

## Appendix 2



## Effects of shielding for Vulnerable people during COVID-19 pandemic on health outcomes, costs and Immunity including those with cancer: quasi-experimental Evaluation (EVITE Immunity)

### Shielded population-interview questions- v1.0 10.05.21

**Establish before the interview whether the person responding is someone who has been shielding, a carer, or both are being interviewed at once.**

1. Can you tell me about your household please?
  - Live alone?
  - Live with others? How many/who?
  - Anyone else in your household also shielding?
    - i. Were these other people also sent a shielding letter
    - ii. were they family members who decided to shield with you
  - Does anyone regularly come to your home to provide care or support? If so, paid carer or informal/family carer?
2. Can you recall receiving the letter about shielding in March or April 2020?
  - Was it clear to you?
  - How did the letter make you feel?
3. Since April 2020, have you received any more information about shielding?
  - Letter/other contact
  - Any change in guidance?
4. Once you got the shielding letter, how did your life change?
  - Staying in?
  - Avoiding visitors?
  - Avoiding interaction with other household members?
  - What stayed the same for you after you got the shielding letter
  - What aspects of your life were better because you were shielding?
5. It has been more than a year since the shielding programme was introduced. Over that time, have you made any changes in how you have lived, eg starting to go out of the house more.
  - When did you change what you were doing? (clarify how long they felt they were shielding)
  - Why did you change?
  - Have things changed more than once – eg going out more in the summer, staying home more in the winter, influence of changing rules and lockdowns?
  - Do you behave differently now that shielding has ended, compared to before the pandemic?

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6. How have you felt about being part of the shielding programme?
  - Positive feelings – eg Safe, protected, doing your bit
  - Negative feelings – eg frustrated, confused, afraid, lonely, sad
  - Neutral - took no notice of it
  - Have your feelings changed over time?
  - [Do you consider yourself to have 'been shielding yourself' or 'being shielded by others/community'?](#)
7. If you live with other people, what impact has the shielding programme had on them?
  - Have they changed the way they behave?
  - Explore whether others in household shielded/did not shield; why did they make this decision; what difference did it make for you?
8. Did you get any additional support to help you with shielding?
  - eg food parcels, help from your employer
9. Have you had contact with the health service over the last year (GP/Hospital/NHS 111/ambulance service etc)?
  - To discuss Covid 19 risks/shielding
  - For other health reasons
  - Hesitant about contacting NHS/avoided contact
  - Any cancelled or delayed treatments or tests
  - How has your normal healthcare changed over the past year?
10. Do you know anyone who has had Covid 19?
  - Self
  - Someone they have had direct contact with in the last year
  - Someone they have not had contact with in the last year
  - If yes, did that affect how they felt about shielding?

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