

## **PROGRESS TO WORK/LINK-UP**

This is a Jobcentre Plus funded initiative delivered by Shaw Trust for those individuals recovering from substance/alcohol misuse or ex-offenders or homeless people.

### **Shaw Trust will offer the following services to each client:**

- an initial assessment to determine the clients suitability for the p2w service;
- in depth assessment to help identify the clients lifestyle, training and job goals, and the impact that their previous drug misuse may have on them achieving them;
- specialist help, support and guidance to engage the client, explore their options and prepare them for a suitable route into paid employment, including self employment, where it is the most appropriate route. Building the clients understanding of the ways in which tackling their drug problem and preparing to take up employment can be complimentary;
- an individually tailored action plan, which should be agreed with the client and reviewed on a regular basis. Action plans should be flexible and focus on progression through to appropriate employment/training opportunities. Building the clients commitment and motivation to get into employment.
- support to help the client engage and remain in Mainstream/New Deal provision, minimising drop-out and relapse into drug misuse. Where appropriate, referrals should also be made to additional specialist provision such as health, accommodation etc;
- support in finding and securing paid employment and for a subsequent period to maximise sustainability (this will normally be for a 13 week period).

### **Eligibility**

The p2w-LinkUP initiative is for those who are  
Ex-offenders;

- on final release or;
- having served a recent custodial sentence (within the last 12 months) or;
- serving, a non custodial sentence under the supervision of the probation service;

It should be noted that within the ex offender customer group we would expect coordinators and providers to work with the prison and probation services to ensure that the most appropriate customers, i.e. those most likely to re offend if p2w-LinkUP support is not offered, are referred. Within the offender customer group we would envisage that priority to be given to;

- firstly to prisoners on release, particularly those identified and referred through Fresh Start;
- then to ex prisoners who did not complete the Fresh Start process;
- and lastly to those serving non custodial sentences, particularly those at most labour market disadvantage;

- the homeless. The homelessness must however be a significant contributing factor to the individual's labour market disadvantage;
- alcohol misusers. The alcohol misuse must however be a significant contributing factor to the individual's labour market disadvantage;

### **Benefits**

- Jobseekers Allowance (JSA);
- Income Support (IS);
- Incapacity Benefit (IB);
- Invalid Care Allowance (ICA);
- Severe Disability Allowance (SDA);
- Disability Living Allowance (DLA);
- Been identified by Jobcentre Plus staff or any other relevant agency or organisation as unlikely to succeed in getting work training or taking up New Deal provision without extra help, because of their previous offending background, homelessness, alcohol misuse.
- Exceptionally unemployed people not claiming benefit will also be eligible where they are referred by Action Teams for jobs or other organisations working with Jobcentre Plus to deliver outreach services;
- Exceptionally 16/17 year old customers who have a claim to JSA through hardship or who have a claim to IB;

Please contact our administrative base at:  
15 Milton Road East, Lowestoft, NR32 1NT  
Tel 01502 501190  
e-mail: [miki.berry@shaw-trust.org.uk](mailto:miki.berry@shaw-trust.org.uk)

Or our field officers across Suffolk and Cambridgeshire:  
Peterborough - Alistair Morgan 07872829129  
Ipswich - Dominique Cousins 07872829127  
Cambridge - Maggie Pleasance 07872829128  
West Suffolk - Nichi Wilson-Keshane 07872829130  
Huntingdon - Paul Whittingham 07702696122  
North Suffolk - Roberto Meneghello 07973976965  
Fenland – Vicki Graham 07894799532