Information for participants:

A blockchain powered smart campus

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You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you make a decision, please read the following information.

About the project. This focus group is being conducted as part of a Level 4 Computing Science project. In this project the student has developed a system for storing student grades in a blockchain and for awarding prizes in a University of Glasgow cryptocurrency.

About the focus group. As part of the evaluation of this project, we are inviting members of staff to participate in a focus group to discuss the use of blockchain technology for University administrative systems. The focus group is intended to elicit opinions from members of staff about the opportunities and challenges in this area.

Procedure. Between two and four members of staff will be invited to participate in the focus group. The session will begin with a short presentation about cryptocurrency, blockchains and Ethereum. You will then be presented with some scenarios, and finally you will be asked three (approx.) open-ended questions.

Data collection and management. An audio recorder will be used in the focus groups and the recordings will be partially or fully transcribed. Anonymisation will take place at the point of transcription, meaning your name or any personal information that is not relevant to the study will be omitted. The recordings and transcripts will be stored on a password protected computer. These recordings and transcripts will be deleted by the student within 12 months. It is possible that this work may be used in a research publication, and if so the recordings and transcripts will be stored on a University computer and/or the Enlighten repository for ten years or more. Only key quotes from the transcripts will be made publically available, access to the other data will be restricted.

Key risks. This is a low risk study. The main factors you may wish to consider are whether you have time to participate, and whether your opinions on administrative systems in the University should be made public.

Withdrawal. You are free to withdraw at any time without needing to give a reason.

Publication and access to results. The results of this study will form part of an L4 dissertation. Results from this work may also be published in an academic conference or journal. Access to the results will be possible via the School of Computing Science.

Consent form:

A blockchain powered smart campus.

I have read the information sheet

I understand that I am free to withdraw at any time

I agree to the use of a voice recorder

I agree to participate in this study

Signature

Print name

Date