

From Risk to Reward – Embracing New Approaches to Assessment

Apprenticeship Assessment Reform

23rd October 2025

Emily Hughes



Introductions



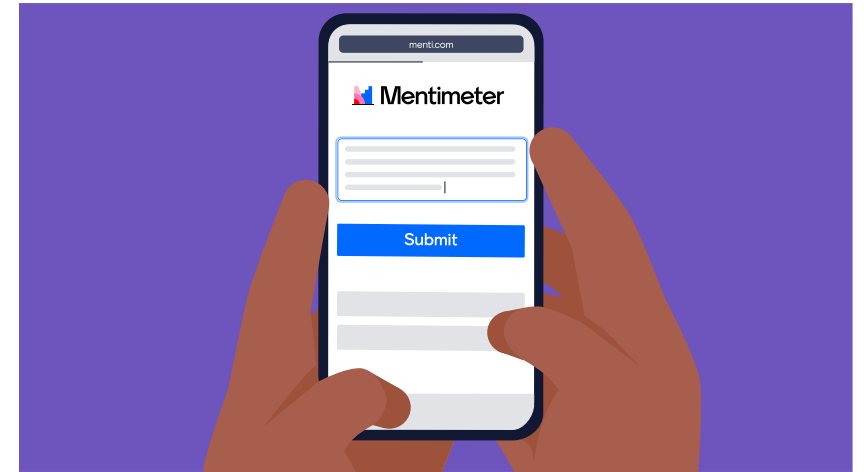
Emily Hughes
Strategic Associate



Tasha Joyce
EPA Operations Manager
Gateway Qualification

Housekeeping

- All on mute with cameras off.
- Slides and recording to follow today's session.
- We are using Mentimeter for interactive elements today.
Menti.com – Code 4246 3613
- Add questions to the Q&A function and we will try to respond to them as we go through the session. We may also use them to inform and support the development of session 3.



What are we covering today?

- Where on-programme assessment can improve validity and reduce burden
- How reforms could support better learning experiences and outcomes
- Reframing AO-provider collaboration – delivery and assurance of assessment
- A roadmap for your next steps

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Where on-programme assessment can improve validity, reduce burden, improve experiences and outcomes

- Validity is about accuracy – the reforms will support proportionate, flexible assessments throughout the learning process, making it a more accurate reflection of an apprentice's overall competency rather than a snapshot of their performance on a single exam
- Spreads the loads of assessment rather than a single high pressure final assessment reducing a single point of burden
- Reduces administrative and assessment burden on the final stages of the on-programme.



Tasha Joyce

**EPA Operations Manager
Gateway Qualification**

Reframing AO-provider collaboration – delivery and assurance of assessment

Apprenticeship Assessment (EPA) Organisations and Provider Collaboration.



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Assessment Plans

Low prescription

- Most common
- Minimum level of prescription
- AOs develop specifications and assessments

Mandatory qualification

- Completion of the qualification or regulatory assessment
- Sole assessment method

Risk-based additional prescription

- Higher risk occupations or regulation demands additional prescription (e.g. safety, regulatory compliance)

Assessment Strategies



Purposes



Content



Assessment method
and structure



Setting assessments



Marking



Arrangements with
centres and CASS



Standard setting



Assessment
conditions



Assessment
availability



Resits and
resubmissions



Assessor
requirements

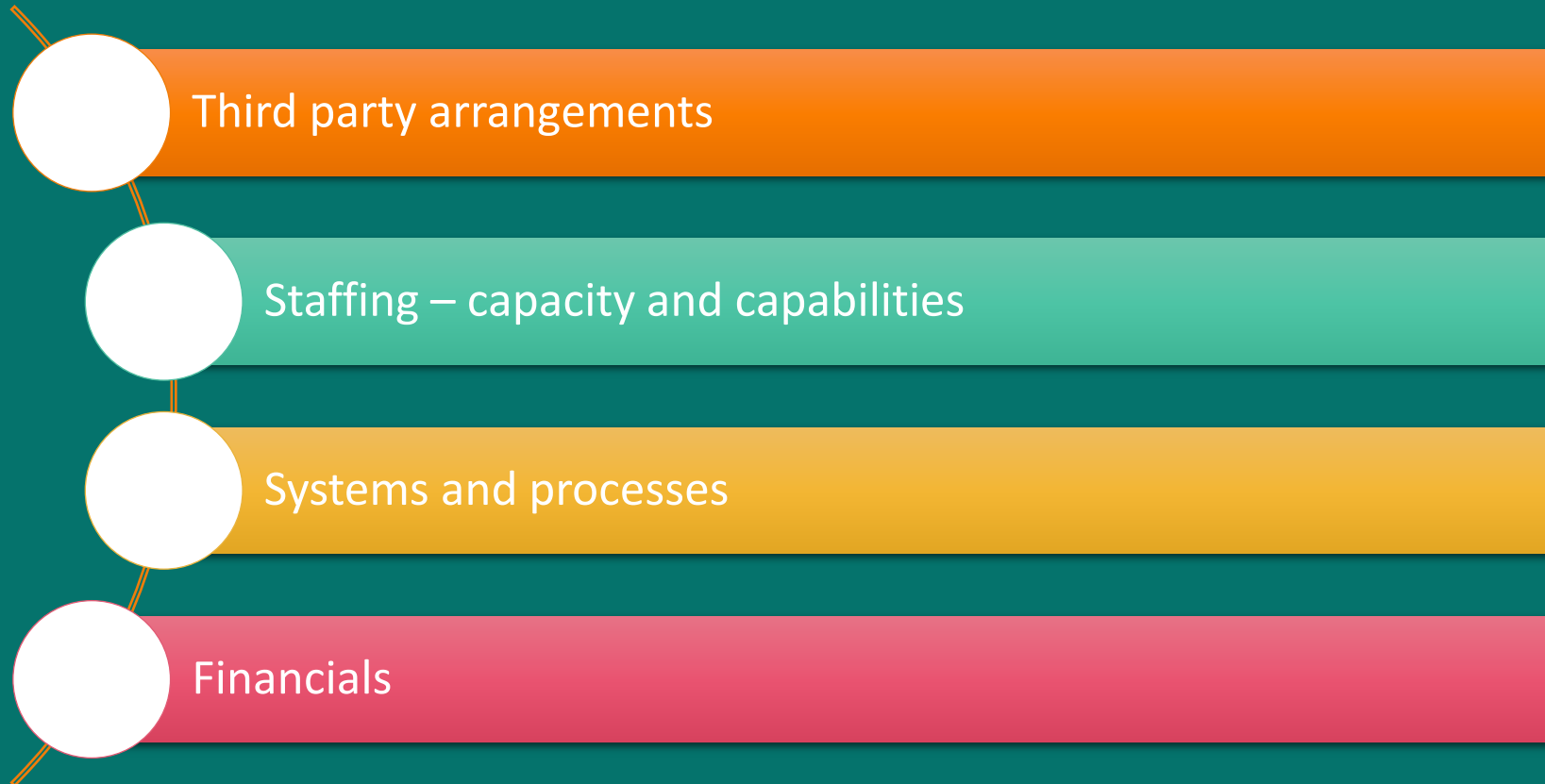


Quality assurance



Employer
engagement

What do you need to consider



Benefits



Timely assessment



Reduced pressure



Duplication removed



Training and assessment aligned



Improved apprentice experience



Innovation and flexibility

Gateway Qualifications EPA Team



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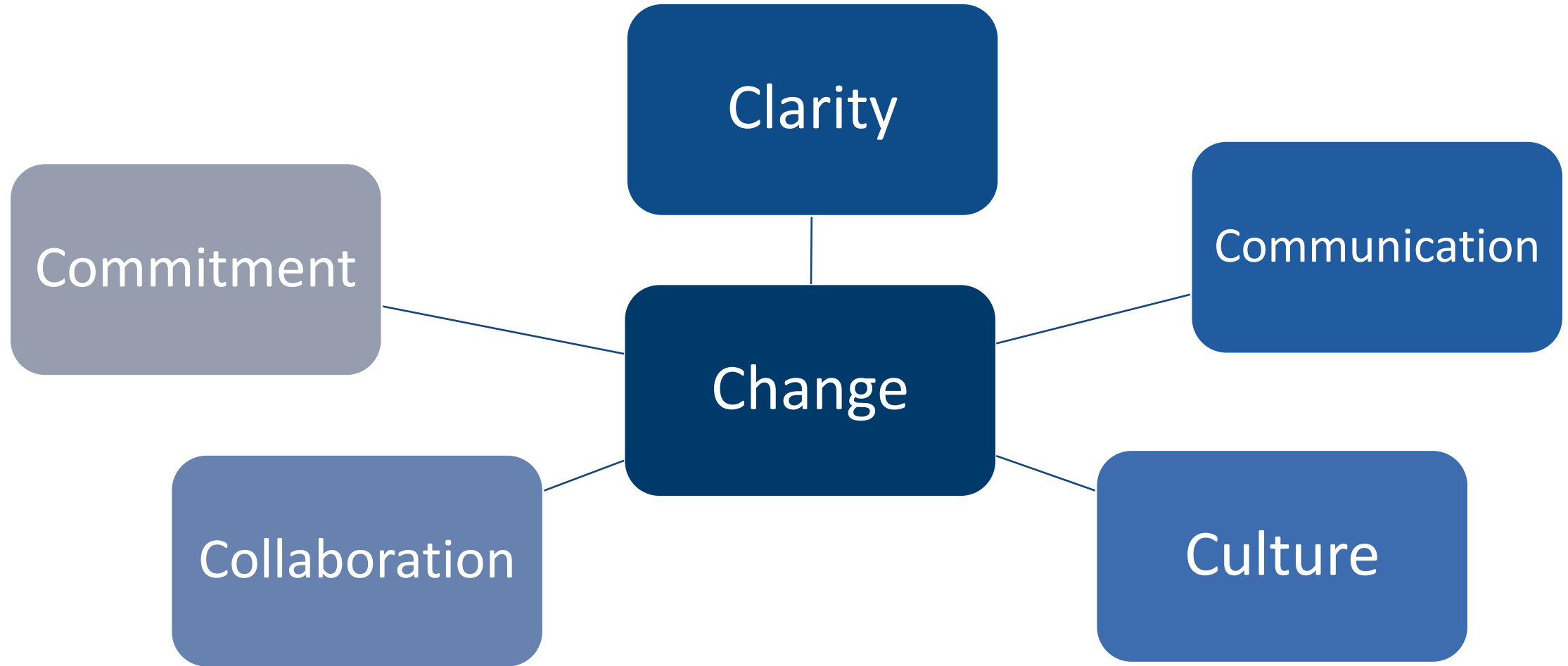


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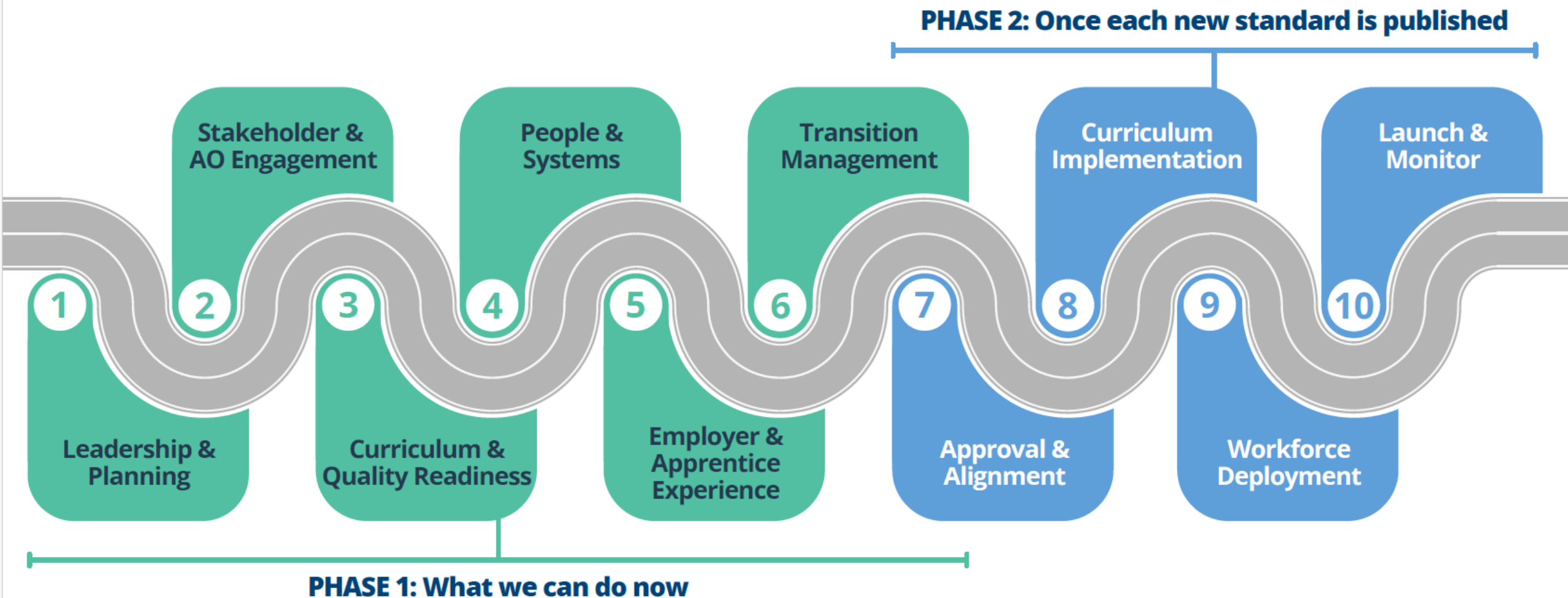
Connect
with
Tasha:



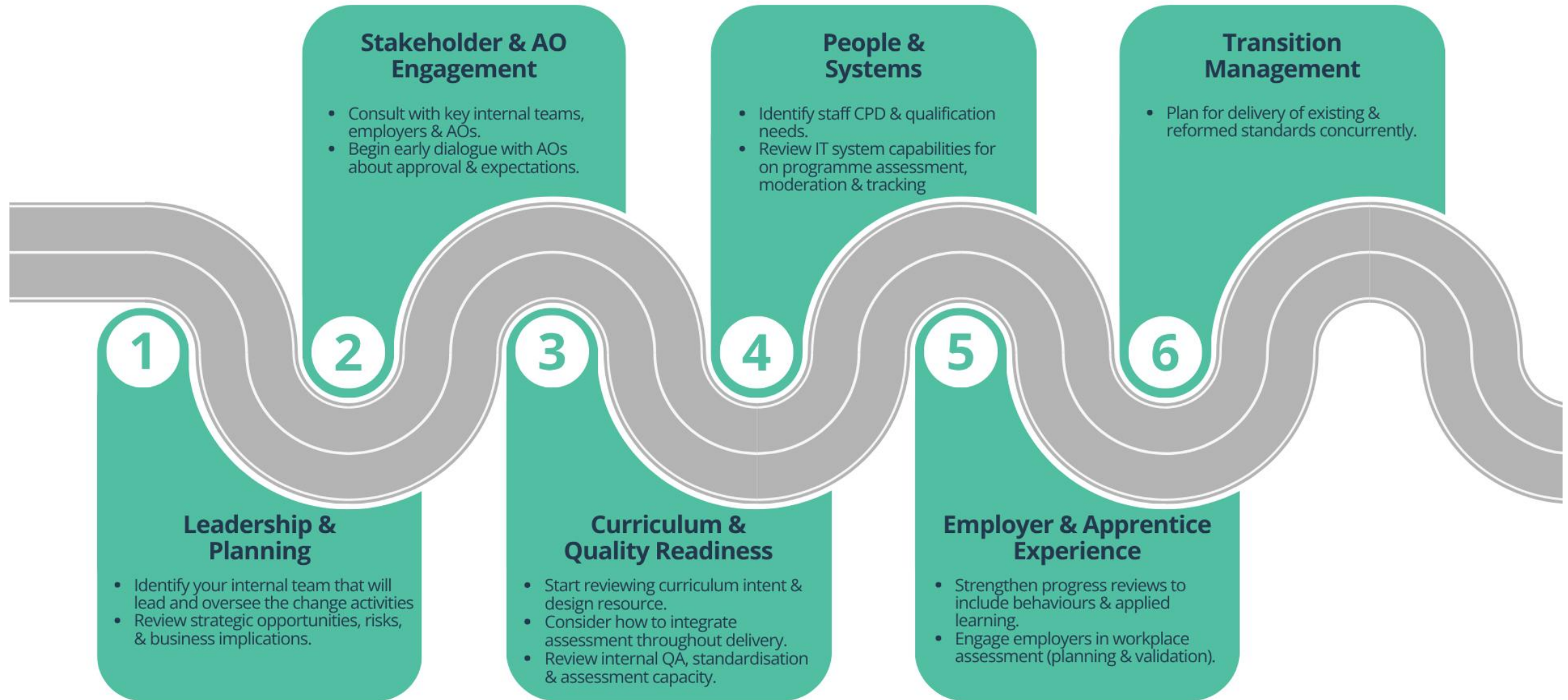
Roadmap to Reform – managing the change



APPRENTICESHIP ASSESSMENT REFORM ROADMAP

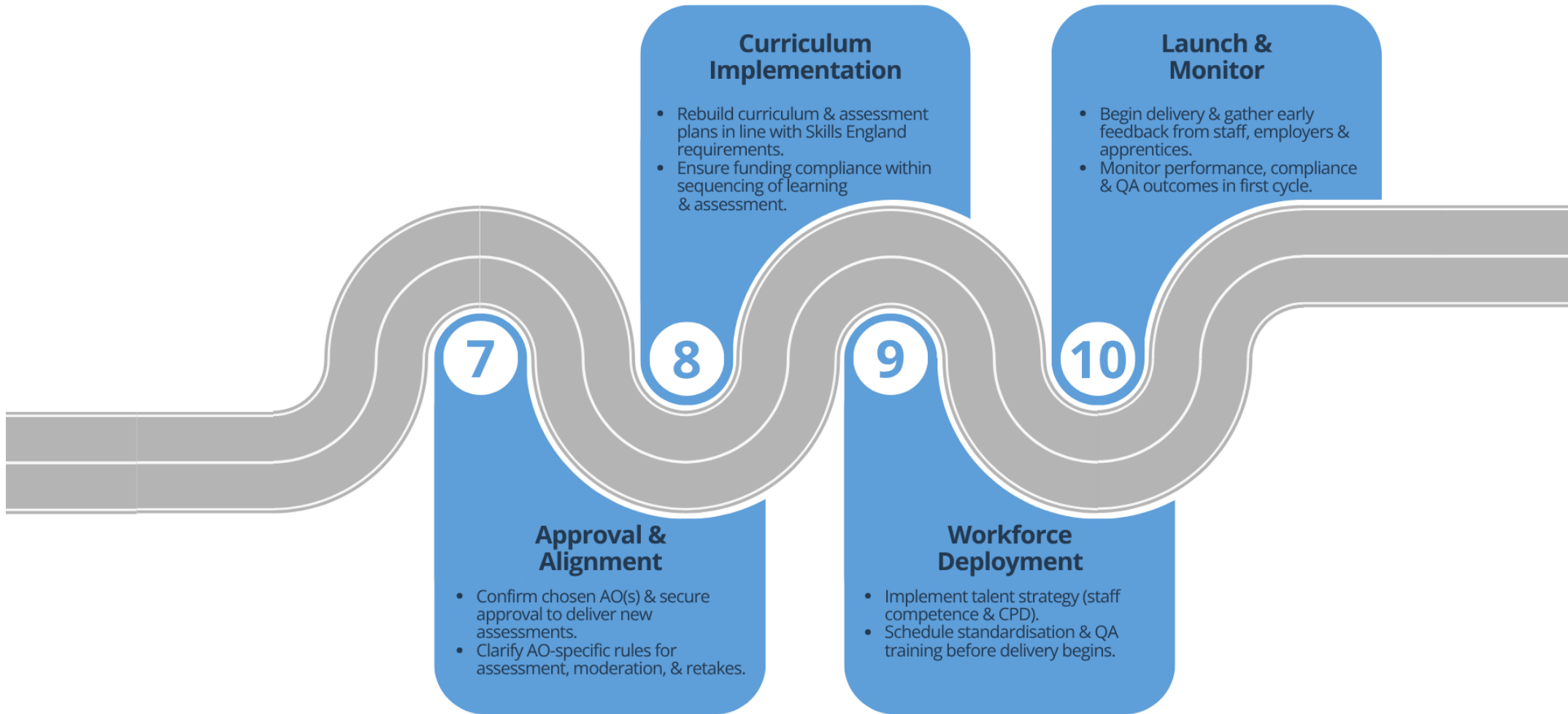


PHASE 1: What we can do now



Be ready, not rushed. Providers who invest time now in planning, people, and partnerships will be best placed to deliver confidently under the new assessment model.

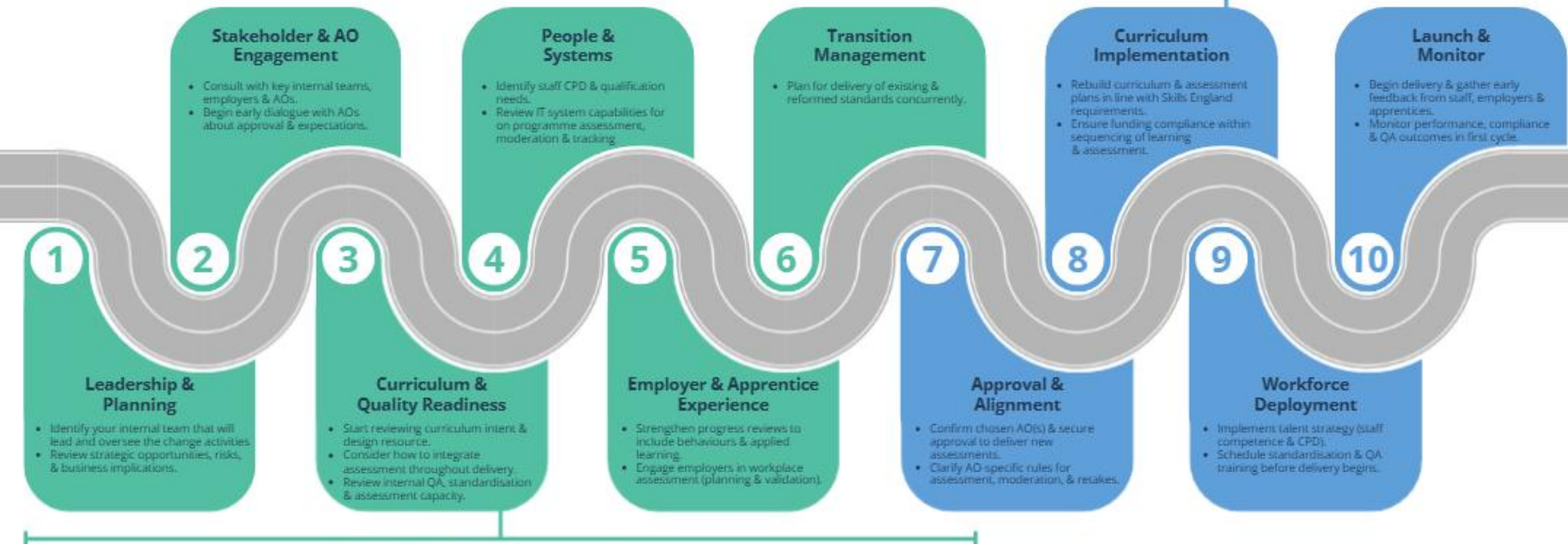
PHASE 2: Once each new standard is published



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APPRENTICESHIP ASSESSMENT REFORM ROADMAP

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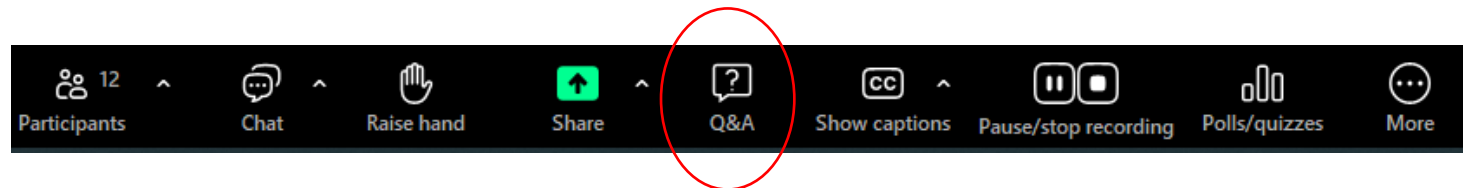
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In summary....

- Where on-programme assessment can improve validity and reduce burden
- How reforms could support better learning experiences and outcomes
- Reframing AO-provider collaboration – delivery and assurance of assessment
- A roadmap for your next steps

Questions & Answers

Type your questions into the Q&A panel



Upcoming SDN Mesma Group PD

Embedding Effective Assessment in Apprenticeships 3-part webinar series: Starts 17-Nov

The way assessment is used in apprenticeships is shifting. With more focus on *on-programme* and *pre-Gateway* assessment, providers need to make sure their approach is fit for purpose. This session will help you build assessment into the apprenticeship journey from the very start – making it meaningful, manageable and linked to real workplace performance.

Curriculum Design for the New Apprenticeship Landscape Masterclass: 09-Dec

Changes to how assessment is carried out will have a direct knock-on effect on how you design and deliver your curriculum. This practical workshop will help you map, sequence and refine your programme so it sets apprentices up to succeed – without adding unnecessary workload.

After this session you will receive:

- Slide deck
- Webinar recording

Join us for part 3 with Chris Cherry

Session 3: [Making it Real – What Action Should You Take Now?](#)

November 28th, 10:00am – 11:00am

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