Work and Health Programme Wales overview

Gareth Parry
Chief Executive Officer
Remploy Ltd
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Remploy Cymru is the leading employment related services provider in Wales, and has been supporting disabled people into employment for more than 70 years.

We have found jobs for more than 18,000 disabled people across Wales since 2010, and are proud to be a Disability Confident Leader.

Remploy Cymru colleagues own a share of our business, and more than 40% have a disability or health condition themselves.
What is WHP Wales?

What is the Work and Health Programme Wales?

The Work and Health Programme Wales offers tailored, community-based employment support for people with a disability or health condition, and the long-term unemployed, to help them develop their skills and enter work.

- 7 year contract: 5 years of programme referrals
- New programme that supercedes the existing provision of Work Choice and the Work Programme
- Circa 16,300 participant starts
- Participants on programme for a maximum period of 21 months (15 pre-employment, 6 months in-work)
- 80% health condition/disability, 11% Long Term Unemployed, 8% early access disadvantaged group
- Integrated with local providers and statutory services

- Programme launched 1st December
Many participants on the Work and Health Programme Wales programme will have complex and multiple barriers to work. In order to provide a tailored service to these customers, we need to ensure that we get them specialist support when required.

Delivery of the programme will be supported by Remploy Cymru’s Community Partnership Network (CPN).

The CPN already comprises of more than 41 organisations offering specialist advice and support, and access to local services. This includes skills and training; health services; drug and alcohol addiction support; and housing charities – and its expected to grow!
Our CPN members
Remploy Cymru’s dedicated employer team have unrivalled relationships with hundreds of employers across Wales, developing preferential routeways to employment for participants with disabilities and health conditions, and the long-term unemployed.

These include work trials, working interviews and work placements. We also work with employers to develop the environment and expertise to recruit and retain disabled employees.

Our Employer Partners in Wales include:

- Admiral Insurance
- Marks and Spencer
- Lloyds Banking Group
- Tesco
- Public sector (eg; Swansea City Council)
- Hundreds of SMEs across every local authority area in Wales
An Exciting New Programme, BUT....

• The Work & Health Programme can only be a single part of the employment and skills solution for Wales

• We welcome the Welsh Government’s drive on the youth agenda and apprenticeships – we need to see more diversity in skills and apprenticeships

• Many Welsh communities still face challenges with;
  – ill health
  – household earnings
  – transport challenges
  – digital infrastructure
Summary

• Remploy Cymru are delighted to be the Work and Health Programme Provider for Wales

• We look forward to working with all key stakeholders

• We aim to directly contribute to, and support, the Welsh Government’s Working Wales strategy

• We aim to be a key contributor to closing the disability employment gap across the whole of Wales
Contact us

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Diolch a mawr!