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| NO | Query |  | Reply | Date uploaded |
| 1 | Please confirm the cut off time for any queries in relation to the Invitation to Tender |  | The cut off time for queries in relation to the Invitation to tender is 5 pm / 1700 hrs on Tuesday 5th December. This will allow the PSA to respond to the queries by the end of that week at the latest. | 27th of November 2023 |
| 2 | Does the PSA have any priorities in terms of the health and care professionals to include in the sample of research participants? |  | From the point of view of the research sample, the PSA is not making requirements in terms of prioritising particular professions, and we would expect the rationale for the proposed sample to be made in the response to the Invitation to Tender. | 27th of November 2023 |
| 3 | Is the PSA able to assist in the recruitment of research participants from the Accredited Registers? |  | The PSA doesn’t itself hold the Accredited Registers and we would not be in a position to recruit research participants from the Accredited Registers. | 27th of November 2023 |
| 4 | Will the PSA be able to facilitate the sharing of invitations to take part in the research - either with those on the Accredited Registers or the ten professional statutory registers? |  | The PSA wouldn’t be able to facilitate the sharing of invitations to take part in the research either with those on the Accredited Registers or those covered by the ten professional statutory regulators, since we aren’t ourselves actually involved in the administration of the registers. | 1st December 2023 |
| 5 | Could the PSA be involved directly in introducing the research organisation to contacts at the regulators or Accredited Registers? |  | The PSA wouldn’t become involved directly in introducing the research organisation to contacts at the regulators or Accredited Registers.  If a research organisation wishes to recruit participants through making direct contact with the regulators or Accredited Registers, the PSA could look over any communications the organisation might draft to send to them. We could also confirm with the regulators or Accredited Registers that we have commissioned the research organisation to undertake the research, should they have any concerns in relation to this. | 8th December 2023 |
| 6 | In terms of methodology, does the PSA have a requirement for the research to be virtual or in person, or to be undertaken in a specific way? |  | The PSA isn’t making a requirement for the research to be undertaken in a specific way. We would anticipate that responses to the Invitation would make a proposal on the appropriate methodology and give the rationale for the approach. | 8th December 2023 |
| 7 | In terms of the sample for the public, does the PSA have any expectations in addition to those in the tender document? |  | The PSA isn’t making specific requirements with regard to the sample, other than those set out in the Invitation to tender at 3.17 to 3.19. We would anticipate that responses to the Invitation would make a proposal on the appropriate sample and give the rationale for the approach. | 8th December 2023 |
| 8 | On Paragraph 3.19, is there a requirement for all the groups of the nine protected characteristics to be covered across the sample? |  | The PSA isn’t making a specific requirement that all the groups of the nine protected characteristics are covered across the sample. However, we are looking for as diverse a sample as possible, covering an appropriate range of protected characteristics. | 8th December 2023 |
| 9 | Does the PSA wish researchers to design the study to elicit a firm steer on the objectives for the broader project (scheduled for 24/25) as set out in 3.9? |  | The PSA isn’t expecting researchers to design the research specifically to elicit a firm steer on the 24/25 broader project objectives in 3.9. We would, however, expect the consumer research to draw out any implications there may be in terms of EDI through the development of a common code of conduct. | 8th December 2023 |
| 10 | Is the written report referred to in 3.21 intended for external publication? |  | Yes, the written report referred to in 3.21 is intended for external publication. It would not be a report intended for internal PSA use only. | 8th December 2023 |