Centre for Applied Psychology
University of Birmingham
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B15 2TT

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Dr Fazeelat Duran. I am an Occupational Psychologist and academic at the University of Birmingham. For over ten years, I have worked with police and law enforcement organisations to support the mental health and wellbeing of their staff.

We are carrying out a research study to understand what helps protect the mental health of people who work with distressing or traumatic material. This includes professionals such as analysts, intelligence officers, digital forensics staff, translators, typists, and behavioural investigative advisers.

We are especially interested in hearing from secondary investigators and analysts who are neurodivergent, including people who have a formal diagnosis and people who identify as neurodivergent without a diagnosis. We will also collect information from neurotypical professionals to explore whether the factors linked to distress differ between groups.

There are two parts to the study, you can take part in one part or both parts:

Part 1: Online survey

- Open to neurodivergent and neurotypical professionals (formal diagnosis not required).
- Takes around 35 minutes, including breaks.
- Can be completed online at a time that suits you.
- To take part: https://bhampsychology.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2rviJ8652Ytk6wu

Part 2: Interview or focus group

- Open to neurodivergent professionals only (formal diagnosis not required).
- Takes around 45-60 minutes, including breaks.
- Can be held online, telephone, or another agreed method.
- To take part: please contact Dr Tia Bennett at T.Bennett@bham.ac.uk

Before taking part, you will receive an information sheet and consent form. These will explain the study in more detail. After reading them, you can decide whether you would like to take part. Taking part is completely voluntary.

Thank you for taking the time to read this invitation.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Fazeelat Duran