

## **Consent statement**

You are invited to take part in a research study. The study investigates whether the tools developed for the Healthway-funded project titled, 'Pathway to healthy food environments: a guide for local governments in Western Australia' were useful for planning actions and initiatives that promote and support healthier food environments.

Participation in this research is voluntary. If you do not wish to take part, you do not have to.

Your relationship with Edith Cowan University (ECU) and its staff will not be affected by your decision. Your relationship with your colleagues and supervisor will not be affected. By agreeing to this statement, you are telling us that you understand what you have read and agree to take part in the study procedures described in this document.

### **What does participation in this research involve?**

As a participant in the 'Pathway to healthy food environments' study, we will be collecting statistical data on the 'Pathway to healthy food environments' website such as: number of users; time taken to complete each module; time taken to complete all modules; number of times the forms were locked and unlocked; total number of views and downloads. The data will be combined to form an overall picture and will not look specifically at individual users.

### **What will happen to information about me?**

By agreeing to the Consent statement, you consent to researchers collecting and using statistical data relating to your use of the 'Pathway to healthy food environments' website. Any information that can identify you, such as your name and your contact details, will be separated from the data, and will remain confidential. This means that only researchers working directly on this project will have access to this information. At the end of this research project, the information will be stored according to ECU policies and procedures. This includes being stored in a secure, locked location for seven (7) years, and then deleted.

Information obtained from this study may be published in scholarly publications such as journal articles, reports, conference presentations, posters and infographics. Only general findings of the research will be presented and will not include any identifiable information about study participants.

As a participant, you can request a copy of the published study results by contacting the Primary Investigator, Ana Gowrea via telephone or email.

### **Who has reviewed the research project?**

All research in Australia involving humans is reviewed by an independent group of people called a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). The ethical aspects of this research project have been approved by the ECU HREC (Approval no. 21253).

### **Further information and who to contact**

For further information about any aspect of this study, please contact the Primary Investigator, Ana Gowrea on (08) 6304 5055, or email [a.gowrea@ecu.edu.au](mailto:a.gowrea@ecu.edu.au).

If you have any concerns or complaints about the research project and wish to talk to an independent person, you may contact the ECU Research Ethics Officer on (08) 6304 2170 or [research.ethics@ecu.edu.au](mailto:research.ethics@ecu.edu.au).