

TOPIC BRIEF

Topic Title:	Employment opportunities for people with a learning or physical disability or mental health issue
Officer Lead:	Gerry Fitzpatrick/Stiofan OSuilibhan
Target PPB Meeting	March 2010 (NB. It is anticipated that this will be a joint scrutiny topic with the Employment, Learning & Skills Policy & Performance Board)

Topic Description and scope:

An examination of the current processes involved in supporting those Service Users known to Social Care, who have a learning or physical disability or a mental health issue into appropriate employment.

Why this topic was chosen:

From the CSCI (Commission for Social Care Inspection) performance assessment report carried out July – Sep 2008, it was noted that Halton Borough Council has helped more people with a learning or physical disability or mental health issue into employment than it had planned, but that this was still lower than comparator Councils. As a result this was identified by CSCI as an area for development/improvement .

Key outputs and outcomes sought:

- ◆ Exploration of how employment opportunities for people with a learning or physical disability or mental health issue are identified.
- ◆ An understanding of the complexities of the financial processes/issues around employment for people with a learning or physical disability or mental health issue
- ◆ Raise awareness of the service provided to service users known to Social Care
- ◆ Develop an action plan to ensure that CSCI targets are met and that the service continues to develop
- ◆ Consider national best practice in terms of supporting people into employment opportunities
- ◆ An understanding of the Corporate responsibilities in supporting vulnerable people into employment

Which of Halton's 5 strategic priorities this topic addressed and the key objectives and improvement targets it will help to achieve:

Employment Learning & Skills in Halton

Key Objective C: To promote and increase the employability of local people and to remove any barriers to employment and get more people into work.

Nature of expected/described PPB input:

Member led scrutiny review of the employment opportunities for people with a learning or physical disability or mental health issue.

Preferred mode of operation:

- ◆ Review of current employment opportunities for people with a learning or physical disability or mental health issue.
- ◆ Benchmarking with comparative local authorities
- ◆ Visits/meetings including:

- Job Centre Plus
- Service Users – someone who has used the service
- Providers
- 5BP
- LSC (Learning Skills Council)
- Warrington Disability Employment Forum

Agreed and signed by:

PPB chair

Officer

Date

Date