



University
of Exeter



Sensing Climate study

How climate change is affecting
disabled people



Information to help you decide if you
want to take part in our study

About this study



My name is Sarah Bell. I am doing a **study** about disabled people and climate change.



A **study** means looking at something to find out more about it. My study is called **Sensing Climate**.

I am working with a group of people on this study.

Our study looks at how climate change affects disabled people. It also looks at how plans about climate change affect disabled people.



If you are disabled and you want to take part in our study, please read this booklet.

About climate change



The world is getting hotter. We call this **climate change**.

Because of climate change, we have more things like:



- floods and storms



- heatwaves



- animals and plants dying out



Climate change is caused by too much **pollution**.

Pollution mostly comes from burning things like coal, gas and oil.



We burn coal, gas and oil to:

- make electricity



- make things in factories



- fly planes



We need to try to have less pollution. This will help to stop climate change from getting worse.

Plans about dealing with climate change



Lots of people have written plans about how to deal with climate change.



The plans say how to:

- help people deal with changing weather

and



- stop climate change from getting worse



But often, people do not think about disabled people when they write these plans.



Sometimes disabled people are not treated fairly when we deal with climate change.



Some of the things that can help to stop climate change make things harder for disabled people.

Some things that can make things harder for disabled people:



- stopping people from using plastic straws. Bendy plastic straws are safer and easier for some disabled people to use than paper straws



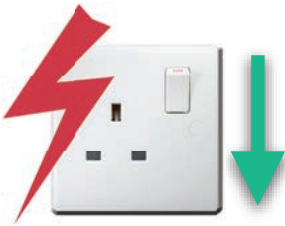
- getting rid of disabled parking spaces in towns to make new cycle lanes. This makes it harder for disabled people to get around



- paying for driving some cars in some towns and cities. This costs too much money for lots of disabled people



- stopping people driving cars in some towns or cities. Some disabled people cannot walk or cycle. They need cars to get around



- asking people to use less electricity. Some disabled people need to use electricity for things like:



- electric wheelchairs



- machines to help them breathe



- stair lifts



It is harder for these people to use less electricity.

What needs to happen



We need to find a way to live with climate change that works for everyone.



It is really important to include disabled people when we make plans about climate change.



This means listening to people and what they want. This makes sure people's views are included in any decisions.



This will make dealing with climate change fair for everyone.

What we want to do

We want to talk to people in 3 cities:



- Dublin
- Glasgow
- Bristol

We want to find out:

- how disabled people are affected by climate change



- how local plans about climate change affect people in that area





- how disabled people can help make plans about dealing with climate change



If you do not live in Dublin, Glasgow or Bristol, you can still take part.



We have events you can join in online.



You can find out more information here:

www.sensing-climate.com

Who we want to talk to

We would like to talk to people who:



- are **d/Deaf**. **d/Deaf** means a person who has been deaf from birth or a person who finds it hard to hear things



- are disabled



- are **neurodivergent**. **Neurodivergent** means your brain works in a different way to most people. You may be autistic

or



- have a **long-term** health condition. **Long-term** means it lasts for 12 months or longer

How you can take part



There are 3 ways you can take part in our study. You can choose the way that suits you best:



1. Interview

We want to meet and talk to people to hear their stories. This is called an **interview**.



2. A writing workshop

A **workshop** is when a group of people get together to talk and share ideas.



In this workshop, you can write down your experiences about climate change.



3. A big picture

You can help to make a big picture that shows your ideas about disability and climate change.



You could show us by doing things like:

- writing



- drawing



- talking



- taking a photo



We have easy read booklets with more information about ways you can take part.

If you want to read the booklets, you can contact Sarah:



By email:

Sarah.Bell@exeter.ac.uk

How to take part



For more information, or if you would like to take part, you can contact Sarah:



By email:

Sarah.Bell@exeter.ac.uk



Thank you for reading this leaflet. We hope you want to take part in our study.