

- You are being invited to take part in a research project that will listen to LGBTQIA+ people and professionals in North East England to find out about their experiences accessing or delivering local services.
- It will be led by Mark Adley (see photo). I have been a frontline worker for many years, and at this stage of the project I am particularly keen to listen to LGBTQIA+ people of colour (from global majority communities) who have experienced multiple exclusion, discrimination, or disadvantage (for example: unstable housing, mental ill health, racism, disability, or homo-, bi- or transphobia).
- You can have a one-to-one discussion with me or bring a friend, we can chat in person or over Zoom, or you can let me know if there is another way that you would like to take part. Chaperones are also available.
- You will receive a £25 voucher for your time.
- If you have any accessibility needs, would like help with reading or filling in the questionnaire section, or need any adjustments made for you to feel comfortable, please let me know.
- There is more detailed information below... please read this carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.



Title of Study: Exploring the health and social care pathways of LGBTQIA+ people who experience severe and multiple disadvantage in North East England

What is the purpose of the research?

While LGBTQIA+ people can experience poorer health outcomes, discrimination, and disadvantage, they are often not visible within services. It is hoped that reports and published papers from this study will help to raise awareness of some of the issues faced by LGBTQIA+ people in the region.

Why have I been invited to take part, and what are the benefits?

You have been invited to take part because you are either a professional working with LGBTQIA+ people in the North East, or you are an LGBTQIA+ individual who has experienced multiple exclusion or disadvantage.



There are two phases of this study, during which I will talk to LGBTQIA+ people and professionals from health and social care services for up to an hour. Taking part will involve answering some questions, and completing a questionnaire, which you don't have to complete if you don't want to.

What information will be collected and who will have access to this information?

You are free to leave the study at any time and can ask for any information about you to be destroyed up until the end of June 2023 without giving a reason. At this point, our data will need to be analysed and written up.

Making sure we keep everything you share with us private is really important. When it comes to keeping what you tell us private, we will take a similar approach to a nurse or a doctor. This means that everything you say will be kept private, unless you share something that makes us worried about your or someone else's safety.

Your voice will be recorded, but it won't be used. Voice recordings will be stored on a digital voice recorder, and then transferred to the University's secure server. A transcription service that is approved by the University will be used to type up the voice recordings.

Each person's data will be referred to only by an ID number, and the only place where a person's name and ID number will be held is the consent form. These forms will be scanned, uploaded to the University's secure server, and the paper copies will be shredded.

During the study, anonymised data will be shared with the project supervisors (Amy O'Donnell and Steph Scott) and with Public Advisors, who are members of the public working in partnership with Mark on this project. Their main role will be to help ensure that the voices of different LGBTQIA+ groups are represented in the study. Your data will be stored for 10 years after publication of any papers.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

Some of the questions are of a sensitive nature, and there is the possibility that being asked questions about your past might bring up uncomfortable feelings for you. You don't have to answer any questions that you don't want to, and you can stop or pause at any time. Stopping interviews before they have finished will not impact on any vouchers you may have been offered to take part. At the end of the interview there will be time for you to talk, if you would like to, and find out about extra support that might be available.

Who is the sponsor and data controller for this research?

Newcastle University are supervising this project, and will be using information from you in order to undertake this study, and will act as the data controller for this study. This means that Newcastle University is responsible for looking after your information and using it properly. Your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as Newcastle University need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. If you withdraw from the study, Newcastle University will keep the information about you that has already been obtained. To safeguard your rights, the minimum personally-identifiable information will be used. You can find out more about how Newcastle University uses your information at

<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/research/researchgovernance/ethics/gdpr/> and/or by contacting their Data Protection Officer [Maureen Wilkinson, mrec-man@ncl.ac.uk].

Funding and ethics

This project is funded by the NIHR NENC ARC (National Institute of Health and Care Research, North East and North Cumbria, Applied Research Collaboration). This study was approved by the Faculty of Medical Sciences Research Ethics Committee (2349/17317), part of Newcastle University's Research Ethics Committee. This committee contains members who are internal to the Faculty. This study was reviewed by members of the committee, who must provide impartial advice and avoid significant conflicts of interests.

Professionals are not being recruited via NHS or other statutory organisations, and any interviews with people who currently work within statutory organisations would not cover their statutory roles or responsibilities. LGBTQIA+ people who are identified primarily as NHS patients are not being recruited, and are only being interviewed on the basis of them being users of non-statutory services.

Questions or complaints

If you would like further information relating to the research, please contact the project's lead supervisor Amy O'Donnell, amy.odonnell@newcastle.ac.uk. If you wish to raise a complaint on how your personal data is handled, you can contact the Data Protection Officer who will investigate the matter: Maureen Wilkinson, mrec-man@ncl.ac.uk. If you are not satisfied with their response you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO):

<https://ico.org.uk/>

Thank you for reading this information