Employment support for Gypsy and Traveller communities

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What is Social Justice?

"Social justice is about giving individuals and families facing multiple disadvantages the support and tools they need to turn their lives around"

- A new approach to understanding and tackling the root causes of poverty rather than just its symptoms, brought about by;
- Changing attitudes to welfare: greater interest in the fairness of the system and value for money, placing greater emphasis on personal responsibility
- Despite considerable welfare spending, more working age adults live in poverty than ever before, and more than a million people have been on an out of work benefit for nine or more of the last ten years

Social Justice: Principles

A new set of principles that inform our approach:

1. A focus on **prevention and early intervention**
2. Where problems do arise, a focus on **recovery** as the primary aim
3. Promoting **work** as the most sustainable route out of poverty
4. Encouraging **innovation** in the commissioning, funding and delivery of services
5. Recognising the role of local Government, the **voluntary and community sector and grassroots delivery** in offering the most targeted support
6. **Empowering** people and communities to take a greater responsibility for the services they use
7. Ensuring that interventions provide a **fair deal for the taxpayer**

Overview of employment support

- Flexible Support Fund
- Work Clubs
- Work Together
- New Enterprise Allowance and Enterprise Clubs
- Work Experience
- Sector-based work academies
- The Work Programme
- The Youth Contract
- Universal Jobmatch

Locally Delivered Flexible Provision

- Support the individual
- Don’t dictate from the “centre”
- Local response rather than “one size fits all”
- Social Justice ambassadors

Challenging agenda

- Welfare Reform
- Budgeting advice – Local Support Services Framework
- Budgeting Accounts

Challenging agenda

- Alternative Payment Arrangements
- Discretionary housing payments

Working in partnership

- Ethnic Minority Employment Stakeholder Group
- Influence and support work of DWP and other government departments
- Delivery Partnership Approach through local engagement

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