

MERCIAN 2

WSA Roadmap event

13th May 2026

10:00-15:45

Parallel Session 1

10.55am-12 noon



Leadership and governance in WSA set-up: lessons learned about getting it right

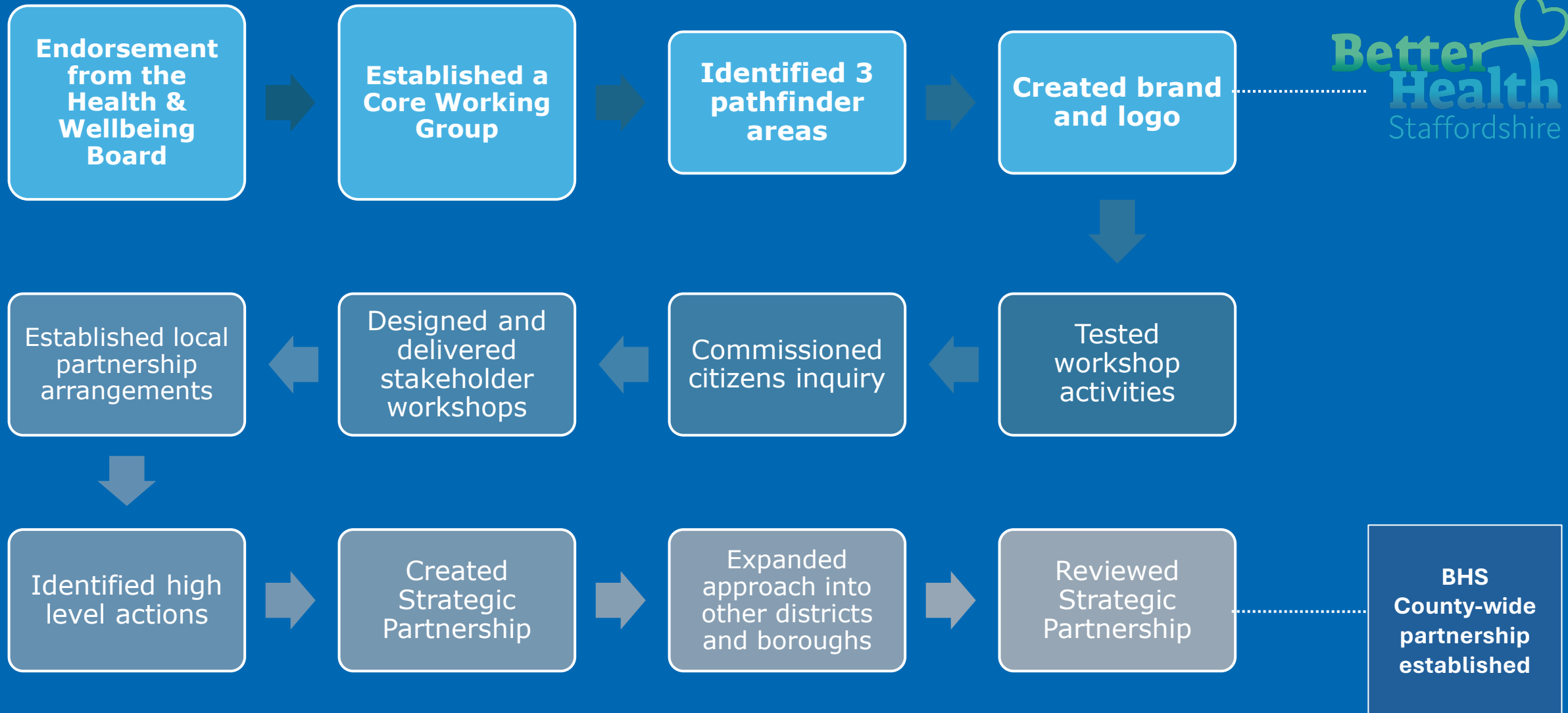
Facilitated by: Claire Matthews (OHID North East) and Prof Peter van der Graaf (Northumbria/PHIRST/FUSE)

Leadership and governance in WSA set up: lessons learned about getting it right

Rochelle Edwards
Public Health and Prevention
Staffordshire County Council

Staffordshire, the story so far...

www.staffordshire.gov.uk



Better Health Staffordshire



(Health and Wellbeing Strategy)



Creating communities and environments that enable healthy choices and deliver high quality support to keep people independent and well. We will think 'health' in all that we do.

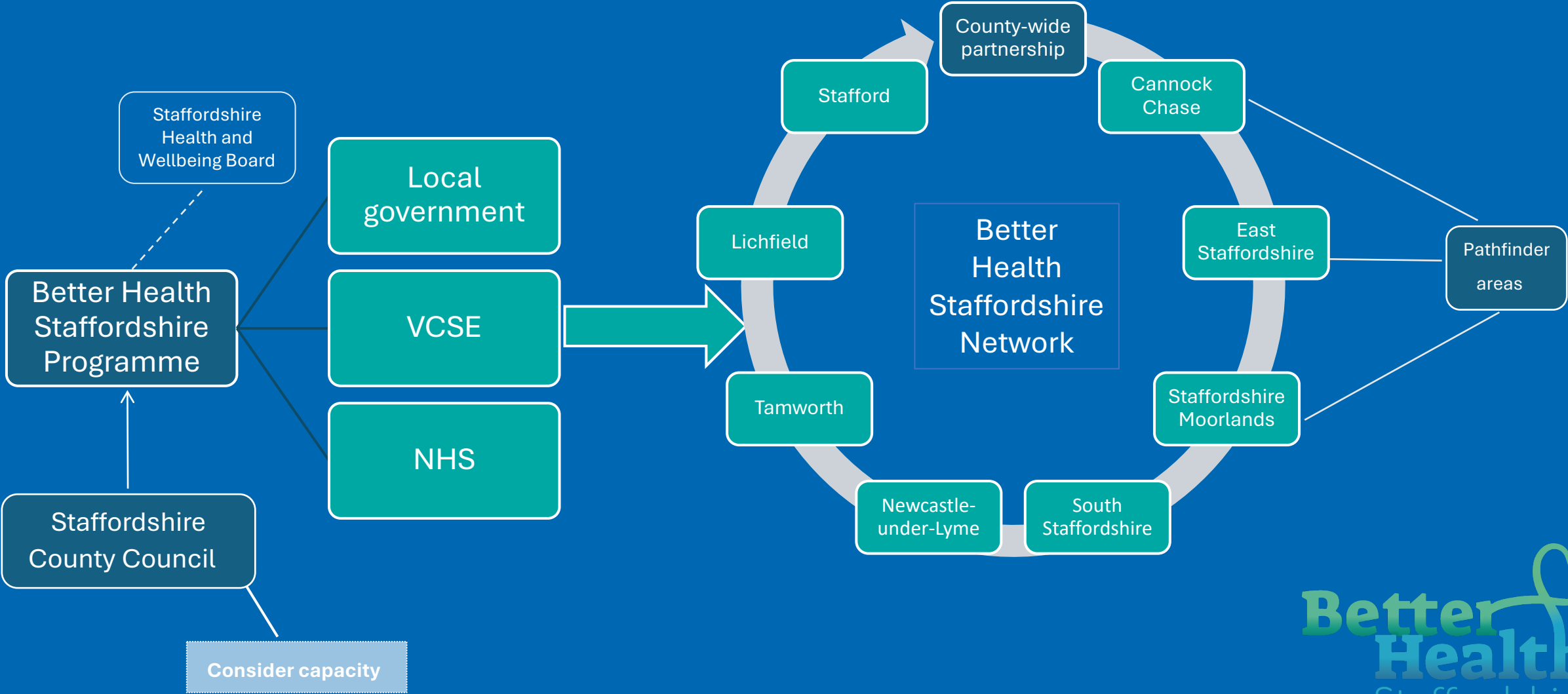


Tackle the causes of excess weight, physical inactivity and poor diet



Enable and empower individuals, families and communities to move more, eat a healthy balanced diet and maintain a healthy weight

BHS strategic infrastructure



Leicestershire's Whole System Approach for Healthy Weight, Food and Nutrition

Francesca Barney - Strategic Lead, Health Improvement

Francesca.barney@leics.gov.uk



PEOPLE



PROMOTE



PROTECT



PROVIDE



PARTNERSHIP

[illegible]



Strategic Plan for Food



Use the JLHWBS to our advantage and anchor our work to this due to existing and ongoing system support and visibility.



Strengthens partner commitment to delivering effective food systems work



Contributes to the 'Going for Gold' SFP award submission



Will bring all food-related work together under one coherent approach / banner



Strategic Governance

Leicestershire Health
and Wellbeing Board

Staying Healthy
Partnership

WSA Healthy Weight,
Food and Nutrition
Steering Group

Access, Skills and
Active Living

Healthy Food Places

Food Insecurity

Food Plan
Management Group

Stakeholders actively engaged include:
ICB, Housing (Planning), Education, Academia, Transport and Waste, Food Business, Local food growers, VCSE sector, Family Hubs, districts

Bi annual virtual network meeting to maintain momentum with wider stakeholders from across the system

Break and then back to Mercian 1



Parallel Session 2

13.35-14.40

What counts as a systems approach and evaluating robustly: where do we think 'good enough' lies?

Facilitated by: Dr James Nobles, Dr Duncan Radley (LBU) and Nicola Corrigan (OHID Yorks and the Humber)

Plan

Item	Time
Introductions and welcome	2 minutes
Case study examples - Sally Hone (Buckinghamshire) - Anna Card (East Sussex) - Alice Godmon (Hampshire)	15 minutes
Small and full group discussion - What do we mean by a “systems approach” and to what extent does this matter?	25 minutes
Menti - Where are we with evaluating systems approaches and what additional support is required?	10 minutes
Close	5 minutes

Aim

We'd like to encourage an **honest conversation** and identify ways of **overcoming these issues**

What do we mean by a systems approach?

Questions we'd like to address

- Do we need to have a **shared agreement** on what they are, how to get there, and what they look like in practice?
 - How do systems-approaches **differ** from *partnership working*, *multi-component or multi-level interventions*, and *place-based working*?
 - How can we **improve understanding** for what systems approaches are?
 - How does this shift when the **wider context changes** (e.g. movement towards ICBs?)

Table discussion – 10 minutes → Full group discussion – 15 minutes

Where are we with evaluating systems approaches and what support is required?

MENTI

1. How confident are you (or your team) in evaluating your whole systems approach?
2. What support is needed to help you evaluate your systems approach?



Whole Systems Approach to Healthy Weight in Buckinghamshire

Sally Hone
Public Health Principal

Progress to Date

Leeds Beckett University Led (2021):

- Health Needs Assessment
- Systems Mapping
- Community Asset Mapping
- Stakeholder Mapping
- Focus Groups – CYP and Adults

Move Consulting (2022/23):

- 3 Stakeholder workshops
 - Identify 4 priority themes (physical activity, transport, CYP & food (*knowledge, access & cooking*))
 - Held themed based workshops
 - Create a vision and mission statement
 - Development of jointly owned action plan
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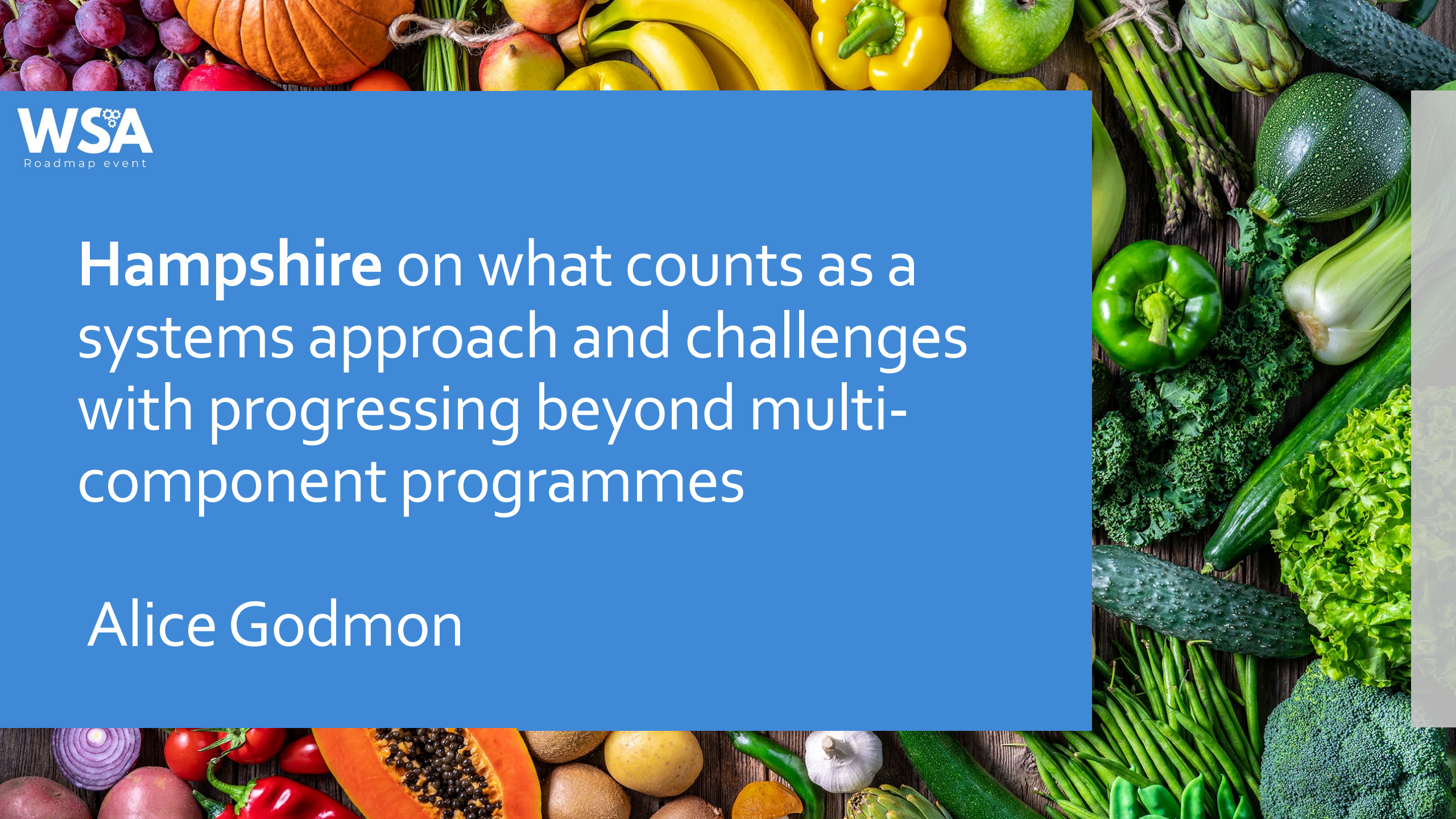
Our Vision	A future for Buckinghamshire, where residents of the county are living healthier, happier and more active lifestyles, free from obesity.
Our Mission	To empower all residents of Buckinghamshire to be able to lead an active and healthy lifestyle.
Our Tactics	To work together, across the whole public health system in Buckinghamshire to tackle obesity. To support behaviour change in the system and for residents, promoting healthier lifestyle choices. To make it easier for people to make informed choices about their lifestyle habits. To reduce the availability and promotion of HFSS foods in favour of healthier options.

BUT are we working as a system?

East Sussex on challenges and successes of engaging different system partners

Anna Card





Hampshire on what counts as a systems approach and challenges with progressing beyond multi-component programmes

Alice Godmon

Thank you!