

Get East Midlands Working Plan

Easy Read Summary (2025–2035)

What this Plan is About

The *Get East Midlands Working Plan* is a 10-year roadmap to help more people in Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire get into good jobs, stay in work, and earn more. It responds to the Government's national *Get Britain Working* programme but is shaped around local needs.

The big picture goal is simple:

- **Get 60,000 more people into work** so 80% of working-age residents have jobs.
- **Raise wages closer to the national average**

This is about more than just jobs – it's about linking health, housing, skills, and support services so no one is left behind.

Why It Matters

Right now, the East Midlands faces challenges:

- **278,000 adults** are not in work, many due to poor health, caring responsibilities, or lack of skills.
- Many available jobs are **low paid or insecure**, with few chances to progress.
- **Transport and housing problems** make it harder for people to find or keep work.

Young people, women, disabled residents, carers, ethnic minorities, refugees, and ex-offenders face extra barriers.

At the same time, the region has big opportunities:

- Growth in **clean energy, advanced manufacturing, logistics, life sciences, and construction** could bring **100,000 new jobs in the next decade**.
- Major projects like the **East Midlands Freeport** and **Investment Zone** can be engines of better-paid work if local people are supported to access them.



The Vision

By 2035, the East Midlands will have:

- More people in decent, secure work.
- Higher household incomes.
- A fairer system where support is easy to find and everyone can progress into better opportunities.

This will be achieved through an “**Opportunity Escalator**”:

- **Step On** – helping people into entry-level jobs or training.
- **Step Up** – clear routes to better paid, higher-skill jobs over time.

3 Big Priorities

1, Better Training and Employment Support

- Make it easier to find the right help – whether that’s job searching, training, or health and wellbeing support.
- Focus on young people, people with health conditions, carers, and others who need tailored help.
- Launch new schemes like the Youth Guarantee Trailblazer and Connect to Work programme.

2. Joined-Up Services

- End the “maze” of different programmes with similar names that confuse people.
- Bring councils, NHS, Jobcentres, colleges, businesses, and charities together so services feel like one system.
- Share data and measure success in the same way.

3. Tackling Wider Barriers

- Improve transport links so rural and urban residents can reach jobs.
- Work with housing providers so people have stable homes to support work.
- Ensure health services and employment support work hand-in-hand.

What Success Will Look Like

- **80% employment rate** (an extra 60,000 jobs filled).
- Pay levels rising towards the national average.
- Lower unemployment among disadvantaged groups (young people, carers, disabled people, ethnic minorities, ex-offenders).
- More secure jobs with fair pay and progression routes.
- A simpler system where people know where to turn for help.

How It Will Happen

- **Partnership working:** All key players – councils, NHS, DWP, businesses, colleges, and charities – working to a shared plan.
- **Learning what works:** Trying new approaches, testing them, and expanding the ones that deliver results.
- **Keeping it live:** This isn't a one-off document. It will be updated regularly as the economy and people's needs change.
- **Local voices:** Residents and employers will continue to be consulted so the plan reflects real-life needs.

In Short

This Plan is about making work **accessible, attractive, and rewarding** for everyone in the East Midlands. It aims to:

- Help people who want to work but face barriers.
- Create more high-quality jobs in growth industries.
- Build a fairer, healthier, and more prosperous region for all.

