Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) Impact Evaluation - Information Sheet

YEI Impact Evaluation 2018 FAQs

What is the research about?

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and the European Union have commissioned research exploring the impact of the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI), funded through the European Social Fund (ESF).

You will be asked about what you were doing before you started to receive the support or training, how you found your experience of the support or training, and what you have been doing since.

Who is conducting the research?

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has commissioned Ecorys UK Ltd, an independent research agency, to conduct the research on its behalf.

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) is responsible for welfare, pensions and child maintenance policy. As the UK’s biggest public service department it administers the State Pension and a range of working age, disability and ill health benefits to over 22 million claimants and customers. DWP has responsibility for coordinating the ESF in England.

Ecorys is an international company providing research, consultancy and management services. Ecorys have a range of technical and policy knowledge and experience, including their work on the YEI process evaluation and other evaluations of ESF-funded provision.

If you would like to know more about Ecorys you can visit their website: www.ecorys.com

If you would like to check their credentials, you can call the Market Research Society (MRS) freephone number on 0500 39 69 99.

What does the research involve? What will I need to do?

An interviewer from Ecorys will take you through some questions either by phone or face-to-face. You do not need to prepare for the interview in advance. The interview will last 30-45 minutes and can take place at a time convenient to you.
Why have I been chosen to take part in the research?

You have been selected at random from a list of people who have recently completed YEI work-related training, funded through the ESF.

There is a range of different types of support or training included in this study, provided by different organisations across the country.

Some people have done a course or studied towards a certificate in something work-related. Some have done courses in English, maths or computer skills or have had training in how to look for work. Others have received mentoring, coaching or other personalised support in work related activities.

Additional activities may have included:

- Agreeing an action plan – to help get back to work / continue education
- Work experience
- Volunteering
- Pre-employment training (to help somebody before going to work / placement)
- Basic skills support (Maths / English)
- One to one support / help
- Enterprise skills / business skills

Will anybody know that I took part in the survey?

All information will be used for research and statistical purposes only. Your personal details will be kept completely confidential and will not be passed to anyone else outside the Ecorys research team and the DWP. Your name and address are never included in the results and no individual can be identified from the research. Ecorys works strictly with the Market Research Society Code of Conduct. More information about this can be found here: [https://www.mrs.org.uk/standards/code_of_conduct](https://www.mrs.org.uk/standards/code_of_conduct)

It is difficult for me to answer questions over the phone. Can I take part some other way?

Yes. Please let the interviewer know when they call you that you would prefer not to take part over the phone, and they can arrange for you to be interviewed face-to-face, or find another alternative for you. Alternatively, you can contact Ecorys in
advance, by emailing ian.atkinson@ecorys.com and let them know how you would prefer to be interviewed.

Who should I speak to if I have further questions about the research?

If you would like to contact someone at DWP in relation to this research, then you can contact Anna Taylor at ESF.evaluations@dwp.gsi.gov.uk.

What if I don’t wish to participate?

Taking part in the research is entirely voluntary and will not affect any benefits you receive either now or in the future. If you do not wish to take part, please let Ecorys know by emailing ian.atkinson@ecorys.com with your name.

We do, however, strongly encourage your participation as we’re really interested in finding out about your experiences of the support or training that you received. The findings will help the Government and the European Union to decide what types of work-related training courses to fund in the future, and to improve the services they provide.