

## Appendix S1. Semi-structured interview schedule for service users

### Opening Statement:

**Thank you for participating in this research study investigating service user views towards 24-7 consultant presence at St. Mary's Hospital. My name is Holly Reid and I am a research assistant at the University of Manchester. Through this research we aim to describe the effect that 24-7 consultant presence has on patient care and birthing experiences. Do you have any questions?**

1. Why did you choose to give birth at St. Mary's?
  - Did you look at other units? If so, what made you choose St. Mary's?
2. How aware are you of 24-7 consultant presence on the maternity unit?
  - If they are not aware: **24-7 consultant presence was introduced to St. Mary's Hospital on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014 and ensures that a consultant is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week.**
  - When/where did you hear about it?
3. What are your thoughts on consultants?
  - In general?
  - On a maternity unit?
4. What are your views on consultants being present at the unit?
5. Could you tell me about your experiences of St Mary's during your pregnancy/birth?
6. Could you tell me about how your family have experienced St Mary's during your pregnancy/birth (if involved)?
7. Was a consultant involved in the care of you/your baby at any point?
  - If so, how did you experience their involvement?
8. How do you feel about 24-7 consultant presence on the unit?
  - Why?
  - Have you ever felt differently? Why?