

**A SOCIAL WORK REFLECTION -  
THE RECOVERY OF AN  
ADULT FROM MODERN SLAVERY**



Southern Health  
and Social Care Trust

*Quality Care - for you, with you*

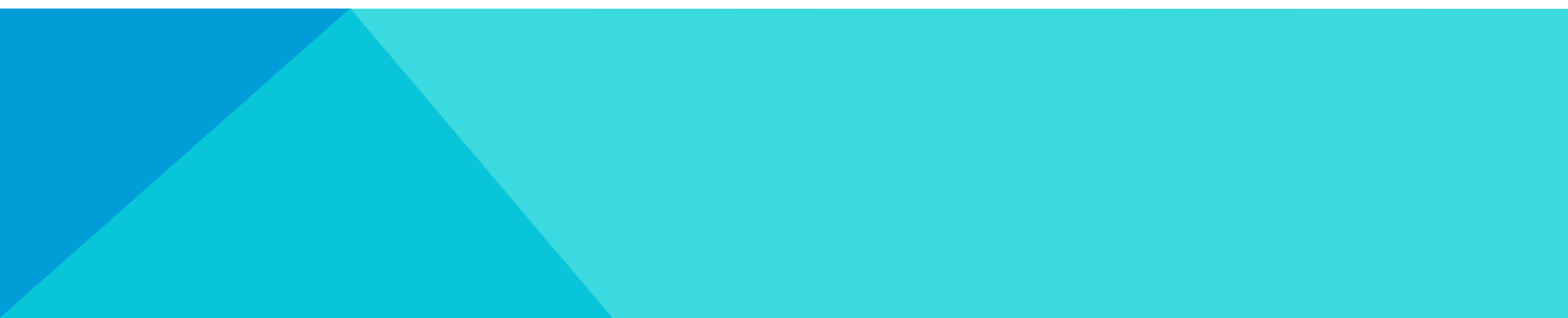
# Introduction and initial social work reflections

Thanks to Mary for her permission to share her story

Initial concerns

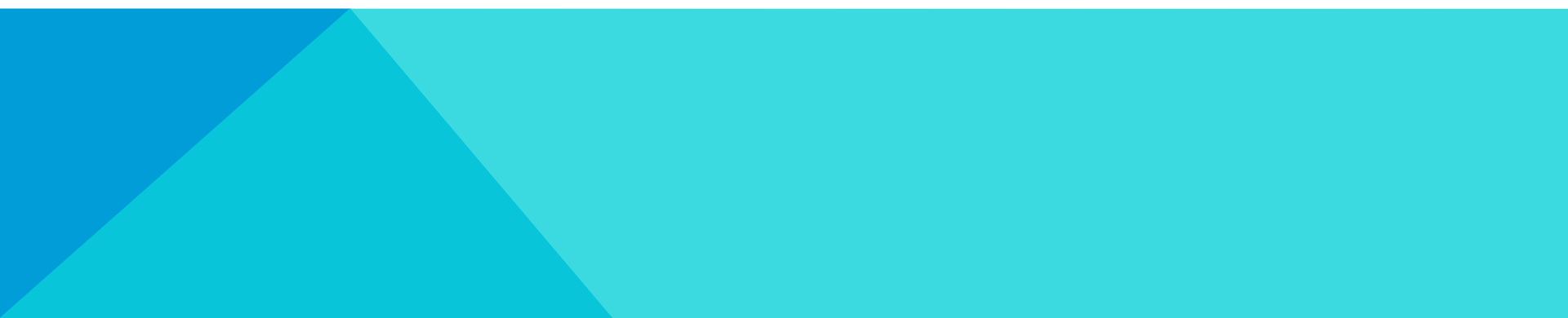
First Response

The discovery of an unknown female in December 2012



# Introduction and initial social work reflections

## First Impressions of Mary

- ✓ Visibly malnourished
  - ✓ Gaunt appearance
  - ✓ Multiple missing teeth
  - ✓ Long poorly cut hair
  - ✓ Clothing much too big
  - ✓ Poor hygiene
  - ✓ Faced the floor – no eye contact – dull expression
  - ✓ Poor verbal communication
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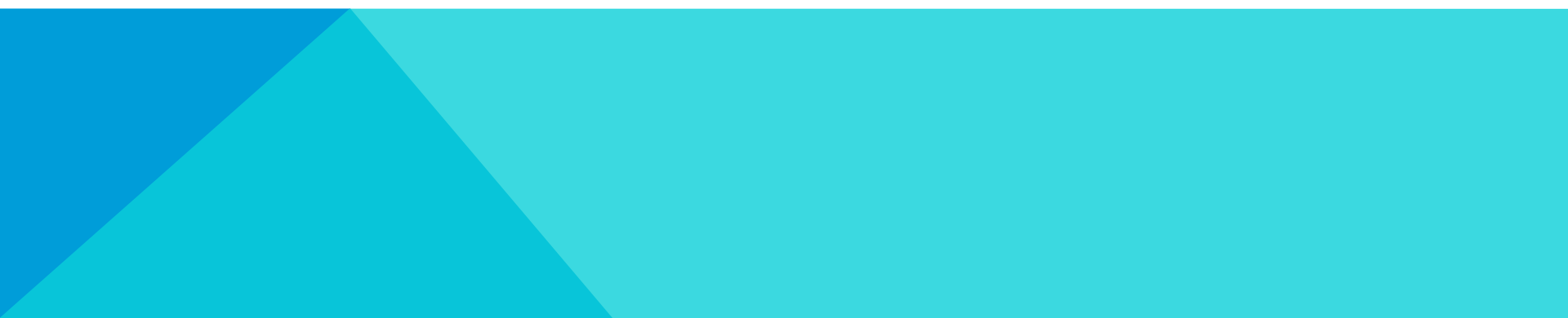
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Mary's former living environment:



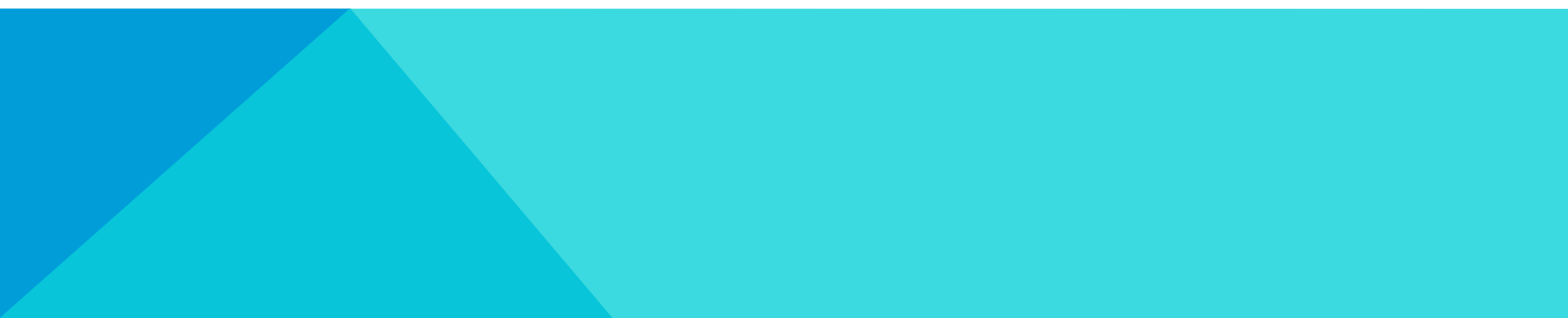
# Introduction and initial social work reflections

## Initial Responses

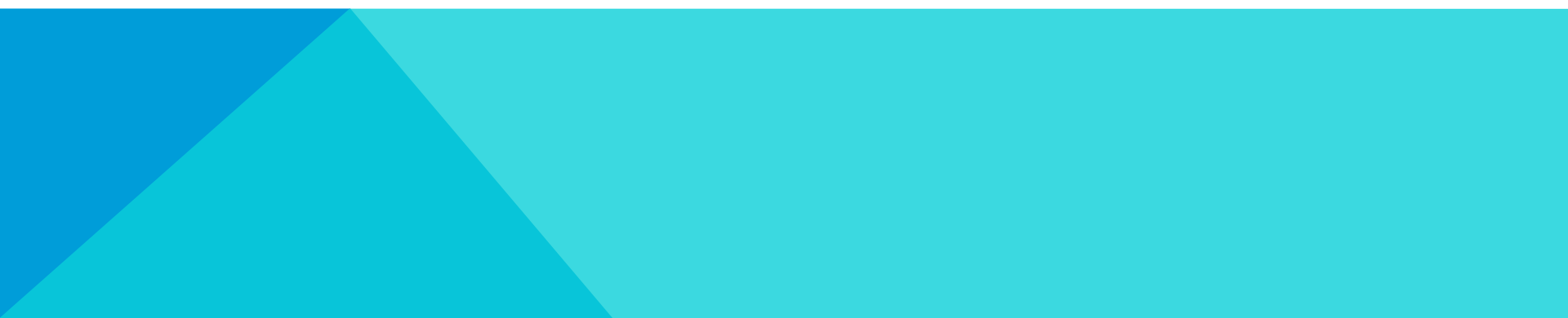
- ✓ Need for a place of safety
  - ✓ Awareness of lack of statutory power
  - ✓ Need for consent
  - ✓ Need for medical attention
  - ✓ Trusted Relationship
  - ✓ Need for food
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# Introduction and initial social work reflections

## Next day Responses

- ✓ Strategy Meeting under Adult Protection
  - ✓ Multiagency and multidisciplinary response
  - ✓ Actions agreed
  - ✓ Priority to meet immediate safety under Best Fit Protocol
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# **From an emergency place of safety to a home free from abuse, exploitation and neglect.**

- ✓ Discharge planning
  - ✓ Gap in knowledge of social history
  - ✓ Immediate need for nursing care
  - ✓ Introducing Mary to her new home
  - ✓ Managing confidentiality
  - ✓ Responding to Mary's pace of change
  - ✓ Assessments from other professionals
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# A social work reflection on the ABE role within the joint protocol

## Background to the PIA and ABE Interview

- ✓ Capacity and consent
- ✓ Compliance
- ✓ Video Interview

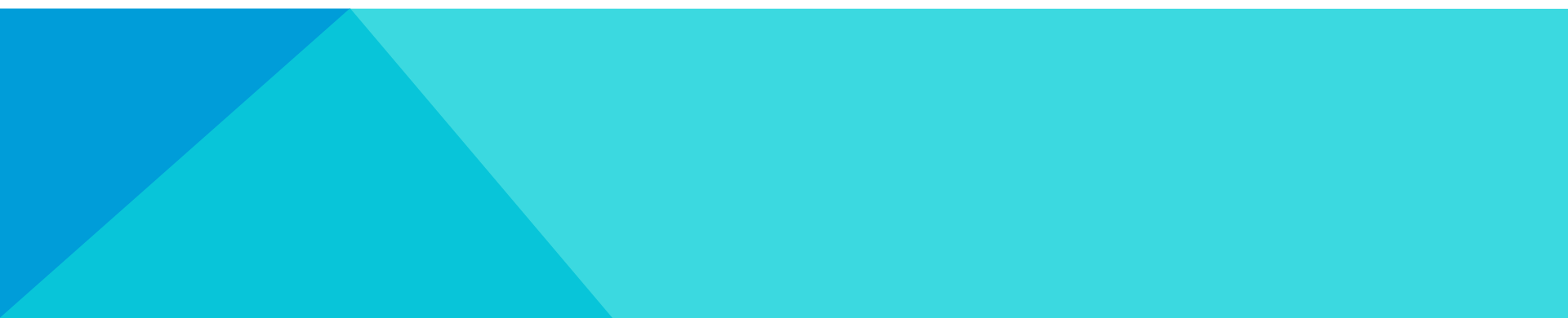
## Preparation and Planning

- ✓ How could we achieve free narrative?



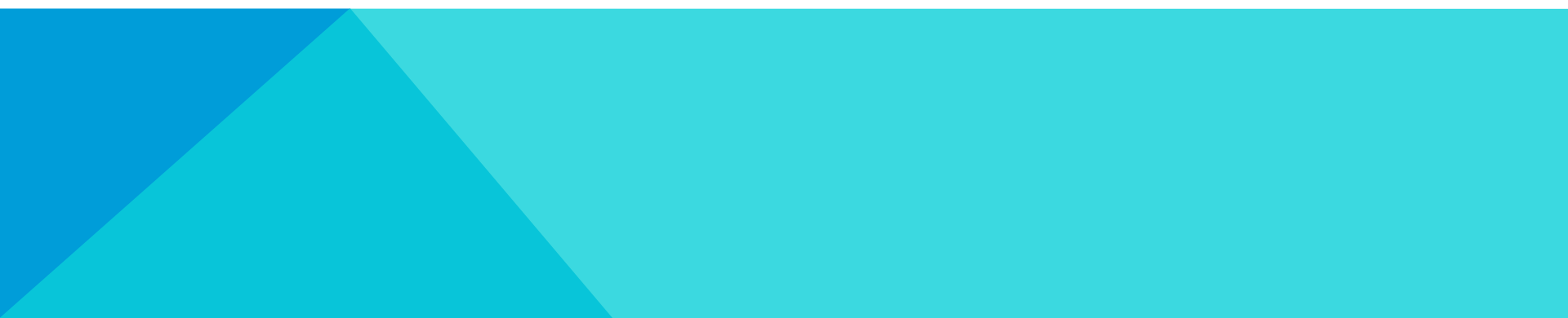
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## Initial Interviews

- ✓ Usual format and considerations
  - ✓ Poor flow of evidence; lack of detail
  - ✓ Query re appropriateness of gender of lead interviewer
  - ✓ Query re location
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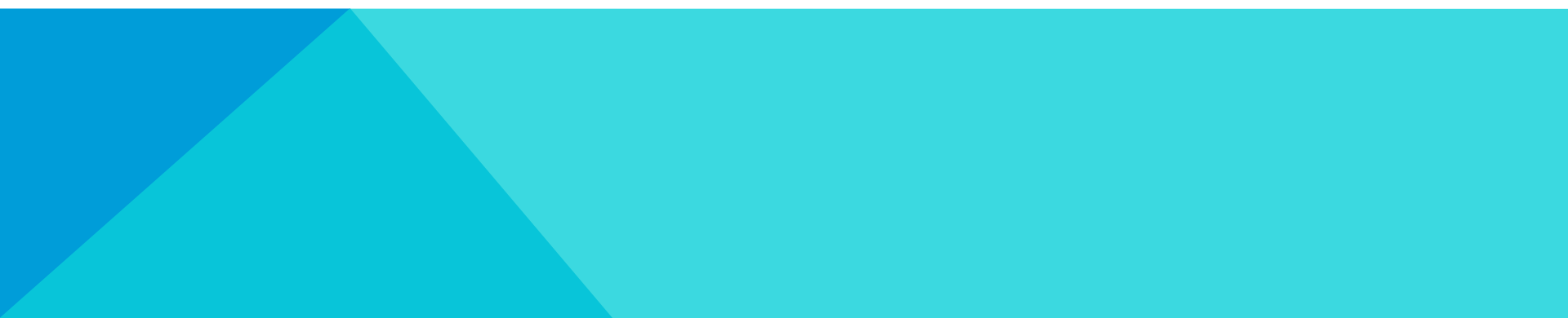
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## Phase 1: Building rapport

- ✓ Setting up the equipment and location
  - ✓ Task focused
  - ✓ Social work value base v PSNI drive for evidence
  - ✓ Strength of the Joint ABE interview
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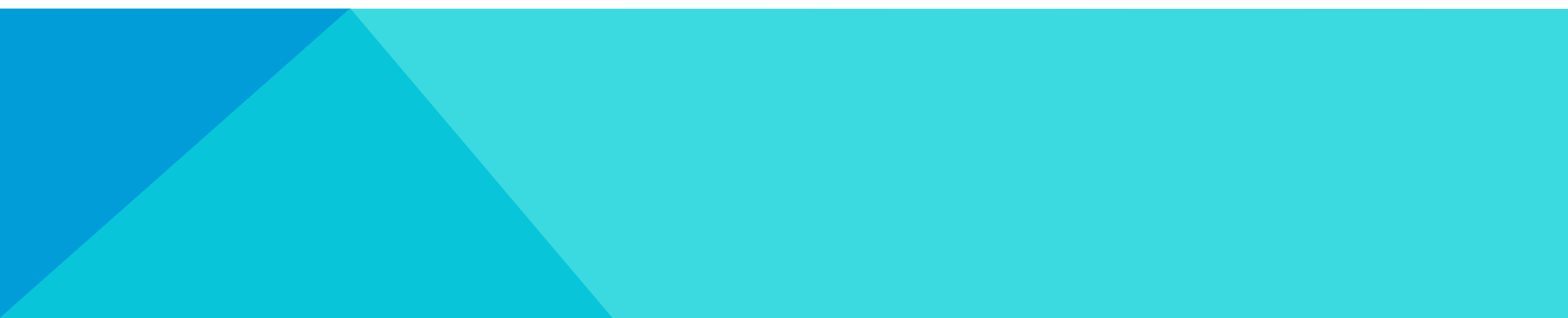
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## Learning from these first interviews

- ✓ Introduction of the Registered Intermediary
  - ✓ Pace and order of questioning
  - ✓ Planning each specific area
  - ✓ The Role of the RI
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## Phase 2: Free Narrative and Phase 3: Questioning

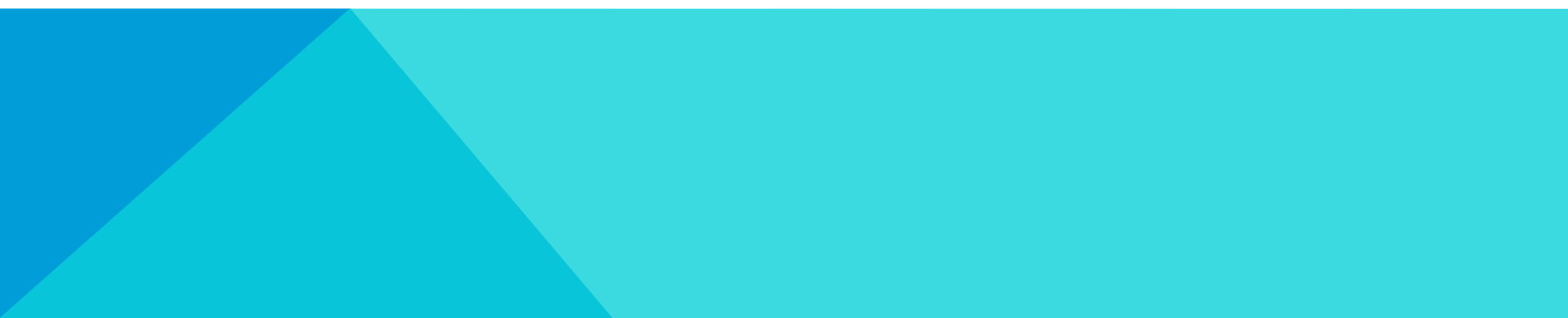
- ✓ Open questions v closed questions
  - ✓ Interview style
  - ✓ Augmented communication boards
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## Phase 4: Closing the Interview

- ✓ Welfare check
- ✓ Social work process – endings; care and support
- ✓ Clear communication of what happens next

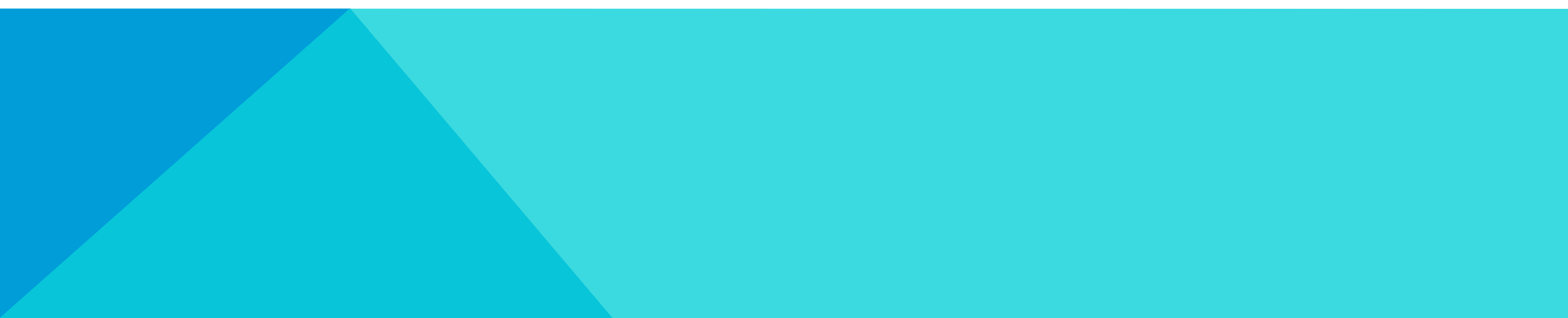
# Responding to emerging needs

- ✓ Improving physical health
  - ✓ Goal setting
  - ✓ Changing status of placement
  - ✓ Ongoing criminal investigation
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# Summary of key learning

- ✓ Professional instinct – the right thing
- ✓ Evident good decisions in practice
- ✓ Need to be alert to changing cultures in NI
- ✓ If you have a doubt - Check it out!
- ✓ Listen and hear it
- ✓ Simple, straightforward questions
- ✓ Maslow's hierarchy of need is a good place to start – pace – take time
- ✓ Good multiagency working relationships
- ✓ Effective communication with the wider team
- ✓ Coercive control and manipulation
- ✓ Supervision to support those who supported Mary

# Outcomes

- ✓ Professional outcomes
  - ✓ Judicial outcomes
  - ✓ Mary's Outcomes
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**THANK YOU FOR LISTENING**

