

SOUTHWARK WORKS PROGRAMME

The Southwark Works Programme has an established team of 17 specialist employment advisers, and from early December the Mental Health team will have an additional 3 employment advisers. We work closely with JobcentrePlus, mainstream agencies and a range of other employment and training related partners. The advisers are located with a variety of service providers, each trying to tackle specific barriers to the labour market and help those at most disadvantage – throughout the borough.

People who are eligible for the Southwark Works programme must be residents of Southwark and are:

People with ill health – Mental Health issues, Physical Disabilities and Learning Disabilities: Working with Social Workers, through Day Centres, Day Care Services and the South London and Maudsley Hospital Foundation Trust to help those with physical disabilities, learning disabilities and mental health issues to access training and employment opportunities – especially those claiming Incapacity Benefit, Income Support, Disability Living Allowance, Severe Disability Allowance etc.

People with drug, alcohol or substance misuse issues: Targeting adults with drug, alcohol or substance related problems who are at risk of offending, ex-offenders and those referred through the Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) to help them access training or employment opportunities.

People claiming Incapacity Benefit: Targeting adults with ill-health claiming incapacity benefit (or Income Support) to help them access training and employment opportunities. Working with GPs and welfare rights advisers in doctors' surgeries and with community mental health teams at the South London and Maudsley Hospital Foundation Trust, as well as other outreach locations. Priority on Peckham, South Bermondsey and the Aylesbury NDC area.

Young people Leaving Care: Targeting young people who are leaving council care or who have been in council care. Priority given to those aged 18–21 particularly those in the NEET (not in employment, education or training) group, ethnic minorities, and young people with low basic skills, to help them access training and employment opportunities.

Refugees: Targeting adults with Indefinite or Extended Leave to Remain (ILR/ELR) from refugee backgrounds, to help them access training and employment opportunities.

Childcare: Southwark Works' clients who need help with childcare whilst looking for work or whilst attending short term training courses or work placements will have direct access to the Childcare Support Scheme – with priority to workless lone parents.

Southwark Works has 2 dedicated Employer Liaison Officers (ELOs), who engage with employers and match job vacancies to individual client needs. The programme also offers work experience placements both in the public and private sectors via 3 dedicated members of the team.

Southwark Works in short

- From December 2007 20 Specialist Employment Advisers tackling specific barriers to the labour market, including ill-health, disabilities, drug and alcohol problems, criminal records, mental health problems, cultural and language issues, time spent in council care, lack of affordable childcare
- Employer Liaison Officer, engaging employers, matching vacancies to beneficiaries and providing information for employers
- Work experience placements with Southwark Council and in the private sector
- A communications strategy to help improve access to services borough-wide, improve referrals and increase participation in training and employment support programmes

HOW TO ACCESS:

- **Call Southwark Works Freephone 0800 052 0540**
- **Come in to Southwark Works office's at 146 St James's Road, Bermondsey, London SE1 5BW or Unit 239, Elephant and Castle Shopping Centre, London SE1 6TE**
- **Complete a freepost leaflet and send it back in the mail**
- **Complete a referral form and email or fax it back to Southwark Works on:**
 - **Email: info@southwarkworks.org.uk**
 - **Fax: 020 7394 8493**

The logo for Southwark Works features the word "southwark" in a bold, dark red, lowercase sans-serif font. The word "works" is positioned to the right of "southwark" in a lighter red, lowercase sans-serif font. The text is set against a light blue rectangular background with rounded corners. Below the blue background is a solid dark red horizontal bar.

www.southwarkworks.org.uk
