

Our Reference: P2796

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Dear _____

Health and lifestyles of people aged 50 and over

Some time ago, your household kindly took part in the Health Survey for England, which was conducted by the *National Centre for Social Research* on behalf of the Department of Health. You may since have also helped us with a study called the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA). This ground-breaking study explores the health, lifestyles and financial situation of people as they grow older, with interviews for study members and any partners, now and in the coming years. The study is being carried out by the *National Centre for Social Research* jointly with academic researchers from University College London and the Institute for Fiscal Studies. Funding comes from a number of Government Departments in Britain, and the National Institute of Aging in the United States.

We are writing to you now to ask for your help with the next stage of ELSA starting in May 2008. Participation is voluntary, but we hope that all of the people who are chosen will take part so that our results give an accurate picture of people's experiences. Everyone who is interviewed will receive a cheque for £10 as a token of appreciation for their help.

_____, an interviewer from the *National Centre for Social Research* called today at the address we have on our files only to learn that you now live elsewhere.

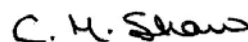
The interviewer spoke to _____ who did not wish to give your new address without your permission, but did agree to forward this letter to you on our behalf.

We hope that you are able and willing to help us with the next stage of the study. If so, we should be very grateful if you would let us have the details of your present address as soon as possible. Please call Chris Shaw on Freephone 0800 652 4574 between 9:00am and 5:30pm, Monday to Friday. Alternatively, you can complete the form enclosed and return it to us in the pre-paid envelope provided; you will not need a stamp. Can I stress that by giving us your address you are not committing yourself to be interviewed. You can decide when the interviewer contacts you to explain the study. **If you do decide to take part, all the information you give will be treated in strict confidence, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.** It will not be released in any way that allows you or your family to be identified. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



Professor Sir Michael Marmot
Principal Investigator



Chris Shaw
Project Supervisor