The University Of Sheffield.

School Of Law

'Good' Police Custody – A study led by Dr Layla Skinns, University of Sheffield
An independent study funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ES/J023434/1)
INFORMATION SHEET: STAFF – Phase 3

You are being asked to take part in a study of 'good' police custody practices. The research is being conducted by representatives from the University of Sheffield. This information sheet will help you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve, so that you can decide whether you wish to participate in the research.

Who is funding the study and what is it about?
The Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) has paid for this research. The ESRC receives money from the Government to fund research on social and economic issues. We asked them if we could carry out a 3.5 year study of 'good' police custody practices and they agreed to cover its costs. Please note that the study has received ethical approval from the University of Sheffield's Research Ethics Committee.

Do I have to take part?
You have been invited to take part in this study because you work regularly in police custody suites in this police force area. However, your participation is entirely **voluntary**. You should only take part if you want to. Choosing not to take part will not disadvantage you in any way. If you decide to take part, you are free to **withdraw** from the research and without giving a reason. Please note that you can withdraw *whilst* answering questions on the survey, but once your answers are submitted, you cannot withdraw your data.

What will taking part involve?
If you agree to participate in the research, a researcher will **ask you to fill in a questionnaire on an IPad/tablet or on paper.** The questionnaire will ask you to say to what extent you 'agree' or 'disagree' with a number of different statements. These ask about your experiences of working in this police custody suite.

Will anyone know that you have taken part?
The information you provide to researchers is both **anonymous and confidential in that** names of individuals and names of individual custody suites are not recorded and answers provided to the survey questions will not be traceable back to you. Only the research team will have access to the information that you provide. It will contain **nothing** that can identify you.

What will happen to the information that I give?
The information you provide will inform the writing of reports, publications and 'good' practice benchmarks. After the study has ended, all of the electronic anonymised data collected from the survey may be passed to the Economic and Social Data Service who will store it for other researchers to use in the future. Again, it will **not be possible to identify you in the stored data**. At the end of the research, a copy of the final report can be obtained from Layla Skinns whose contact details are given below.

How can I find out more about this study?

If you would like to know more about this study please contact:

Dr Layla Skinns: 0114 222 6775; L.Skinns@sheffield.ac.uk or;

Lindsey Rice: 0114 222 6830; or L.Rice@sheffield.ac.uk or;

Rivka Smith: 0114 222 6825; or Rivka.smith@sheffield.ac.uk

Layla Skinns can also be contacted if you wish to complain about this study, as can the University's Registrar and Secretary on 0114 222 1101 registrar@sheffield.ac.uk, if your complaint requires further action to be taken.