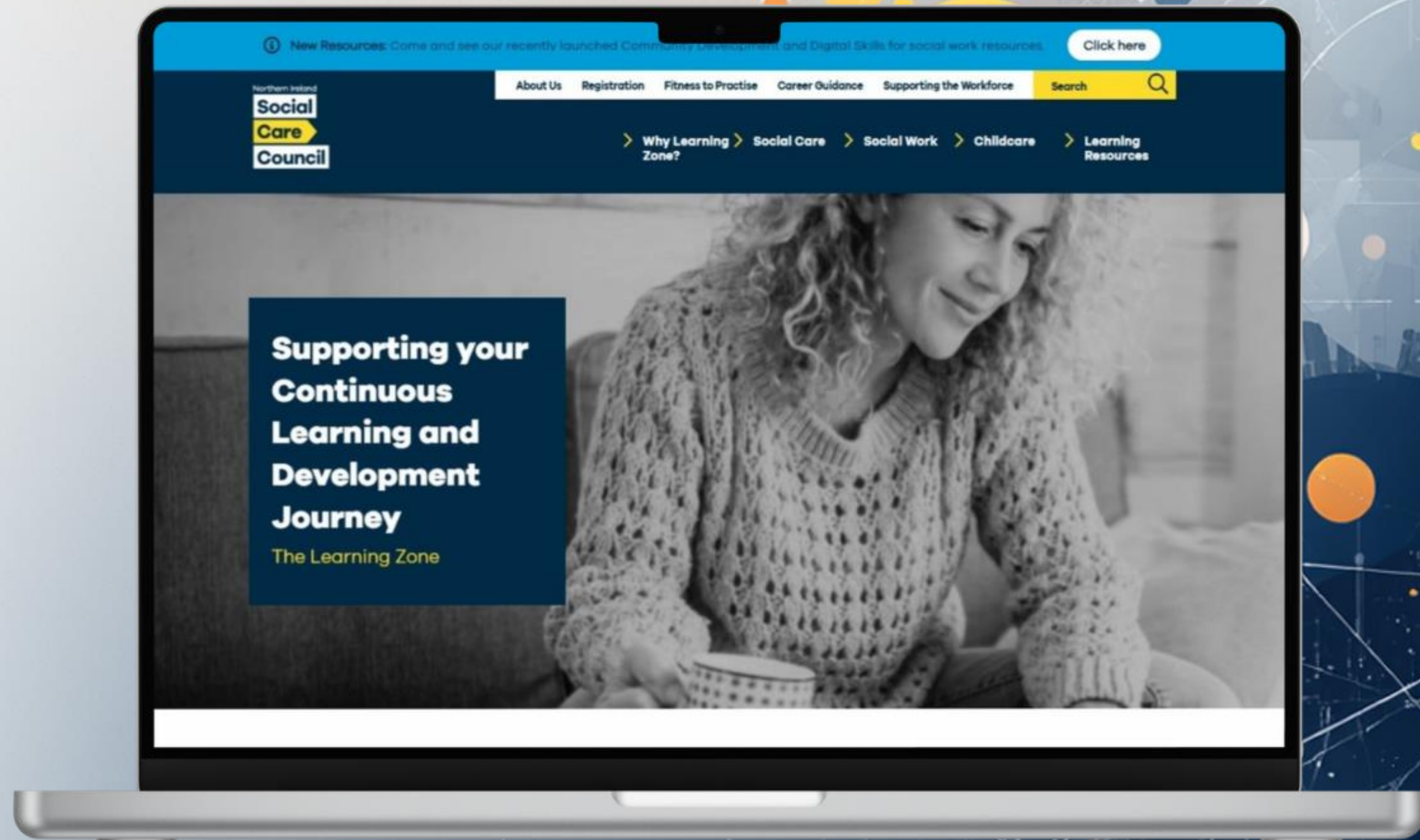


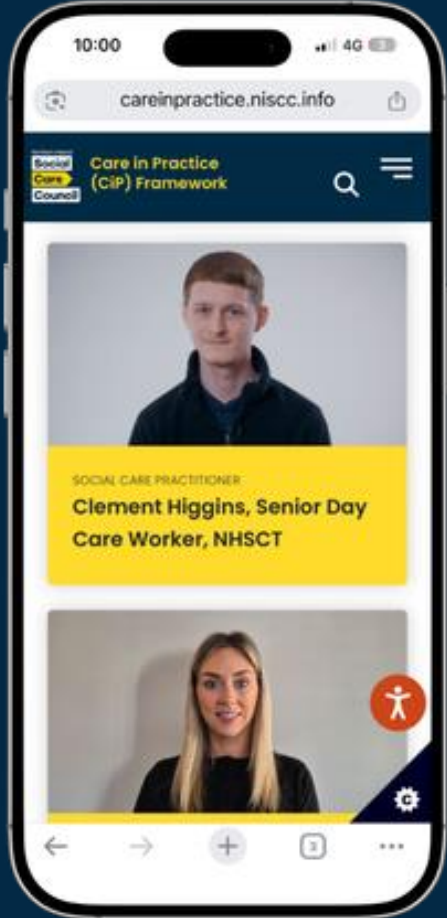
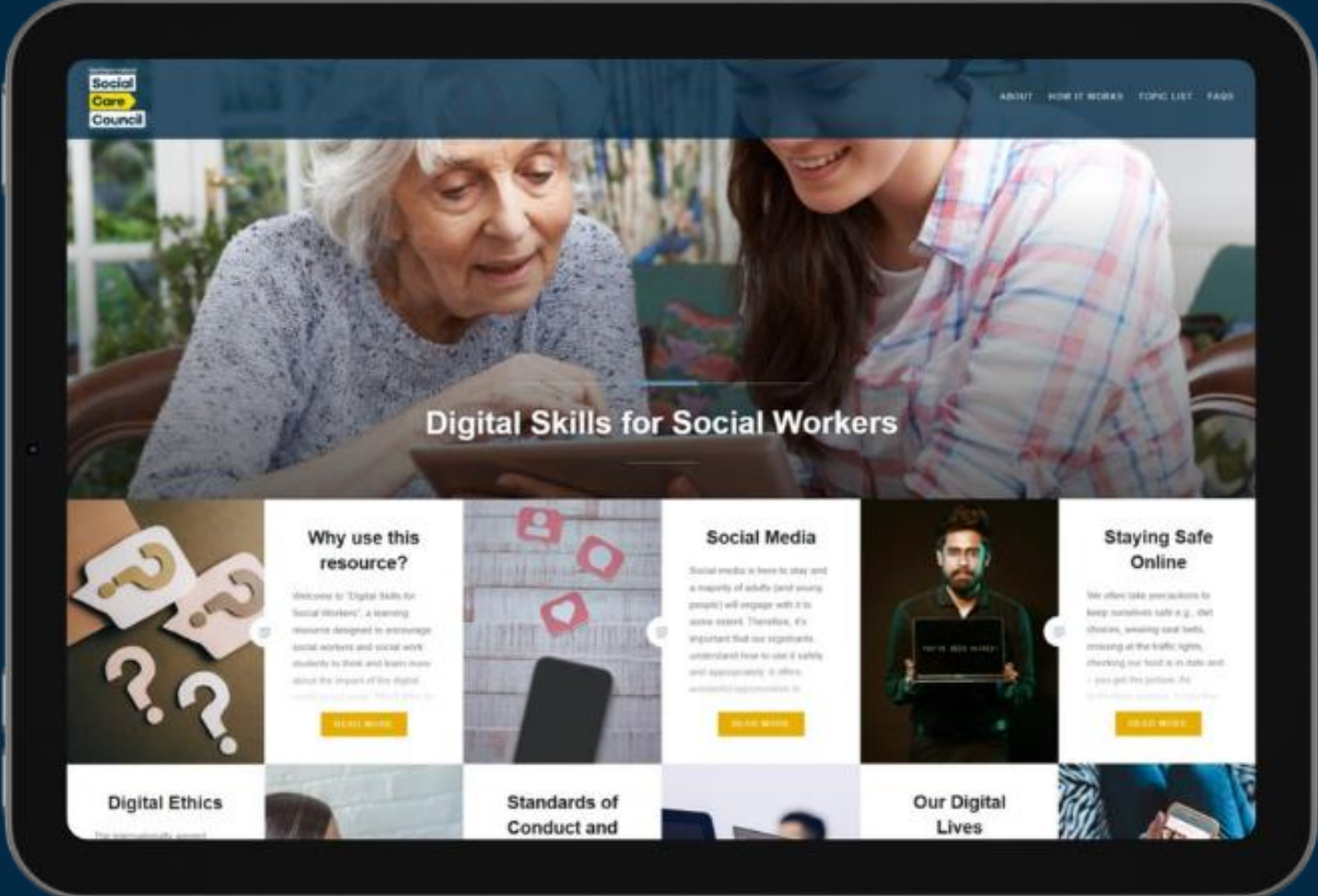
# Learning Zone

Supporting your CPL,  
recruitment and  
retention to embed  
standards and values.

**Mairead Harkin**  
Digital Learning Manager  
Social Care Managers Forum  
May 2026



# New Resources 2025-26



<https://learningzone.info>



# Learning Zone Library

**52 digital resources in  
 LZ Library**

**16 digital resources/sections in LZ  
 Library updated/republished**

Digital Learning Resources	32
Digital Guides e.g. Degree, AYE, PRTL, PiP, CiP.	8
Supporting Recruitment/Careers e.g. VBR, Careers in SW and SC	4
Other Resources/Presentations/ Lunch Time Seminars	7
Childminding Resources (Health & Safety in Childminding Setting)	1

**A Career in Social Work**

**A Career in Social Care**

**Delirium**

**Grief and Bereavement**

**Medication Management**

**Human Rights for Social Workers**

**The Healthcare Library of Northern Ireland**

**Understanding Children and Young People: 7-12 Years**

**Providing Fire Safety Awareness – Safer Together Project**

**Homelessness**

**New to Social Care/Entrance Level Social Care Practitioners**  
 Information and guidance to support new entrance level social care practitioners - those who have started in Social Care.

**Social Care Practitioner/Enhanced Social Care Practitioner**  
 Information and guidance to support Social Care Practitioners and Enhanced Social Care Practitioners currently registered with the Social Care Council.

**Social Care Manager/Leaders**  
 Information and guidance to support Social Care Managers/Leaders registered with the Social Care Council.

**Social Care Qualifications**  
 It is important to have access to the right qualifications and training. Information and guidance on qualifications including the Review of Vocational Qualification and National Occupational Standards (NOS), the NI Apprenticeship Framework and CiP Framework.

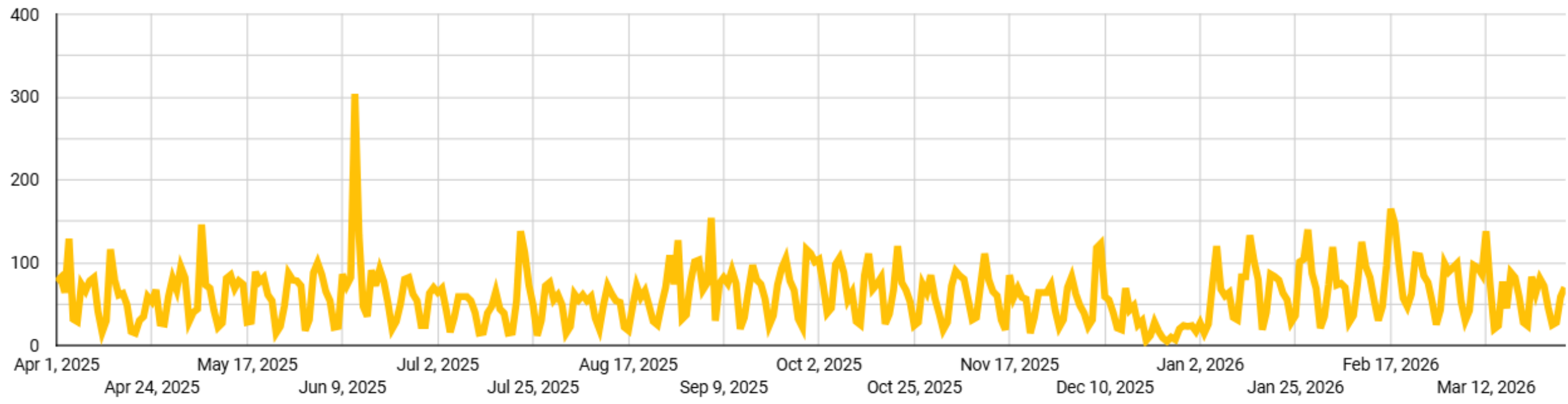
**Care in Practice (CiP) Framework**  
 Ensuring social care practitioners provide high quality, safe and effective social care practice is dependent upon a valued and supported workforce, who are appropriately trained and skilled. The CiP Framework supports continuous professional learning (CPL) and structured qualification pathways for social care practitioners and managers.

**Social Care Employer Responsibilities/ Guidance**  
 Employers have a responsibility to support employees continuous learning and development opportunities.

# Learning Zone Engagement

## Users:

Active users



**Total engaged sessions 25/26: 23,073**  
**Total LZ Users: 95,523**

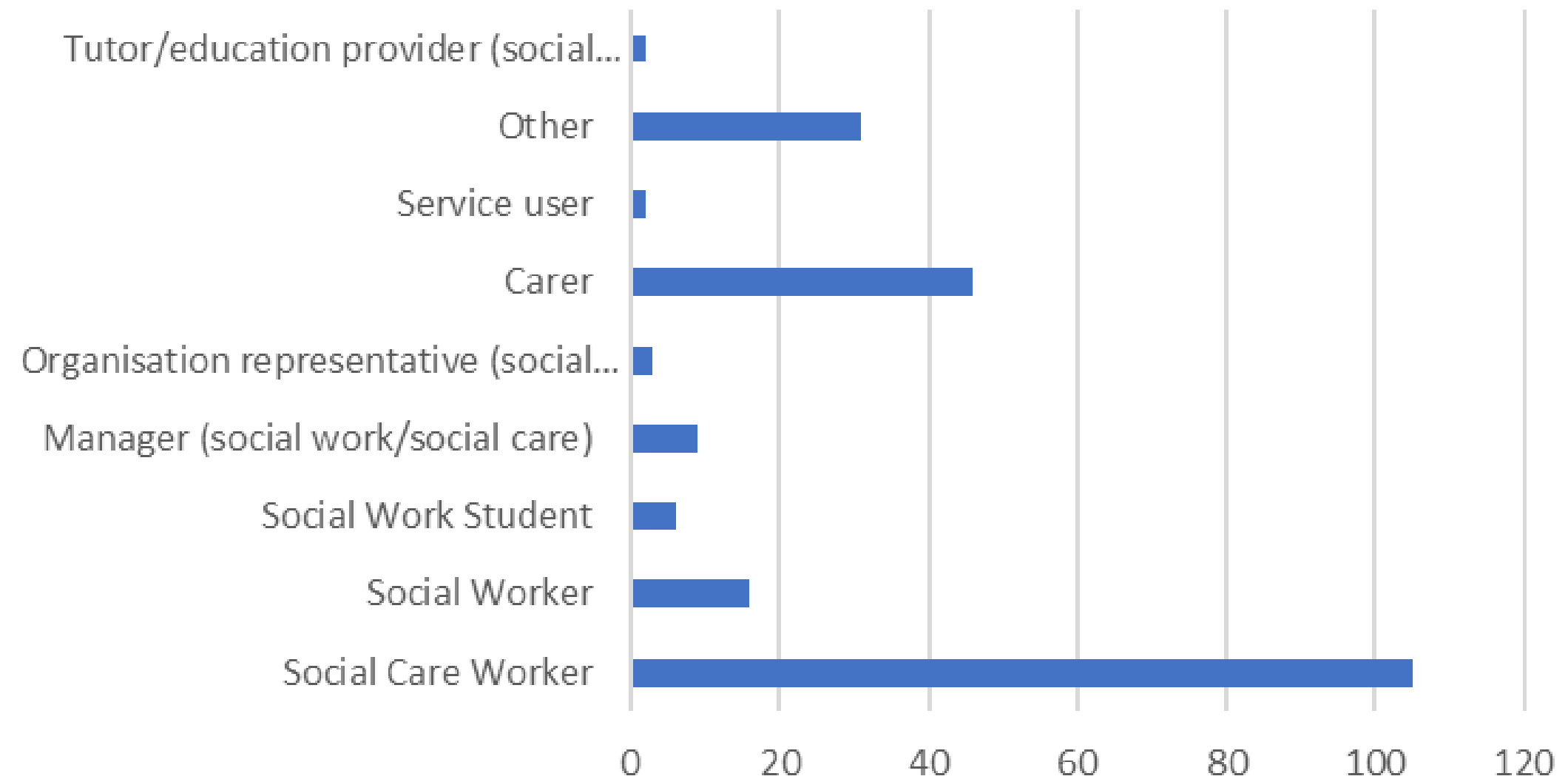


# Learning Zone Feedback

Question 1: Which of the following best describes your involvement with social work or social care?

- 47% - social care workers
- 7% - social workers
- 5% - managers
- 21% - carers\*
- 14% - other

## Involvement in Social Care or Social Work



# Learning Zone Feedback



## Questions:

- Is it useful?
- Will it help in your role?
- Would you recommend to a colleague?



## Questions re Standards:

- I'm more aware of standards, values and behaviours.
- I'm accountable and responsible for my learning.



# What you've said

## Delirium

- "I found the information provided in relation to delirium **very informative** and **will help in my work** with patients in the hospital setting".

## Eating, Drinking and Swallowing Difficulties - Dysphagia Awareness

- "**Good** content in **creating awareness** and to keep caregivers **informed of key issues** in their practice".
- "**Great help** and **interesting** course with **lots of information**".

## Grief and Bereavement

- "**Very informative.** Made you **think** about your own work environment and **reflect** on practice."

## Loneliness: The role of social care practitioner

- "The resource was **very good**"

## Medication Management

- "Scenario based questions very **detailed** and **helpful**".
- "I found this learning very **easy to navigate** and would propose no changes".
- "Learning Zone is **excellent** to brush up on medication management and **remind** myself of the 7 rights of medication competency."
- "Really good course, made you aware of how **important to attend training** to keep staff **updated**".
- "Thank you for this training, it helps us social care workers **update our knowledge and skills** on medication management".
- "The medication training course is **very informative** and helpful. It **improved my understanding** of safe medication management and **reinforced** the importance of following the **medication policy** and **procedures** at all times. "





# What you've said

## Reflective Practice for Social Care Workers

- “The case study videos had a **clear focus** and topic area related to how SCWs can **reflect** on their own **practice**. The topics were **relatable** and the accompanying questions **helpful** for learners to examine their own practice. I found this training course and resource to be **very helpful**”.

## Standards of Conduction and Practice

- “The learning zone is a **good** and **resourceful platform** for **enhancing** social care practitioner’s **performance** at work and should be made available for all social care practitioners”

## Safeguarding

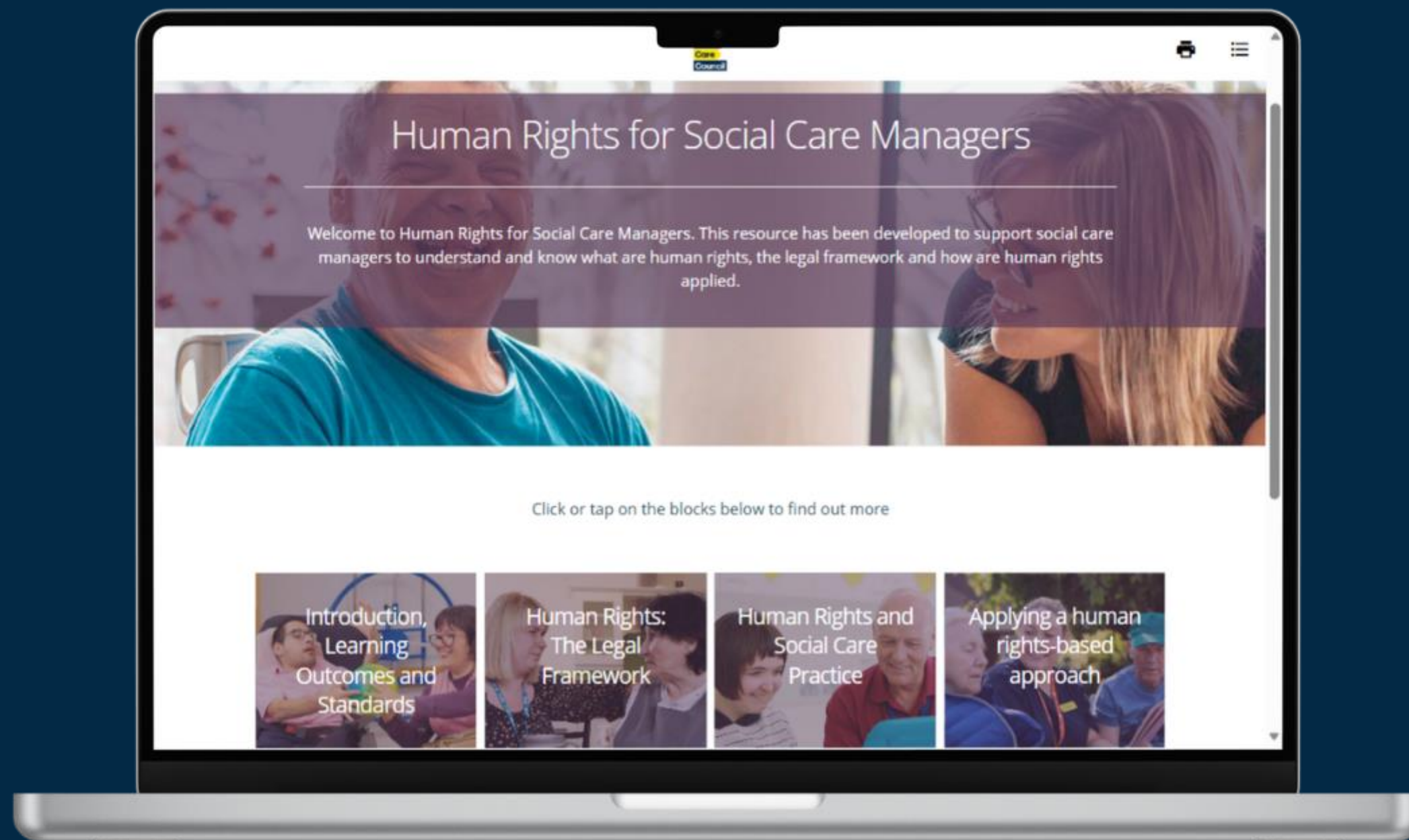
- “**Very useful recap** on safeguarding”.
- “**Excellent resource**”.

## Supporting People Living with Dementia

- “**Extremely informative and interesting**”.
- “**Good sources** provided in this learning resource”.



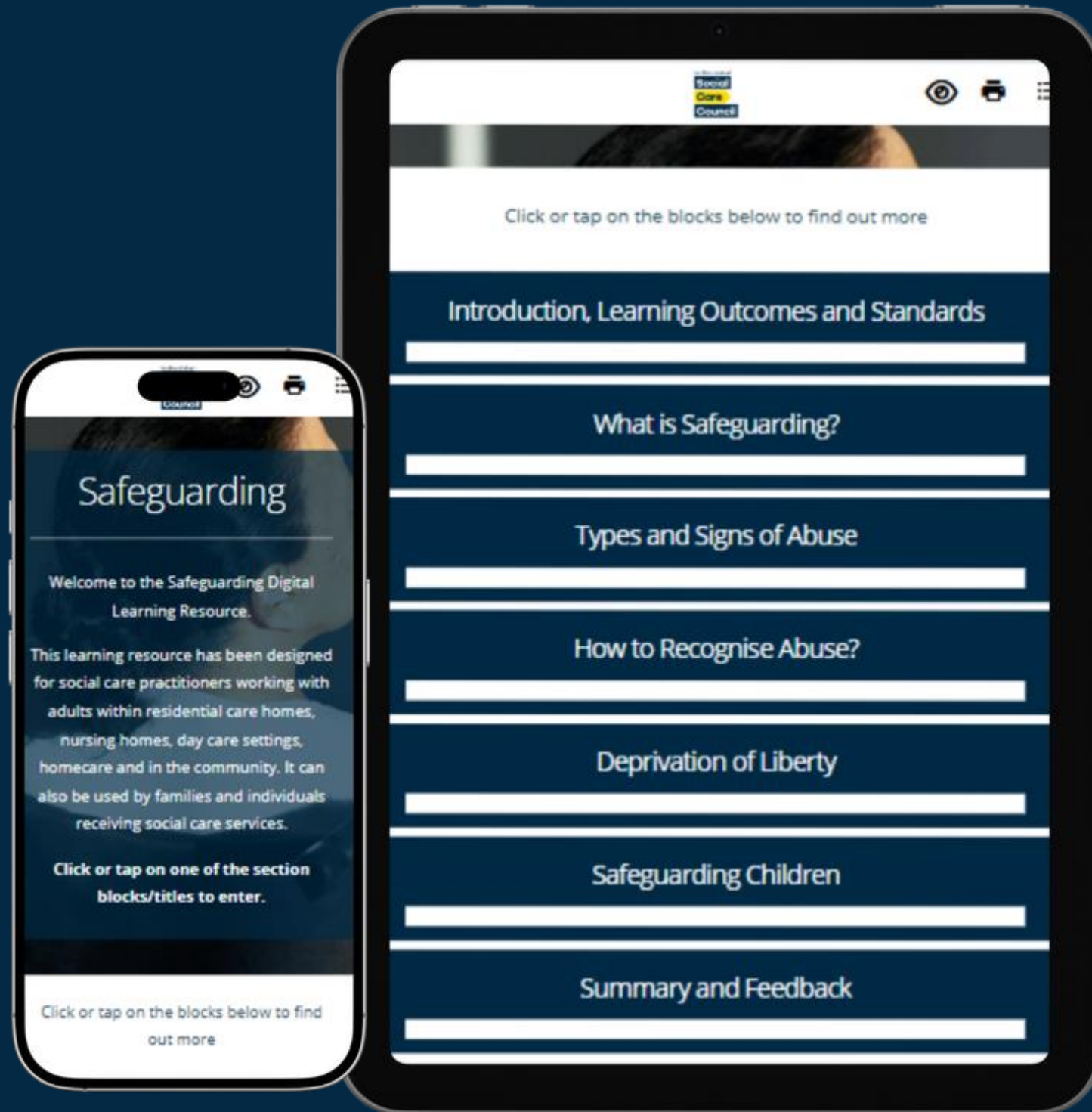
# Learning Zone-What's coming



- Pilot - Summer
- Sign up to join pilot
- Launch – 17 September

**E: [learningzone@nisc.hscni.net](mailto:learningzone@nisc.hscni.net)**

# Learning Zone-What's coming



**Adult Protection Bill**

Learn more about the terminology and information that you will find on this page.  
Learn more about the different stages of a Bill.

**Bill Number:** NIA 16/22-27  
**Bill Type:** Executive (What are the different Bill Types?)  
**Bill Sponsor:** Minister of Health

A Bill to make provision for the purposes of protecting adults from harm; and for connected purposes.

Follow the Bill's journey below from Introduction. Each iteration of the Bill will be published along with the accompanying Explanatory and Financial Memorandum.

**1** First Stage  
**2** Second Stage  
**CM** Committee Stage  
**CS** Consideration Stage  
**FC** Further Consideration  
**F** Final Stage  
**RA** Royal Assent

**1** First Stage

**Status**  
Completed 17 June 2025

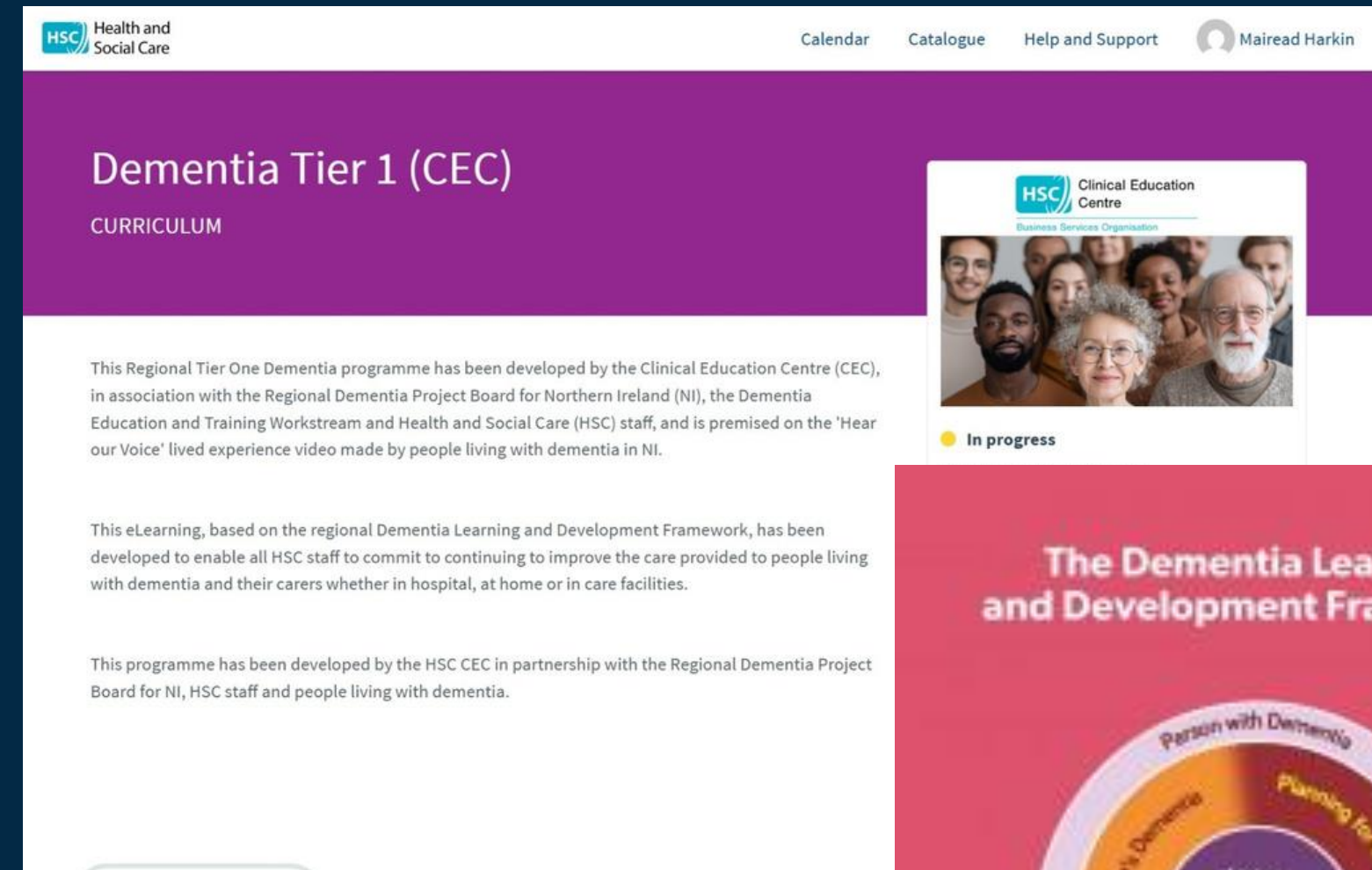
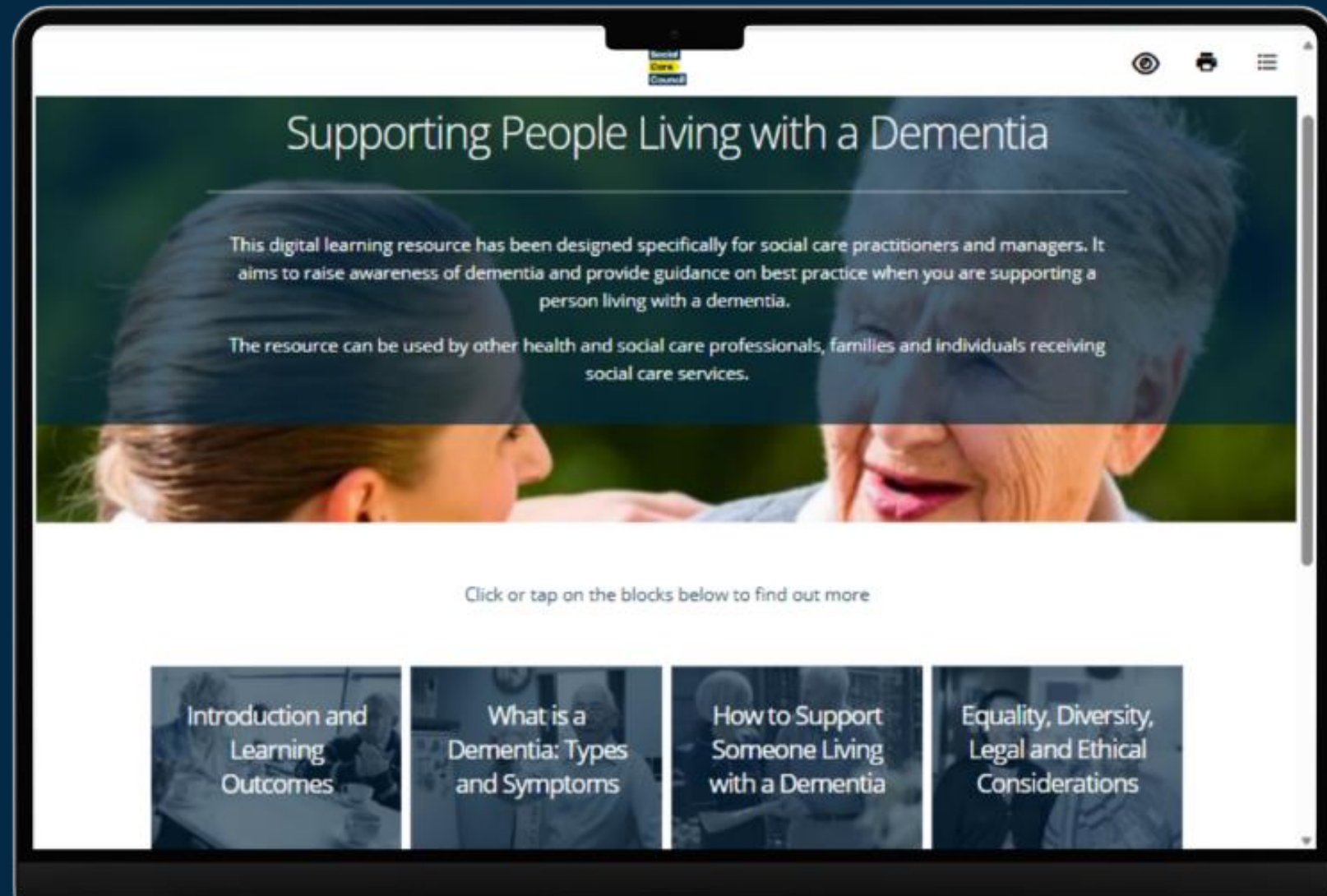
**Associated information**  
Bill as Introduced (HTML)  
Bill as Introduced (PDF, 40 pages, 1.391KB)  
Explanatory and Financial Memorandum as Introduced (HTML)  
Explanatory and Financial Memorandum as Introduced (PDF, 16 pages, 247KB)  
Official Report of the First Stage - 17 June 2025

**2** Second Stage

**Status**  
Completed 30 June 2025

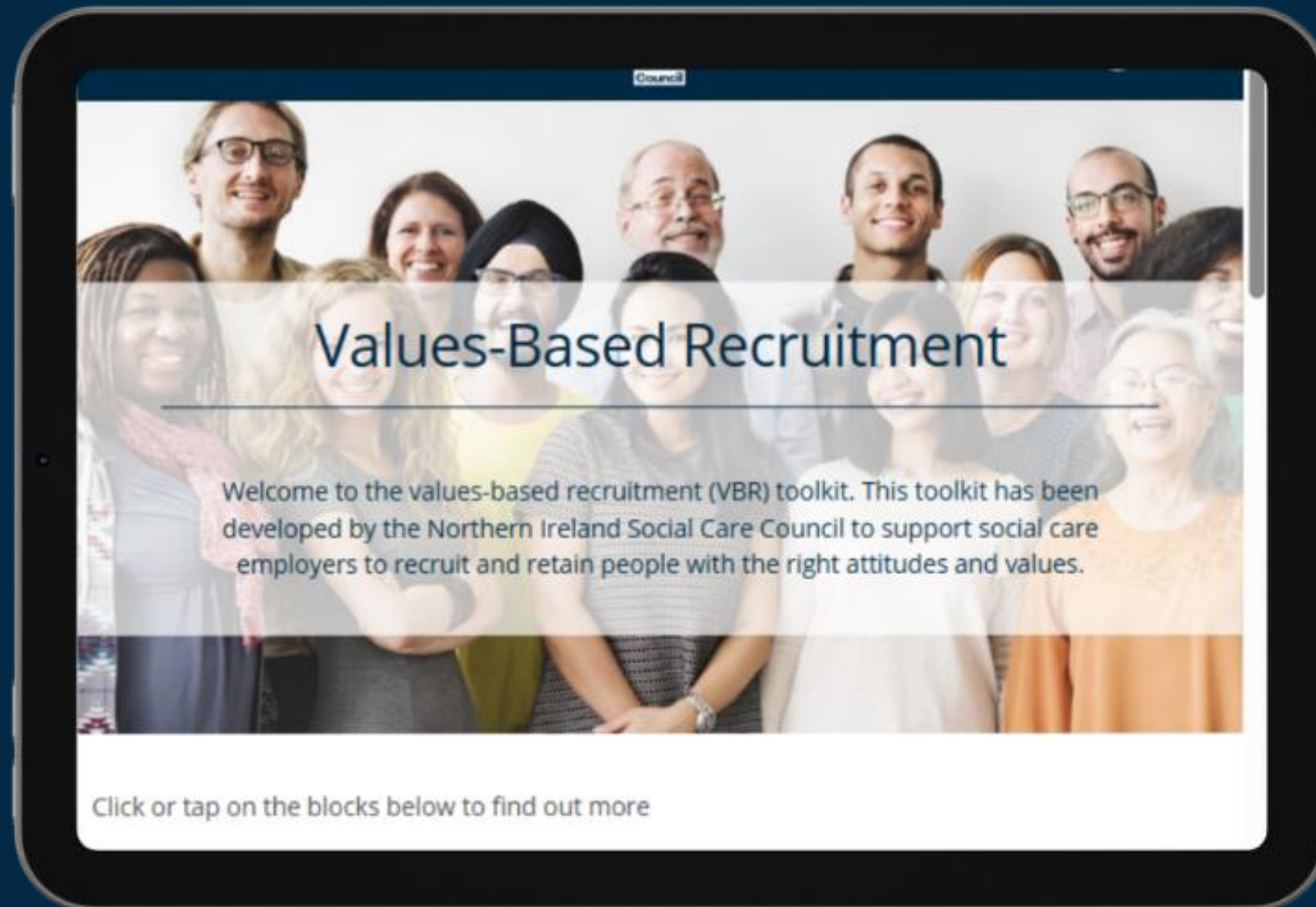
E: [learningzone@nisc.hscni.net](mailto:learningzone@nisc.hscni.net)

# Learning Zone-What's coming



**E: [learningzone@nisc.hscni.net](mailto:learningzone@nisc.hscni.net)**

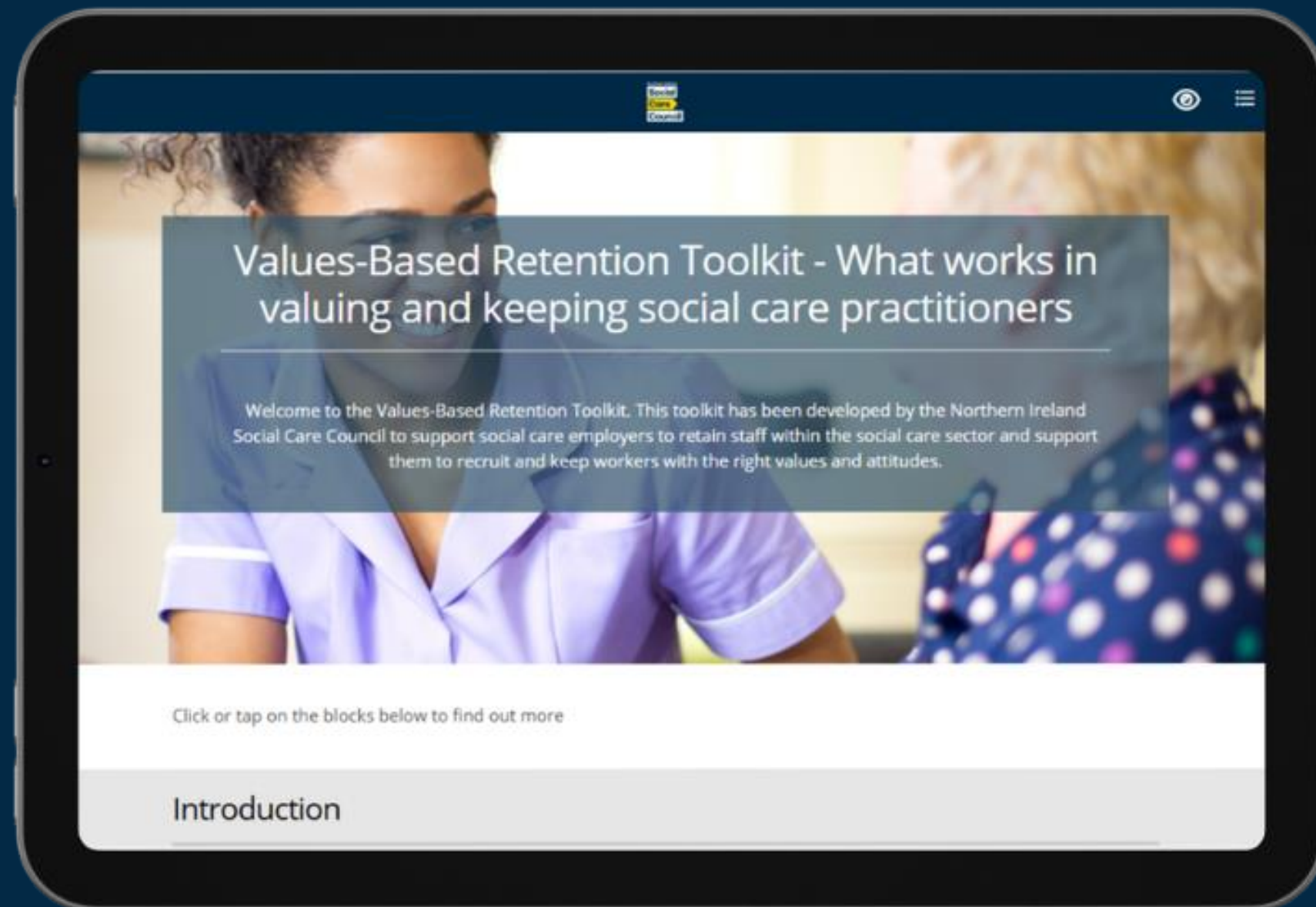
# Values-based Recruitment Toolkit



- Step 1 – Identify and embed organisational values
- Step 2 – Recruitment and selection
- Step 3 – Induction
- Step 4 – Continuous Professional Development



# Values-based Retention Toolkit



- Invest in the workforce and their careers
- Offer good working conditions and meaningful roles
- Understand your workforce/team and what motivates them
- Recognise and reward individual work and team achievements
- Ensure wellbeing is on everyone's agenda

# Free access



**E: [learningzone@niscc.hscni.net](mailto:learningzone@niscc.hscni.net)**

**W: <https://learningzone.niscc.info>**

