

STREET DENTIST: Understanding the oral health needs of homeless people in Leeds

# INFORMATION SHEET

# We would like to invite you to take part in a group discussing the health of your mouth

**Why we are doing these groups?**

We would like to hear your thoughts on your mouth and how to look after it. How it affects you, how you think people treat you because of it and your experiences of the dentist or problems seeing a dentist. We want you to talk about the things that have affected your mouth, the problems getting help as well as any previous experiences you may have of going to a dentist. It does not matter if you have never seen a dentist, we still would like to hear about what you would need to keep your mouth healthy and your suggestions of access to dentists. This is going to be a conversation (not just us asking questions) so there are no right or wrong answers – we just want to know what is important to you.

Anything you share with us is important and will help us to understand the way dental services should be set to meet your needs.

**Why am I being asked to take part?**

You have been asked to take part as you attend either [insert details here]. We want to learn a little more about you feel about your mouth and your experiences of dentists. We will ask between 5-12 people from each centre to take part – men and women; of different ages, in different circumstances. By taking part it will help us understand what people like you feel is important when designing a dental service.

**What will happen to me if I take part?**

If you agree to take part, you will be given the time of the discussion group and where it will take place [insert location here].

We will meet you there and provide some food (breakfast or lunch) and then the discussion group will take place. We do need to ask you to sign a consent form if you are happy to take part, and you will be given a copy and this information sheet to keep in case you want to talk to us about the project at any time.

The conversations we have in the group will not be overheard by anyone who is not part of the group, this will ensure confidentiality. With your permission, we would like to audio record the discussion. We want to do this as audio information gives a better understanding of conversations and this will help us to reflect accurately what we discussed that day.

All of the information shared by the group will be securely stored at [insert details] and only the people directly involved in the research will have access to it. Your name will not be used anywhere; you will be identified with a pseudonym to ensure that you have confidentiality.

**Will I be paid for taking part?**

You will reimbursed for your time with a £10 Love2Shop voucher which can be used at many shops.

**Do I have to take part?**

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part, you can withdraw from the study at any time. If you agree to take part but during the interview you feel tired, uneasy in any way or worried, you can leave at any time – you don’t have to give any explanation – simply that you do not wish to go on. Even if you decide after the focus group has taken place you can still withdraw up to this point. You can either let us know by contacting [insert name and contact details].

**What will happen to the information collected at the group?**

If you consent to take part, everything that you say will be kept confidential and the information collected about you will be handled strictly in accordance with the consent that you have given and also the 1998 Data Protection Act. Your full name will only be included on your consent form that will be stored at [provide details]. You will be identified by an anonymous pseudonym in the write-up and video, your real name, age, gender and where you’re from will not be used so that you will not be recognised from it.

**What will happen to the findings of this study?**

The study will take a minimum of 1 year to complete. When it is completed a report will be written based on the findings. You may, if you wish, have a copy of this report to read for yourself. We will publish our findings in professional and academic journals. The video will be made available on [provide details] for educational use. You will not be personally identified in any report or publication.

**Who is organising and funding the research?**

The focus groups are being organised by [insert department and/or institution]. Taking part in the focus groups will be 2 researchers [provide names here].

Who has reviewed the study?

The study has been reviewed by [insert ethics committee name] to protect your safety, rights and dignity. The groups are supported by funds from [insert details].

**What do I do if I have concerns?**

Please discuss your concerns with the staff at the centre you are attending and from there we can ensure your concerns are responded to.

**How to contact us for further information?**

**Thank you for reading this information. If you decide to take part you will be given a copy of this information sheet and your signed consent form to keep**

If you want further information about the discussion groups, please contact:

[insert name(s), address(es) and contact number(s)/email address(es)

**Thank you for taking the time to read this and if you do decide to take part, we very much appreciate your involvement.**