

Calling All Mental Health and Learning Disability Commissioners

We would like your help as part of a major national research study into employment supports for disabled people.

Why This Matters

In these difficult financial times, it is really important that we spend money in ways that are most likely to get good outcomes for people who use public services. Supporting people with learning disabilities and people with mental health problems into paid work is an important policy priority. **But** we know little about whether the money currently being spent on employment support is really helping people to get and sustain real jobs. This research aims to help plug some of that gap. Over two years, we are going to collect information on what is spent on employment and related supports and understand how that spending helps people into work.

What You Will Get Out Of Helping Us

This research will result in us producing practical frameworks and tools to help people who are commissioning employment supports to:

- ✓ achieve and demonstrate better value for money from investments
- ✓ understand which types and styles of investment are most likely to result in disabled people getting paid work

Also, the final part of the work specifically involves sharing what we find through action learning – you will be invited to be part of that.

How You Can Help

As a first stage, we want to learn from how your authority invests in employment support for disabled people. We are asking Commissioners from every Local Authority in England (and their NHS partners) to complete this questionnaire so that we can:

- Build the evidence base for 'what works' in commissioning employment support
- Help you to measure / prove the impact of your investments
- Identify, highlight and spread good practice

The results will all be anonymised before they are made public.

This questionnaire is supported by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) Research Group. The National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi) have been funded to do this work by the National Institute for Health Research's School of Social Care Research (SSCR). A PDF document summarising the aims, methods and timescales for this research is available from the NDTi website, at:

<http://www.ndfi.org.uk/major-projects/employment-support-for-disabled-people/>

If you would like assistance in gathering the data necessary to complete the questionnaire, please get in touch with us (see contact details overleaf).

Notes for completing this questionnaire

- This questionnaire can be completed in several ways, including:
 - **Paper copy** (print this, fill in by hand and return by post to the address below)
 - **Online**, at the following link:
www.surveymonkey.com/s/NDTiemploymentsupportsurvey
 - **Over the phone** (please see details below)
- **Please DO NOT leave any boxes blank, but specify your answer – for example, say '0' if no people, or 'no info available' or 'don't know'.**
- It is fine for you to provide rough figures, but please indicate where this is the case. We will not quote identifiable data in any reports.

We have done our best to make the questionnaire self explanatory and easy to complete. However if you would like any further clarifications, or would prefer to respond to this questionnaire over the phone – or have any other questions about the research – please get in touch with Anita Wilkins at NDTi on:

☎ 01202 471 423 / 07545 922 227 ✉ anita.wilkins@ndti.org.uk

Address for returning complete questionnaires:

✉ Anita Wilkins
NDTi
Montreux House
18a James Street West
Bath
BA1 2BT

1. About you / your authority

Authority Name:

Details of person completing this questionnaire

Name:

Role title:

Email address:

Phone number:

Please tick to confirm that you are a commissioner of employment supports for your authority

2. How much is spent on services & supports where the prime commissioning purpose is people getting paid work?

2a. Overall annual spend, 2010-2013

Please complete Table 1 below, providing annual investment figures from health and social care budgets in your authority area. This should cover any spend that can be directly attributed to employment support for adults (18+), and could include any staffing, delivery and/or contract costs associated with:

Work	i) Support into paid* work ii) Support into self-employment / micro enterprises
Work Preparation	iii) College Courses / supported internships iv) Specific work preparation activity in day services v) Volunteering with an end focus on paid work vi) Support into unpaid* work (including social enterprises paying less than minimum wage)
<p>* by 'paid work' we mean minimum wage or more. Any work paying less than minimum wage should be categorised as unpaid.</p>	

TABLE 1 - overall	Total amount spent in 2010-11	Total planned spend for 2011-12	Total planned spend for 2012-13
Social Care budget	£	£	£
Health budget	£	£	£
(or, if separate figures for social & health budgets are not available:)			
Combined	£	£	£

Please indicate whether these figures are rough estimates or more accurate/calculated figures

More rough estimates More calculated, accurate figures

How would you say the overall annual spend in 2011-12 compares with 5 years ago?

More than 5 yrs ago The same Less than 5 yrs ago

2b. For the current year (2011-12).

Please provide a more detailed breakdown of the above described spend for the current year (2011-12) by, as far as you are able, completing Table 2 below. The row headers match the categories of support listed on the previous page.

OR

If you are unable to supply any of this information, please tick here and tell us why.

I am unable to supply this information because:

TABLE 2 for the current year (2011-12)	Total planned spend on this kind of support, for these client groups				or	Combined / Multi-disability
	Mental Health	Learning Disability	Other clients*	please state client group/s		
Support into paid work	£	£	£			£
Support into self- employment / micro enterprises	£	£	£			£
College Courses / supported internships	£	£	£			£
Specific work preparation activity in day services	£	£	£			£
Volunteering with an end focus on paid work	£	£	£			£
Support into unpaid work (including social enterprises paying less than minimum wage)	£	£	£			£
Other (please state)	£	£	£			£

* 'other clients' might include people with autism, a physical / sensory disability, older people etc. If providing a figure under this category, please state the client groups this includes.

Again, please indicate whether the figures provided in Table 2 are rough estimates or more accurate/calculated figures

More rough estimates More calculated, accurate figures

Do you collect data on how many people are supported into employment, linked to each of these investments?

Yes No Any additional comment:

2c. Where this money went.

Please provide a profile of this year's spend by delivery organisation, in Table 3 below.
(If you do not have this information, please indicate as such)

TABLE 3	% of this year's spend (2011-12)
Local Authority in-house	%
NHS Trust	%
Private sector (for profit)	%
Community & Voluntary Sector (including User-Led enterprises)	%

Please indicate whether the percentages provided in Table 3 are rough estimates or more accurate/calculated figures

More rough estimates More calculated, accurate figures

2d. Are the services you fund limited to those eligible by FACS, or open to others?

FACS eligible only Some or all services are open to others

2e. Personal Budgets.

Are clients allowed to spend their Personal Budget on employment support?

Yes No



(please go to 2f below)

Do you know whether people are using Personal Budgets for employment support?

We know they are We know they're not We don't know either way



(please go to 2f below)

(please go to 2f below)

Do you have any information about how much of their personal budgets people are spending on employment?

Yes No

2f. Pre-18 employment support.

Please describe the range of employment support options available for disabled people under the age of 18 in your area (including any investment details):

2g. Change over the coming years.

Are you anticipating any significant changes in the above (for example, shifts in the types of employment supports / delivery organisations commissioned) over the next year / beyond? If so please describe below, and/or on an attached page:

3. What, in your opinion, have been the dominant factors influencing your authority's pattern of investment in employment supports over the past year?

Please rank all of the following factors that apply in your opinion, with 1 being the most important:

(If any factors don't apply, please leave these blank)

Factor	Rank (if applicable)
Past / historical investment pattern	
Active employment plan or strategy developed within the last 2 years	
Ring fenced, external funding	
Applying local evidence or outcome based learning	
Applying national policy & evidence	
User-led demand	
Other – please state:	

4. What evidence does your authority currently gather in terms of outputs and outcomes of investment in employment supports?

(Please indicate 'yes' if you collect any of those listed in each row)

Does your authority currently collect information about:	
Numbers assessed as eligible for employment support	Yes / No
Numbers receiving employment support	Yes / No
Number of those supported actually gaining (or retaining) paid jobs	Yes / No
Age / gender / ethnicity of people gaining jobs	Yes / No
Complexity of disability of people gaining jobs	Yes / No
Types of job gained / hours worked / amounts earned	Yes / No
Job retention / Career progression	Yes / No
Changes in type & cost of employment support for individuals over time	Yes / No
Resulting changes in individuals' use of other services, e.g. day services, supported housing, drop ins – or other health / social outcomes	Yes / No
Any other information collected (please briefly describe):	

5. Any other comments

Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about your authority's investment in employment supports?

6. Further involvement in this research

Does your authority aspire to improve / be recognised as a centre of excellence for employment support?

This questionnaire is the first stage of our research, and there will be various opportunities for commissioning authorities to work with our research team on this topic over the coming year, all of which will help you to demonstrate the impacts of your investments in employment support.

In particular we are looking for:

- 25 sites to work with on 'data mining', i.e. spending time helping you identify further data from your area to demonstrate impact and support the findings of this questionnaire
- 12 sites (can be from the above 25) where we carry out more in depth research and fieldwork, e.g. tracking experiences and outcomes for those receiving employment support, and collating evidence and learning from this data at a commissioning level

Please indicate if you would be interested in your authority being involved in one or more of the following ways:

(Please tick as many as apply)

- You already have costed outcome evidence or information that you could share with us as part of this research
- You might be interested in becoming one of 25 sites that we work with on 'data mining' more evidence of this nature
- You might be interested in becoming one of 12 sites with whom we carry out more in depth research and fieldwork on this topic
- You might be interested in being part of an action learning network that aims to support authorities to put learning from this research into practice (in 2013)
- You would like to be kept updated on the progress of this research, and receive any resources, articles etc relating to the findings

That's all – Thank you for your help.

Please see inside front page for information about how to return this questionnaire to NDTi.