

## **Interview Information Sheet**

The Law Commission, an independent body that advises the Government about changing the law, are thinking about changing the law about making a will.

Some people need extra help with making decisions. This is sometimes called “supported decision-making”. This research wants to find out about support with making a will.

The researchers want to find out about what kind of help might be useful to disabled people when they are making a will.

We want to know what you think about making a will, what your experiences of supported decision making have been, and what kind of help you think would be useful if you wanted to make or change your will.

The researchers are working alongside the Law Commission. What you tell us will help to shape any changes that happen in the law about supported will-making.

### **Invitation**

Professor Rosie Harding (Rosie) would like you to take part in this research. This information will help you decide if you want to take part or not.

### **Why have I been chosen?**

You have been invited to take part because you have a disability or health problem that affects your ability to make decisions on your own.

### **Do I have to take part?**

No. It is your choice whether or not to take part.

### **If I take part, what do I have to do?**

This research uses **interviews** to find out about your life. An interview is like a conversation, but you will do most of the talking.

We will ask you about what you think about making a will. We will ask you about your previous experiences of making important decisions with support.

## Supported Will-Making Research Project

We will also ask you what kinds of help you think would be useful if you wanted to make a will.

We think the interview will take up to about one hour.

If you want to, you can have someone else with you to support you.

You will need to give us your consent to take part in the interview. We will record your consent on a form.

### **What are the benefits (if any) of taking part?**

Taking part will let you:

- Help Rosie make recommendations to the Law Commission about how to better help people like you to make a will
- Tell your story

### **What are the risks of taking part?**

Sometimes, talking about things that are difficult can make people sad or angry. If you feel bad, you can stop at any time. We will try our best to make sure that you have support to help you feel better.

If you tell us about something that makes us think that you or somebody else might be in serious danger, we will need to tell someone about it. If this happens, we will talk to you first.

### **What if I change my mind about taking part?**

If you decide you do not want to take part during the interview you can just tell us to stop.

If you decide after the interview that you no longer want to be part of the project, please contact Rosie and tell her. We will remove your interview from the project. You can do this at any time, until 3 months after the date of your interview.

Nothing will happen to you if you change your mind.

## **How will information about me be used?**

The interview will be audio recorded using a digital voice recorder.

After the interview we will write down what was said during the interview to help us use it in our research. When we do this we will make sure that nobody can tell that you took part. We will use a false name instead of your own name.

We will write about what you have told us for other academics, government and policy makers, professionals and disabled people. The findings from the research will be published on the internet, in books, and through conference presentations and talks.

The Law Commission will use what we find out to help them decide what to recommend about supported will-making.

At the end of the project we will send you a report about what we found out.

## **Who will have access to information about me?**

Only the researchers will know that you took part. We will not tell anyone else. Nobody will be able to identify you from the publications that we write from the project.

We would like to keep the recording and the written version of your interview for 10 years. We will store it securely on a computer. Paper copies of the written version will be locked away, and then destroyed securely at the end of the project.

## **Who is funding and organising the research?**

This research is funded by the University of Birmingham ESRC Impact Acceleration Account. This funding is provided by the Economic and Social Research Council, and allocated by the University of Birmingham.

The research is organised by Birmingham Law School, at the University of Birmingham.

### **What if there is a problem?**

If you are unhappy about the research, or have questions, then you should speak to Rosie. She will try to sort things out.

If Rosie cannot help, and you want to complain, you can get in touch with the University of Birmingham Research Office. Here is their address: Dr Sean Jennings, Research Governance and Ethics Manager, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT.

### **Contact for further information**

If you have any questions, you can contact Rosie by phone on: 0121 414 4960, by email on [r.j.harding@bham.ac.uk](mailto:r.j.harding@bham.ac.uk), or by post at:

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