
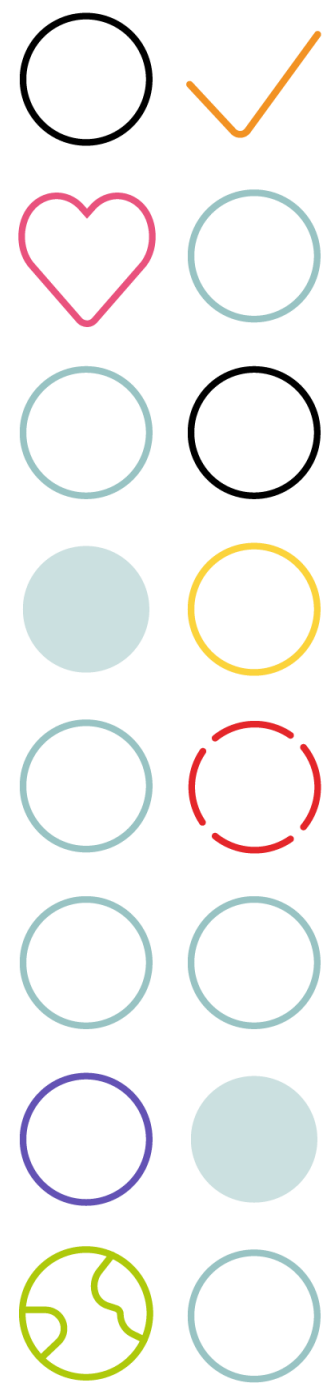
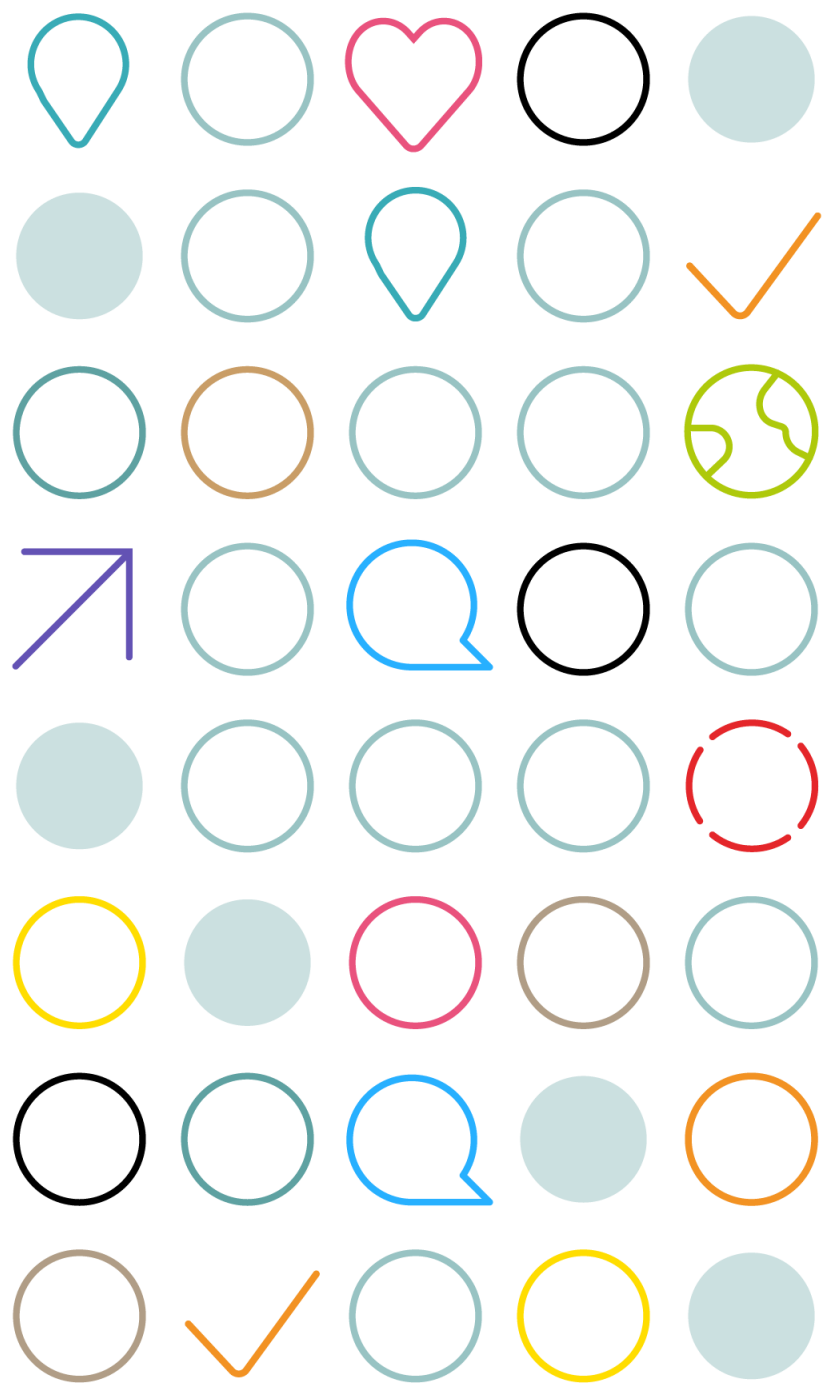


Preparation For Adulthood 26th February 2026

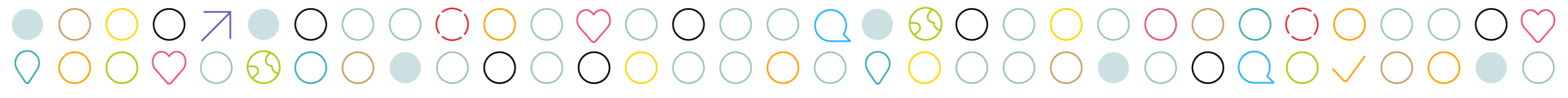
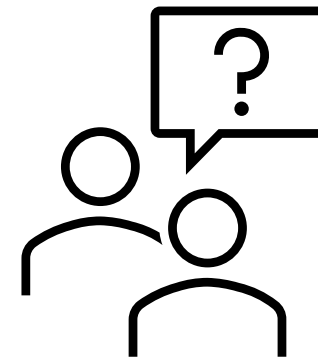
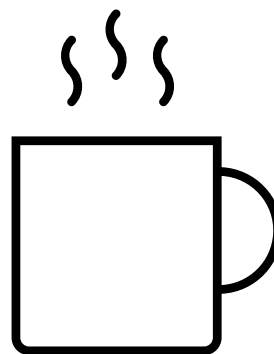
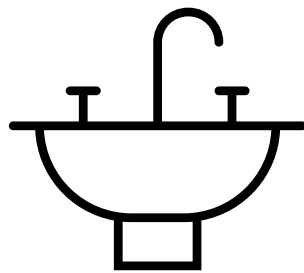
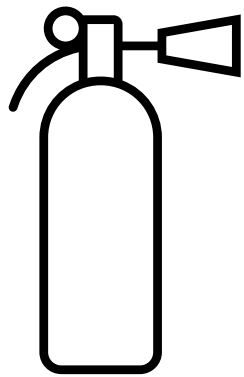


 Play **your** part towards
a **Stronger Future**





House Keeping





AGENDA

Civic Suite

- **9.45 – 10.00 - Introduction/ housekeeping – Julie Duff**
- **10.00-10.05 – Welcome Councillor Sheila Little**
- **10.05-10.30 - Preparation for Adulthood Strategy – Matt Pilling**
- **10.30-11.00 – Education and Supported Internships – Paul Arista**
- **11.00-11.30 – Supported Employment - ???**
- **11.30 – 11.45 – What happens when my EHCP ceases? Paul Arista**
- **11.45 – 12.15 – Coffee Break/Market Place**
- **12.15-12.45 – Moving to Adult Services in Social Care**
- **12.45 – 1.15 – Moving to Adult Services in Health Marketplace**
- **1.15-1.30 – Where will my young person live?**





AGENDA

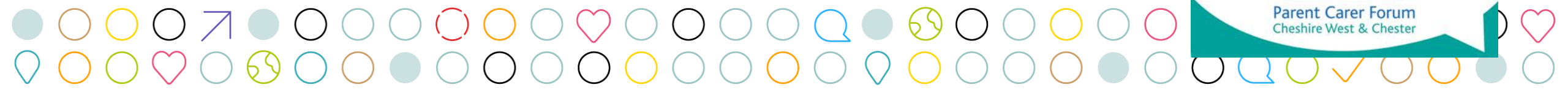
Vauxhall Suite

- **10:40** **Wills and Trust – Protecting our vulnerable family members**
- **11:00** **The Care Act – What is it? How will affect my family?**
- **11:20** **Benefits – What changes when my child turns**

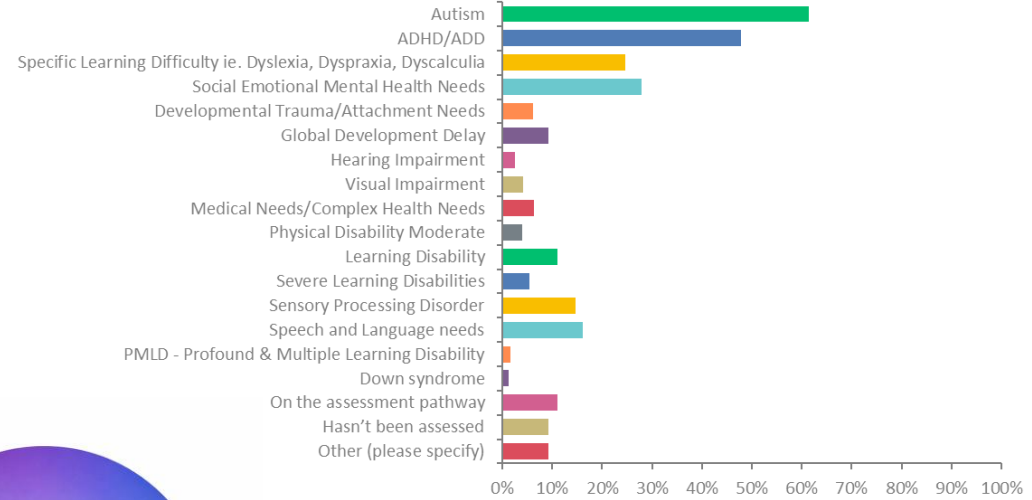
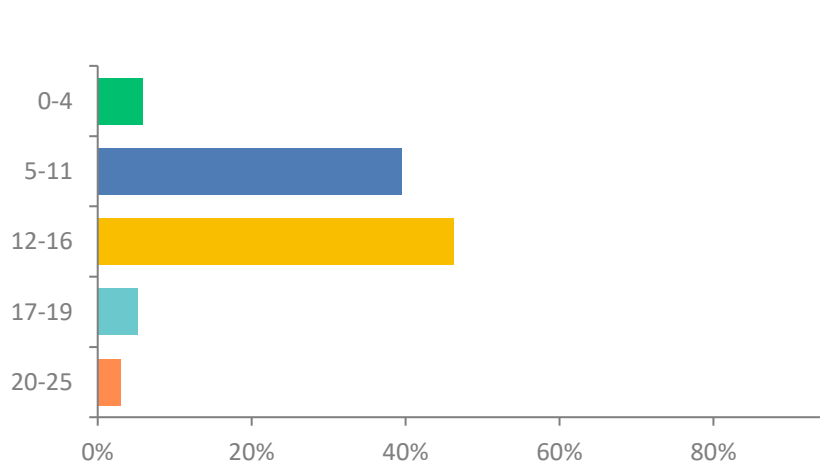
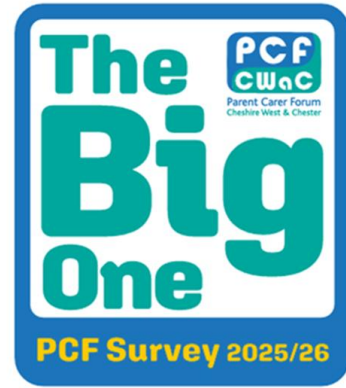
- **11:45** **Wills and Trust – Protecting our vulnerable family members**
- **12:05** **The Care Act – What is it? How will affect my family?**
- **12:25** **Benefits – What changes when my child turns**



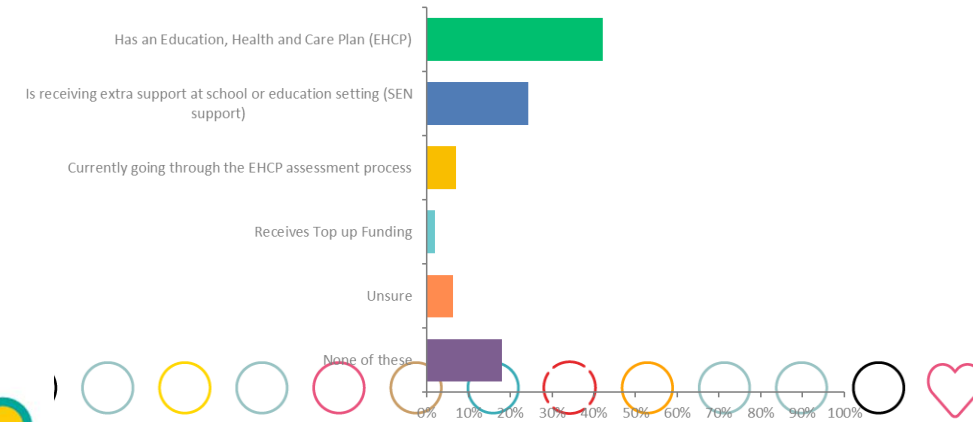
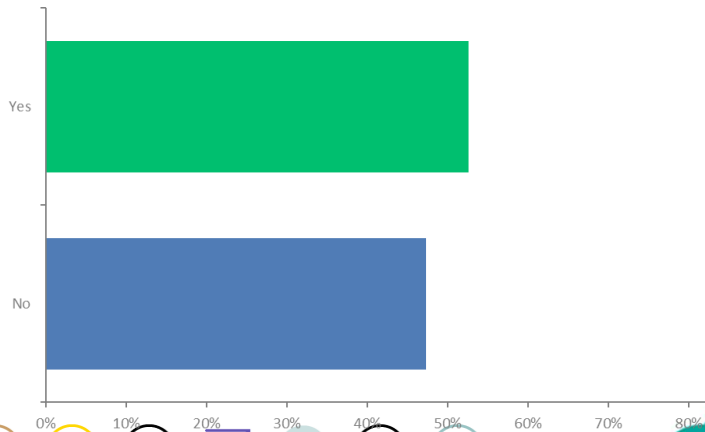
Parent Carer Forum
Cheshire West & Chester



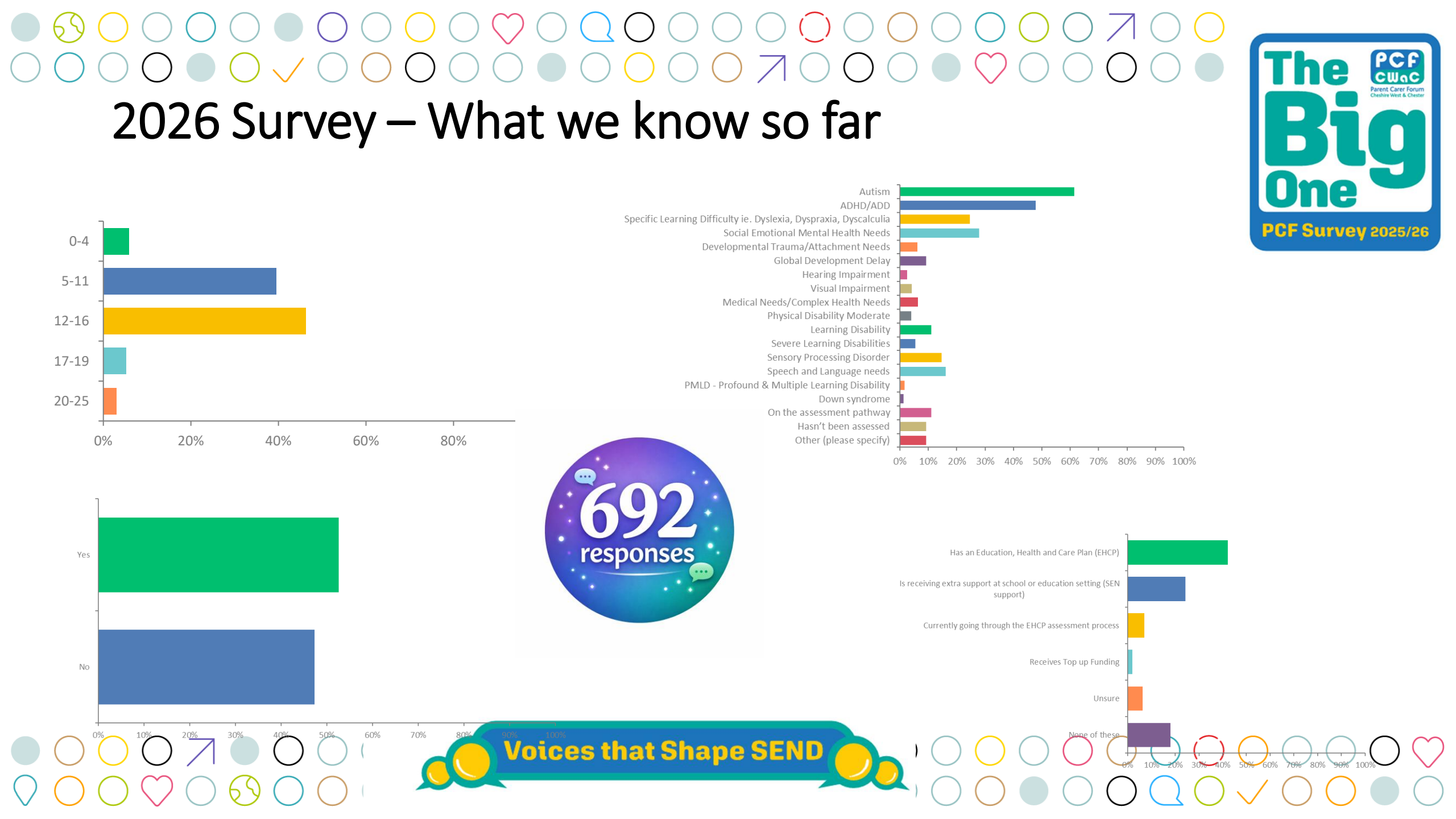
2026 Survey – What we know so far



692
responses



Voices that Shape SEND





Parent Carer Forum
Cheshire West & Chester

Virtual Forum
Wed 11th March 2026
10am – 11.30am

SEND Benefits & Support

Parents and carers of children with SEND.

**Find out where you can access local peer support,
including SEND coffee mornings and groups.**

You'll also hear about the benefits and financial support available to you as a parent or carer, with practical guidance on what you may be able to access.

Book online with this QR code
or the link below

www.pcfcheshirewest.org/whats-on



Parent Carer Forum
Cheshire West & Chester

SEND Parent/Carer Webinar
Thurs 26th March 2026
7.00 – 8.30pm

Understanding Mental Capacity

**A Webinar for Parents & Carers of Young
People with SEND**

Are you supporting a young person with SEND and unsure how mental capacity affects decision-making now or in the future?

This informative webinar will guide parents and carers through the key legal principles around mental capacity and how they apply in real-life SEND situations.

The webinar will cover...

- The guiding principles of mental capacity
- One-off decision making and how capacity is assessed
- The role of the Court of Protection
- Deputyships vs Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPAs)
- Mental capacity in the context of the SEND Tribunal

Free to book, simply go to our website
or use the QR code....

www.pcfcheshirewest.org/whats-on

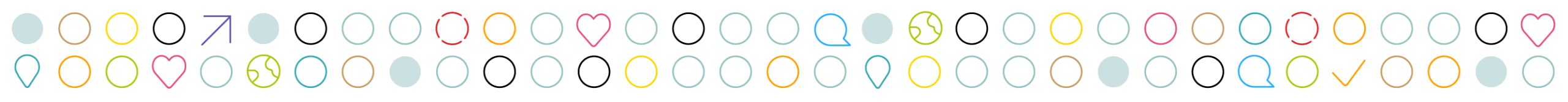


Parent Carer Forum
Cheshire West & Chester



Setting the scene

Clr Shelia Little




Cheshire West & Chester Council

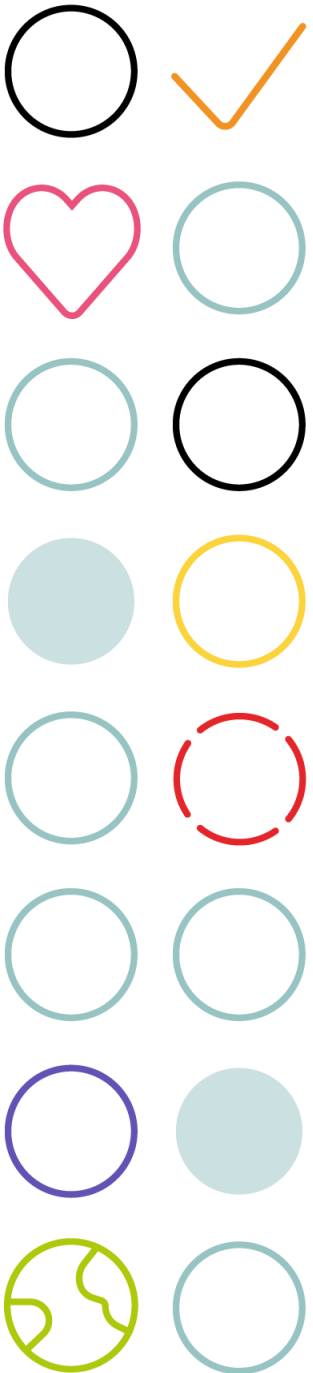
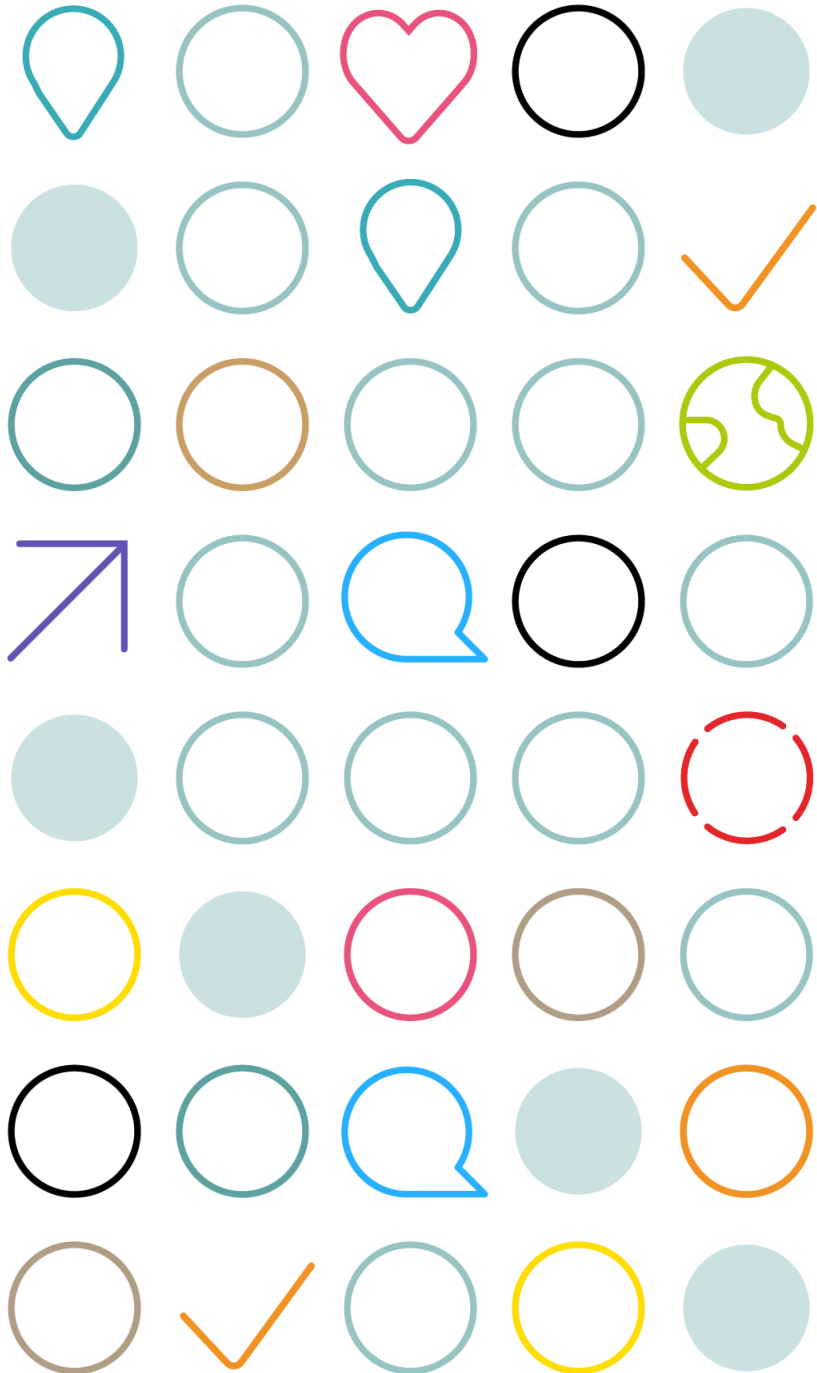
Preparation For Adulthood Strategy 2026-30

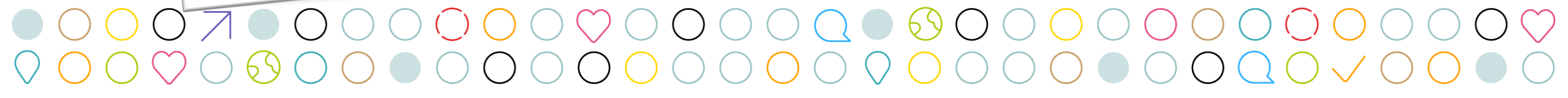
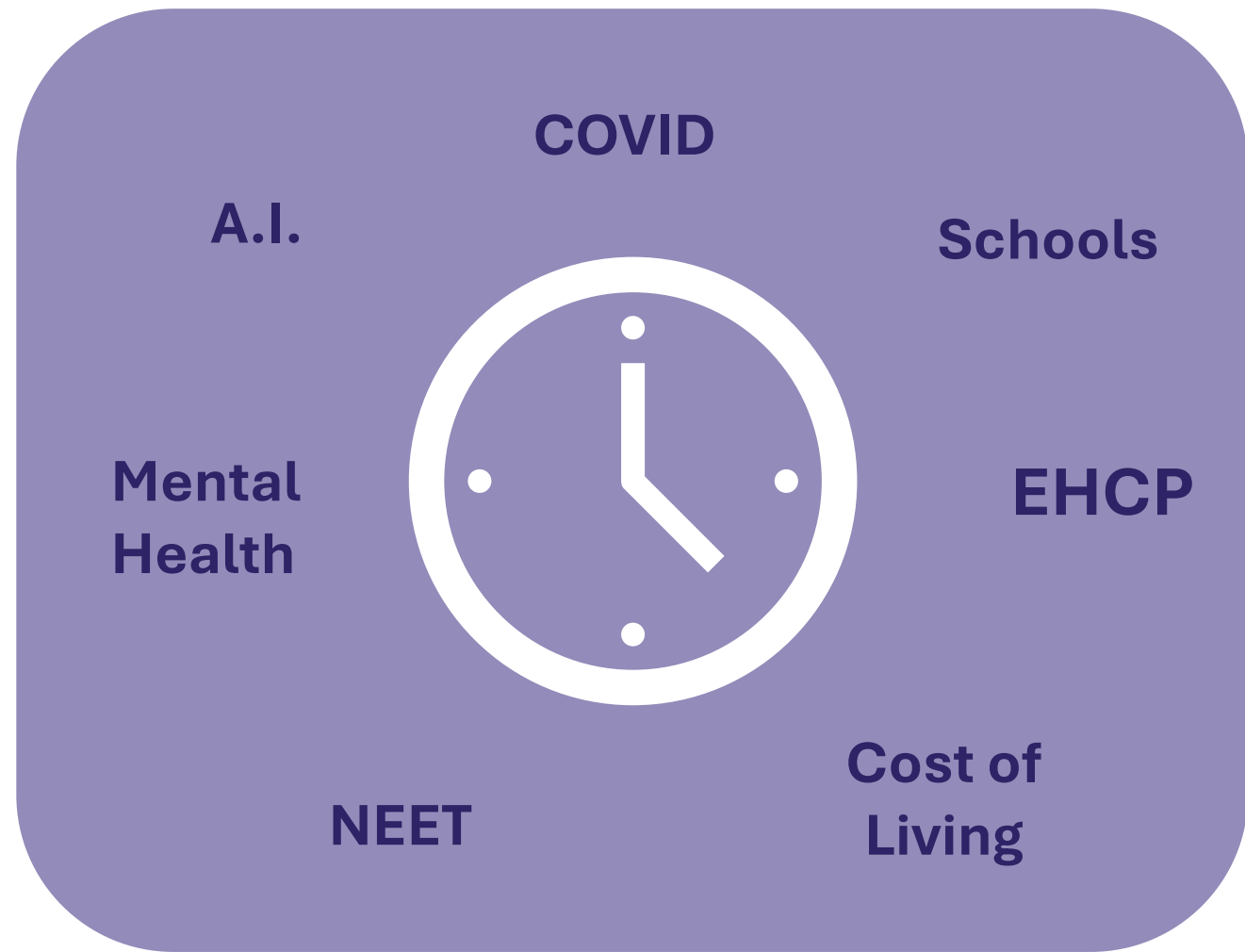
Matthew Pilling

Senior Manager: Young People

CWAC

 Play **your** part towards
a **Stronger Future**







Our Vision

‘Every young person with SEND in Cheshire West and Chester is empowered to shape their own future, supported by trusted adults, informed choices, and integrated services that understand and respond to their unique needs from the earliest stage’

Preparation for Adulthood Strategy 2026-2030



So what does
this mean for
our young
people ?



Year 9

Year 11

Year 12

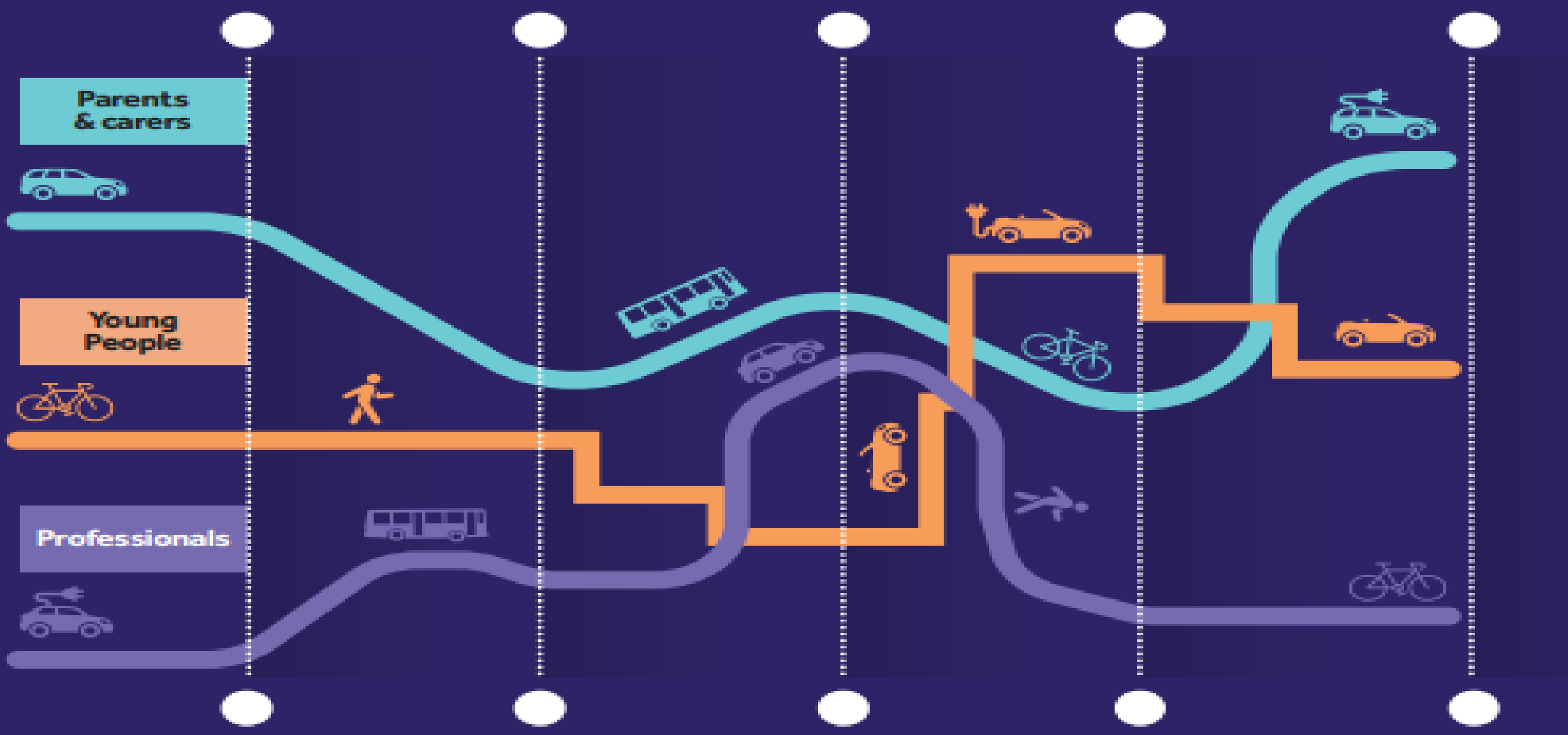
Year 13

Adulthood

Parents & carers

Young People

Professionals





Our Priorities

1

Education, Employment & Training

What we want to achieve

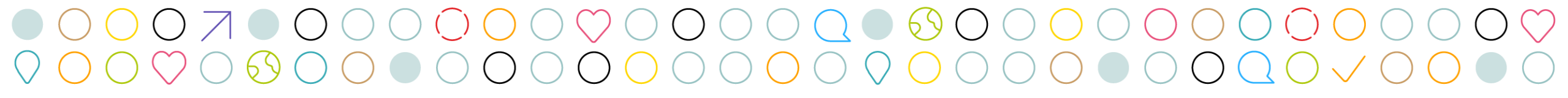
- Increase access to inclusive and flexible education and training pathways.
- Improve support for transitions from education to employment.
- Expand inclusive, local work experience and apprenticeship opportunities.
- Ensure tailored support for young people with SEND in mainstream and further education settings.

2

Community

What we want to achieve

- Create inclusive and accessible community spaces and activities.
- Promote peer support and social connection opportunities.
- Ensure consistent access to youth clubs and community resources across all areas.
- Use digital platforms and social media to improve engagement and communication





Our Priorities

3 Independent Living

What we want to achieve

- Develop and deliver life skills training for young people with SEND.
- Increase access to supported and independent living options.
- Improve financial literacy and access to benefits advice.
- Provide support for safe transitions from family homes to independent settings.

4 Process & Communication

What we want to achieve

- Simplify and clarify service pathways and eligibility criteria.
- Improve direct communication with young people in accessible formats.
- Provide advocacy and navigation support for families and professionals.
- Ensure joined-up working and information sharing across services





Our Priorities

5 Health

What we want to achieve

- Improve access to mental health and emotional wellbeing services.
- Ensure continuity of care during transition from children’s to adult health services.
- Promote disability annual health checks and better EHCP contributions from health professionals.
- Increase awareness and access to sexual health and preventative services

Priority: Health

Health and wellbeing are foundational to successful transitions into adulthood.

Co-production sessions revealed concerns about fragmented services, long waits, and poor mental health support. This priority area focuses on improving continuity of care, enhancing access to mental and physical health services, and ensuring young people receive timely and appropriate support. Success will be reflected in better health outcomes and increased satisfaction with services.

What we want to achieve

- Improve access to mental health and emotional wellbeing services.

- Ensure continuity of care during transition from children’s to adult health services.
- Promote disability annual health checks and better EHCP contributions from health professionals.
- Increase awareness and access to sexual health and preventative services.

What success will look like

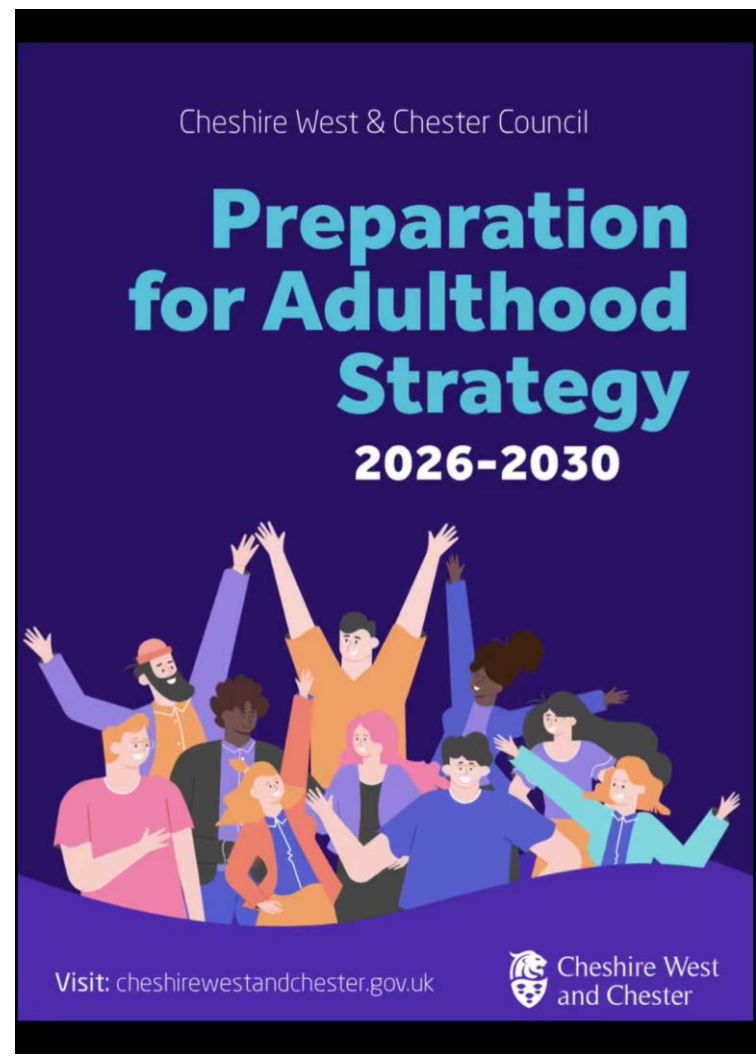
Success will be seen in reduced waiting times, improved health outcomes, and positive feedback from young people and families about their healthcare experiences.

Theme	Combined Actions
Improve access to mental health and emotional wellbeing services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Map and promote current mental health services for SEND young people, identifying gaps and waiting times. 2. Develop and embed tailored mental health support, including trauma-informed and neurodiverse-friendly approaches, into EHCPs and transition planning. 3. Create a borough-wide mental health strategy for SEND young people, with ongoing monitoring and continuous improvement.
Ensure continuity of care during transition from children’s to adult health services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify SEND young people approaching transition, review care plans, and provide clear guidance for families. 2. Develop and embed transition protocols, including joint meetings, health transition coordinators, and integrated teams spanning children’s and adult services. 3. Monitor transition outcomes and adjust services, using shared digital health records and feedback from young people and families.
Promote annual health checks and better EHCP contributions from health professionals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raise awareness and ensure consistent delivery of annual health checks through schools, GP practices, and training for health professionals. 2. Develop and embed a standardised template for health input into EHCPs, with regular audits and feedback loops between education and health teams. 3. Monitor and evaluate the quality of health contributions, advocating for policy changes to strengthen health accountability in SEND planning.
Increase awareness and access to sexual health and preventative services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review and promote accessible sexual health education and services for SEND young people, providing inclusive resources through trusted professionals and youth settings. 2. Develop and embed tailored sexual health workshops, drop-in clinics, and staff training into life skills and transition planning. 3. Create a borough-wide strategy for preventative health services, monitoring access and outcomes to ensure equity and effectiveness.



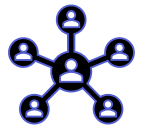


The Why





Next Steps



Multi-Agency Implementation

A dedicated multi-agency group called the '**Preperation for Adulthood Delivery Group**' will oversee the action plan to ensure coordinated progress across priority areas.



Ongoing Co-Production

We will continue to work with you shape services through feedback and active co-production activities post-launch.



Clear Timelines and Governance

We will establish clear timelines and review progress through the governance structures to make sure accountability and alignment with wider strategies.



Long-Term Partnership

The strategy marks the start of a sustained, collaborative commitment to support young people with SEND in their transition to adulthood.



Preparation for Adulthood –
PCF Update

**Education (SEN Support /
Annual Reviews)**

– Paul Arista

26th Feb 2026



Early Help and
Prevention Service



Cheshire West
and Chester

Agenda

- Paul Arista
- SEN team (PFA)
- Education (SEN Support / Annual Reviews)
- Preparation for Adulthood
- Conclusion

Paul Arista

- Experience – background
- Operational/Strategic Role
 - Manager of the SEN team from year 7 Upwards – focus on Preparation for Adulthood
 - Develop provision that meets learners needs in our borough.

SEN PFA team

- The Team are have allocated schools across the area and outside the area.
- Team will attend Annual Reviews if they can but please be aware there are over 4500 plans.
- Liaise with Health and Care professionals if provision required



Education (SEN Support / Annual Reviews)

- The aim for PFA is to start early – as early as Year 7
- Use your Annual Reviews to discuss options.
- The focus is on preparing YP for their futures.
- We have support from agencies within the Local Authority such as Young Peoples Service.
- Use the Local Offer and the information in there. [Home | Live Well Cheshire West \(cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk\)](https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)



Preparation for Adulthood

Year 9 Upwards –

- Research local offer – Live Well
- Transition map – provides comprehensive options available
- Annual Reviews – discuss your YPs aspirations.
 - Employment, Education etc
- Visit Colleges and Training Providers

Preparation for Adulthood

Year 10 –

- Continue to visit providers and use the Annual review to note options.
- Plans are maintained in Year 10 unless major changes are required
- Continue research and keep discussing with schools.

Preparation for Adulthood

Year 11 –

- If young people are moving to Further Education (FE), Annual Reviews should take place in the Autumn Term.
- Final Plans need to be completed by 31st March. Last year we had over 97% completed in time.
- That is not the end, young people may and can change their mind, and so changes may happen in the summer term.

Preparation for Adulthood

Conclusion

- Regular information sessions and events are organised if schools request this – communicating and helping parents/carers
- The Post 16 Pathway – on live well site.
- Young People's Service support parents and young people - highlighted by Ofsted as good practice.

Cheshire West & Chester Council



Skills and Employment Service

- **Jan Kolita – Service lead SE & ITT**
- **Karina Zlocinska – Supported Internship lead**
- **Sarah Chesworth – Supported Employment Coordinator**
- **Amy Jones – Independent Travel Training Coordinator**
- **Jennifer Matthews – Non-EHCP Supported Internship Lead**

Cheshire West & Chester Council



**Skills and
Employment
Service**

Skills and Employment Service

Jennifer.Matthews@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Person arrives at or contacts a Skills and Employment Hub

Customer progression officer triages needs

Lack of basic skills for all realistic roles

Ready for employment but lacking specific skills

Ready for employment but needs support to find and maintain a job

Skills training

Tailored learning & essential skills

Specific role related skills

Employment support

Job coaching and/or in work support

Independent Travel Training

S&E Hubs

Non-EHCP SI

Supported Internships

IPS Drug & Alcohol

Supported employment

Connect to Work

EA in Talking Therapies

Employment with the right skills and support

Cheshire West & Chester Council



**Skills and
Employment
Service**

Independent Travel Training

Amy.Jones@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk



Independent Travel Training

- ITT teaches children, young people and adults how to travel safely, independently and confidently.
- Teaches individuals how to travel a specific route on their own in a safe and responsible way.
- Training usually involves the use of public transport to get to school, college or day activities.
- On successful completion of the training, a free bus pass will be issued.



Referral received – Initial meeting(s) to explain service, overcome concerns, meet user and family/carers/support

Assessments completed including risk assessment and user agreement. Co-produce training plan.

Training sessions - Personal safety, using timetables and route planning, what to do if things go wrong, introduce supportive technology.

Active training
Usually from home to school, college or daycare setting using public transport. Review of training plan and feedback. Approx 6 weeks

Sign off - once confident the service user can travel independently; travel pass then provided

Referrals are made online via the CW&C Independent travel training page

- [Independent travel training | Cheshire West and Chester Council](#)



Cheshire West & Chester Council



**Skills and
Employment
Service**

Supported Employment

Sarah.Chesworth@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Supported Employment

The **Supported Employment Service** offers high quality, **personalised** support for adults with learning disabilities and/or autism which enables them to **find, access and stay in employment**

- Aged 18+
- People who have a learning disability or autism or both
- Not in employment or training or any other funded employment support program
- **Must want (and be available for) paid work**



Supported Employment Delivery Model

Place

Secure a job, based on an individual's strengths, aspirations, and employer needs.

Train

Provide tailored, on-the-job training, helping the employee to meet the employer's expectations

Maintain

Offer ongoing support – Job coaching, adjustments, and mentoring to help the person succeed in their role.



Cheshire West & Chester Council



**Skills and
Employment
Service**

New Ground – Supported Internship

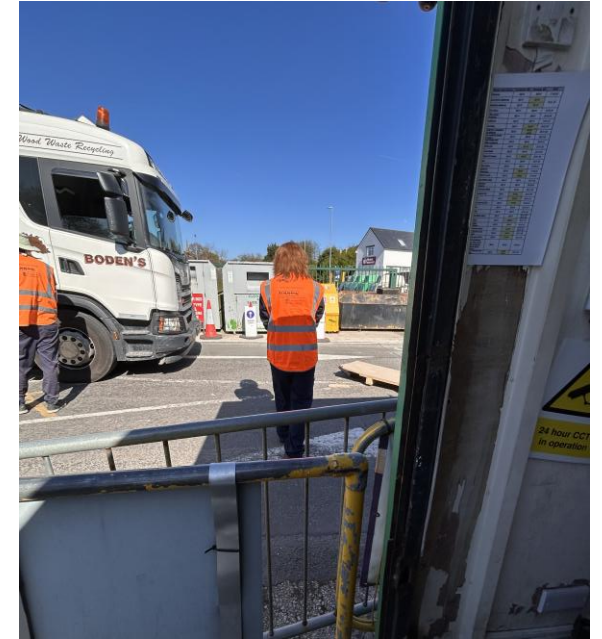
Karina.Zlocinska@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Supported Internship

Supported Internships are a type of course for young people aged **16 to 24** who have **SEND** and an **Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan**. The aim is to help young people move into **long-term, paid employment** by giving them real work experience and practical skills.

A Supported Internship gives young people real work experience in a workplace, supported by a job coach, while they attend weekly employability sessions and continue with English and maths unless exempt.

Supported interns remain in full-time education, with their unpaid work placement forming part of their course. Placements usually last over six months and involve at least 20 hours per week.



Referral Process

Self-referral can be made by completing the Expression of Interest form available on the [Live Well website](#), or by speaking to your current setting

Referrals may also come through the consultation process led by the **SEN team**.



New.Ground@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk



Cheshire West & Chester Council



**Skills and
Employment
Service**

Meet one of our interns

Cheshire West & Chester Council



**Skills and
Employment
Service**

Thank you

Any questions?

Preparation for Adulthood –
PCF Update
What happens when my EHCP
Ends?
– Paul Arista

26th Feb 2026



Early Help and
Prevention Service



Cheshire West
and Chester

Agenda

- Paul Arista
- Ceasing and EHCP – stages
- Conclusion

What happens when my EHCP Ends?

Process:

- When a local authority (LA) decides to end, [an education, health and care \(EHC\) plan](#), this is called ‘ceasing to maintain’ the EHC plan.
- This means that the EHC plan will come to an end and the LA will no longer have the legal duty to make sure that the special educational provision specified in the EHC plan is received by the child or young person.



When can the LA cease to maintain an EHC plan ?

- An LA may decide to cease to maintain an EHC plan at any time.
- These two grounds are set out in [section 45 of The Children and Families Act 2014](#) (CFA 2014) and they are the only legal reasons for ceasing to maintain an EHC plan.

What process must my LA follow before it can make a cease to maintain decision?

We will :

- inform you that it we considering ceasing to maintain the EHC plan, and
- consult with you, as well as the head teacher or principal of the school or college named in the EHC plan.
- consider your views, wishes and feelings (as well as your child/young person) .
- Having carried out this [consultation](#), we will issue a ‘cease to maintain notice’.

Reasons for ceasing the EHCP.

An LA would no longer be responsible if:

- the young person has taken up full-time paid employment (excluding apprenticeships)
- the young person has started a higher education course (or other [level 4 course](#))
- a young person aged 18 or over has left education and no longer wishes to engage in further learning
- the young person has turned 25, or
- the child or young person has moved permanently outside England.



Reasons for ceasing the EHCP.

Also, the EHCP may cease because their SEN has changed.

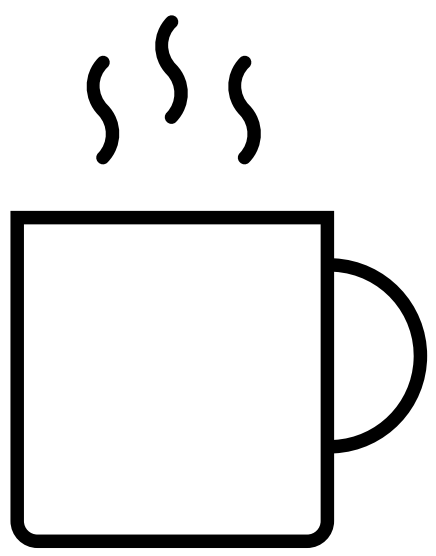
- As a first step we will need to identify and consider what special educational provision is required. If agreed that there is no SEN, a plan may cease.
- For a young person over 18, we **must** consider whether the educational or training outcomes in the EHC plan have been achieved. This will be done in conjunction with you and the young person and look for mutual agreement.
- We will have ongoing discussions to determine if this is the right action and also we can reinstate later on.

Conclusion

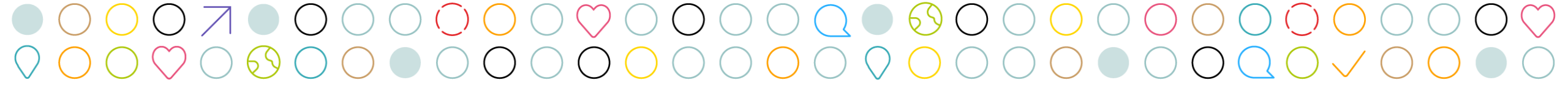
What happens when my EHCP Ends?

- Based decisions of the SEN Code of Practice
- If YPs change their minds we can reinstate.
- Open Dialogue with the LA and setting





Back in 30 minutes





Moving to Adult Services

Gavin Butler

Head of Service, Principal Social Worker
(Adults)

Adult Social CAre



Our **Vision** for Adult Social Care in Cheshire West is:

To enable people who live within our communities to live great lives and to support our communities to thrive.

The **core purpose** which drives our Vision is:

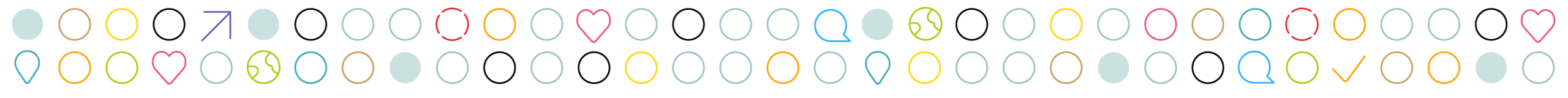
To provide the **care and support** people need, in the place they call home, by a skilled and compassionate workforce. Our workforce work as **one team, putting what matters to people first.**





What do I mean by Adult Services?

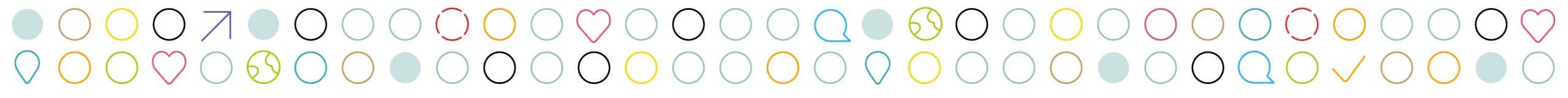
- Assessment and care planning
- Safeguarding
- Assessment under the Mental Health Act
- Work around people's capacity to make important decisions about their lives
- Basically, work under our duties under the 2014 Care Act, the 1983 Mental Health Act and the 2005 Mental Capacity Act
- Although...the Baroness Casey Review, the 2025 MHA and the Supreme Court re-considering P vs Cheshire West may change this...





What does the NICE Guidance say about Transitions?

- Ensure transition support is ‘developmentally appropriate’
- Planning should start from Year 9 (age 13 or 14) *must* start from 15.5 for Looked After Children and earlier for young people out of borough
- Named worker ‘support before transfer’
- Senior exec to be accountable for transition strategies and policies
- Advocacy



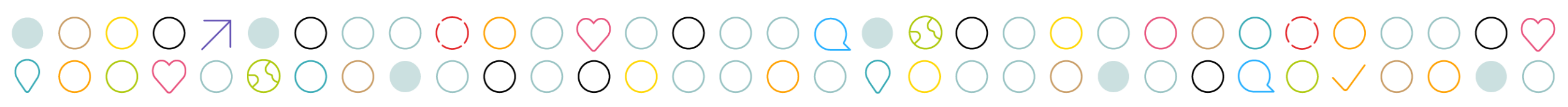


How do I access support?

- Live well

<https://www.livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/>

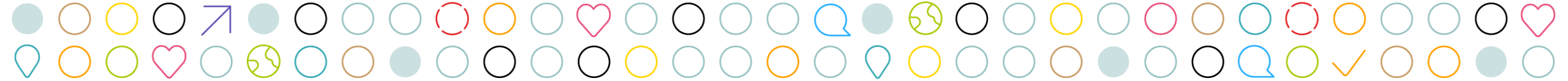
- Let's talk sessions – across the borough – range of services providing advice to adults
- Purchase support through Personal independence payments
- Referral
 - Under 18 - i-art
 - Over 18s - Community Access Team.





What do we do with referrals into ASC?

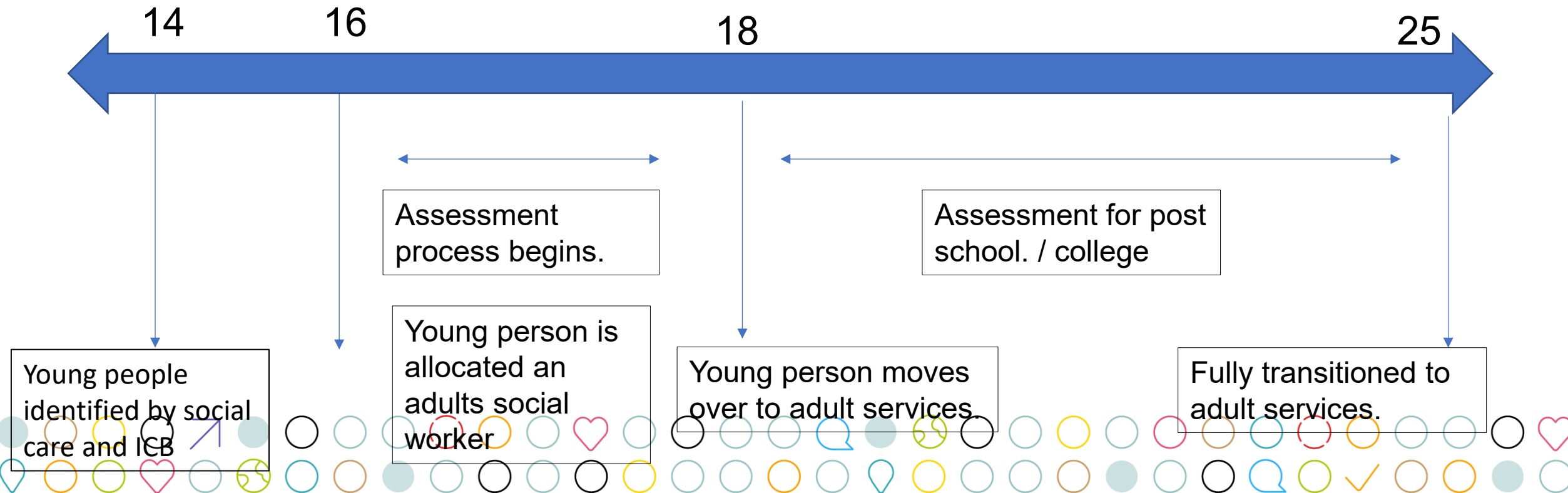
- Joint working with Children's transition team
- Link worker roles in Special schools
- Directions panel



Timeline into Adult services

Adults services should identify young people who will require support once they turn 18 when they are 14

The time line below shows the key times for intervention from an adult social worker. All involvement is flexible along the time line and is not set in stone.





What does a good transition look like?

- Promoting independence
- Positive risk taking
- Positive Behaviour Support
- Multi disciplinary team planning
- Person Centred Planning
- Principles of the Mental Capacity Act informing all practice
- Clear pathway, good information





Adult social care

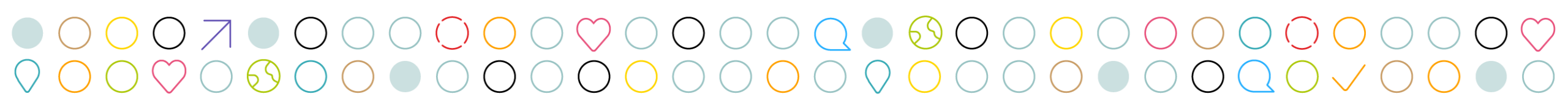
- Under the Care Act, local authorities have to make sure that people who live in their areas:
 - receive services that prevent their care needs from becoming more serious, or delay the impact of their needs
 - can get the information and advice they need to make good decisions about care and support
 - have a range of provision of high quality, appropriate services to choose from
- Assessment and planning
 - carry out an assessment of anyone who appears to require care and support
 - focus the assessment on the person's needs, impact on wellbeing, and outcomes they want to achieve
 - involve the person in the assessment and, where appropriate, their carer or someone else they nominate
 - provide access to an independent advocate to support the person's involvement in the assessment if required
 - consider other things besides care services that can contribute to the desired outcomes (e.g. preventive services, community support)





Care Act 2014 Assessment

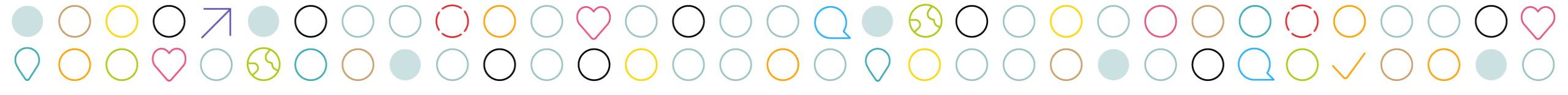
The eligibility decision-making process for adults with care and support needs involves the consideration of the following three criteria:



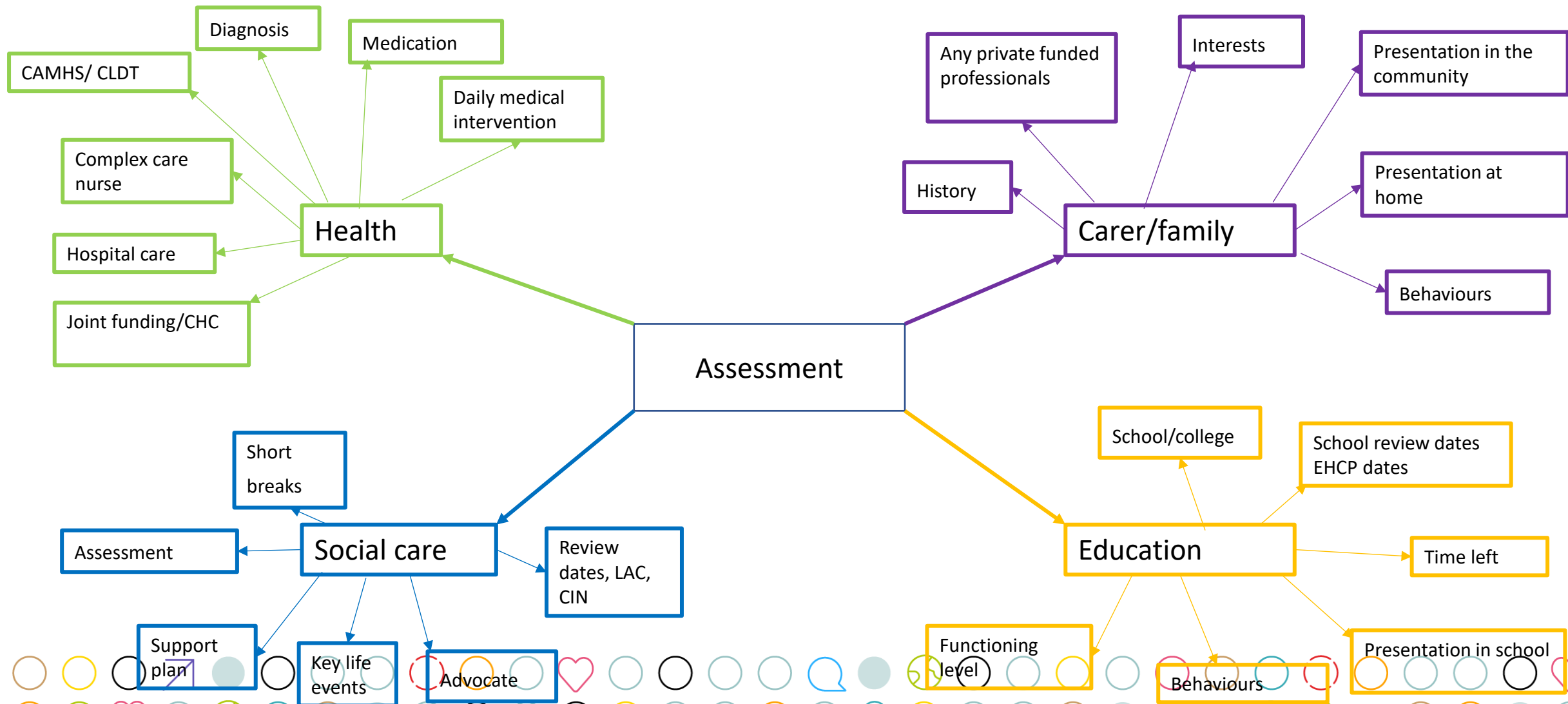


Eligibility under the Care act

- Managing and maintaining nutrition
- Maintaining personal hygiene
- Managing toilet needs
- Being appropriately clothed
- Maintaining a habitable home environment
- Being able to make use of the home safely
- Developing and maintaining family or personal relationships
- Accessing and engaging in work, training, education or volunteering
- Making use of necessary facilities or services in the community
- Carrying out caring responsibilities for a child



Gathering information for the assessment





Young people's voices in assessments

- As part of the assessment process the adult social worker should gather the views and wishes of the young person themselves.
- It is not always possible to do this via a conversation depending on the young person's needs.
- There are several tools which can be used to support the young person to participate in the assessment.
 - Story telling
 - Role play
 - Social stories
 - Comic strips
 - Adapted assessments
 - Observations





What does support look like in Adult services

The support someone is receive depends on their needs, there are 4 main forms of support in adult services.

Home care

This is care provided in the home to support people with their daily living needs such as

- Personal care
- Dressing
- Toileting
- Meal preparation
- Laundry

Community support

This is support for someone to access meaningful activities in their community that they are not able to independently. This does not include support to attend medical appointments. Young people can also access day services.

Supported living

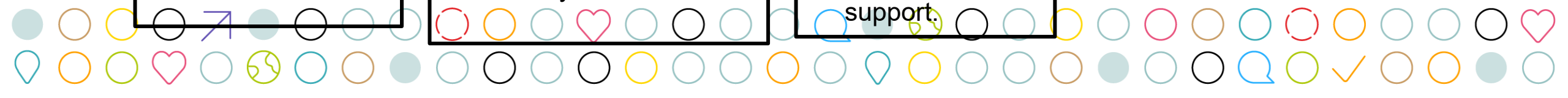
Support accommodation takes many different forms these include

- Supported tenancy
- Residential placement
- Supported flats
- Outreach support.

Support to carer

Support for cared for person
Home care
Community support
Overnight short breaks

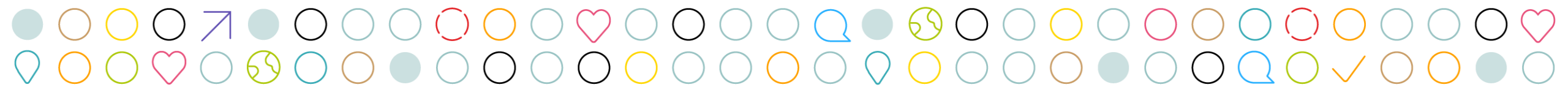
Support to carer
Better together
Carers Direct payments





Changes as your young person reaches adulthood

- End of “parental responsibility”
- Capacity - no adult can make a decision for another adult
 - assume capacity / is there a reason to doubt?
 - does the person have an impairment of the mind or brain?
 - Can they understand the information related to the decision?
 - Can they retain the information?
 - Can they communicate effectively?
 - Can they weigh up the options?
 - If no to any of these 4 questions then decisions made in “Best interests”
- Financial assessment / contributions





Deprivation of liberty safeguards (DoLS)

- Acid test
 - Is the person free to leave?
 - Is the person subject to continuous supervision and control?
- Imputable to the state
- Court of protection authorisation
- [Cheshire West & Chester Council v P | 39 Essex Chambers](#)





Finances

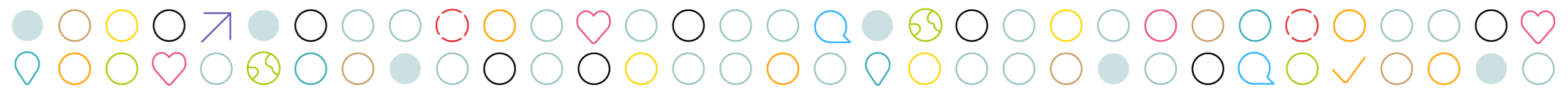
- It is important the young person has access to benefits before they turn 18. this is especially important for those who will be moving into supported accommodation.
- Main benefits
 - Universal credit
 - Personal independence Payment (PIP)
- Young person should have their own Bank account
- Appointeeship
- Deputyship





Support to carers

- Better together – Cheshire and Warrington Carer’s Trust
- Carers assessments
 - Provide regular unpaid support to someone, whether that be a friend, a family member or loved one who could not manage without it, you have the right to have a Carer’s assessment under Care Act 2014.
 - This assessment gives you the chance to tell us about what it is like to be Carer, what support you currently provide to the person you care for and what support you may need to continue your important role.
 - The assessment is about you as a Carer, it considers the impact of the caring role. It will also consider what difficulties you may be facing, how you manage them and the things that you want to achieve in your day-to-day life.





Current issues and challenges

- Thriving futures
- Good data to make decisions – from 14 to give time to plan
- Community led support
- Day opportunities changes – local and person-centred support
- Work towards employment
- Short breaks / Emergency provision
- Progression model – right sized care
- Developing local services – to ensure people have their needs met near their home





Other issues

- New SEND legislation
- Competition for housing
- Approaches to risk and harm
- Increase in volume and complexity of mental health presentations
- Increase in Autism and ADHD diagnosis and impact
- Employment, training and education post-18





What next?

- Better sense of emerging adulthood/late adolescence as a developmental stage and not an illness
- Work with parents, carers and young people to clarify pathways (?) and provide better information
- Durham model: where will you live, what will you do, any reason to doubt capacity, and Care Act needs
- More resilient systems that set small goals and allow for setbacks
- Better approach to harm/exploitation either side of 18

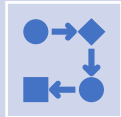


Health Transitions

Best Practice in Transition from Children's to Adult Services

Mike Banner - 18-25 Team Manager
26/2/26

What is Transition?



Transition is a process, not a single event.



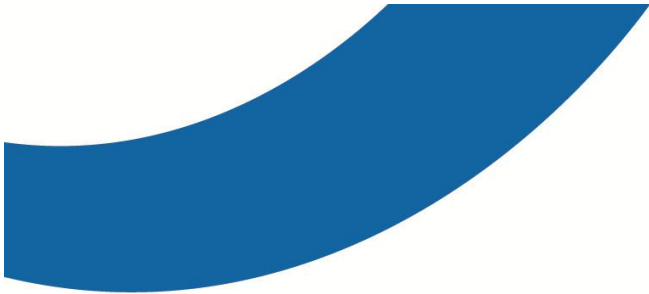
"Preparing for Adulthood" (PfA) means being as healthy and independent as possible.



Health transition is one part of a bigger picture that includes education, jobs, and housing.



**Cheshire and Wirral
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When Should it Start?(The Year 9 Milestone)

- **Start Early:** Planning should begin in Year 9 (age 13 or 14).
- **The EHCP Connection:** For those with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), the Year 9 annual review is the formal "kick-off" for transition planning.
- **Health in the EHCP:** the support you require to meet your health needs must be clearly written in your EHCP



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The "Named Worker"


Every young person should have a **Named Worker** to help coordinate their move.

Help act as the "bridge" between children's and adult teams.


Can help ensure that health goals in your **EHCP** or **Transition Plan** happen.

The Transition Plan

Person centred: It's built around *your* specific health needs and goals.



Joint Working: Health, Education, and Social Care teams must talk to each other so you don't have to keep repeating your story. (Health passports can help here)



Review: The plan should be checked regularly to make sure it still works for you.

Useful tools to help with the transition



Annual Health Checks: From age 14, young people with learning disabilities can have a yearly health check with their GP.



Health Action Plan: Made during your Health Check, or with your community team. Lists what you need to do to stay healthy.



Health/Transition Passports: A small booklet (or digital file) that tell health staff "*All About Me...*" the most important things that people need to know

Getting to know adult services

Meet

Meet the team: You should be introduced to the adult team(s) before you move.

Overlap

Overlap: Children's and adult services can work together for a while (shared care) to ensure a safe "handover."

Support

Your teams can help you learn how to manage your own health as you get older.

Support for Parents and Carers

Partners in Care: Parents and carers knowledge can be vital and they should be involved in planning where appropriate

Changing Roles: As the young person grows, the role of the parent /carers changes—the system should support this shift.

Information: Young people, parents & carers should be given clear info about how making decisions, adult consent and mental capacity work



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Summary: What "Good" Looks Like



Starts at 14 (Year 9 Review).

Linked to the EHCP so health isn't forgotten.

A Named Worker to help guide you.

Practical Tools like Health Passports and Annual Checks.

Meeting people from adult services: before you transition

No "Cliff Edges": Support continues until the move to adult care is complete.



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Thank you

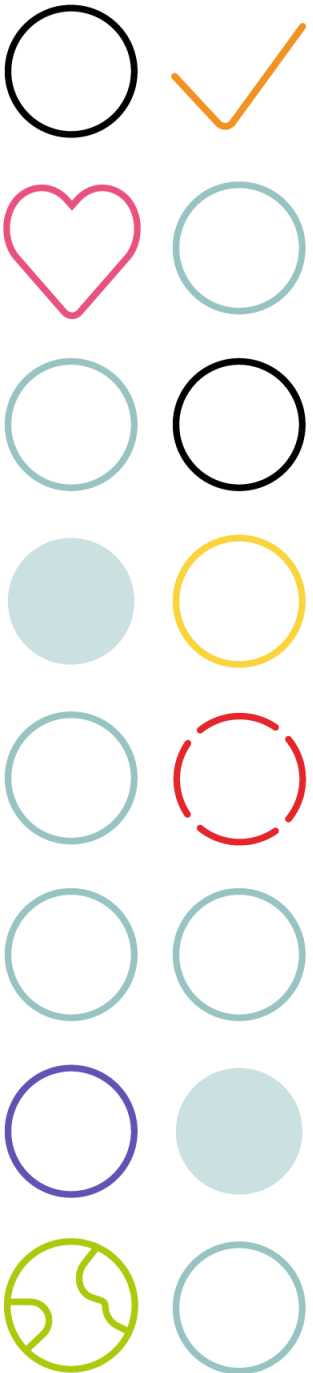
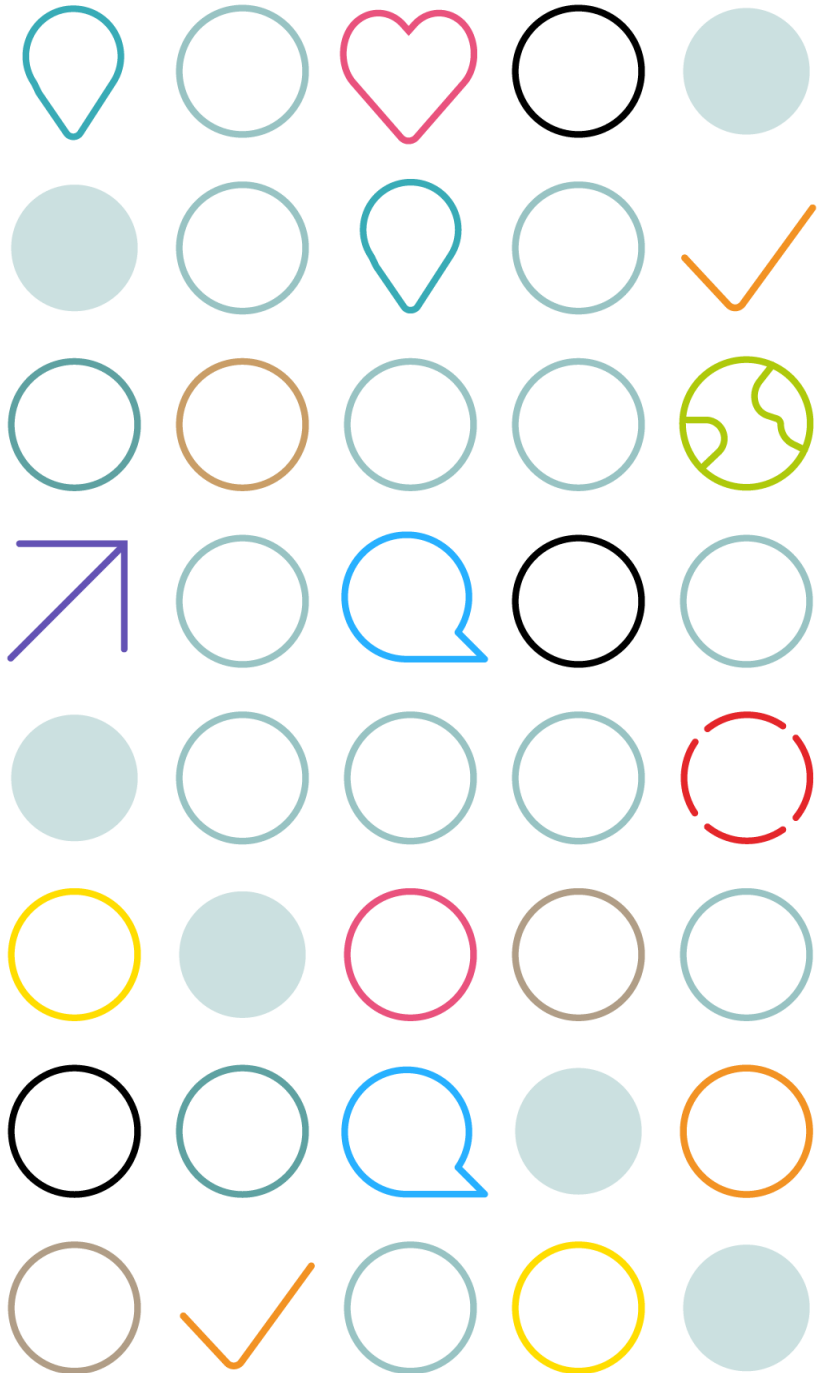
Cheshire West & Chester Council

Preparation for Adulthood

Where will my young person live?

Feb 2026

 Play your part towards a Stronger Future







To plan for future accommodation we asked what young people and families felt was needed:

- Alternative housing models that offer private, independent living spaces with shared areas, and a focus on sustainability.
- Accessible information about options
- Places with good transport
- Person centred housing plans

“

I like where I live now but I would like more information about the choices I could make in the future about where I live. I don't know where to find it, or what I can look forward to in the future.

”





I live in a shared house at the moment which is ok, but I would prefer to live in my own space that is more than just a bedroom, with a kitchen and bathroom so that I do more things for myself. Then it would be really good if there was somewhere I could meet my friends and get support from staff on site if I need it.



- Alternative models of support – flexibility and use of Direct Payment's
- Safe quiet spaces
- Reasonable adjustments
- Taster sessions
- Own front door



Types of accommodation we're working on

- **Independent Living** - Own tenancy with full responsibility for budgeting, bills, shopping, maintaining a home
Floating/outreach support where eligible
Suitable for young people ready for autonomy
- **Semi Independent Living** - Stepping stone to independence (often 16–18; sometimes beyond)
Onsite support at set times rather than 24/7
Shared or self-contained units; focus on life-skills
Move-on planning built into support
- **Supported Living** - For young adults needing ongoing care/support
Staff on-site 24/7 or regularly depending on assessed needs
Individual tenancy/licence + tailored support plan
Can include specialist autism/LD/mental health provision





Progress made since February 25

- Plans in development with a number of identified workstreams to develop more specialist accommodation (Use of council buildings, regulatory oversight bill, new providers etc)
- New 'Adults Specialist Accommodation Group' where we work with strategic housing, registered landlords, developers, care providers and council colleagues to prioritise new projects.
- New properties opened
- Improved clarity about the allocation of accommodation and priorities
- Developing more short stay provision



Specialist Housing Prospectus launched

Cheshire West & Chester Council

Our 10 year Prospectus 2025-2035

To develop accommodation with support for people with Learning Disabilities, Autism and Mental Health needs



Enabling Great Lives



06 Our 10 Year Prospectus

Housing and Planning

The Council launched its new ten year Housing Strategy in 2025 and is preparing a new local plan which will identify the type and location of new housing needed.

Our Housing Strategy aims to ensure that we have housing that local people need and can afford; to achieve this we will refresh and implement our local planning policies to deliver a good supply of high quality, affordable and low carbon homes to buy or to rent across the borough with the right infrastructure to support communities.

We aim to see over 10,000 general housing new homes built in the lifetime of this plan and we want to see 30% of those being affordable. We will also bring 800 empty homes back into use by 2028.

We will put the spotlight on the issue of damp and other health hazards faced by people living in substandard accommodation and seek to work with landlords to raise standards. We are proud to own our Council housing, and we will work with tenants to ensure their homes are safe, decent, well managed and maintained.

In the development of Cheshire West and Chester's Local Plan, the Council will be aiming for a commitment from developers to a minimum number of properties to be built to lifetime home standards in all new housing developments.

Please refer to the Council's Planning portal for latest Design Code information and guidance.



12 Our 10 Year Prospectus

Current provision

We commission a wide range of supported living services in the borough. A recent survey of 62 providers received 48 responses with the following information:

- 170 locations
- 673 units (beds)
- 33 Registered Provider Landlords
- 30 social care providers


Most housing is concentrated in our main urban areas. There is little provision in our more rural localities.

We have placed around 100 people outside of the borough. Some of these placements are made because of choice but in the main we place out of borough because we do not have the right type of housing with support to meet their needs in borough.

There are around 50 people currently living outside of our borough that we need to develop options in borough within the next three years. Of course, we also need to use some of the new accommodation to prevent people going out of borough in the next few years and for those coming out of education.

There is a high concentration of supported housing in the borough's towns and the majority of it is traditional accommodation tending to be semi-detached or detached properties (44%) or bungalows (27%).

There are 58 shared houses accommodating just over 200 people.





Pipeline of housing

- 19 active projects to deliver a minimum of 88 units of accommodation with delivery dates into 2028 across MH LD. Already delivered 8 projects providing 55 units of accommodation.
- This equates to 143 units of the current backlog of 'people seeking accommodation'.
- Each project involves identifying service users, land and a developer, having done this, the work is commissioned and accommodation is delivered.
- Work has commenced to model the 2027/2028 profile which will mainly focus on transitional apartments (particularly in Ellesmere Port) and exploring 'dual registration' accommodation in partnership with Children's services.



Current project pipeline:



Ellesmere Port:

- 12 flats with We Change Lives
- 5 bed shared house with 2 Self contained bungalows for Mental Health/Emotionally Unstable Personality Disorder
- 6 bed specialist Prader-Willi service with Ivolve
- 6 specialist flats for complex behaviour with Aspirations
- 4 step down beds with ISL

Chester:

- 6 Specialist flats for complex needs and Section 117 Alternative Futures Group
- 5 bed specialist bungalow for Learning Disabilities and dementia

Winsford:

- Complex MH shared accom, 5 rooms March 26
- 4 - 1 bed flats with low level support May 26
- 14 1 bed flats Spring 27



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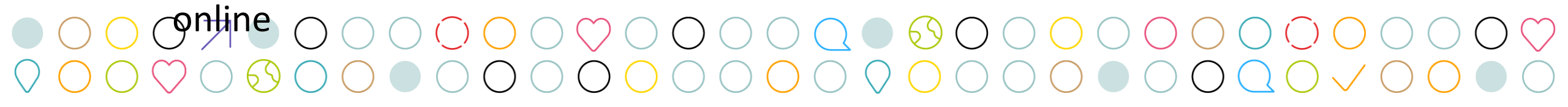




How do you plan for the future?

- Think about the future and try to write down wishes and thoughts about options
- Make sure others (GP, family, other professionals) know you have some thoughts about future accommodation wants
- If you have a social worker, let them know to capture thoughts about the future
- If you don't have a social worker, request an assessment as this will help you and social services plan for the right types of accommodation to be available – even if it isn't likely to be needed for some years
- An assessment of support needs will need to be established for specialist provision
- If your child has no assessed need you would apply for housing through West Cheshire Homes
- In the future we plan to have more information about projects and options

online





Other Key links and sources of information

- Adult Social Care Community Access Team - 0300 123 7034
- [Housing | Cheshire West and Chester Council](#)
- [Moving from Children's Social Care to Adult Services | Cheshire West and Chester Council](#)
- [Adult social care | Cheshire West and Chester Council](#)
- [Home | Live Well Cheshire West](#)
- [West Cheshire Homes Scheme](#)

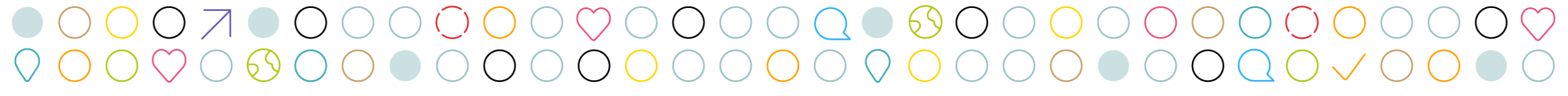






Recap on the day

- The new Preparation for Adulthood Strategy
- Education and Supported internship Pathways
- Understanding what happens when a EHCP ceases
- Understanding moving to adult services in health and social care
- Explanation of housing options
- Discussion of Wills and Trusts
- Understanding Care Act assessments
- Question Time of Welfare and Benefits





Thank you

