**Park Hill Oral History Interview Schedule**

*Begin by explaining to the interviewee/narrator about the nature of the project and its aims. They are****:***

* *To explore how people make homes for themselves in a refurbished modernist building*
* *To explore how people use the space of their flats and the wider building and neighbourhood*
* *To explore the experiences of living in a neighbourhood and community that is still in the process of change*

*This project seeks to explore the experiences of residents living in a redeveloped modernist building: Park Hill. The project as a whole is being conducted in partnership between the University of Sheffield and Museums Sheffield. We aim to produce an archive of oral histories of new and returning residents of Park Hill, and a video about life in the redeveloped flats, which will be shown in Weston Park Museum by Museums Sheffield. You may choose to participate just in the oral history phase of the project, or to also have your name put forward as someone interested in the video as well.*

**Information**: ask for questions about the project and explain it in more detail.

**Ethics**: run through the consent form and ask them to sign.

**Archiving**: sign the Creative Commons document for use of their data by the research team and the archive. Includes use by future researchers who will access the archive.

**Introductory questions**

* Tell us a little about yourself: who you are, where you’re from, what you do for a living.
* How long have you lived in Park Hill?
* What kind of house or flat did you live in before you moved to Park Hill?
* Do you rent or own? (If rent would they like to own)
* Describe the flat in terms of size, rooms, layout, where it is in the building, etc.

**About living in a renovated Park Hill flat - introductory**

* Were you a resident in the flats before the redevelopment?
* What made you decide to live here? Did anyone else’s opinions influence that choice?
* Does anyone else live there with you? Describe your household.

**Decoration [adjust for owners and renters]**

* What was the flat like when you first acquired/rented it? Were you happy with what it looked and felt like?
* What kind of changes have you made to the decoration of the flat, if any, since moving in?
  + Wall and floor coverings. (what kind they are – paint, paper, tiles, wood, carpet, etc; colour; texture). Ask about different rooms. What choices have you made about the decoration? What influenced those choices? Did anyone help you with any changes you made or did you do them on your own?
  + Furniture: What furniture have you brought in, if any? How have you arranged furniture in the flat? What were you aiming for with the furniture placement? Practical, aesthetically pleasing?
  + Decorative items/knickknacks: What sort of decorative items/knickknacks/pictures and the like have you brought in? Where did you place them? Why? What do they mean to you?
* Is there a particular style you’ve aimed for with the flat so far? Why so? Did you decide on these aesthetic decisions yourself or did other people have an influence? [Could be other residents or other people they know who don’t live with them]
* Are there changes to the look and feel of the flat that you would still like to make? What are they? What makes you want to make those particular changes? Will you/can you make them? If so, when? If not, how do you feel about that?
* Have you rearranged any part of the flat whilst you’ve lived here? If so, what and why? Any relation to who lives there, how you like to live, etc?
* What is the light like in your flat? Have you made any changes to the lighting? Have you used natural or artificial light to create a particular feel in any of the rooms of the flat? Do you like the large windows? How do they make you feel? What kind of blinds or curtains have you decided to put up? How do you use them on a day-to-day basis?
* Are there any big differences between your flat, in terms of decoration, furniture, light, and the residence/residences you grew up in?

**Using the space**

* [Vary depending on how many people live there] What are particular rooms mostly used for? Do you favour any particular room? Do others who live with you favour any particular room? How has this developed during the time you’ve lived there?
* What do you store where and why? Is there enough storage? [Is there a balcony? Do you use it?] Do you get stored things out often? What kinds of things do you get out more often? What kinds of things never come out of storage?
* Who uses different storage spaces in the flat? Which are shared and which are communal? How did this arrangement come about?
* Does the space of the flat feel easy to use? Does it ‘work’ for you? What works and what doesn’t? [For example: ease of passage, layout of rooms, how they move between rooms, using the kitchen]

**Community**

* Do you feel like you are part of a community in Park Hill flats? Can you describe the community around you – in the flats, in the surrounding neighbourhood? What kind of relationship do you have with your neighbours?
* What does it feel like to live here? Does it feel safe, secure? Does it feel exciting, stimulating?
* How much time do you spend in the flat? What kinds of things do you do there? How much time do you spend in the immediate neighbourhood? What kinds of things do you do there?
* Do you ever have other people around to the flat? What do they seem to think about the redevelopment?
* Do you know who manages the building and surrounding area? Do you have much contact with them? Have you ever needed help from them? If so, what happened? Were they helpful?

**Home**

* Does your flat feel like ‘home’? How does this compare to previous places that you’ve lived?
* What makes a place feel like home, for you? For example, cosiness, convenience, other people. Are there any things in your flat that are particularly valuable or meaningful to you? Why are they particularly valuable/meaningful? Do they help you make the flat feel like ‘home’?
* Where does ‘home’ end for you – the corridor, the stairwell, the building’s main entrance, somewhere else? Do you feel like you have a role in maintaining or contributing to those spaces?
* Do you feel at home in the neighbourhood?
* What, if anything, would make you feel more at home? [Prompts: community, décor, furniture, neighbourhood amenities]

**Summary**

* Overall, how well would you say you like living here? What seem to be the key factors that influence how well you like it?
* Is the flat, the building and the neighbourhood how you imagined they would be?
* Do you plan to live here for long? [Probe for reasons]
* What do you imagine Park Hill will be like in the future? In 5, 10, 20 years?
* What are your key hopes for the flat, in the future?
* What are your key hopes for the building and the neighbourhood, in the future?