



*SUBDENSE - Understanding polyrationalities of space, actors, and
policies on suburban densification*

<https://news.liverpool.ac.uk/2023/03/01/researchers-to-explore-issues-and-challenges-to-suburban-densification/>

You are being invited to participate in the SUBDENSE research study. Before you decide whether to participate, it is important for you to understand why this research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and feel free to ask us if you would like more information or if there is anything that you do not understand. Please also feel free to discuss this with your colleagues, friends, relatives if you wish. We would like to stress that you do not have to accept this invitation and should only agree to take part if you want to. Thank you.

What is the purpose of the research?

We are conducting research into densification of suburban neighbourhoods; i.e. increasing the number of homes through conversion and new build. We particularly seek to understand how and why this densification has occurred (or does not occur) by examining it from the perspectives of the different groups of people involved (e.g. planners, developers, estate agents, neighbours). The study contributes to a wider international collaboration comparing contemporary practices of suburban densification in the UK, France and Germany.

Who is funding this research?

Within the UK, this project is funded by the ESRC (Economic and Social Research Council). This is part of UK Research and Innovation – a non-departmental public body sponsored by the UK government.

Who will conduct the research?

The project in the UK is led by Dr Sebastian Dembski at Liverpool University. He is assisted by Dr Mark Smith (Research Associate), and also Professor Richard Dunning and Dr Tatiana Moreira de Souza (senior investigators), also at Liverpool University. Contact details at bottom of form.

Why have I been chosen?

You have been chosen as an individual who has professional experience of suburban densification and who can give a unique, first hand perspective on contemporary issues and practices.

Do I have to take part?

You are under no obligation to participate and can withdraw at any time.

What will happen if I take part?

You would be asked to participate in a 45-60 minute interview either in person or via a zoom/teams/telephone call if you prefer. During the interview you will be asked to reflect on a number of questions about issues pertaining to suburban densification and your professional experiences with it. While we ask you to answer questions as best you can, you can skip any questions you feel uncomfortable or unable to answer.

Where will the research be conducted?

Interviews will be conducted either in your work place, our work place or remotely via the internet (Teams or Zoom) or telephone. We can be flexible in arranging times.

What happens to the data collected?

The University processes personal data as part of its research and teaching activities in accordance with the lawful basis of 'public task', and in accordance with the University's purpose of "advancing education, learning and research for the public benefit".

Under UK data protection legislation, the University acts as the Data Controller for personal data collected as part of the University's research. The Principal Investigator acts as the Data Processor for this study, and any queries relating to the handling of your personal data can be sent to Dr Sebastian Dembski (sebastian.dembski@liverpool.ac.uk).

Further information on how your data will be used can be found in the table below.

How will my data be collected?	We will interview you and make a recording. This will later be transcribed. We will send a copy of the transcript to you to review and amend your answers if you so wish.
How will my data be stored?	Data will be stored on secure University servers.
How long will my data be stored for?	Audio data will be stored only until a transcript is produced. After which it will be deleted. The transcript will be retained for 10 years after completion of the study.
What measures are in place to protect the security and confidentiality of my data?	All data will be held on password protected University servers. Any data used in the study will be anonymised to protect confidentiality; we will never reveal the names of our interviewees to anyone.
Will my data be anonymised?	Transcripts will be anonymised to remove any information which might identify you, including names, places and dates. We will send you a copy of the transcript to confirm that this level of anonymisation is sufficient for you. Audio data can not be anonymised easily so is only retained for transcription.
How will my data be used?	Your transcript will be used to analyse to understand suburban densification, which will be reported through conference papers and articles in academic and professional journals. Any quotations used will be anonymised.
Who will have access to my data?	Your data will only be accessible to the SUBDENSE research team members.
Will my data be archived for use in other research projects in the future?	We will retain a copy of your transcript for 10 years after the study to help with future research projects and for educational use. We are also obliged as a condition of our funding to upload a fully anonymised interview transcript of your

	interview to the UK Data Service for other researchers to view and use (except where ethical and confidentiality concerns prevent). Please tick the appropriate box on the consent form if you do not wish your transcript to be uploaded.
How will my data be destroyed?	Data will be destroyed by deleting it from the University servers.

What happens if I do not want to take part or if I change my mind?

If you change your mind and wish to withdraw, please contact a member of the project team using the details below to arrange for your removal from the study. You may withdraw at any time and do not need to state a reason. You may request the destruction of any information you have provided up until the completion of the project.

Will I be paid for participating in the research?

Unfortunately, we are not in a position to pay participants.

Are there any risks in taking part?

The main risk from taking part in this study is that while we will anonymise your data, there may well be some events and elements which would only be knowable to someone in your position. To mitigate, we will give you the opportunity to remove any content from the transcript which you feel might still be used to identify you.

Are there any benefits in taking part?

There are several benefits from contributing to our study. You can add to your professional network through helping our research team while you might also gain insights and perspectives which assist your work. We can also keep you aware of our research which might help in your professional work. You will also be contributing to a valuable piece of work which might shape the future direction of planning policies.

What is the duration of the research?

The research project is planned to be completed by 31st December 2025.

What will happen to the results of the study?

Research outcomes will be published in in academic and professional journals. Please let us know via the consent form if you wish to be kept informed of our publications and outputs.

What if I am unhappy or if there is a problem?

In the event of a problem being encountered, please contact the research team on the details below.

If you are unhappy about any aspect, please feel free to let us know by contacting Dr Sebastian Dembski and we will try to help. If you remain unhappy or have a complaint which you feel you cannot come to us with then you should contact the Research Ethics and Integrity Office at ethics@liv.ac.uk. When contacting the Research Ethics and Integrity Office, please provide details of the name or description of the study (so that it can be identified), the researcher(s) involved, and the details of the complaint you wish to make.

The University strives to maintain the highest standards of rigour in the processing of your data. However, if you have any concerns about the way in which the University processes

your personal data, it is important that you are aware of your right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office by calling 0303 123 1113.

Contact for further information

For further information about your participation and/or the wider project please contact:

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