

Scotland's employment landscape for people with learning disabilities

A report by the Fraser of Allander Institute

Easy read version



March 2021

Who are the Fraser of Allander Institute?



We are a group of researchers who want to know more about life for people with learning disabilities in Scotland.



We wrote this report.

What is this report about?



Not many people with a learning disability have a paid job.



But lots of people with learning disabilities want a job.



This report looks at why so many people with learning disabilities do not have a job.



It also looks at how we can make things better for people with learning disabilities who want to work.



It has some stories of people with learning disabilities who work.

What if people do not have a job?



People can still live a good life if they do not have a job.



We do not think everyone with a learning disability must work.



We think everyone with a learning disability who wants to work should have the chance to do so.

How did we make this report?



We listened to people with learning disabilities who want a job.



We listened to people with learning disabilities who have a job.



We listened to people who help disabled people find a job.

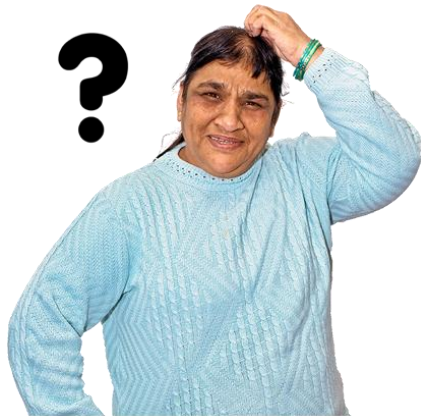


We looked at reports that other people have done.



We looked at who has a job in Scotland.

How many people with a learning disability have a job in Scotland?



We do not know how many people with a learning disability have a job.



But we know that not many do.



The Scottish government wants more disabled people to have the chance to work.



But this will not happen without more help for people with learning disabilities.

What stops people with learning disabilities from getting a job?



There are lots of reasons why not many people with learning disabilities work.



Lots of employers do not know what people with learning disabilities can do.



Lots of people with learning disabilities and their families never think they will work.



Job adverts are sometimes hard for people with learning disabilities to understand.



There is not enough help for people with learning disabilities to find work.



There is not enough help for people with learning disabilities at work.

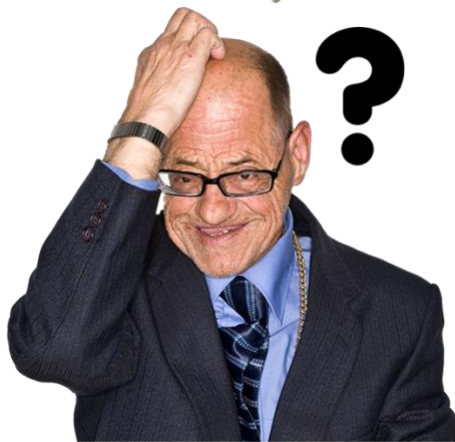


If there was more help then people with learning disabilities could make great employees.

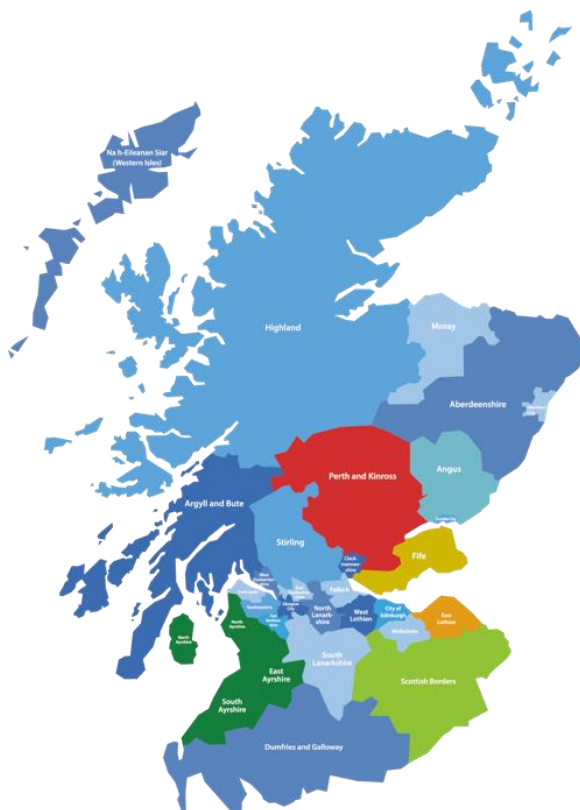
What help can people get to find a job?



There is some help for people to find work.



But most of this help is not made for people with learning disabilities.



The help people can get is not the same in different parts of Scotland.

Project SEARCH



There are good examples of people getting help to work.



We think everyone should learn from good examples.



Project SEARCH is a good example.



On **Project SEARCH** people with learning disabilities try different jobs for one year.



They learn new skills.



Then they get help finding a job after it.



Project SEARCH helps employers too.



66% of people on **Project SEARCH** find a job after it.

Breaking Barriers



Breaking Barriers also helps people with learning disabilities find work.



It is at Strathclyde University in Glasgow.



Students study at university to get new skills.



Then they try different jobs for one year.



Lots of people who go on **Breaking Barriers** find a job after it.

What is SCLD?



SCLD stands for the **Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities.**



It was set up by the Scottish Government.



They make sure people with learning disabilities are listened to.



They help the government make life better for people with learning disabilities.

Cameron's story



Cameron did **Project SEARCH** in 2013.



Now he works at **SCLD**.



He says he is more confident now that he has a job.



He has learnt lots of new skills.

Stewart's story



Stewart also did **Project SEARCH**.



Now he works at a hospital in Glasgow.



He has been working since 2013.



His story shows that if someone with a learning disability gets help at work they can be a good employee.

What are support organisations?



We all need help to live a happy life.



People with learning disabilities are no different.



Support organisations help people with learning disabilities to live well.



They help people in lots of ways.

Jordan's story



Jordan works at Thera Scotland.



He checks that **support organisations** are giving people the right help.



He also helps run Thera Scotland.



He shows that people with learning disabilities can be leaders at work.

Our website



You can read more
information on our website.

Our website is

www.fraserofallander.org/learning-disabilities

