



DWP Local Supported Employment Trailblazer

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Local Supported Employment - Background

Proof of Concept

- LSE PoC ran between November 2017 and May 2019.
- Delivered in partnership with 9 LAs in England, and was available for people with a learning disability or autism who were known to adult social care, or those in contact with secondary mental health services.
- Followed place, train and maintain model
- Fidelity audits (delivered by the British Association for Supported Employment (BASE)) used to help ensure delivering right model.

We announced in the National Disability Strategy:

We will fund a local supported employment trailblazer, working with 20 local authorities. The trailblazer will support approximately 1,200 people. At least two thirds of participants will be people with a learning disability and autistic people who use local authority social services.

Current position:

We are awaiting confirmation of funding following the Spending Review and then aim to make a quick start with implementing the trailblazer. Details of the commercial process are still to be agreed but we will want to make early contact with potential bidders.

Longer term we may be able to use the new UK Shared Prosperity Fund to spread Supported Employment services more widely.

The session is an opportunity to raise awareness and to discuss ideas for how we raise interest in the trailblazer and how we best capture it's benefits.

Questions for conference attendees

- Q1 - **Engagement**: How best do we engage with and identify Local Authorities (LAs)? How do we best identify which LAs most need Supported Employment services? Can we encourage them to express interest?
- Q2 – **Target Group**: should we widen this from “known to social care” to known to “local authority”? If so how would we engage the wider group?
- Q3 - **Capturing Benefits**: How can we capture the full benefits of helping this group into work? Are there e.g. softer benefits such as health and wellbeing improvements, or wider impacts on families which we could try to measure?
- Q4 – **Funding Model**: How do LAs think the LSE should be funded, i.e. by Grant or contractual arrangement and why?