



People's
Group



Employment Event in the East
6 December 2024



Our event took place at Woodhatch Place in Reigate. There were 30 people at the event who were supported by several organisations.




Who came to the event?

What did we do?


 **Employment Agenda**
Friday 6 December
Woodhatch Place, Reigate

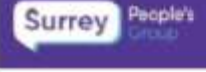










 

What we will talk about at our event: 



- 10:15 →  Arrive and welcome visitors
- 10:30 →  What is employment? Why do it?
- 10:50 →  Why don't many people with learning disabilities have a job?
- 11:05 →  Break


 **Surrey People's Group**
6 December 2024



- 11:20 →  Surrey Choices – Workwise / Employability
- 11:40 →  Experts by Experience – Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training, Active Prospects
- 12:00 →  What do you have to offer? Surrey Choices
- 12:30 →  Finish meeting 

If you would like more information please contact:

  Text or Phone: 07929 863582
Email: disabilitycomms@surreycc.gov.uk





At the start of the meeting, we got people to think about employment and why people worked. People said having a job was important because they:

- Wanted to earn money
- Enjoyed their work
- Learn new things
- Make new friends
- Can help people



What is employment?



People spoke about their personal experiences of getting a job and what it meant to them.

Caroline spoke to us about her role as an administrator at the council and her other part time roles.

Musa spoke about his voluntary work at East Surrey Hospital and his other role running a food bank. He is now looking to become a co-trainer for Oliver McGowan.

We also asked members of the group about some of their work experiences.

People's Experiences

We asked members about barriers to employment.
Why do people with learning disabilities often not have a job?



Don't know how to look for a job

Flexible Hours

Accessible Transport

Lack of Support

Problems communicating

Losing Benefits

Lack of job suiting skill set

Barriers to Employment



Tony and Dipti from Surrey Choices spoke to us about Workwise.

Workwise helps people with physical needs, learning disabilities and people who are neurodivergent find work and stay in a job.



How does it work?

Once you have registered you will be matched to an employment specialist who will work with you to find out your skills, help you find work, and support you to stay in the job.

Workwise



You will receive a range of employment support including writing your CV, interview training and help to find a role that suits you.



You can also access benefits, financial and housing advice.

They work with other organisations in Surrey to identify suitable roles that support people's needs.

Find out more about [Workwise](#).



Workwise



Katie from Active Prospects spoke to us about the Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training.

Katie is looking for experts with lived experience to be co-trainers for the Oliver McGowan Training. You will be paid for this role.



The purpose of the training programme is to train medical professionals and social workers to better understand learning disabilities and autism.

Katie said they are looking for more people with learning disabilities to provide this training.

If you are interested, please email:

katie.christmas@activeprospects.org.uk



Oliver McGowan Training

Employment Shield



- Before you apply for a job, you should have a CV (curriculum vitae) ready to send. This summarises your skills and why you should get the job.



- Phil from Surrey Choices got people to think about their strengths.

Employment Shield



- Before we finished our meeting, people were asked to create their own employment shields.