

JOBCENTRE PLUS YOUTH HUBS

A WRAP AROUND SERVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



Department
for Work &
Pensions

jobcentreplus

DWP Department for
Work and Pensions

- Background to Youth Hubs:
 - The DWP Youth Offer was developed to combat youth unemployment and to ensure Young People have the skills they need to look for, find and keep employment.
 - All young people aged 16-24yrs in receipt of Universal Credit and looking/ available for work are automatically eligible for our Youth Offer and will be supported through the Youth Employment Programme.
 - The offer is made up of 3 key parts which are:
 - Youth Employment Programme
 - Youth Hubs
 - Youth employability coaches

- What is a Youth Hub?
- Youth Hub's are an agreed external provider site where DWP work coaches are co located .They've been created to support eligible young people address their barriers to work.
- Work coaches based in Youth Hubs only operate within the Youth Hub and they work alongside DWP's network of external partners to provide intensive support to claimants referred to them.
- Work coaches within Youth Hubs have a primary focus of addressing key barriers that are currently preventing young people from finding and keeping employment.This may be through interventions or referring to appropriate provision.

Creating Youth Hubs:

- I was tasked with engaging across several Local Authorities in my District to bring about collaborations to create four Youth Hub's in areas with high levels of unemployment and deprivation.
- Once on board we considered the key areas of support young people need to progress into employment and quickly agreed low level mental health conditions are one of the biggest barriers many face, and until these are addressed sustainable employment may not be achievable for many.
- It was universally agreed all Youth Hub's needed to be able to offer support for those with poor mental health and every Youth Hub needed an external Partner presence.
- Reaching out to local mental health organisations i.e. MIND/ Let's Talk I was able to secure a mental health support service in every location.
- Every young person referred to a Youth Hub is given the option of accessing mental health support before considering support to move closer to/ into work.

Year One Outcomes:

- 37% of all young people referred to Youth Hubs are accessing Mental Health Support in the first instance
- Of these 31% have moved into sustainable employment/ Kickstart roles
- With a further 26% moving into training or learning
- Whilst these may not be the most impressive figures each and every outcome is a huge success for each individual Customer as these following case studies demonstrate

Case Study one:

Julie

Case Study two:

Claire

Useful resource:

<http://www.youngpeopleshealth.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Closing-the-Employment-Gap-for-Young-People-Toolkit.pdf>