Participant Information Sheet

Title of project

Playing Sane: Understanding mental health for professional actors in the UK

Invitation to research

My name is Alice Brockway (also known as Sharon) and I am a professionally trained and experienced actor and PhD researcher with **Manchester School of Theatre (MST)** at **Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU)** looking at the mental health of actors working in the UK. This survey is designed to gather information from actors about their work related experiences of mental health and mental health challenges.

This work is being supervised by the following senior researchers:

John Deeney (School of Theatre)
Dr Kim Heyes (School of Nursing and Public Health)
Dr Josh Edelman (School of Theatre)

The project is being funded by **MMU**.

Why have I been invited?

You have been asked to take part because you have been identified as having knowledge that is of particular relevance to this topic.

Do I have to take part?

Participation is entirely voluntary. You can stop at any time and you do not have to complete the survey. If you want a break you can stop entering answers and you will be able to come back and complete at any time within the next week. After a week whatever you have entered will be saved and it will no longer be possible to change it.

Answers given, including direct quotes, may be used in documents, presentations and other resources used to share the findings of this research. Any quotes used will be selected carefully and/or edited to preserve anonymity. The researcher is aware that, due to the nature of the work being investigated, individuals may be identifiable through indirect implication such as reference to a particular production so quote selection will specifically include checking for this.

What will I be asked to do?

The online survey will ask you questions related to your experiences around mental health challenges and the working lives of actors. These questions have been developed from relevant literature and discussions with industry.

Participation is entirely online and anonymous. This means that the information is being collected does not include your name, date of birth, contact details, or any other immediately identifiable information.

Are there any risks if I participate?

No part of this survey is designed to cause distress, however, in the event that you feel upset and would like to speak to someone about this you can contact the researcher at:

sharon.brockway@mmu.ac.uk

There are also many organisations available if you need additional support. A comprehensive list can be found on the NHS website here:

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mental-health-helplines/

Are there any advantages if I participate?

By taking part you will be contributing to understanding around the relationships between the working lives of actors and their mental health, and the ways in which different types of jobs impact mental health.

Informed consent

This information sheet covers all the important information about participation and will hopefully answer any questions you have about participating, so it's important that you read it in full before taking part. If there's anything you're not sure about you can email the researcher in advance to ask any questions at

sharon.brockway@mmu.ac.uk

What information about me will you collect and why?

The link you have clicked to take part in this survey is an anonymous link, meaning it's not directly tied back to you. The software will NOT collect IP address, location data, or contact information.

You will be asked to provide information about yourself and your experiences. To get the best information for the research you will be asked for personal data, some of

which is called ‘special category’ data, including gender identity and trade union membership. In each case the data requested has been identified in existing literature as relevant to mental health and/or working as an actor in the UK. This data is classified differently to protect your identity and to prevent discrimination or other harm. Part of data protection is making sure this information isn’t later presented or stored in a way that could identify or harm you.

At the end of this survey you will be given the chance to give your contact details only for use by the PI to contact you about further participation in other phases of this research or to provide a summary of the findings. It is entirely optional and will not affect your ability to take part in the survey itself. Contact details will be collected and stored separately to survey data. If you choose to provide your contact information you will click a link and be taken to an entirely separate form. This contact information will be deleted at the end of the research process.

How will my information be stored and how will you look after it?

As far as possible all information you provide will be stored within the secure university network. Where information is stored on any device as much security as possible will be used, such as password/passcode

protected access, biometric protected access, and two-step verification. Storage on devices (as opposed to on the university network) will be kept to a minimum and any local copies of information will be deleted as soon as possible.

During use of data (i.e. sending an email or analysing a survey response) some software automatically stores local copies of information. These will be deleted as soon as possible.

How will you use my information?

Information will be used to contribute directly to the research.

Analysis will mainly be carried out through specialist software, but some hard copies of anonymous / (pseudo)anonymised data may also be used. Your answers may be quoted or summarised in reports, papers, presentations, and other research outputs. Even though the answers are given anonymously any quotations will be checked to make sure they don't indirectly provide identification (for example, details of productions that could identify cast members). Elements may be redacted or altered to protect identities if this is the case.

Will my data be sent anywhere else, or shared with

other people or organisations?

Your data will not be sent outside the UK, or shared with people or organisations outside MMU with the following exceptions:

- Authorised external technical support staff may be given access if there are problems such as difficulties exporting data from a particular software. This would be limited to only what is needed to resolve the issues arising.
- If a serious and imminent risk to a person is identified the researcher or a member of their supervisory team may pass on information to appropriate parties such as an ambulance service.

Only (pseudo)anonymised or anonymous data will be made available outside MMU unless specific additional consent from you is obtained.

When will you destroy my information?

Your information will be stored within the university network for up to 6 years after this research has been completed. Within those 6 years the researcher may begin further studies utilising this data. Should this be the

case the data will be stored for up to 6 years after subsequent research has been completed. Any further research would be the subject of additional ethical approval and would require ongoing secure storage of data.

For further information about use of your personal data and your data protection rights please see the University's Data Protection Pages (**https://www2.Manchester** Met.ac.uk/data-protection/).

Data Protection Law

Data protection legislation requires that we state the 'legal basis' for processing information about you. In the case of research, this is 'a task in the public interest.' If we use more sensitive information about you, such as information about your health, religion, or ethnicity (called 'special category' information), our basis lies in research in the public interest. Manchester Metropolitan is the Controller for this information and is responsible for looking after your data and using it in line with the requirements of the data protection legislation applicable in the UK.

You have the right to make choices about your information under the data protection legislation, such as the right of access and the right to object, although in

some circumstances these rights are not absolute. If you have any questions, or would like to exercise these rights, please contact the researcher or the University Data Protection Officer using the details below.

You can stop being a part of the study at any time until your survey answers are saved (i.e. when you hit submit or after a week when answers will automatically be saved). Because your answers are being given anonymously it will not be possible to withdraw after that point.

If you choose provide your contact details for the PI to contact you in future you can request for that contact information to be deleted at any time.

What will happen to the results of the research study?

Findings will be shared via submission of a PhD Thesis, articles / papers and presentations where possible, social media platforms, and on www.playingsanethephd.co.uk

Who has reviewed this project?

This project has been reviewed by Manchester Metropolitan University.

Who do I contact if I have concerns about this project or I wish to complain?

If you wish to discuss concerns with the researcher please email

sharon.brockway@mmu.ac.uk

If you would like to contact a member of the supervisory team please contact:

John Deeney (School of Theatre)
j.deeney@mmu.ac.uk
Dr Kim Heyes (School of Nursing and Public Health) **K.Heyes@mmu.ac.uk**
Dr Josh Edelman (School of Theatre)
J.Edelman@mmu.ac.uk

Manchester Metropolitan Data Protection Officer Our Data Protection Officer can be contacted using the dataprotection@mmu.ac.uk e-mail address, by calling +44 (0)7584 330586 or in writing to:
Data Protection Officer, Legal & Governance, Ormond Building, Lower Ormond Street, Manchester, M15 6BX

UK Information Commissioner's Office
You have the right to complain directly to the Information Commissioner's Office if you would like to complain about how we process your personal data:

https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/Click to write the question text

If you would like to download a written copy please click the following link:

https://www.playingsanethephd.co.uk/survey-participant-information-sheet/

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING PARTICIPATING IN THIS PROJECT.
TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY PLEASE CLICK ARROW AT THE BOTTOM RIGHT OF THE SCREEN FOR THE NEXT PAGE.

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