

Preparing for Adulthood Transitions Roadshow 20 – 24 September 2021

Evaluation Report

Introduction

The 7th Preparing for Adulthood (PfA) Transitions Roadshow information event took place virtually between 20th and 24th September 2021 via MS Teams. Due to Covid restrictions, an event in June 2020 was not held, but some Transitions information sessions took place in the Local Offer Big Day 2020 virtual event.

The Transitions Roadshow planning group agreed to hold this year's event virtually to ensure that it went ahead, and also to ensure it was Covid-safe for all attendees. The Roadshow planning group hope to be able to offer an in-person event again in June 2022.

The Roadshow was planned and delivered again this year by the Roadshow Planning Group, which includes representatives from Swindon Borough Council (SBC) Adults and Children's Services and SEND, Swindon Carers Centre (SCC), Great Western Hospital (GWH), STEP and Swindon SEND Families Voice (SSFV).

An extensive programme of communications was completed across the Council services, partners in Health, Schools and colleges, voluntary sector, elected Members and others, and included social media posts through Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. A representative from Swindon SEND Families Voice did a Roadshow promotional film that was published on the Local Offer.

Eventbrite invitations to the Roadshow sessions, together with the full Roadshow Programme, were published on the Roadshow page of the Swindon Local Offer.

Evaluation of the event highlighted that in spite of a Swindon Borough Council system outage on day 2, the 5-day virtual event was overall a success. In total, 13 out of 15 sessions were run over the week, all being hosted by the Service Development Manager in SBC Adult Services. Arrangements have been made for the 2 sessions that could not take place to be offered as part of the Local Offer Big Fortnight in November 2021, so that parents, carers and professionals are able to access information relating to Preparing for Adulthood.

In addition, all PowerPoint presentations from the Roadshow have been added to the Transitions Roadshow page on the Swindon Local Offer at [Swindon Local Offer - Preparing for Adulthood Transition Roadshow](#). The Roadshow was planned to cover the 4 Preparing for Adulthood outcomes, Independent Living, Education, Employment & Training, Friends, Relationships & Community and Good Health, together with Additional Information and Support Services.

This year, due to the Roadshow being a virtual event, two sessions were offered each morning where 4 services were given 10 minutes to share information about their organisation / service with parents, carers and professionals and then to answer any questions raised. This was then followed by a one-hour presentation each day at 1.00 pm covering:

Monday 20 September 2021	Independent Living	Supporting you to access the right accommodation
Tuesday 21 September 2021	Education, Employment and Training	The role of the Transitions Team in Adult Social Care*
Wednesday 22 September 2021	Additional Information and Support Services	To claim or not to claim – benefits for young people and their parents
Thursday 23 September 2021	Friends, Relationships and Community Involvement	Preparation for Adulthood – Making the annual review count
Friday 24 September 2021	Good Health	Health Transitions at GWH and Learning Disability Annual Health Checks

*This session was unable to run due to IT difficulties, so has been rearranged to be offered within the Local Offer Big Fortnight in November 2021.

A total of 85 parents, carers and professionals signed up to attend the presentations, and an opportunity was given to ask questions and receive answers within each of these sessions.

Feedback was gathered from those who attended, including parents, carers, professionals and presenters by e-survey. The results of this e-survey are reflected in Section 2 Evaluation of this report.

A 'You said, we did' table from 2019 feedback can be seen at the end of this report.

1. Attendance and Past Event Comparison

	Sept 2021	June 2019	June 2018	Sept 2017
All	85*	141	127	102
Parents/carers	47*	68	52	31
Professionals	38*	64	65	51
Young People	0	9	10	14

*Sept 2021 numbers above are based on number of people invited. As this year's event was held virtually on MS Teams, it was difficult to know exactly who attended which event. Some people may have attended multiple event sessions, so accurate figures cannot be reflected by adding up number of attendees for each session. Some people who had signed up through Eventbrite forwarded the invitations on to others, so no record of them being invited would be available. However, the following number of people were recorded joining each session. These figures reflect a combination of parents/carers and professionals.

The Preparing for Adulthood Transitions Roadshow page on the Swindon Local Offer was most viewed page (ever) in September with 729 views. That means that parents, carers and professionals are getting to the information/presentations on Transitions.

In addition, there have been 3 parent carer new referrals to Swindon Carers Centre since September Roadshow, with parent carers noting that they heard about the Swindon Carers Centre offer from their presentation at the Roadshow.

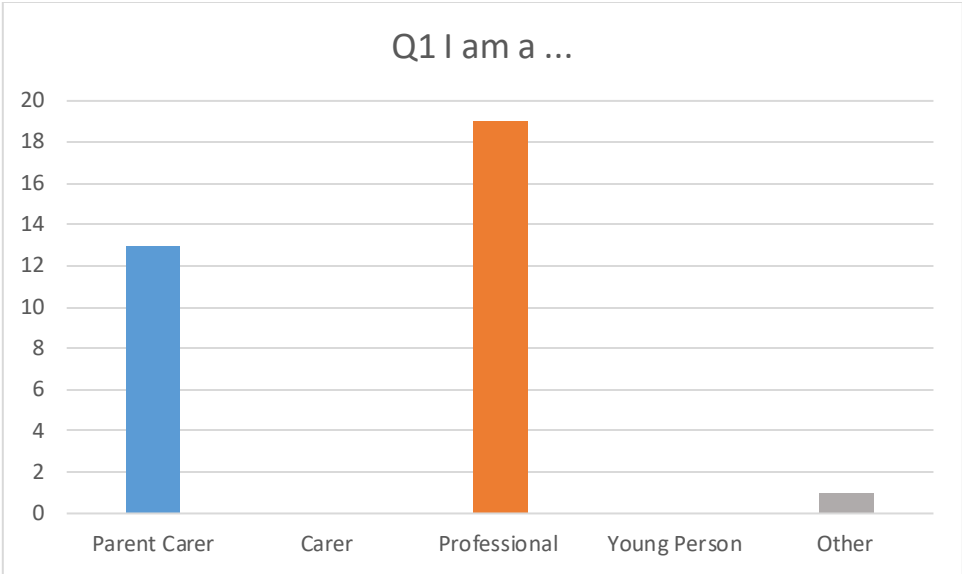
Session No	Topic	Total number recorded attending
1	Independent Living	30
2	Independent Living	33
3	Independent Living	23
4	Education, Employment and Training	31
5	Education, Employment and Training	Did not run due to IT difficulties
6	Education, Employment and Training	Did not run due to IT difficulties
7	Additional Information and Support Services	24
8	Additional Information and Support Services	21
9	Additional Information and Support Services	29
10	Friends, Relationships and Community Involvement	20
11	Friends, Relationships and Community Involvement	20
12	Friends, Relationships and Community Involvement	26
13	Good Health	16
14	Good Health	14
15	Good Health	20

- It is possible that some people who joined as professionals were also parents/carers.
- No young people attended the Roadshow this year – this may be due to the Roadshow being held virtually and within the school day, and also it is clear in the promotion that the Roadshow is for parents, carers and professionals who support young people with additional needs age 14+, rather than for young people.

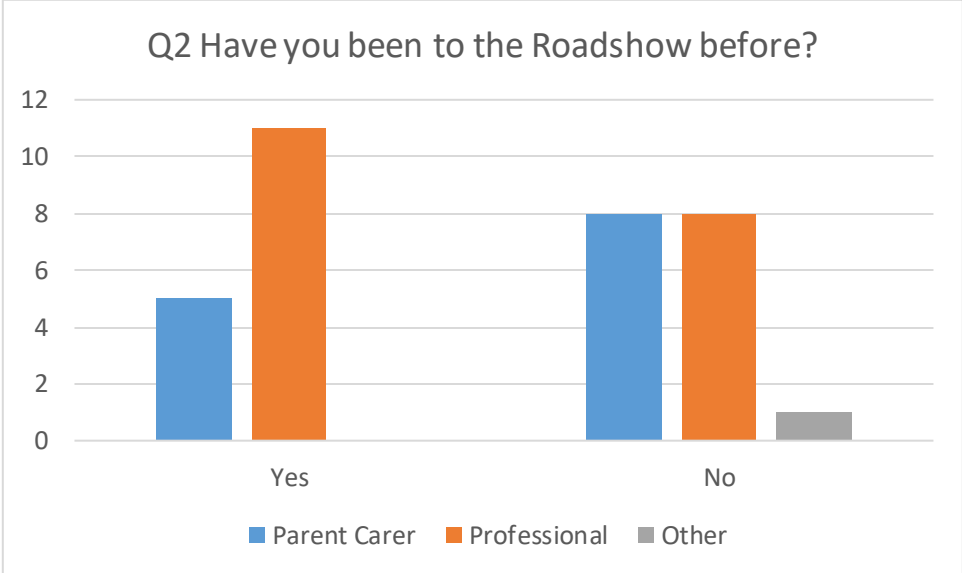
2. Evaluation

33 evaluations were completed via Smart Survey by those who attended the event:

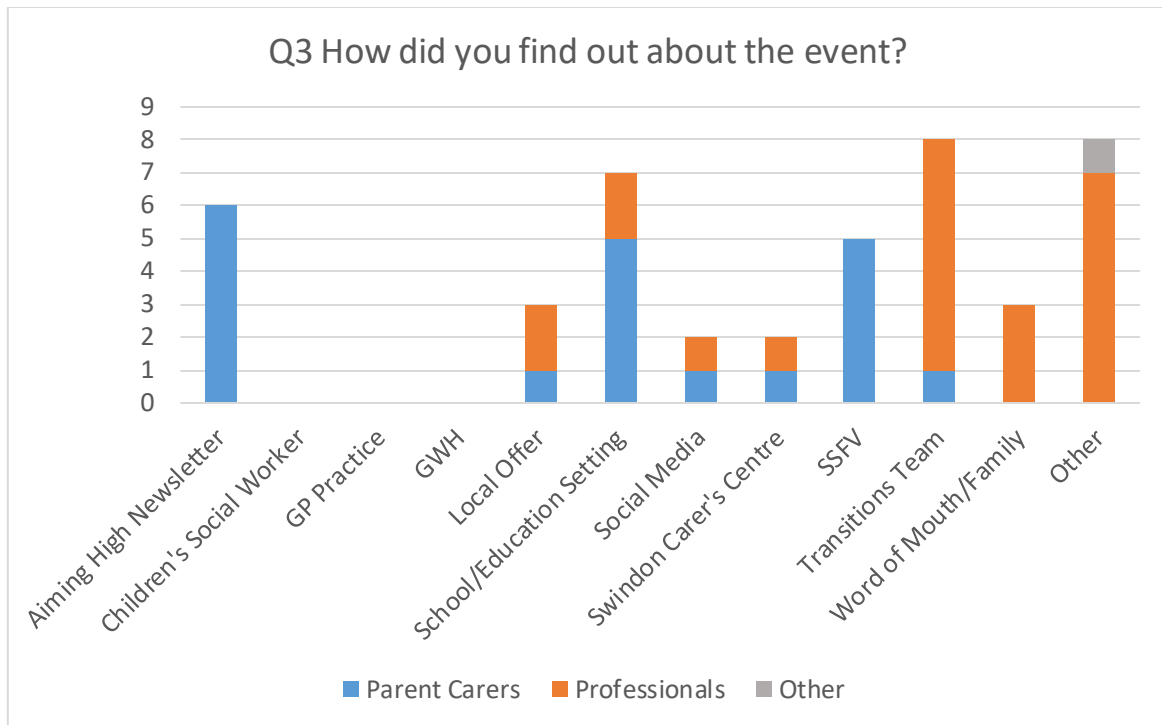
- 13 were from parents/carers
- 19 were from professionals
- 1 was 'other' – LA representative
- No young people reported attending this year's event



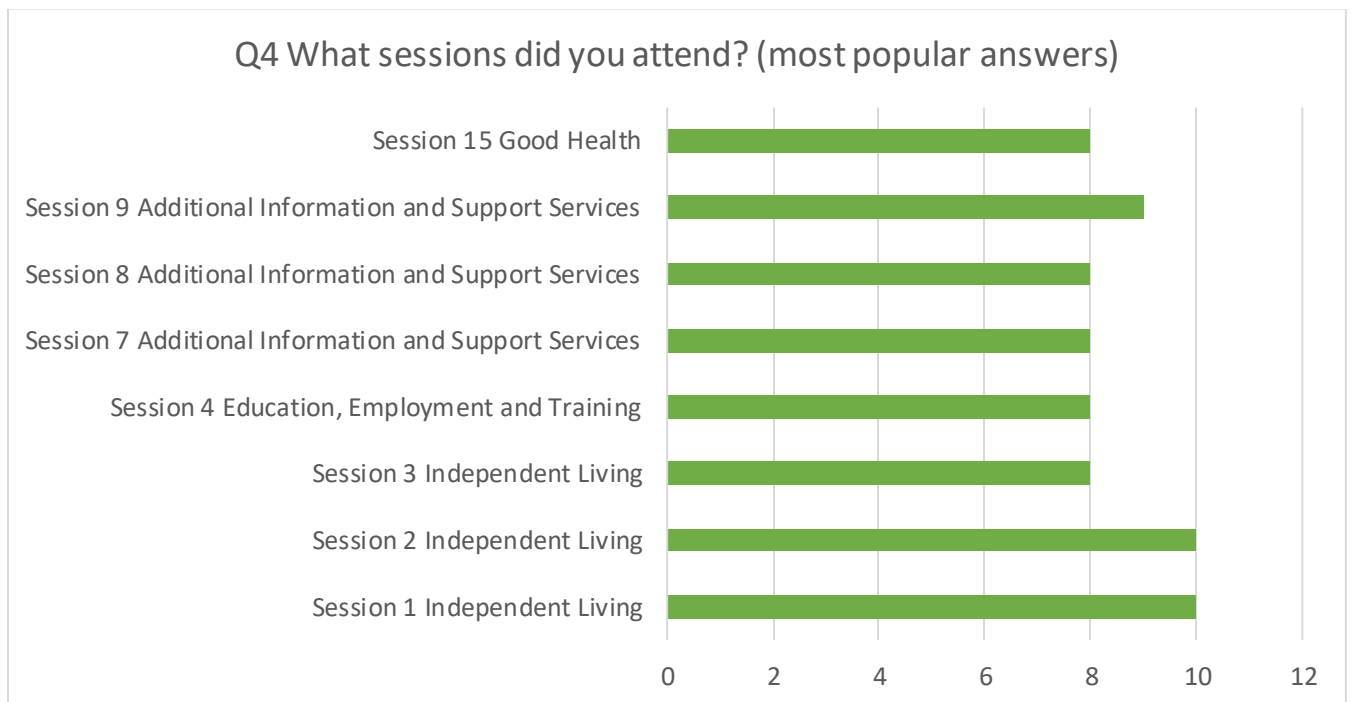
Of the 33 evaluations received, 16 people indicated they had previously attended a Roadshow, and 17 people indicated they had not – an almost even split.

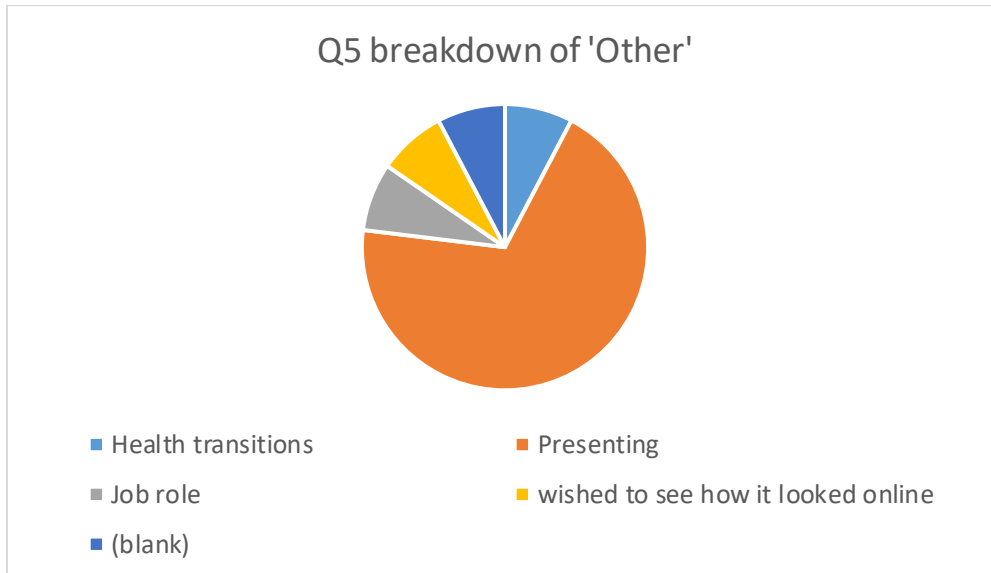
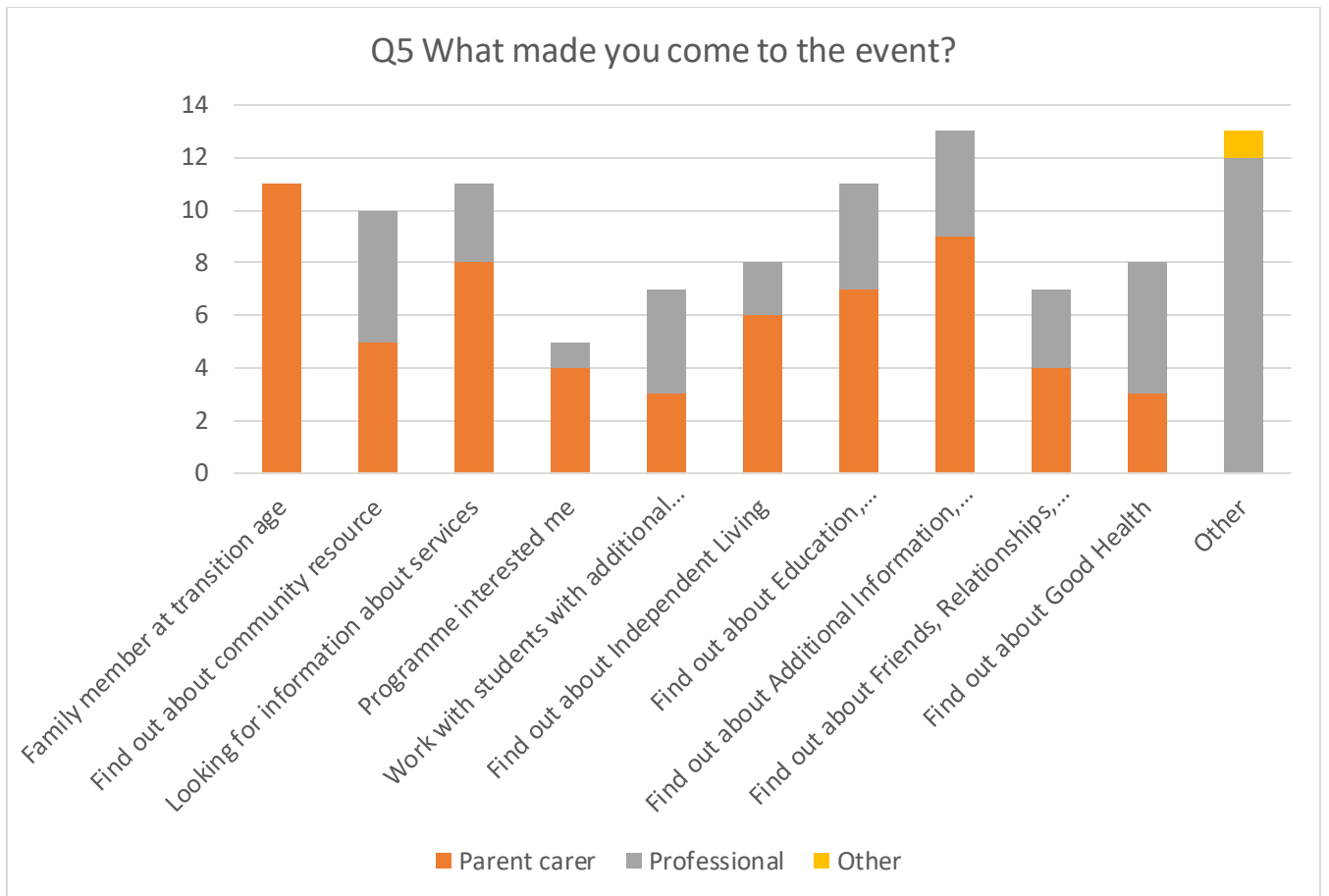


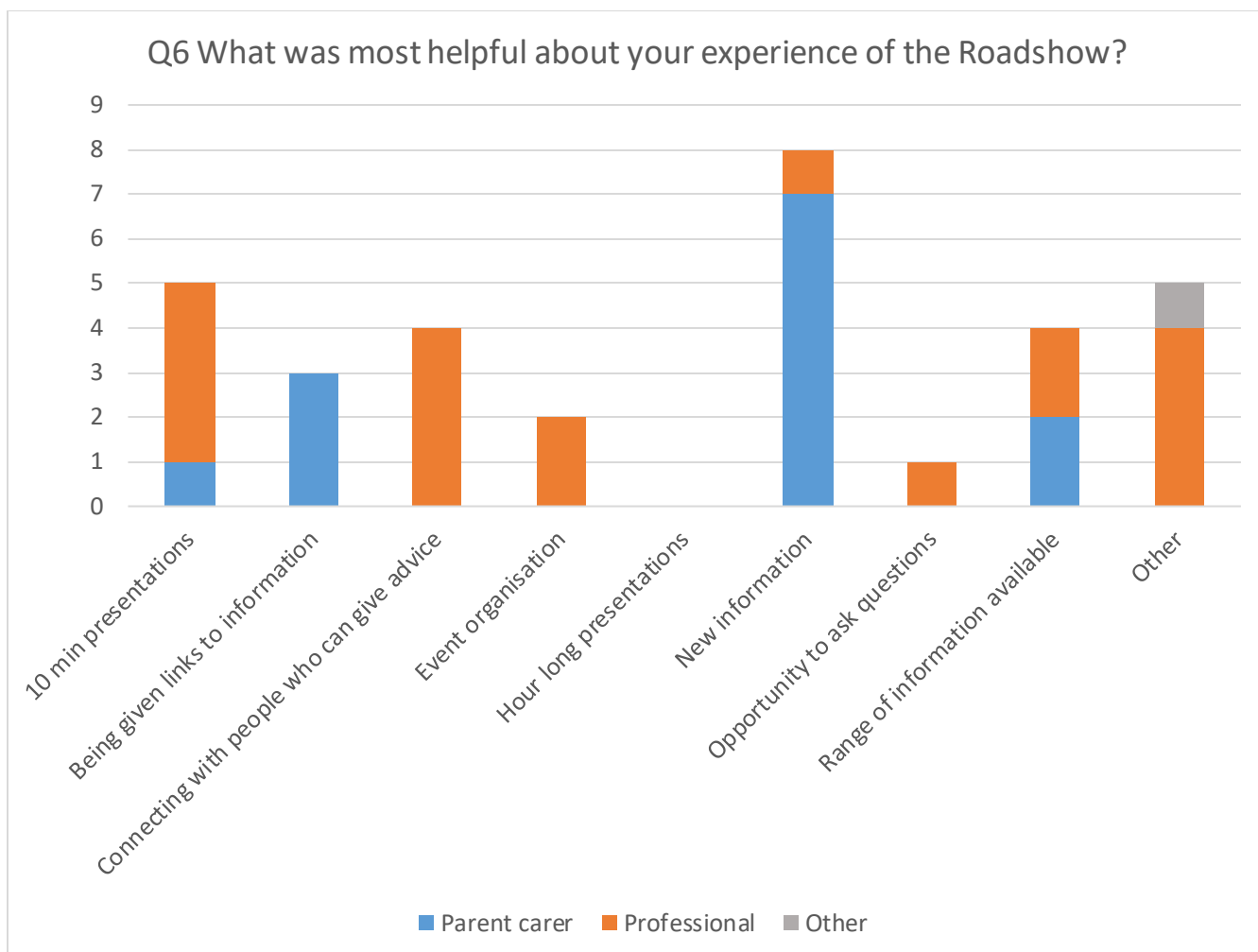
The most popular way that parents found out about the event was through the Aiming High Newsletter, whereas professionals reported finding out about the event through the Transitions team, and 'other'. The 8 people who answered 'other' to this question gave further information indicating that three were presenters, two were invited internally through SBC, one was involved with planning the event, one received an email invitation and one through work.



This year, 15 sessions were offered, and as previously mentioned Sessions 5+6 on Tuesday 21st September were unable to run due to a system outage experienced by Swindon Borough Council. The most popular sessions that people fed back that they attended are shown in the following chart:



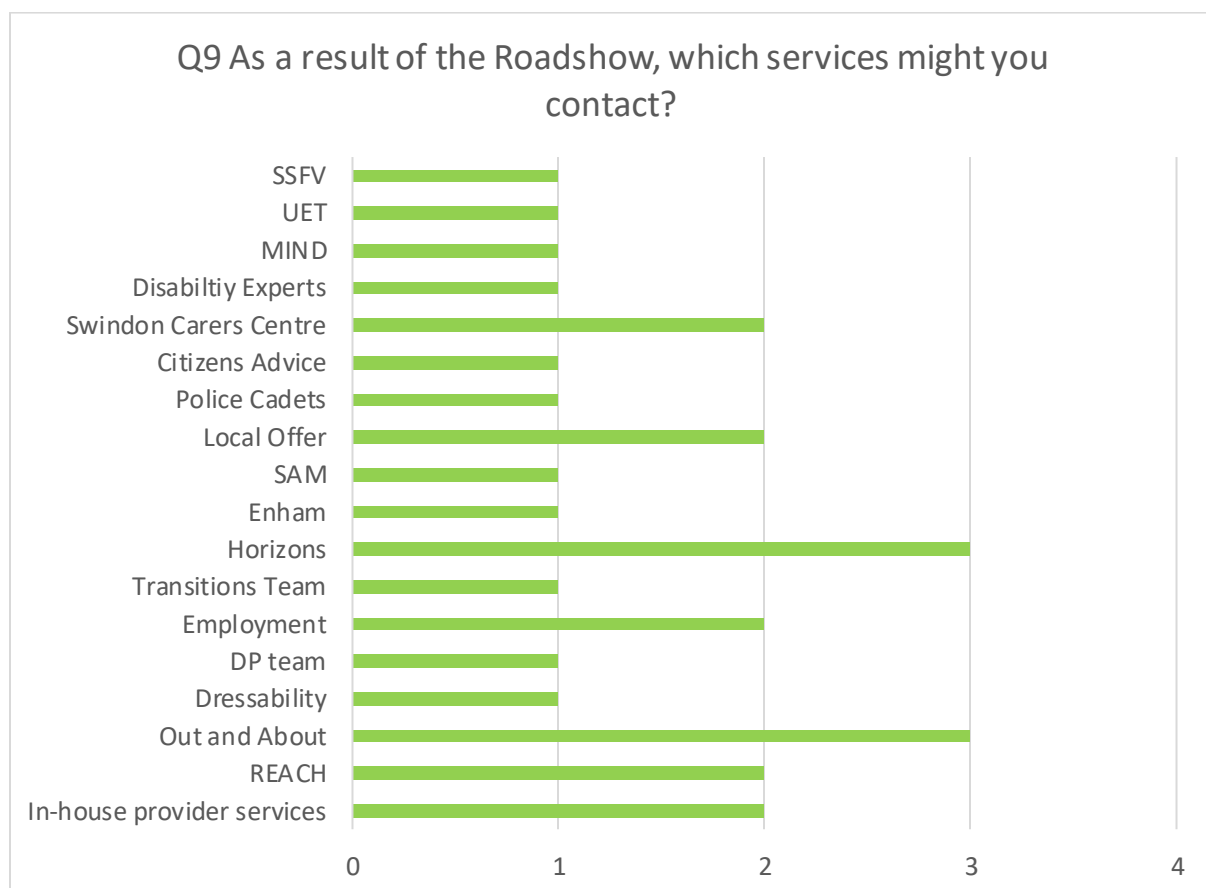




Q7 How could the event be improved?	No respondents
More in person sessions	1
In person event	5
Nothing/it worked well	3
Online evening sessions	1
Recordings of sessions	5
Spread out over 2 weeks, less sessions per day	1
Less advertising, more transitions based information	2
Hold event at a venue related to transitions, eg: Respite, Saltway, Carers Centre	1

**Q8 What new organisations would you like to be invited next year?
(Grouped by PfA outcomes)**

Independent Living	Education, Employment and Training	Additional Information and Support Services	Friends, Relationships and Community Involvement	Good Health
Care agencies	Access Arrangement Assessor/JCQ to explain how/what is done to make GCSE/A level or other exams accessible and what is the process	Only those relevant to transitions and what can offer child	Is there a choir maybe?	
	Local Special Schools	SEND Team	More information about evening clubs and activities	
	Steady Chefs and other independent/voluntary organisations			



Any other comments and ideas for improvement:

<p>It was good to have something this year but difficult to talk about services fully in such a short time. The live conversations with people make all the difference</p>
<p>Being a virtual event meant I could attend far more than if it were in person. It is so difficult to get out of school to attend events so this meant I could just join the teams calls in between meetings/lessons. I never would have been able to attend so many sessions if it meant leaving school to do so!</p>
<p>Great show as always! Thank you for all your hard work.</p>
<p>I normally come to the marketplace event, yet this felt like it was able to reach more people.</p>
<p>Great Job! Always informative - happy to support whenever you need - thanks for all the hard work.</p>
<p>I got more out of the event being online - over 15 hours of information, than I did at the previous roadshow attending for a couple of hours in person.</p>
<p>Honoured to take part. Thanks for the invite!</p>
<p>Very much gained information from the roadshow</p>
<p>Thank you so much for organising this Roadshow. It has been very helpful. The sessions has had a lot of information to Parent Carer like me. The virtual session is very helpful for me as I find it convenient at home , attending sessions and not being able to think about being stress with time(as also doing a school run with another child).Thank you so much again for this opportunity.</p>
<p>It was well organised - as a presenter, we had plenty of opportunity to plan. The event itself was well managed despite the fact that it was virtual for the first time. Thought being virtual worked well - can't obviously substitute for face to face interaction, but likely enabled some people to attend that may not have been able to if they had to attend in person</p>
<p>Thank you very much. I found the events I attended very helpful. I'm hoping that I will be able to access all sessions and information on the Local Offer. I think it would be really helpful to continue to have online events, both live and downloadable, in conjunction with face to face events. Thank you.</p>
<p>Having the online roadshow was better than the face to face because you find out information from the providers who you would walk past in the face to face. Also there isn't the time to get round all the presenters in the face to face. Online is so much more accessible.</p>
<p>Really useful information. Thank you.</p>
<p>Please consider disability, a number of organisations discussed further and higher education and achievers many of the listeners will have children that will not get any qualifications whatsoever. I recognise that you have to cater for many different people however, there is plenty of information for mainstream out there this needed to be way more focused.</p>
<p>Some of the important events that got cancelled aren't rescheduled yet. They need to be done asap. Some professionals sounded very unhelpful eg New College. The multiple times stressing that "they are a mainstream college at the end of the day" gave the feeling they unwillingly participated and aren't really very SEN friendly. So if agencies such as them can be told that the audiences are SEN related, it might better cater to the audience.</p>
<p>The presenter cut off questions on one event as we were running out of time and then spent the next few minutes talking herself and I thought this was not right. It came across as</p>

a bit disorganised and a little thrown together. One presenter didn't attend but sent a video which was pointless as no questions could be answered. I think some speakers missed the point of this roadshow. Some talked about things that were of no relevance to transition

On behalf of all the parents and carers I would like to thank you for all your hard work in co-ordinating the sessions last week

Well done on organising another brilliant event, and taking on the challenge of the first online event, and doing this solo. No-one can help technical issues, I think most people come to expect them now, but hopefully next year's event will be face-to-face.

Just wanted to say the sessions today were great and you are doing a fab job of hosting it all! Really good. Well done!

Thank you for all your support though the planning of the event and for hosting. You did a great job and were a true professional when technical issues presented themselves.

Thank-you very much for inviting us, I thoroughly enjoyed presenting and also listening to the other presenters who offered some excellent services within Swindon. Thank-you again and we look forward to next year.

It was such a shame about the transitions session. However, the Housing session was brilliant and I'm sure there were many that went really well. I just wanted to say thank you to you for all your incredibly hard work you put into planning and facilitating the week. Thank you.

3. Presentations

Presentations took place on Monday 20 Sept 2021, Wednesday 22 Sept 2021, Thursday 23 Sept 2021 and Friday 24 Sept 2021 for one hour between 1.00pm – 2.00pm. Subjects covered included: Supporting you to access the right accommodation; To claim or not to claim – Benefits for young people and their parents; Preparation for Adulthood – Making the Annual Review Count; Health Transitions at Great Western Hospital and Learning Disability Annual Health Checks. Unfortunately, due to a Swindon system outage, the one-hour session on Tuesday, 21 Sept 2021 on the role of the Transitions Team in Adult Social Care was not held. However, this session has been booked to be included within the Local Offer Big Fortnight in November 2021, and those who booked to attend on 21 Sept 2021 will be invited to attend this session.

Supporting you to access the right accommodation (Monday 20 Sept 2021)

Elaine Turner, Commissioner Adults – Learning Disability, Adult Social Care, Swindon Borough Council, and Chelsie Eddolls, Social Care Housing Lead, Swindon Borough Council presented this session. 23 people attended. The presentation included information on when to register for housing, what type of housing is available, information about capacity and deputyship, and tenancy services and the portal.

To claim or not to claim – benefits for young people and their parents (Wednesday 22 Sept 2021)

John Bristow, Macmillan/Transitions Welfare Benefits Caseworker, Citizens Advice Swindon presented this session. 29 people attended. The presentation included

information on what benefits young people can claim, what benefits parents can claim, which benefits are means tested, work capability assessments, and who and when to notify when/if circumstances change.

Preparation for Adulthood – making the Annual review count (Thursday 23 Sept 2021)

Caroline Bell, Statutory SEND Service Senior Manager, Swindon Borough Council and Marny Jessop, Team Leader for Preparing for Adulthood Hub, Statutory SEND Service, Swindon Borough Council presented this session. 26 people attended. The presentation included information on young people preparing to make their own decisions, questions to consider for each of the 4 areas of preparing for adulthood, and independence skills being encouraged at the earliest possible time at school and at home.

Health transitions at GWH and Learning Disability Annual Health Checks (Friday 24 Sept 2021)

Dr Raman Sharma, Community Paediatric Consultant, GWH NHS Foundation Trust, and Kay Reeve, BSW Learning Disability and Autism Programme Lead, NHS Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group presented this session. 20 people attended. The presentation included information on what an annual health check is, who is eligible, what the benefits are, how to request one and where to find further information. In addition, information was shared on considerations for young people transitioning from paediatric health services to adult health services.

All presentations are available at: [Swindon Local Offer - Preparing for Adulthood Transitions Roadshow, September 2021](#)

4. Knowing what we know now, what next?

- Next event: June 2022
- Planning Group to continue to work in partnership to organise the event
- Assess feedback data to inform structure of next event and who to invite as stallholders/presenters
- Plan an in-person event in 2022, assuming Covid guidance will allow this, incorporating some online presentations – a hybrid model.

‘You Said, We Did’ table from 2019 feedback

You said in 2019	We did in 2021
Invite more presenters for support and activities 16+ and supported employment options other than Building Bridges	<p>We did six sessions on Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st September focused on Independent Living and Education, Employment and Training. A total of 19 different organisations attended (note that Session 5 on Tuesday 21st could not take place as there was a Swindon Borough Council system outage). This included Phoenix Enterprises which was suggested in feedback in 2019.</p> <p>There were 10 presentation sessions with 4/5 presenters in each session over the 5 days.</p> <p>There were 5 one hour presentations with 1 or 2 presenters, so more in depth.</p> <p>All presentation sessions had opportunities for question and answers.</p> <p>This structure was designed to replicate the face to face Roadshow where there were around 40 stallholders and 4 presentations.</p>
Consider the venue and timing of event – room size, noise levels, quiet spaces	<p>The Roadshow in 2021 was an online event because of Covid. The Planning Group (SBC Adult Services, Children’s Services/SEND, GWH, STEP, Swindon Carers Centre, Swindon SEND Families Voice) agreed the structure of the event across 1 week, with each day focused on one of the Preparing for Adulthood outcomes. A total of 47 different organisations / agencies did presentations.</p> <p>The sessions were not recorded, but all PowerPoint presentations will be available on the Swindon Local Offer</p> <p>Timing of sessions was from 9.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. to fit in with the school day and school pick up times. It was agreed by the Roadshow Planning Group not to do weekend sessions, as the feedback from the Local Offer Big Day showed that the take up for weekend sessions offered was low. In previous Roadshows which had run until 7.00 p.m., take up after 3.00 p.m. was low.</p>
Mental health support at 18 when closed to TAMHS & CAMHS	Adult Mental Health (AWP) and Swindon and Gloucestershire MIND did presentations on Friday 24 th September.
Technology aids Support for individuals, RNID guide dogs, more children's services	Swindon Borough Council Visual Support and Swindon Borough Council Hearing Support did presentations – including information on technology aids – on Friday 24 th September.
Easy read forms and info. Poster was not easy to understand	Communications for 2021 included social media graphic and film, both of which were included on the Swindon Local Offer.

	<p>There was an offer through the Roadshow for parents and carers who were unable to access the presentations online to go to the Swindon Carers Centre in Sanford Street, and they would be assisted to view the presentations.</p> <p>Subtitles were available for every presentation, and instructions given on how to access them at the start of every presentation.</p>
Handouts at the end of talks with useful contact details	All the Roadshow presenters produced PowerPoint presentations which will be put on to the Swindon Local Offer following the Roadshow. These PowerPoint presentations include contact details for all the organisations represented.