

DurhamEnable – Shaun’s Story

Video Transcript

[Title screen featuring the DurhamEnable logo, the European Social Fund Logo, and Durham County Council Logo. Below them is the title ‘Shaun’s Story’]

[SHAUN RIDLEY is sat in an office building speaking to the camera, the text introducing him says “Shaun Ridley Citizen Leadership Inclusion North.”]

SHAUN: “My role is to help people with a learning disability, and autistic people to have a voice.”

[Cut to MICHELLE CADBY speaking to camera from the same office. The text introduces her as “Michelle Cadby Project Support Coordinator Inclusion North”]

MICHELLE: What Inclusion North does, they actually work with local areas across the North East and Yorkshire and Humber, and those local areas can also join as members, and Inclusion North does local work with them, local projects, to ensure that people with autism, learning disabilities, and also families are included more. They also work on regional and national projects, and that affects people across the country. And we also employ people with learning disabilities, autism, and family carers for our experts by experience.

[Cut to JULIE PATTERSON speaking to camera in an office building with blinds behind her. The text introduces her as “Julie Patterson Job Coach Durham Enable”]

JULIE: As a job coach, we follow the Supported Employment model, and this is so we can support adults with learning disabilities, difficulties, autism, and mental health conditions into paid employment.

[Cut back to SHAUN speaking to camera in the office. SHAUN continues to talk in voiceover as the camera cuts to him arriving at a train station, the sign above the kiosk says ‘Bishop Auckland Station’ and a larger sign says ‘Tickets’. SHAUN walks into the kiosk and goes to the ticket office. SHAUN buys tickets from an attendant wearing a blue medical mask, who gives him two tickets and a receipt. SHAUN leaves with his tickets and goes to wait on the train platform.]

SHAUN: My situation before I found work was that I wasn’t able to, like, get a job, because I was always told that people with a learning disability wouldn’t be able to work. Julie helped me prepare for work with confidence building, application process, interview prep, travel training, support with welfare rights and benefits, linked in with my social worker and supported housing manager. On the day of interview, Julie set up my laptop and supported me with Zoom. She also helped with my DBS checks and references. It’s been life changing. I feel independent, and I feel that I have a voice. I’ve really benefited by the support I’ve had from DurhamEnable. They’ve helped me to do stuff that I thought that I wouldn’t be able to do.

[Cut to JULIE speaking to camera in the office.]

JULIE: Once Shaun identified he wanted to apply for the role at Inclusion North, I contacted Inclusion North and introduced myself as Shaun’s Job Coach and explained to them about who we are and what we do, and how we could support Shaun through the process of the application and interview and through in-work support if he got offered the role. The relationship continued through the

whole process. So, every step of the way Inclusion North copied me into emails, this helped me to empower Shaun on the process but also to be there if he needed me for any support along the way.

[Cut to JULIE and SHAUN sat at a table in a café for a support meeting, they are talking and laughing. The camera between close-ups of SHAUN and JULIE speaking to one another, and close-ups of SHAUN and JULIE picking up their drinks from the table. JULIE continues talking in voiceover.]

JULIE: It was really important to build a strong relationship with Shaun. I think you need to really trust your Job Coach, especially if you've never worked before it could be a really scary, daunting thing to do. I think by building a really strong, trusting relationship, it helped Shaun feel comfortable to contact me at any point. If he wasn't sure of something, if he didn't understand something, and without that trust and strong relationship, we wouldn't have been able to do that.

[Cut to SHAUN speaking to camera in the office. SHAUN talks in voiceover as the camera cuts to him working at his laptop.]

SHAUN: I enjoy the work that I'm doing. I'm better off, because I've now got a monthly pay. Having an employer like Inclusion North that are really so supportive, they've helped me through little bits, being understanding. They're there if you need them, it's really a nice company to work for, and I really, really want people to be able to do that.

[Cut to MICHELLE speaking to camera in the office. As MICHELLE talks in voiceover, the camera cuts to MICHELLE and SHAUN holding a one-to-one meeting in an office meeting room with a blue table.]

MICHELLE: I've really enjoyed working with Shaun, I think he's a really valued member of the team, and for me it's about all of the experience that Shaun brings. I think you can be understanding, and you can be empathetic of a person's situation but, until you've actually lived it yourself, I think that's the key, and that's what Shaun brings. He's a really good team member, he's very thoughtful, he's very helpful – always offering to help people. Bearing in mind this is his first ever job, he just has a go at anything. You can really tell that he's thinking about things that are happening as well, and when we have conversations what he contributes is always really valid. I think he's actually got a very infectious sense of humour as well, and his laugh. And it brings a kind of calmness as well to the team as well, which is really helpful, because we've got a team of five people and it just feels that Shaun is a really integral part of that team.

[Cut to SHAUN speaking to camera in the office.]

SHAUN: Now that I'm in a paid job I still get help from Access to Work and DurhamEnable. They helped me get the grant for Access to Work.

[Cut to JULIE speaking to camera in the office. JULIE continues to talk in voiceover as the camera cuts to JULIE in the café, speaking to SHAUN off camera. The camera cuts between JULIE and a close-up of her picking up her drink.]

JULIE: I believe that other employers can benefit from working with DurhamEnable, from the recruitment process, to making sure that they have an inclusive and diverse workforce. We can support with in-work support. We can support with applications for Access to Work, disability awareness training, reasonable adjustments, and we can make sure that they have the right support and guidance at every step of the way.

[Cut to SHAUN speaking to camera in the office.]

SHAUN: Yes, I would recommend working with DurhamEnable, I think they're a brilliant company, and I would recommend anyone to go to them to find a job.

[The video fades to black. White lettering says:

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