

CAPITAL CITY PARTNERSHIP



PHYSICAL DISABILITIES SUMMARY (2008)

Compiled by Stephen McMurray

Introduction

This summary updates information presented in ‘The Position of Joined up for Jobs Target Groups’ report in 2005. This report considered each target group and in addition to the categories below included; overlaps between the different target groups, perceived gaps in service provision, information gaps, and conclusions and recommendations. This report is available from CCP.

Scope

In terms of attempting to estimate the numbers of working aged people who fall into one of the three main disability categories in Edinburgh, the Annual Population Survey figure of **52,300** is used as a starting point. The Scottish Executive (2007) estimate that **5.6** per thousand of the population in Edinburgh have a learning disability, this equates to around **1,700** people. In terms of people with mental health problems; the estimate of IB/SDA figure of **10,279** of people in Edinburgh with a mental health problem is added to the national employment rate of **18.4%** (of people with mental health problems given by the LFS) of **436,408** (estimated working age population in Edinburgh with a mental health problem), this equates to around **18,000** people with a mental health problem classified as a disability. If the totals of the population estimated to have a learning disability and mental health problem are added together and subtracted from the total of **52,300** – the figure arrived at is **32,600**. This represents the total for people with physical disabilities of working age in Edinburgh. This obviously is open to a significant amount of error.

TARGET GROUP	NUMBER IN EDINBURGH	NOT WORKING	SOURCES
Physical Disabilities	Approx 30,000	11,081 on IB/SDA,	Annual Population Survey 2007, Labour Force Survey 2001, DWP 2007, Scottish Executive 2007

Definition

The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) defines someone as having a disability if they are physically or mentally impaired, which has a substantial, long-term (has lasted 12 months or is likely to last more than 12 months) adverse effect on day-to-day activities (DRC).

Employment – People in Employment by Physical Disability (UK)

Type of Long-Term Health Problem	Employment Rate (%)
Skin conditions, allergies	69.3
Difficulty in hearing	68.1
Diabetes	65.1
Chest, breathing problems	64.0
Other problems, disabilities	52.9
Stomach, liver, kidney, digestion	52.0
Heart, blood pressure, circulation	50.3
Arms, hands	48.4
Back or neck	46.1
Musculoskeletal	45.6
Epilepsy	44.0
Difficulty in seeing	44.3
Legs or feet	43.5
Progressive illness	39.0

Source: Labour Force Survey (2001) as cited by Smith and Twomey (2002)

Benefits

IB/SDA CLAIMANTS IN THE CITY OF EDINBURGH (May 2007 - By principle disability)

Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	2,762
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	2,631
Diseases of the nervous system	1,383
Diseases of the circulatory system	834
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	593
Factors influencing health status and contact with health services	420
Diseases of the respiratory system	397
Diseases of the digestive system	389
Neoplasms	287
Other	249
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	240
Certain infectious parasitic diseases	231
Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities	165
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous system	141
Diseases of the eye and adnexa	122
Diseases of the genitourinary system	116
Diseases of the ear and mastoid process	61
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	33

Source: DWP

Barriers to Employment

In terms of barriers to employment, there does not appear to be an enormous amount of information other than the general barriers people with disabilities encounter. Though it is worth noting:

- Severity of disability.
- Access into premises and access within it.
- Some employment unsuitable – heavy manual work.
- Attitude of family members.

Employability Services

Along with the general support organisations, the following other organisations provide services for people with a physical disability:

- **Intowork** (Moving Intowork) - Provide a supported employment service for people with brain injuries and people with Asperger's.
- **RNIB Scotland** – Operate an Employment and Learning Centre in Edinburgh.
- **RNID Scotland** – Provide practical and technical assistance and education.

Further Reading

RNID (2006) Opportunity Blocked, London

RNIB Scotland (2007) Creating workplace opportunities for blind and partially sighted people, TERU, Edinburgh

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