



Reference: FOI1447

**Request:**

Supported employment is the term for high quality, personalised support for people with disabilities and/or disadvantages which enables them to seek, access and retain employment in the open labour market. It is a "place, train and maintain" approach that does not rely on long periods of pre-vocational training or a basic level of qualification or experience.

Supported Internships are a form of study programme delivered by Education and Skills Providers. They are generally funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency but local authorities can contribute funding through Element 3 funds.

**1. What was your local authority's actual expenditure in 2017-18, 2018-19 and what is the budgeted expenditure in 2019-20 on**

**a) Supported Employment services and**

**b) on supported internship provision?**

a. Supported Employment

We do not have a dedicated Supported Employment provision; however our Learning Disability Enablement Service have, historically, supported people who have a diagnosed Learning Disability to gain employment and also signposted people to external support provision.

b. Supported Internships: The amount spent by the Employment and Skills Service on Supported Internships was:

2017/18 - £7,310

2018-19 - £13,211.61

Budget 2019-20 - £13,211.61

The provision of Supported Internships funded from North Tyneside Council is delivered by Education and Skills providers.

**2. Can any resident in your authority area be referred to Supported Employment provision or is access restricted to only those people who are receiving services through adult social care?**

Our current provision is to people receiving support from our social care services.

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**3. On what did your authority spend the 2018-19 Department for Education 2018-19 Department for Education Preparation for employment Grant?**

£44,655 was transferred to the Connexions cost centre and was used to recruit and fund a SEND Employer Engagement Officer to support the delivery of Supported Internships and SEND Study Programmes. In addition, the funding supported the establishment and maintaining a SEND Education to Employment Steering Group.

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