

## Health and lifestyles of people aged 50 and over

Some time ago you took part in the first stage of a study on ageing, conducted jointly by the National Centre for Social Research and academic researchers from University College London and the Institute for Fiscal Studies. The study is funded by a number of Government Departments in Britain and the National Institute on Aging in the United States. Your contribution helped make the first wave of the study a success, and we are writing to you now about the next stage, which is now called the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA). ELSA explores the health, lifestyles and financial situation of people as they grow older.

We would like to revisit everyone who participated in the study during 2002, to conduct a second interview to see how their lives have changed over the last two years. Everyone who is interviewed will receive a token of appreciation for their help.

We are currently updating our records and wish to establish whether your contact details are correct. Therefore if this letter has been forwarded to you at an address that is different from that above, please complete the enclosed *yellow* form and return it to us in the envelope provided by 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2004. By giving us your address you are not committing yourself to be interviewed. We will be in touch again some time in the near future and you can decide then whether you would like to take part.

If the addressee has moved into a residential care home such as a nursing home, or passed away, we would appreciate it if you could spare the time to complete the enclosed *blue* form and return it to us in the envelope provided by 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2004. You will not need a stamp if returning a yellow or blue form.

Any information you provide us will be treated in strict confidence in accordance with the Data Protection Act. If you have any questions about the survey, please do not hesitate to contact Helen Selwood on freephone 0800 652 4569.

Yours sincerely,



Helen Selwood  
Project Manager