BASIC PRINCIPLES IN INTERVIEWING

- Explain aims/process/approach. This is very important and the place of the interview in the HitP project needs to be clearly explained.

- Open-ended starters ....from general to specific.

- Be clear.

- Listen carefully

- to words & feelings.

- to non-verbals.

- to yourself.

- Be interested & affirming (with your eyes and body).

- Avoid leading questions

- Open questions (cf closed) – or rather, a mixture, as appropriate

- Recognise and respect cultural codes of language and communication

- Non-judgmental.

- Invite expansion (beyond generalisation or face value).

- Invite concrete / detailed remembering

- Take care with challenging questions (but don't necessarily play 'safe').

- Be flexible....& explain new directions.

- Be interactive (? As appropriate!)

-not just "data gathering".

- Keep an eye on names/dates/places.... but not obsessively, if not key signposts for narrator (note proper nouns on pad to check later).

- Be frank & honest.

- Be competent with your equipment !