





Why We all Need to Talk About Mental Health and How We Can Do it?

Erica Farmer
QUANTUMRISE
Tuesday 22nd March 2022



How can Learning Curve Group help?



We support learners, employers and FE providers nationally from apprenticeships, to short term vocational programmes

Delivering Mental Health Training

- Mental Health Awareness
- Children and Young People's Mental Health
- Mental Health First Aid

160,000+ learners impacted every year

> We work directly with learners and our FE provider partners to transform thousands of lives through learning each year

Accredited Mental Health Resources

We sell the resources for our mental health qualifications so FE providers can deliver the courses themselves (AEB fundable)

Largest developer of learning materials

We are the largest developer of Level 2 and Level 3 learning materials, including number of Mental Health qualifications

33,000+ studied Mental Health in the past year

Mental Health courses are consistently popular, with employers from Police Forces, NHS, Football Clubs & SME's





Erica Farmer

Erica has 20 years experience in corporate Learning & Development with some of the UK largest brands, including Centrica British Gas, Virgin, Specsavers and LV=.

Roles have included Head of Leadership & Talent, Head of Learning & Development and Head of Apprenticeships. Erica holds governance board roles with various Apprenticeship providers supporting strategy and compliance.





Objectives

This working webinar will answer the following questions:

- Why should I talk about mental health, mental wellbeing and mental toughness
- What tools and techniques can I use to talk about this with employees and apprentices in remote and hybrid working environments
- What support is available which I can use and signpost to



Mute and unmute here, or use space bar

Start and stop video



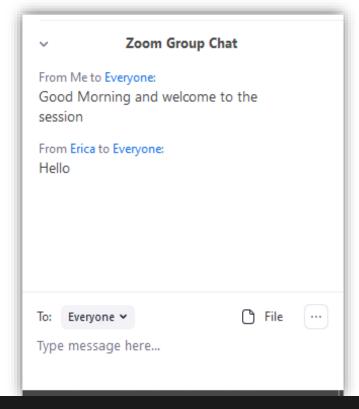












You can share messages via Chat





















You can rename yourself in Participants by hovering over your name and right clicking





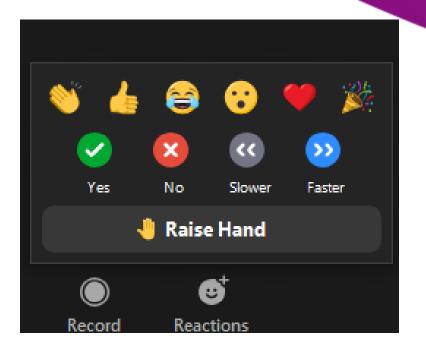














Respond and interactive with Reactions





















You are viewing Erica Farmer's screen

View Options ~

Zoom Ratio

Fit to Window >

Request Remote Control

Annotate

Exit Full Screen

Hover your mouse to the top of your screen to see this dropdown

To annotate: click here for controls.















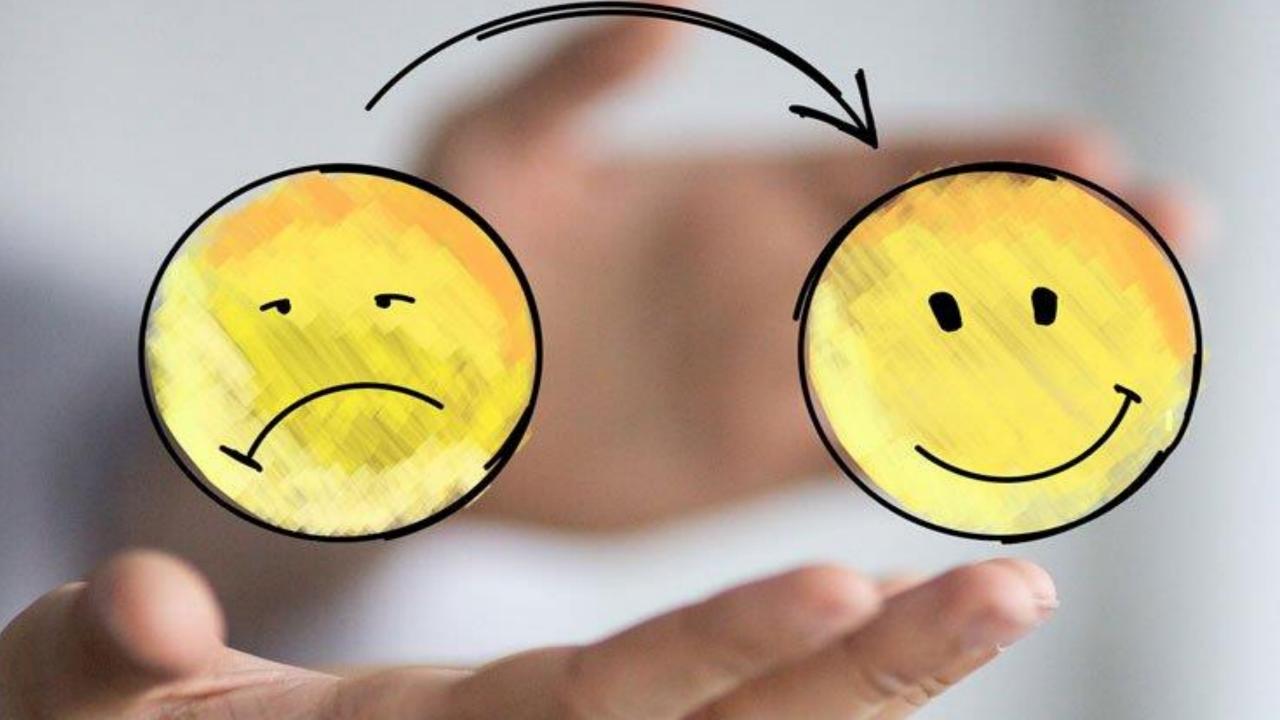








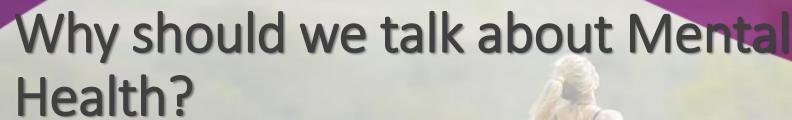






Why should we talk about Mental Health?

Answer in chat





60% of people say that they're mental health has declined since the pandemic

54% of all working days in 2018/2019 lost are due to poor mental health

We have a duty of care to everyone we work with and know



What does mental health, mental wellbeing and mental toughness mean to you?

Answer on the whiteboard

What do these terms mean to you?

Mental Wellbeing	Mental Health	Mental Toughness



What is Mental Wellbeing?

"Mental wellbeing is the experience of health, <u>happiness</u>, and prosperity. It includes having good mental health, high life satisfaction and a sense of meaning or purpose.

More generally, well-being is just feeling well"



What is Mental Health?

"Mental health <u>includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being</u>. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices.

Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood."



What is Mental Toughness?

"The <u>personality trait</u> which determines in large part how people deal effectively with <u>challenges stressors and pressure</u> irrespective of circumstances"



Your Mental Wellbeing





Considerations





Depression
Anxiety
Bi-Polar
Eating Disorders

Your Social Wellbeing





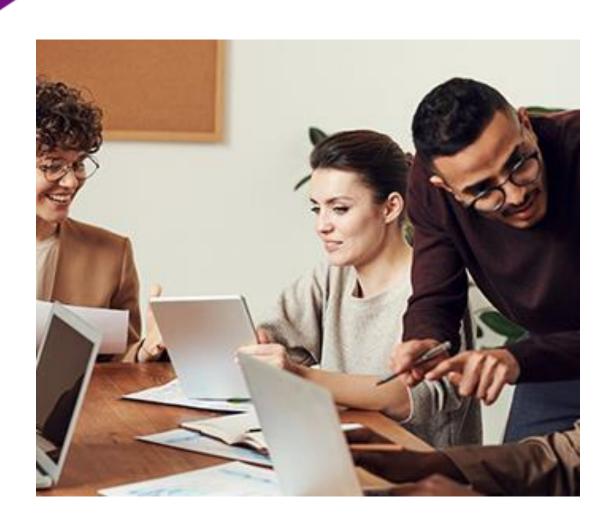


What are the benefits of looking after our Team's Mental Wellbeing and Mental Health?

Answer on the whiteboard







Better Performance Increased Concentration Decrease in Worrying Be More Decisive **Better Judgement** Positive Change in Team Dynamics Happiness and satisfaction



How does hybrid and remote working impact this?

Answer in chat





Dial up communication

Consider channel

Provide guidance to reduce decision fatigue

Extra training

Engagement and interaction

Be aware of your own preferences

Signpost resources

Provide policies

Breakout Activity



In smaller groups, discuss the signs you might see in someone with Mental Wellbeing or Mental Health challenges in a hybrid and remote working world.

15 minutes



Physical Signs

Feel tired

Experience aches and pains, headaches and sweats

Sleep poorly

Feel run down all the time

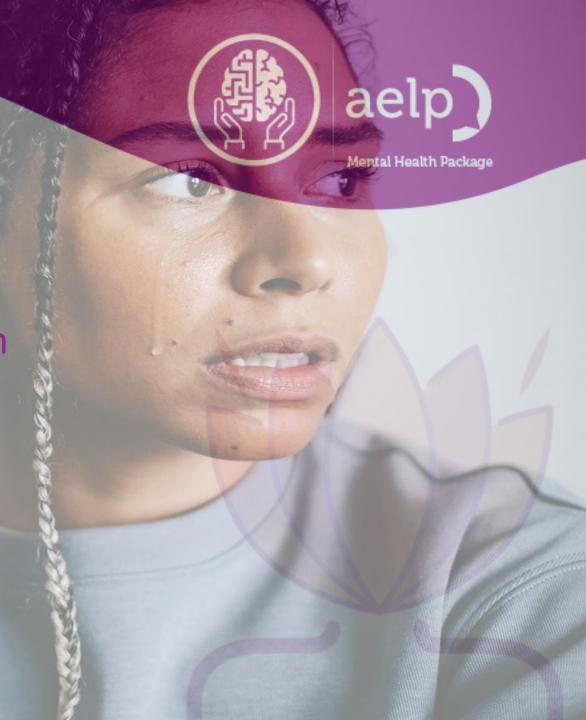
Experience weight loss or gain;

Suffer with skin problems such as rashes or eczema

Have an untidy appearance.



Feel anxious or distressed Lose confidence and/or motivation Suffer with mood swings Feel aggressive and/or tearful Feel low and/or confused Find it difficult to relax Struggle to absorb information Have lapses in memory





Behavioural Signs

Withdrawn at work
Working excessive hours
Feel restless
Performing inconsistently
Over-reacting to problems
Take risks that are excessive or out of character
Struggle with technology

We Need to Talk







Talking Tips



Develop a Mental Health Plan



Talking Fips



Use Positive Language

Talking Tips



Provide Structured

Checkins



Talking Fips



Share Techniques





The Mental Health at Work Commitment

STANDARD 3

Promote an open culture around mental health



Increased awareness and stigma being challenged



Empowered employees as champions and role models



Open two-way conversations and clear support





Remote Working

Notice how your team members are working in a remote environment so that you can pick up on any changes. Not being in the same room means you don't have extra information from body language to get a sense of what people are thinking or feeling.



Remote Working

Potential signs may include a lack of engagement on email or on video conferencing, sending emails late at night or all the time or not at all, a change in the language used in emails, not delivering on agreed targets, changes in productivity (increased or decreased) and/or quality of work.

As with non-remote working, you need to be sensitive to any changes in behaviour.



What questions could you ask to support someone with Mental Health concerns?

Answer in chat

Useful Questions to Ask

How are you feeling at the moment?

How long have you felt like this, is it an ongoing issue?

Is there anything we can do to help?

What is working well that may also help others?



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Who do you feel you can go to for support?

Are there any work related factors which are contributing to how you are feeling?

Breakout Activity



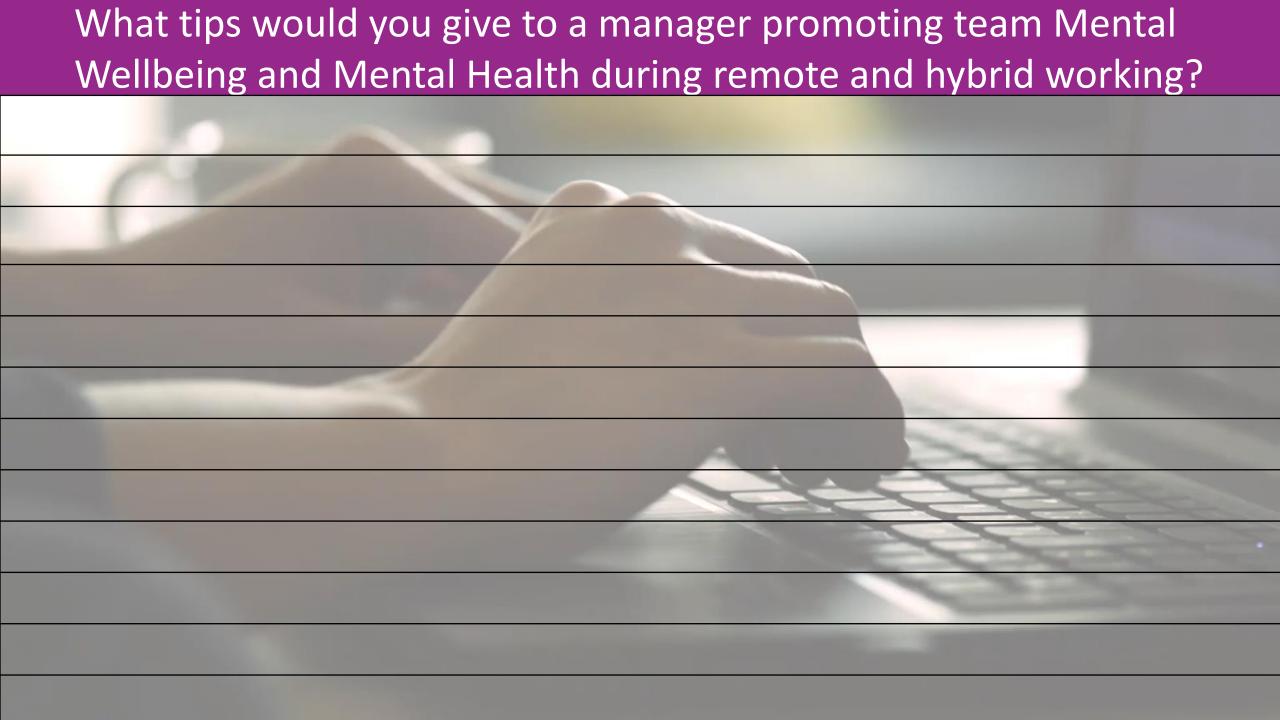
In smaller groups, discuss the key strategies you will be using to support Mental Wellbeing or Mental Health challenges in a hybrid and remote working world.

15 minutes



What tips would you give to a manager promoting team Mental Wellbeing during Hybrid and Remote working?

Answer on the whiteboard

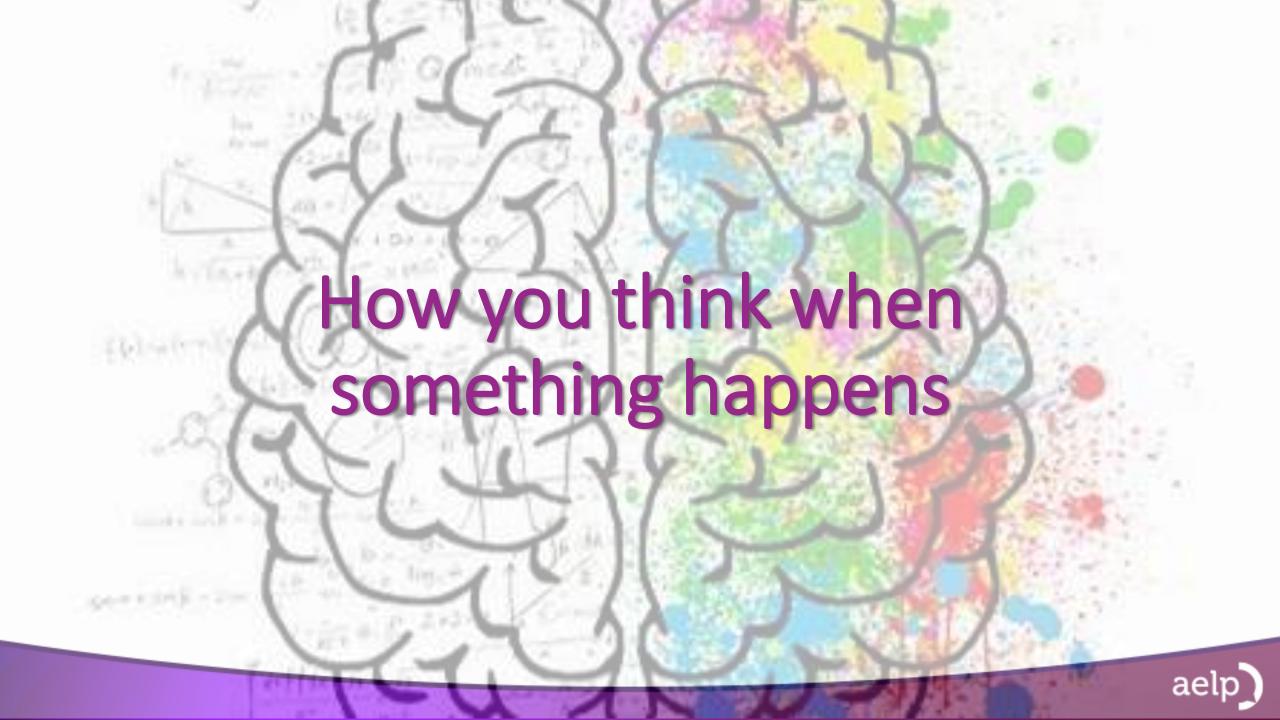












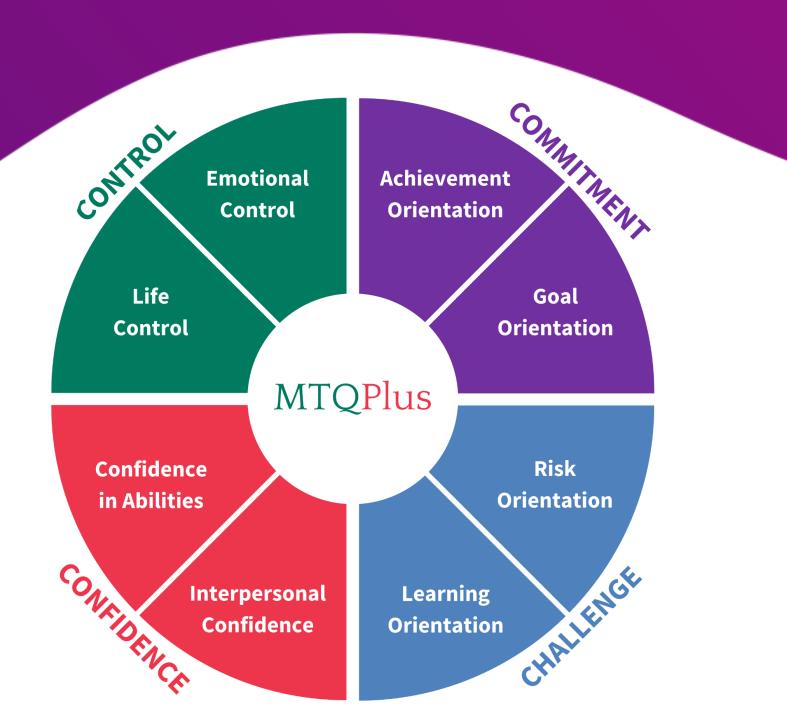






Wellbeing - A balanced state



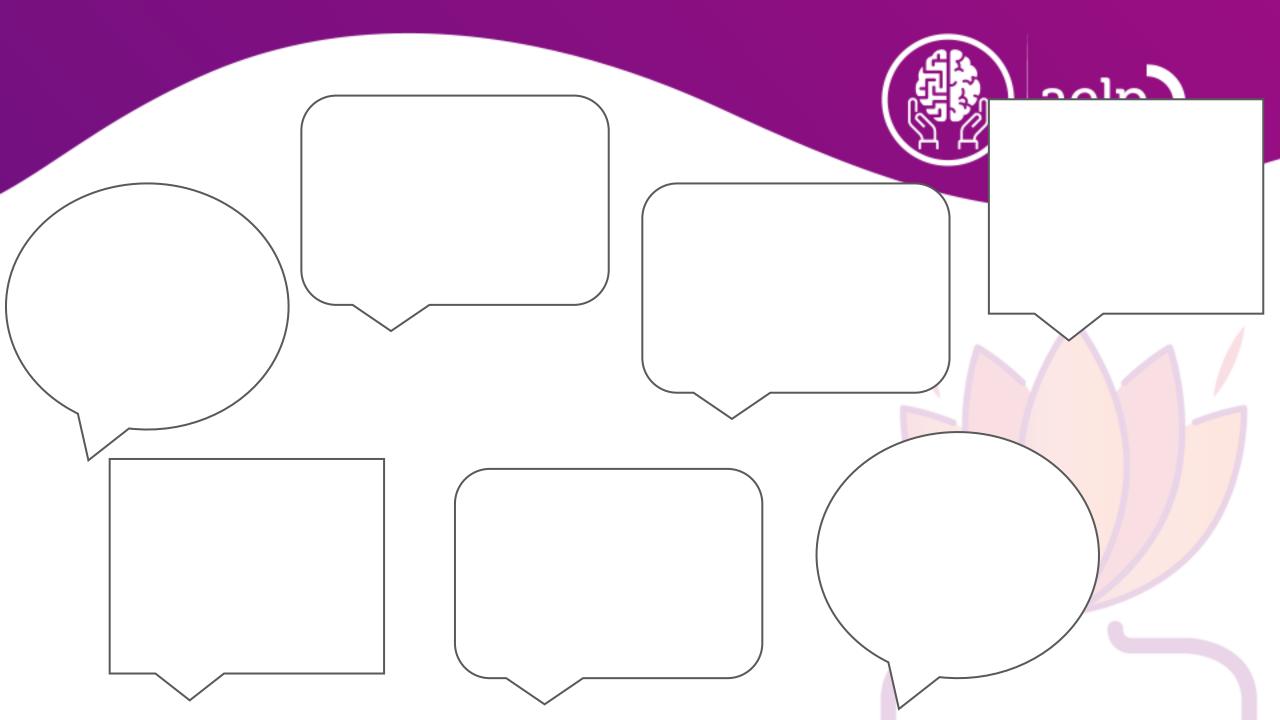






How can we help to develop Mental Toughness?

Answer on the whiteboard



Tips for Managers





Lead by example:

Actively encourage your team to adopt healthier working habits by working sensible hours, taking full lunch breaks, taking annual leave and resting after busy periods.



Take stock:

Include an agenda item at team meetings to discuss everyone's well-being together, and what factors are affecting this. A planning session can look at the issues in detail and develop a team action plan to address these.



Build your confidence on mental health:

Familiarise yourself with mental health policies and practices and how staff can seek confidential advice and support.



Be available:

Regular one-to-ones and catch-ups can help to maintain good working relationships and build mutual trust. Sometime a phone call is better than a video call!



Normalize mental wellbeing:

Touch base regularly with your employees to check how they're getting on and think about what might be causing them stress. Create space for them to ask questions and raise issues and give them permission to talk about home as well as work issues if they wish.

As a manager it is important to create the **right culture** within your team, particularly around mental wellbeing

Tips for Managers





Treat people as individuals:

Treat employees with respect, praise good work, offer support if there are skills gaps, and try to use a coaching style of management. Ask for feedback about the support you provide and what support they need to help them achieve their goals.



Promote positive work relationships:

Support a culture of teamwork, collaboration and information-sharing, both within the team and across the organisation, and model these positive behaviors to staff.



Embed employee engagement:

Promote a culture of open dialogue and involve employees in decisions about how the team is run and how they do their job. Make sure employees understand their role in the bigger picture and make clear their contribution to the organisation's vision and aims.



Raise awareness:

Managers are in a great position to challenge stigma and prejudice throughout the organisation and to get mental health on the agenda with senior leaders.



Create opportunities for coaching, learning & development:

Make sure employees are confident, well equipped and supported to enable them to do their job to a high standard. You can help them gain confidence and skills by developing and rewarding their capabilities and by being available for regular work-related conversations as well as providing formal training.



What will you commit to after completing this session?





References

McKinsey, 2020
Mind, 2020
The Guardian, 2020
Kings College London, 2020
CIPD, 2021





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THANK







Erica Farmer

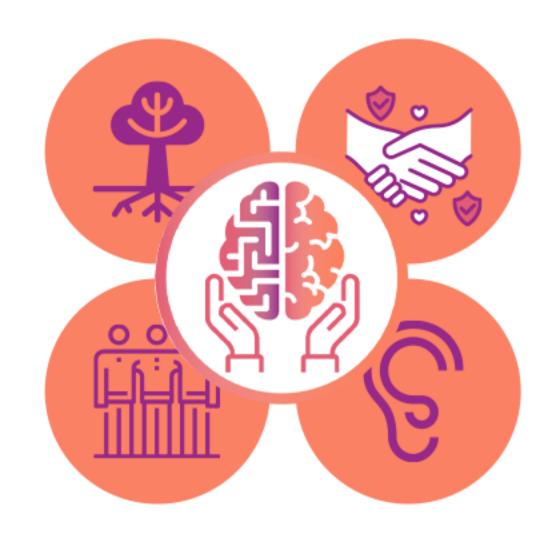
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Questions?







Save the date!







Monday, 27 & Tuesday, 28 June 2022 Novotel, London West