

# BBO Bridges to Work

Building Better Opportunities for people aged 25 or over with mental health problems, complex needs or carers.

## What does the service offer?

The BBO Bridges team offer one to one, individually tailored employment and vocational support to help you move closer to your goals, whilst taking into account your health needs and wellbeing.

## Some of the things we can support you with:

- Identify your needs and develop an action plan
- Support you with accessing education, training, employment and volunteering opportunities
- Help develop a CV, job application support and interview preparation
- Confidence building
- Activity group sessions

## Who is eligible for the service?

The Bridges to Work Project aims to support people experiencing mental health problems, as well as other barriers such as physical health issues, substance misuse, or are carers for someone. To be eligible you must be:


- Aged 25 years or over
- Unemployed or economically inactive\*
- Able to access the support in the Black Country

\* *Not currently employed and not currently job searching*

## For more information please contact the team on:

Phone: 01922 608500

Email: [bchft.bridgestowork@nhs.net](mailto:bchft.bridgestowork@nhs.net)

Together with you to achieve   
**healthier, happier lives**



**Black Country Healthcare**  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Employment Services

## IPS Employment Services

Centre for  
Mental Health



IPS Centre of Excellence 2019 - 2022

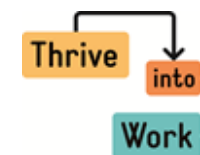
## Employment Retention Service

Centre for  
Mental Health



IPS Centre of Excellence 2019 - 2022

## Thrive into Work



Centre for  
Mental Health




IPS Centre of Excellence 2019 - 2022

## BBO Bridges to Work



Bridges is funded by the European Social Fund and the National Lottery Community Fund

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## Individual Placement Support (IPS) Employment Service

The IPS Employment Service provides support across the Black Country to individuals who wish to enter some form of paid employment (part or full-time) or those who wish to change their employment to better suit their needs.

The team supports individuals who access secondary care mental health services in the Black Country. This applies to anyone who is under the care of a psychiatrist and may have a care co-ordinator such as a community psychiatric nurse or an occupational therapist.

The IPS vocational specialists will provide you with 1:1 support to achieve your job goals. We can help you identify the job you want, search and apply for jobs, offer guidance, and support you in your place of work.

### IPS Criminal Justice Employment Service

The IPS Criminal Justice Employment Service supports individuals aged 18 years and over who are open to or seen by Black Country Criminal Justice mental health services including liaison and diversion; custody, court and outreach services.

How we can support you:

- Help with creating a CV
- Interview preparation and support
- Referral for benefits advice
- Support with completing applications
- Intensive one to one job-search support

### For more information please contact the teams on:

#### Dudley Team

**07826 890696**

[bchft.dudley.employmentservices@nhs.net](mailto:bchft.dudley.employmentservices@nhs.net)

#### Walsall Team

**07818 454254**

[bchft.walsall.employmentservice@nhs.net](mailto:bchft.walsall.employmentservice@nhs.net)

#### Sandwell Team

**07557 178671**

[bchft.sandwellemploymentssupport@nhs.net](mailto:bchft.sandwellemploymentssupport@nhs.net)

#### Wolverhampton Team

**07836 597356**

[bchft.wolverhampton.employmentsupport@nhs.net](mailto:bchft.wolverhampton.employmentsupport@nhs.net)

## Employment Retention Service

The Employment Retention Service in the Black Country can help support people who are currently in employment and accessing secondary mental health services by providing advice and support to clients to help them retain their jobs.

How the team can support individuals in secondary care:

- Help you understand your rights and employment law
- Open conversations with your employers to discuss your mental health if you consent to this
- Discuss reasonable adjustments
- Attend workplace meetings
- Negotiate and support return to work plans
- Advice on how to leave with dignity if too unwell

### For more information please contact the service on:

**Doreen Till (Walsall)**

**07780 856403**

**Office: 01922 607808**

**Email: [bchft.employmentretentionservice@nhs.net](mailto:bchft.employmentretentionservice@nhs.net)**

**Suzi Wint (Dudley)**

**07825 843741**

## Thrive into Work

Do you have a health condition and would like support to find and retain employment?

The thrive into work team can offer one to one support to suit your needs and employment goals. The team covers the Dudley and Walsall areas and can not only support those individuals that are out of work, but can also support those who are in work but are at risk of losing their job or are on a period of sick leave.

The service is for people with a mental/physical health condition, who are registered with a GP in Dudley or Walsall and are aged 18+ at the time of referral.

### For more information please contact the team on:

**Phone: 01384 324645**

**Email: [bchft.thriveemploymentservice@nhs.net](mailto:bchft.thriveemploymentservice@nhs.net)**