(Audio)-Describing the Maze/Long Kesh

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Prisons Memory Archive

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'It was as if the whole Northern Ireland conflict had focused itself on this particular piece of ground. On these particular buildings'

– Father Oliver Crilly, PMA participant

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Pilot Study, 21st November 2017



Pilot Study

General public audience Varying visual abilities: sighted, partially sighted and blind participants AD users and non users Evaluated 3 AD clips (Compound, H-Block and Hospital) Questionnaire and focus group

Preliminary Findings (1) AD was factual and added focus to the recordings.

The accents of the two describers were thought to be neutral and by others to carry subtle markers that identified the community background of the describer. For example, pronunciation of 'H'.

Participants agreed that the use of local accents was appropriate to the material.



Preliminary Findings (2)

Participants underlined the need for a variety of perspectives in the descriptions.

Some argued that **personal stories would enhance the narrative** and give it more human interest.

Participants highlighted the **need to bring the prison to life with the inclusion of description of what daily life was like for those who were there**, e.g. prison staff, medical staff and maintenance staff.





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