**SPHR CYP WP1: Topic guide local stakeholders**

**Introduction:**

* Thank you for participating; introduce self, SPHR & study
* Key points: your perspectives on facilitators and barriers of developing and implementing policy to reduce inequalities in child health, specific focus on 3 policy areas
* No right or wrong answers & participation is voluntary, rights to withdraw
* recording interview (concentrate on what you are saying, accuracy)
* Confidentiality and anonymity
* Free to clarify / correct anything said at any point in the interview
* Questions?
* Happy to proceed? Sign consent form

START RECORDING

**Participant background/role**

* Organisation (purpose; main activities) - remit for child health
* Clarify current role and responsibilities, particularly in relation to child health

**Local context**

* What you perceive to be the current priorities for child health in this LA?
* What do you perceive to be the key inequalities in CYP in this LA?
* What are the main drivers of inequality in this local area?

**Priority setting**

* What local evidence is drawn on in setting priorities?
* How are priorities agreed?
* Have priorities changed in recent times / remained largely the same?

**Policy development process**

* What is the process for developing policy in relation to key priorities? Who has responsibility for taking the decision about priorities forward?
* Who is involved in developing local policy relevant to child health? (community, children, parents, third sector?) Extent of involvement
* Anyone who could / should be involved but isn’t currently?
* To what extent do the targets set monitor reduction in health inequalities?
* How / to what extent is local action to reduce inequalities incentivised / rewarded?

**What is the role of national drivers in influencing local policy?**

* How do you work out which national policies to work with?
* Who is responsible for keeping up to speed with national drivers/ policy?
* How useful is national policy - strategic / is it practical e.g. use of tools / frameworks – if not why not? What is missing? What would you like to see?
* How does national level documentation compliment / add to (or not) local knowledge?
* Are proposals for the implementation of national policy at a local level adequate for your local context?
* If national policies do not complement local knowledge, how does this affect the policy process?
* We’re focusing on 3 policy areas: obesity, mental health and best start.

1. **In relation to these policy areas, can you tell me about:**

* Whether they are local priorities
* If yes – how did they become a priority? (drivers: evidence, national policy/guidance)
* If not – why not?
* What is going on locally to improve outcomes

1. **To what extent is inequality a focus of this work?**

* Are inequalities measured?
* Do initiatives differ for different groups / areas?
* Do policies take a more individual or structural approach to targeting inequalities? Or both?

1. **What is working well in relation to reducing inequality?**

* What facilitates productive work to reduce inequality?

1. **What is not working so well?**

* What are the barriers to reducing inequality? Are these barriers specific to the local authority/policy area/or particular demographic groups?
* What could be improved?
* What should be happening to reduce inequalities?

1. **What national drivers or particular policies are relevant?**

* How have they been used?

1. **Have the community been involved in relation to policy work in these areas**?
2. **Thank and close**

* Ask if anything else they'd like to add
* Any suggestions for other participants to take part (and can they facilitate introduction)
* Any key documentation that would be useful to share with study team
* Thank and close