**TOPIC GUIDE**

The interview is divided into three main parts. In the first part, an overview is obtained of the general layout of the house, the composition of the household and their activities over a typical day and week. In the second part, the interview will go deeper into three domestic practices and groups of practices: staying warm in winter (including dressing and home heating), laundry care and bathing. The third and final part will focus on mobility, and in particular on travel in relation to work, school and grocery shopping.

The table below contains a detailed set of questions for each part and topic followed by a set of initial, specific research questions that underlie them.

The interview will start with an introductory part, including the signing of the consent form. This introduction will be based on the information sheet (see appendix).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Main topic** | **Specific topics** | **Some example questions and lines of questioning** |
| Part I: sketching the era | Home (lay-out, fixtures and appliances, changes, neighbourhood)  Household (members, activities, changes)    Activities (typical day and week, seasons) | Could you please describe your home and household in the years after you had just set it up?  Do you remember your street or address? When did you move in? When and why did you move out (when relevant)? Talk about the floorplan: So in the kitchen/living room/bathroom/utility room, which fixtures and appliances were there? Did you have electricity/gas/water connections? Did you make any changes to the home layout while you were there?  How would you describe the neighbourhood at that time? Was it finished when you moved in? What were the roads like, busy or quiet? Were there any parks or green spaces you made use of? Were there any bus stops nearby? And shops and other facilities? Did you have a television, radio, a paper or magazine subscription? Do you remember which ones? Did you have telephone/internet access (when relevant)?  Who else was in the household? Did your household composition change during the time you lived there? What were your main activities inside/outside of the house? And of the other household member(s)?  [at this point pick a particular year or period of relative stability, for example a year or so after moving in, after starting work, after the youngest child was born, after major refurbishment, depending on each situation. Later in the interview, the exceptional periods of just moving in, just starting work, just having had a baby, (major) refurbishments can be returned to]  Could you describe a typical week day for me? And a typical week? Did this differ at the weekend? And for different seasons? In what way? |
| Part II: heat in the home |  | In this second part, I would like to get an idea of what your daily life looked like in the years after setting up your first household. I’d like to focus on three particular topics: staying warm in winter, laundry care and bathing. |
| Staying warm in winter | Ways of dressing (indoor, outdoor, weather, occasions, fashion, maintenance, materials, fabrics, layers, extremities, …)  Home heating infrastructure (heater type, fuel type, locations in the home, insulation, curtains, carpets, doors and windows, portable heaters)  Heating practices (heating season, temperatures, rooms/activities, times of day, week/weekend, roles different household members, rules, crises)  Other practices, food, drinks  Aspirations Comparisons | Could you please tell me about what winters were like for you in those days? Were there things you enjoyed and disliked about them? In what situations would you feel cold?  In what way would you dress differently in times of colder weather? What about indoors/outdoors? And your children (if applicable)?  How would you deal with extreme weather situations when going outside (e.g. rain, storm, snow, extreme cold) in terms of clothing? Would you say you used particular materials or fabrics to stay warm? What about at night when going to sleep? Would you have specific ways of keeping your head, hands and feet warm? Are there things that you would wear then that people wouldn’t wear anymore today? And conversely (only if the previous question worked), are there things people will wear today that you wouldn’t wear then?  In what way was the home heated? What forms of heating did each room have? (add to the house plan made in 1) Did you have any portable heaters (e.g. hot water bottles/fan heaters)? What forms of insulation and draught prevention did you have (for example curtains, inner doors, carpets), insulation in the walls – e.g. cavity wall insulation, loft insulation? Did you make or have made any modifications to the ways in which the home was heated or insulated while you were there? [if this is the case, go deeper into the expectations and changes related to this modification (e.g. in clothing). If change is major, discuss the before and after situation according to the topics below]  Who in the household would deal with heating? In what way did you use the range/stoves/hearths/central heating to heat the home? Would you say you adhered to a specific heating season? Could you describe how you would go about turning on the heating? Would you have a particular temperature in mind you aimed to obtain? Would this differ between rooms? How and why were there differences? Would this vary across the day? And week? Would it be different if you had guests? How would you ventilate the home? What about dampness and condensation? Did that happen and how would you deal with it?  Did you have any specific rules in your household regarding heating? Were there things you would certainly not do regarding heating? Can you remember an occasion on which the heating did not work? How did you deal with this? Different strategies for different rooms?  What else did you do to keep warm at home? Did you for example eat or drink differently in winter?  Would you say you generally felt comfortable in your home? Were there situations in which you felt particularly hot or cold? What about places outside of your home (office, shops, friends, neighbours)? What about going to bed or getting up? And bathing? What did you do if you were too cold or too warm? Is there anything you would have liked to change about your ways of staying warm then but couldn’t at the time?  How would you compare your ways of staying warm to other people and households back then? Would most people around you wear dress in similar ways, have fireplaces, … etc.? And to ways of staying warm today? And to when you were a child? |
|  |  | Some specific research questions underlying these interview questions []:   * Has emphasis in ways of staying warm moved from person/local oriented forms of heating and insulation to heating and insulation of the space and home? * Have indoor temperatures gone up? If so, has the temperature at which people feel cold increased as well? * Has the heating season extended or disappeared as a concept? * Have skills of dressing warm and the availability of warm clothes diminished? * Which other changes in daily life can be related to the change from solid to liquid fuels? * Which other changes in daily life can be related to the change from separate rooms to central heating? * Have activity levels in the home decreased? Has this led to more or a different kind of situations of feeling cold? * Have people become less accustomed to entering a cold room? * Are curtains, carpets, doors and windows an implicit part of the home heating system? * Did indoor temperatures used to be raised when receiving guests? Is this still the case? * Has the variety of responses to feeling cold reduced, converging towards a simple turning up of the thermostat? * Has time spent on home heating gone down? * Is management of home heating gendered and has this changed? |
| Laundering | From clothes and linen to laundry (changing clothes, changing beds and towels, representation, fashion, stains, dirt, storage, locations, categories)  Washing infrastructure (appliances, locations, clothes horses, lines, laundry baskets, launderette?)  Washing practices  (frequencies, load size, load, detergent, composition,  times of week and day, seasonality,  temperatures, procedures, other activities)  Drying practices (ways, locations, times of day and week, durations, ventilation, heating, other activities, seasonality)  Comparisons  Aspirations | Could you please tell me about the ways in which you used to deal with laundry in your household in the 1940s/1960s/1980s/2000s?  Could you describe what your laundry would consist of? What types of garments and other items? How would you decide whether something needed washing/to wash something? Where would you store your laundry before washing? Would you have different categories of laundry? What were they?  What did you use to wash the laundry? Where in the home was this? Where would the water come from?Tap? And the heat to warm the water? What would you use to dry the laundry? Did you have places to hang wet laundry, if so, where in the home or garden? (add to floor plan?)  Use portfolio of pictures of old washing machines to talk about which kind of machine they had and how it was used, where it was located in the house. Did you have an iron? Explore the topic of what was ironed.  Did something change to your laundry equipment in the time you lived in the house? Did you make use of a launderette or dry cleaners? Why or why not?  Who would do the laundry in your household? Could you describe how you would go about washing the laundry? How often did you used to wash? Was there a difference between seasons? Would you do laundry on particular days and times of day? Were there days of times at which you would deliberately not do laundry? Why? What types of detergent would you use? What types of loads would you wash and how often? At what temperatures would you wash? How would you tie in doing laundry with other activities?  How would you dry your laundry? Where in the home would you do this? Why there? Would this differ per season or type of laundry? Were there specific times at which you would hang the laundry, or take it down? Were there specific times or places where you would deliberately not hang the laundry? Would doing the laundry change anything about how you kept the home heated?  What would you do with the laundry once it was dry? Where and when would you do this? Did you have any explicit rules in your household regarding the laundry?  Did you change or have changed anything in your home regarding doing the laundry while you were living there? What did this change? Can you remember an occasion on which your [washing and drying equipment] could not be used? What happened and how did you deal with this situation?  Compared to other households, would you say you had a fairly average way of dealing with laundry or did it differ in some way? In what ways was it different? |
|  |  | Some specific research questions underlying these interview questions []:   * Has the introduction of the washing machine been instrumental in the growth in amounts of laundry? How? * Has the introduction of the automatic washing machine had effect on the judgment whether something needed washing? * In the time of the Blue Mondays, was there really no washing done on other days? * Have frequencies of changing clothes gone up? * Have frequencies of washing clothes gone up? * Is a larger portion of clothes now dried with a dryer? * Is a smaller portion of clothes now dried on clotheshorses or lines? * Have levels of ironing gone down? * Has the occurrence of visible stains and dirt in clothes gone down? * Has the performance of laundry care become less female dominated? * Have homes become less inviting for line-drying clothes? * Has laundry moved away from being a Monday thing? Has time spent on laundry reduced? Has time spent on laundry spread out more over the week? * Has the use of detergent additives increased (e.g. fabric softener)? Have people gained more trust in detergents? * Have ideas of what is washed away, what washing is for, changed? Are ideas of washing to get ‘fresh’ clothes new? When did they first appear? * Has the frequency of ‘high temperature (90+)’ washes gone down? * Has the lifespan of clothing items reduced? Have people therefore come to care less for their clothing items? * Have skills and norms of mending diminished? * Has the type of energy used for washing clothes and linens shifted from coal/gas to electricity? |
| Bathing | Bathing infrastructure (flowing water, ways of heating water, hot water points, baths, sinks, showers, bathrooms, wet spaces (very rare in the UK), heaters)  Body washing practices (locations, timings, frequencies, soaps and stuffs, temperatures, week/weekend, seasonality, procedures, rules, roles)  Hair care practices (frequencies, timings, locations, procedures, soaps)  Comparisons, aspirations | Would you please tell me about the ways in which you used to bathe in the 1940s/1960s/1980s/2000s?  What facilities did you have in your home for personal washing? Where would they be? How would the water get there? Would the water be heated and if so, how? Did you have hot water taps and if so, where? Did you make any changes to your bathing facilities while you were living in the house? Which were they and why did you make these changes?  Could you tell a little about what type of bather you used to be then? How often would you wash and at what times of day? Were there particular activities that used to precede or follow bathing? Did your ways of bathing differ on different days of the week? And in different seasons? How would you wash your children (if applicable)? What would you do with the water that was left after washing (if not showering)? Would you have particular ways of dealing with washing your hair?  Pictures of different kinds of shower to find out which they had if any.  Did you have particular rules in your household regarding bathing?  Do you remember an occasion where your [bathing equipment] could not be used? What did you do in that situation? Do you remember any particular instances in which your ways of bathing changed? Could you say what caused these changes?  How would you compare your ways of bathing to ways of bathing of other people in your surroundings? Was there anything different and if so, in what way?  Were there any changes you would have liked to make to the ways in which you and your family members bathed but couldn’t? |
|  |  | Some specific research questions underlying these interview questions []:   * Can a change in ways of washing from basin and ewer or flannel to bath and then to shower be identified? * Have frequencies of full body washing increased? * Has time spent on bathing per session increased? * Has the number of soaps, shampoos and other stuff used in bathing increased? Does this have a relation to increases in bathing durations? * Have water temperatures for washing increased with the introduction of hot water taps? * Has the meaning of body washing changed when it became located in a private, dedicated room? * Has water reuse decreased with the use of the shower? * Has the time of day for bathing changed? |
| Part III: getting around |  | In this third and last part of the interview I would like to talk about the places you and your household members used to travel to outside the home |
|  | Rhythms, patterns, sequences (daily and weekly)  The trajectory of different modes in a life – car/bicycle access, storage and experience. Bus/tram/train stops, schedules, buggies, airports, electric bikes, Barclays-style bike hire, electric cars, car-share | We began by talking about a ‘typical day’ in the 1940s/1960s/1980s/2000s. I’d like to talk in more detail about how transport was part of that typical day. Who was at home during the day, and who was out the home? What was the morning routine – who left home first in the morning? What time did they leave? Where did they go, and how did they get there, did they travel alone or with some one else? what did you take with you? Who left home second…? Etc. how about the children did you have carseats/ cycle accessories/ buggy? How about in the afternoon/evening? Who was the first one home, what time would they come home? how did they travel? Did they come directly home or make other visits on the way? Did you go out in the evening? Who went out and who stayed in? where did you go, what did you do? How did you get there? Were these patterns different at the weekend? And how? In different weather circumstances/seasons?  Can you describe a time when the car wouldn’t start/ trains disrupted/bus not going/roads blocked? Would that happen often or occasionally? How would you get to work/school/shops at those times? Did you ever make any longer journeys e.g. for summer holidays, or at Christmas/ other religious holidays, for work? Can you tell me about an example?  Did you always get around in that way, Can you tell me about how that changed during that period of your life? How and why?  What kinds of transport did you have at that time – car, bike, motorbike etc.? can you tell me about the car/bike/motorbike/bus or train pass? Was it your first? Before you had the car/bike/motorbike how did you get around? How did having the car/bike/motorbike change things? Was there somewhere to keep the car/ bike/motorbike when you were at home (garage/ driveway/ garden/yard/street)? Was the garage/ driveway already there or did you add it? Do you use the garage for the car? Why/why not? Did you use the car/bike/motorbike? How often? With other people or on your own? Where did you go? Can you remember the first time you made a bus/train ride (how did you get around when you were younger/ a child)? |
| Practice-mobility bundles |  | In this section we talk in more detail about work, school and grocery shopping at that time. |
| Work  School  Shopping for groceries | Mode or mode mix  Alone/ with others  Distance  Frequencies and times  Time taken  Stuff carried  Combinations of purposes  Comparisons  Aspirations  Mode or mode mix  Alone/ with others  Distance  Frequencies and times  Time taken  Stuff carried  Combinations of purposes  Comparisons  Aspirations  Kinds of shops Mode or mode mix  Alone/ with others  Distance  Frequencies and Times of week and day  Time taken  Stuff carried  Ways of carrying  Combinations of purposes  Comparisons  Aspirations | (picking up from the things already spoken about…)  At that time of your life where did you work? Can you describe your journey to work? (How did you get there, what did you take with you, did you travel alone or with others, was that by foot, or bus, car, bike? Or some combination? How long did it take you? How far did you travel? Did you always travel the same way, or did it vary? How did it vary and why? Did you always go directly to and from work, or did you do other things on the way? What were those things? Did you have to go on longer trips for work and where to? How often was that? Can you describe those journeys to me? What did you need to take?  How would you compare your commute to other people in your surroundings? Was there anything different and if so, in what way?  At that time of life were your children at playgroup, nursery or school. Can you describe how your children got to and from school? With other siblings or other children? Did you accompany them? How did they/ you get there, was it by foot, bus, bike, car? What stuff did they/you take or carry? What was involved in getting ready and out of the house? Where was the school in relation to your home? And/or workplace? Did you always go directly to and from the school, or did you do other things on the way? What were those things? How and why did these journeys change over the years? (children get older, change in other aspects of life e.g. change in work, both parents going to work, getting car etc.).  How would you compare this journey to school to other people in your surroundings? Was there anything different and if so, in what way?  Can you describe how you did your grocery shopping in that period of your life? Who did the grocery shopping? How often? Where did you go? Where were the shops in relation to your home/ the children’s school/ your workplace? In a typical week where would you shop and what for? How did you get there? Was it by foot, bus, bike,car? How long did it take you? How far did you go? How did you get the shopping home? Did you go alone or with neighbours/ friends? What else did you do when shopping? Did you make special shopping trips or combine it with other things (like going to work, visiting family/ friends?  How would you compare this to the people in your surroundings? Was there anything different and if so, what? |
|  |  | Some specific research questions underlying these interview questions:   * How have the rhythms and practices of daily life changed? * For those practices that have always combined with mobility, is the resource-intensity of this mobility changing and how? (and how is the practice being reshaped in relation to this mobility)? * Is mobility noticeably associated with a growing number of practices across the decades? Are there practices associated with mobility that once were not? How did mobility, or increased amounts of mobility, become associated with them? * Has the mobility associated with work, school and grocery shopping changed, and how? Are these things fitted differently into the day and week? * Has the way that work, school and grocery shopping combines with other activities changed? * Have sequences of everyday practices changed? What is the relationship of this reconfiguring to changes in mobility? * Are there particularly extreme varieties, or traces of change e.g. people who don’t travel to get their grocery shopping? Who don’t travel to work? Who travel and stay away at work? Do varieties change across the decades? * Are door-to-door forms being used (other than car) in the different decades? |