BRIDGES: Think-aloud interview guide for testing DCE survey

Thank you for helping us test this survey which is aimed at finding out what physical activities are preferred by people living with brain injury. The type of survey you're going to be testing is quite complicated so we need to make sure the instructions are as clear as possible and that all the questions make sense. We do this by a interviewing people while they do the survey and asking them to tell us what they're thinking as they read through it. We're testing the survey, not you, so whatever you think, we want to know it!

I'm going to record this so I have an accurate record of your feedback - is that OK?

OK. Are you able to open the document I sent you? I have a copy on my screen too so I can follow along with you.

Do you have any questions before we kick off?

Part one: Reading the DCE instructions and debrief

- 1. Can I please ask you to start by reading the first few pages which have information about the survey and consent form. You can read it out loud or, if you prefer, read it to yourself but give me some feedback at the end of each page?
- 2. [depending on what feedback already given] How clear or not was that information? How do you feel about doing the survey now? Do you have any questions about the survey that haven't been answered?

Part two: Practice the think aloud process

- 3. Let's try the first question now. As you're reading it please tell me what you're thinking as you do it. I might remind you to keep talking if you fall silent. [*Prompt for concurrent thoughts as required: 'Mmm-mmm', 'And now?', What are you thinking now?'. Ask for an answer to the question too if they don't offer it*]
- 4. Thank you. Can I ask how you found that [prompt for maximum information]? That's really helpful thanks. Are you OK to do the rest of the questions?

Part three: Think aloud survey completion

5. I'd like you to work your way through the rest of the survey now, continuing to talk to me about what you're seeing and thinking as you do it. [*Prompts as before*]

Part four: Full survey debrief

- 6. Can you give me your immediate thoughts about the survey what's top of mind?
- 7. [If not already addressed...] How easy or hard was it [prompt to identify which aspects and why]? Was anything confusing?
- 8. One of the things we're worried about is cognitive overload: the survey is quite complex and possibly quite tiring. What are your thoughts about that?
- 9. Is there anything you think we should do differently so that we get as many people with brain injury as possible to complete this survey?

Thank you so much for helping us test this survey. Your input has been really valuable.