

Working with Training Providers

THE HANDYHELP CO SERVICE

The HandyHelp Company is a social firm providing ethical handyperson services to domestic and commercial customers. HandyHelp delivers basic repairs and maintenance, painting and decorating, gardening, home and garden clearance and cleaning services. It is an in-house enterprise developed by Clean Slate, an organisation creating and supporting opportunities for unemployed people and those at risk of homelessness, working in partnership with specialist support services and providers of vocational training. It operates in Bath and London.

HandyHelp provides paid work opportunities and a motivation for jobseekers to engage with job preparation activities laid on by Clean Slate and vocational training. Routes into work with Handyhelp are not linear: They could complete job preparation and vocational training first or join a manual labour 'gang' to undertake house clearance, for example, having only completed Clean Slate's 2-day Induction. Similarly, Clean Slate can take referrals of people before or after completing skills training, but in order to fully join HandyHelp's books, they will need to:

- Be fully inducted with Clean Slate, (filled out their Aspirations Survey/ Job Readiness Survey, logged onto their customer monitoring database, and completed the 2-day Induction programme)
- Have completed at least basic construction, trades (such as painting/ decorating), cleaning or gardening skills training, either accredited or approved by HandyHelp*
- Complete a DBS check and, if applicable, a risk assessment. A record will not automatically bar someone from paid work opportunities but failure to voluntarily disclose serious offences might

*Jobseekers who have previously completed vocational training will need to be able to prove they have with certification, otherwise they will need to attend a course to prove they have the skills

WORK WITH TRAINING PROVIDERS

We hope to work with a range of vocational skills training providers that can take our prospective workers wherever we are recruiting. On account of Clean Slate's job preparation programme and assessment of individuals' readiness for paid work, retention rates among referrals to courses is relatively high. HandyHelp is not funded to deliver training and Clean Slate will only deliver employability courses and signpost to vocational programmes, as it aims to support jobseekers wanting work in any sector.

HandyHelp can also take referrals of people completing courses and looking for work. They may want to join our books for hours of paid work to build their experience, and will need to complete Clean Slate's Induction, or they may be self-employed and want to supply services on a sub-contractor basis.