

Partnership opportunity with Jobcentre Plus in Greater Manchester East & West (GMEW) District

Greater Manchester East & West District (GMEW) Jobcentre Plus is looking to invite applications for Grant Funding from partners aimed at improving the job prospects for people facing the most complex and intractable barriers to employment.

We are offering you the opportunity to supplement existing, or develop new, partnership activities that will help us achieve this vision.

Grant Funding will be available up to the value of £49,000 per project.

Geography

We would consider applications from partners and providers who can deliver in one or more of the following Local Authority areas:

Bury / Bolton / Oldham / Rochdale / Stockport / Tameside / Wigan & Leigh

Closing date for applications

Closing date is 19 December 2014.

Details of the partnership opportunity

Jobcentre Plus wants to work together with partners across GMEW to improve the job prospects for local people. We are looking for new, creative, **unique and innovative** proposals to help unemployed people move into work.

We aspire to join up public services such as health, housing, transport, employment and skills to help local people back into work. We seek to achieve value for money and alignment of funding which supports our primary aim of getting as many people back to work as quickly as possible in GMEW.

We are seeking proposals which will avoid duplication of services and cannot be purchased in line with procurement and EU law, whilst developing a solution to the 'what's next?' question where the partnership can holistically support an individual through a particular issue: health, lifestyle, lack of skills etc. We particularly welcome programmes which include activities outside the traditional classroom environment that have been proven to develop life skills and increase outcomes for individuals. **The outcome is the capacity to move into work experience, training, or employment and have the resilience to sustain it.**

Your application should focus on **ONE** of the following cohorts:

- Lone Parents
- Claimants with mild to moderate mental health issues/learning difficulties.
- Claimants aged 50+
- Women from ethnic minorities who, having completed ESOL provision, may need to develop life skills especially in finding solutions to transport barriers etc.
- Carers
- Claimants with Asperger syndrome

Minimum requirements for the partnership

We will offer a grant to a recognised Lead Accountable Body (LAB) who will manage and be accountable for the money on behalf of the partnership. A LAB must be a legal, not for profit entity with auditable accounts such as a voluntary organisation, charity, local authority, a Community Interest Company (CIC), Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) or equivalent, or a commercial organisation operating within state aid de minimis regulations and must be determined as eligible, based on the Departments Financial Viability and Risk assessment.

The Lead Accountable Body will need in its application to clearly describe:

- Which cohort it will support.
- The reason why the customers you are planning to work with cannot be supported by existing training provision e.g. Work Programme, Support Contract, Work Choice, SFA funded college courses, etc
- The reason why the proposed partnership delivers more than existing services delivered to customers by Jobcentre Plus advisory services
- Evidence that the partnership has considered the needs of the local labour market and local customers, as well as having consulted with local Jobcentre Plus offices to confirm this
- Details of how many customers the partnership opportunity will support and for how long
- Details of what outcomes will be delivered by the Grant Funded programme. There is an expectation that 60 % of those who start will progress into further training, work experience, volunteering or paid employment
- Costs of delivering the project, including a breakdown of items being provided at nil cost and details of how funding will be disbursed to partner organisations.

Please note Jobcentre Plus will identify and refer its customers to the programme.

Any application received without all of the above information will not be considered.

How to apply

Email the Greater Manchester East & West District Provision Team for an application pack.

gmewfsf.grantfundingapplications@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Closing date for applications

19 December 2014.

Support and further information can be obtained by contacting the relevant Employer and Partnership manager:

Bury	ANNE.GENT@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK KAREN.GRAHAM2@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK
Bolton	JULIE.A.WILLS@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK
Oldham	VICTORIA.WHEELWRIGHT@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK
Rochdale	LAURA.BARRETT1@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK

Stockport	JENNY.STANTON@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK
Tameside	VIVIEN.ROBINSON1@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK
Wigan & Leigh	KATHRYN.JOHNSTON@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK