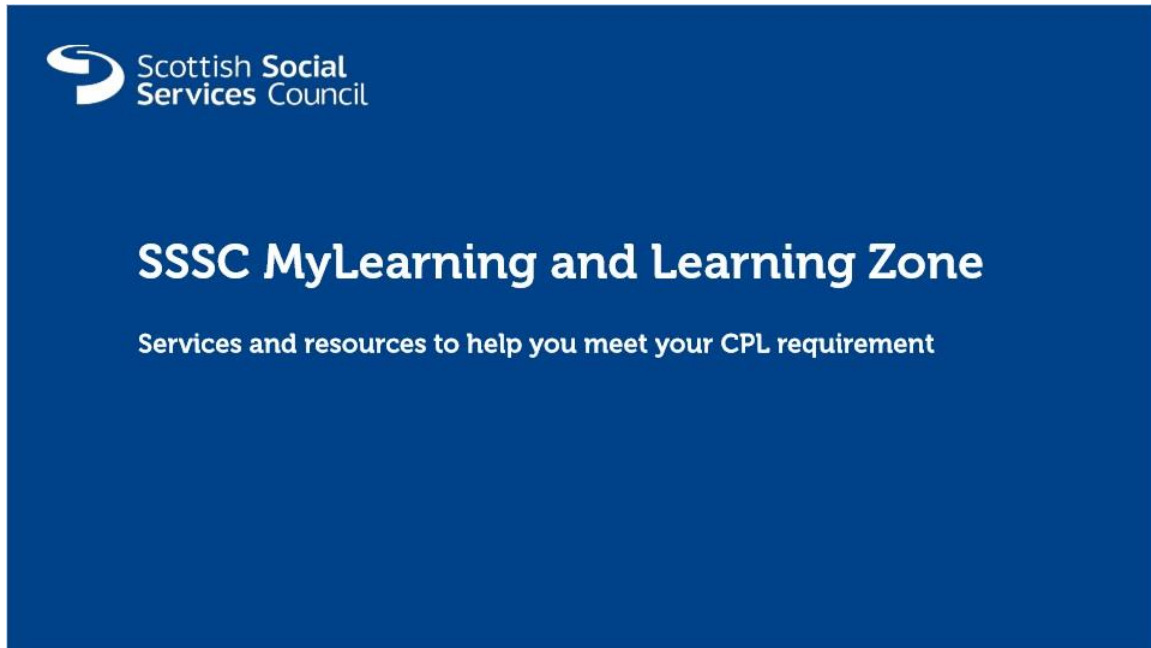


SSSC MyLearning and Learning Zone

1.1 SSSC MyLearning and Learning Zone



Notes:

In this presentation, we're going to explore two services offered by the Scottish Social Services Council: the SSSC MyLearning Platform and the SSSC Learning Zone. Both are here to support you with your Continuous Professional Learning (CPL).

My name is Rob Stewart, and I'm a Learning and Development Adviser with the SSSC Digital Learning Team. I'll guide you through these services which can help you plan, track, achieve, and gain recognition for your CPL requirement.

What's particularly great about these resources is that they're not limited to SSSC registrants. In fact, most of what I'll be showing you today is available to anyone working in the social services sector. So whether you're registered with the SSSC or not, if you're interested in getting the most out of your professional development, this presentation is for you.

1.2 Digital learning

Digital learning

SSSC Digital Learning Team

We offer a wide range of learning resources and services to support workforce development in the sector. This includes building learning resources and services to help people with CPL and producing materials to help organisations look at how they can support their staff to make the most of digital learning.

Services we provide

- Find online learning opportunities with the **SSSC Learning Zone**
- Plan your learning goals and track progress with the **MyLearning Plan** (coming soon)
- Keep a record of your learning with **MyLearning Logs**
- Get recognition for your learning with **MyLearning Open Badges**



Notes:

We're a small team within the SSSC's Workforce, Education and Standards Directorate. Our role is to develop and maintain a range of digital services that support workforce development in the social services sector. While we offer various services, today we'll focus on four of these.

The SSSC Learning Zone, where you can find online learning opportunities.

The MyLearning Plan, a tool for planning your learning goals and tracking progress, which will be available soon.

MyLearning Logs, a system for keeping a record of your learning activities.

And finally, MyLearning Open Badges, which provide recognition for your learning.

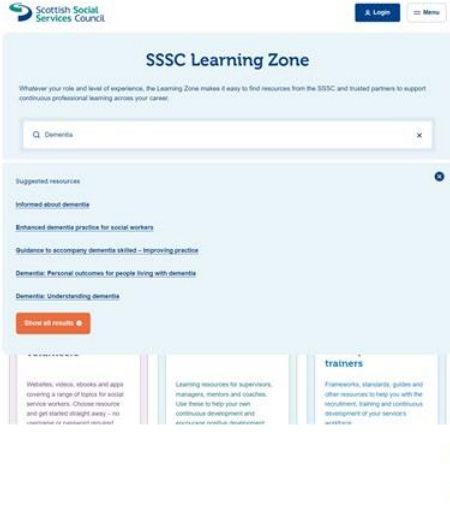
These services work together to create a comprehensive support system for your professional development. Let's explore each in more detail.

1.3 SSSC Learning Zone: learn.sssc.uk.com

SSSC Learning Zone: learn.sssc.uk.com

An online service provided by the SSSC to help people find resources to support their Continuous Professional Learning (CPL).

- Search or browse through a curated collection of learning resources and topics.
- A range of resources from SSSC and trusted partners like NHS Education for Scotland and IRISS.
- New resources are added regularly.
- No need to login to search and browse.
- Login with your MyLearning account to bookmark resources for future reference.



Notes:

Let's start with the SSSC Learning Zone, which you'll find at learn.sssc.uk.com. We've recently rebuilt this service from the ground up, transforming it into a powerful search engine for curated learning resources.

The Learning Zone will help you find digital learning opportunities to support your CPL. This isn't just a collection of SSSC materials. We've expanded our offering to include high-quality resources from trusted partners such as NHS Education for Scotland and IRISS.

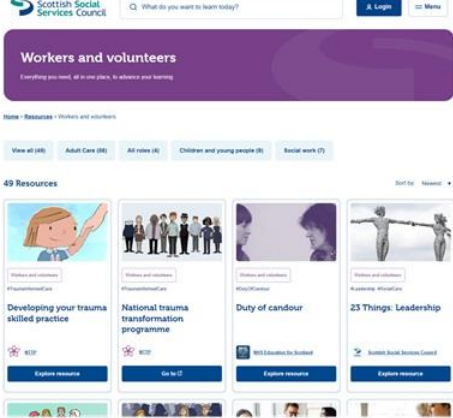
You can easily search or browse through our curated collection of learning resources and topics. We regularly add new resources to keep the content fresh and relevant.

There's no need to log in if you just want to search and browse. However, if you do log in with your MyLearning account, you can bookmark resources for future reference. Anyone can create an account, you do not need to be registered with us.

The Learning Zone should be your go-to place for discovering online learning opportunities.

1.4 Freely available digital learning resources


Freely available digital learning resources



The screenshot shows the 'Workers and volunteers' section of the Learning Zone. It features a search bar, a 'Log in' button, and a 'Menu' button. Below the search bar, there are filters for 'View all (48)', 'Adult Care (8)', 'All roles (6)', 'Children and young people (6)', and 'Social work (7)'. A grid of 49 resources is displayed, including 'Developing your trauma skilled practice', 'National trauma transformation programme', 'Duty of candour', and '23 Things: Leadership'. Each resource card includes a title, a brief description, and an 'Explore resource' button.

As well as traditional online learning, we offer a range of approaches to learning.

- Practice support materials available at the point of need eg smartphone apps.
- Interactive eBooks designed to help you relate material to your role and environment.
- Scenario-based learning, like interactive decision videos providing a safe environment to make wrong decisions and get feedback.
- 23 Things Challenges which you can work through at your own pace to get a deep dive into a topic.
- Self-assessment tools to help identify strengths and weaknesses with personalised recommendations.



Notes:

On the Learning Zone you will find a variety of digital learning resources that the SSSC itself has created. All of these are freely available to anyone. At the SSSC, we understand that traditional online learning isn't always the most effective approach. That's why we provide resources in a range of formats.

We offer practice support materials that are accessible at the point of need, such as smartphone apps. These are perfect for quick reference in your day-to-day work.

We've created interactive eBooks designed to help you relate the material directly to your role and work environment.

For those who want to get hands-on, we provide scenario-based learning. This includes interactive decision videos that place you in common situations, providing a safe environment to make decisions and receive feedback.

If you prefer a deep dive into a topic, we offer '23 Things Challenges' which you can work through at your own pace.

Lastly, we've developed self-assessment tools to help you identify your strengths and weaknesses, providing personalised recommendations for your future practice.

1.5 Tips for making the most of the SSSC Learning Zone

Tips for making the most of the SSSC Learning Zone

- Add it to your browser favourites and come back regularly.
- Use it and not the MyLearning platform to find learning opportunities.
- Bookmark resources you find interesting.
- Contact us if something isn't listed and you think it should be.
- Encourage your organisation to add our search box to their virtual learning environment or intranet. We can provide advice on how they can easily do this.

Coming soon: Sharable lists of bookmarked learning resources.



Notes:

To help you get the most out of the Learning Zone, here are some some practical tips.

Firstly, we recommend adding the Learning Zone to your browser favorites. We're constantly updating our content, so regular visits will make sure you don't miss out on new resources.

The Learning Zone, not the MyLearning platform, should be your go-to-place for finding learning opportunities. While the Open Badges section of MyLearning lists resources for our older style badges, the Learning Zone offers a comprehensive, up-to-date selection of resources. In fact, it will eventually become the sole location for all our learning resources.

We've made it easy to keep track of interesting content by allowing you to bookmark resources for future reference. Just create an account or login with your existing MyLearning account to do this.

If you can't find what you're looking for, don't worry. Our system notifies us of unsuccessful searches, and we actively work to fill these content gaps. However, we also value your input. If you know of a resource that you think should be listed, please get in touch with us.

For organisations, we offer the option to add our search box to your virtual learning environment or intranet. We can provide advice on how to

implement this easily, enhancing access to our resources for your staff.

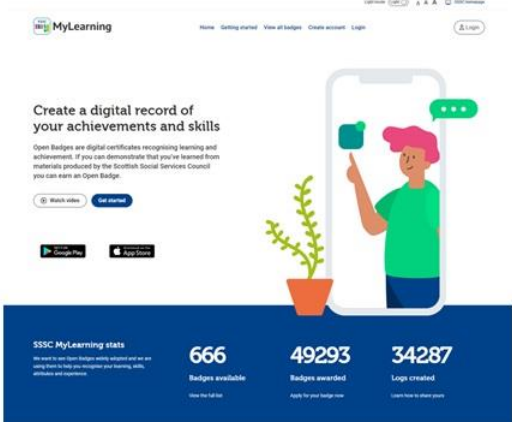
Lastly, we're excited to announce that a new feature is coming soon: sharable lists of bookmarked learning resources. This will make it even easier to collaborate and share valuable content with your colleagues and staff.

1.6 SSSC MyLearning: mylearning.scot

SSSC MyLearning: mylearning.scot

Previously SSSC Open Badges, but now combines three services:

- Learning planner (coming soon)
- Learning logs
- Open Badges



The screenshot shows the SSSC MyLearning website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Home, Getting started, View all badges, Create account, and Login. The main content area features a large illustration of a person with pink hair pointing at a smartphone screen. Text on the page reads: "Create a digital record of your achievements and skills" and "Open Badges are digital certificates recognising learning and achievement. If you can demonstrate that you've learned from materials produced by the Scottish Social Services Council you can earn an Open Badge." Below this, there are buttons for "Watch video" and "Get started", along with "Google Play" and "App Store" icons. A dark blue footer section displays "SSSC MyLearning stats" with three columns: "666 Badges available" (with a link to "View the list"), "49293 Badges awarded" (with a link to "Apply for your badge now"), and "34287 Logs created" (with a link to "Learn how to share your"). The SSSC logo is in the bottom right corner.

SSSC MyLearning stats	666	49293	34287
Badges available	Badges awarded	Logs created	

Notes:

Let's turn our attention to SSSC MyLearning, which you can find at mylearning.scot. Some of you may know this service by its previous name, SSSC Open Badges. We've recently rebranded and expanded its functionality to serve your needs better.

MyLearning now combines three key services: A learning planner, which will be available soon, Learning logs and Open Badges.

While Open Badges were previously the main focus, we've shifted our emphasis. Learning planning and logging are now at the core of MyLearning, with badges serving as recognition for those who choose to go the extra mile with their CPL.

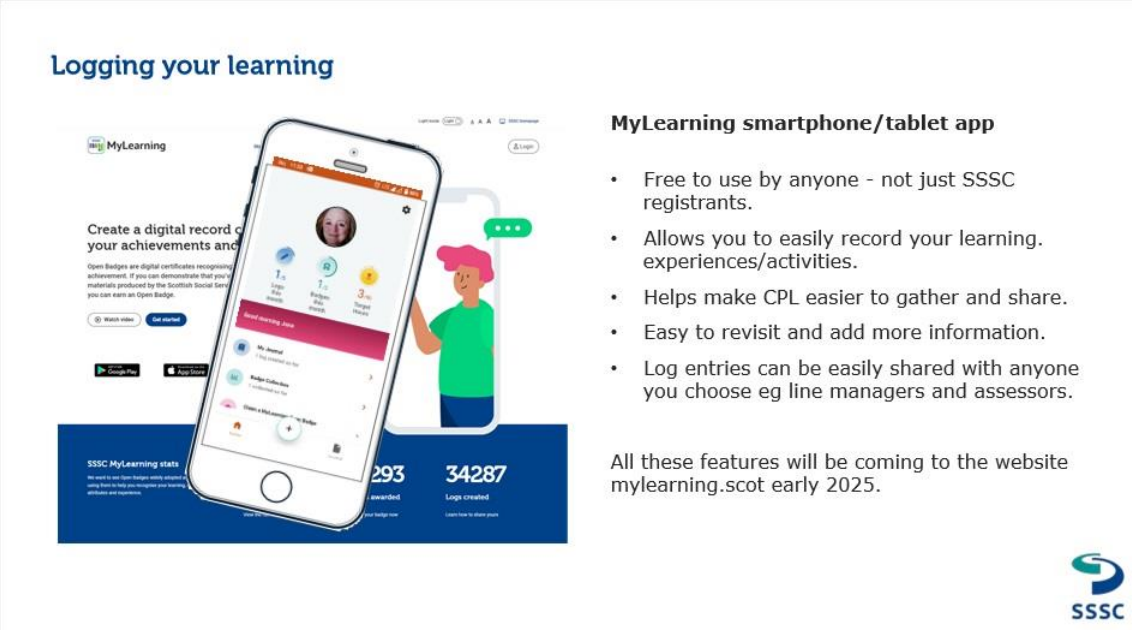
For those familiar with the MyLearning app, where you can log your learning, you'll be pleased to know that we're in the process of integrating these features into the website. Over the coming months, you'll see these

functionalities becoming part of the mylearning.scot platform.

We'll explore each of these services in more detail, showing you how they can help you keep track of your CPL.

At this point, I should make clear you are under no obligation to use MyLearning if you do not want to. If you prefer to plan and keep track of your CPL activity in other ways, like in a paper notebook or journal, on your computer, or in portfolio software, then you can do so. But if you want to use it, then here's what you can do with it.

1.7 Logging your learning



MyLearning smartphone/tablet app

- Free to use by anyone - not just SSSC registrants.
- Allows you to easily record your learning experiences/activities.
- Helps make CPL easier to gather and share.
- Easy to revisit and add more information.
- Log entries can be easily shared with anyone you choose eg line managers and assessors.

All these features will be coming to the website mylearning.scot early 2025.

Notes:

The MyLearning smartphone and tablet app is designed to make recording your CPLS activities easier.

We believe in making professional development tools accessible to all in the social services sector, so this service is free to use and open to everyone, not just SSSC registrants.

Available for both iOS and Android devices from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store, it allows you to easily record your learning experiences and activities on the go. Making CPL an integral part of your daily routine.

Some key benefits of using MyLearning logs are:

They simplify the process of gathering and sharing your CPL activities. You can easily revisit your logs and add more information as your learning progresses.

Log entries can be shared with anyone you choose, such as line managers or assessors, keeping them informed about your professional development.

While the app is currently the only way to log your learning, we're in the process of bringing these features to the mylearning.scot website. Early next year, you'll have the flexibility to log your learning through either the app or the website, whichever is more convenient for you.

1.8 Tips for making the most of MyLearning logs

Tips for making the most of MyLearning logs

- Set learning targets.
- Get reminders to reflect on your learning activities.
- Share your learning logs with others eg your manager or tutor.
- Record your reflections using text, audio photos or video.
- Use your logs to apply for Open Badges.
- Tag your learning activities.
- Log important web links or locations.



Notes:

To help you maximize the benefits of MyLearning logs, here are some quick tips.

First, use the tool to set clear learning targets. This will give your professional development a sense of direction.

Take advantage of the reminder feature to prompt you to reflect on your learning activities regularly.

Don't hesitate to share your learning logs with others, such as your manager or tutor. This can lead to valuable feedback and discussions.

When recording your reflections, remember you're not limited to text. You can use audio, photos, or even video to capture your learning experiences and thinking.

Your logs can be a great source of evidence when applying for Open Badges, so keep them detailed and up-to-date.

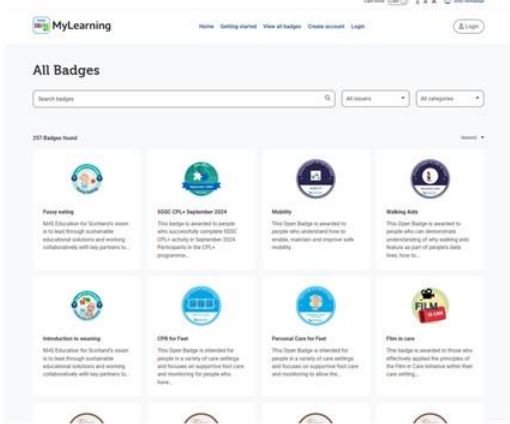
Use tags to categorise your learning activities. This will make it easier to find and review specific areas of your development later.

Lastly, some people find the logs an easy way to keep track of interesting web links, videos, podcasts or blogs they find and plan to return to when they have time later on.

1.9 Recognition for your learning with Open Badges

Recognition for your learning with Open Badges

- Part of our commitment to Open Recognition.
- Each badge has a criteria you must meet before being eligible for it.
- You submit a reflective account as evidence when you apply for the badge.
- Your evidence is assessed by real people.
- A badge is awarded which you can share online or through a printable certificate. This always links back to the criteria and your evidence.
- SSSC badges adhere to the Open Badges standard. You can import them into Open Badges compliant portfolios or 'backpacks'.



The screenshot shows the 'MyLearning' website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Getting started', 'View all badges', 'Create account', and 'Login'. Below this is a search bar for 'All Badges' with filters for 'All issues' and 'All categories'. A list of 237 badges is shown, with a grid of eight visible. Each badge has an icon and a brief description. The SSSC logo is in the bottom right corner.

Notes:

You can gain recognition for your learning through Open Badges. This initiative is part of our commitment to Open Recognition, an international movement that aims to make learning visible and valuable in all contexts. Here's how the Open Badges work.


Each badge has specific criteria you must meet to be eligible. When you apply for a badge, you submit a reflective account as evidence of your learning which answers questions we ask in the criteria for the badge. This evidence is then assessed by real people to ensure it meets that criteria.

Once awarded, you can share your badge online or through a printable certificate. These always link back to the criteria and your evidence, providing context for your achievement.


SSSC badges adhere to the Open Badges standard. This means you can import them into Open Badges compliant portfolios or 'backpacks', allowing you to showcase your learning across various platforms.

Open Badges provide a tangible way to demonstrate your professional development. They not only recognise your achievements but also encourage ongoing learning and reflection in your professional journey.

1.10 Open Badge recognition for CPL



- We are moving from resource/topic-based badges to badges based on the core learning elements of CPL.
- Our CPL and CPL+ badges will be available to SSSC registrants, childminders and Personal Assistants.
- These badges will recognise any relevant learning you undertake. You are in control.
- CPL badges based on core learning elements will be available from January 2025.
- CPL+ badges are available right now.
- Video tutorials and handouts are available to help you get your application right the first time.



Notes:

It's important to highlight a significant change that's coming. We're moving away from our previous model of topic or resource-based badges. Instead, we're introducing CPL-specific badges. This shift represents a major evolution in how we help you get recognition for your learning.

What does this mean for you? Essentially, it means more flexibility and broader recognition of your professional development efforts. In the past, we only awarded badges to those who used specific learning resources for topics we predetermined. Now, with these new CPL badges, you'll be able to claim recognition for any learning that's relevant.

This change acknowledges that valuable learning can happen in many ways and places, not just through pre-defined resources. It puts you in control and allows for recognition of the unique ways you develop professionally.

Our new CPL badges will be available to SSSC registrants, childminders, and Personal Assistants.

While our CPL badges based on these core learning elements will be available from January 2025, I'm pleased to tell you that our CPL+ badges are already available right now.

To help you navigate this new system, we've prepared video tutorials and handouts. These resources are designed to guide you through the application process, helping you get your badge application right the first time.

1.11 Tips for making the most of MyLearning Open Badges

Tips for making the most of MyLearning Open Badges

- Use the badge criteria and evidence requirements to help you.
- Make sure all questions are fully answered.
- Carefully plan what you are going to write.
- Always write in the first person 'I,' 'me' and 'my'.
- Remain within the minimum and maximum word counts.
- Follow our rules on use of AI within Open Badge applications.
- Get your badges endorsed by colleagues and managers.



Notes:

To help you get the most out of the MyLearning Open Badges, here are some key tips.

First, use the badge criteria and evidence requirements as a guide. They're there to help you understand exactly what's expected.

When applying, ensure you've fully answered all questions. Carefully plan your responses and always write in the first person using 'I,' 'me,' and 'my.' throughout your evidence.

Pay attention to the word count requirements. Stay within the minimum and maximum limits provided.

It's important to note that we have specific rules regarding the use of AI in Open Badge applications. Some AI assistance is allowed, but there are some straightforward rules to follow. You'll find them on the MyLearning website, and I encourage you to review them before submitting your application.


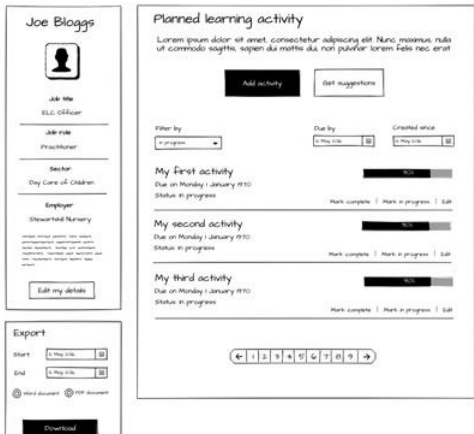
Lastly, consider getting your badges endorsed by colleagues and managers. This adds an extra layer of credibility to your achievements.

Following these tips will increase your chances of a successful badge application and make the most of Open Recognition for your professional learning.

1.12 Planning your learning (coming soon)

Planning your learning (coming soon)

- Create and manage your own learning plan.
- Define your development goals.
- Monitor progress with status updates and progress bars.
- Receive email notifications to keep you on track.
- Get personalised activity ideas based on your role and sector.
- Share your learning plan with managers or mentors via a private link.
- Download progress reports.



Notes:

Looking ahead, we're excited to introduce a new feature to the MyLearning platform: the ability to plan your learning. We expect this feature to be available in October 2024, so it's just around the corner - or may even be here depending on when you watch this presentation. This new planning tool

will allow you to:

Create and manage your own personalised learning plan.

Define your development goals, giving you a clear direction for your professional growth.

Monitor your progress with status updates and progress bars, helping you stay on track.

Receive email notifications to keep you motivated and engaged with your plan.

If you are stuck for ideas, you'll even be able to get personalised activity ideas based on your role and sector. This tailored approach will help make sure your learning is relevant and impactful.

You'll also have the option to share your learning plan with managers or mentors via a private link, facilitating valuable discussions about your professional development.

Lastly, you'll be able to download progress reports whenever you need to. We believe this planning tool will be a game-changer for many people who are getting to grips with managing their own learning, making it more structured and effective.

1.13 Summary

Summary

SSSC digital learning tools for CPL

- SSSC Learning Zone - Find and bookmark curated learning resources.
- SSSC MyLearning plan - Create, manage and share personalised learning plans.
- SSSC MyLearning logs - Record and reflect on your learning experiences.
- SSSC MyLearning Open Badges - Recognition for your learning.



Notes:

Let's quickly recap the SSSC digital learning tools we've discussed today, all designed to support your CPL.

First, the SSSC Learning Zone: Your go-to platform for finding and bookmarking curated learning resources.

Next, the SSSC MyLearning plan: Coming soon, this will help you create, manage, and share personalized learning plans.


Then, SSSC MyLearning logs: A powerful tool for recording and reflecting on your learning experiences.

And finally, SSSC MyLearning Open Badges: Providing recognition for your learning achievements.

These four tools work together to create a comprehensive ecosystem for your professional development. They're designed to help you plan, achieve, track, and get recognition for your learning, supporting you throughout your CPL journey.

Remember, all but the CPL Open Badges are available to anyone in the social services sector, not just SSSC registrants - and even those CPL badges are available to childminders and personal assistants. We encourage you to explore and make the most of these resources for your professional growth.

1.14 Thank you



Thank you

Tel: 0345 60 30 891
Web: learn.sssc.uk.com
Email: DigitalLearning@sssc.uk.com
Facebook [@thesssc](https://www.facebook.com/thesssc) | X [@SSSCnews](https://twitter.com/SSSCnews) | YouTube [@ssscTV](https://www.youtube.com/@ssscTV)

Notes:

Thank you for watching this presentation and taking the time to learn more about some of the services offered by the SSSC Digital Learning Team. If you would like to know more about our work or have questions about anything shown in this presentation, please email us at digitallearning (all one word) @ sssc.uk.com or contact us via any of the other methods shown on screen.