Introduction

Employment can help improve quality of life by reducing social isolation and enabling people to become more involved within their communities. Nationally, levels of employment for people with a learning disability and/or a mental health problem are low. The number of adults with learning disabilities and the number of adults in contact with secondary mental health services who are in employment are measured as part of the Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework.

What do we know?

Figure 1 shows the percentage of working age people (aged 18 to 64) with learning disability known to Local Authorities with Adult Social Services Responsibility (CASSRs) in paid employment in 2013-14 in West Berkshire, South-East region and in England. Just 3.3% of adults with a learning disability who are known to West Berkshire Council were in paid employment in 2013/14. This is compared to the England average (6.7%), the South-East average (8.1%) and similar local authorities average (10.2%).

Figure 1: Adults with learning disabilities in employment (West Berkshire, 2013/14).

Source: Health and Social Care Information Centre

Figure 2 shows the percentage of adults (aged 18 to 69) who are receiving secondary mental health services and are employed in West Berkshire, South East region and
England in 2013/14. Around 8.6% of adults in contact with secondary mental health services in West Berkshire are in employment. This is higher than the England and the South East region figures.

**Figure 2: Working age adults (aged 18-69) who are receiving secondary mental health services and who are on the Care Programme Approach recorded as being employed as a percentage of working-age adults who are receiving secondary mental health services and who were on the Care Programme Approach 2013-14.**

What is the data telling us?

What are the key inequalities?
There is a need to improve the employment prospects for people with learning disabilities and adults in contact with secondary mental health services.

What are the unmet needs/ service gaps?
There is a lack of support to help people with learning disabilities and people in contact with secondary mental health services to access employment.

**Recommendations for consideration**

Establish ways to help people into employment, education and training especially for individuals with a learning disability or mental health problems.

**National and local strategies**


West Berkshire – “Open for Business”: [A local economic development strategy for West Berkshire 2013-2018](#)


Careers Springboard West Berkshire: [The self-help group for supporting job seeking managers & professionals in West Berkshire](#)
Department of Work and Pensions (2013) - *Helping to reduce poverty and improve social justice*

Department of Work and Pensions (2013) - *Simplifying the welfare system and making sure work pays*

Department of Work and Pensions (2013) - *Helping people to find and stay in work*

**Other chapters you might be interested in**

Adults with Learning Disabilities
Adult Mental Health

If you have any questions about this chapter, please contact Public Health and Wellbeing Team on publichealthandwellbeing@westberks.gov.uk or 01635 503437