**Grant Reference: ES/L009315/I**

**Depositor: Dr Sarah Mills**

**Interview Schedule – M4**

**Interviewer: Dr Catherine Waite**

This interview schedule was used as a guide for M4 semi-structured interviews, however discussions sometimes followed a different order or explicit focus, depending on the interviewee and specific context.

**A. Third Sector Organization Context**

* What is the aim & remit of your organization?
* What are the areas of youth work & age ranges that your organisation works with?
* How many people work for your organisation and specifically on youth social action?

**B. Background to engagement with NCS**

* Can you give me a brief background and biography to your engagement with NCS?
* How and when did you first hear about NCS?
* Who decided to bid for an NCS contract?
* What was the response to this from your trustees?
* How did NCS fit into your strategic plan?
* How did you decide on the format & scope of your NCS ‘proposal’?
* Has the tendering process varied for the different rounds?
* What are your reflections now on the tendering process?

**C. NCS Procurement**

* What was the recruitment process following the tender decision?
* Did you receive any NCS training?

**D. NCS Recruitment**

* How did you recruit participants for NCS? Has your recruitment strategy changed?
* What was your advertising strategy? How was this received by schools & youth clubs etc?
* What was the response to your initial advertising?
* Did you target particular groups of young people? How?
* What challenges have you faced in recruitment and retention?
* If you’ve faced difficulties within recruitment does this impact on the success of NCS delivery?
* Did any young people attend outside the remit of the CO guidelines? (Older/Younger)

**E. NCS Delivery**

* Who delivered your NCS programme?
* What format of NCS did you use?
* Where did you hold NCS?
* What specific activities did you devise to meet the curriculum or in addition to the curriculum?
* How did your organisation interpret the NCS teaching materials?
* What did challenges or difficulties did you face in the delivery of NCS?
* Were certain phases more difficult to deliver than others?
* What were your experiences of the social action phase?
* To what extent is the social action phase actually youth led?
* Have the social action projects left a legacy in the community in which they were delivered?
* Which stage do you think the young people enjoy most/least?
* Which stage do you think the young people benefit from most?

**F. NCS Legacy**

* How did you mark NCS graduation?
* Do you know if many of your young people remained involved in youth volunteering following NCS?
* Did the young people you worked with on NCS feature or get invited to any other of your youth programmes?
* Did your organisation feed into the International Citizen Service?
* NCS evaluation is focused on the benefits to young people. Are there other benefits that are missed or not appreciated within that focus of the evaluation framework?
* What has been the single biggest impact of your organisation engaging with NCS?

**G. Future Plans and Reflections**

* What were the reasons behind your decision not to bid again for NCS?
* What are the reasons behind your decision to continue to bid for NCS contracts?
* Do you think your role in the delivery of NCS will change? RDP/LDP?
* What are your overall reflections on the scheme? Positives and Negatives?
* David Cameron Quote – Do you think NCS has achieved the aims that were outlined when the scheme was first announced?

**Any other comments/thoughts?**