provide details of the approval to gain access to that location/population as an appendix.

3.3 Participants

		YES	NO	N/A
Do participants fall into any of the following special groups?	Minors (under 18 years of age)			N/A
	People with learning or communication difficulties			N/A
	Patients			N/A
	People in custody			N/A

	People engaged in illegal activities (e.g. drug-taking)			N/A
Have you given due consideration to the need for satisfactory Garda clearance?				N/A

3.4 Sample Details

Approximate number	N/A
Where will participants be recruited from?	N/A
Inclusion Criteria	N/A
Exclusion Criteria	N/A
Will participants be remunerated, and if so in what form?	
N/A	

Justification for proposed sample size and for selecting a specific gender, age, or any other group if this is done in your research.
N/A

3.5 Risk to Participants

- a) Please describe any risks to participants that may arise due to the research. Such risks could include physical stress, emotional distress, perceived coercion e.g. lecturer interviewing own students. Detail the measures and considerations you have put in place to minimize these risks
N/A
- b) What will you communicate to participants about any identified risks? Will any information be withheld from them about the research purpose or procedure? If so, please justify this decision.
N/A

3.6 Informed Consent

	YES	NO	N/A
Will you obtain active consent for participation?			N/A

Will you describe the main experimental procedures to participants in advance?			N/A
Will you inform the participants that their participation is voluntary and may be withdrawn at any point?			N/A
If the research is observational, will you ask for their consent to being observed?			N/A
With questionnaires, will you give participants the option of omitting questions they do not want to answer?			N/A
Will you tell participants that their data will be treated with full confidentiality and that, if published, it will not be identifiable as theirs?			N/A
Will the data be anonymous?			N/A
Will you debrief participants at the end of their participation?			N/A
Will your project involve deliberately misleading participants in any way, or will information be withheld? If you answer yes, give details and justification for doing this below.			N/A
N/A			

- a) Please outline your approach to ensuring the confidentiality of data (that is, that the data will only be accessible to agreed upon parties and the safeguarding mechanisms you will put in place to achieve this.) You should include details on how and where the data will be stored, and who will have access to it.**

There is no personal data involved in the project. All the data being used is downloaded from <https://propertypriceregister.ie/> website. It is open to the public for download and use. So, there is no confidentiality of data involved.

b) Please outline how long the data will be retained for, if it will be destroyed and how it will be destroyed.

Standard DkIT procedures and guidelines will be followed. No confidential data is being used for this project.

1.Storage – N/A

2. Access – N/A

3. Communication – N/A

4. Digital Platform Usage – N/A

5. Data maintenance – N/A

Section 4

Researcher I have read and I understand the DkIT Ethics Policy available from:
<https://www.dkit.ie/assets/uploads/documents/Research/Policies/DkIT%20Research%20Ethics%20Policy.pdf>

Signed:  Print Name: Ginu Varghese Date: 22/03/2022
(Researcher)

Supervisor: Applications for Ethical Approval of Undergraduate projects are forwarded to the Departmental Research Ethics Committee for approval or referral to the School Research Ethics Committee. Applications for Ethical Approval of Postgraduate and Staff projects are sent to the School Research Ethics Committee for Approval.

I have read and approved this form & information:

Signed:  Print Name: Dr Martin Mc Hugh Date: 12 May 2022
(Supervisor/Head of Department/ Research Centre Director/ Head of School)

There is an obligation on the researcher and/or supervisor to bring to the attention of the Departmental/School Research Ethics Committee(s): (a) Any issues with ethical implications not clearly covered by this form (b) Any ethical issues which may arise during the carrying out of the research; (c) Any ethically significant change made to the project after approval.

Section 5 (For office use only)

STATEMENT OF ETHICAL APPROVAL (FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROJECTS ONLY)

This project has been considered using agreed department procedures and is now:

Approved:

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Referred to the School Ethics Committee:

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Signed: _____ Print Name: _____ Date: _____
(Chair of Departmental Research Ethics Committee/Head of Department)

STATEMENT OF ETHICAL APPROVAL

This project has been considered using agreed School procedures and is now:

Approved:

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Rejected (further information sought):

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Chair of School Research Ethics Committee

This project has been considered by the Ethics Committee and ethical approval is granted.

Signed: _____ Print Name: _____ Date: _____
Chair of School Research Ethics Committee