**Young Person’s Interview Schedule**

**Section 1: A little bit about yourself**

1. **Perhaps you can start by telling me where you grew up and what home life was like?**

What is area like

Who live with

Stable/safe environment (violence, mental health issues, neglect, substance use)?

**If no**, what is/was that like for you?

How did you react?

Did you talk to anyone about it?

Is this still something you think about? (how often? Does it bother you?) (fear, anger, retaliation, shame, withdrawal?)

1. **What about the people around you?**

Care – people who care about you and who you care about?

Trust – people who trust you and who you trust?

Who had the greatest influence on you growing up? (Trust/respect)

Change as got older?

1. **Do you study, work or earn money in any way?**
2. **What is/was school like for you?**
3. **What is life like for you at the moment?**

Place in the world?

1. **What is your vision of your future?**

Same as when younger?

1. **What matters most to you?**

**Section 2: About serious group related violence**

1. **We are particularly interested in joint enterprise, before I go on to ask you about violence, can I ask - What do you understand by the term ‘joint enterprise?**

Where did this understanding come from?

What are your views of it?

1. **We are also interested in your knowledge and experience of serious violence involving multiple (i.e. three or more) young people. Can you tell me a bit about how much of a problem you think it is and why?**

Prevalence and seriousness (serious injury? Use of weapons)

Where that knowledge comes from? (Personal experience, experiences of people you spend time with, rumour/social media)

1. **What do you think are the main causes of serious violence involving young people?. Can you give me an example?**

Drugs, disrespect, relationships, money?

To what extent does violence trigger more violence? (Retaliation?) In what contexts? How quickly? How know this (experience, rumour?) Can you be specific/give me an example?

1. **Have you experienced any serious violence involving multiple young people ever?**

In what way? Witness, victim, perp?

How frequently?

1. **If relevant, thinking about the most recent incident of serious violence involving multiple young people that you have been involved in (or witnessed if not involved directly), can you tell me a bit about this?**

Where (not specific e.g. park etc.)?

Number of people involved?

Why were you there/involved?

Relationships between people (e.g. perps/victim know each other)?

Cause? (Anyone at fault?) Do you know if it was planned? How did you know about it? Who decided what you did?

Weapons involved? (Did you know about this beforehand?)

What were the people around you doing?

1. **What was happening with you at the time?**

Did you understand what was happening? At what point?

What were you doing? (e.g. proximity to the incident)

What feeling/thinking during the incident? Negative thoughts/feelings (e.g. worried, scared), positive thoughts/feelings (e.g., enjoyment, pleasure, kudos)?

Who were you thinking about during the incident? (self, others, victim?)

What did you plan to happen? (intend to commit offence, intend to encourage or assist?)

1. **Were you thinking about the consequences of what you were doing? Informal consequences – from friends, family etc.**
2. **Were you thinking about the legal consequences, including joint enterprise?**
3. **Any point wanted to get out of the situation? Why?**

Did you get yourself out of this situation? If yes, how? Consequences? If no, why?

Did you expect things to play out that way? (prior to and during)

Was there anything someone did that you didn’t anticipate?

1. **What was the outcome of the incident?**

Injuries to victim/you/others involved?

Did it come to the attention of the police?

Any arrests/charges/convictions? Who? Joint enterprise?

Was decision to arrest/charge/convict fair? (Right people held accountable?) What should have happened to you/co-d’s?

Any other repercussions? (e.g. retaliation? Feuding?) Impact on own mental health?

Was the outcome what you expected?

1. **How common were incidents like this one?**

Have there been other similar/dissimilar? How many? **­­­­­­­­­­**

How common is the outcome (i.e. police being involved or not)?

**Section 3: Social relations in the context of violence**

1. **Can you tell me a little bit more about the people who you have been involved in serious violence with (e.g. in incident outlined above)?**

Who are they? (friends, acquaintances, family, strangers) Always same people?

What are they like? (age, background, ethnicity, gender, temperament, personality?)

How do you know them?

How long known each other?

1. **What are your relationships with these people like?**

Different with different people? Like some more than others?

1. **What is it like hanging out with them?**

How much time do you tend to spend with them/how much did you hang around together?

Why them?

Where do you hang around? (street, area, specific location (e.g. park, street corner)

What kinds of things do you do together? (hangout, music-making – type of music (their role in it) tagging, etc.)

Engage in any other illegal activity together [be vague if not convicted for it]?

Do you drink alcohol, smoke weed or take other drugs? If others, what kind? See as problem?

1. **How important are these people you spend time with to you? Why?**

Has this changed over time? Why?

What would you do for them? (e.g. if they were in trouble, how far would you have gone to help them? How far have you gone to help them?) Examples.

Anything would not do for them?

What would they need to do to lose your friendship?

1. **What is the best thing about hanging out with these people?**
2. **Is there anything you didn’t like about being with them?**
3. **How would you and the people you get involved in violence with describe yourselves? E.g. Would you call yourself a ‘group’? What about a gang? If no, what term would you use?**

Would others describe you as a ‘gang’? Who? (e.g. the police/neighbourhood/family) Why?

1. **What is a ‘gang’?**
2. **Do you have other people you spend time with who you don’t get involved in violence with (besides those described above)?**

Who were they?

What are they like? (age, background, ethnicity, gender. temperament, personality?)

How get to know them?

How long known each other?

What do you do together?

1. **To what extent does social media play a role in serious violence you have been involved in?**

In what way? Which platforms (Instagram, youtube)?

How did you engage with each of these?(Do you and your friends ever make or watch films or music videos?)

If yes to making music vidoes, can you talk me through how these come about and why you make them?

Who is involved?

Who makes them? (films them, edits them?)

What is normally your role?

What inspires the music? What sort of things did you rap about/content?

If yes to watching them, what do you watch? Why?

1. **What does the word ‘friendship’ mean to you?**

Are all the people you spend time with friends?

Other words used to describe them? (e.g. frenemies, associates, fam?)

1. **How do your relationships with these people compare to your relationships with your family? (clarify which friends/family?)**

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**Section 4: Experience of the police and the criminal justice system**

1. **Have you ever been arrested, charged and/or convicted by the police for serious violence involving multiple young people? Can you tell me a little bit about the investigation and prosecution process?**

Engage in police interview? Why? Did you feel able to talk through your experience of the incident? Why?

If charged, was joint enterprise involved? If yes, did you know? Did you understand what it meant?

1. **If relevant, what was the court process like?**

Understand what was going on? (the process, law - understand joint enterprise)

What types of evidence were used against you in your case? (phones, CCTV, forensics, social media?)

References to ‘gangs’ in your trial? (gang terminology, street names, videos, territory?)

Recognise way you, and your co-defendants, were described in court?

Incident portrayed in a way that reflected your experience?

1. **What was the outcome? E.g. convicted/sentenced?**
2. **How did you feel about it?**

(e.g. feelings: positive, fair, confused, anxious, bored, overwhelmed, afraid?)

Just/unjust legitimate/illegitimate

1. **Have any of the people you spend time (including family) been convicted of a serious violent offence that involved multiple people (murder, manslaughter, GBH) under joint enterprise?**

Can you tell me a bit about that (impact on knowledge of joint enterprise)?

1. **Has this affected whether you get involved in violence?**

**Section 5 – Perceptions of the police and criminal justice system**

1. **What are your views of the criminal justice system generally? (police, courts, prison)**

Trust system? Fair? Who is the system for?

Where does this view come from? (own personal experience, TV and other media, people you spend time with, family)

1. **What do you think is the role of the police?**

Who are the police for? (Where do your/these views come from?)

1. **What are your views of the police? Where do these views come from (experience, friends/family)?**

Trust?

Are they fair?

If someone attacked you, what would you do? (e.g. Call police, retaliate)?

Ever reported anything to the police? (experienced as witness, victim)? Why? If yes, what did that look like (anonymous, statement etc)? Response?

Is there anything you would go to the police about? Why/why not?

What would need to happen for you to feel able to go to the police? (How could the police demonstrate they were trustworthy?)

1. **How do you think the police view young people like you?**

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**Section 6 - Legal knowledge and consciousness**

1. **Where does the law come from? Who decides what the laws should be?**
2. **What is the purpose of the law/what is it for?**

Effective is it at achieving this?

1. **Who is it for? (entitled to use?)**

Fair? (For all?)

1. **Where does your understanding of the law come from? (prompt for cultural narratives and reference points).**
2. **When is it the most important to follow the law?**

Why?

1. **What about the least?**

Why?

1. **If relevant, how do you explain you breaking the law in relation to your views about when it is and isn’t important to follow the law? i.e. do you just avoid the law, dismiss the law or is it active resistance of the law (agree/disagree with laws, doesn’t feel relevant, no choice, circumstances, neutralisations)?**
2. **Just thinking about ‘joint enterprise again, do you believe it it effective?**

Know about changes? How? What is your understanding of these?

Overall views and, if anything, what would you change?

Would joint enterprise be something you think about? (When and in what context)

1. **If relevant, you are with a group of people you hang around with and you had a fist fight with another group of young people. At some point during the fight, the people you are with go off, get some weapons, return to the scene (near to where you are) and, unknown to you, one of you’re the people you hang around with kills someone in the other group.**
   1. **What do you think would happen to you?**
   2. **What do you think would happen to the people you hang around with?**
   3. **Should you be arrested?**
   4. **How likely would it be that you’d be arrested?**
   5. **What about being charged? What for? (murder, manslaughter or GBH (Section 18 /wounding with intent) convicted/punished?)**
   6. **What do you think should happen? Why?**
   7. **What would seem fair?**
2. **Can you tell me the difference between murder, manslaughter, GBH (section 18/wounding) is?**
3. **What do you think are the average sentences for murder, manslaughter and GBH currently (section 18/wounding with intent)?**

Tariffs (if relevant)?

Determinate vs. indeterminate sentences? – serve all of time?

Meaning of life sentence?

Fair?

1. **Would the sentence lengths affect your involvement in serious violence?**

If not/what else, anything else that would? (longer sentence, chance of getting caught, shame)

1. **(If relevant) what would make you less likely to carry or use a weapon?**

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**Final questions**

1. **If relevant, is there anything that would make it less likely that you would get involved in serious violence? (chance of getting caught, length of sentence, shame)**

(If relevant) what would make you less likely to carry or use a weapon?

1. **If you were PM, what would you do to try and reduce serious violence among young people?**
2. **Is there anything else that you’d like to add about the topics we’ve discussed?**