# Working together to increase work readiness activities for underrepresented young people



EDINBURGH, MIDLOTHIAN & EAST LOTHIAN Developing the Young Workforce

### Developing the Young Workforce (DYW), Scotland's Youth Employment Strategy; asks business to be more involved in informing, inspiring and hiring youth talent.

Educators and businesses working together as co-investors to create a skilled workforce for Scotland's future.

It is our vision to deliver a partnership across the region which will ensure a positive destination for every young person and to transform the relationships between business, the third sector and education for the benefit of all three and for the wider regional economy



We are working towards:

Delivering an improvement in employers' engagement with schools and colleges in the region

Encouraging and supporting employers to open up job and development opportunities to more young people



## What does success look like?

More young people in employment

Permanent behavioural change among the employer and education communities to underpin the delivery of vocational education A sustainable industry led network that improves collaboration between employers and education

More employers recruiting young people

A broader range of opportunities for young people to better prepare them for work

Increased opportunities for underrepresented young people and ensure equity

## 'DYW achieves a decrease in youth unemployment by 48%'

'Half of all young people with a declared or assessed disability are in further education 9 months after leaving school. However, by the time they are 26 they are four times as likely to be unemployed as their non-disabled peers<sup>6</sup>

#### **DYW & Enable Scotland research findings:**

- 90% of Young People engaged wanted a work placement
- However only 30% had completed a work placement
- No alignment with interests of aspirations
- Not same opportunity as mainstream peers
- Good practice exists
- Limited by funding, locality, eligibility criteria
- Need a cohesive offer for all

Engagement needs to be earlier and person centred

- Individual, tailored to interests and aspirations
- Supports the building of aspiration
- Young people require personalised support to identify and work towards career ambitions whilst having their needs met
- Includes workplace visits, work tasters, industry events and work placements

#### DYW need to work with specialist partners to get this right for all young people

## Mapping – what already exists

- Who is already engaged with Special Schools and ASN hubs?
  - What is already being delivered, to whom and impact?

# What is required to achieve more impact?

# **THANK YOU**

## **Any questions?**

