

Maximising local authorities' impact on employment



Local Authorities can make a significant impact on employability by involving all their services, not just their employment and skills team. In a period of cuts in public spending, this can transform a council's contribution to employment outcomes without expending additional resources. Local government and partners deliver many of the wrap-around services which significantly enhance the opportunities for workless residents to enter and then stay in employment.

- Are you looking for ways of maximising your council's impact on employability?
- Do you need help to identify all the ways – direct and indirect – you can do this?

Case Study

We were commissioned by a large, single-tier local authority to review their employability projects. With their support we refocused the brief to explore with all their departments the council's overall impact on the employability agenda. This identified that:

- Every department had the potential to contribute significantly to employability;
- The potential impact was far greater than was currently achieved;
- There was willingness across the authority to do more;
- There was a need for high-level leadership of the process.

The Employability Impact Audit

We have since worked with council clients and scanned best practice to develop a cost effective approach which:

- Pinpoints areas where an authority can make an impact on employability in the context of the Work Programme;
- Assesses where the biggest gaps lie between current and potential impact;
- Sets out practical steps to achieving this and where priorities should lie;
- Recommends how the work should be managed and led;
- Ensures strong commitment to and ownership of the approach.

Our local authority clients include: Ealing, Greenwich, Kensington and Chelsea, Knowsley, Blyth, Newcastle, Fife, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

For an informal discussion about taking the approach forward within your organisation contact:

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Rocket Science has over 10 years' experience designing, developing and evaluating welfare to work programmes for national and local government, delivery partnerships and providers. We offer:

National credibility:

- Delivering a learning and practice network on tackling worklessness for Department for Work and Pensions;
- Working with Local Government Improvement and Development in designing guidance for local economic assessments and researching best practice guides on tackling worklessness;
- Conducting a strategic review of Employer Coalitions for Department for Work and Pensions.

Regional approaches:

- Design of regional frameworks to improve employability pathways in the North East and Scotland;
- Stakeholder engagement and strategy development for Employment and Skills Boards;
- Mapping and developing employment and skills supply chains for providers and commissioners across and within contracting areas;
- Managing grant funds which build third sector provider capacity and complement employment programmes.

Local solutions:

- Scoping and developing employment and skills strategies to help maximise the use of discretionary funding;
- Evaluation of employment and skills programmes;
- Design of innovative, demand-led approaches to secure and retain job outcomes;
- Capacity building and support for local providers, including the third sector, to secure contracts and become high performing organisations.



To find out more about us visit our website
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Or to register for our weekly
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