Custody Officer Interview Guide

Participant Information Sheet –Ensure respondent has read the PI sheet and has had the chance to ask any questions

Consent Form – Explain the consent form and that it will be completed at the end

**Question 1 - Training**

Tell me about how you ended up working in custody?

* Prompts:
  + Decision to become a Custody Officer?
  + Aims and aspirations?
  + Training (qualifications/on the job)?
  + Dedicated healthcare related training?

**Question 2 – Everyday Practice**

While I am sure everyday is different and you are faced with different challenges, could you describe your everyday work routine, what kind of things you do on an average day?

* Prompts:
  + Risk Assessments
    - Appropriate Adult Decisions
      * Young People
      * Autism and ADHD (especially difference between male and female presentation)
      * How do they know if someone has a Learning Disability?
      * Support for people with communication difficulties.
      * If English isn’t their first language?
    - Engagement with the process
      * Non-compliant individuals
      * How do they encourage open / honest responses?
      * Distressed Individuals
      * If issues aren’t identified in RA but arise later?
    - Drugs/alcohol and associated risks
      * Intoxicated/Risk of alcohol withdrawal
      * Know how to tell if someone is withdrawing
      * Distinguish head injury from intoxication
      * Suicide / Self-Harm past or present
    - Healthcare problems
      * Dealing with Medications
      * Complex Health Issues
      * Injuries requiring action
      * Key health problems
        + Asthma, Diabetes, Epilepsy, Cardiovascular conditions
      * Require transfer to hospital?
      * Management of communicable diseases
    - Other
      * Taken straight to cell
      * Women and Female specific Health issues
      * Different Ethnicities
    - Opinion of how effective the risk assessment process is
      * Are any issues frequently underreported?
  + Role of handover?
  + Working with HCPs?
  + Working with L&D/other services?
    - Women and L&D
  + When would they bring a HCP into a case?
    - How would they communicate that a detainee needs to be seen by a HCP?
    - Are there cases that they think they can manage themselves?

**Question 3 – Relationships with Detainees and other Staff**

What are the best and worst parts of the job?

* Prompts:
  + Interactions with detainees
  + Maintaining dignity of detainees
  + What is the function of custody?
    - Collection of evidence
    - Recording of paperwork for investigation/prosecution
    - Short-sharp shock
  + Detainees as criminals or patients?
  + Violence in custody environments
  + Managing consent within custody

**Question 4 – Any Other Questions**

Do you have any questions or comments, or was there anything else you would like to discuss, or thought we’d discuss, but that we haven’t?

Closing and Thanks

Consent Form