

**Councillor Joanna Baker-Rogers – Cabinet Member for Adult
Social Care and Health**

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26 June 2025

Councillor Simon Ball
Elected Member

Via email: simon.ball@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Cllr Ball

Question at Council Meeting – Wednesday 21st May 2025

Thank you for your supplementary question at the Council meeting on 21st May 2025. I have set out your question and my response below.

Despite the Health and Wellbeing Board's focus on mental health, with only 31% of employment outcomes sustained via Individual Placement Support by December 2024, why has your administration failed to enhance job support for those with severe mental illness, and what urgent steps will you take?

The Council continues to support a range of initiatives that enables Rotherham residents including those with mental ill health, to achieve employment or increase their skills and readiness for employment and is committed to continue that support.

The Council continues to provide and now funds directly, the Employment Solutions service, which works with people with mental health concerns along with other needs. This enables residents to develop skills for employment along with gaining and sustaining employment. This service has been very successful, with over 3000 people having been supported by the Employment Solutions to date.

The IPS service commissioned by the Council's Public Health team (provided by the Employment Solutions team) provides specific support for people who have engaged with the drugs and alcohol service, and whose capacity to work is impacted by being in recovery from addiction. Performance data for year ending 2024/25 shows 'job starts' overachieving by 50% for this service.

There are other Council services which provide support people into work who have less severe mental health issues, these also help to prevent people developing more severe mental ill health.

For example:

WorkWell is a new service that will offer support for people aged 16+ to help address the number of people out of work and support long-term sick or disabled people to start, stay, and succeed in work through integrated work and health support.

Supported Employment, works with adults with disabilities and associated health needs.

Pathways – which provides support to enter training and/or employment for economically inactive residents.

Council services have direct links to a specialist IPS employment service (Working Win), provided by the Shaw Trust across South Yorkshire, which supports individuals who are accessing Community Mental Health services.

Yours sincerely,



Cllr Joanna Baker-Rogers
Rawmarsh West Ward
Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health