

## Participant Information Sheet -People in IOM Engagement Project (PIOM)

### Who are St Giles?

St Giles is an award-winning social justice charity using expertise and real-life past experiences to empower people who are not getting the help they need. People held back by poverty, exploited, abused, dealing with addiction or mental health problems, caught up in crime or a combination of these issues and others. We show people there is a way to build a better future for themselves and those they care about and help them create this through support, advice, and training. Our peer-led services form the backbone of our work, putting people with lived experience at the centre of the delivery, design, and evaluation of support and services across the UK.

### What is the PIOM project?

The PIOM Project has been commissioned by the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) to give a voice to people engaging with IOM and hear from them, *in their own words*, about their experiences in IOM. The aim is to identify and action positive change as well as to address challenges, for people in IOM and those delivering the services.

### What are we going to discuss?

During your 1:1 conversation, the researcher will ask you a series of questions that are generally open-ended, allowing you to freely express your lived experience of IOM. Everything you say will be confidential and we hope you feel comfortable to speak freely about your positive and negative experiences.

### What happens to my data?

Everything you say will remain confidential; we are not reporting anything about you specifically to anyone unless there are safeguarding issues. In these situations, we may need to take appropriate actions to safeguard yourself and others.

We ask that all participants agree to written notes and a text transcript being taken in the initial conversation which will be typed up for accuracy, where relevant or useful we may use **anonymous** quotes from sessions to support evidence-based reporting, workshop design and presentations.

We also ask that people agree to us filling out a referral form with probation and recording referral and any attendance to sessions, this enables our sessions to count as contact with an agency and means that we can share aggregate engagement numbers at each borough with our IOM project funders, and make sure we can plan follow up sessions where people are interested.

Your data will be stored on a digital database that can only be accessed by staff in the PIOM team at St Giles. Your data will be anonymous, we ensure this by keeping identification information password-protected and separate from any information you share with us about your experiences.

All of this will ensure that anything you have shared will **not** be linked back to you in any way, but that we are able to honestly share the experiences and viewpoints of people in IOM.

We would also like to be able to stay in contact with you to be able to offer further engagement and learning opportunities. If you are willing you can share a contact number or email with us, and/or we can engage with you via your probation officer.

**Are there any other ways I can be involved?**

Beyond the 1:1 conversation, if you are interested, there are also opportunities for you to be further involved in the project and to participate in a group workshop.

The PIOM Project also allows people in IOM to access training with St Giles, which may support your future career path. One potential role available for people with lived experience at St Giles is Experiential Adviser (EA). EAs are people with lived experience of the Criminal Justice System (CJS). This role requires EAs to draw from their lived experiences in engaging with labelled individuals and service providers to influence positive change within CJS.

**Anything else?**

It is important to know that sharing your lived experience is vital to this research, as we aim to effect change and this cannot be done without *you*.

If you would like to contribute to effecting a change in IOM, for others like yourself within the CJS, please fill out the supporting Participant Consent Form and we'll get started!

For more information, please contact the project supervisor.

**Project Supervisor:** Liz Thomas

**Supervisor's contact details**

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Thank you.

People in IOM Engagement Project Team