

School for Policy Studies

Exploring the intersection between bisexuality and adult social care

Participant Information Sheet (service users)

You are being invited to take part in a study called ‘Exploring the intersection between bisexuality and adult social care’. The aim of this study is to understand the experiences of bisexual people in adult social care services and make them more inclusive for both staff and service users.

Social care is practical help and support provided to someone because of their illness, disability, or age. This help and support can include accommodation, help at home, day centres and counselling, etc.

Kitty Clucas is the researcher and a PhD student at the University of Bristol. Please take the time to read the information below.

What is this study for?

- To help the researcher (Kitty) to complete her PhD. To understand if and how being bisexual can affect a person’s experience of adult social care. To understand how adult social care services can be more welcoming to bisexual people.

Why have I been asked to take part?

- You identify as being bisexual/ a person attracted to people of all genders and you have used or still use social care services.

Why take part?

- This study may help social care services better support bisexual people. This study will be a safe and confidential space to talk about your concerns and opinions. You will receive a £30 shopping voucher for taking part.

Do I have to take part?

- No. Only take part if you want to take part. You can also change your mind if you do decide to take part and you are able to withdraw from the study at any time.

What will happen if I take part?

- Kitty will interview you. This interview can take place over the phone or over webcam on Zoom. If you have additional needs that require another person to be present such as a carer or interpreter, this can be arranged.
- Please bring a photograph or object to that study that you think represents you. We will discuss this photograph or object at the beginning of the interview as a way for Kitty to get to know you better.
- This interview will take an hour or longer, but no longer than 2 hours.
- The audio of this interview will be recorded. No pictures or videos will be taken.
- The interview will involve questions about your life experience around your sexuality and disability (if you have one) and your opinions and experiences of using adult social care services as a bisexual person.
- If you do not want to answer a question or talk about a particular subject, that is ok, and you can let Kitty know this at any time.
- If you do not feel well on the day of the interview but you still want to take part, let Kitty know and we can do it on another day.
- Kitty will contact you two weeks after the interview to discuss what she wrote about the interview. This will be a chance for you to change anything you said or add additional comments.

What will happen to my information?

- Kitty will record your name and contact details, but only she will have access to this information on a secure computer.
- However, if during the study you tell Kitty something that makes her concerned that you or someone else is in danger then your contact details will be passed on to someone who can help. Kitty will let you know if she is going to do this and who she will be giving your details to.
- When Kitty has finished her PhD, she will destroy all records with your contact information on.

- Kitty will make written transcripts of the interviews from the audio recordings. No real names of people or places or organisations will be used in these transcripts. Other people that may read these transcripts will not know the real identity of the person in the interview or the names of services they access.
- If you decide you do not want the interview to be used for the study, Kitty will destroy the transcripts and audio recordings. However, this might not be possible once the data has been anonymised.
- The anonymous transcripts will be made available on a public research data platform that anyone can access if you consent to this.

Who is organising and funding this study?

- Kitty is completing this study as a PhD student at the University of Bristol. It has been funded by the National Institute for Health Research's (NIHR) School for Social Care Research (SSCR). Ethical approval has been granted by University of Bristol School for Policy Studies Research Ethics Committee

I have more questions or need more information

- Please contact Kitty via email at ur19993@bristol.ac.uk or call 07854389924

I want to make a complaint about the research and/or Kitty

- Please contact David Abbott via email at D.abbott@bristol.ac.uk or call 0117 331 0972