

CESI/BTEG Finding the best pathways to employment for ethnic minority jobseekers

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Tim Conway, DWP Social Justice

0114 2948478,

timothy.conway@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

3rd April 2014



Social Justice – What's changing?

- The government published its strategy for Social Justice, *Social Justice: Transforming Lives*, in March 2012.
- Previous approaches to tackling poverty have focused on increasing income levels to bring people above the poverty line.
- Social Justice Strategy goes much further.
- A new approach to understanding and tackling the root causes of poverty rather than just its symptoms, brought about by:
 - Changing attitudes to welfare: greater interest in the fairness of the system and value for money, placing greater emphasis on personal responsibility
 - Despite considerable welfare spending, more working age adults live in poverty than ever before, and more than a million people have been on an out of work benefit for 9 or more of the last 10 years.



Social Justice – What's changing?

- Social Justice principles will increasingly influence our overall direction, our policies and the delivery of DWP services.
- In October 2012, we published the *Social Justice Outcomes Framework*.
- On 24 April 2013, the Government published *Social Justice: transforming lives – one year on*.



What is Social Justice?

- “**Social Justice is about giving the individuals and families facing multiple disadvantages the support and tools they need to turn their lives around**”
- A new set of principles inform our approach
 - A focus on **prevention and early intervention**
 - Where problems arise, concentrating on **recovery and independence**, not maintenance
 - Promoting **work** for those who can as the most sustainable route out of poverty, while offering **unconditional support** to those who are severely disabled and cannot work
 - Encouraging **innovation** in the commissioning, funding and delivery of services
 - Recognising the role of local Government, **the voluntary and community sector and grassroots delivery** in offering the most targeted support
 - **Empowering** people and communities to take a greater responsibility for the services they use
 - Ensuring that interventions provide a **fair deal for the taxpayer**



Social Justice Outcomes Framework

- **Stable Family Relationships** - The proportion of children who have a stable family free from breakdown, and the proportion of such families that report a good-quality relationship
Our aim is to achieve an increase in these proportions year on year
- **Realising potential in the education system** - The extent to which children from disadvantaged households achieve the same educational outcomes as their more advantaged peers
Our aim is to see this increase over time
- **Stopping young people falling into a pattern of re-offending** - The percentage of young offenders who go on to re-offend
Our aim is to see this reduce over time
- **Tackling entrenched worklessness** – The proportion of benefit claimants who have received working-age benefits for at least 3 out of the past 4 years, focusing on those capable of work or work-related activity
Our aim is to reduce this proportion over time



Social Justice outcomes framework

- **Improved outcomes for those receiving treatment for drug or alcohol addiction** – Of those who have entered drug or alcohol treatment in the past three years: the proportion who have exited successfully and not returned during that time; the proportion who were in employment on the date that period ended; the proportion who had not been convicted with a criminal offence by the date that period ended; and, the proportion who achieved all three of the above.

Our aim is to increase these proportions over time

- **Improved outcomes for ex-offenders** – The proportion of ex-offenders who do not re-offend within 12 months and the proportion who are in work 12 months later.

Our aim is to increase these proportions over time

- **The Social Investment Market** – The size of the social investment market.
We want to see this grow over time, with more investment going to support projects helping disadvantaged groups and reconnecting businesses with their local communities.



Ethnic Minority Employment and Social Justice

- Government's strategy for increasing ethnic minority employment and participation in the labour market is based around **mainstreaming opportunity** through **locally delivered flexible provision**. Local autonomy and flexibility has replaced one size fits all approach.
- Direct tie with two key points of Social Justice Strategy – **promotion of work** for those who can as the most sustainable route out of poverty, recognising the most effective solutions will be **designed and delivered at local level**.



Questions?

Tim Conway

timothy.conway@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

