

Neighbourhood Employment Programme

*The Council's regeneration team leads on the delivery of regeneration across MK, RegenerationMK, focusing on People, Place and **Prosperity**. The Prosperity strand is financially supported by £150k Aspers funding.*

Prosperity: In 2012 the council launched a Neighbourhood Employment Programme (NEP). The NEP provides community based employment and skills support to unemployed individuals who live across MK, targeting twenty two designated areas with the highest levels of unemployment and greatest needs along with specialist support to unemployed people who are 50+, 18-24 year olds, those with children under 5 and those who present to the Council in housing need and those who have experienced mental health problems.

The Aspers funding contributes to the overall NEP budget. The funding specifically covers the cost of delivery of the NEP by commissioned partners who provide front line job club delivery in community venues on designated estates. This cost includes the operational delivery for their staff hours, venue costs and administrative support (hours of delivery various, hence so does the payment value – see Budget).

The NEP operational delivery provides a bespoke Information, Advice and Guidance service to unemployed individuals and requires all commissioned partners to provide a set amount of staff time for an agreed number of hours to deliver the Job Clubs. They are required to deliver consistent tracking and mentoring support, identification of suitable vocational training, IT support, CV writing, providing interview skills and job search support.

It also covers attendance at monthly NEP operational team meetings (to discuss performance/upskilling. sharing of good practice and benchmarking) and an agreed level of attendance at local events and Job Fairs to promote the service.

The fund contributes to the wider NEP delivery in the form of promotional material i.e. flyers/timetables, A-frames, posters with time tables/availability/venues etc. It has also paid for the creation of a NEP database and pays for ongoing maintenance and updates, ad-hoc IT equipment/ services, advertising materials and other erroneous items.

Since the NEP started in 2012 the service has exceeded expectations by:

- *supporting over 6,600 local residents to attend NEP job clubs*
- *supporting over 1,950 people into employment (of which 390 were aged 18-24 years old, helping 1 in 3 people into work)*
- *facilitating over 5,700 people to enter employment related training*
- *enabling a £3.9m saving to the state by reducing the welfare bill and increasing tax revenue as a result*
- *evidencing that 75% of those supported into work show an improved financial situation as being better off by an average of over £1,900 per year*

Breakdown by Parish as follows:

Estate	New customers to NEP	Qualification Achieved	Referred to training	Paid Jobs (25+)	Paid Jobs (16-24)
Beanhill	155		116	44	26
Bradville	176		126	42	4
Central MK	232	3	166	51	12
Coffee hall	110		111	32	4
Conniburrow	221	3	137	38	6
Eaglestone	57	1	33	13	1
Fishermead	375	1	289	69	7
Fullers Slade	98	1	81	27	6
Greenleys	96		97	23	4
Hodge Lea	56		47	15	2
Lakes Estate	521	6	264	120	31
Leadenhall	27		85	9	2
Netherfield	293	2	212	76	7
New Bradwell	133	1	108	32	4
Oldbrook	174	3	162	37	6
Peartree Bridge	35		31	4	0
Springfield	64	1	39	10	2
Stacey Bushes	64	1	59	22	3
Stantonbury	117		71	35	3
Tinkers Bridge	73	1	57	31	1
West Bletchley	573	1	376	120	28
Wolverton	202	2	342	41	21
NFA	171		46	21	8
Sub Total.	4023	27	3055	912	188
Other Estates	2607	60	2602	641	209
Total	6630	87	5745	1553	397

Notes: Stopped tracking estate breakdown of "Referred to Training" as of 01.04.2016
 Started tracking actual qualifications obtained as of 01.04.2016