#### Introduction

- \* Researcher explains research, asks if any queries on PIS, and confirms / takes consent.
- ❖ Ask informant to mark current feelings on Likert distress scale

### **Background**

What has it been like for you since you presented at hospital at the time you were recruited to this study?

- Prompt informant on their self-harm history and whether this has changed over the study period
- Prompt informant on their experience of care since attending A&E department (positive, negative?)

### **Experience of recruitment**

- How did you feel about being approached to take part in the study *Prompts:* 
  - o What made you agree?
  - Was there anything that could have been done better?

# **Experience of telephone contact(s)**

- How did you feel about **receiving** the telephone contacts?

# Prompts:

- o Timing of contact.
- Were there any problems with getting the phone calls. Can you give me any specific examples?
- Could it have been done better? How?
- What were the positive aspects? Can you give me any specific examples?
- What did you think about **who** contacted you?

# Prompts:

- What were the positive aspects?
- Did you have any problems with the person who phoned you- what were they?
- What about **what** they said?

### *Prompts:*

- In what way was it helpful/unhelpful. Can you give me any specific examples?
- o Could it have been done better? How?
- o Is there anything else you would have liked to have discussed?

## Usefulness of the information and advice leaflet

- How did you feel about receiving the leaflet?

### *Prompts:*

- What were the positive aspects? Did you use it? Can you give me any specific examples?
- o Did it add to your knowledge about available support services?
- Were there any problems with the leaflet? E.g. Information not comprehensive enough; not relevant; difficulty in contacting organisations listed
- Could it have been done better? How? E.g. appearance (size, colour, layout) , content (additional services)
- Did you keep the leaflet? Why not? Explore possible issues of availability(e.g. did they want to obtain another one)

# **Experience of letters**

- How did you feel about receiving the letters?

## Prompts:

- Were they helpful in what way? E.g. contact / route into help
- Can you give me any examples of specific occasions where you were pleased / displeased when a letter arrived in the post?

- What did you do with the letters?
- What would have made the letters more useful to you?

# Prompt:

• How might we improve the letters?

### **Format**

- What did you think about the content of the letters?
  - Prompts: wording ok; reminder of contact details for main source of support helpful / accurate?

## Frequency and duration

- What did you think about how often the letters came/ how long they came for? *Prompts*:
  - Are the letters delivered at about the right frequency too often / not often enough?
  - o Did you receive the letters for long enough?
  - Would it have been helpful to have the option to continue to receive them?

## Letters and the reduction of self harm

- Did receiving these telephone calls and letters alter your behaviour at all?
  - o Probe: influence your decision to make contact with support services?
  - o Probe: What might they have done otherwise?
- If you were feeling very distressed, could receiving one of these letters encourage you to get in touch with sources of support?
  - o Why / why not?
  - O What about for others?
  - Do you think they might be useful to you or someone else if they were considering harming themselves?

### Problems and barriers

- Was there anything upsetting about receiving these letters?
  - o Probe: did they make you feel worse?
  - o Probe: did they go astray/go to the wrong person
- Would it be more useful to some groups than others? Why is that?
  - o Can you think of any improvements to the intervention?

## Other specific issues

- Which aspect of this service (telephone calls and letters) was most useful to you?

### Closure

- Is there anything else you would like to add?
- ❖ Ask informant to mark current feelings on Likert distress scale
- **\*** *Thank informant.*