

# PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

## Business Actor Survey in the UK | January - March 2026

**PROJECT TITLE: EMPOCI - *Governing sustainable energy-mobility transitions: multi-level policy mixes, transformative capacities and low-carbon innovations***

### Invitation to take part in a research project

You are being invited to take part in the "Governing sustainable energy-mobility transitions" project EMPOCI. Before you decide whether or not to take part in our survey, we would like to provide you with some information on this research.

### Research purpose

EMPOCI is a publicly funded research project investigating the innovation-led decarbonisation of the increasingly interconnecting energy-mobility systems. Over the past 5 years, we have conducted multiple studies exploring the electrification of transport in the UK and Germany, supplemented by additional research on the US and China. One of these studies is this survey of automotive business actors in the UK. With it, we aim to better understand the challenges and opportunities they face in the global innovation race toward e-mobility. We specifically focus on the activities your company undertakes in this race – such as changes in innovation and production – and the role of policy in shaping the direction and speed of the transformation of the UK automotive industry.

### Why have I been asked to participate?

Your company has been identified as a manufacturer or supplier within the UK's automotive ecosystem. Your voice is essential to help us better understand the role of industrial and climate policy for the decarbonisation of the UK automotive industry amidst a highly uncertain and rapidly changing business environment. Based on the aggregated insights from this research, we will derive key strategy and policy implications for companies, policy makers, and other stakeholders interested in safeguarding industrial competitiveness in a zero-emission future.

### Do I have to take part?

No, your participation is completely voluntary - it is up to you to decide whether or not to take part in our survey. If you decide to support our research, you will be asked to provide your consent for our survey.

### What will happen if I do take part?

Taking part in this 20-minute survey will give you an opportunity to provide your insights on the development of the e-mobility system, the political framework conditions and the key challenges and opportunities associated with the electrification of transport.

### Will the survey be confidential?

Yes. All information collected will be kept strictly confidential and handled in accordance with data protection legislation. Further, the data will not be used for any purposes other than this research project and its related publications.

### Will the participation be anonymous?

Yes, our survey sub-contractor (OMB Research) will ensure all participant information is stored pseudonymised, following established standards and best practices. After data

collection the contact data will be deleted, and the survey data will be anonymised. Only the anonymised data will be shared with the EMPOCI team, which will then be securely stored at the University of Sussex, with access being strictly limited to authorised researchers within the EMPOCI team, as granted by the principal investigator Prof Rogge.

### Can I withdraw from this study?

Yes, participants have the right to withdraw before their responses are anonymised and included in our analysis, without providing a reason. To withdraw, contact the subcontractor directly to request deletion of your responses. If such a request is made before the data collection phase ends, all data related to you will be permanently deleted. After the data collection and anonymisation of data, deletion is no longer possible.

### What should I do if I am willing to take part?

You can either complete the online survey or arrange a phone interview with our subcontractor. In both cases, we will ask for your consent to participate in the survey.

### What will happen to the results of the research study?

The research data will be used to analyse the ongoing e-mobility transition in the UK, with a particular focus on the role of the policy mix. The results of the research will be published in academic journals such as *Research Policy*. They will also be synthetized into a policy brief. These publications will be available to participants on the [project website](#).

### Research Team

This research project is conducted by Prof Dr Karoline Rogge and her research team at the Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU) at the University of Sussex in Brighton, UK.

### Funding for the research

The EMPOCI project is funded by the European Research Council (grant agreement no. 85273) and runs for 6.5 years from 1 June 2020 to 31 October 2026.

### Who has reviewed this study?

The research has been approved by the University of Sussex Ethics Committee (C-REC) under the application number ER/KR218/3. The University of Sussex holds insurance coverage that addresses its legal liabilities in connection with this study.

### Contact

If you have any questions on this research, or the way it is conducted, please contact:

Prof Dr Karoline S. Rogge, Professor of Sustainability Innovation and Policy, Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU), University of Sussex, Brighton, BN1 9SL, UK: [k.rogge@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:k.rogge@sussex.ac.uk)

Chair of the Social Sciences & Arts Cross Schools Research Ethics Committee at the University of Sussex: [c-recss@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:c-recss@sussex.ac.uk)

### Further Information

EMPOCI project: <https://sussex.ac.uk/empoci> | [empoci@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:empoci@sussex.ac.uk)

OMB Research: <https://ombresearch.co.uk/> | [info@ombresearch.co.uk](mailto:info@ombresearch.co.uk)

***Thank you for your support of this research!***