

## What will the information be used for and who will use it?

- Like your study responses, the additional information would be used by professional academic and social policy researchers for non-commercial research and statistics.
- Any sensitive information would only be made available to them under restricted access arrangements which make sure that the information is used responsibly and safely.
- Names and addresses are never included in the results and no individual can be identified from the research.
- The data will not be used to work out whether any individual is claiming benefits they should not be or is not paying the right amount of tax. Giving permission will not affect any current or future claims for benefits.
- Additional details about how this information will be used can be found on the study website: [www.bcs70.info](http://www.bcs70.info)

## What if I change my mind?

You can withdraw permission **at any time** for your NHS, DWP or HMRC records to be added to your study answers. If you do this, you can still continue to participate in the study.

## Who do I contact?

If you want any further information or want to withdraw your permission please contact us by writing to:

**1970 British Cohort Study**  
**FREEPOST KE7770**  
**LONDON**  
**WC1H 0BR**

*(no stamp required if posted in the UK)*

The study team can also be contacted on  
Freephone: **0500 600 616**  
Email: **[bc70@ioe.ac.uk](mailto:bc70@ioe.ac.uk)**



## AGE 42 SURVEY

## WHAT OTHER INFORMATION WOULD WE LIKE TO COLLECT?



Information routinely collected by government departments can help us understand much more about your experiences and how to support individuals and families if linked to the answers you have given us. We will ask you (and your partner) for permission to link your data in this way.

## What am I being asked to give my permission for?

### National Health Service (NHS) records

The NHS maintains information on all patients accessing health services through routine medical and other health-related records. These records are held within statistical health databases which record information about:

- Admissions or attendances at hospital (including dates of admission, discharge or attendance, diagnoses received, treatments given, surgical procedures)
- Visits to your family doctor or other health professional e.g. midwife
- Records of specific conditions such as cancer or diabetes
- Prescriptions given

Adding your NHS records will allow researchers to examine both the lifestyle factors associated with the onset of particular illnesses and the ways in which illnesses have an impact on other aspects of people's lives.

### Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) records

The DWP keeps records of everybody's benefit claims and any periods people spend on employment programs. Adding your DWP records will help us get a better picture of those who are claiming benefits and how they can best be helped.

### Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) records

HMRC keep records of everybody's employment, earnings, tax credits and occupational pensions (since 1998) and National Insurance Contributions since the early 1970s. These records will tell us a great deal about your economic situation – at present, in the past and in the future. This will allow researchers to examine how economic circumstances impact upon other aspects of life in greater detail.

## Why are you asking for my partner's records?

The circumstances of those around you have a big effect on you. If, for example, your partner were to become seriously ill, or were to experience a prolonged period of unemployment this could clearly have a hugely significant impact on your life. We are only able to collect a very limited amount of information about your partner when we interview you, so adding their records will give us a much better understanding of your family circumstances.

## What will happen if I give permission?

- 1) BCS70 will give your name, address and date of birth to the NHS, DWP and HMRC. Your national insurance number will be provided to the DWP and HMRC (if you provide it).
- 2) The DWP, HMRC and NHS will use these details to identify the correct records it holds about you.
- 3) The DWP, HMRC and NHS will send your records to BCS70.
- 4) The DWP, HMRC and NHS will not retain the information sent to them.
- 5) BCS70 will add the DWP, HMRC and NHS records to your study responses
- 6) Your personal information (e.g. name and address) will be removed before any research is done.

If your partner gives permission the same process will occur and their records will be added to your study responses.

## What if I don't want to give my permission?

If you don't want to do this you can still take part in the rest of the survey.