

Interview Participant Information Sheet

Easy-Read Version

Thank you for your interest in this research.

About this research



- **Medact** is a health justice charity. We want everyone to be able to live a healthy life.

research



- We are doing a research project called 'Criminalising Distress' to find out more about **SIM (Serenity Integrated Mentoring)** and other programmes with different names based on the SIM model.

police



mental health services



- The model puts police officers in community mental health teams.



- We want to hear from **people who have experience with SIM** (and related programmes) and let them describe their own experiences in their own words.



- **People who have used mental health services helped to plan this research project.** These people were in the StopSIM Coalition.



- The project is led by **Hil Aked**, Medact's Research Manager. Hil's contact details are at the bottom of this document.

Who can take part in this research?



- To take part you need to be **at least 18 years old** and have had **experience with SIM** (or a related programme).
- For example, as a service user, their friend or a member of their family, or as a health worker.

What will happen if I agree to take part?

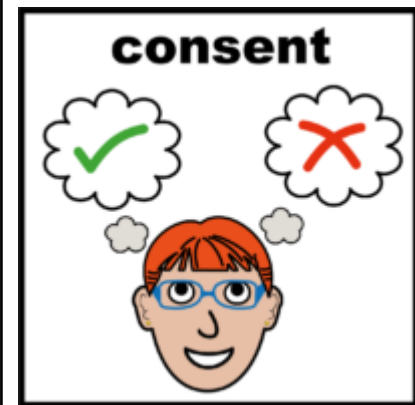


- If you agree to take part in an interview, first **you can ask us questions about the interview, and we will answer them.**

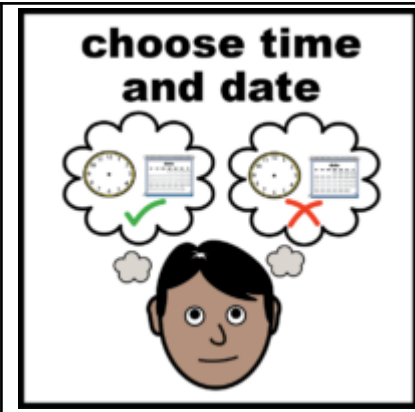


- Then, we will support you to fill out **two documents**:

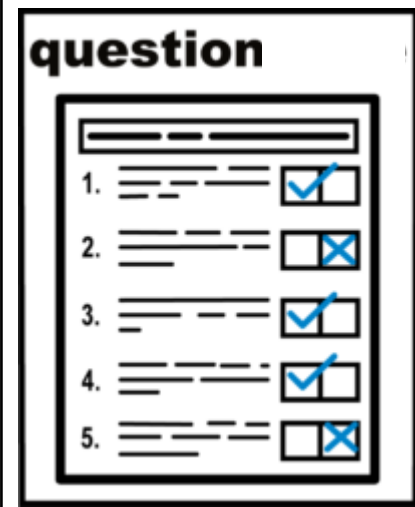
1) A **Wellbeing and Safety Questionnaire** so we can keep you as safe and well as possible when we interview you. It includes a space for you to write the telephone number of someone you trust in case you need their help.



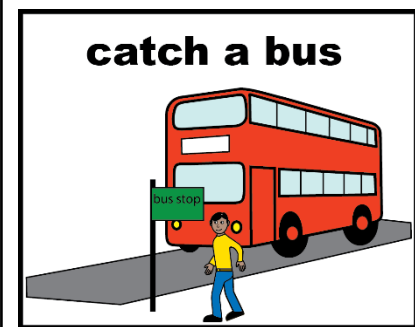
2) A **Consent Form**. This shows that you agree to take part, if you decide you do want to.



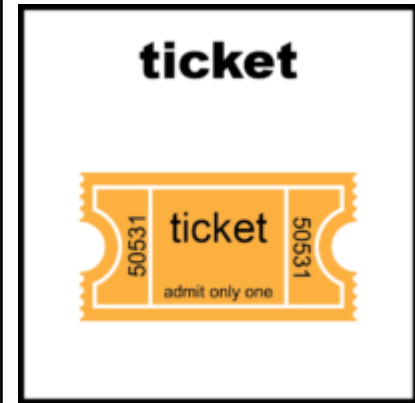
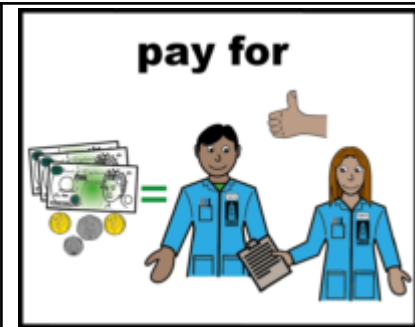
- Next, we will ask you when the interview should happen. The interview will take **about an hour**. It can happen **online or in person**. **This is your choice**.



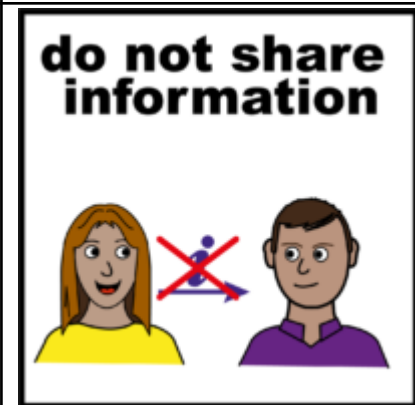
- **Before the interview, we will send you the questions** we plan to ask, so that you can feel ready.



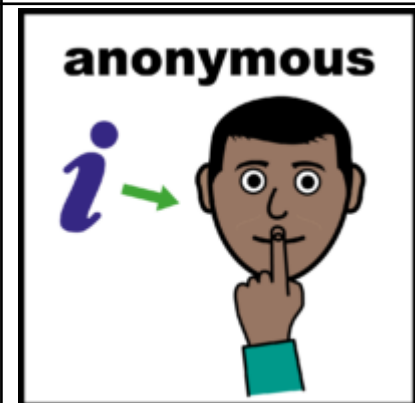
- We cannot pay you to take part but we will pay for **travel, care and internet access costs** if you need them.





What will happen to my information?



- Your personal information (like your name) **will not be shared** with anyone outside of the research team.



- We might use your words “**anonymously**”. This means that we might use them in a report but won’t say who said them.
- We will make sure that the things you tell us **can’t be used for people to**

	<p>work out who you are. We will remove anything that might.</p>
<p>information kept safe</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will keep all this information safe on a computer which needs a password to access.
<p>worried about you</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The only reason we might share your information would be if we believe someone is at risk of serious harm. This is very unlikely. If it happens, we will discuss it with you first.
<p><u>Could something bad happen if I take part?</u></p>	
<p>upset</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have tried to make sure taking part is unlikely to be upsetting. However, sharing your experiences with SIM (or a similar programme) could still be upsetting.

do not interview me



- Remember, **you do not have to take part** in this research. If you do choose to take part, **you can stop or cancel the interview** if you start feeling uncomfortable **at any time**, and you **don't have to give a reason**.

break



Halfway through the interview, we will:

- check in with you remind you that **you can stop at any time**
- remind you that **you don't have to answer all of the questions**
- ask if you would like to **take a break**

stop



- **Interviews will stop** if you say you are upset or show signs of being upset.

**any
questions**



- **After the interview**, we will ask if you would like to speak again to answer any new questions or talk about any concerns you might have. We will also **let you know when our report is going to be published**. We are likely to publish the report in April 2024.

Could something good happen if I take part?

interview



good



- We hope that you find taking part in this research interesting and **feel positive about the experience**



- We plan to **publish a report** based on the research, and hope this helps the **voices of those affected by SIM** to be heard.


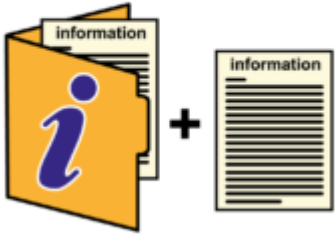
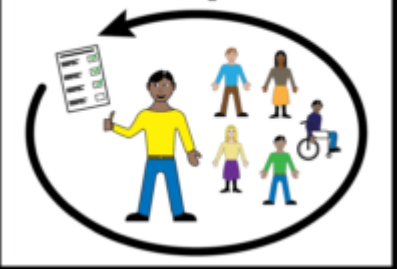


- As well as raising awareness of the issue, we hope it helps **bring about change and makes mental health care better.**

Do I have to take part in this research?



- **You do not have to take part** in this research.

<p>stop</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you decide to take part, you can change your mind later and stop taking part. This is ok even after completing a consent form or completing an interview.
<p>copy</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● After September 2023, data from your interview will have been analysed and combined with other data, so it will not be possible to remove your data.
<p><u>If I want to take part, what happens next?</u></p>	
<p>take part</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you would like to take part, please click here and fill in the short form. ● If you have any problems, or would like information in a different format, please contact Hil Aked, whose contact details are below.



- Please note that we are a small team and **we might not be able to interview everyone** who wants to take part.



What if I need to ask more questions first?

Please contact Hil Aked, whose contact details are below.



What if there's a problem?

If you have a concern about this study please contact: TJ Chuah, Medact Deputy Director:
tjchuah@medact.org

and/or Ryan Essex, Greenwich University Research Fellow:
r.w.essex@gre.ac.uk



Who is the main contact?

Hil Aked, Medact Research Manager
hilaked@medact.org 020 7324 4739