

Work It Out: Creating Local Systems of Employability Support



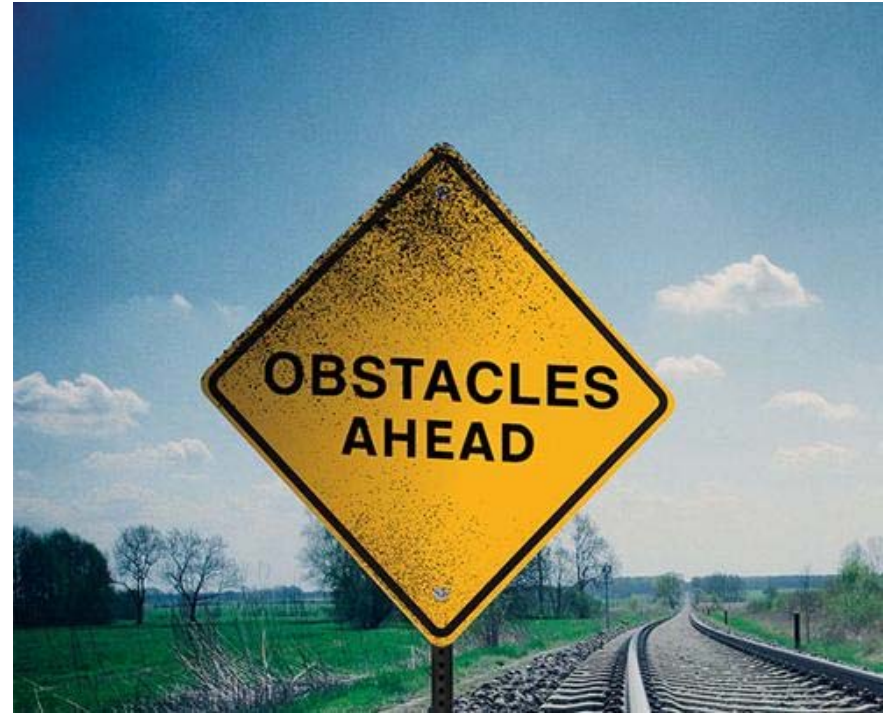
Methodology

- Desk research and practice scan
- Survey of local authority senior officers and politicians
- Range of case study interviews



Current Challenges

- Division between employment and skills at the national level
- Scaling back of Work Programme
- Local government interest but lack of incentives



Case for Local Provision



Potential solutions:

- Local knowledge
- Local flexibility
- Local integration

Matching Supply and Demand

The challenge:

- Skills mismatch

Local solution:

- Linking employers, training providers and future workforce
- Upskilling local people



Youth Unemployment



The challenge:

- School-to-work transitions

Local solution:

- Identify and retain interest
- Reduce stigma

Long-Term Unemployment

The challenge:

- Multiple, reinforcing barriers

Local solution:

- Service integration
- Personalised support



Towards Local Provision

Challenges



- Lack of funding and increasing budget cuts (83.5%)
- Fragmentation of services at central government level (62%)
- Difficulties partnering with other sectors (54.4%)
- Fragmentation at local level (49.4%)
- Lack of data or information sharing opportunities (35.4%)

Towards Local Provision

- Powers have not gone far or fast enough
- Clear appetite for further devolution
- Appropriate mix of risks and rewards



Recommendations



NATIONAL LEVEL AND DEVOLUTION ASKS

- Further Devolution
 - Youth unemployment
 - Long-term unemployment
- Integrate Jobcentre Plus with local authority services
- Create a National Learning Network / Data Sharing

LOCAL LEVEL

- Co-locate JCP with other public services
- Partnerships with neighbouring local authorities
- Develop Local Integration Boards