

Big Conversation on Care community engagement: Information sheet

Thank you for your interest in taking part in this project.

Who are we?

National Voices is the leading coalition of health and social care charities in England. We work with our 200 member organisations, and people with lived experience, to strategically influence real change in health and care at both national and local levels.

What is this engagement about?

The Casey Commission on Adult Social Care is undertaking an independent review of adult social care in England. As part of that review, they are carrying out a Big Conversation about what the public wants from adult social care and how it can best meet the current and future needs of the population. The Big Conversation on Care will help the Commission to make recommendations for how the UK Government should reform the system, so that it is better and fairer for everyone.

When we say 'adult social care' we mean the support that some adults need to help them stay independent, safe and well. This includes adults of all ages, including older people living with frailty or illness, and disabled adults or adults with illnesses who receive support to help them with this. This might include help with everyday things like cooking, washing and getting dressed, getting around at home, finding a job or being part of the community.

National Voices is undertaking this community engagement for a research organisation called Ipsos. Ipsos works on public engagement studies that help policy makers understand how policies and public services are working for citizens. The Casey Commission has asked Ipsos to lead the Big Conversation on Care. They want to hear from a range of people, including people who receive social care (or don't receive it but need it), people who provide unpaid or informal care, and people that might not typically have their voices heard in these conversations.

What does taking part involve?

You can take part in a one-to-one conversation or a small group discussion. One-to-one conversations will last around 60 minutes. Group discussions will last around 90 minutes. We can complete this over multiple sessions if that is too long. If you need a break (or if the person you support needs your help, just let me know

What topics will be discussed?

- We will ask you to tell us a bit about yourself, what life is like for you and other people in your community, and any experience of receiving and/or providing care
- We'll ask about your thoughts on the "One Big Question" that is being asked of everyone taking part in this Big Conversation on Care - "When we are old or disabled, or have a serious illness, who should support us and how?"
- Then we will ask you about how you think the future of social care should look.

What if I don't want to answer the questions?

All the questions are voluntary, and you don't have to answer anything you don't want to. For any questions you don't want to answer, please just say, "I don't want to answer that", or shake your head (or give another signal). This won't affect your participation in the study.

You can also leave the interview/group discussion at any time if you decide you don't want to participate anymore. You don't have to give a reason.

How is my information used?

Anything you say will be treated in confidence and all responses are anonymous. Nothing you say will affect the care and support you receive. Any information that we use from the interview/group session will not be linked with your name or any other personal information such as your contact details. The only exception to this is if you say something that suggests you or someone else is at risk of harm, in which case the facilitator may need to pass this information on to another organisation responsible for responding to safeguarding concerns, such as the local authority. They would discuss this with you first if at all possible. We take this approach as part of our safeguarding procedures, which help us make sure that people we speak to in our research are not at risk of harm, and that any safety concerns that come up are responded to in an appropriate way.

The interview/group discussion will be audio-recorded for analysis purposes. The recording will not be shared with anyone outside National Voices, except for our colleagues at Ipsos who are working on this project.

There is a privacy notice for this project along with this leaflet. You can withdraw from the study at any time, even after the interview/group is completed – the privacy notice explains how your data will be used.

What are the benefits of taking part?

The main benefit is that you will have the chance to shape important decisions about the future of adult social care in England. We also offer the people who take part a £50 voucher each as a thank you for taking part in a group discussion.

How can you get involved in this project?

If you are interested in taking part in a group discussion, please complete this short form:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CaseyCommissionAU>

If you have any questions or would prefer to take part in an interview, please contact Grace Haworth, National Voices Senior Project Officer on grace.haworth@nationalvoices.org.uk