



SUPPORTED BY  
**MAYOR OF LONDON**



## Building Better Opportunities

### Project outline

For use in England only

Project title	Project 13 of 19 - Employment support for people with common mental health conditions - South London (IPS)
Project reference number	Lon/2/13
LEP area	London LEP
ESF Thematic Objective	9: Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty
ESF Investment Priority	1.4: Active inclusion
Funding available	£1,480,000
Project start period	July 2016 to November 2016
Latest date for completion	December 2019
Date open for applications	8 October 2015
Deadline for stage one applications	12 noon on 30 November 2015

## Important information about this project outline

This project outline represents just one strand of the overall funding that is available through Building Better Opportunities. As this is a joint programme with the European Social Fund, we will only consider applications that clearly meet a project outline and meet the requirements set out in our **programme guide**.

As you read this project outline, please note the following:

- This project outline is subject to any changes made by the European Commission or the Managing Authority to the rules governing ESF in England. The Big Lottery Fund will upload any updates to <https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/esf>. It is your responsibility to review the page regularly to keep abreast of any changes that may have an impact on your application.
- You must apply for the full amount of **funding available** shown, which we will award to just one applicant or partnership to deliver the project described in this outline.
- The project must be delivered in the **LEP area(s)** shown and within any specific **project location** we've identified within this outline.
- You must plan to **start** and **complete** your project by the dates indicated. By 'complete' we mean that you must have spent and claimed all of the grant and closed your project.
- Your proposed project must align with the **project description** we've provided within this outline and include any specific activities listed.
- You must submit your stage one application by the **deadline** we've given above.
- Your proposed project should include appropriate links to potential employers and self-employment opportunities. The specific interventions must enable a comprehensive assessment of an individual's needs that are tailored to help them move towards work and out of poverty.
- You must demonstrate that the activities you are proposing will be additional to any national and statutory provision. This could include, for example, wrap around support that works with people to overcome the barriers that prevent them engaging effectively with statutory provision, or more in-depth and intensive support to the most disadvantaged people, which they can access alongside the statutory provision they are entitled to.
- Activities must be locally accessible and be led by skilled front line staff.
- The people who will benefit from the project must come from the eligible participant groups we've identified in our programme guide, with a specific focus on those unemployed or economically inactive, furthest from the labour market, and most at risk of social exclusion. We may also specify particular **project participants** within this outline that must benefit from some or all of the activities you'll deliver.
- You must be confident that you'll be able to deliver the **project outputs and results**, taking into account the value, length and nature of the project we've described. We will monitor the delivery of the project to ensure these outputs and results will be met over its lifetime.
- You should have experience of delivering similar services and of identifying and working with people who face significant challenges to engaging with the labour market. You must demonstrate an understanding of the needs of local people, and show how you will work with existing local providers of related services and engage those most in need in the local area.
- Organisations can be involved in more than one application, either as a lead or a partner. However, lead partners might set their own requirements on partners' involvement in other applications so please check local requirements with the lead partner.
- Subject to satisfactory performance, there may be the potential to extend the project duration and/or increase the funding available for this project once activities have commenced.

If you think your organisation, or a partnership led by your organisation, would be able to deliver the project we've described then you can request a stage one application form on our website [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/esf](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/esf)

## Project background

The London Enterprise Panel (LEP) has shown an ongoing commitment to support Londoners to have the skills to gain sustainable jobs. Focussing on the Skills and Employment theme, the European Social Fund (ESF) programme will add value to the priorities already presented in the LEP's Jobs and Growth Plan and ESIF Strategy.

The ESF programme will support sustainable employment opportunities, careers progression and advancement in learning for Londoners, with a particular focus on supporting skills and employment growth in some of the most deprived parts of London.

The Europe 2020 goal is to raise the employment rate of women and men aged 20-64 to 75 per cent. Investment under this priority will aim to support Londoners' to take part in the capital city's economic success.

Census data from 2011 showed that around 350,000 people in London had a long-term health condition or disability that limited their daily activities and were out of work. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) working age client group data shows that in February 2015 there were around 320,000 in London people claiming at least one health related benefit such as Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and Disability Living Allowance (DLA)/Personal Independence Payment (PIP). In total, there were around 290,000 ESA claimants in London in February 2015. Of these, around 50,000 were in the Work Related Activity Group (WRAG) - that is, it was judged that they had some capacity to work and would be mandated to look for work.

Overall, half of those claimants had been deemed eligible for ESA because of mental health conditions, whilst half had physical health conditions. However, given the link between periods out of work and worsening mental health, it is likely that some of those with physical health conditions also suffer from mental health conditions. Moreover, it is estimated that around a quarter of Jobseekers Allowance claimants have a common mental health condition.

Within the South London sub-region there are an anticipated 188,000 people with common mental health conditions. Reported JSA claimants across the borough total in the region of 15,000 with 3,400 of those likely to have common mental health and ESA/DLA benefit claimants with mental health conditions being in the region of 27,000.

Studies with people with health conditions and disabilities have found a range of other barriers to work in addition to the health condition itself. A recent study of people claiming disability benefits found that the key barriers to work were: low skills and qualifications, time out of the labour market, discrimination by employers, lack of confidence, fear of drug/alcohol relapse, housing/finance issues and age. Being out of work can also worsen or bring on health problems, in particular poor mental health / depression. As one study has found, "Generally, longitudinal research suggests that becoming unemployed leads to an increase in psychological distress and depression." Higher levels of depression amongst people out of work are often linked to other factors, such as material hardship and caring responsibilities.

This project will support those with common mental health issues such as anxiety, depression, generalised anxiety disorder (GAD), obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), panic disorder, post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and social anxiety disorder. The project is not intended however to support those with severe and enduring mental health conditions for whom more intensive and appropriate support is available through Work Choice, local authority provision and other ESIF programmes.

There are 11 projects being delivered in the London area through Building Better Opportunities in tranche two:

Project 9 - Employment support for people with common mental health conditions (IPS) - North & East

Project 10 - Employment support for people with common mental health conditions (IPS) - Central

Project 11 - Employment support for people with common mental health conditions (IPS) - West

Project 12 - Employment support for people with common mental health conditions (psycho-education) - West

Project 13 - Employment support for people with common mental health conditions (IPS) - South

Project 14 - Employment support for refugees - North & East

Project 15 - Employment support for refugees - Central

Project 16 - Employment support for refugees - West

Project 17 - Employment support for refugees - South

Project 18 - Employment support for people with complex needs - North, East & West

Project 19 - Employment support for people with complex needs - Central & South

There are eight projects being delivered in the London area through Building Better Opportunities in tranche one:

Project 1 - Long term unemployed and economically inactive BAME women - Central

Project 2 - Long term unemployed and economically inactive BAME women - North & East

Project 3 - Long term unemployed and economically inactive BAME women - South

Project 4 - Long term unemployed and economically inactive BAME women - West

Project 5 - Intermediate labour market disability & health - South & Central

Project 6 - Intermediate labour market disability & health - North, East & West

Project 7 - Carers - North, East & West

Project 8 - Carers - South & Central

Applicants should ensure they are fully aware of the other projects we will be funding in the London area (even if they only plan to submit an application for this project).

Further information about the additional barriers referred to above, and more supporting information that should be considered when completing the application, can be found on the LEP website, which can be accessed via the link published on the Big Lottery Fund website

<https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/global-content/programmes/england/building-better-opportunities/london>

Assessment will include consideration of how well applications address the additional information published on the LEP website and in this document.

## Project aim

This project aims to support people with common mental health conditions aged 25 and over to move into employment and to sustain that employment for a minimum of six months.

It will be delivered using a slight variant of the Individual Placement Support (IPS) service model.<sup>1</sup> The IPS model in the US and its variants in the UK have been relatively successful and are supported by empirical evidence. However, this is largely for those with severe and enduring mental health conditions, and this programme will extend its use to those with common mental health conditions.

The project will need to:

- Deliver an IPS service as close to the IPS fidelity model as possible.
- Work closely in partnership with local services, including the Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) service, local authorities, and Jobcentre Plus (JCP)

<sup>1</sup> For more information about the IPS model, please see this website:  
<http://www.centreformentalhealth.org.uk/individual-placement-and-support>

- Provide a ‘single front door’ to ensure people receive the support that is most suitable for them.

## Project description

Applicants should clearly articulate how they will deliver the single front door and IPS service outlined below.

### Single Front Door

The applicant should outline how it will provide a ‘single front door’ to existing local services, by advising people who are not suitable participants for this project on where they can get support, based on a thorough understanding of both mental health conditions and DWP benefits. This will be required as people will be referred to this project by specialists such as JCP staff (who cannot be expected to diagnose mental health conditions) and GPs (who cannot be expected to understand differences in DWP benefit eligibility).

### The IPS service

The main element of this project will be to deliver an Individual Placement and Support (IPS) service to support and sustain people into work. The provider should also undertake any other activity needed to support the participant into work, such as referral to other specialised support, help with managing childcare, or help to overcome other barriers to entering and sustaining work.

Support will be provided in line with the eight IPS principles by an experienced provider:

1. As wide as possible access to IPS supported employment to people with mental illness who want to work (although see the eligibility criteria)
2. Employment services are integrated with mental health treatment services and information is shared between the two services with the participant’s permission
3. The goal is to ensure competitive employment within 6 weeks of joining the project
4. Personalised benefits counselling is provided, including better off calculations, which should be completed at point of referral before the work search starts. The benefits advice being given must be up to date, factual and completely impartial.
5. The job search starts immediately after a person expresses interest in working
6. Employment specialists systematically develop relationships with employers based upon the participant’s preferences and build strong employer relationships, treating the employer as a customer. Providing/brokering training and support for the employer as well as the participant before and during the placement as needed to support the customer into sustainable work.
7. Continuous job support.
8. Participant preferences are honoured and choice and control maintained.

The effectiveness of IPS is directly linked to how well the Fidelity Scale is followed. Applicants should outline any ways in which this project would deviate from the IPS fidelity model, as outlined in the IPS fidelity scale, in order to adapt the model for participants with Common Mental Health conditions. Applicants should explain what IPS and supported employment services they have delivered in the past (including job entry rates), including the results of any IPS Independent Fidelity Reviews that have been undertaken.

Referral routes will be from GP surgeries, IAPTs, Children’s Centres, social workers, and existing employment support services like Jobcentre Plus, and to the single point of contact offered by the provider. Self-referrals will also be possible. The project will be responsible for working with referral agencies to ensure enough people can be recruited onto the project and to ensure a strong partnership arrangement is in place to provide required support to the individual. The project will need to obtain participants’ consent to health/social workers/IAPTs etc sharing relevant information about them, and should outline how it will achieve this.

The service should liaise with a range of employers (in terms of industry and specialism), focusing on ensuring that it supports participants into paid competitive employment (as opposed to volunteering work placement opportunities). The applicant should outline how it envisages it will work with key stakeholders, such as IAPT, Community Mental Health Teams (CMHT) and JCP. A formal Service Level Agreement between the provider and partner organisations should be considered.

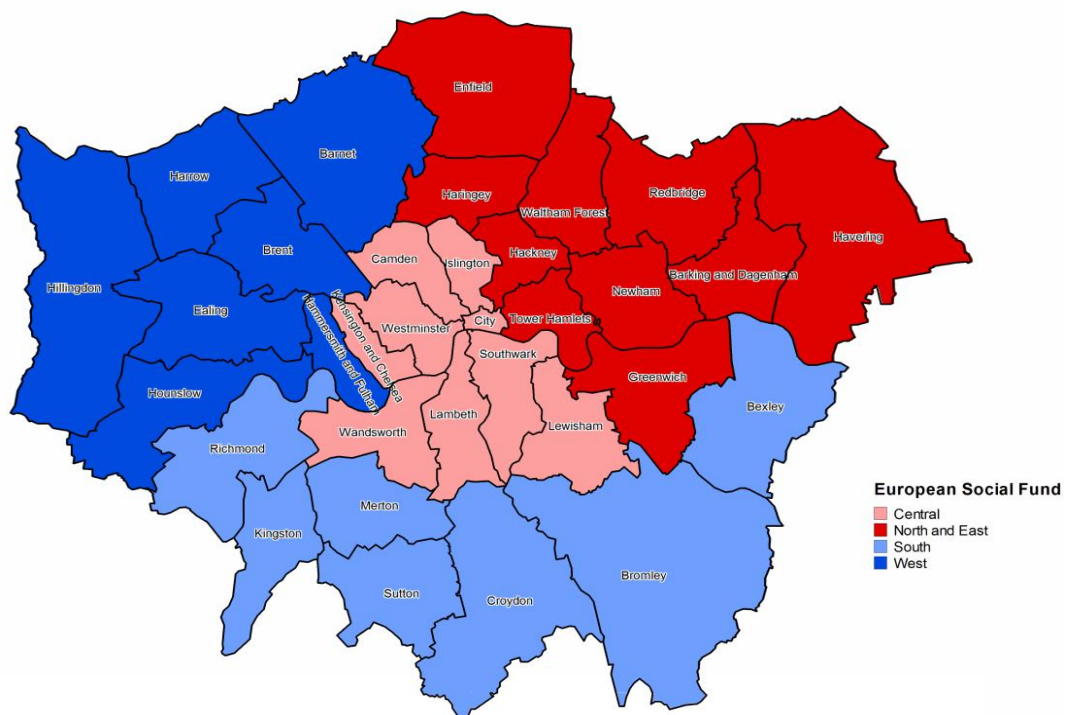
Once participants move into employment, support to stay in work must be offered for a period of six to nine months; this may include advice around benefits/Tax Credits, liaising with the employer and signposting to other services including Access to Work. For this reason, engagement of new participants in the last year of the project will be limited and applicants should ensure they plan to engage the majority of participants before this.

### Additional information from those invited to submit a stage two application

Further detailed development work will be undertaken in stage two, including further co-design with local partners to determine how this project and other services will work together in partnership.

### Project location

The project should be in the South of the London LEP area, covering the boroughs of Richmond, Kingston, Merton, Sutton, Croydon, Bromley and Bexley.



### Project participants

All participants must be unemployed or economically inactive as defined in our programme guide.

The IPS service will be available to anyone aged 25 or over, with a common mental health condition who wants to work and who is not receiving employment support on the Work Programme or Work Choice (or successor programmes). Common mental health conditions are defined by the NHS as Anxiety, Depression, Generalised Anxiety Disorder (GAD), Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), Panic Disorder, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and Social Anxiety Disorder.

Participants will have been suffering from their condition for at least three months before they are

referred to the service, either through a self-declaration or a medical referral. In the case of a self-declaration, the service provider should outline how they will apply relevant assessment tools, for example GAD7 and PHQ9 (see the Additional Information available on the LEP website), to ensure the project works with people with moderate to severe common mental health conditions. The project should not support those who do not have a clinical referral and have a mild condition as defined by the GAD7 and PHQ9 assessment tools (that is, a score of less than six). If applicants would like to use different assessment tools, they should explain why in their application.

For those who are not scheduled to join the Work Programme, support could be provided for up to a year whilst out of work and for a further six months whilst in work. Where an individual is scheduled to be referred onto the Work Programme within three months of their referral to this project, consideration may be given by Jobcentre Plus to deferring entry to the Work Programme, ensuring that providers have a minimum of six months to work with participants.

Once participants move into employment, support to stay in work must be offered for a period of six to nine months; this may include advice around benefits/Tax Credits, liaising with the employer and signposting to other services including Access to Work. For this reason, engagement of new participants in the last year of the project will be limited and applicants should ensure they plan to engage the majority of participants before this.

## Project outputs and results

The project must deliver the following outputs and results within its lifetime:

- At least 592 people are engaged in activities to improve their work readiness, including at least:
  - 296 men;
  - 296 women;
  - 237 people who are unemployed;
  - 355 people who are economically inactive;
  - 207 people who are 50 or older;
  - 148 people with disabilities;
  - 237 people from ethnic minorities.

N.B. each person can be counted against more than one category.

The primary results that this programme will achieve will be entry into work and sustainment of work.

- At least 17 per cent of the people enrolled on the project move into education or training on leaving.
- At least 35 per cent of people move into employment, including self-employment, on leaving. Of these, 40 per cent must have been unemployed when joining the project and 60 per cent must have been economically inactive.
- At least 27 per cent of people who were economically inactive when joining the project move into job-search on leaving.
- At least 45 per cent of people entering work sustain employment for 26 out of 32 weeks after entering employment.
- In addition, you must ensure that anyone who needs access to childcare in order to participate in the project receives childcare support. This will be checked through a survey run by the Managing Authority.

These are the **minimum** targets we expect your project to deliver within its lifetime. Tell us if you will be able to support more people through the project, as this could have a bigger impact. Our assessment of your stage one application will take into account the different types of change that participants of the project will experience. If you are successful at stage one, we will ask you to

develop a set of project outcomes that you will deliver alongside the outputs outlined above.

All successful applicants will be required to participate in the London Employability Performance Rating, which uses management and performance information, supports participant choice and collects evidence of customer satisfaction, provides an evidence-based track record of delivery against grant, improves transparency of contract management and provides a framework for lead delivery partners to performance manage partners and subcontractors.

Further information about the London Employability Performance Rating can be found on the Greater London Authority's website: <http://data.london.gov.uk/london-employability-performance-rating>

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<sup>i</sup> Singley, S.G. (2003) *Barriers to Employment among Long-term Beneficiaries*, p.6.