

ENABLE: Emergency Network for Apprenticeships in Blue Light Establishments

Apprentice Levy Transfer Connection Service

ENABLE is a scheme specifically designed to connect blue light services such as the Fire Brigade, NHS Trusts including the Ambulance Service, and the Police Forces with funding to support new apprenticeships and training schemes.

Each service has its own budget and funding set aside to deliver these programmes, however in some cases not all the money allocated to these schemes is spent. If underutilized this money is forfeited.

This new scheme enables blue light services with surplus funding to share it with each other.

By connecting organisations seeking apprenticeship training funding with organisations willing to donate apprenticeship levy, as much of the money assigned to new apprenticeship programmes can be spent recruiting and training the next generation of blue light service workers.



'BIO' of Partnering Organizations

South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board NHS are keen to support the programme saying,

*“Our work aims to improve health and wellbeing, the quality and experience of care, eliminate health inequalities, and ensure people have access to the services they need to live well throughout their lifetime. In working with the **ENABLE** network we hope to share our apprenticeship levy with employers in our region, promoting both entry level and career development apprenticeships that open up lifelong careers and opportunities for local residents.”*

North Yorkshire Council are also supporting the scheme confirming,

“We already use our Apprenticeship Levy to support a number of smaller organisations to develop their staff by funding a range of apprenticeships, so this project allows us to help even more organisations in the region.”

The South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYPFT)

“We are a specialist NHS Foundation Trust that provides community, mental health and learning disability services to the people of Barnsley, Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield. We also provide some medium secure (forensic) services to the whole of Yorkshire and the Humber and are also supporting the scheme”.

West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service:

*“We are proud to be a part of **ENABLE** and to welcome the opportunity to share best practice, resources and connect with other Blue Light, NHS and aligned organisations to support apprenticeships”.*

If you are currently working within the blue light service sector and are responsible for managing or assigning funding, or are a local authority who might want to support the emergency services in their apprenticeship schemes and would like more information on how you can obtain or share funding, please contact:

Kevin O'Reilly, Employer Engagement Manager – Apprenticeship Levy
(koreilly@wakefield.gov.uk)

Testimonials

Below is a selection of testimonials about ENABLE from partner organisations:

South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board NHS:

“In working with the ENABLE network we hope to share our apprenticeship levy with employers in our region, promoting both entry level and career development apprenticeships that open up lifelong careers and opportunities for local residents.”

North Yorkshire Council:

“North Yorkshire Council are proud to be part of the ENABLE project and offer our support to a range of blue light organisations. We already use our Apprenticeship Levy to support a number of smaller organisations to develop their staff by funding a range of apprenticeships, so this project allows us to help even more organisations in the region.”

South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust:

“Through our involvement with the ENABLE network and the strategic sharing of our apprenticeship levy, we are committed to empowering career growth across the region, allowing individuals to build rewarding and lasting careers that can really make a difference to the community.”

West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service:

“We are fully signed up to the aims of ENABLE and are happy to work collectively to support the upskilling of our workforces to be well trained, knowledgeable and skilled to meet the needs of the communities we serve.”

Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust:

“Through the ENABLE project, Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust is delighted to support other blue light and public sector organisations in the Yorkshire region. By utilising our apprenticeship levy, we empower our own staff with professional and career development opportunities. The ENABLE project helps us connect with other large levy-paying blue-light and public sector colleagues, broadening our support to smaller, non-levy paying organisations. As a result, we share good practices and contribute to the growth of our local economies, helping us all to prepare our workforces for future challenges.”

'The ENABLE initiative is pleased to announce yet another fantastic apprenticeship levy transfer to benefit West Yorkshire Police in their recent apprenticeship recruitment campaign. Bradford Council have made it possible for West Yorkshire Police to recruit 24 x level 3 Emergency Contact Handlers. This amazing gesture has been met with very positive comments from West Yorkshire Police as follows...'

Tony Oldroyd, Apprenticeships Lead at West Yorkshire Police said:

"West Yorkshire Police is delighted to receive this apprenticeship levy transfer from Bradford Council, enabling the recruitment of 24 Level 3 Emergency Contact Handlers. In addition, Wakefield Metropolitan District Council is providing funding for 4 further Emergency Contact Handlers starting February this year.

"This invaluable support strengthens our frontline services, helping us to train skilled professionals who will serve and protect our communities. We are incredibly grateful for this partnership."

FAQ's

Who can join the ENABLE scheme?

The ENABLE scheme is only open to members of the emergency services and local authorities.

Why is ENABLE only open to the emergency services and local authorities for membership?

The emergency services and local authorities are Public Funded Organisations, as such there are moral & ethical sensitivities around where funding is sourced to facilitate apprenticeship training. The ENABLE scheme addresses this and guarantees the safeguarding of public funds, enabling cost savings that will facilitate recruitment of more key front-line roles in the emergency services.

What other benefits would ENABLE offer to the emergency services?

The ENABLE scheme will offer a 'one stop shop' to members to access additional support mechanisms. This could be where there may be a need to 'troubleshoot' everyday problems. This will be achieved through networking with ENABLE members in terms of 'sharing best practice'. This will include how to better understand the 'How?' and 'Where?' associated with navigating the various drop-down menus associated with the Government's Apprenticeship Service Account. ENABLE will also offer a platform to allow the ability for partnering organisations to share resources, making 'their offer' more robust and in turn making accessing these services more user friendly.

Will ENABLE showcase upcoming networking and apprenticeship events?

As the project evolves there will be scope for ENABLE members to advertise upcoming apprenticeship recruitment events, career opportunities and job openings. These will be advertised on the webpage in due course.

Is ENABLE promoted on social media?

Yes. Please look at our LinkedIn page for all the latest news and developments and give us a follow! Here: [ENABLE | LinkedIn](#)

Who is the main contact regarding ENABLE enquiries?

Kevin O'Reilly is the founder and lead of the ENABLE project at Wakefield Council. Please make all enquires to Kevin directly via email to koreilly@wakefield.gov.uk