

A spotlight beam of light, transitioning from orange at the top to purple and blue at the bottom, illuminates the center of a dark blue background. The beam is wider at the top and tapers slightly towards the bottom.

Spotlight on Project Members

Support2work

The impact of employment advisers



"Stay
connected
with people
who make you
feel calmer,
lighter, or
understood. "

Lorraine Looker

Staff SEAP Member

Support2work
The impact of employment advisers

How does your
background/current
role/experience relate to the
Support2Work Project?

Current role: Senior Employment Advisor

I have a strong passion for the relationship between work and health, and I have worked as an Employment Advisor across both primary and secondary care settings for the past 20 years. In my current role, I manage a small team of Employment Advisors who support people experiencing mental health challenges to find, return to, or remain in work while working closely alongside clinical therapy services.

.

What motivated you to become a member of the Support2Work Project's Staff Service Experts Advisory Panel?

Because I am passionate about the Talking Therapies Model and the difference that it makes to the clients that we serve. What makes Talking Therapies Employment Services so distinctive is that we are embedded within clinical services, allowing us to provide an integrated employment and well-being approach that closely aligns vocational support with therapeutic goals and recovery outcomes.

I was motivated to become involved because I am interested in promoting the positive links between good work, mental wellbeing, and recovery, and in helping develop services that provide compassionate, person-centred, and psychologically informed employment support.

What impact or insights do you hope the project will bring?

I hope that it strengthens the evidence base on the impact of integrating Employment Advisors into NHS Talking Therapies. I feel that this important research has real strength in bringing a holistic view and insights which we can then feed into concrete recommendations for NHS services, patients, and policymakers. Overall, I would hope the project produces evidence that not only measures outcomes statistically, but also demonstrates the human impact of helping people regain confidence, purpose, and stability through meaningful employment support alongside mental health care.

Could you share with us one piece of advice that you follow to look after your own wellbeing in the workplace or in everyday life?

Stay connected with people who make you feel calmer, lighter, or understood. Supportive conversations can have a real impact on well-being. And make time for laughter regularly — whether that's joking with friends, watching something genuinely funny, or not taking every difficult moment too seriously.