



# Demand, Capacity & Flow QI Collaborative

Learning Set 5  
Tuesday 16 April 2024



Demand, Capacity & *Flow*  
Quality Improvement Collaborative



NATIONAL  
COLLABORATING  
CENTRE FOR  
MENTAL HEALTH

# Housekeeping

- No fire alarm tests are planned for today.
- Toilets are located to the right of the lifts on level 1 and the ground floor.
- Lunch will be from **12:35-13:25** and will be served on the **Mezzanine** and in **Room 1.6**.
- **Room 1.1** is available if anyone needs to take a break at any point or needs some space on their own.
- We have two separate prayer rooms, please speak to a member of the team who will direct you to them.
- If you need to take a phone call or tend to an email during a presentation, please kindly leave the room.

# X/Twitter

- We will be live tweeting this event so you may see the QI coaches on their phones during some sessions. Please also find and follow us **@NCCMentalHealth** or search for **#DCFQI**.
- We encourage use of X/Twitter and social media to share the work that you are doing throughout the collaborative.
- However, we kindly ask you not to tweet people's names, photographs of people's faces or their talks without their permission.

**Thank you!!**

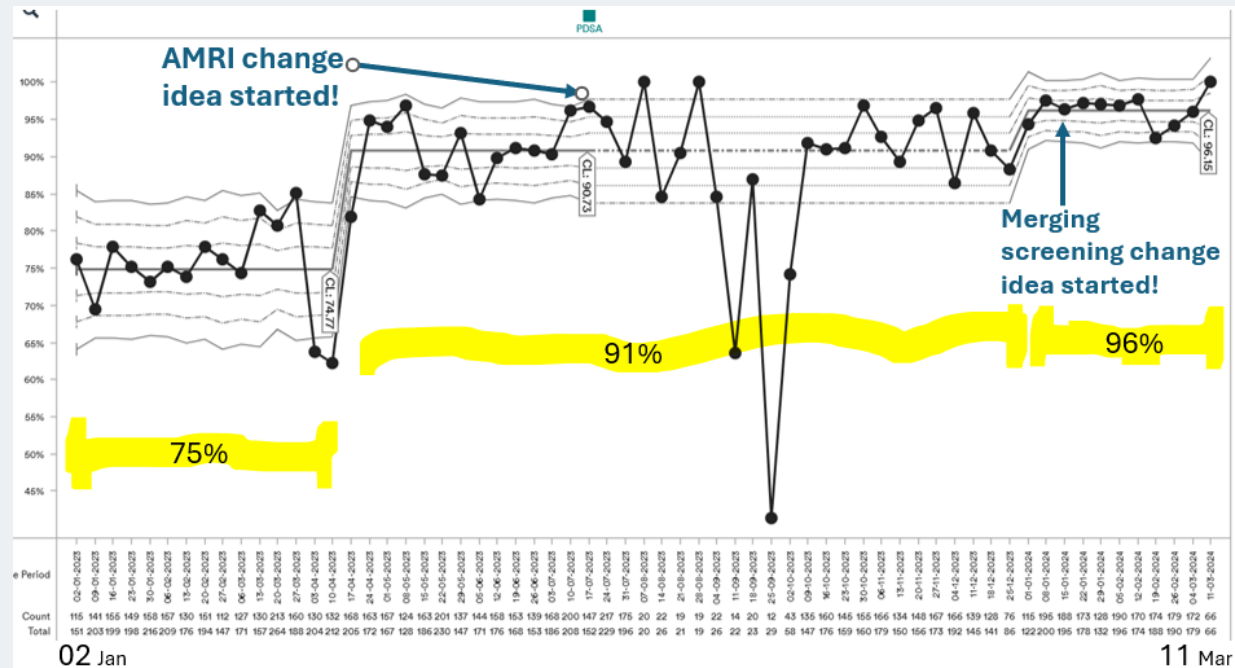
# Today's agenda

Time	Item	Speaker
10:30-10:45	Welcome, housekeeping and recap	Emily Cannon, Head of Quality Improvement
10:40-11:05	Hearing from Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust – South Warwickshire Community and Wellbeing Team	Suzanne Madel Williams, Operational Place Manager Jodie Shephard, Head of Place South Warwickshire
11:05-12:35	Networking and Sharing	Amar Shah, National Improvement Lead, RCPsych
12:35-13:25	Lunch	
13:25-13:50	Hearing from Cambridge and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust – Cambridgeshire Lifespan Autism Spectrum Service (CLASS)	Janine Robinson Kailash Ludhor Andrea Woods, Jasmine Taylor Susanna Snell
13:50-14:30	Supporting people to engage: some thoughts from lived and learned experience.	Ben, DC&F Patient and Carer Representative
14:30-14:55	From testing to implementing	Renata Souza, Senior Quality Improvement Advisor
14:55-15:00	Feedback and close	Jaz Seehra, Quality Improvement Coach, NCCMH

# Since the last learning set in January

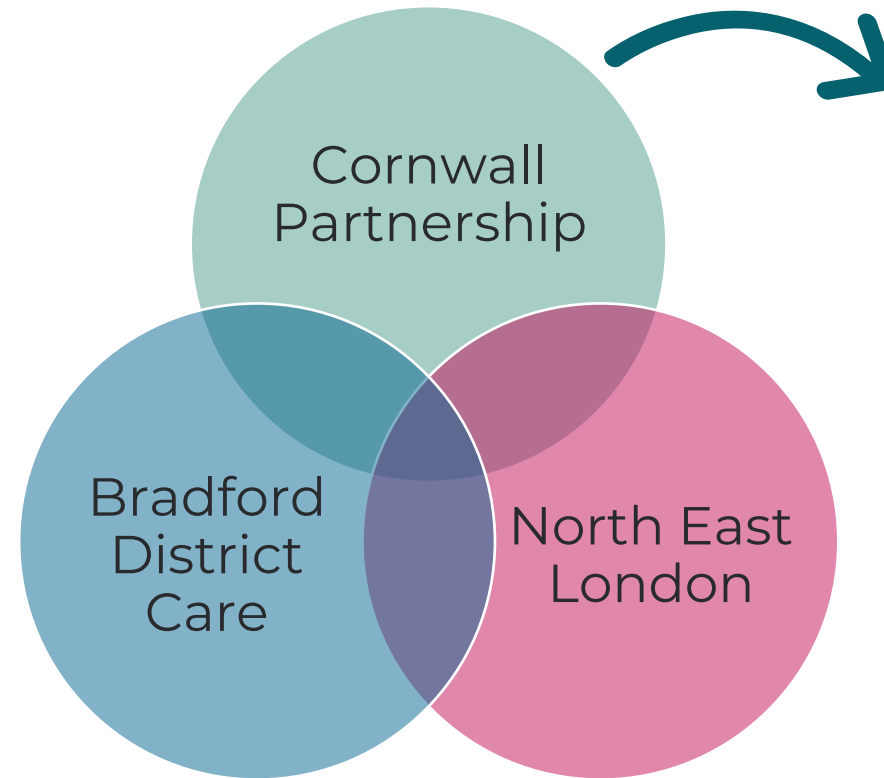
Teams have started to see improvement in their data

**Hounslow talking therapies** saw a 'shift' in the the weekly percentage of referrals outcomed (offered assessment) within 7 working days.

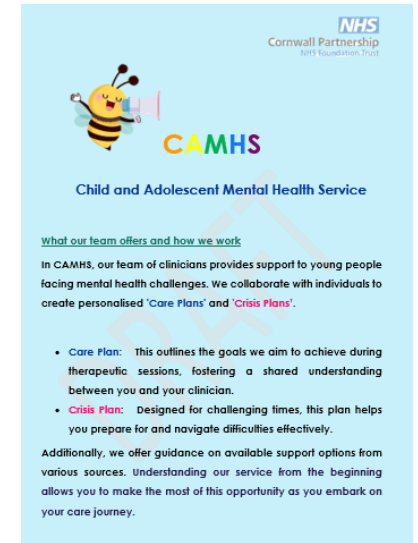


# ...have continued to collaborate and share ideas

We held two **virtual sessions for QI leads** supporting DCF teams. Thank you Caroline (from Bradford) for suggesting it!



The **CAMHS teams** are organising a joint meeting



The CAMHS agreement Cornwall shared at the last learning set is being adapted by other teams



# ...and celebrate successes

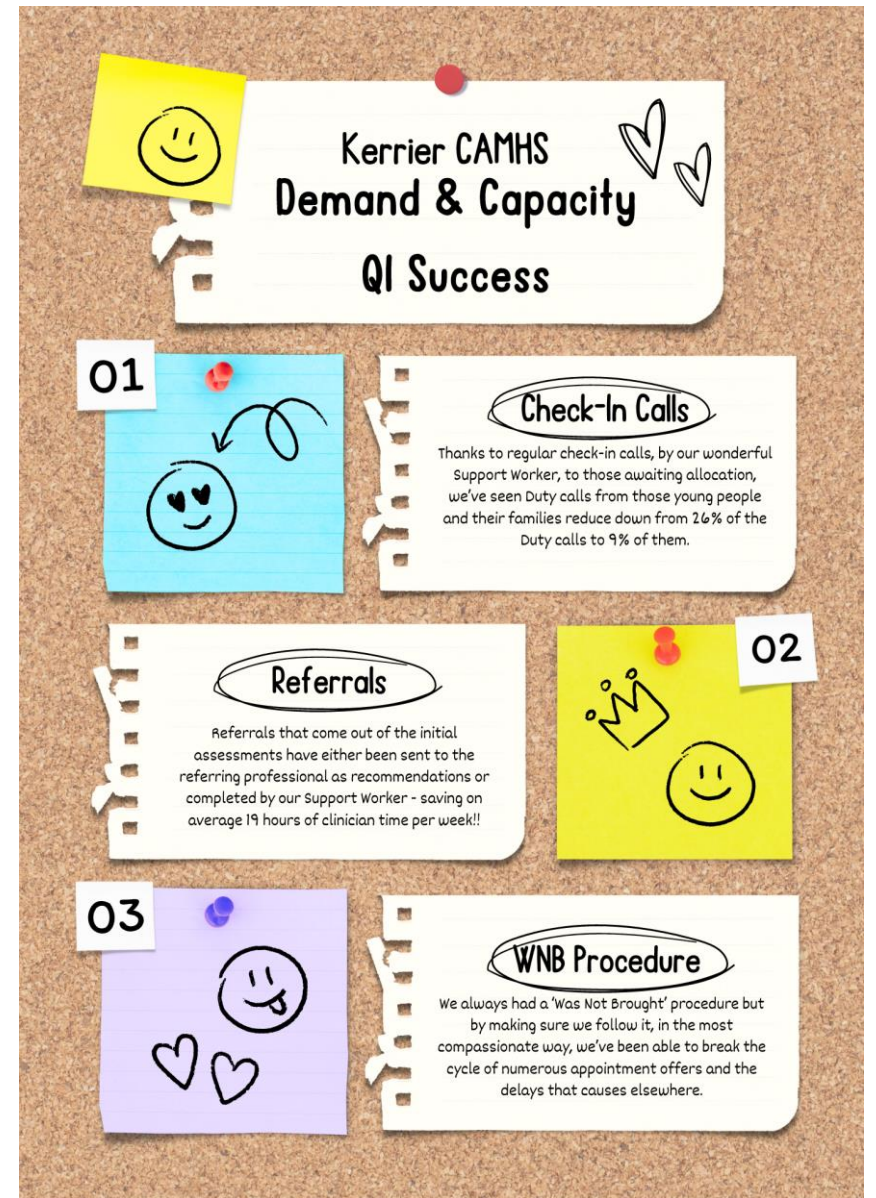
The **Cambridgeshire Lifespan Autism Spectrum Service** are presenting a poster about their DC&F project at the Royal College of Psychiatrists International Congress in Edinburgh in June



“

*There were long waits, people getting lost in the system and letters that weren't the most inviting. Our waits are down from 4 months to 6 weeks for assessments – we are outcoming appointments, agreeing interventions and we've come a long way in a short space of time. In the face of so much change and overwhelm, we've brought the teams back together and feel a real sense of pride at what we've achieved* ”


Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Team South Warwickshire



**Demand, Capacity & Flow**  
Quality Improvement Collaborative



NATIONAL COLLABORATING CENTRE FOR MENTAL HEALTH



**Coventry and Warwickshire  
Partnership NHS Trust  
South Warwickshire  
Community and Wellbeing Team**



# Quality Improvement through reducing DNA's whilst undergoing Transformational Change

---

Jodie Shepherd – Head of Place Warwickshire

Suzanne Madle – Williams – Operational Place Manager



# Community Mental Health Services

Our Community Mental Health Teams were separated into Integrated Practice Units age independent services

- IPU 3-8 (non – psychosis)
- Early Intervention
- IPU 11-17 (Psychosis)
- Dementia

In 2021 we embarked on our Community Transformation Programme over 3 years and have come to the end in April 2024.

# Where our QI journey started

Our capacity was limited, demand increasing, and our flow of patients was not equitable to the needs of those needing support

We started the Quality Improvement Project in two areas Coventry & South Warwickshire to look at mapping out the processes.

Through starting the project, we then decided that the area of scope across two areas is too large, and we focused on one area to maximise the results

Once the work started within South Warwickshire we wanted to be focus on the demand, capacity and flow in a specific team.

An area we wanted to focus on was our waits for assessment and the large number of appointments patient had DNA'd. This meant that those people needing support were waiting up to 18 weeks for an appointment which is not quick enough

So we brainstormed change ideas.....



# Our change ideas



Updating of  
appointment letter



Short notice  
assessment bookings



Increasing assessment  
slots



More frequent MDT's  
to process referrals



Out of hours  
assessments  
permanent



# Expert by Experience Involvement

As part of our project, we have had two EBE's who have worked with us throughout the project. Initially Lee was working with us and then Robin became a part of the team.

Robin's involvement throughout the project has been a key part of all the change ideas, planning phase, and doing.

- Robin was able to give us feedback how it would feel to receive our letter at the time
- We coproduced our assessment letter together
- Robin helped us to write and think about the language, NHS jargon and phrasing of our letter
- Robin has been able to present our coproduced letter to our design authority and other EBE's and was able to provide further thoughts and feedback for us to implement into the letter

Ref: .../NHS No:

2023

**Private & Confidential**

**Community Mental Health &  
Wellbeing Team**  
St Mary's Lodge  
12 St Mary's Road  
Leamington Spa  
Warwickshire CV31 1JN

Tel: **01926 339261**

Stratford Healthcare  
Building 2, Ground floor  
Arden Street  
Stratford Upon Avon  
CV37 6NQ

Tel: **0300 303 4017**

Dear

**Re: Mental Health & Well Being - South Warwickshire Assessment Appointment**

Further to your referral to the Community Mental Health Service, I am writing to confirm the following appointment has been arranged for you.

**Date:**

**Time:**

**Venue: Face to Face  
Stratford Healthcare  
Building 2, Ground floor  
Arden Street  
Stratford Upon Avon  
CV37 6NQ**

In line with the Trust Non-Attendance Policy if you are unable to attend this appointment and would like to reschedule, please contact us on 01926 339261 or 0300 303 4017. If you are late for your appointment, unfortunately we may need to reduce your appointment time or re-book your appointment.

During the consultation please could you have a list of **ALL** your medication available as this may be asked for.

Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust is a teaching centre and from time to time there may be healthcare students within the clinic. If you do not wish to be seen by a student, please inform us prior to your appointment.

If you, those accompanying you, or anyone in your/their household, have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), please do not attend your appointment – please check the [www.Gov.uk](http://www.Gov.uk) for guidance and support.

Please be aware there are no facilities to leave children unattended at your appointment.

The Trust holds and uses your personal and sensitive health information in line with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act. If you wish to find out more about how we use your data, please see the Trust's Privacy Notice on our website at [www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/privacy](http://www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/privacy) and also find details of the Trust's Data Protection Officer who can advise further.

The Trust is committed to providing full access to those with disabilities or additional needs, should you require any assistance please contact us on 01926 339261 quoting your NHS number printed at the top of this letter.

Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust is a smoke free NHS organisation, this means you will not be able to smoke anywhere in the Trust buildings and grounds.

***As you are aware the situation the NHS is facing including mental health services changes day by day. Therefore, this appointment may be cancelled at short notice.***

Yours sincerely

**Community Mental Health & Wellbeing Team – South Warwickshire**

**Private & Confidential**

NHS Number  
Our Ref  
Date

**PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

**Community Mental Health Team**  
St Mary's Lodge  
12 St Mary's Road  
Leamington Spa  
Warwickshire CV31 1JN  
Tel: **01926 339261**

Stratford Healthcare  
Building 2, Ground floor  
Arden Street  
Stratford Upon Avon  
CV37 6NQ  
Tel: **0300 303 4017**

### Your upcoming appointment with the Community Mental Health Team

Dear [patient first name],

We have booked you an appointment with our **Community Mental Health Team** at **St Mary's Lodge**.

### Appointment type: Face to Face Appointment



**Date:** [day, date, month, year]

**Time:** [time 12hr]

**Location:** **St Mary's Lodge**  
**12 St Mary's Road**  
**Leamington Spa**  
**Warwickshire**  
**CV31 1JN**

We will give you a call on (INSERT PATIENTS CURRENT NUMBER) before your appointment to remind you. If your details have changed, please give us a call to let us know.

### Getting to your appointment

To support you and the appointment, aim to get to us 10 minutes early to give us time to check you in. The receptionist will do this for you and let the clinician know you have arrived.



We have included a map with information about parking, do take a look – it provides all the information you need.



### St Mary's Lodge

We are accessible by various buses. The walk from each bus stop is 2 - 5 minutes.

The closest train station is Leamington Spa, then a 15-minute walk (0.7miles).

### How to change your appointment

**If you no longer need an appointment or if you are unable to attend, please contact us as soon as you can. This will prevent you having to wait a longer time for a re-booked appointment.**

Some people prefer different types of appointments. If you would like a telephone or video appointment instead, we are more than happy to book you in.

### Contacting us



If you have any questions about your appointment or need to let us know about anything that makes getting to us difficult, please call us on **01926 339261**. We are happy to help and have a friendly admin team.

If your mental health deteriorates before your appointment and you require further support, please contact the Mental Health Access Hub on **08081 966798**.

# Feedback from EBE / Design Authority

---

The feedback is very positive. The theme of the feedback that its not a letter telling you that you have an appointment, its a letter that is welcoming you to the appointment and trying to facilitate your journey to it. We get the impression that you would like us to attend this appointment. Its easier to understand.

# Aim: Reduce the amount of time taken that patients are waiting from referral to assessment by 50% by June 2024





# So where are we now??

We are in the testing phase of the project and our new assessment letter has been rolled out and has been live since 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

Our first assessments using our new template is due to take place on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024

We are in the process of developing a feedback form to give to the people who received our new template to gather the views of those accessing our services

We will then review the feedback and will look to make any changes identified / required and will go back to sending out a revised letter.

We will also be able to look at the number of people who have DNA'd their appointment since the implementation of the new letter and compare this to see if there are any changes.



**Compassion**

# What have been our challenges?



Community  
Transformation



Time



Capacity &  
Demand



Processes

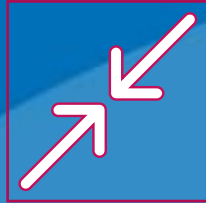


Structural  
Changes

# What has worked well?



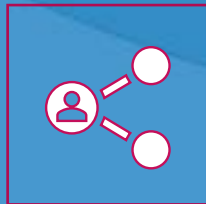
Coproduction at the heart



Support from Exec's to  
reduce "red tape"



Support and involvement  
from Adele, EBE's,  
Managers, Admin & Team



Reduced our waiting time

# Our Story

There were long waits, people getting lost in the system and letters that weren't the most inviting. Our waits are down from 4 months to six weeks for assessments – we are outcoming appointments, agreeing interventions and we've come a long way in a short space of time. In the face of so much change and overwhelm, we've brought the teams back together and feel a real sense of pride at what we've achieved.



**Respect**



# Community Transformation

Changed from IPU's to Community Mental Health teams

Aligning our CMHTs to Primary Care Networks and working to develop relationships and align a Consultant and a Team Manager to oversee each PCN within the CMHT

## Creation of new services

- Primary Care
- Eating Disorders
- Enablement Team



**Excellence**

# What's next for Community Mental Health

- Although transformation has ended it is still ongoing and we are operationalising the development of the new services
- We will continue to upskill our staff within the CMHT in their knowledge and confidence after the siloed working of the IPU's
- We are working towards our target of 4-week waiting time from referral to intervention
- From 1<sup>st</sup> April CMHT have taken back routine triage of referrals meaning that people will receive the right intervention, in the right place, at the right time

Thank you for  
listening

Any questions?



# Capturing your stories...

**Dr Amar Shah**

National Improvement Lead  
Royal College of Psychiatrists



45  
mins

# Networking and sharing

- In your **groups of 2-3 teams**, each team have approx. **10-15 mins** to share your journey so far and share ideas, suggestions.
- Any learning and ideas you can take back to your projects?



Demand, Capacity & Flow  
Quality Improvement Collaborative



NATIONAL  
COLLABORATING  
CENTRE FOR  
MENTAL HEALTH



 25  
mins

# Networking and sharing

- Put your posters up on the boards in the mezzanine
- Spend time looking at everyone's work and continue sharing with each other!
- Any learning and ideas you can take back to your projects?



Demand, Capacity & Flow  
Quality Improvement Collaborative



NATIONAL  
COLLABORATING  
CENTRE FOR  
MENTAL HEALTH



# Lunch

12.35 - 13.25

Served in Room 1.6 &  
Mezzanine

# Cambridgeshire Lifespan Autism Spectrum Service (CLASS) Adult autism assessments

RCPsych QI Collaborative  
16<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Janine Robinson  
Kailash Ludhor  
Andrea Woods  
Jasmine Taylor  
Susanna Snell

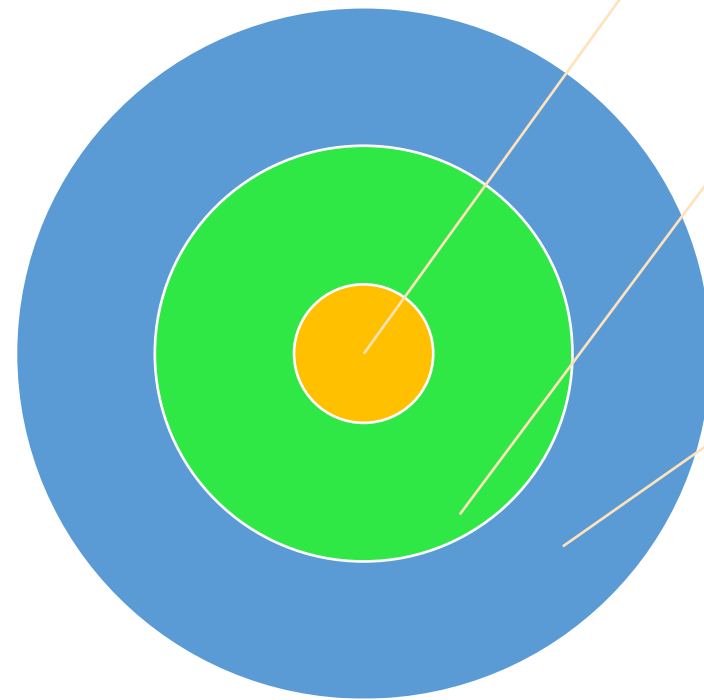


Pride in our adults and specialist mental health services

# Our service

Specialist service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Well-established service evolved from a charitably funded national service model (1999)</li><li>• Commissioned to assess autism in adults 18+ years (without a LD diagnosis)</li><li>• Serving people in C&amp;P area, provided GP falls within commissioning region</li><li>• Expanded commissioning to include time-limited, focused period of psychoeducation</li></ul>
Referral criteria & processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No self-referrals</li><li>• GP referral processed by Primary Care Mental Health Service</li><li>• Internal CPFT referrals from other CPFT mental health services, Staff mental health/occupational health</li><li>• Right to choose</li></ul>
Commissioned to assess 300 people per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Referral rate increased over past 2 years</li><li>• Demand exceed capacity</li><li>• Training/liaison/capacity building</li><li>• (Unintended consequences of QI Collaborative)</li></ul>
Multidisciplinary team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nursing, occupational therapy, psychology, psychiatry and speech and language therapy supported by administrative team</li><li>• Trainees/students</li><li>• Research support</li><li>• Current vacancies – new posts to be filled: OT and psychology</li><li>• PPI group</li><li>• Volunteer –Overseeing our Library</li></ul>

# Our QI project team



**Core CPFT project team:**

- Project Lead: KL
- Administration: IF
- Clinical & project support: KT & IJ
- Clinical Lead Referral/Screening Triage: AW
- Clinical Lead Assessment: JR
- Clinical Leads Post diagnostic support: AW&SS& CC
- Primary Care Mental Health Service (primary referrers)
- Lived Experience representative: (currently revising)

**Fortnightly wider CLASS team meetings:**

- Management support & input
- Clinical review and input
- RCPsych input & Support
- CPFT QI Advisor
- Lived experience

**Wider networks & stakeholders:**

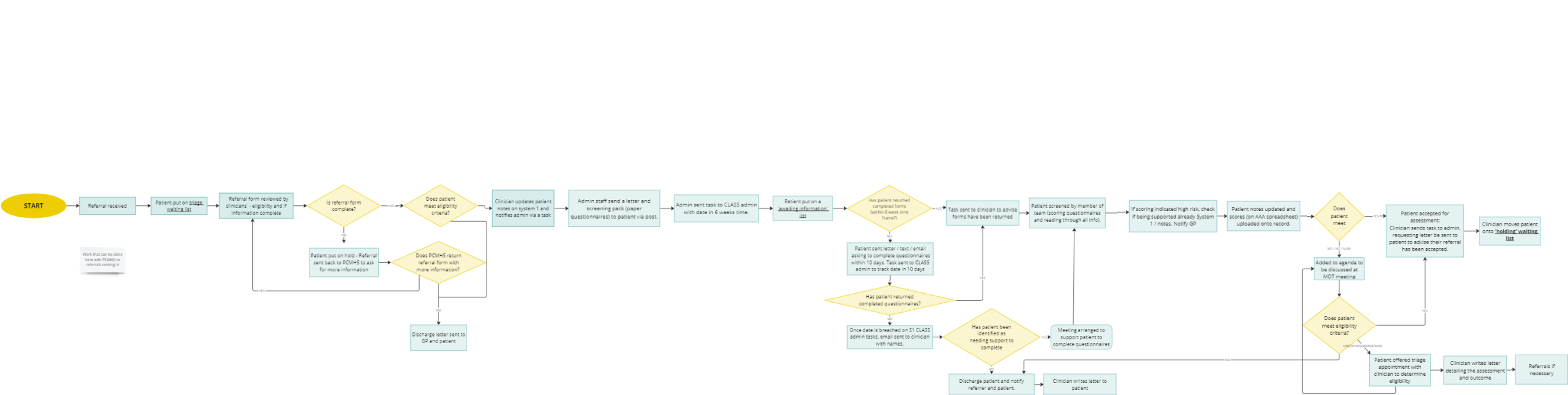
- Lived experience
- Quarterly Learning Sets

Service & Team managers	Administrators	CLASS MDT: Including trainees					
		Clinical psychologists	Consultant psychiatrist	Occupational therapist	Speech & language therapist	Assistant psychologists	Volunteer library support



# Flow chart of CLASS pathway

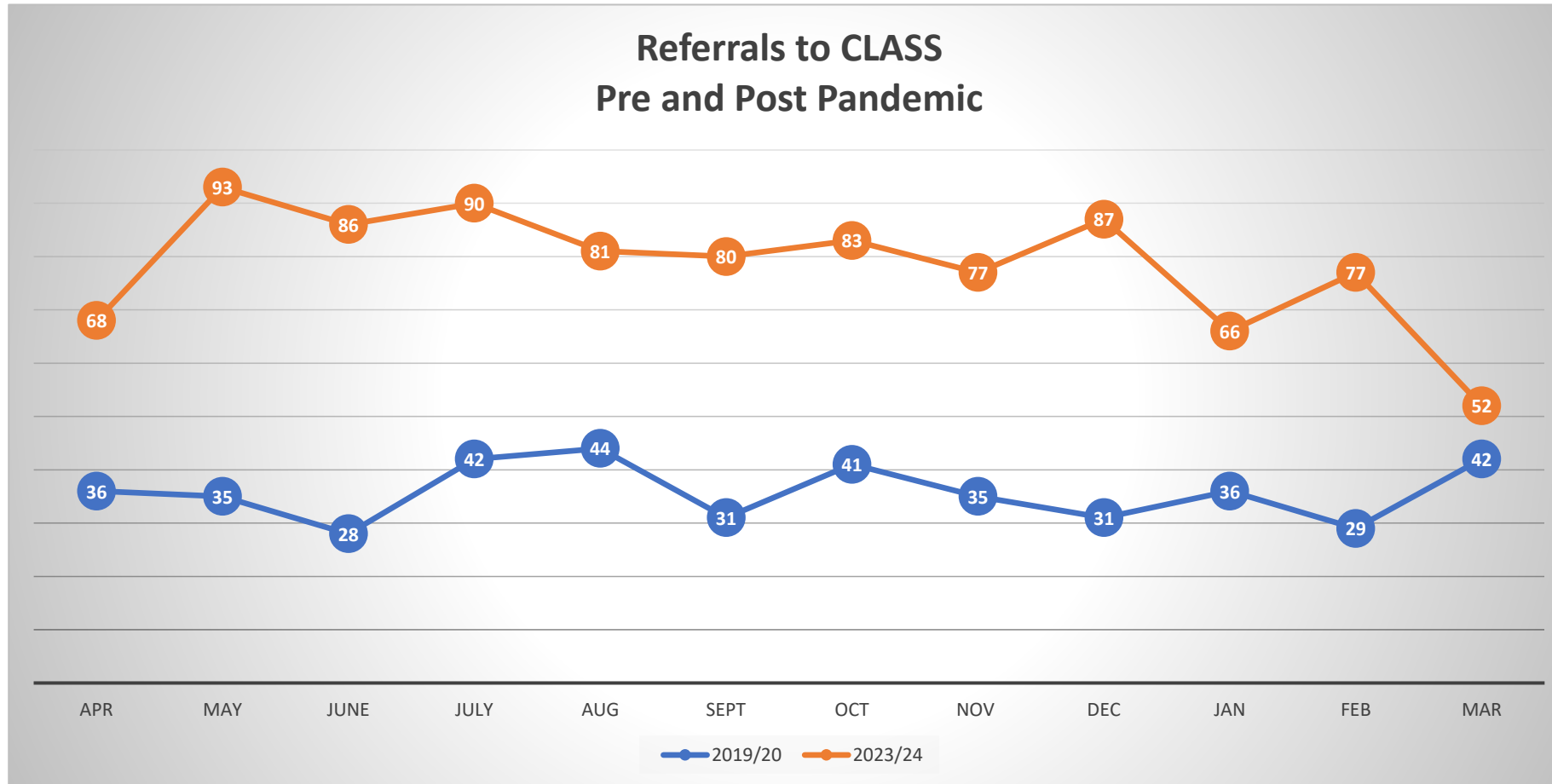
Mapped from referral > screening > waiting list > assessment > post diagnostic > discharge



# Areas of focus: challenges, bottlenecks & data

Stage1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5
<b>Identification &amp; referral</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Triage</b>	<b>Pre-assessment</b>	<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Post-assessment/diagnosis</b>
Increase in referrals+++ 2019-2020 = 430 2022-2023 = 887 2023-2024 = 940 118% increase	2-stage screening time intensive	Long waits	Complete change in assessment processes since pandemic Conversion rates: 2019 80% 2023 79%	Reports lengthy/variable and take long Reports can be late owing to caseload and gaps for report writing Expectations/value of reports for whom
Increase in complexity	New process of triage – extra work or valuable/necessary	More people in crisis	More choice for people but impact on service is clear	Commissioned for psychoeducation Also offer sensory assessments, sensory group, vocational support, etc.
Poor quality referrals	Backlog & new referrals – need dedicated time of several people to keep on top of task	Requests to expedite+++ Results in MDT decisions and admin	More DNAs More time More difficult to get information	Evaluation not yet completed Too much choice might be overwhelming/limits offer for everyone
Change in process – no longer PCMH screening  Possibly more inappropriate referrals  Chasing information  • Admin time • Delays for patient	Reflect on purpose of screening and triage If most get a Dx then should we accept everyone? Is screening/triage useful for certain purposes, e.g., discharge or planning assessment? If spend 1 hour with patient and Dx is highly likely why not Dx then? Duplication/Paperwork administration	Extends waiting time for others Whose responsibility to support? How much information to give, when and in what format? Texts/QR codes/letters? Keeping track of addresses/contact details, moving out of area/temporary addresses	A factor of pandemic Length of period on waiting list and increase in anxiety? Greater expectations of service New way of working – untested and less confident Easier to offer additional clinic slots online if unsure Not sure when is enough information Need to examine if conversion rates are lower	Chasing to get people signed up Extended periods before discharge from service More involved with people the greater the unmet need is in evidence CLASS takes on the work as others close their doors Model not sustainable given numbers/pressure for assessment/diagnostic clinicians' time

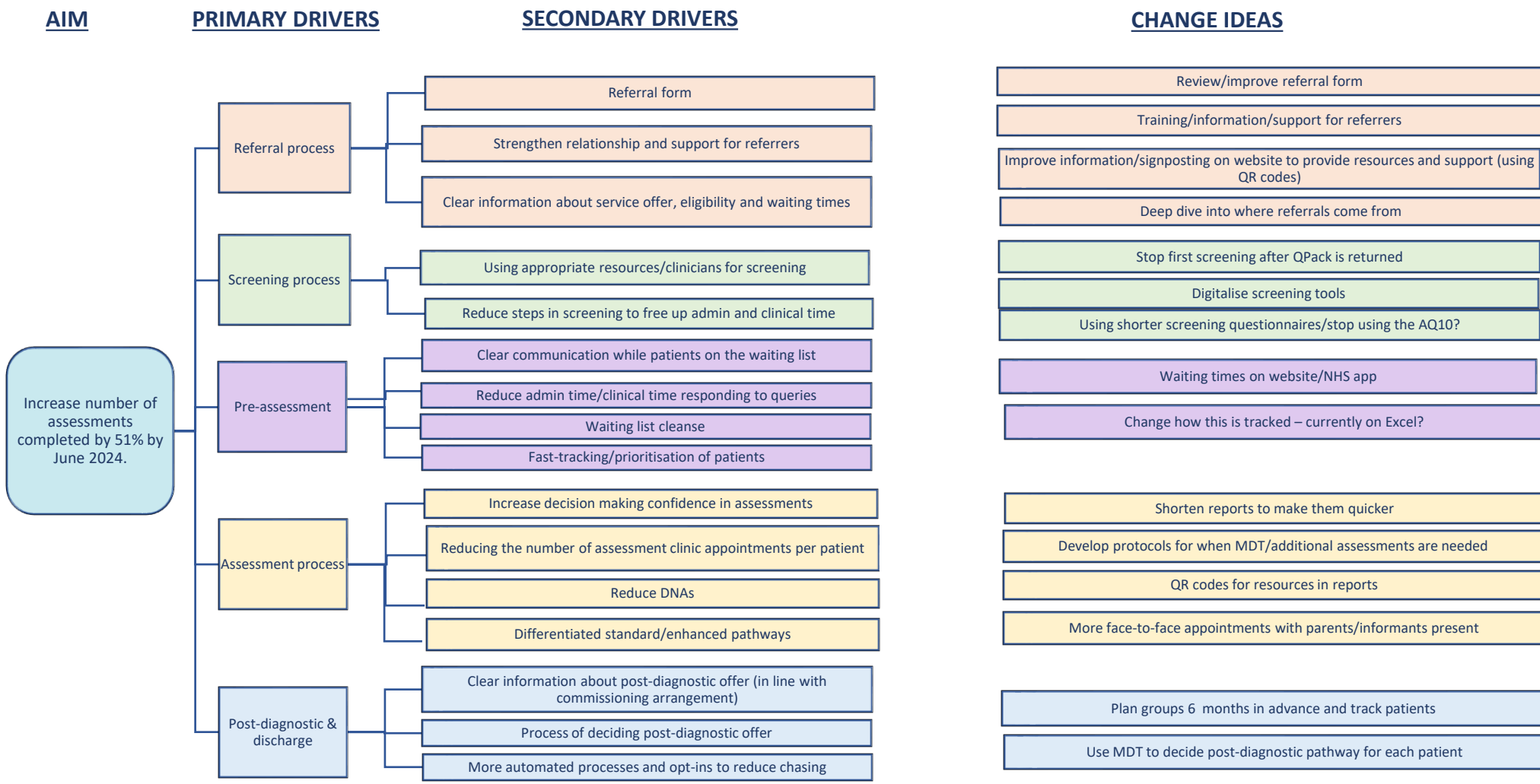
# Referrals to the service



2019/2020 – 430 referrals

2023/2024 – 940 referrals

# Our project driver diagram



## Our project aim:

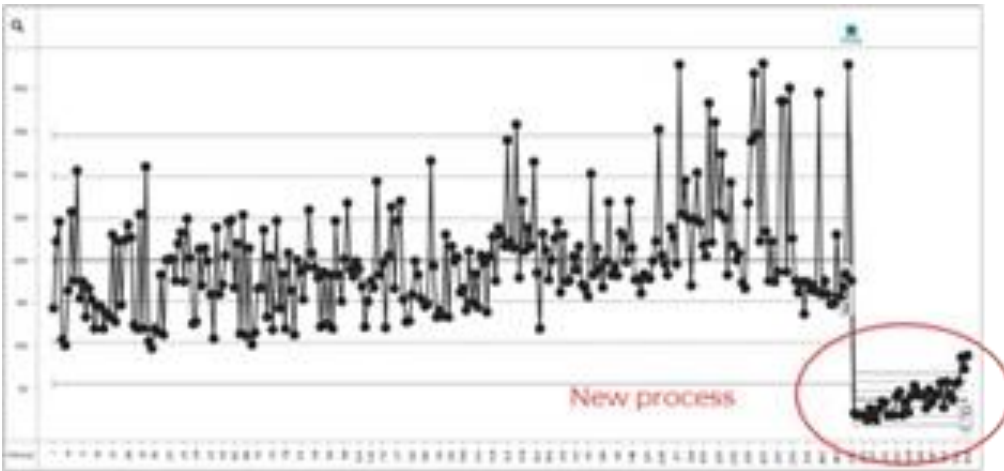
To increase the number of assessments completed per month by 51%, by June 2024



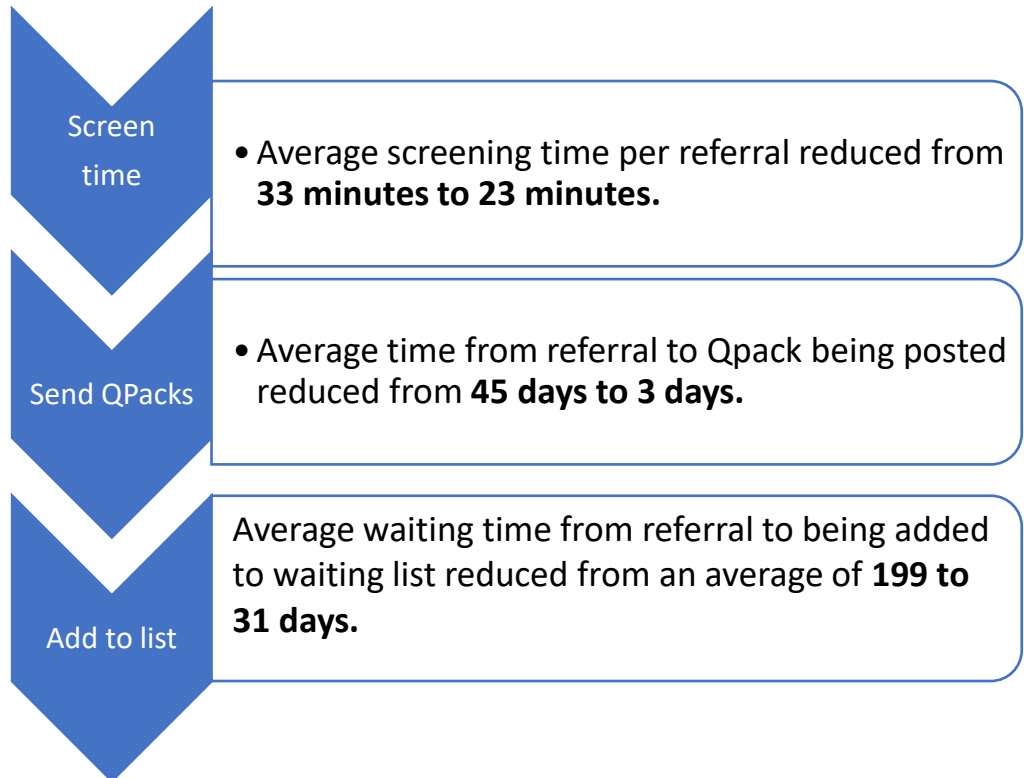
# Change ideas

**PDSA 1. Stop first screening (new referrals were screened twice) and send out questionnaire packs (QPacks) upon receipt of referral. To reduce 1) time spent screening and processing referrals, 2) time between referral and sending out QPacks and 3) time from referral to being added to assessment waiting list.**

## Impact



PC Chart for no. of days from referral received to referral added to waiting list



# Feedback

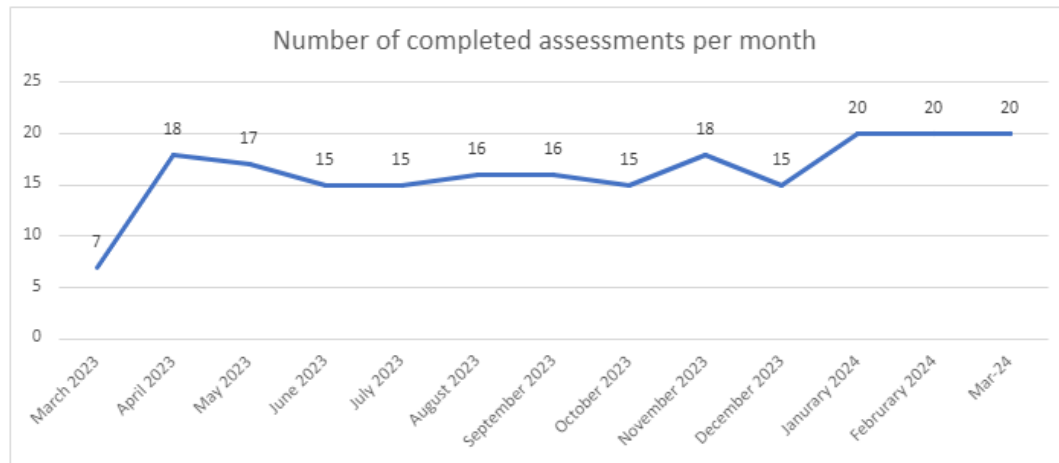
**Admin:** It has streamlined our process and made our work much more consistent. We now are only sending out 60-80 QPacks a month compared to previously were some months we would send 100s and the next we would send in the low 30's. This has made it much easier to stay on top of the QPacks and on top of chasers / discharges.

**Patient:** I liked getting the QPack so soon because it reassured me that I had been referred. Also, it was great to feel like my bit was done and I'm not waiting for something to come or worrying I had missed something.

# Change ideas

**PDSA 2. Face-to-face single appointment assessments.** To increase the number of assessments completed by clinicians and reduce the number of multiple-appointment assessments.

## Impact



- Reduction in assessment time from **237 minutes to 192 minutes**
- Reduction in number of assessments requiring multiple appointments (from a sample of 10) from **60% to 30%**.
- Reduction in the average number of days an assessment remained open from **39 days to 2 days**.
- An increase in the number of assessments completed in the same month from **30% to 70%**.
- **An increase in number of assessments completed per month from 7 (March 2023) to 20 (March 2024).**

# Change ideas

**PDSA 3. To provide a pre-assessment information sheet to patients.** To help people to be more prepared, reduce anxiety about the assessment process, improve the quality of information provided to the clinician and to reduce the need for multiple appointments for information gathering and decision-making.

## Impact

- **Currently being tested** with a sample of 10 patients who are asked for their experiences on the new info sheet.
- Qualitative data is also being collected from the assessing clinicians as to whether the info sheet had any positive or negative impacts on the assessment.
- Finally, data on length of assessment will be collected from the 10 trial patients and compared with the average length of assessments for a similar time period.

### Helping you feel prepared for your autism assessment

This is some information about your assessment meeting to help you feel prepared and comfortable.

#### **What is the assessment for?**

You have been referred for an autism assessment.

The aim of this assessment is to gather information from you and people who know you well, to find out if you are autistic.

#### **What and who to bring with you.**

Please bring a parent with you, if you can. We can speak with them on the phone before your assessment if they are unable to attend on the day .....

# Meeting our project aim

Overall progress to date

&

What next



# A bit impatient....or just ambitious?



December 2023 – a team ‘silly session’



Anything is on the table to make a difference



Ideas collated



Themes across 5 stages of the pathway



Mentimeter: criteria



Rank the ideas - ‘1’ being the first choice, ‘2’ the second choice, and so on.



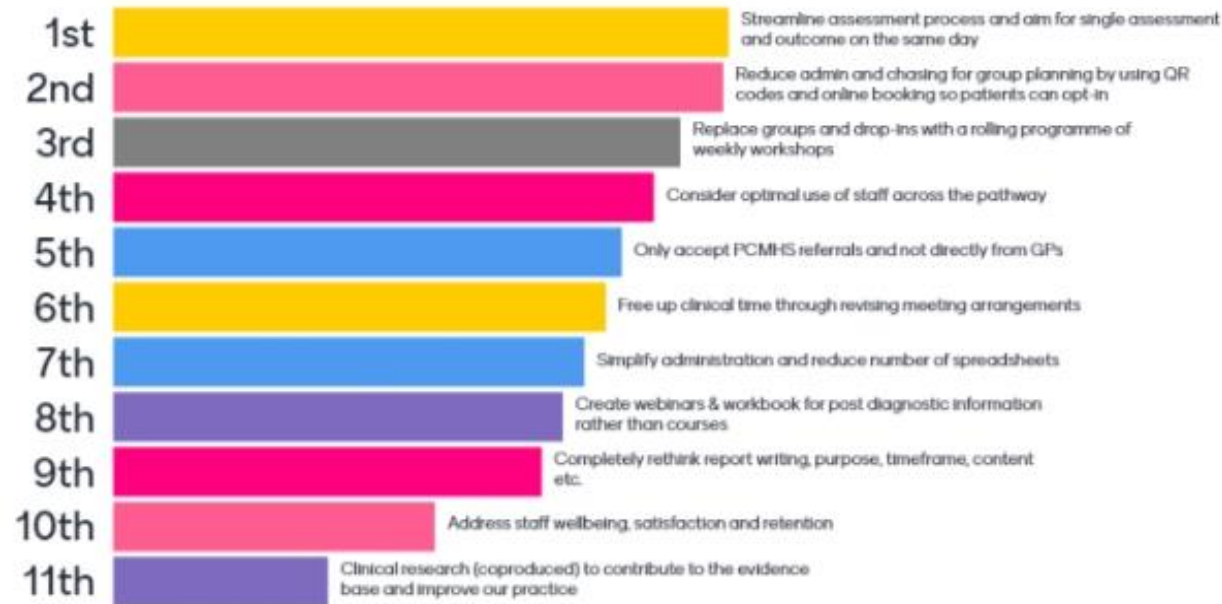
When rating the ideas, please consider:

1. How feasible would this be to implement?
2. How quickly might we see results?
3. How impactful would this be for the purpose of increasing capacity and flow?

# Outputs from session: December 2023

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1		Radical change ideas												
2		policy and service specification	Workforce	wellbeing	research	administration	meetings		referrals	waiting list	screening/triage	assessment & Dx	clinical notes and reports	Post Dx
3	no. of ideas	2	5	1	1	1	6		9	1	6	10	9	11
4	red = radical/check legislation/ethics	Disband CLASS and work in MH teams offering advice and support.	hire more staff	condensed hours and longer days so everyone gets a day off	is research a necessity or a nice to do?	one main spreadsheet rather than keeping on top of several	reduce the number of meetings & make them more streamlined		Query ID cases to go to RTC provider?	ask people to periodically opt in to wait list if they feel they need the Ax	Get rid of AQ and EQ and replace with RQ or other developmental information	involve Susanna and Claire in Dx process	shorter reports to limit clinical admin time	more drop-in groups/less for so less admin associated with
5	orange = big change could be impactful but need to check evidence and ethics	CLASS only sees most complex Ax - tertiary service. Straightforward Ax go elsewhere	job plans/expectations				reducing meetings or having a rota for attendance to free up clinical time		Only accept PCMHS referrals and not directly from GPs		can we shorten screening notes on S1?	Involve all MDT members in the DX	1 page report, i.e., just the front sheet	Over
6			what is our function/job? What do we do that is not in our job plan?				reduce meetings for more clinical time		Request information about need for Dx. If just curious, reject. Can we direct to RtC provider?		need to be tougher, i.e., screening	go back to 1 ax a day; in person and write up report	short 1 page reports with standardised recommendations	hand over post work to non-diagnosticians
7			challenge each other more				fewer meetings. Do we need a meeting pre-meeting?		Change criteria include impact of difficulties		stop offering triage; if all scores not in range, reject	ICD11 or DSM5 assessment, no AAA for brief assessment	can Aps help with reports at all? If they are involved in the assessment process?	less time chasing people for group

# Rank the ideas - '1' being the first choice, '2' the second choice, and so on.



## What next...

**PDSA 4** based on the results of the Menti poll –Testing the feasibility and acceptability of an online booking system for post diagnostic groups.

**Aim:** To reduce amount of clinical time spent contacting and chasing people to book them onto groups and maintaining tracking systems, by enabling service users to opt-in using an online booking system.

# Challenges & learning

## Challenges:

- Managing energy & motivation levels of team members
- Not losing track of progress on completed PDSA cycles and implemented changes.
- Losing our project member with lived experience
- From our partners – understanding another service's pathway to add input

## Learning:

- The impact of changes in the wider context e.g. wider financial challenges and other key priorities
- Being realistic about what we can achieve – low hanging fruit versus bigger impact changes
- Difficulty in collecting accurate data to measure change e.g. not able to easily collect data about how many completed assessments and need for multiple trackers
- Unintended consequences of changes e.g. improving flow one part of the pathway has created a blockage in the next part



# Successes so far...



## **CLASS Team:**

- Learning from our partners locally i.e. PCMHS and as part of national QI
- Celebrating success – Poster & Abstract for RCPsych Congress June 2024

## **Our partners:**

- Good collaboration, meant we could take things from our own learnings within our services and combine different perspectives and ideas
- Being able to learn from each other e.g. ways to use the clinical system to optimise time
- Gaining our own QI knowledge that we can use for service development.
- Creating better links between our services



**Thank you!**  
**Any Questions or Comments?**

**CLASS QI project team:**

Kailash Ludhor, Janine Robinson, Caroline Nightingale, India French, Fatima Rasool, Benjamin Hannon, Damaris Koch, Tanya Paxman, Jasmine Taylor, Andrea Woods, Irene James, Susanna Snell, Claire Chadderton, Katie Turness, Mark Squire, Derri Davies, Victoria McCarthy, Sara S Marques, Litsa Sourla, Alex Hannibal-Stewart



# Supporting people to engage

Some lessons from lived and learned experience

**Ben Walford (he; him)**

1. Overview: my mental health work in universities
2. Waiting lists ('Jessica')
3. Discharges ('Raj')
4. Thoughts: two change ideas
5. Q&A



QR code  
for  
questions

# My mental health work in universities

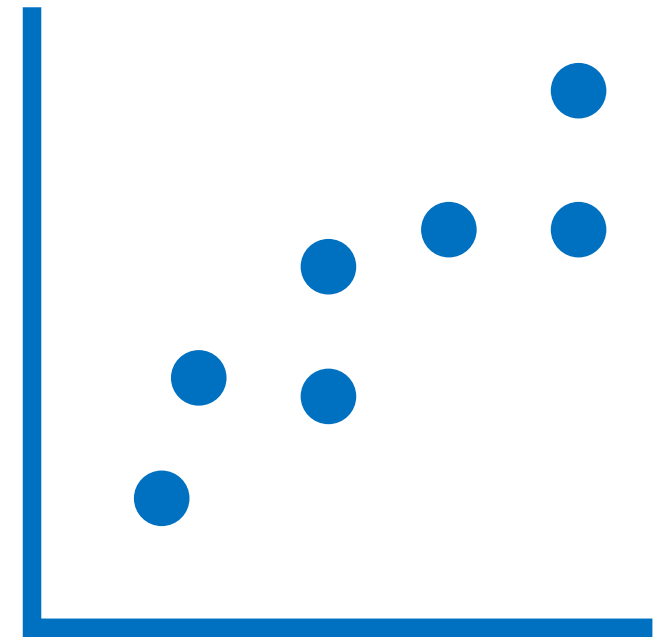


- 14 years: short, medium, long-term work. 1500+ students.
- Mainly young adults (18-23)
- 20% 'severe mental illness', 10% neuro-diverse, 10% + another disability
- Mostly live in London – from UK & abroad
- Diverse: ethnicity, gender ID. Often from poverty, care experienced, refugees

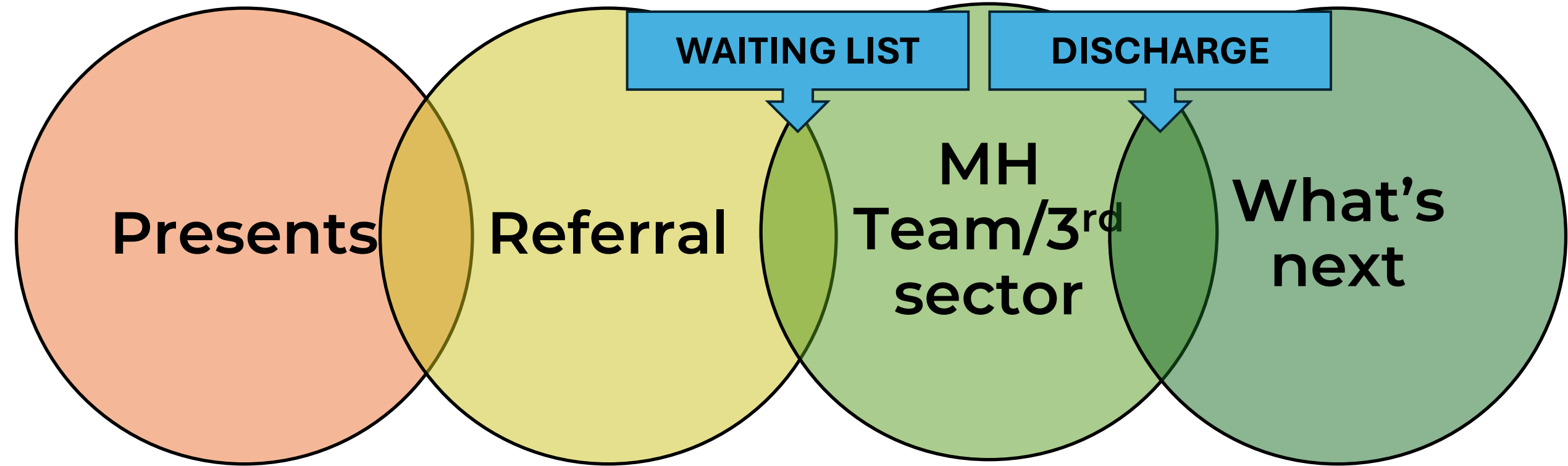


# Some trends (higher education MH support)

- 5-10 x increase in demand over ten years
- Covid impact: life & relationship skills, social isolation, ways of coping
- Increase: self-harm, suicidality, eating disorders, drug use
- Work underway: association health inequalities w/degree outcomes (e.g. if disabled, black, care experienced, poorer)



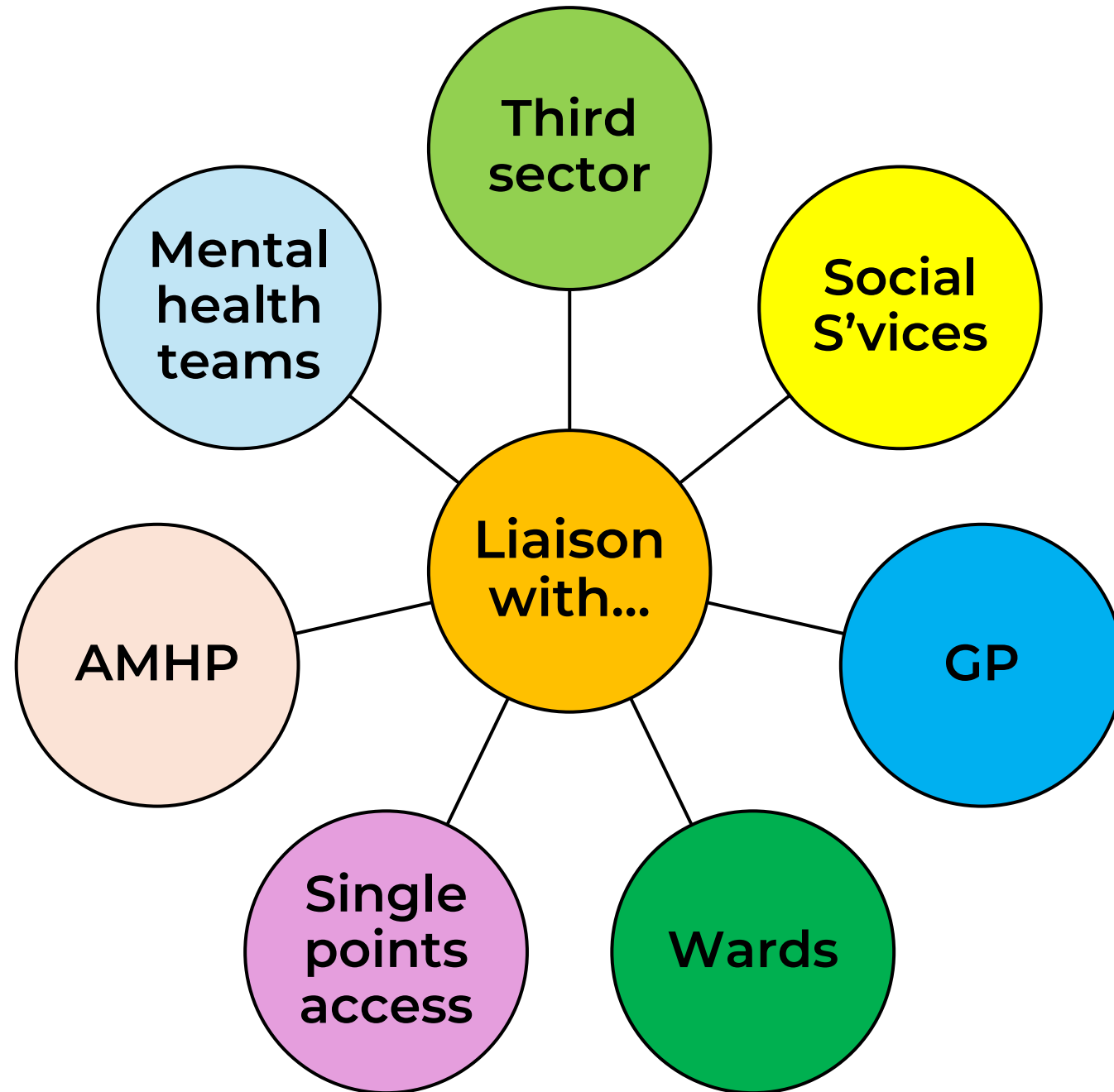
# A vantage point on patient journeys



**My work with students who are patients**



**Vantage  
point on  
services**



# Thoughts and feelings > services (discharges)

They sprang it on me

Getting better isn't 'all or nothing'

They've made my situation even messier

Left me with things that help

Getting there: a story of my distress

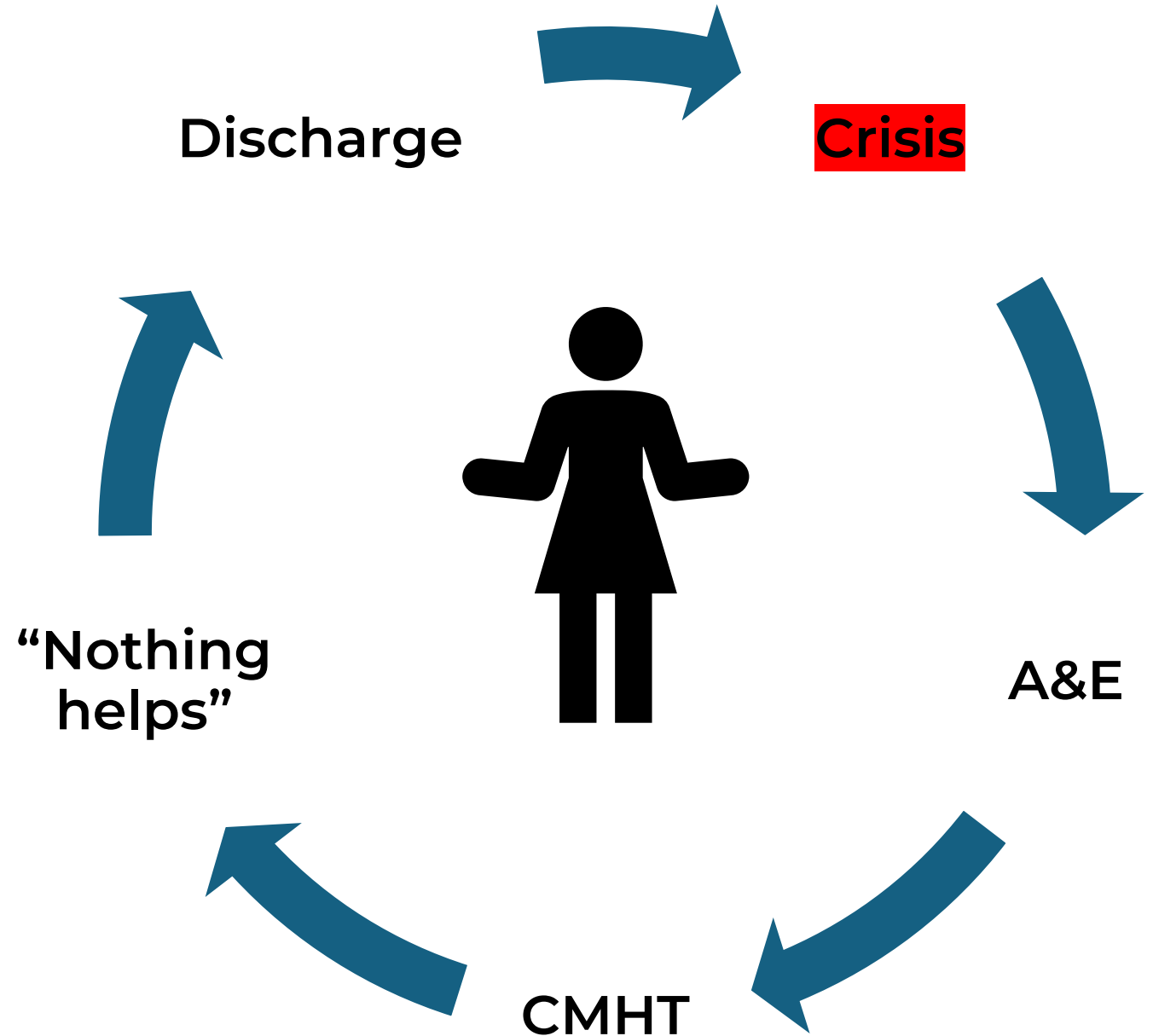
Have no idea what's happening next

How can I trust them after how I was treated?

Still hard but not like it was before

# 'Jessica'

- Passionate, strong-minded, sharp. Loves travelling
- Day to day life impacted by childhood trauma
- Tried lots. Nothing seemed to help. Wanted long-term therapy



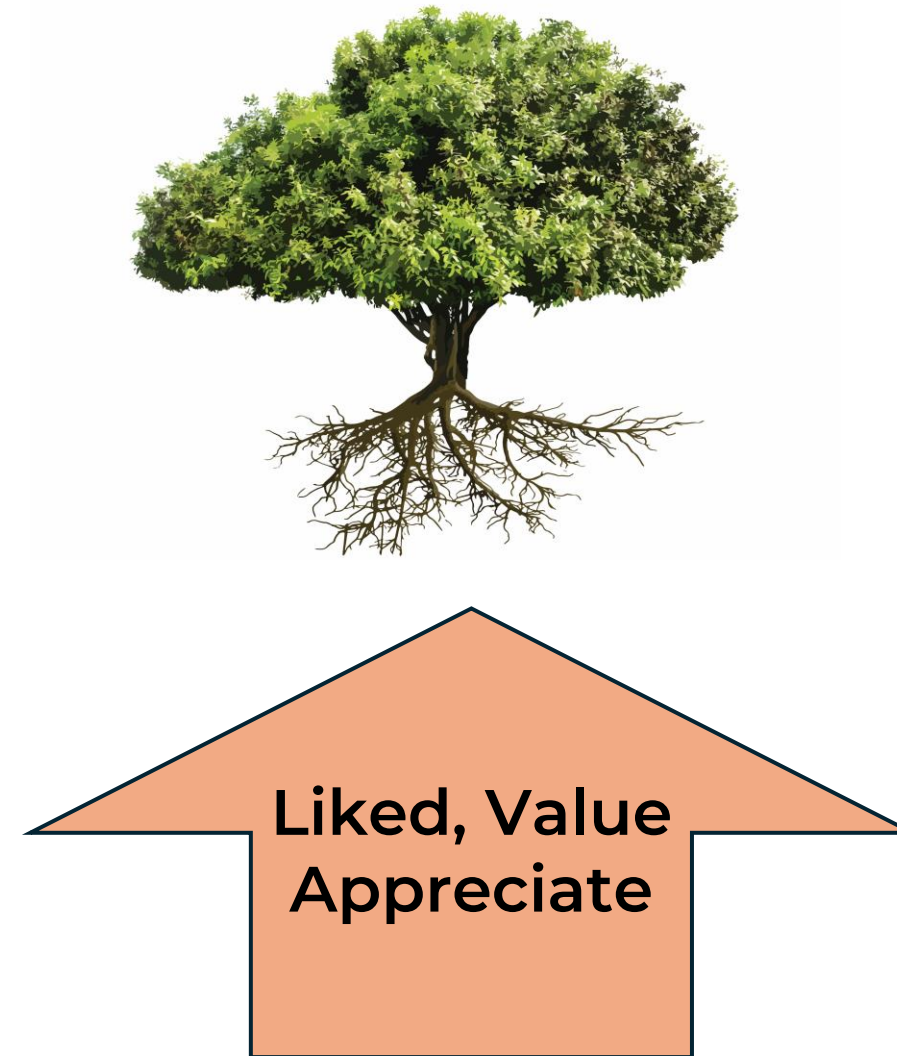
# Jessica's life now

- Graduated, working, has money for travel
- Longest period not with CMHT
- More able to calm & more in control when distressed
- Awaits long term Therapy

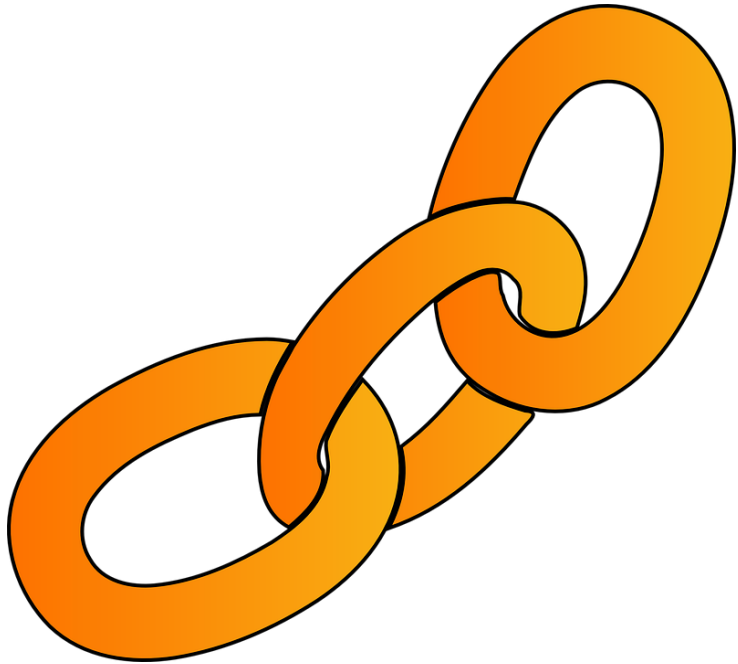


# Jessica & CMHT: what seemed to help

- Validated trauma, empathy that was felt: “yeh I know they care”
- Believed Jessica on what didn't help. Made early long-term therapy referral
- Sought a consensual end point rather than ‘hard and fast’ discharge time
- A crisis plan attuned to what crisis is to Jessica. Simple, consistent, sustainable



# Wider observations - Discharges



**Utilise  
chains  
of trust**

- Simple, quick re-referral routes can increase person's sense of control
- Sometimes knowing it's there is enough to feel more OK
- Building a support network takes time, trying and trust
- A crisis plan on paper and one that is helpful in practice very different





**Discharges  
and  
promises  
made**

# Thoughts & feelings > services (waiting lists)

The last thing didn't help, so this won't

I have an idea of the 'system' around me

I don't even know what it is I'm waiting for

I know what it is I'm waiting for

I feel positive that help is on the way

Waiting ages, no update: they don't care why should I

I was told this would be the solution. Where is it?

Other things can help in mean time

# 'Raj's' life now



- Loves his degree, to cycle – now has a friend on the course
- Saw the GP for low mood. Open to 3<sup>rd</sup> sector peer support
- Still struggles with self-worth. Bullied at school, little family contact
- On waiting list: Autism assessment

# What's helping-Raj's wait

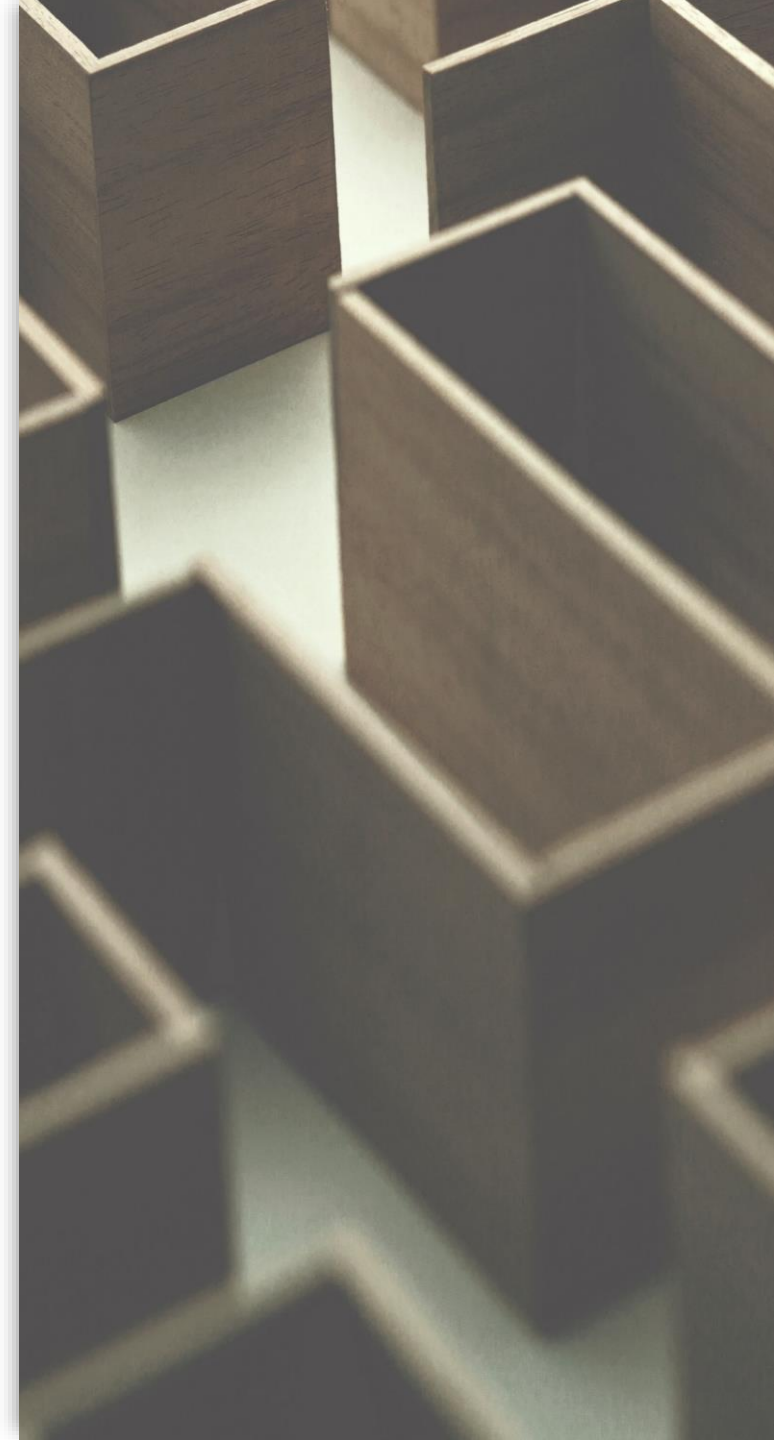
- Understands purpose & practicalities of assessment
- Given information to understand Autism. Sees specifics he can relate to
- Basic strategies for the here and now (e.g. in response to anxiety)
- Encouragement, praise



Stock image from internet

# Wider observations (waiting lists)

- Impact is individual – ideally information/support should be too
- People generally see ‘one system’ – “helping or not helping me”
- Impact of stress major component in missing meetings (expected)
- Basic wellbeing strategies can help (“It doesn’t matter why it help if it helps”)





**Change  
idea:  
Havering  
CAMHS:  
drop in for  
discharged  
patients**

- **Still care about your life versus “dead stop”** ✓
- **Support to navigate a new system.** ✓
- **Suggest flexible...in-person, voice, video, text chat**



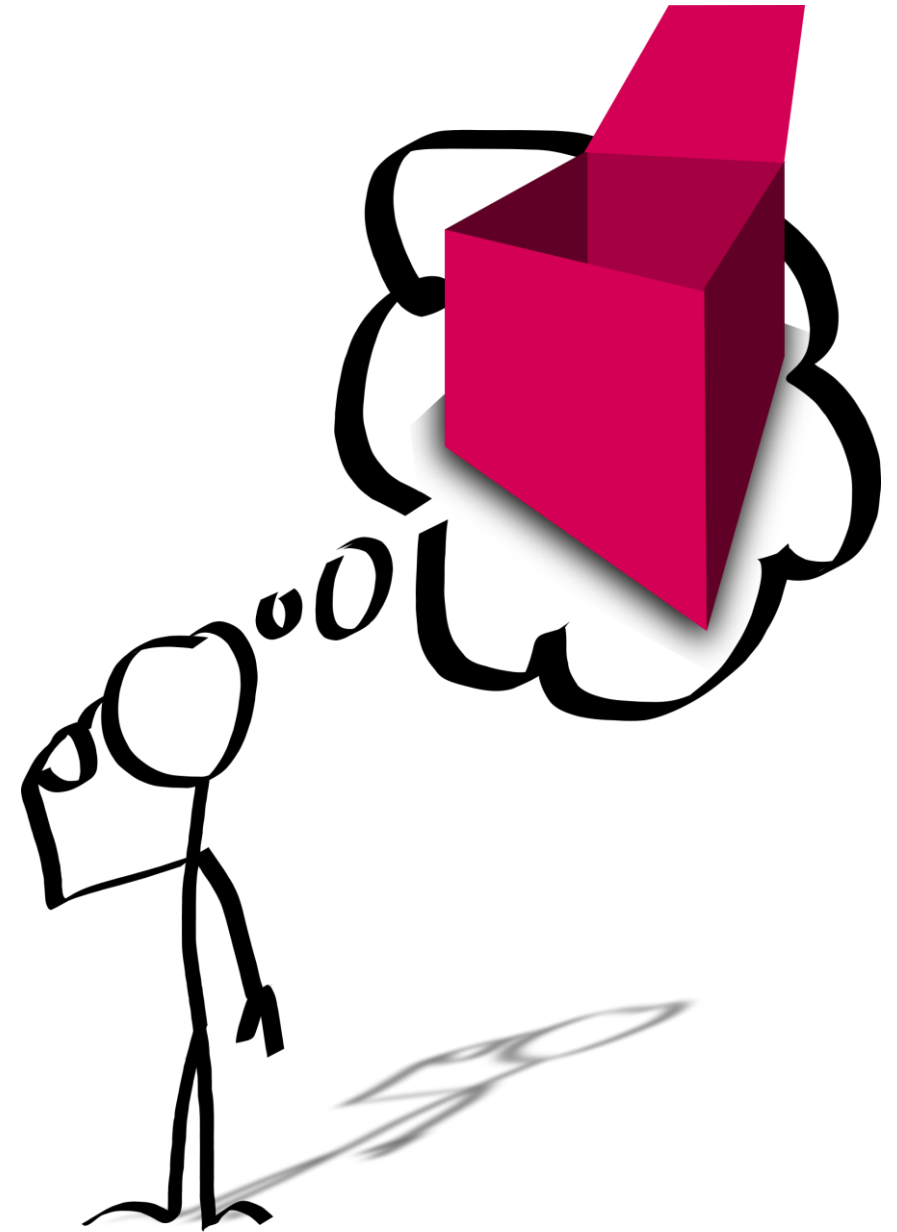
# Change idea: Cambridge Autism service – pre- assessment sheet



- Address anticipatory anxiety ✓
- Benefit of clear, unambiguous information ✓
- Suggest opportunity for reinforcing understanding

Questions,  
thoughts,  
comments???

---



# Hearing from patients versus learning from patients

Hearing from patients	Learning from patients
Tell us what you think (on our terms)	Tell us what matters on your terms
Gives us information to go away and review	Can we start a conversation with you?
Tells us how we've cared for you	Seeks wider lessons for everyone
Was what we did good/bad/OK?	What could we do entirely differently?

# Hearing from patients versus learning from patients

<b>Hearing from patients</b>	<b>Learning from patients</b>
Tell us what you think (on our terms)	Tell us what matters on your terms
Gives us information to go away and review	Can we start a conversation with you?
Tells us how we've cared for you	Seeks wider lessons for everyone
Was what we did good/bad/OK?	What could we do entirely differently?

# From testing to implementing

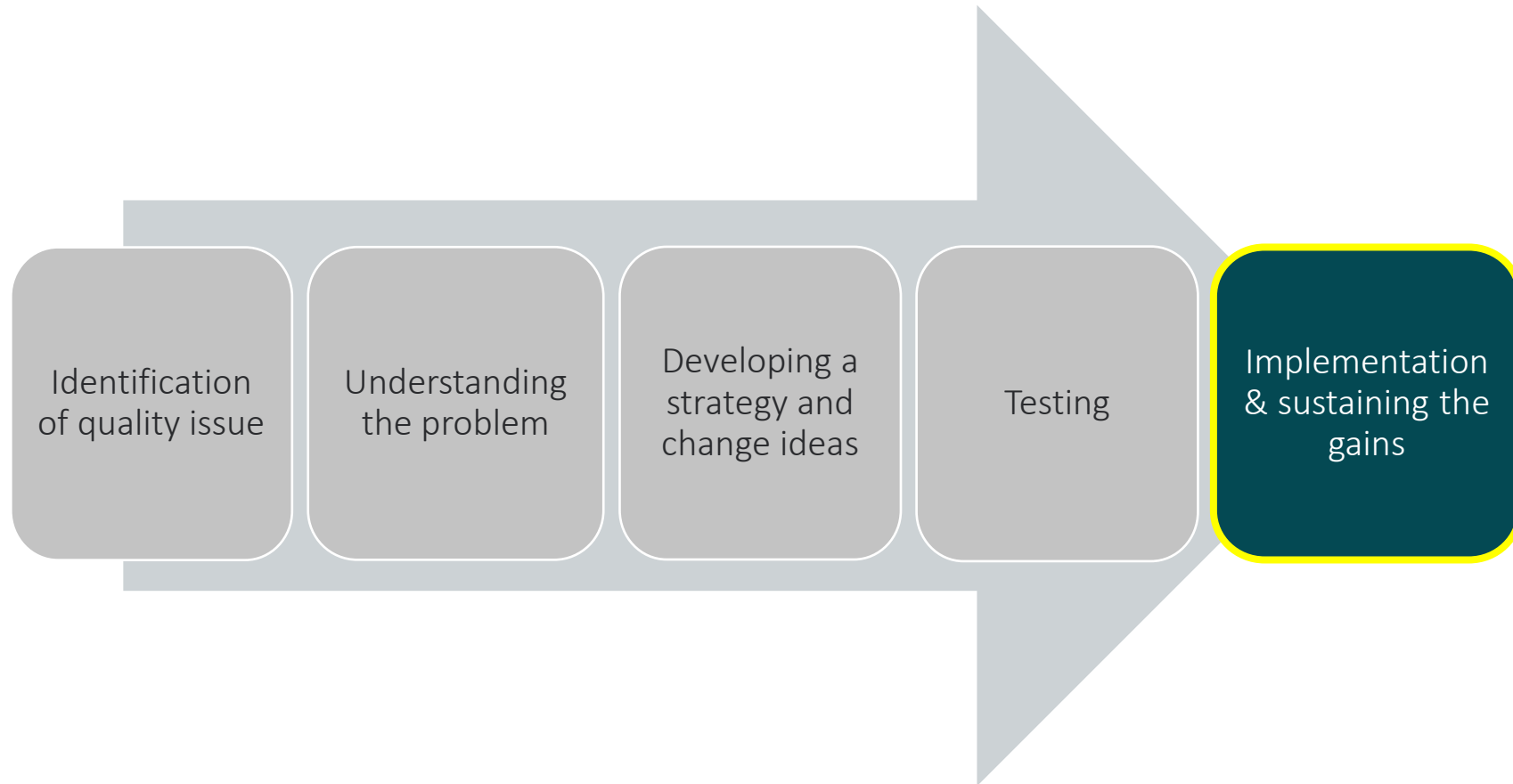


**Renata Souza**

Senior Quality Improvement Advisor

National Collaborating Centre for Mental Health

# Applying Quality Improvement



# What is Implementation?

- You've tested changes to find the ideas that work.
- You've developed a high degree of belief that your changes work and now, it's about holding onto that, and really embedding it into your practice.
- Implementation is about making a change a part of your day-to-day operation of your system.
- A great way of testing how embedded your changes are, is to ask yourself: *how confident are you that the change you've made would continue even if, you or your leads were away from the team, for a month?*



# ...And what do we mean

- Naturally, your services are very busy, so...
  - how do you standardise your changes?
  - how do you document it so that, it becomes policy and protocol?
  - how do you skill up and train new staff coming into your service, to the new way of doing things?
- Draw on your relationships to share and spread this learning.



# Implementation action plan

- Some of you may not be at the implementation stage however, it's helpful to think about the steps to consider, when you get to this stage.
- In your teams, please discuss and begin completing the Implementation Action Plan provided on your tables.

The form is titled "Implementation action plan" and is part of the "Demand, Capacity & Flow Quality Improvement Collaborative" materials. It includes fields for "Organisation:", "Team:", and "Change you are implementing:". Below these is a section titled "1. Standardisation and documentation" with three questions: "To what extent have you standardised the new ways of working developed through your project?", "Where are these new ways of working written down and saved?", and "Have relevant policies/documents been updated?". There is also a section for "Any outstanding actions to complete in this area?". The form is adapted from the East London NHS Foundation Trust template and is page 1 of 1.

# Feedback and close

- We value your feedback as this helps us to continue to improve these events.
- **Please use the QR displayed here,** or the paper copies on your tables.

