

# Reproductive Health Indicators Delphi Consensus Process

## Information Sheet

Public Health England (PHE) would like to invite you to take part in the national Reproductive Health Indicators (RHI) Delphi consensus process that will run from **February to April 2020**. Before you decide whether or not you would like to take part, it is important for you to consider why the process is being done and what it will involve. Please read this information sheet carefully.

### What is a Delphi consensus process?

The Delphi consensus process is one where three panels (incl. service design stakeholders; service provision stakeholders; and service users) are invited to answer a structured online questionnaire over two rounds to reach agreement about which indicators we should use to measure the reproductive health status of the population and monitor changes over time. **In round 1**, participants will be asked to score the importance of including each measure. **In the second round**, participants will receive a reminder of their ratings, a summary of the group's responses and a further online questionnaire to re-score the original list of indicators. The Delphi is therefore an iterative multi-stage process designed to combine opinion into group consensus.

### What is the purpose of the consensus process?

PHE is leading a national consensus process with the aim to develop a set of core indicators to measure the reproductive health status of the population and monitor changes over time. The final set will consist of a range of indicators to measure:

- (1) **reproductive choices**, such as what proportion of pregnancies are unplanned or how easy it is to access a chosen contraceptive method;
- (2) **reproductive wellness**, such as measuring the proportion of women who experience heavy periods or problems with the menopause; and,
- (3) **early identification of reproductive ill health**, such as number of people attending for cervical screening.

The final set of measures should be made up of a balance across each of these 3 domains.

The purpose of the Delphi consensus process is to identify the candidate reproductive health indicators that should be considered for inclusion in the final list. These candidate indicators will then be discussed at a separate, later, round-table consensus meeting to derive the final list of reproductive health indicators. Delegates at this round-table will comprise stakeholders from each of the panels and members of the project team.

### Why have I been invited to take part?

We need to understand the views and priorities of as many people as possible about which measures are the most important and therefore we are seeking your views as a member of one of the three Delphi panels.

### **What will I be asked to do if I take part?**

We are inviting you to participate as a Delphi panel member. This would involve completing a brief online questionnaire and rating possible reproductive health indicators. This should take approximately 30 minutes; you can also complete a portion of the questionnaire and return later to finish the rest. To allow timely conclusion of the final list of indicators we respectfully request a **response time of 3 weeks** for completion of each round.

### **Confidentiality and data protection**

This process complies with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. Survey responses will be collated anonymously using an identification number known only to the participant and the project lead. All responses received in the process will be strictly confidential. Direct quotes to free text answers may be used as part of the process report of later Delphi iterations, but this will not be traceable back to you.

Survey responses will be collected online using a quality assured United Kingdom based organisation (i.e. Liverpool University), utilising an encrypted internet service. Personal Data will be shared with Liverpool University who will store the data on secure servers. Results will be downloaded to an encrypted Public Health England computer to allow analysis by the Delphi Consensus Project Team. Upon completion of the consensus process, Personal Data will be archived by Liverpool University in accordance with the Data Protection Legislation. You have the right to withdraw your consent to participate at any point by emailing: [hivsrh.innovation@phe.gov.uk](mailto:hivsrh.innovation@phe.gov.uk)

### **What do I do now?**

Thank you for reading this information sheet and for considering taking part in this research. To start the survey, follow this link to register: <https://delphimanager.liv.ac.uk/reproductivehealthindicators>