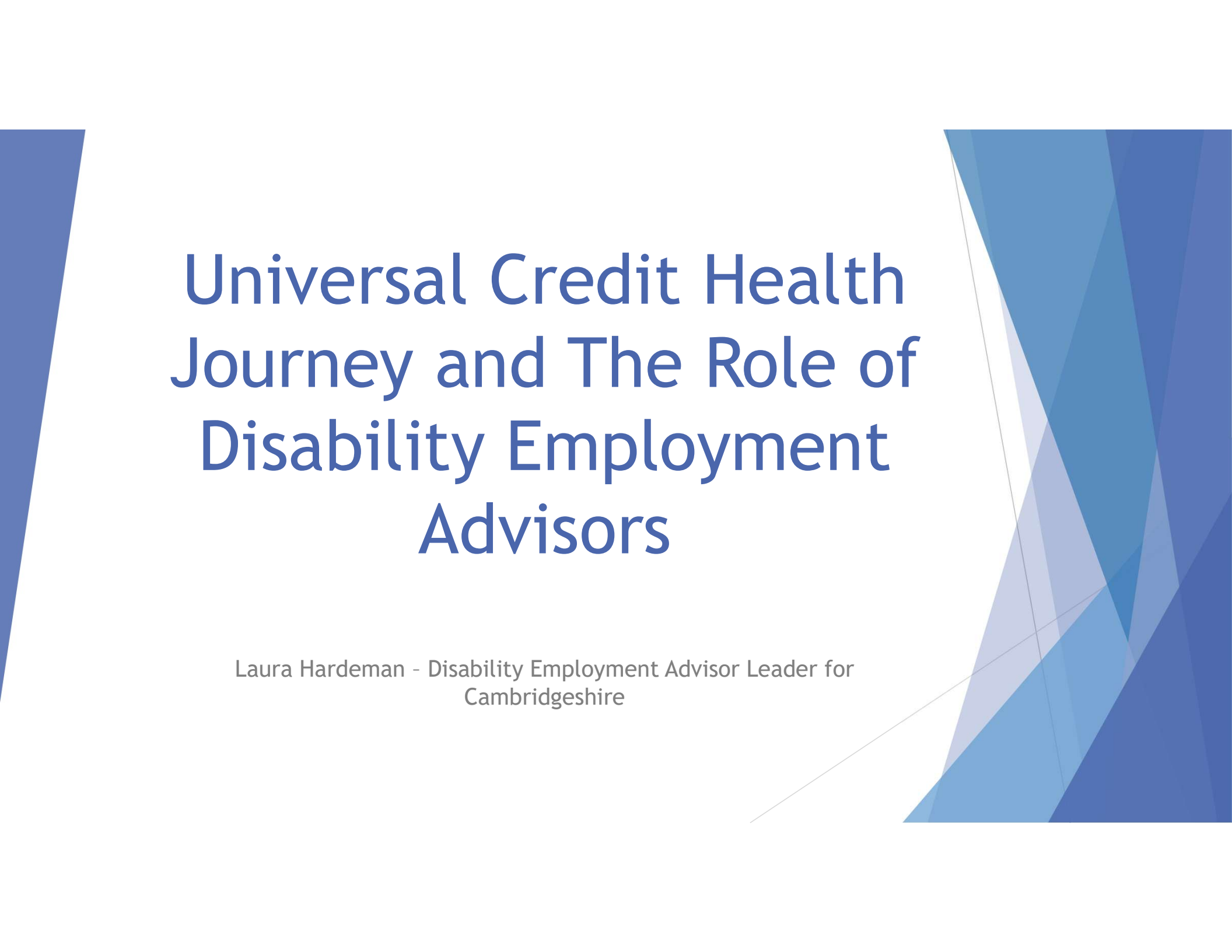


The background features abstract blue geometric shapes. On the left, a solid blue trapezoid points towards the center. On the right, a complex arrangement of overlapping translucent blue triangles and polygons creates a dynamic, layered effect. The central text is positioned within the white space between these shapes.

Universal Credit Health Journey and The Role of Disability Employment Advisors

Laura Hardeman - Disability Employment Advisor Leader for
Cambridgeshire

We are going to look at



**WHAT IS A DEA
AND WHAT DO
THEY DO?**



**DEA DIRECT
SUPPORT**



**HEALTH JOURNEY
PROCESS - WHY
DO WE NEED FIT
NOTES?**

Introduction to Universal Credit and Health Support

Purpose of Universal Credit -
to support individuals with
low income, unemployment
or health related work
limitations through monthly
payments

Consolidation of Benefits -
UC combines multiple legacy
benefits

Digital Access with Support -
Claimants can apply and
manage their UC account
online, support is available
to assist people who need it

Tailored Support for Health
Conditions - UC provides
adjustments and additional
payments to assist claimants
with health conditions,
disabilities and/or limited
work capability

The role of Disability Employment Advisors (DEAs)



Coaching and
upskilling



Employers
and
Partnerships



Direct
Support

DEA Direct Support

Up to 13 weeks 1:1
support to move towards
work

CV support, interview
preparation, mock
interviews, confidence
building

Explaining reasonable
adjustments, use of
health adjustment
passport to identify
reasonable adjustments

Signposting to internal
and external provision

Supporting claimants to
find Disability Confident
Employers

Promoting the Access to
Work scheme for support
beyond reasonable
adjustments

Provision we refer to

Workwell

NHS talking
therapies

Recovery
College East

Waythrough

How Are You
(H.A.Y)
Peterborough

Disability
Peterborough

Social
Prescriber
Link Workers

Work
Psychology
Service

Universal Credit Health Journey

Day 1: Claimant reports health condition (self-certify for 7 days).

Day 8-14: Fit note required - all work-related requirements switched off.

Day 15+: Work preparation/search may restart but tailored to health needs. Claimant must continue to provide fit notes whilst they are unfit for work

Day 29: Referral for Work Capability Assessment (WCA) to determine their level of work capability

Work Capability Assessment (WCA)

- ▶ Claimant will be sent a UC50 Health Questionnaire form to complete and return
- ▶ Medical assessment - in person/virtual/telephone

3 Outcomes

Fit for work

Limited Capability for Work (LCW) - some work preparation tasks

Limited Capability for Work and Work-Related Activity - No work requirements, extra UC payments and Work Allowance

What happens next

- ▶ If a claimant is found to be Fit for Work, this means they have been deemed capable of doing some type of work, this might be part time or full time. They can have another WCA if their condition has worsened or if they develop a new health condition.
- ▶ They will engage with a Work Coach and DEA if needed to support them into work they can do.
- ▶ If a claimant has LCW they will be expected to complete work preparations activities and engage with their work coach, but on a less frequent basis.
- ▶ If a claimant has LCWRA they will not be assigned a work coach or be expected to search or prepare for work, unless they request support to do so.

Fit Notes

Statement of Fitness for Work For social security or Statutory Sick Pay

Patient's name	Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms		
I assessed your case on:	/ /		
and, because of the following condition(s):			
I advise you that:	☐ you are not fit for work.		
	☐ you may be fit for work taking account of the following advice:		
If available, and with your employer's agreement, you may benefit from:			
☐ a phased return to work		☐ amended duties	
☐ altered hours		☐ workplace adaptations	
Comments, including functional effects of your condition(s):			
This will be the case for			
or from	/ /	to	/ /
I will/will not need to assess your fitness for work again at the end of this period. (Please delete as applicable)			
Doctor's signature			
Date of statement	/ /		
Doctor's address			
Unique ID: Med 3 04/10-			

For the patient – what to do now

Please read the notes below then fill in your details and, if you are claiming social security benefits, sign and date the declaration. If you cannot fill in your details yourself, ask someone else to do it for you.

What your doctor's advice means

Not fit for work:

Your doctor will advise this when they believe that your health condition means you should refrain from work for the stated period of time.

May be fit for work taking account of the following advice:

Your doctor will recommend this when they believe that you may be able to return to work with some support from your employer. Sometimes it may not be possible for your employer to act on the doctor's advice and you will not be able to return to work until you have further recovered. You do not need to get a further Statement from your doctor to confirm this.

If you are employed

If you are not fit for work, or your employer cannot support your return to work, your employer should consider paying Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) based on the information provided. If SSP cannot be paid, or your SSP is ending, your employer will give you form SSP1 to claim social security benefits. If you are self-employed, you may be able to claim social security benefits because of your health condition.

Social security benefit claimants

If you are claiming social security benefits because of your health condition, send this form to your Jobcentre Plus office. If you are claiming social security benefits for any other reason, you should contact a Personal Adviser to discuss the advice on the form. If you do any work you must inform Jobcentre Plus of your change of circumstances.

If you want to make a new claim to social security benefits you can:

- download a claim form at www.direct.gov.uk/benefits, or
- phone 0800 055 6688 (8am to 6pm Monday to Friday). Textphone users call 0800 023 4888.

Your details – Please use BLOCK CAPITALS

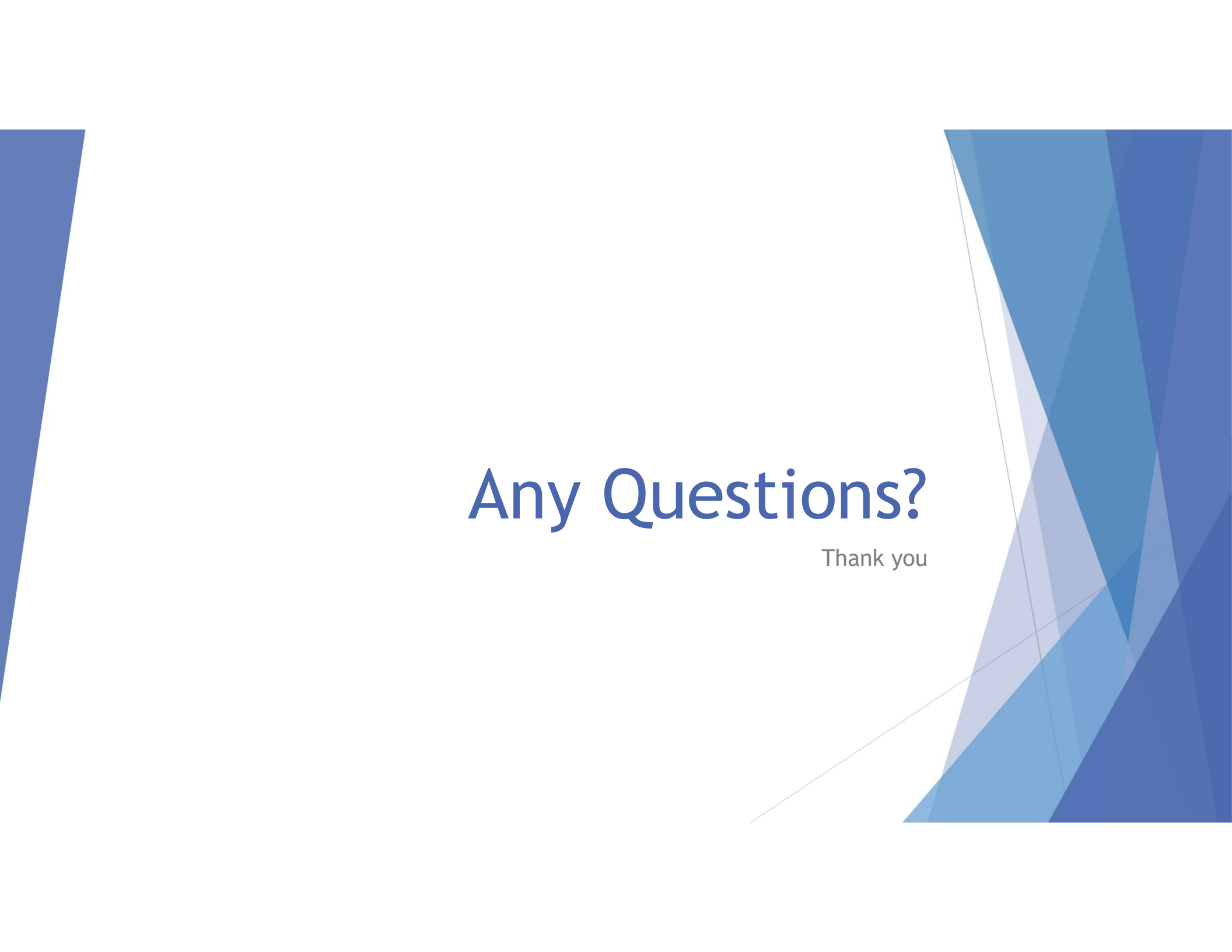
Surname	Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms
Other names	
Address	
	Postcode
Date of birth	/ /
National Insurance (NI) number	

Declaration – for social security benefit claimants only

I agree that my doctor may give the Department for Work and Pensions or a healthcare professional acting on its behalf information which is needed to process my claim for benefit and any request for it to be looked at again.

Signature	
Date	/ /

If you have signed this form for someone else, please tick here: ☐



Any Questions?

Thank you