

Interview 2 – Contacts and interactions

Talking about the diary

Can you tell me more about that person? What are they like? Are they your sort of age? Younger? Older?

What were you doing then? / What do you do with them? What does the contact involve?

Do you get on with them? Close / important?

Do you wish for more/less contact? Wish they weren't there, didn't come. Wish they were there?

How has that relationship / friendship / contact developed? Has it always been like it is now?

Use **relationship map** to prompt about key relationships we want to pursue (including eg if there seems to be no or little contact with a son/daughter or similar).

Who else do you come across in everyday life? Are they your sort of age? Younger? Older? What kinds of contact do you have?

Comment [Cdt1]: If no diary, ask this as a more general question. 'who do you come across?'

What other things do you do / places you go where you come into contact with people? What happens then?
(probe for out of the ordinary and less routine things).

Who people have 'got'

Who have you got in your family?

How about friends, neighbours, colleagues?

Do quickly. Have A3 sheet of plain paper to note these down (interviewer to write/draw but a collaborative activity).

If I'd asked about who you've got five or ten years ago, would you have had anyone else?

Probe

(quickly, best once everyone is noted down, so it can be done by pointing to particular people. Note: need to say names so they come out of the recording).

- Where live?
- See them much, have much other kind of contact?
- Your sort of age, older, younger?
- Get on with them? Difficult relationships?
- Close/important?
- Gender (if not apparent)

Neighbourhood (topic)

What do you think of as your 'local' area, or neighbourhood? Where do you go in daily life?

(quickly tease out different spheres if apply – e.g. work, home).

What places do you feel comfortable in or connected with? How did that come about? What kind of connection?

Where else do you go or spend time?

What people do you see around your local area? Are they mainly your sort of age? Older? Younger?

Do you have many friends or family near by? What about other places you spend time in? Who do you see there?

Does it feel different walking / driving / shopping around here compared to in the past? In what way?

Has the area changed much since you've been here? Have the people changed? How has that come about?

ELSA survey - Neighbourhood questions

Probes/Themes:

- Change (including where used to live)
- Generation (including what generations/age groups in their areas)
- Sensory/material/physical
- Relationships

Generations

How different are the lives of your children to when you were their age?

How different is your grandchildren's childhood to your own?

What about your life compared to your parents?

Has your / did your relationship with your parents change as they aged?

Has your relationship with your children changed as they have grown older?

Do your children and grandchildren have different priorities to you (to you now and to you at their age)?

What matters to your/younger/older generations? Do you think they have different priorities and preoccupations? *(Probe on money and spending, careers, leisure time, politics, etc)*

Do you think that different generations understand each other?