

Department for Work and Pensions

Work Programme Live Running Memo

To: Work Programme Providers

Cc: Supplier Managers
Senior Performance Managers
Performance Managers

From: Work Programmes Division

Memo Serial Number: 168

Date: 27 August 2014

Subject: Day One entry for Care Leavers to the Work Programme

Action: For information and action

Timing: Effective from 1 September 2014

Background

Following a published report by Care Leaver Strategy in October 2013, DWP made a commitment to provide Care Leavers with earlier access to the Work Programme from Day 1 of their benefit claim.

Currently, Care Leavers (aged 18-21 years) can volunteer for the Work Programme from 3 months into their live JSA claim, as a JSA Early Access (PG3).

To support this vulnerable group, the Government is introducing the opportunity for Care Leavers claiming JSA, to access to the Work Programme from the first day (day 1) of their JSA claim.

These changes will take effect from 1 September 2014. This memo is to inform you of the change.

Summary and action

From 1 September 2014 the Department will give care leavers the opportunity to volunteer for the Work Programme from day 1 and thereafter of their live JSA claim.

The Referrals will be made through PG3 JSA Early Access.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you identify and provide the right support for this vulnerable group to enable the participant to find and stay in employment.

To help identify the positive effect the change has had on Care Leavers within the Work Programme, providers may be asked to provide Case Studies on these participants by their Performance Manager.

The provider guidance will be updated in due course and we will notify you when the changes have been made.

Please ensure that the revised guidance is used by you and all of your subcontractors with immediate effect.

Further information contact details

All enquiries on the subject of this memo should be raised with your Performance Manager in the first instance.

Regards

Work Programme Division