

## Participation information sheet

You are invited to take part in focus group as part of a research project exploring issues of sexual harassment and violence in relation to university life, and how these issues can be best tackled by universities. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.

Thank you for reading this.

### About this research

There is some research now available which outlines the scope of the problem of sexual harassment and violence in third level education but we are at very early stages of developing our capacity to challenge this situation. These focus groups will help us to develop our understanding of how best to develop campaigning, awareness-raising and training tools.

The focus groups will be co-facilitated by Kathryn Dawson (Sexual Violence Prevention Coordinator) and Loraine Williams (Project Assistant) from Rape Crisis Scotland. Rape Crisis Scotland is a national voluntary sector organisation which works to improve responses to survivors of sexual violence, to prevent sexual violence through work with schools and universities. Kathryn is the national programme coordinator and Loraine delivers programmes locally in Forth Valley. Both have experience of support work with survivors of sexual violence, as well as MSc research in relation to gender based violence. Professor Michele Burman (Head of School / Professor of Criminology (Sociology), University of Glasgow) is the Principal Investigator. She will not be involved directly in the recruitment or facilitation of the focus groups, but will have access to the data – please see below for more details about what the data will include and how it will be handled.

This project is part of the *Ending Sexual Harassment and Violence in Third Level Education* project, led by the National Women's Council of Ireland with other partners in Cyprus, Lithuania and associate partners in Germany. The University of Glasgow and Glasgow Caledonian University are associate partners in Scotland. It is funded by the European Union.

### Your participation in the focus group

Your participation in the project is entirely voluntary. The focus group will take place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March from 10 am till 12.15 in the Students' Representative Council, McIntyre Building, University Avenue (precise venue to be confirmed). There will be tea and coffee on arrival, a break partway through and lunch provided at 12.15 to thank you for your time.