**Additional file 1**

**Interview guide**

***Introduction***

First of all I would like to thank you for participating in this study.

This interview is part of the project of Longitudinal Ageing Study Amsterdam on wellbeing of older persons who live in the cities. The topics, in which I am interested, are: How older people experience their living environment, and how their living environment influences their mental health.

First, I would like to discuss with you photos that you have taken. After that we will start an interview.

The information will be used for research purposes only. All you say will remain confidential.

Would you mind if I use a recording device? Alternatively: Would you mind if I record this interview?

In this way I can listen to the recording again. I will type out the recording and use this for my analysis. The recording will not be used for any other purposes nor will it be listened to by the others. Also your name will not be possible to identify and all the details will be anonymized.

***Background information***

Could you (please) introduce yourself?

Sex (observe)

Age: How old are you? or What is your age?

Are you married? Do you have children?

Education: What level of education have you received? / What was your profession?

With whom do you live?

Neighborhood (fill in yourself), plus observation list (items from the Neighborhood Quality Index)

SES (fill in yourself)

***Living environment***

• How did you experience this assignment? Was it simple/difficult/cleat/unclear? Why? Did you miss something? OR What did you miss?

• How did you decide which photos are you going to take?

• What do you see as your (living) environment?/What is your environment? Can you please describe your (living) environment?

• What gives you good (bad) feeling about your environment? Why?

• What photos have you taken and why?

• What is captured on this photo? What is the meaning of this photo? Why did you take it?

***Social cohesion***

- What is important for the well-being of older persons who live in the city?

- How long have you been living here (in this neighborhood/living environment)?

- Can you please tell more about how you have come to live here?

- Do you have a feeling that you are at home here?

- How do you feel in your environment?/How do you experience your environment?

- What is important for you in your living environment? Probs: Can you please name a few things/aspects?

- What do you think about your neighbors?

- Do you share with them certain norms and values? How are you doing that?

- Do you solve problems together? How are you doing that?

- How do you experience the relationships with your neighbors in your environment? Are people helpful?/Do people help each other?

- What does it mean to you to live here? Probs: Would you like to stay living here (or would you like to move)?

***Trust***

- What is the situation with trust in your environment? Do you trust people in your neighborhood? Why?

- How important is for you to trust people in your environment?

- Do you feel safe in your environment? Why? Can you please explain more/give some examples?

***Social contacts/networks***

- How do you experience communication with your family/friends/neighbors?

- How do you spend time with your family? Do you talk to your family/ about their lives/your life?

- How do you feel talking to your family/friends/neighbors about things is going? (or somebody in your neighborhood)? Can you discuss with them important things?

- How often do you see your family/friends/neighbors? Whom do you see every week? (for example, family, friends, neighbors, care professionals)

- Probs: With whom do you get together the most?/With whom do you have the closest contact?

- With whom do you like doing various activities (walking, shopping, drinking coffee)?

- How would you describe your role in your social networks? What do you do exactly? What are your tasks?

- How many people are in your social networks?

- How diverse are your social networks? Men/women, people from different countries?

- What networks/contact are the most important for you?

- Is there anyone around you in whose company you feel uncomfortable/unpleasant? And why?

***Social support***

- Do you receive help from anybody in your environment? What kind of help? From whom? How often?

- How do you experience help/support that you receive from the others (friends/neighbors) in your environment?/ How do you experience helping others?

- From whom else do you receive more help?

- Do you receive help/support from people in your environment as you have problems? Do they understand your problems (situation)?

***Social participation***

- Do you occasionally go to social events/clubs/organizations? Are you a member of one?

- Do you do volunteer work? If so: Why are you doing it?

- What other kind of activities do you have in your environment? Do you take part in them?

- Do you take care of someone?/Are you a caregiver?

***Stress***

- Are there stressful situations in your living environment?

- Could you give an example of stressful/unpleasant situations?

***Evaluation of life, ageing, mental health***

- What do you find was the most important in your life and why? OR What do you find was the happiest period in your life and why?

- What do you feel unhappy about?

- What are the positive (and negative) experiences in your life?

- How do you experience ageing/getting old?/What are your experiences with getting old? What changes have you noticed?

- How do you feel at the moment? Can you please tell…

- How do you feel in the company of other people?

- What in your opinion has an influence on your health (mental health)?

- How do you think your environment can influence your attitude/health/well-being?

*Additional questions*

- Is there anything else that you would like to add?

- Would it be possible to have a second meeting/interview if I have any remaining

questions?

Ending

Gift