

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001720
Date 17 November 2017

Employment Support Services

Request:

We are interested in the provision of employment support for disabled people, and in particular that for people with a learning disability.

The information we would like to get is:

Employment support commissioned and/ or provided by the local authority

1. What employment support services does your local authority provide for people with a learning disability? Please include both provision that is run directly by your local authority or a provider commissioned by your local authority.

Shropshire Enable

City of Wolverhampton Council commissioned Shropshire Enable to provide supported employment support for people with disabilities in November 2015.

Supported Internships

Supported Internships are personalised study programmes for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities aged 16 to 24 with an Education, Health and Care Plan who want to move into employment and need extra support to do so. They are designed to enable young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities to achieve sustainable paid employment by equipping them with the skills they need for the workplace. Delivery of the programme mainly takes place at an employer's premises through a 'train on the job' approach, with the support of a job coach.

Supported Internships are currently provided by City of Wolverhampton College, NOVA Training and Wolverhampton Vocational Training Centre.

Connexions

City of Wolverhampton Council provides support to vulnerable young people at risk of not making a successful transition into education, employment or training (EET) through its Connexions Service (which is part of the wider Skills Service providing employability support to young people and adults.) Connexions is a targeted service working with young people from age 13 -19 and up to age 25 with a disability including learning difficulty/disability. Connexions provides careers guidance and practical support to young people to help them get into education, employment and training.

Black Country Impact

City of Wolverhampton Council is a delivery partner for Black Country Impact which is funded by ESF and Youth Employment Initiative plus match funding from Black Country Talent Match and the Black Country LAs Impact - aimed at all 16 -29 year olds who are NEET including young people with disabilities. This is not specialist provision but can commission tailored support packages for individuals or groups.

Wolves@Work

Job coaching and matching. Jointly funded by City of Wolverhampton Council and DWP and aimed at all 18 plus people who are job ready and want to work but need some additional support to get into the labour market including those with disabilities.

Individual Placement Support Service (IPS)

The Individual Placement Support Service provides dedicated employment support to individuals experiencing mental health issues as a contributing factor to them being unemployed. The project also provides mentoring support to individuals whilst in work.

Community Skills and Employability programmes

CWC co-ordinates support for adults who are furthest from the labour market including sector based programmes from community locations across the city in partnership with Wolverhampton Learning Platform, local work clubs and a range of key providers.

Mind@Work

Mind@Work is an intensive programme of coaching, mentoring, training and support to equip individuals with the skills they need to enter volunteering, work experience and/or employment. The programme is tailored to the needs of individuals who experience stress or anxiety, providing coping strategies and confidence building alongside employability skills.

- a. For each of these employment support services, what criteria does a person need to fulfil to access that provision? For example:
- (i) Do they need to be known to social services?
Shropshire Enable The contract allows for Shropshire Enable to work with people who have a recognised disability but are not known to social services in a preventative role

Connexions Service No

Black Country Impact No

Wolves@Work No

Individual Placement Support Service (IPS) No

Community Skills and Employability Programmes No

Mind@Work No

- (ii) Do they need to be receiving adult social care services?
Shropshire Enable No- however the Council only record in the ASCOF returns employment outcomes of those people that are receiving adult social care services

Connexions Service No

Supported Internships No

Black Country Impact No

Wolves@Work No

Individual Placement Support Service (IPS) No

Community Skills and Employability Programmes No

Mind@Work No

- (iii) Is eligibility informed by whether a person has had an EHCP or legacy statement in the past?

Shropshire Enable Yes where appropriate

Connexions No – Access to the service 13-19 is for those vulnerable to becoming NEET and those who are NEET. Young people with EHCPs are a priority group. For those 20 up to 25 wishing to use the service is available to those self- declaring as having a disability

Supported Internships Yes must have an EHCP

Black Country Impact No

Wolves@Work No

Individual Placement Support Service (IPS) No

Community Skills and Employability Programmes No

Mind@Work No

- (iv) Do they need to be of a certain age group? If so, please specify.
Shropshire Enable Contract allows for people over the age of 16 to be referred into the service. Between 16-18 they also need to be involved in education and or training

Connexions eligibility as above in 1

Supported Internships post compulsory school age up to age 24

Black Country Impact 15-29

- (v) Do they need to be in receipt of ESA?

Shropshire Enable No

Connexions No

Supported Internships no

Black Country Impact No

Wolves@Work No

Individual Placement Support Service (IPS) No 18 plus

Community Skills and Employability programmes? No 18 plus

Mind@Work 18 plus

- (vi) Do they need to have a particular disability, such as a learning disability?

Shropshire Enable The criteria states 'Disability' covers anyone with a physical or learning disability that has a substantial (taking longer than it usually would to complete a daily task) or long-term (12 months or more) negative effect on your ability to carry out normal daily activities and people suffering from a progressive condition (one that gets worse over time)

Connexions , **No**, eligibility as above in 1

Internships Must have EHCP

Black Country Impact No 15-29 must be NEET and live in the Black Country

Wolves@ Work 18 plus residents of City of Wolverhampton

Individual Placement Support Service (IPS) Focus is on those who have mental health issues

Community Skills and Employability Programmes No

Mind@Work focuses on those who have mental health issues

- (vii) Do they need to meet a number of different criteria to access the provision?

Shropshire Enable Have a recognised disability

Connexions – access as in 1 above

Internships Must have EHCP

Black Country Impact – No as above

Wolves@Work No as above

Individual Placement Support Service (IPS) Focus is on those who have mental health issues

Community Skills and Employability Programmes No

Mind@Work focuses on those who have mental health issues

(viii) Do they have to meet any other eligibility criteria?

Shropshire Enable Be a resident of Wolverhampton

Connexions Be a resident of Wolverhampton and being educated in City

NEET residing in City

or in education outside of the City with an EHCP – or in ISP including residential out of City with EHCP maintained by City of Wolverhampton.

Individual Placement Support Service (IPS) Focus is on those who have mental health issues residing in the City

Community Skills and Employability Programmes must reside in the City

Mind@Work focuses on those who have mental health issues must reside in the City

Community Skills and Employability Programmes No but must reside in the City

Mind@Work focuses on those who have mental health issues and must reside in the City

Please send us a full list of any criteria used to determine who is able to access employment services, and which support services provided or commissioned by your local authority this applies to.

Shropshire Enable

[People who can be supported by the Supported Employment contract delivered by Shropshire Enable Supported employment](#)

People who have a disability and are currently receiving a social care service from social work teams

People with a disability who need employment support to prevent them from becoming future social care clients ('Prevention customers')

•Disability' covers anyone with a physical or learning disability that has a substantial (taking longer than it usually would to complete a daily task) or long-term (12 months or more) negative effect on your ability to carry out normal daily activities and people suffering from a progressive condition (one that gets worse over time)

Criteria for Supported Employment

- People who are unable due to their disability to independently access universal employment support services and or the work environment without additional support
- Have previously been on the caseload of local authority Adult Social Care services in the last three years
- A young person (16-25 years) who is or has previously been on the caseloads of local authority Children's disability services in the last three years or have an EHC plan
- A young person (16-25 years) who is or has previously been a customer of local authority Children's Services in the last three years
- Be a resident of Wolverhampton

Connexions Service

Targeted service for young people at risk of becoming NEET or are NEET who are between age 13 – 19 or 20 up to 25 with disability or special educational needs residing in the city and or being educated in the city. Also,

Young people who have an EHCP maintained by Wolverhampton and being educated outside of the City. The Connexions Service will attend EHCP reviews and provide IAG services or liaise with the appropriate local service, depending on the circumstances, for example where a young person is placed outside of the city with no plans to return it may be more appropriate to bring in the expertise of local services to support the young person.

Supported Internships Must have EHCP

Black Country Impact

15 -29 and must be NEET and living in the Black Country

Wolves@Work must be 18 plus and residing in City of Wolverhampton

Individual Placement Support Service (IPS) Focus is on those who have mental health issues

Community Skills and Employability programmes No

Mind@Work focuses on those who have mental health issues

2. Have any of the criteria for any of the provisions changed – comparing the years 2010/2011 or 2012/2013 and 2016/2017?

Shropshire Enable the criteria were introduced on commencement of the Supported employment contract in 2015

Connexions has been a targeted service since 2008, no change to eligibility to the service since then.

Supported Internships no change since first pilot three years ago i.e must have EHCP

Black Country Impact – in year two of delivery – no change in eligibility

Wolves@Work – in year one of delivery