

thinking about work



Irene Johnston

Thank you to Irene Johnston for the artwork for this plan. She can be contacted through Westminster Employment Service - 020 7641 1501.

Introduction

In Westminster we think people with learning disabilities who want to work should have the chance to work.

This should depend on how much people want to work. Not on how much support people need.

In Westminster there is a lot going on to support people into work.

Some of these things have been in response to recent opportunities. Some are services that have developed over time.

This is to tell you about the things we want to do to help people who want to get paid employment or other types of work.

Why do we need to plan?

We need to plan now so that we know

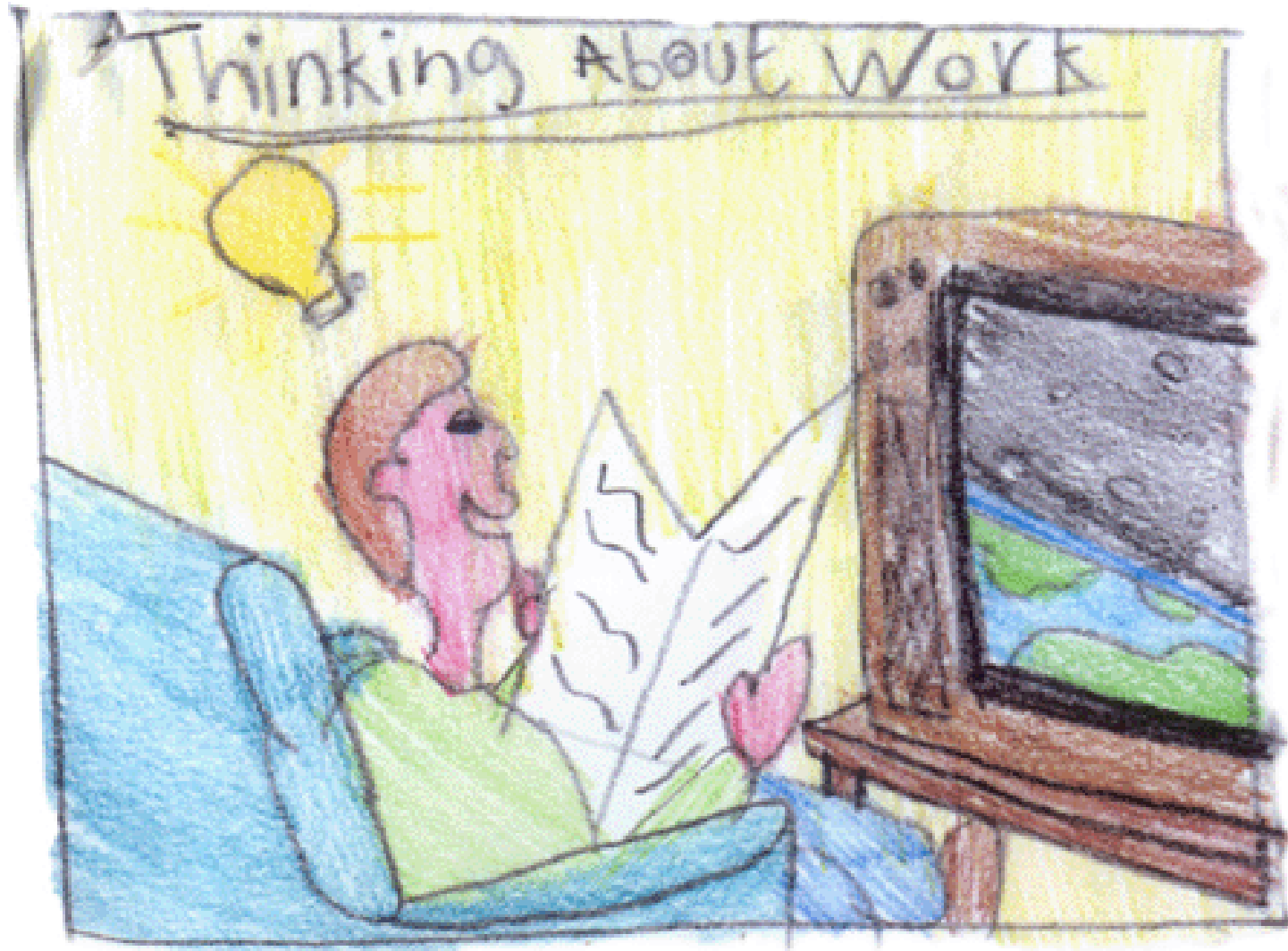
- What sort of work people want to do
- How much and what sort of support people need
- That people from black and minority ethnic communities are getting the right support
- What different organisations are doing and how they can work together

We also need a plan to help us know how many people want

- Employment – work that people get paid for
- Work – any work activity, like volunteering or work placements
- Pre-employment training – any of the adult education or vocational courses available

Finding out this information will help us decide what services people need, who should be providing them and how they are paid for.

Thinking About Work



Things we want to do

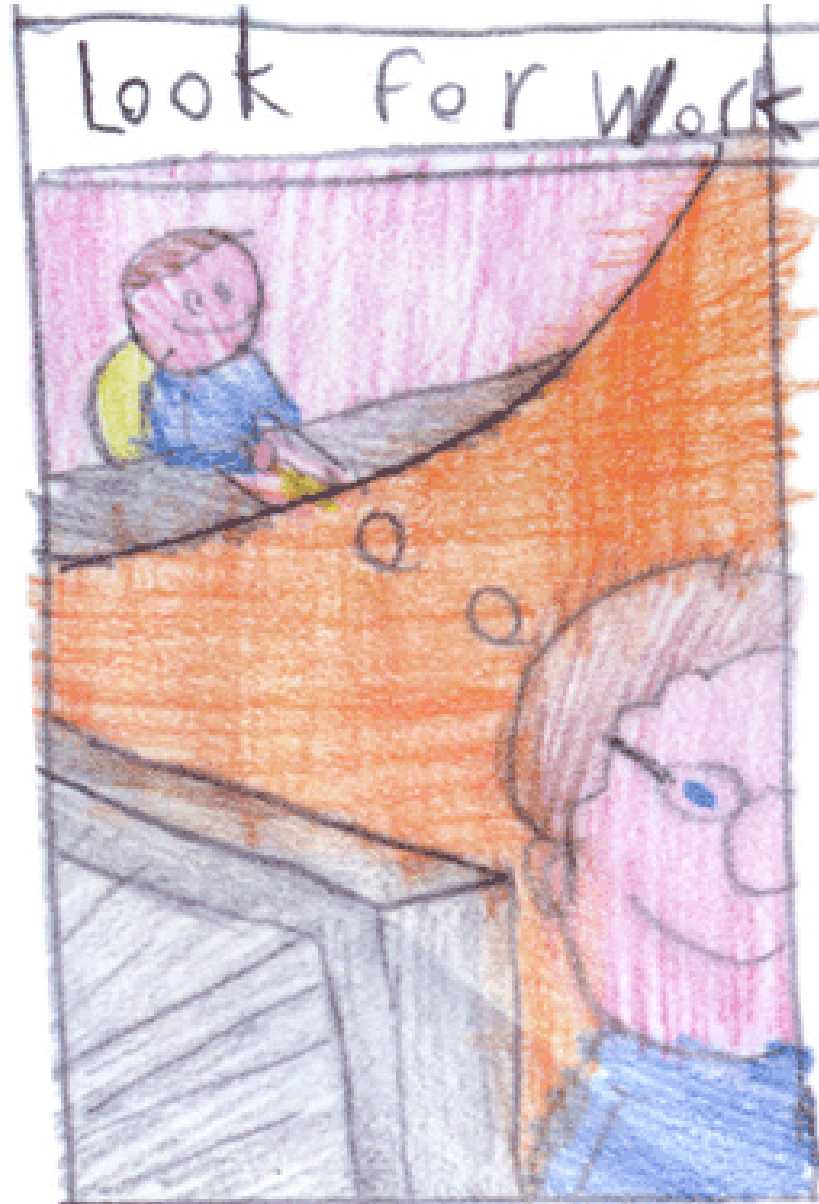
Make sure people are supported to think about work.

Make sure people can get specialist benefit advice.

Collect information from Person Centred Planning so we know what sorts of things people want to do.

Help people who have an idea for a small business.

Looking for Work



Things we want to do

Let more employers know that some people with learning disabilities want jobs.

Talk to the Council and the Primary Care Trust to make the system for getting a job easier to understand.

Talk to organisations who get contracts from the Council and the Primary Care Trust so they can be better at employing disabled people.

Make sure all the services are working together so that lots of people can be helped to look for work.

Preparing for work



Things we want to do

Find out more about the sorts of training that people want and that employers need.

Work with colleges so that people can do a variety of courses.

Help all the organisations involved work better together.

Make sure people don't get stuck on courses and that they can do work placements and other things to learn on the job.

Learning the job

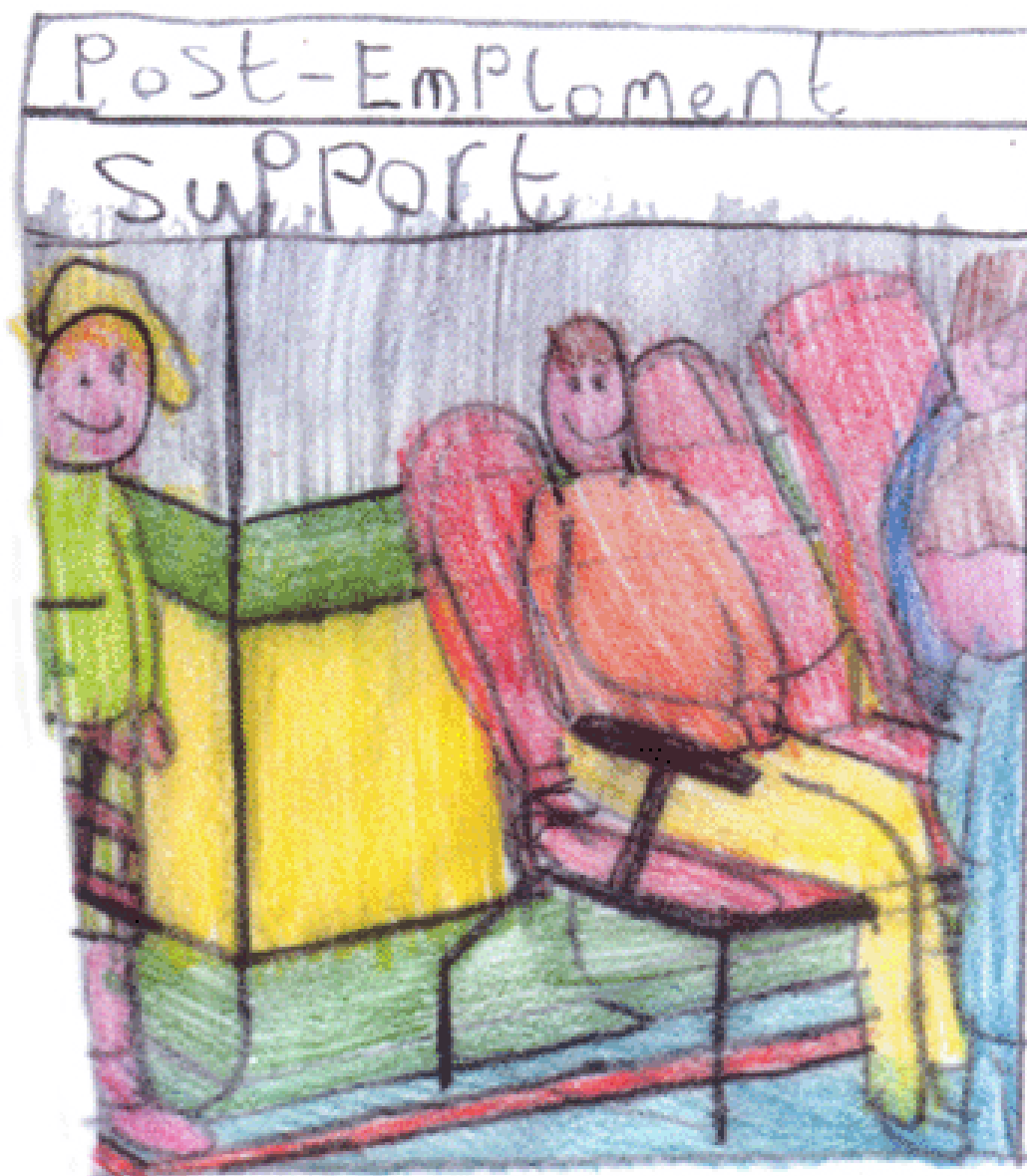


Things we want to do

Make sure that people with a variety of support needs can get the help they need to learn the job, by working with all the different organisations involved.

Work with employers so they understand how to use all the different supports available for employing disabled people.

Post employment support



Things we want to do

Make sure people who are working can get support quickly if problems occur.

Get more accurate numbers of people with learning disabilities who are in employment, doing voluntary work or on work placements.

Please get in touch to tell us what you think of 'thinking about work'. You can use the feedback form and pre-paid envelope or contact:

John Higgins
Joint Commissioning Manager

phone: 020 7641 7404

email: jhiggins@westminster.gov.uk

If want to find out more about voluntary work you could contact Louise Davies at the Westminster Volunteer Bureau on 020 7402 8076

If you want to find out more about getting a paid job you could contact Westminster Employment Service on 020 7641 7501.