Facilitator note: Before you begin

- Thank you for running a workshop to support the Timms Review of Personal Independence Payment.
- Before you begin, please make sure you have:
- Read the instructions and guidance for facilitators
- Read the response form, so you know how to share your insights
- Told attendees how you will use their data and secured their informed consent
- This workshop is designed to be **flexible**. Please adapt it to your attendees and their interests and needs. The content for you to adapt in this pack is highlighted in yellow and marked with a comment. Further suggestions on how to adapt the workshop can be found in the instructions and guidance for facilitators.
- 1

Welcome to our Timms Review workshop

- [Add details, for example time and date]
- 2

Welcome to today's workshop

- The government has launched the Timms Review of Personal Independence Payment (PIP).
- It is led by a steering group, mainly made up of Disabled people, who will suggest ways to improve PIP.
- This group wants to hear from you to help them with their recommendations.
- This workshop will help us share your views on PIP, so the Review can hear your lived experience and ideas.
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Timings

- Today's session is going to be XX minutes. We will cover:
- 4

Welcome and introductions	15 mins
Introducing the Timms Review	15 mins
What PIP is for	30 mins
Break	5 mins
What it is like to apply for PIP	40 mins
Break	5 mins
How decisions are made about PIP	30 mins
Workshop wrap up and close	5 mins

How we will work together

- Some of the discussions today are **personal** and you may find them **challenging**.
- We will **listen** to and **respect** everyone's views and assume **good intent** – we might disagree and that is okay
- This is a safe and supportive space. There are **no silly questions** and **no wrong answers**
- You only need to share what you feel **comfortable** sharing
- We will use **Social Model of Disability** language, but each of us can use language we identify with
- We want to create a space where **everyone can participate** – please share if there is anything we can do to support you
- You can take a **break** or **leave the session** at any point, and we can share additional resources to support you
- 5

Introductions

- We are now going to go around the group and invite each person to introduce themselves including:
- Your name
- An interesting fact about yourself (if you are not sure, you could share your favourite food or musician)
- Why you decided to join the session today
- 6

Introducing the Timms Review

- [15 minutes]
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What is the Timms Review about?

- **Personal Independence Payment (PIP)** is a non-means-tested cash benefit.
- PIP supports many people with the extra costs of a Disability or long-term health condition.
- The government launched the **Timms Review** last year.
- This is the first full review of PIP. It aims to ensure that:
- PIP is fair and fit for the future in a changing world,
- PIP helps support Disabled people to achieve better health, higher living standards and greater independence, including through participating in the community or employment.
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Who is involved in the Timms Review?

- It is important that lived experience is at the heart of the Timms Review.
- The government is committed to a Review that is shaped with Disabled people and is not simply about them.
- The Timms Review is being co-produced with Disabled people, the organisations that represent them, carers, clinicians, experts, MPs and others.
- By joining this workshop, this includes you!
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Who is involved in the Timms Review? Continued

- The Review is led by three co-chairs and a steering group.
- They bring experience across areas including welfare policy, accessibility, advocacy, co-production, governance, and leadership within Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs).
- Almost all members have lived experience of Disability or long-term health conditions.
- The steering group:
- Set the strategic direction for the work,
- Oversee the programme of evidence gathering and engagement, including workshops like this one,
- Develop recommendations.
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Why are we holding this workshop?

- It is very important to the steering group that the Review hears from many different perspectives. The six-part evidence and engagement programme is designed to support people to take part in ways that work for them. The programme includes:
- A Call for Evidence
- Existing data and research
- New quantitative survey research
- **Workshop in a box**
- Evidence sessions with experts
- Deliberative events (more detailed discussions on options and solutions)
- This workshop will cover some topics that the steering group wants to know more about.
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Why are we holding this workshop? Continued

- The Timms Review steering group wants to base their recommendations on a range of lived, living and learned experience.
- They want to hear from a wide range of voices, including the most marginalised communities.
- They believe this is essential to providing a PIP offer that is fit for the future and fair for all.
- This workshop is an opportunity for Disabled people and individuals with direct experience of PIP to shape the Review.
- [You can add more reasons why your organisation is hosting a workshop here]
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How will insights from this session shape the direction of the Review?

- Following today’s session:
- Facilitators will write up a summary of the discussion which will be shared with the Review
- This will help the Review's steering group to make their recommendations and be used to inform the final report
- **Please note:** Insights from today will be anonymised before sharing so anything you share today will not be attributable to any individual.
- Thank you for taking part today and sharing your insights and experiences with the Timms Review.
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What PIP is for

- 30 minutes
- 14

What PIP is for: What do we want to talk about in this session?

- The steering group has been thinking about the **purpose of PIP** and **whether PIP is doing what it needs to**.
- To understand this more, they would like to hear your views on:
- Why PIP is important
- What PIP is used for currently, including what people spend their money on and what other support PIP helps people access
- What you think PIP should be used for
- The insights we share will help the Timms Review steering group set their vision and ambitions for PIP which will help shape the recommendations they produce.
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What PIP is for: How PIP is used currently

- **What do people use PIP for? Why is PIP important for them?**
- You could think about what you or others currently spend money on or what other support you or others use PIP to access (like a Blue Badge or companion tickets). If you do not receive PIP, you could think about what you would use it for.
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What PIP is for: Understanding extra costs

- PIP was designed to help with the **extra costs** of a long-term Disability or health condition. Extra costs mean the additional expenses Disabled people face above normal living costs. But extra costs are difficult to understand and might vary based on different circumstances, such as the societal barriers people face.
- **Are there parts of your life or circumstances that affect the extra costs of Disability? How do they affect how you use PIP?**
- You could think about where you live, parts of your identity (like your race or gender) or your responsibilities. For example, you may spend more money on fuel if you live in an area without accessible public transport connections.
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What PIP is for: What could PIP be used for?

- **What do you think PIP should help people to do?**
- You could think about what PIP should be used for in the future and the role it should play in people's lives. This could include what type of support might help people most.
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Break 1– 5 minutes

- During this break, please take time for yourself and rest if required.
- You can also speak to a facilitator if there is anything that would make this workshop more accessible for you.
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What it is like to apply for PIP

- 40 minutes
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What it is like to apply for PIP: What do we want to talk about in this session?

- The Timms Review is looking at the **current experience of people applying for PIP**, and how this could be improved. This includes thinking about how the process can be accessible and inclusive.
- To understand this more, the steering group would like to hear your views on:
- What does and does not work in the current process
- How accessible the current process is and what could be done to improve this
- The insights we share will help the steering group to understand problems with the process and what a good, accessible alternative could look like.
- We will invite you to talk about personal experiences, which some people may find difficult. Please take part in whatever way feels right for you. You are welcome to leave the room, take a break, or choose not to share at any point.
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What it is like to apply for PIP: The current process

- Here is an example process of making a new PIP claim:
- You or someone you know might have a different experience, such as completing a renewal, reporting a change in circumstance, moving from Disability Living Allowance (DLA) to PIP, or applying on behalf of someone.
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- 1. **Contacting DWP** to start the claim
- 2. Answering **basic questions** about me and my Disability or condition
- (over the phone or using the PIP1 form)
- 3. Completing the **'How your Disability affects you'** form
- (the PIP2 form)
- 4. Completing a **functional assessment** with a health professional
- 5. Receiving a **decision letter**
- 6. **Challenging a decision**
- (if relevant)

What it is like to apply for PIP: How it makes you feel

- **The process of applying for PIP makes me feel...**
- **Why does it make you feel this way?**
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What it is like to apply for PIP: What does and does not work

- Based on the stages of the process you or someone you know has experienced…
- **“Parts of the PIP process that work well are…”**
- **“Parts of the PIP process that do not work well are…”**
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What it is like to apply for PIP: How accessible is the current process?

- How much do you agree or disagree that **“The PIP process is accessible”**?
- I strongly disagree
- I disagree
- I do not agree or disagree
- I agree
- I strongly agree
- **If you feel comfortable sharing, why do you feel this way?**
- You could think about the parts of your life or circumstances that impact your ability to access and navigate the current PIP process.
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What it is like to apply for PIP: How could we improve the process?

- **If you improved the current PIP process, what would you change?**
- The Timms Review presents a chance to change the system. We want to think creatively and ambitiously about what could be done differently.
- You could think about what you would do differently or what a better process could look like. This could include what adjustments could be made to make the process more accessible and inclusive.
- You could think about what has worked well elsewhere that we could learn from.
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Break 2– 5 minutes

- During this break, please take time for yourself and rest if required.
- You can also speak to a facilitator if there is anything that would make this workshop more accessible for you.
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How decisions are made about PIP

- 30 minutes
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How decisions are made about PIP: What do we want to talk about in this session?

- The steering group is looking at **how it is decided who does and does not get PIP**. This includes whether the assessment criteria and the evidence used capture the impact of long-term health conditions and Disability effectively.
- To understand this more, they would like to hear your views on:
- What the current process is good at capturing, and what it is not
- Whether the current process fairly assesses people's needs,
- How you think eligibility for PIP should be assessed.
- The insights we share will help the steering group to understand what people want PIP to assess and how it could be done differently.
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How decisions are made about PIP: What PIP does and does not capture

- **“For my Disability or condition, the PIP assessment captures…”**
- **“For my Disability or condition, the PIP assessment does not capture…”**
- 30

How decisions are made about PIP: Fairness of the process

- How much do you agree or disagree that **“The current PIP process fairly assesses people’s needs.”**?
- I strongly disagree
- I disagree
- I do not agree or disagree
- I agree
- I strongly agree
- **If you feel comfortable sharing, why do you feel this way?**
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How decisions are made about PIP: How eligibility should be assessed

- **How do you think eligibility for PIP should be assessed in the future?**
- What would a fair assessment involve so that PIP works for the people who need it?
- You could think about what questions should be asked and what evidence or information should be looked at.
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Workshop wrap up and close

- 5 minutes
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Thank you and what happens next

- Thank you for joining today's session and sharing your thoughts and experiences.
- The hosts [or organisation name] will write up the notes from today and share this with the Timms Review steering group.
- The steering group will discuss insights from workshops, including this one, at one of their meetings. This will help them form the recommendations they submit to the Secretary of State.
- It is expected that the final report with recommendations will be publicly available in the Autumn.
- If you have found any of the conversations difficult today, support is available. Please reach out to a member of the team who can share additional resources for support.
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