



# Digital Transformation in the South West region

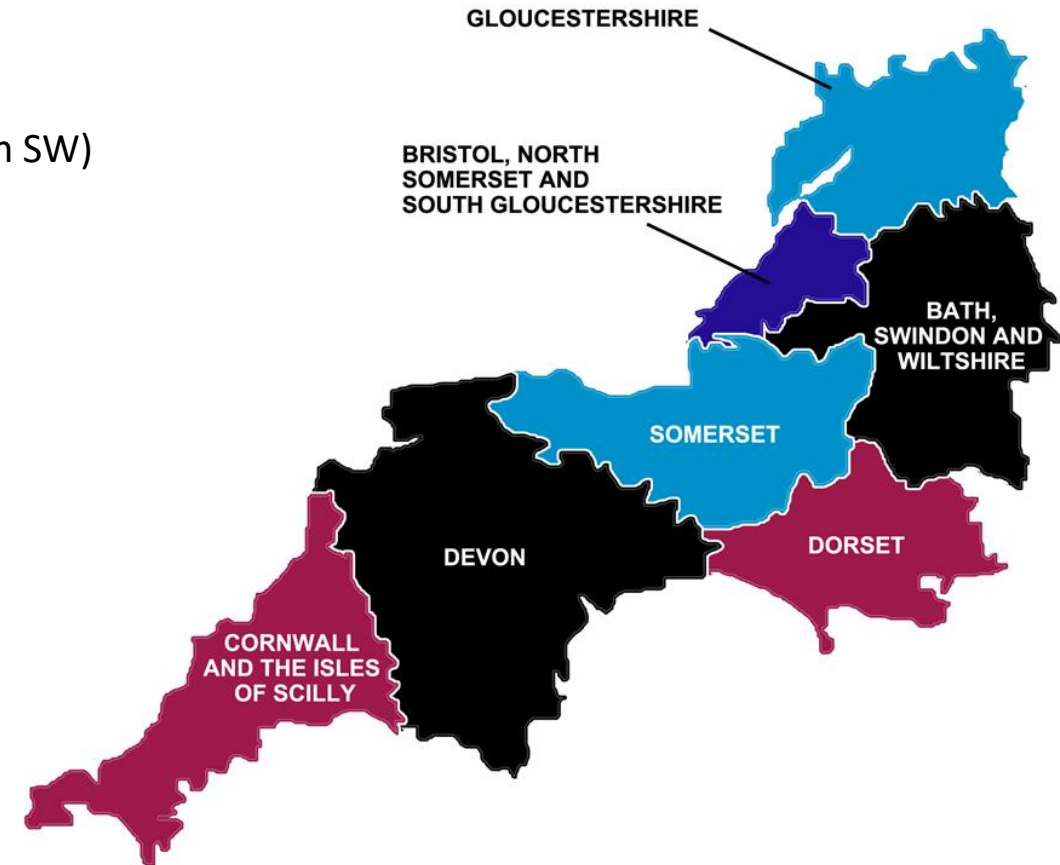
Digital Transformation Team  
NHS England – South West



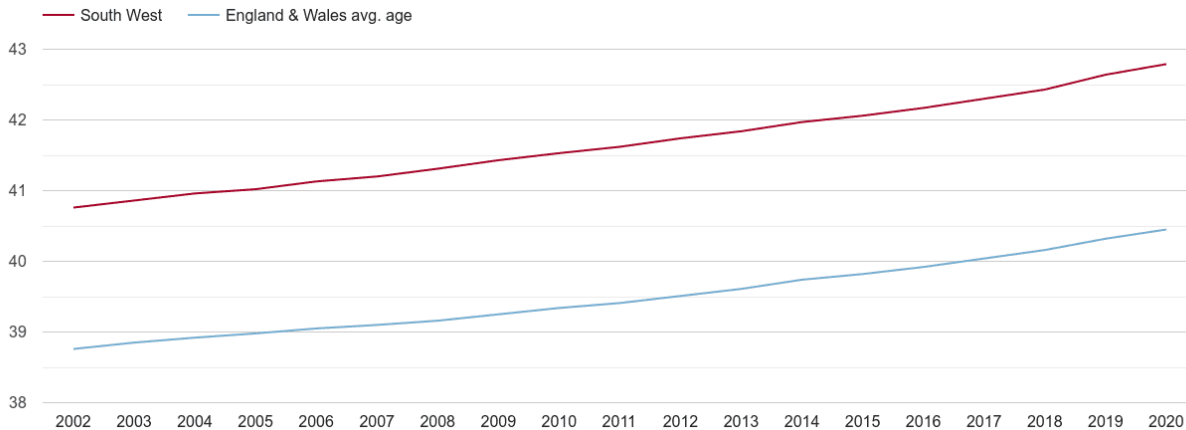
# The South West regional covers a huge and largely rural geographic footprint, presenting a strong case for digitally enabled healthcare

1. **c.6 million** people
2. **Aged and ageing** population
3. **1 in 4** (25%) people live with multiple long-term conditions (~1.5m in SW)
4. **22.4%** over the age of 65
5. **Seven** Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) – see map (right)
6. **136** Primary Care Networks (PCNs)
7. **567** GP practices
8. **25** provider trusts
9. **One** ambulance provider
10. **Mixed** urban/ rural/ coastal make-up with larger rural population

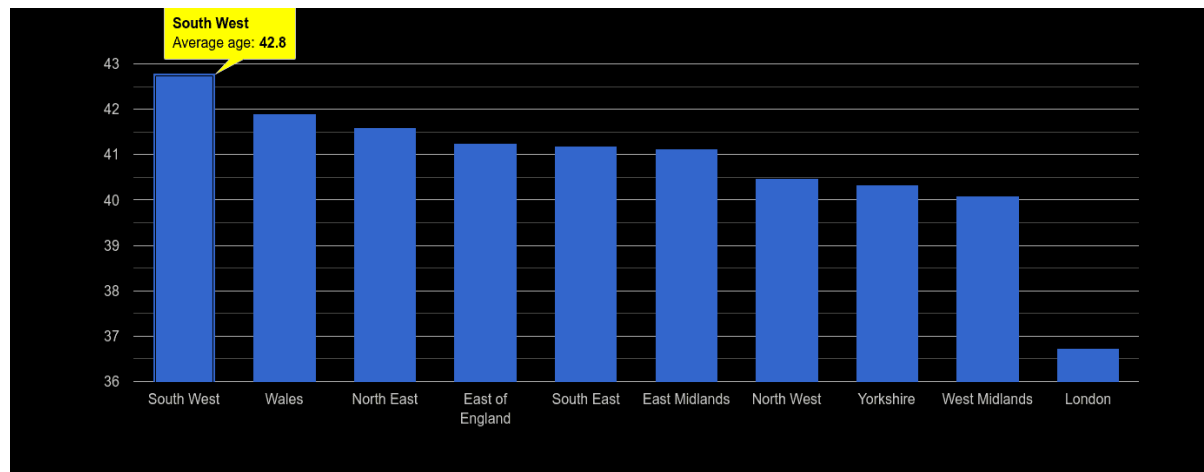
It's quicker to drive from Cheltenham to York than from Cheltenham to Penzance! Plus, another three hours over sea to reach the Isles of Scilly...



# Alongside the benefits of an older population, an aged and ageing demographic contributes to system challenges



With 22% of people over the age of 65 and increasing average age that is now around 43 years, the SW population is both aged and ageing. This contributes to system pressures and performance challenges...

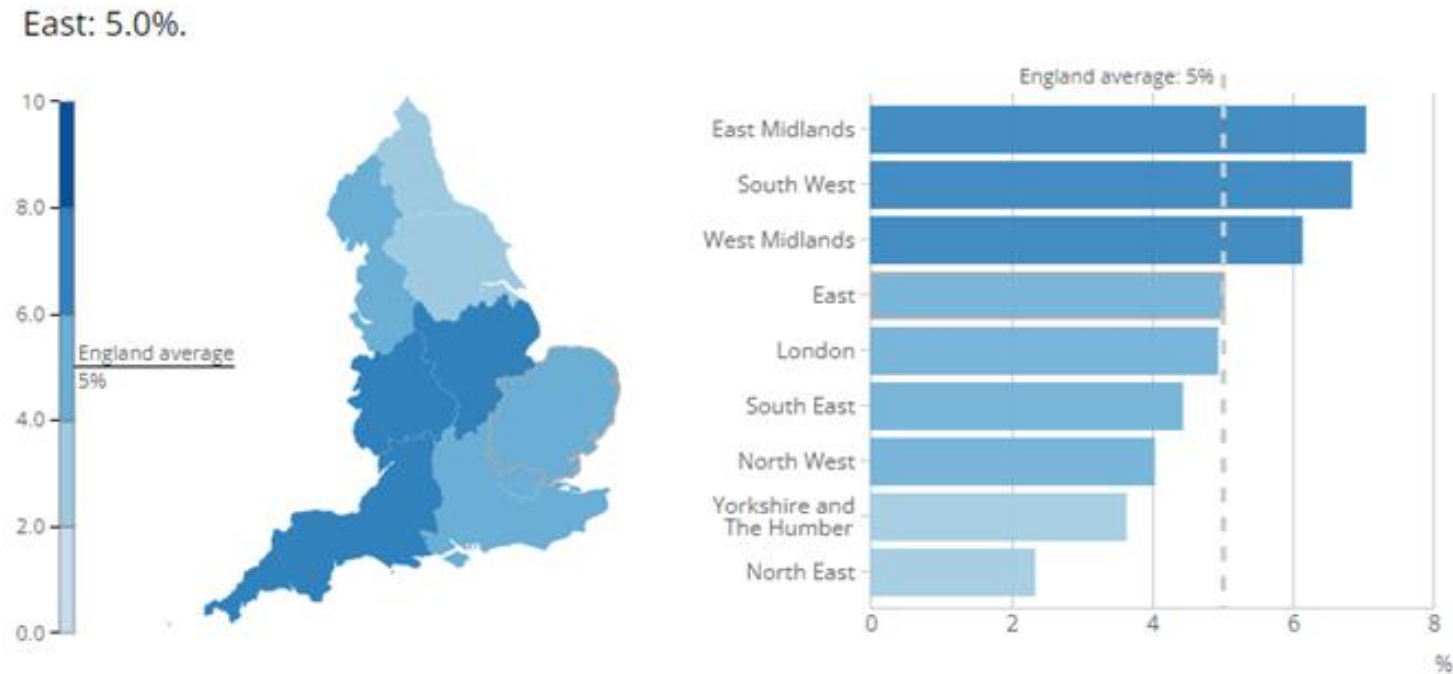


Significant performance challenges include:

- UEC, inc. ambulance handover delays
- Diagnostic waiting times
- Elective recovery
- Non-criteria to reside (NCTR)

# The South West population is projected to increase by nearly 7% in a decade, which is the second highest regional growth in England, against an average of 5%

Figure 3: Projected percentage population change for regions in England, mid-2018 to mid-2028



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# The six priorities in the South West Business Plan includes 'Best Use of Digital & Data'; expansion of the digital transformation team reflects this prioritisation



## Our SW Strategic Framework

Adding most value

2022-25 Strategic Priorities



Enablers



There is a plan for the SW Digital Team to increase from 1% to 5% of the total SW regional team (subject to consultation) in the NHS England restructure



# The national 'wind direction' points to increasing patient empowerment, integration of care and proactive care, based on Population Health Management (PHM) data

## Macro trends:

- Patient ownership, empowerment
- Further integration of care pathways across multiple organisations
- Move towards proactive care, based on PHM data

## Consequences for Digital:

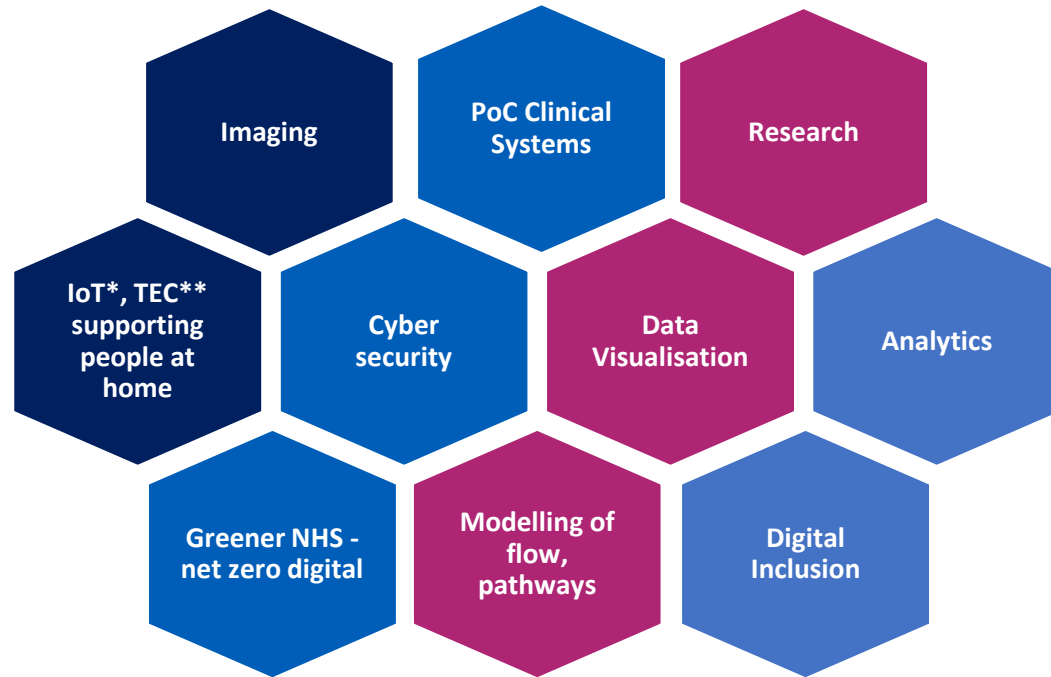
- Electronic Patient Records (EPRs) 'levelling up' and Minimum Digital Foundations (MDFs) for EPR's
- Aggregated data layers at Integrated Care System (ICS)/ multi-ICS level
- Robust cyber security strategy to underpin digital care

## Consequences for Workforce:

- Core skills, but also pace to adapt to rapidly developing technologies, e.g. in Virtual Wards, artificial intelligence (AI) and cyber security



# So, how can 'Digital' respond to this emerging profile?



**Attributes, knowledge and skills** required to serve wide range of digital functions:

- Data Science
- Modelling
- Machine Learning, AI
- Systems Integration
- Business Change in complex adaptive systems
- Cyber security
- Flexibility
- Adaptability
- Communications

\*Internet of Things

\*\*Technology-Enabled Care

# We are going further than the strategic ambition of 'Best Use of Digital & Data' by aiming to be the 'most digitally enabled region'



## Our SW Strategic Framework

Adding most value

2022-25 Strategic  
Priorities



Quality

Enablers

Productivity & Finance

Regulation & Oversight



The South West also aims to be the **most digitally enabled region** in England, which means we must not only engage in all of the national digital initiatives, but go above and beyond...



# In addition to the many nationally-driven digital programmes, there are four core South West digital transformation initiatives, all grounded in the ethos of Human Centred Design

- Empathy
- Curiosity
- Open-mindedness

“What matters to you?”

1 Primary Care Lab

1

2 GP Websites

2

3 Remote Health Management

3

4 One South West

4

Together, will form the Primary Care Digital Experience programme:

“To transform the human experience of primary care processes for the better, using digital technology and data”

“To empower neighbourhood teams with the digital tools and data they need to keep people well, at home, for longer”

“To transform the experience of direct patient care, through seamless digital information flows, across organisational boundaries”

# The Primary Care Laboratory will provide an 'offline' environment to experiment with digital components and innovations, then identifying and assuring the best end to end solutions to deploy

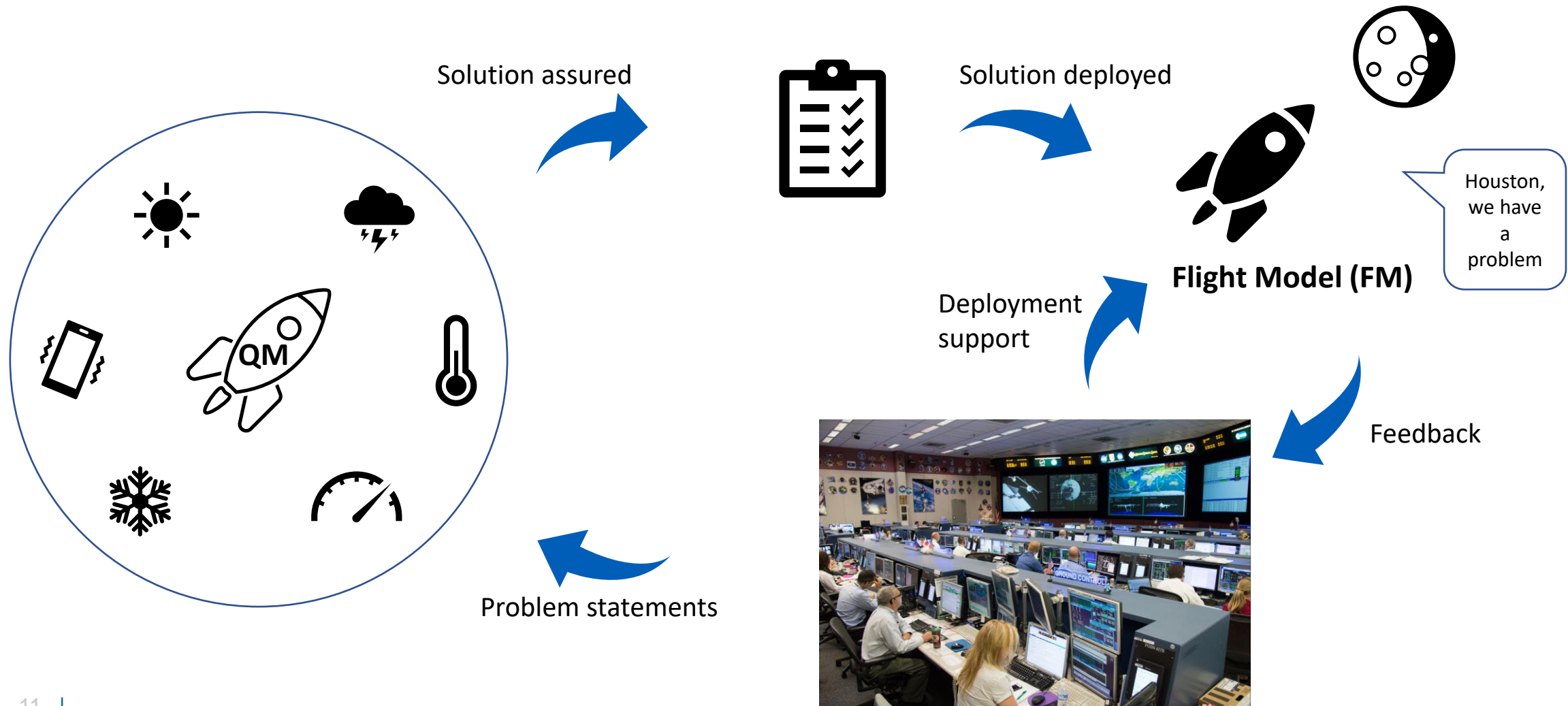
**The exam question:** How do we overcome the challenge of digitally transforming services in a busy 'live' environment, such as general practice?

## What is the Lab?

- A physical and virtual environment to learn and experiment
- A trusted partnership to test innovative solutions in near to real-life environments
- Helps address real needs of end-users, increasing acceptance and reducing time to adoption
- Brings digital design closer to real-life care settings



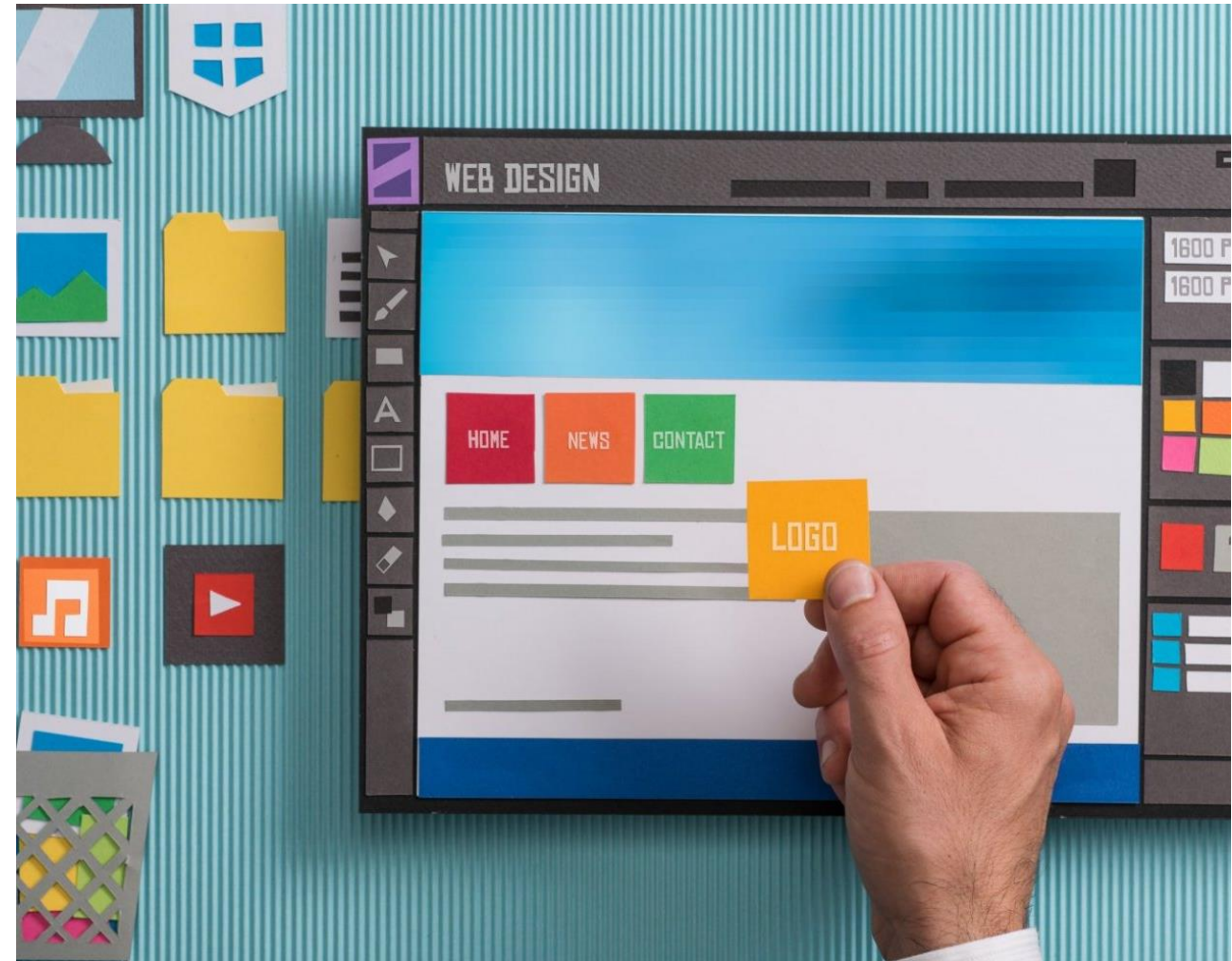
# Once the Lab is established, programme delivery will move into a cycle of continuous improvement and expand from general practice into to other areas of primary care



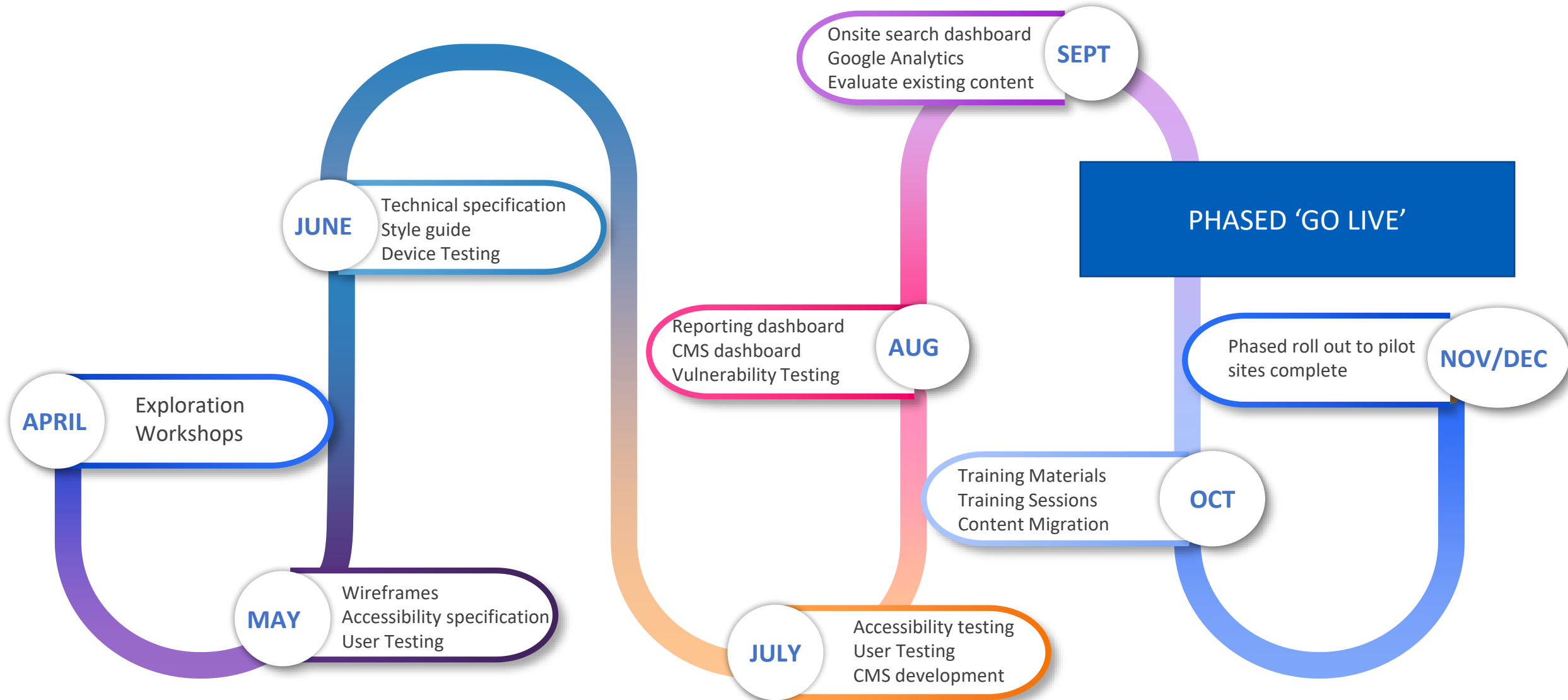
# We are creating a standardised GP website template to improve the experience of access to general practice and shift demand away from telephone lines to online interactions

“If we create and implement a **standardised, modern GP Website** template across GP practices in the South West, then GP practices will see a **reduction in call volumes** and citizen **experience** of general practice (and beyond) **will improve...**

...because citizens would prefer to use an accessible, intuitive, trusted and reliable website than to wait in call queues (particularly at 8am)”



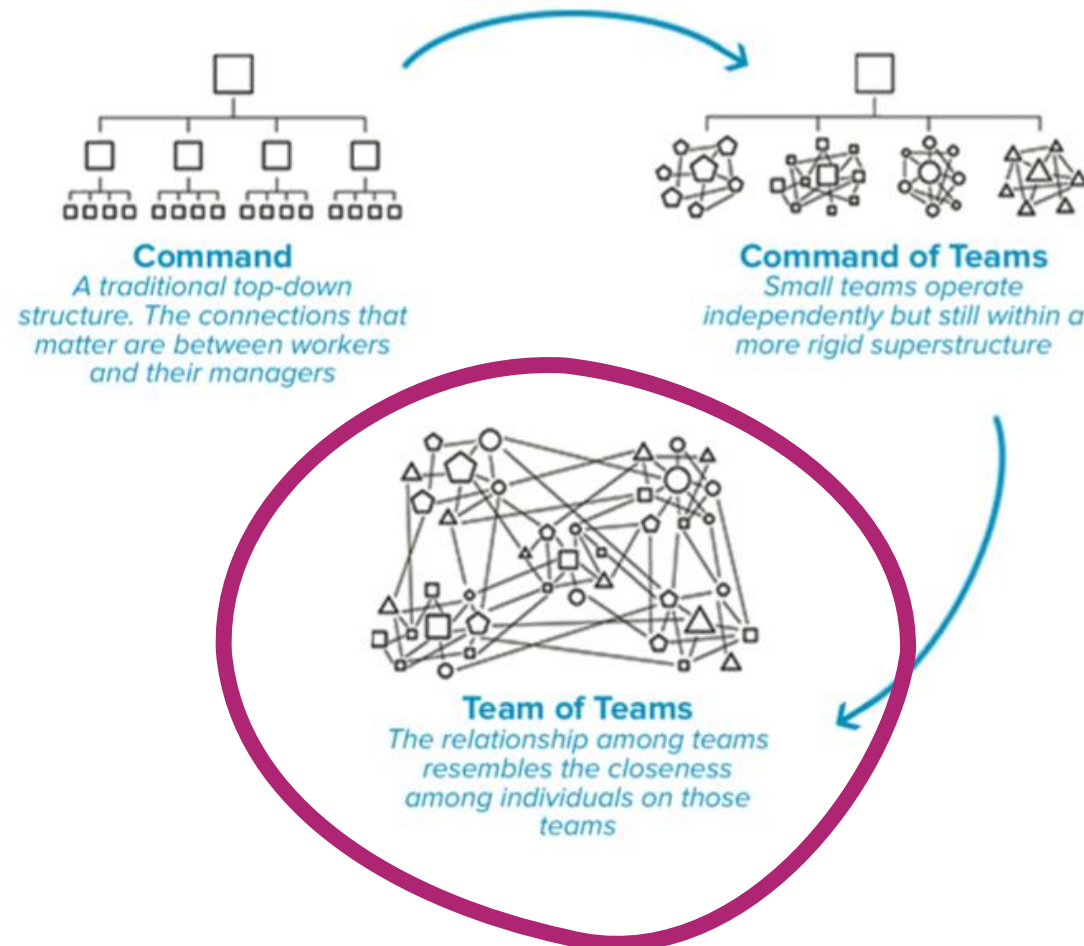
# Around 26 practices are involved in the pilot phase across the South West and we are currently on track to 'go live' with the new website in pilot sites from September



# The Fuller vision will be brought to life through up to six Digital Neighbourhood Vanguards, facilitated by a Human Centred Design approach

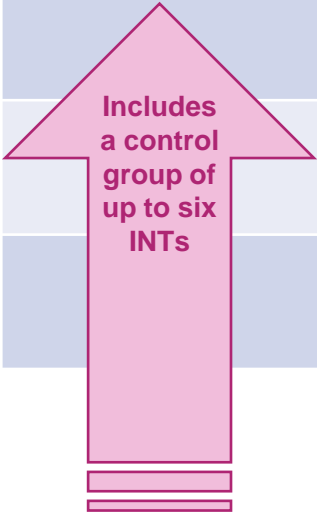
## Mission:

“To transform the **experience** of the **citizens** we serve and the **workforce** we support by empowering **integrated neighbourhood teams** (or ‘teams of teams’) with the **digital technology** and **data** capabilities required to enable **proactive care** and prevent unplanned healthcare events”



# There are four levels of participation available, with every Integrated Neighbourhood Team invited to join the Community of Practice

Support offer	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Baselining your Integrated Neighbourhood Team against the model for proactive care	☑	☑	☑	☑
Community of Practice: 'Best Use of Digital and Data in Neighbourhoods'	Optional	☑	☑	☑
AI-based risk stratification licence, with (dis)benefit reporting +/- comparison with existing PHM tool(s)		☑	☑	☑
Human Centred Design transformation programme for AI-based risk stratification			☑	☑
Human Centred Design transformation programme for digital-enabled pathway of care				☑



**Participation capacity:**  
 Level 1 n=unlimited Integrated no. of INTs  
 Level 2 n=24 INTs max.  
 Level 3 n=3 INTs max.  
 Level 4 n=3 INTs max.

Intensively resourced  
 “Digital Neighbourhood  
 Vanguard”

# What do these digital transformation initiatives have in common? Human Centred Design: a mindset and an approach that can be applied to all transformation

**So, what does this mean  
for digital health and care  
skills development?**

Can I speak to the  
Director of  
Electricity, please?



Let's start a conversation:  
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