

Working Win: the health-led employment trial – referral deadline FAQs

Q1) What is happening on the 31 October 2019?

As this is time limited research, all potential participants must have had their first appointment by 5pm on the 31 October as that is the last point you can join the trial. The trial concludes on the 31 October 2020.

Referring agencies will be notified referrals will stop 30 October, individuals will be able to book same-day appointments through the booking system up until 4pm on the 31 October. We do recommend signing up before that date if possible. Those joining the trial at that point will be able to receive up to 12 months of support if they are selected to receive the service. People who are already participating in the trial will also continue to receive help.

Q2) What will happen now that the trial is over, will the individual placement support (IPS) method being trialled now be automatically available?

There are existing employment support services in the Sheffield City Region (SCR) which can support residents depending on their needs and circumstances, workingwin.com will provide more information about options as the referral window closes.

There is some IPS provision already being delivered through Building Better Opportunities for people with a diagnosed mental health condition, and the Integrated Care System (ICS) is also launching targeted provision for people with severe mental health conditions. Local partners will take learning from this trial to inform the shape and scope of future provision in the SCR.

Q3) What is the process now for assessing the trial?

A3) A national evaluation is in place, managed by the Government's Work and Health Unit. This will report back to government at the end of 2021 to inform national policy. Within South Yorkshire we are collecting some lessons learnt to support local planning in advance of the findings of the national research.

Q4) Can a clinician have confidence in IPS and the trial, if the process does not reach the recommended number of participants?

A4) There are enough participants signed up to the trial to provide a thorough evaluation of the effectiveness of IPS support for people with mild to moderate health conditions. That said, increasing the number of referrals between now and the 31 October does allow us to investigate the effectiveness of IPS for different groups of people.

IPS is a recognised model of good practice which has proven results for individuals with a severe mental health condition, for further information ipsgrow.co.uk. Partners are testing whether the same results can be realised for individuals with more common conditions and, if so, whether these are greater than the current offer of support available through other programmes.

Q5) What support is available to this group of patients now that the trial has ended?

A5) There are numerous ways to get support in the SCR. The Working Win website hosts a service directory to help you find what help is available. Information about new employment and skills programmes and how to refer into them will follow shortly.