

Employment: A Distinctive Approach Targeted at the Hardest-to-Reach

About us

We are a group of organisations in the private, not-for-profit and third sectors who have come together as the Offender Services Partnership, because we passionately believe we have a contribution to make to managing offenders to reduce crime and protect the public. We aim to work with public sector providers to help them improve their performance.

Employment

The link between lack of employment and offending is well documented and the NOMS Education, Training and Employment Pathway focuses on the potential to (re)skill offenders to ensure they are employable on release.

One of our partners, Tomorrow's People, has extensive experience of getting the 'hard to place' into sustained employment and is acknowledged by Government as a leader and innovator. Their experience has given them a deep insight into the complex barriers that offenders face, and understanding of the development and support programmes essential to help them into sustainable employment.

How we can help

Tomorrow's People have developed a distinctive bespoke approach to helping offenders and others who are socially excluded based on:

- Innovative programmes to tackle unemployment - tailored to meet the needs of different groups and localities, many of which have since been emulated by the government and other organisations
 - One-on-one contact - allowing targeted advice, mentoring, confidence building and practical help with finding and applying for jobs or appropriate training. Advisers will spend up to 45-60 minutes with each person per meeting, compared to the 14 minutes they would receive at Jobcentre Plus
 - Quality and dedication of its staff - advisers are professional experts in recruitment, training opportunities and government employment initiatives, who understand the problems faced by offenders
 - Community outreach - working in libraries, community centres, doctors' surgeries, places of worship and schools, as well as in Job Centres - reaching out to people in their everyday environment
 - An environment of trust - many people come forward by word of mouth, recommended by friends and relatives who have already been helped and trust the organisation to deliver
 - Good links with employers - understanding their requirements and building trust that applicants forwarded will be appropriate for their organisations
- Focus on post employment support - so that both the employer and employee know that if any problems arise in the early stages of their relationship they can call on our employment advisors for support
 - Independence from Government - making it easier to win the trust of clients who may be wary of speaking to 'authority-figures'
- Our programmes can be delivered to offenders whilst in custody, on statutory release license, or serving community orders or as part of unpaid work requirements or accredited offender programmes.

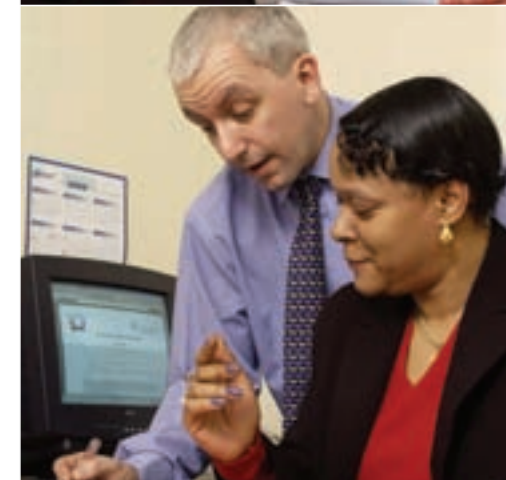
Our track record

Independent evaluation by the Oxford Economic Forecasting Group in 2004 found that:

- 90% of clients were still in work 3 months, 76% after 1 year
- benefits to society from our work over the last 20 years were approximately £450m

How to find out more

If you would like more information on how the OSP can help you deliver access to sustainable employment, please contact Jan Tomlinson of Tomorrow's People on 07968 007613 or email jtomlinson@tomorrows-people.co.uk.



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Enabling and supporting
success in correctional services

