

Participant Information Sheet

The title of the research project

An evaluation of the extent of restorative practice in safeguarding adults in England.

What is the purpose of the research/questionnaire?

This survey is designed to identify good practices in safeguarding responses to hate crimes and discriminatory abuse. It was created by a research team at University of Bournemouth and Royal Holloway, University of London and is being circulated to national safeguarding adults board members, community safety partnerships and principal social workers.

Your responses will help us:

1. To develop a snapshot of how hate crime and/or discriminatory abuse are addressed through safeguarding adults processes in your local authority or partnership.
2. To establish current practice and practice development, particularly whether your local authority or partnership has adopted specific practice approaches, such as strengths based / restorative practices that have been used to address hate crime / discriminatory abuse
3. To understand the nature of partnerships safeguarding adults services have with other organisations to support safeguarding work, specifically in relation to hate crime and/or discriminatory abuse.

Our findings will be used to build a national snapshot of practice in this area and to understand and determine sectoral capacity and any gaps for addressing hate crime / discriminatory abuse. This survey is anonymous, but you may enter your contact details below if you would be willing to further share your expertise in the ongoing research into restorative justice in hate crime and discrimination.

Why have I been invited?

You have been invited to take part in this research because you are a senior professional or manager working in the field of safeguarding adults who may at some time been subject to discriminatory abuse or hate crime:

Discriminatory abuse is one of eleven categories of abuse in safeguarding adults policy. It refers to “harassment, slurs and similar treatment, because of race, gender and gender identity, age, disability, sexual orientation, religion” (Department of Health and Social Care, 2023)

Hate crime refers to a criminal offence which is motivated by hostility or prejudice based on one of five protected characteristics (race, religion, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity) (Allen

and Zayed, 2022). This term is sometimes used synonymously with discriminatory abuse in safeguarding adults policy and practice.

Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide whether or not to complete our survey. If you do decide to take part, you can withdraw from participation at any time and without giving a reason, simply by closing the survey browser page. Please note that once you have completed and submitted your survey responses, we are unable to remove anonymised responses from the study. Any remaining data will be anonymous. Deciding whether to take part or not will not impact upon you or your decision to take part in any future study.

How long will the questionnaire/online survey take to complete?

The survey will take less than 10 minutes to complete.

What are the advantages and possible disadvantages or risks of taking part?

Whilst there are no immediate benefits for those people participating in the project, it is hoped that this work will help us to identify what practices are in place for supporting people who experience hate crime and discriminatory abuse. There is no immediate risk to you or others in taking part in the project.

What type of information will be sought from me and why is the collection of this information relevant for achieving the research project's objectives?

In order to achieve the above aims, we will be asking you about your role, your organisation, your practices for addressing hate crime and discriminatory abuse in safeguarding, any organisational partnerships, and challenges. We are particularly interested in whether your organisation uses any strengths-based or restorative practices.

Use of your information

Participation in this study is on the basis of consent: you do not have to complete the survey, and you can change your mind at any point before submitting the survey responses. We will use your data on the basis that it is necessary for the conduct of research, which is an activity in the public interest. We put safeguards in place to ensure that your responses are kept secure and only used as necessary for this research study and associated activities such as a research audit. Once you have submitted your survey response it will not be possible for us to remove it from the study analysis because you will not be identifiable.

The anonymous information collected may be used to support other research projects in the future and access to it in this form will not be restricted. It will not be possible for you to be identified from this data. Anonymised data will be added to BU's Online Research Data Repository (a central location where data is stored) and which will be publicly available.

Contact for further information

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Dr Jane Healy, the research lead, at jhealy@bournemouth.ac.uk.

In case of complaints

Any concerns about the study should be directed to Jane Healy (above). If your concerns have not been answered, you should contact Professor Jane Murphy, Deputy Dean for Research and Professional Practice, Faculty of Health and Social Science, Bournemouth University by email to researchgovernance@bournemouth.ac.uk.

Consent to Participate: [Please click here to be directed to the online survey, where you may consent to participating before completing your responses.](#)