

## What is IPS?



The Individualised Placement Support (IPS) model is a place and train model of supported employment that rapidly helps you get a job that meets your needs.

Employment specialists tailor their support to each individual so that clients have the best chance of achieving their job aspirations.

- IPS helps you get a job that meets your needs – IPS employment specialists use a personalised, strength-based approach so that each individual has the best chance of securing a job of their choosing.
- IPS aims to help you find a paid job within just weeks of being referred to the service.
- IPS provides ongoing support to the employer and the employee to help you stay in work.
- Advisors have the time and space to offer you intensive support.
- Suitable work is good for wellbeing – getting back into work has been proven to improve people's mental health, financial independence, and quality of life.

Accessing Cheshire West and Chester Council information and services

Council information is also available in Audio, Braille, Large Print or other formats. If you would like a copy in a different format, in another language or require a BSL interpreter, please email us at [equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

Tel: 0300 123 8 123 Textphone: 18001 01606 867 670  
email: [equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)  
web: [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)



### What our customers say about IPS:

"My employment specialist helped me to build my confidence and return to work after long term sickness."

"After struggling to stay in my job due to my health condition, my employment specialist has found me a new job with an employer that is really supportive."

"I had no idea this support was available; I have now set up my own business with support from my employment specialist and I now feel on top of the world."

"My medication has really affected my work over the last 6 months, with help from my employment specialist and support from my employer, I now have reasonable adjustments in place and flexibility around my working day to help me manage my condition."

## Cheshire West & Chester Council



# Employment Directions

**Employment Directions can provide the support you need to find, stay in, or return to a good-quality job where you can thrive.**

If you have visited your GP, pharmacist, pain clinic or any other primary care service within the last 90 days for a physical or mental health condition, enquire today to find out more about the support Employment Directions could give you.





## What is Employment Directions?

Employment Directions is a service that provides holistic employment support for residents living across Cheshire West and Chester. If you have visited your GP, pharmacist, pain clinic or any other primary care service within the last 90 days for a physical or mental health condition, you may be eligible for free support to find or stay in work.

## How is it funded?

Employment Directions is funded by the Department of Health and Social Care and Department for Work and Pensions. It is being delivered by Cheshire West and Chester Council and local NHS partners.

## Who is it for?

If you live in Cheshire West and Chester and have visited your GP, pharmacist, pain clinic or any other primary care service within the last 90 days for a physical or mental health condition, apply for support now.

## Why should I apply?

Employment Directions gives people individualised support for up to 12 months to get a good-quality job and thrive in work.

The majority of participants have found the service boosted their confidence, their job search capability, and their motivation.

## What support could I receive?

- One-to-one support from your employment specialist to help you find work, continue working, or manage a health condition at work.
- Regular face-to-face, online or phone appointments.
- Help with job applications, CVs, and interview skills, to find a job that suits your skills and employment goals.
- Help with talking to an employer about your needs at work, and support in work with your role if needed.
- Support with better off in work calculations. This includes guidance with finding support for housing and debt advice and much more.

## What do I need to be eligible?

- Over the age of 18
- Have a physical or mental health disability as defined by the Equality Act 2010
- Want support to remain in or find work
- Have the right to live and work in the UK
- Can be on or not on benefits
- If claiming benefits, not on any other DWP funded provision (such as our Supported Employment Service)
- Have the right to access public funds.

## How can I apply?

Talk to your GP or other healthcare provider who can make a referral on your behalf or self-refer through the below email address and you will be contacted by an employment specialist.

Email: [IPS@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:IPS@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

Please visit the **Employment Directions** section on our website:

[www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/skillsemployment](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/skillsemployment)



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions



Employment  
Directions

