

Direction seeks to support offenders into work through making best use of community services.

Peter presented himself to us at a community drop-in-session in a small rural market town. He had just finished a community order with BeNCH CRC where he had received some mentoring but was frustrated with lack of practical and emotional support to enable him to attain work.

While engaging with Peter we found that he lacked confidence and emotional resilience to complete a CV, application form and present himself at interview. He needed some 'hand holding' through the process of applying for work and he agreed to us providing him with support and guidance. Peter agreed he needed to grow his social skills to improve his chances of meeting people and discussing work options.

Direction arranged for Peter initially to meet with the Prince's Trust to discuss working with young people. We also arranged for a social enterprise in Luton, Att10tive, to meet him. They helped him with his CV and discussed whether Peter could help them in their work. Following on from his meetings with the Prince's Trust and Att10tive, we also approached GreenHouse mentoring and Groundwork. Direction supported Peter to complete an application form and other documentation and he subsequently gained a place working with young people as a volunteer.

Peter expressed his gratitude to Direction for our support and advocacy which helped him through the process to get this volunteering position and the first step towards paid employment.