



**Connect Somerset is a partnership between Somerset Council, Somerset NHS, Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprises, and Schools, Colleges, Early Years settings, and more**

# Importance of communities...

- “Building community power is essential... for two reasons.  
First, tackling deprivation is urgent, so we need to harness and mobilise every contribution that can be made and there are **resources, relationships, assets, energy** and **compassion** to tap into in neighbourhoods.  
Second, **community life can reach parts that the state cannot**, and provide the relationships, purpose and connection that make it more likely that life goes well.
- “But this is not about the state getting out of the way. **This work will only succeed where community power meets a like-minded local state.** That requires an openness to shifting culture and ethos toward more relational, human centred and no-wrong-door ways of working that support people to get the help they need when they need it, rather than being told to come back when a threshold has been surpassed. It also requires a commitment to **building community wealth and power**, to make a sustained impact on reducing hardship.”



# Living in Somerset

**15% live with depression**

**14% of children live in low-income families**

**19% have a long-term health problem or disability**

**11% of adults identify themselves as carers**

**20% do not have access to a car**

**9% live in a deprived neighbourhood**

**90% of families on Universal Credit cannot afford basics**

**62% of adults are obese or overweight**

**Inequality in life expectancy is 6 years for men and 5 years for woman**



# Context



**Next steps for integrating primary care: Fuller Stocktake report**

Commissioned by NHS England and NHS Improvement from Dr Claire Fuller, CEO (designate) Surrey Heartlands ICS

MAY 2022

**The Hewitt Review**

An independent review of integrated care systems


Rt Hon Patricia Hewitt

Published 4 April 2023




**Council Plan**  
2023 - 2027


Our vision and priorities for Somerset Council



**Adult Social Care Strategy 2023-26**



Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities




Department for Education

**Early Help System Guide**

A toolkit to assist local strategic partnerships responsible for their Early Help System

March 2022  
Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities  
Department for Education



HM Government

**Family Hubs and Start for Life programme guide**

August 2022

The Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme is jointly overseen by the Department of Health and Social Care and the Department for Education.



**our SOMERSET**  
Together we care



Our ambition for a **healthier future** in Somerset  
2023-2028

INTEGRATED HEALTH AND CARE STRATEGY FOR SOMERSET



**Connect Somerset**




**Blueprint for Connect Somerset**

2023 to 2030

DRAFT Nov 23 v02




**Somerset CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S Plan**  
2024-30

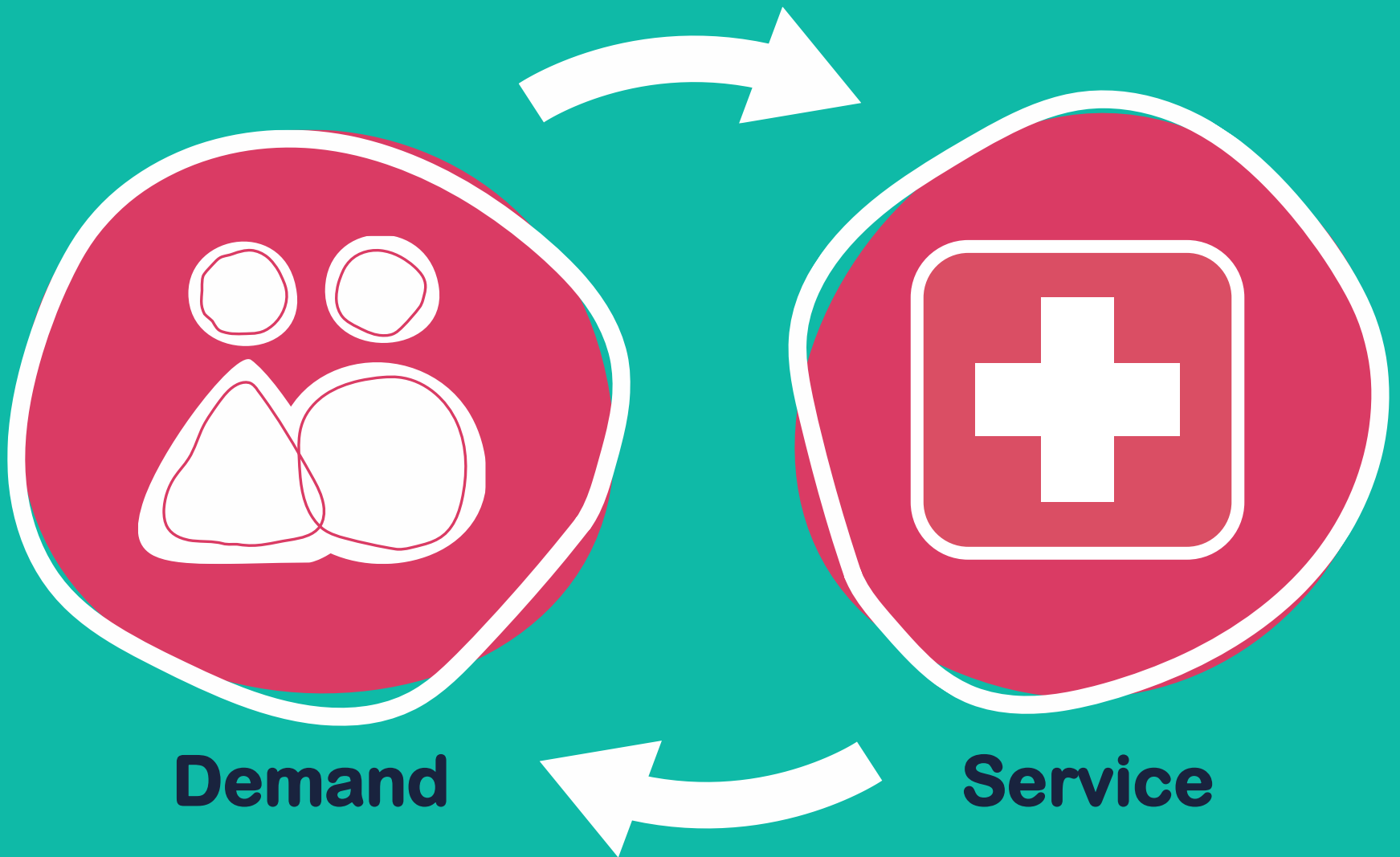


**An Education for Life Strategy for Somerset**

2023 -28



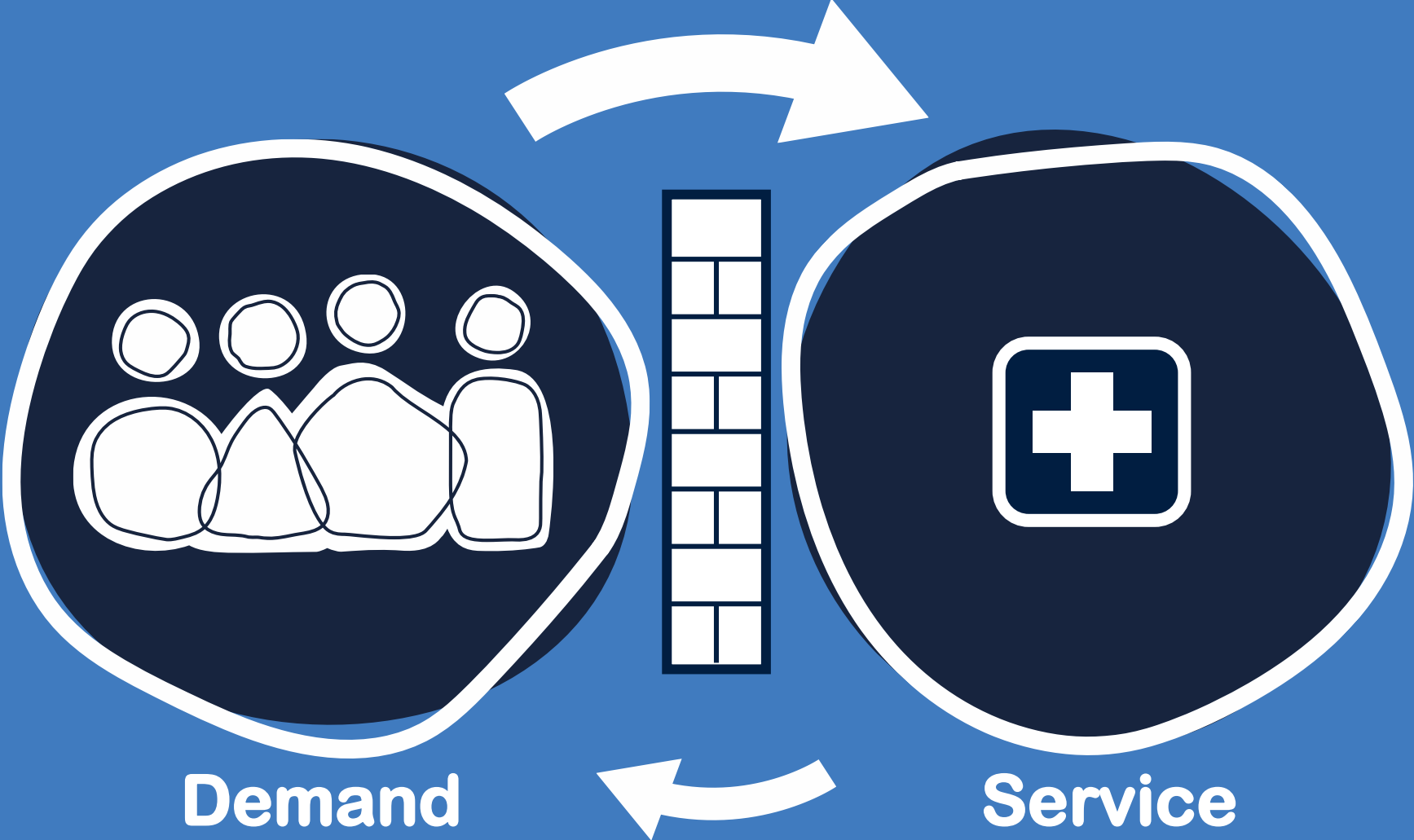
Demand



**Demand**

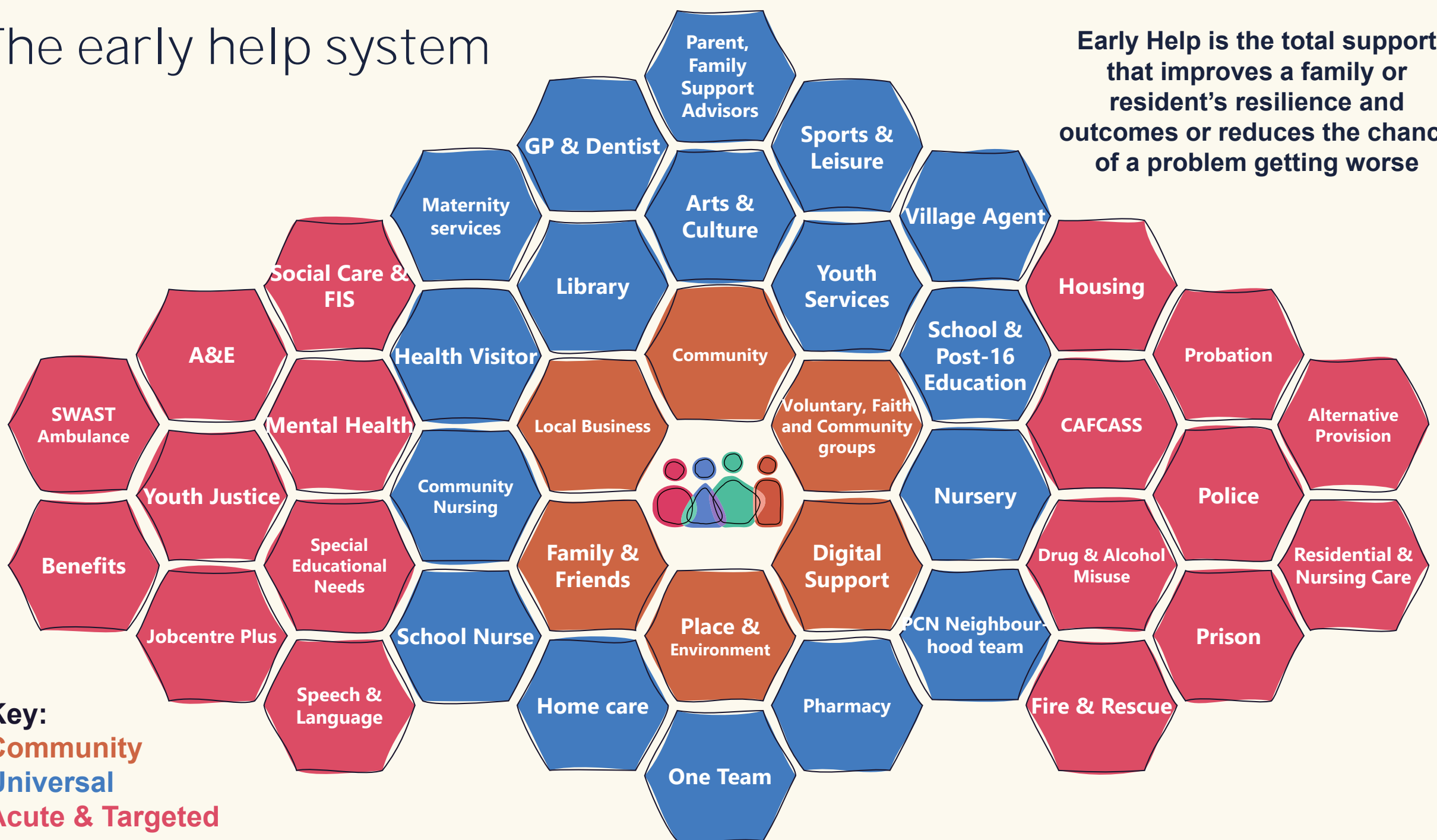
**Service**

# Challenge



# The early help system

**Early Help is the total support that improves a family or resident's resilience and outcomes or reduces the chance of a problem getting worse**



**Key:**  
**Community**  
**Universal**  
**Acute & Targeted**



# Why talk about systems?

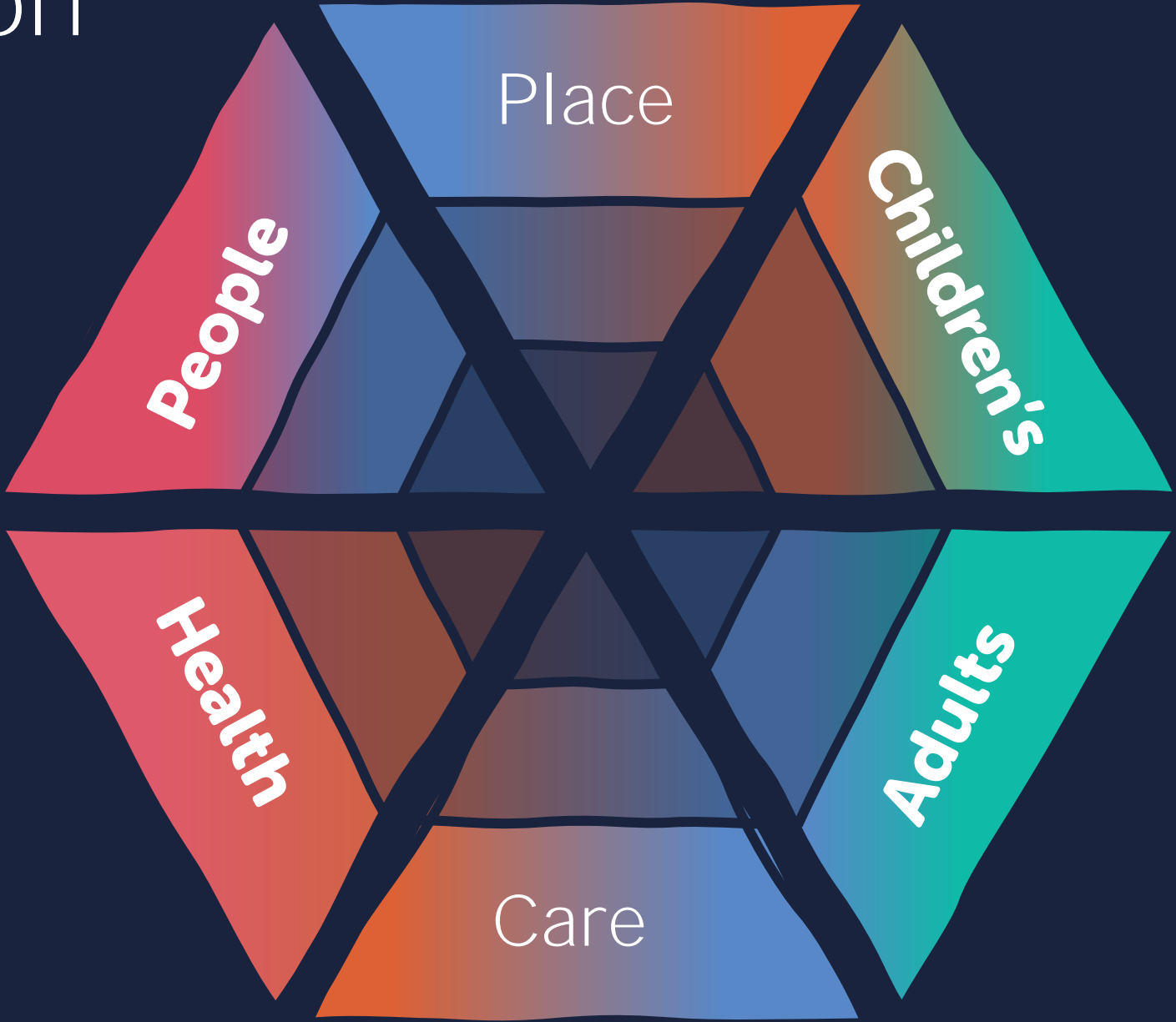
- Dr Ackoff's example of a car
- Let's build the best car in the world. Take the best brakes, best controls, best tyres, best gearbox, etc and put it together.
- Is this the best car? Does it even work?
  
- How do we manage services vs the system?
- It can be counter-intuitive, but...

**The system makes as much of a difference as individual services**





# Integration



# Key messages

1

**Help more** residents and help them **earlier**

2

Support **schools** and **other services** to be at centre of their community and draw on community resources

3

Enable residents and their families to be **resilient** and **connected** to their community

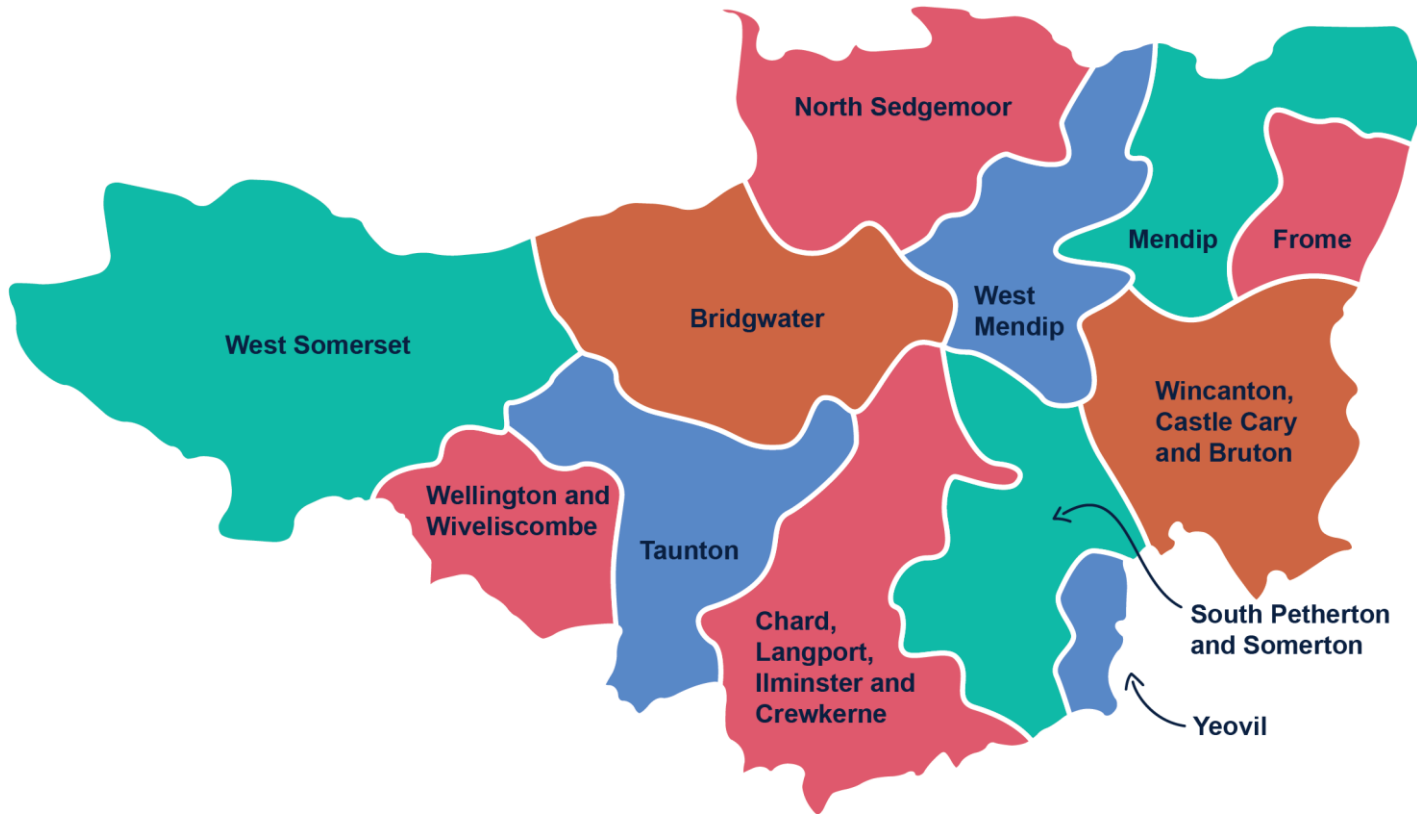
4

Develop **neighbourhood** working, **integrate** services and support, **closer to home**

5

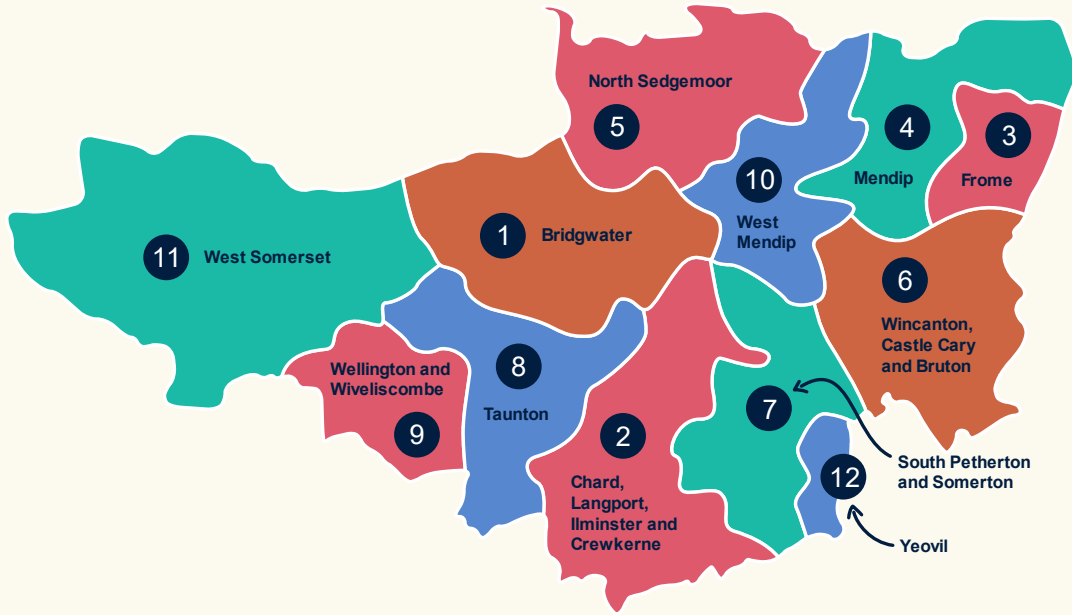
Improve residents' **lives**, reduce **inequality** and reduce **demand** for expensive acute services

# Neighbourhoods



- Coterminous with Adult Services and Health **neighbourhoods**
- Working very closely with **Local Community Networks** and **School Clusters**
- Aligned with **Primary Care Networks**
- Best alignment with system to maximise integration and wrap around families and residents

# Find your Champion



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**West Somerset**  
– Continuing the partnership with Living Better Primary Care Network, CCS Village Agents and key education and health services to provide a health and well-being hub.

**Bridgwater** – Working with the Bridgwater Bay Primary Care Network and Social Care to connect Health Coaches, community provisions and local community spaces to enhance and compliment the provision on offer to residents.

**North Sedgemoor** – Working closely with the Wessex Learning Trust to develop the Team Around the School model and to utilise the community hubs and spokes in the neighbourhood to support local key priorities, enabling statutory and community services to come together to work as one.

**West Mendip** – Working with Crispin and The Blue School to identify gaps in parenting offer and establish new provision. Creating links between early years, youth and adult provision across statutory, council, school, health and Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise to promote a whole-family approach.

**Mendip** – Linking Parent Family Support Advisers and the Family Intervention Service to the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise, enabling the delivery of a cohesive support package to parents and families.

**Connect Somerset Champions are working on lots of priorities to support their local neighbourhoods. Here are a few examples...**

**Frome** – Leading the Children & Young People Mental Health Forum meetings to support networking and partnership working.

**Wincanton, Castle Cary and Bruton** – Working on alternative provision for Children and Young People not attending school due to Social Emotional Mental Health needs.

**Wellington and Wiveliscombe** – Leading the development of the Kings Arms Early Intervention Hub within the community including promoting engagement from statutory services to extending their offer into the heart of the community.

**Taunton** – Supporting the Professional Practitioner Pilot with the Family Intervention Services in Pyrland and Monkton Wood Academy.

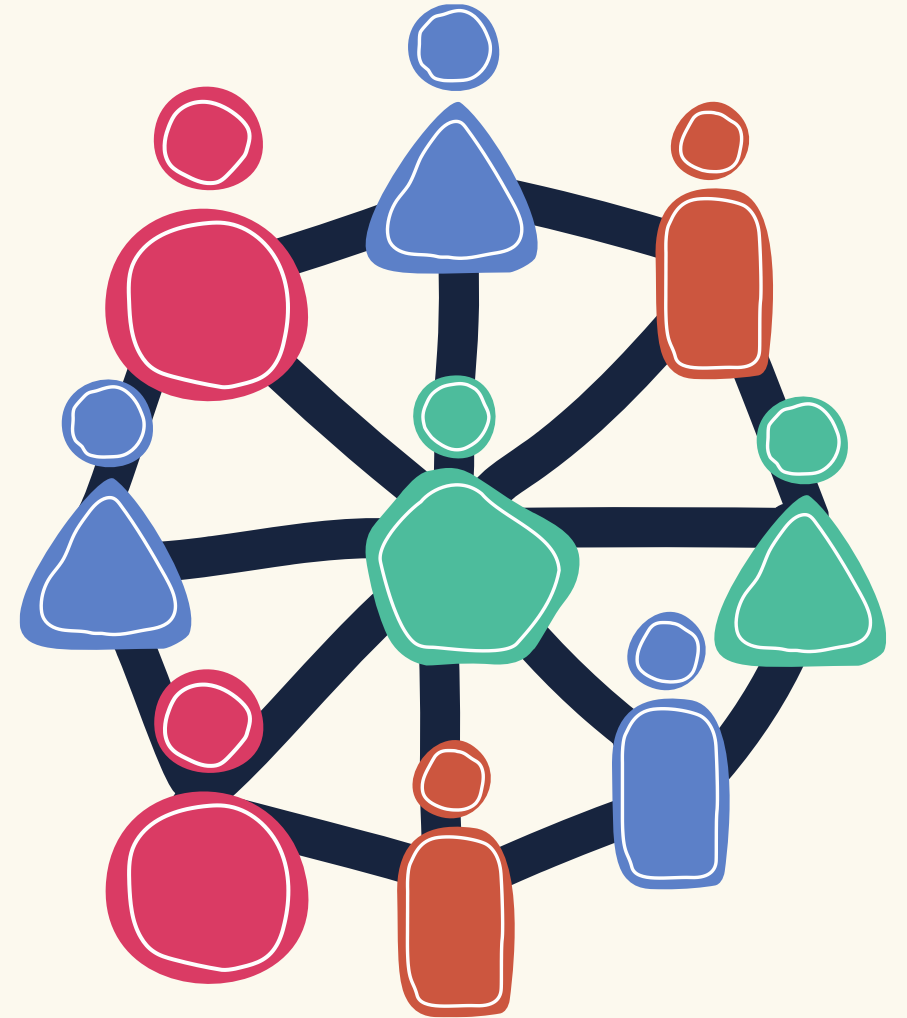
**Chard, Langport, Ilminster and Crewkerne** – Strategically enabling Community Leaders to focus on Early Years and the Cradle to Career initiative.

**Yeovil** – Supporting the County Lines Creative Project in partnership with Yeovil College and Bucklers Mead Academy

**South Petherton and Somerton** – Enabling health and social care partners to use the Martock Information Centre and other hubs, schools and community venues to meet people within their community, reducing travel anxiety and bringing more services closer to families.

# Fantastic local hubs and resources

- 100 **Warm Welcome** hubs
- 273 **Schools** and **Colleges**
- **Community Hubs**, Talking Cafés, etc
- 18 **Local Community Networks**
- 13 **Primary Care Networks** and Adult Social Care **Neighbourhoods**
- 2760 registered **charities** with 10,300 **volunteers**
- **Parent, Family Support Advisers**, **Village agents**, **Community Agents**, **One Teams**
- **Health Connections**, Social Prescribing **Link Workers**, **Health Coaches**
- Public services in **schools** and **early years** settings, **GP surgeries**, **libraries**, **social care**, **hospitals** and **community settings**, **health visiting**, **police**, etc





# So what does Connect Somerset add?

1. Champion **capacity** to join up the public sector delivery, including schools, and connect to the voluntary, faith and community sectors, and lead local culture change
2. Build around **schools** as anchors of their communities and connect them to local resources
3. **Coordinate** and make most of local resources, services and hubs
4. **More early help**, drop-ins and support, especially where there are gaps in **rural areas**
5. Reduce **barriers** to working together – such as process, IT and data sharing
6. Bring together our databases of local resources – one place to **search**
7. **Integrate** health and care, children and adults, people and place where it makes sense
8. **Foundation** for more services to move to local delivery – closer to home





# Key



Anchors in the community



Universal early help offer

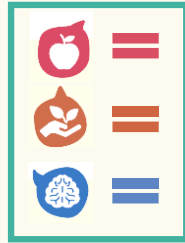


Professionals & Community in same Connect Somerset team



**Connect Somerset**

# Early help in the community



#Help4All



Shared data  
Case management  
Community resources  
Transform



Relationship based  
Trauma aware  
Whole family working  
Safeguarding  
Personalised support  
Key worker



12 Champions



Investment in communities

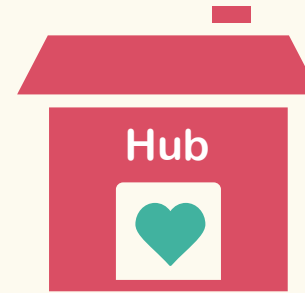


Identify who needs help



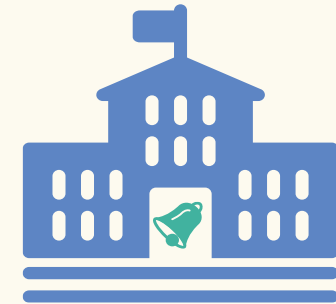
**GPs**

Social prescribing



**100 Hubs**

Drop-ins in rural areas e.g. SEND



**Schools**

Team around the School

Hubs

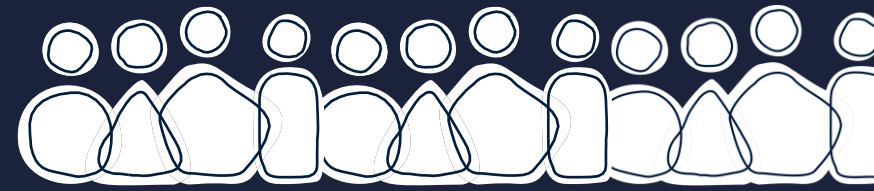
One Team

Warm Welcome

Community Café

Local Community Network

# What can professionals do?



1. We focus on **strengthening relationships** between professionals and with residents. People, processes and systems are **caring**.
2. We **listen to families and residents** – to understand what matters for them, to build on what is already working well and to design services, based on what we learn from individuals and their communities.
3. We spend **less time on diagnosis**, assessments and referrals – and **more time helping** when people need it, stepping outside of our comfort zone.
4. We use **relationship based** and **trauma aware** practice, **personalised support** (personalised care) and **whole family working**. Everyone can be a **key worker** for a family or resident.
5. Support and services will increasingly be based in **neighbourhoods** and **community hubs** – we work together across geographic and professional boundaries and with communities, recognising the challenges of **rurality**.
6. We recognise that **communities have different strengths** and **needs** and work flexibly to support both individuals and communities.
7. We **share data** and **intelligence** so we can offer more help to those most in need, and children don't slip through the net.
8. As a system by **supporting earlier**, the need for acute services will reduce over time, offering more investment early in communities and **reducing inequalities** across Somerset.

# #Help4All

- Easy to digest universal **offer of early help** that's available to all residents
- Building **resilience** for families and residents
- Includes support with cost-of-living crisis, #LearnForLove parenting support, Council and partners' advice and guidance
- **All professionals have conversations with families** about what's available to help, and help them to access that support

[www.ConnectSomerset.org.uk/Help4All](http://www.ConnectSomerset.org.uk/Help4All)

**#Help4All** **Connect Somerset**

Everyone is impacted by the cost-of-living rising which can put extra pressure on families. Somerset voluntary, community and public services are here to help. We've listed some of the most popular services and support that may be useful for you to know about.  
[www.connectsomerset.org.uk](http://www.connectsomerset.org.uk)

**Money** - Contact **Citizens Advice** via email or use the daytime/evening Adviceline on **0800 278 7842** for advice on debt, energy costs, benefits. If you need immediate money for food or heating, you can access the **Somerset Household Support Fund**, professionals can help you with this, if required. You can find a nearby **warm welcome** space, or **food and activities** for eligible children at weekends. You can also seek help with **housing benefit**, **council tax reduction**, **claiming a discretionary award** and **public and community transport**. As well as support with **life long learning** and **finding and keeping a job**.

**Food** - Find your local food bank (for a professional). Children and young people under 16 and Food (you will have a child under 4, you may be eligible for a free school meal).

**Home** - If you are worried about your home, as you can, as we offer help. In an emergency you can call 0800 278 7842.

**Mental health** - Open Mind Somerset also be accessed through 01823 276 892 or online. Support for people is available through the Tellmi app. For guides and counselling see **SASP**. You can also make a referral to **Young Somerset**.

**Domestic abuse** - If you or your family are affected by domestic abuse, you can get help from **Somerset Domestic Abuse Service** or call 0800 69 49 999 and choose option 2.

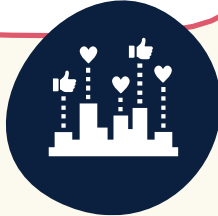
**Drugs or alcohol** - There is advice and support for young people, adults, and their family members if substance misuse is a problem. Contact **Somerset Drug & Alcohol Service** or phone 0300 303 8788 any time.

**Parenting** - Parents, carers and grandparents can **#LearnForLove** (access code: dragon) to support children from bump to teenager. **Young Somerset** also offer parent workshops and wider parent led work with mental health and early years.

**Get free support and advice on:**

- £ (Money)
- 🍏 (Food)
- 🏠 (Home)
- 🧠 (Mental health)
- 🚨 (Domestic abuse)
- 🌿 (Drugs or alcohol)
- 👤 (Parenting)

**Connect** to local community resources and Champions



**Relational practice** between professionals - don't wait for a meeting to call



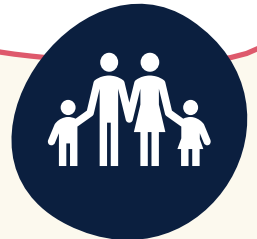
**Named professionals** linked to each school



# Team Around the School



**Wrap help around families as early as possible**



**Transform** data sharing and contacts



Team Around the **Child** meetings as needed



Professional Practitioners in school pilot

Frequent Team around School meetings

FIS professional practitioners deployed to 12 secondaries

# Transform Family View

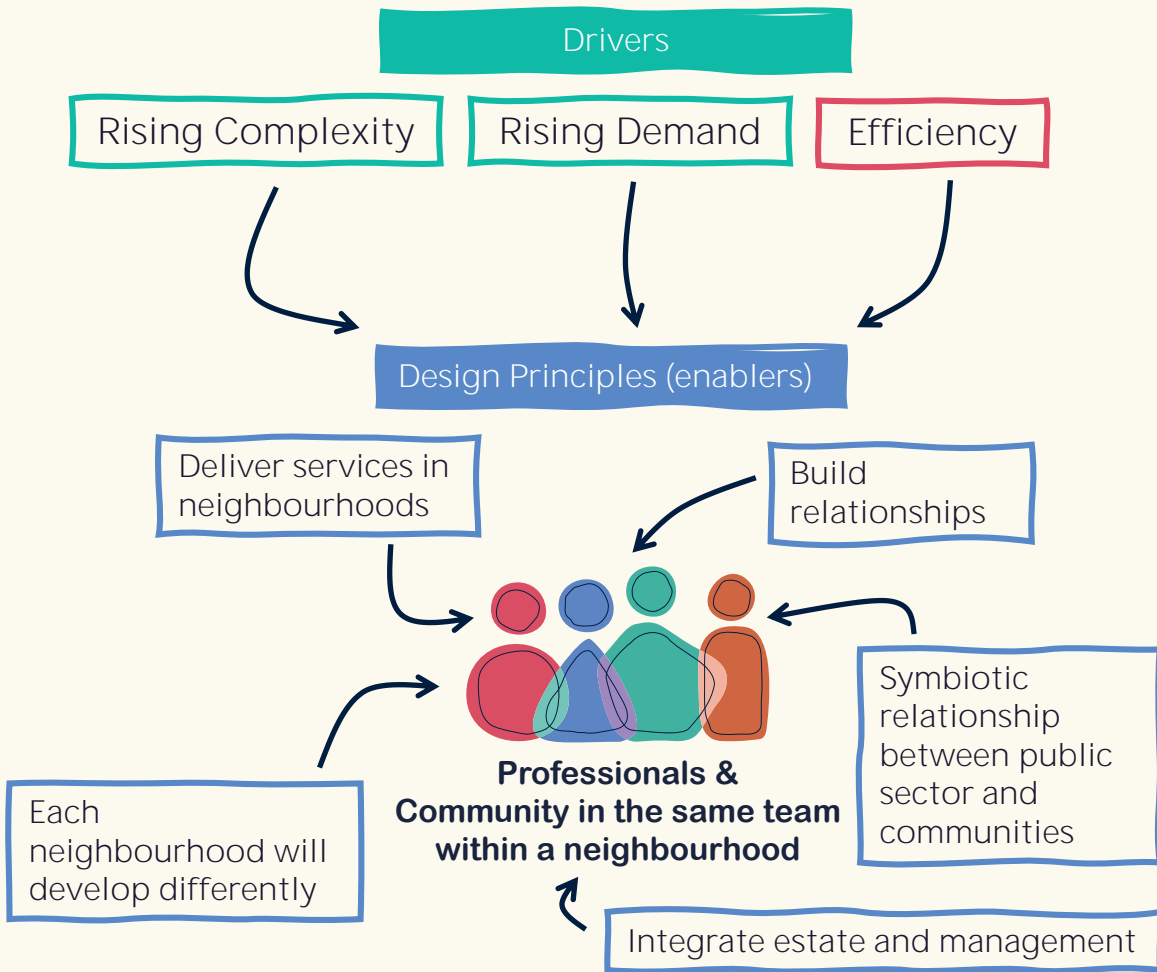
The screenshot shows the 'OVERVIEW' page of the Transform Family View App. The header includes the Somerset Council logo, the app name, and a search bar. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'PERSONAL DETAILS' (Contact Details, Address, Ethnicity, Gender, Religion, Allocated Case Worker, GP Practice, Education Establishment, Designated Safeguarding Lead), 'FLAGS' (Open C&F Assessment, Family Intervention Service Case, Referral to Family Intervention Service, Open to Social Care, SEND/CWD, Average of less than 50% attendance, Average of less than 90% attendance, Early Help Assessment (EHA), Physical health needs), and 'TIMELINE' (Child and Family Assessment (C&F Assessment), Open to Social Care, Average of less than 50% this academic year, Average of less than 90% this academic year, Referral to Family Intervention Service (FIS), Family Intervention Service Case). The page also shows a 'Date Last Refreshed: 11/07/2024' and a 'Name / DOB redacted 2012 (12 years old)'.

The screenshot shows the 'CONTACT DETAILS' page of the Transform Family View App. The header includes the Somerset Council logo, the app name, and a search bar. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'SOCIAL CARE & EARLY HELP' (Name, Job Role, Team, Location, Email, Team Email, Pho), 'GP' (GP Practice, NHS Number, GP Name, GP Address, Email), 'SCHOOL' (Education Establishment, Address, Phone, Email, Designated Safeguarding Lead, Designated Safeguarding Lead Email, Headteacher, Headteacher Email), and 'OTHER' (Organisation, Name, Job Role, Email, Phone). The page also shows a 'Date Last Refreshed: 12/07/2024' and a 'Name / DOB redacted 2012 (12 years old)'. The contact details for Lilly Test-01/02/2015 (9 years old) are displayed.

- Transform Family View is Somerset's solution to **joining-up** fragmented children's services data systems
- It surfaces **data in one place**, joining up the early help system, by showing involvements with other professionals
- It identifies **risk, harm and threat**

- It is fully **automated**, pulling data in from multiple sources, matching the single individual's vulnerabilities to their family members
- It gives a **holistic view of the family's complexities** in one place for the first time

# Neighbourhoods



Working in partnership – to co-ordinate services, local activity, networks and create opportunities to bring people together



Community and resident led – co-designing and evolving the 100-hub model with our residents and communities



Growing stronger communities – able to support one another, enabled by a strong VCFSE offer. Residents and professionals understand local resources



Integrated services, multi-disciplinary teams – relationship and strengths-based approached that tackle issues holistically



A workforce who feel connected – who are well networked working flexibly in neighbourhoods across physical and virtual space



Preventing issues arising by addressing them early – tackling inequality, through more integrated public services and more resilient local communities



# Neighbourhood Teams

**DRAFT**

## The right spatial level for effective delivery



- 1 x Somerset**
- 4 x Areas**
- 6 x Localities**
- 12 x Neighbourhoods**

Note that neighbourhoods and localities are for operational delivery, whilst local community networks are for engagement and governance

### Area & Locality

- Social work and FIS locality teams
- Relationship managers
- Inclusion partnership managers
- Family safeguarding
- Children with disabilities early support
- Youth justice

### Neighbourhood FY24/25

- Connect Somerset Champion
- FIS team leader and team
- Education support teams
- CCS village and community agents
- Parent and Family Support Advisers

### Neighbourhood FUTURE ??

- Link to Primary Care Network team?
- Link to Adult services?
- Link to Mental Health?
- Health Visiting and School Nursing?
- One Team?
- Housing?
- Local VCFSE?



# What are community hubs?

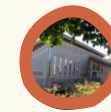


- **A significant change** in the way we respond to need through local solutions and prevention
- A way to **manage long term demand** and **reduce duplication** in service delivery to reduce costs
- Hubs are where local residents feel comfortable – that might include local libraries, warm spaces or community hubs
- Hubs are **strengths-based**, multi-disciplinary, **enable** the workforce, and foster resident, family and community **connections** and **resilience**
- Driven by **data** and **insight** – identifying residents at risk and those who may benefit from early intervention
- Focused **reducing issues which drive acute need and crisis** (e.g. debt and financial hardship, evictions, domestic abuse)
- Proactively **remove barriers** and **address inequities in access, experience and outcomes** affecting our local communities
- **Evolving** in response to data, experience and learning

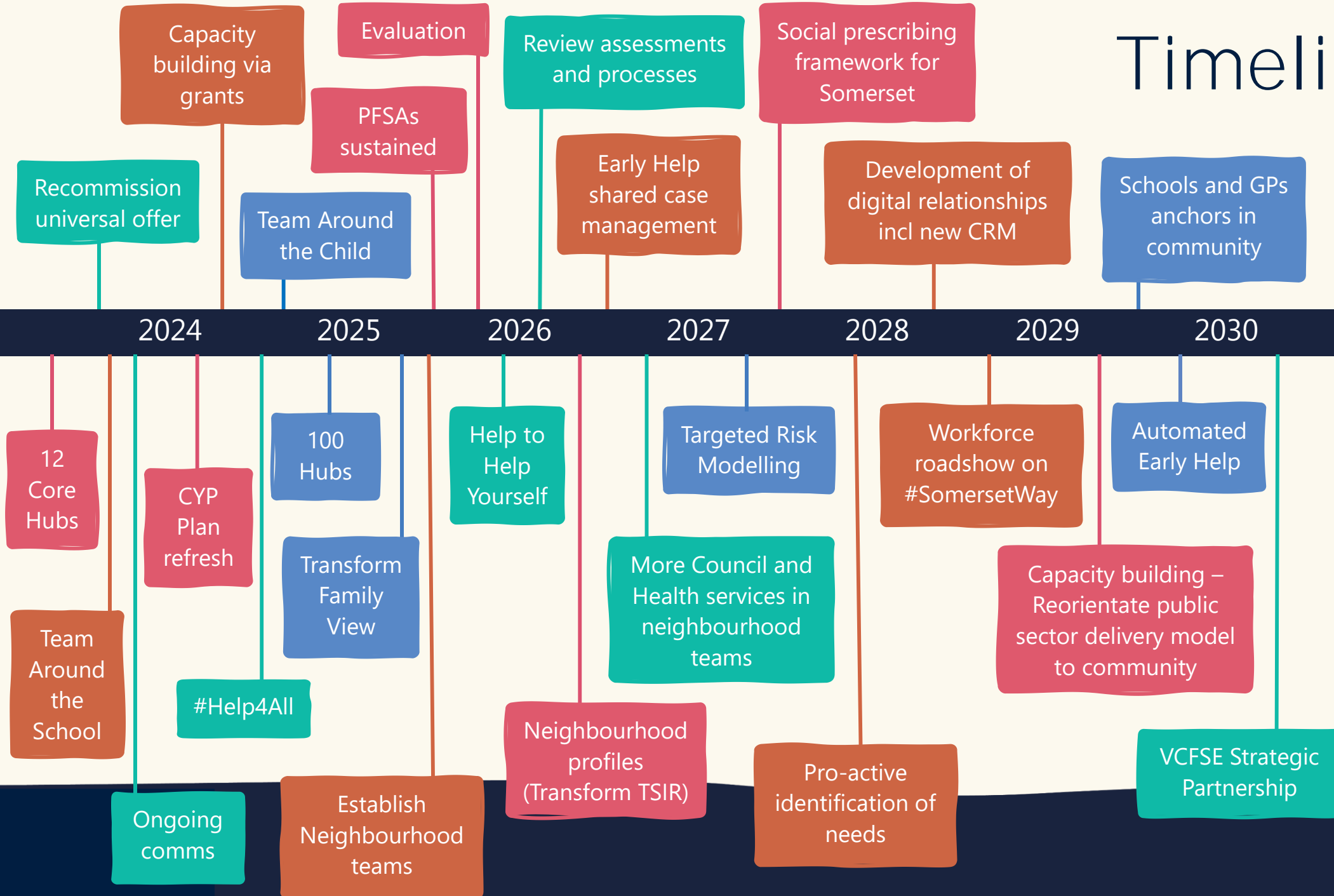


Hubs are not:

- **One stop shops** – as every area is different
- **Area offices** – although staff may have access to flexible desks
- **A new service offer** – hubs will bring existing services together



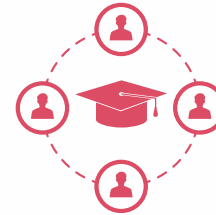
# Timeline



# Workstreams

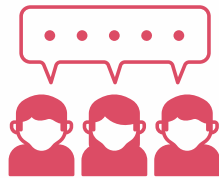
## Build neighbourhood teams

Evaluate impact



Team Around the Child (TAC)

Comms to 20-30,000 professionals

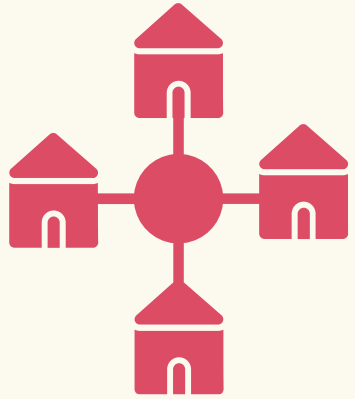


Digital Universal and SEND Local Offer

Automated Early Help



100 Hubs community offer for information, advice and support



# Build neighbourhood teams

## Steps forward...

- **Developing children's services**  
neighbourhood teams aligned with Adults, SFT and PCNs
- Piloting of the Wincanton postie knock and care pilot in partnership with Somerset partners and Royal Mail
- Pilots in Wincanton and West Somerset, bringing together workforce, e.g. Champs, FIS, SEND, PFSA, CCS Agents, Inclusion and Relationship Managers

## Still to do...

- Working with partners to map out existing provision at a neighbourhood level including 100 local hubs
- Develop Early Help processes and alignment across children's and adult services



# Team Around the Child (TAC)

## Steps forward...

- Go live of the Transform Team Around the School modules
- Go live of Transform Family View (TFV)
- Engagement and roll out of TFV with Social Care
- Local engagement with education partners on Transform
- PFSA business case and secured funding for 2024/25

## Still to do...

- Working with system partners to understand the VCFSE offer at a neighbourhood level (Community Around the School)
- Greater awareness of TAS in schools and partner organisations and building relationships between local professionals
- Further development of Transform Team Around the School module and associated products
- Sustaining PFSA funding for 2025/26+
- Considering Transform Family View for adults services



# Digital Universal and SEND Local Offer

## Steps forward...

- Development of the Connect Somerset website
- Development of the SEND Local Offer
- Creation of the SEND Local Offer Roadmap

## Still to do...

- Transform onboarding and training
- Develop Transform Strategic Insight Report through area profiling
- Roll-out of case management system including support and training
- Early help assessment built into case management
- Quality assurance of early help practice



# 100 Hubs community offer for information, advice and support

## Steps forward...

- Identified 12 Core Hubs we are working in partnership with
- Go live of Yeovil based Independent Learning Centre
- Recommission navigator/connector role, carers Service
- Commission of #LearnForLove universal parenting offer
- Coordination of #Help4ALL

## Still to do...

- Partnership working on Social Prescribing Framework for Somerset
- Supporting Social Prescribing week celebratory campaign
- Co-production of grants pot criteria and route into funding via SCF
- Co-production of ARF criteria and route into funding via SCF
- Encouraging more funding into VCFSE organisations to increase early help





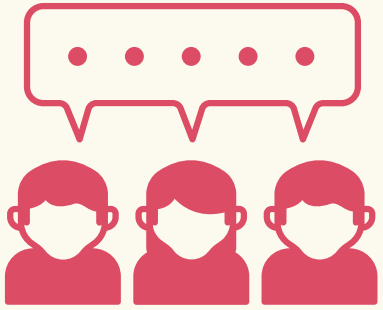
# Automated Early Help

## Steps forward...

- Development of the Transform Strategic Insight Report (TSIR)
- Engagement with education settings on Transform
- Transform training
- Transform development and onboarding
- Options appraisal drafted for shared case management options
- Consultation and engagement with partners to determine service user requirements for shared case management

## Still to do...

- Develop area profiles (TSIR) to quantify levels of vulnerability
- **H2HY digital front door solution “one version of the truth” ecosystem for information and guidance and directory of support**
- Establish CRM technology to deliver guidance
- Develop service opportunities to use new digital relationships
- Bring together and test population risk analysis (linked to area profiling), CRM and resource database



# Comms to 20,000 to 30,000 professionals

## Steps forward...

- Development of comms plan, stakeholder list and identified channels to each sector
- Weekly comms articles and blogs
- Production of digital assets
- #LearnForLove social media campaign
- #Help4All social media campaign

## Still to do...

- **Children and Young People's Plan** – early help strategy refresh
- Weekly comms to more partners and through more channels
- Communication plans for new work, e.g. community grants, transform app, #Help4All, shared case mgt tool



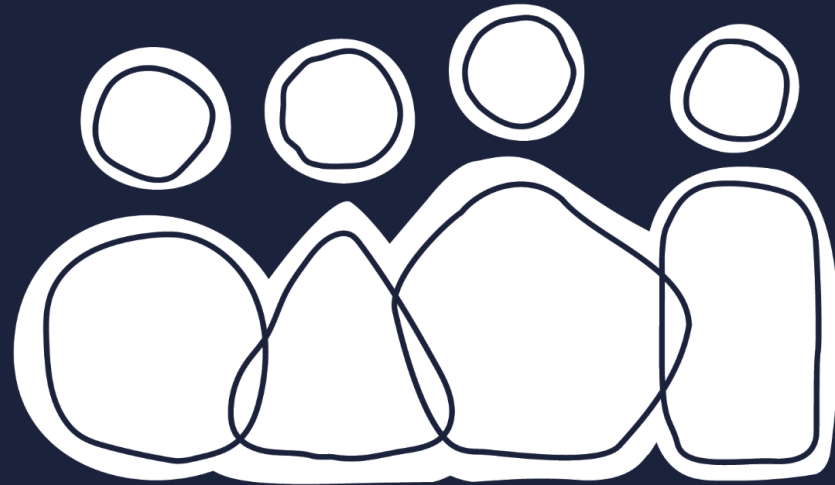
# Evaluate impact

## Steps forward...

- Commitment with ICB colleagues to collaborate to evaluate impact of early help, personalisation and community-based design
- Engagement on partner experience of Social Value Engine
- Spec drafted in the procurement of an evaluation partner

## Still to do...

- Procure an evaluation partner to support the development of a logic model
- Build in measures of impact to BAU systems
- Explore the Social Value Engine
- Meaningful engagement with service users



**Connect  
Somerset**