

# BRIEFING NOTE

**TO:** Cllr Oliver, Chair of Social Care & Inclusion Scrutiny and Performance Panel  
**DATE:** 24 September 2009

**RE: Future Jobs Fund**

## **Purpose**

This briefing note was written in response to questions about the Future Jobs Fund and any potential to use the fund to assist employees who may be displaced from Links to Work.

## **Future Jobs Fund and eligibility.**

The Future Jobs Fund has been set up by the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) with specific intentions to address the number of long term unemployed who are either young people aged 18-24 or meet the other criteria.

Employers are provided with a wage subsidy to create new posts of at least 6 months duration, paid for at the national minimum wage or more 25+ hours per week.

Access to these vacancies will be controlled through Jobcentre plus who will check the eligibility of potential applicants against the following criteria:

"Young Person's Guarantee" jobs	Jobs for claimants in disadvantaged areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• JSA claimant for between 39 and 50 weeks (and those "fast tracked");</li><li>• Before they reach "stage four" of FND or "New Deal Options"; and</li><li>• Aged 18-24</li></ul> <p>(In some circumstances long-term unemployed older jobseekers may be able to access these jobs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• JSA claimant for 39 weeks or more and not in FND "stage four";</li><li>• Customer in receipt of another benefit for 39 weeks or more; and</li><li>• Live in the disadvantaged area (Local Authority or Ward with JSA rate 1.5 percentage points above national average).</li></ul>

The DWP has set this fund up to meet some tightly defined targets from central government, as such it does not provide opportunities to assist the recently unemployed, or those who may become unemployed in the near future.

## **Recommendations (if required)**

None

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