

## **Semi-structured Interview Questions**

### **Welcome**

*Welcome and thank you for joining us. I'm [name] and this is my colleague [name]; we are from the Designing Out Crime Research Centre at the University of Technology Sydney.*

### **Session objectives**

*The session today is part of a research project we are conducting to find out about approaches to community safety in small, communities in remote, regional Australia. Our aim is to understand the kind of issues you face, and how the local community organises and responds. By 'community', we mean anyone you consider to be involved in the day to day going's on of [location name].*

### **General Instructions**

*In this session we will ask you to talk about what it's like living or working in this community, and your experiences around community safety in [location name]. Our primary interest is your point of view, so there are no correct or incorrect answers. If at any point during the discussion you feel uncomfortable, you may pause the interview and reconvene when you're ready, or elect to stop the interview. We will also be recording the session.*

*Are there any questions before we begin?*

#### **1. Interviewee Background and Role in Community**

- a. Would you please tell us your name and your connection with [location name]?*
- b. How you're involved in the local community?*

#### **2. Community Feel**

- a. How would you describe [location name] as a place to live / work?*
- b. What's the sense of community like in [location name]?*
- c. How do locals keep up with each other? What does the local social calendar look like?*

#### **3. Community Organisation**

- a. If a community member notices anything of interest, how do they let the community know?*
- b. If someone needs help in [location name], how do they go about getting assistance?*

#### **4. Social Capital**

- a. Can you tell us about a time when you felt the community spirit at [location name] really come to life? What happened, who was involved, what did it feel like?*

*We're going to talk about your experiences around community safety now.*

**5. Local Issues and safety**

- a. How safe do you feel living / working in [location name]?*
- b. What kind of crime related issues do you see locally?*
- c. Where would you rate each issue on a scale of very significant (10) to not very significant (1)?*

**6. Let's explore 2 of these issues in more detail.**

*(For each issue):*

**Local Dynamics**

- a. What is significant about [issue X] in [location name]?*
- b. Can you tell us about a recent example that is typical for [location name] and how it unfolded? How was it addressed within the community?*
- c. What aspects from this example would you consider to be typical for [location name]?*

**Current Crime Prevention Responses**

- d. Would you say the way [issue X] was addressed in this example is a typical response?*
- e. How successful do you think those responses are? What kind of changes have you seen as a result?*
- f. In your opinion, what works well and what's doesn't with this approach?*

**7. Reflection**

- a. What crime prevention approaches or solutions would you ideally like to see in the [location name] community ?*

**8. Wrapping Up**

*Before we wrap up, are there any final thoughts you'd like to add?*

*If we have any follow up questions or want to clarify some of the discussion today, may we please contact you by phone or email?*

*[Obtain interviewee contact info]*

*Thank you for your time. We'll be collating findings shortly and can share with you if you're interested.*

*Also, if you have any further questions about our session today, get in touch with us directly – you will find our contact information on the consent form.*