

## Part One

We are carrying out a study on emerging drug trends among young people in Northern Ireland, in particular the use of what are sometimes known as “legal highs”.

We are using a style of interview that asks you to reflect back on growing up and your teenage years. We want to ask you a very general question and we want you to tell us your story, without any interruptions or questions from us at this stage.

When you have finished telling your story, we will ask some questions in order to gather more information around what you have already told us. We will conclude the interview by switching off the recording device and having an informal chat about the interview and some of the information you told us about.

**We'd like to talk to you about whether you drank alcohol and /or took drugs whilst growing up. If you think back – maybe you did use alcohol and/or drugs, maybe you didn't. We want to hear your story.**

**Throughout the interview, we will make a few notes just to jog our memory around some of the issues you have discussed.**

## Part Two

Ask questions about what participant discussed during their narrative.

## Part Three

### *NPS Use*

#### *Drug Use Career – Decision Making/Critical Incidents*

1. Can you tell us about your drug use career – so from the first time you used drugs, anything else you moved on to using, maybe the reasons why and then on to your current use.

#### *Knowledge of NPS*

2. What do you know about NPS?
3. Where does this information come from?

#### *NPS Use*

4. What types of NPS have you used? What effects re: different types?
5. Patterns – frequency/quantity/context of use
6. Dosage – initiation & tolerance
7. What about Polydrug use? E.g. simultaneously, before, after
8. Experiences/effects of Polydrug use and motivations to combine certain drugs and/or NPS
9. How did NPS use come about?
10. What motivated you to use NPS?

#### *Availability & Accessibility*

11. Are NPS readily available?
12. Has availability changed of any NPS over time?

### *Non- NPS Use*

#### *Drug Use Career – Decision Making/Critical Incidents*

##### **\*If individual reports never using any drugs**

1. Did any factors influence your decision not to use drugs? We are interest in reasons behind why some people choose to use drugs and/or NPS and why others do not.

##### **\*If individual reports never using NPS**

2. Can you tell us about your drug use career – so from the first time you used drugs, anything else you moved on to using, maybe the reasons why and then on to your current use.

#### *Knowledge of NPS*

3. What do you know about NPS?
4. Where does this information come from?
5. Have you ever been offered NPS?
6. Do your friends use NPS?
7. What influenced your decision not to use NPS

#### *Risk Perception*

8. Are you aware of any risks associated with NPS?

*Risk Perception*

13. Are there any risks associated with NPS?
14. Have you experienced any risks personally? Health – physical/psychological. Social & familial/Economic?

*Services*

15. Have you had any contact with services for drug/NPS use?
16. If yes, what was your experience?
17. Are there any gaps in services for NPS use?

9. Where does this knowledge/perception of risk come from?

**Part Four**

Recording device switched off and informal discussion had with interviewee about interview and anything else they did not feel comfortable discussing during interview – participant informed that notes still taken at this stage.