

**Open funding call:
Parent Employability Innovation Fund
2026-2027**



DG Works
YOUR LOCAL EMPLOYABILITY
AND SKILLS PARTNERSHIP



WHAT WE WILL COVER

- Background
- Funding source
- Application process
- Scoring and assessment
- Claim process
- Questions



BACKGROUND

Local Employability Partnership (LEP)

Purpose

- Responsible for strategically planning employability provision within Dumfries and Galloway, ensuring employability support is relevant to the local economy and meets the needs of the community

Member Organisations

Dumfries and Galloway Council - Employability, Skills & Partnerships, Education Services - Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) - Skills Development Scotland (SDS) - NHS Dumfries and Galloway - Dumfries and Galloway College - Scotland's Rural College - South of Scotland Enterprise - Developing Young Workforce – Third Sector Dumfries & Galloway, Third Sector Interface - Criminal/Community Justice Partnership - SWESTRANS (Regional Transport Partnership)



FUNDING

No One Left Behind

- All Age support
- Specialist Employability Support
- ✓ **Child Poverty – Parental Employability Support**



PRIORITY GROUPS

- **Child Poverty – Parental Employability Support**
- Lone parent families
- Families with a mother aged under 25 years
- Minority ethnic families
- Larger families (3 or more children)
- Families where the youngest child is under 1 year
- Families with a disabled child or adult



MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Progress in achieving the objectives of your innovation project will be measured in line with the Shared Measurement Framework for Employability as follows:

- The number of individuals engaging in employability support and training, broken down into age groups, parental status, and protected characteristics
- The progression of individuals towards education, training, or employment
- The number of individuals taking part in employment opportunities supported by employability funding
- The number of individuals achieving positive outcomes
- The number of parents achieving in-work progression
- You can propose your own measures



TIMELINE

Delivery Timescales/Key Milestones

The Parent Employability Innovation Fund will provide funding for delivery of services during this financial year ending 31st March 2027

Milestone	Date
Open call for applications	Monday 20 th July 2026
Questions deadline	Monday 3 rd August 2026
Application deadline	Sunday 9 th August 2026
Estimated award letters issued by	Friday 21 st August 2026



ASSESSMENT

- Will begin Monday 10th August 2026
- It is our intention to involve parents in recommendations on which project they believe would meet their needs
- LEP Panel for scoring
- Group will come together to confirm recommendations
- PMO will then issue offer letters and oversee claims, monitoring, reporting and payments



SCORING

Criteria:
Project rationale – evidence of need
Project content and delivery
Knowledge, including local knowledge, expertise, previous experience, past performance
Participant engagement, accessibility and inclusivity of provision
Output and outcome target and fit with fund outcomes
Cost and added value



SCORING

Not answered	No response provided, or submission was not relevant	0
Unacceptable	Inadequate response with little or no understanding of requirements	2
Poor quality	Minimal or poor response providing little evidence	4
Acceptable quality	Response is generally good but lacks sufficient detail in places	6
Good quality	Response meets requirements with good evidence throughout	8
Outstanding quality	Excellent response demonstrating a clear understanding	10



GOOD APPLICATION

- Observe the word limit for each question
- Use short sentences and avoid acronyms and jargon. There is no need to use formal or flowery language.
- Being as specific as you can and assuming the reader knows nothing about your organisation, track record and project even if you have received local funding before doing similar.
- Ideally you will provide a clear picture for the reader of what you intend to deliver, how you will do this, and what difference it will make to participants as well as how it contributes to the programme strategic outcomes
- Please consider the NOLB principles when designing your project and when describing/evidencing this in the application
- Please provide and evidence a strong rationale to show both the need for the services and that there will be demand from local people to take part in the provision
- Identifying, recruiting, and sustaining engagement of the number of participants stated is the responsibility of the organisation receiving funding.



DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING

Successful applicants will be expected to record all personal and service-related information for participants on the programme. This will be discussed and agreed with successful applicants at an inception meeting where more information will be made available to successful applicants, and training will be provided where required.

Programme activity and performance reports will be provided to Dumfries and Galloway Council on a monthly basis and progress against the performance profile will then be reported to the Local Employability and Skills Partnership.



OTHER INFORMATION

- **Fund total: £80,000**
- Applications up to value of £10,000
- In exceptional circumstances where providers can demonstrate strong need and outcomes with direct impact higher bids **may** be considered
- Third, public and private organisations are eligible to apply
- Only direct delivery costs are eligible expenditure



Registering on the DGLEP Flexible Framework

- Applicants will be invited to register on the Local Employability Flexible Framework.
- Registration will help organisations access future commissioning opportunities delivered through the Local Employability Partnership.
- The LEP Partnership Management Office (PMO) will provide information and support with the registration process.



THE EMPLOYABILITY PATHWAY

Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5
Referral, Engagement and Assessment	Needs Assessment	Vocational Activity	Employer engagement and job matching	In work support and aftercare
Reaching out to individuals, supporting people into regular activity and positive routines and helping them to connect with others	Assessing the initial needs of clients and agreeing key activities to be undertaken with them in order to address any barriers to employment or training	Delivering a range of accredited training, employability training for core skills, job search advice and activities to raise awareness of enterprise and entrepreneurship in order to meet the needs of individuals.	Activities such as arranging work or volunteer placements with employer, assisting individuals to secure job vacancies and matching job-ready clients to jobs.	Activities include supporting individuals to maintain and progress within the workplace.
End to end continuous case management / Key Worker support				



CONTACT INFORMATION

- **APPLICATION PACK IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AND FROM:**
DGEMPLOYABILITY@DUMGAL.GOV.UK
- **QUESTIONS PLEASE SEND TO:**
- DGEMPLOYABILITY@DUMGAL.GOV.UK

