

Create Fair Employment and Good Work for All – Working Well

Why is This a Priority in Solihull?

- Solihull's economy is strong, but has contracted by 2.6% since 2008.
- Inequalities exist in access to employment: 50% of unemployment claimants live in North Solihull; the rate among 18-24 year olds is three times higher than the rest of the population. Other disadvantaged groups include lower skilled workers, those in ill health or disabled, lone parents and ex-offenders.
- Mental ill health is the main cause of claim for incapacity benefit (43% of all claimants).
- Health at Work Programmes are least well developed in the public sector and Small / Medium Enterprises.

What Do We Need to Do in Solihull?

- Develop education, skills and training, particularly community education and lifelong learning.
- Maximise volunteering opportunities to develop skills and confidence.
- Promote supported employment with associated training/support for existing staff.
- Remove barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups and people with long-term conditions, mental ill health and disabilities.
- Increase use of procurement and planning levers with developers.
- Promote health at work programmes, particularly amongst at-risk groups, the public sector and Small / Medium Enterprises.