

What is Pathways to Work?

Pathways to Work is a friendly, independent service for people in receipt of incapacity-related benefits. We provide impartial advice, training and support to help you gain suitable and sustainable employment.

How does Pathways work?

Some people come to Pathways to Work on the recommendation of Jobcentre Plus, whilst others approach the service directly. However you arrive at Pathways to Work, we work with you to:

- assess your individual barriers to employment
- find tailored help and support in your area
- search for suitable employment
- provide in-work support if you feel you could benefit from this.

Step one: getting started

If you are recommended to join Pathways to Work by a Jobcentre Plus Advisor as part of your initial work-focussed interview you will have five meetings with an A4e Pathways Advisor to:

- discuss employment-related options
- explore barriers to employment
- discuss what help and support is available to find and keep suitable work
- fulfil obligations for receipt of full benefit.

Step two: finding the right route for you

Choices programme

Choices is for you once you have made the decision to engage in work-related activity.

Our Choices programme features:

- an Employment Coach – your main contact throughout, including a direct line and text message service
- an in-depth discussion of your job goals, which may include self-employment
- access to independent job search facilities at your Pathways centre
- help with writing a CV and a place to store your work
- one-to-one confidence building and job search training
 - job-finding – we contact potential employers on your behalf.

'Directions' events

Directions is for you if you are unsure about taking the step towards work-focussed activity.

It is a voluntary, fun and friendly two-day programme which explores barriers to work in more depth and determines whether work-focussed activity is a realistic option. There is a maximum waiting time of five working days.

Referral to specialist partners

A4e works with many carefully selected partners who are able to provide specialist advice and support (for example, for people with sensory impairments, mental health conditions, etc.) or who can offer you alternative providers for the Choices Programme.

Occupational support

This is for you if you are keen to work but need ongoing help with your condition.

Delivered by in-house occupational support coaches, you attend one-to-one and voluntary group sessions. This route also includes support for family members, where appropriate.

Step three: in-work support

When you enter full-time, paid work through Pathways, we can continue to support you through a Choices Advisor. This support can be tailored to your needs alongside further career development training.

www.a4epathways.co.uk

