

# TRACY ELWIN RESEARCH AND CONSULTANCY



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I have fifteen years experience in the field of community economic development and this has focused on designing, developing, delivering and managing employment and training initiatives for disadvantaged groups in the labour market – particularly those furthest removed from the labour market. My strengths lie in my in depth knowledge and understanding of the complex interplay of issues that impact on employability as well as my ability to work with diverse groups and individuals on both a multi-agency and cross sector basis. This has entailed submitting funding applications and working within a variety of UK and European Union funding programmes; as well undertaking research and evaluation projects.

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## further education

1987-1990	Lancashire Polytechnic, Preston BA Hons History with Law 2:1 Awarded Nationwide and Anglia Dissertation Prize for History
1990-1993	Sheffield Hallam University MA Women's Studies
1996-1999	Hartlepool College of Further Education City and Guilds 730 Adult Teaching Certificate RSA CLAIT and Practical Bookkeeping

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## work experience

1993-1995	<b>Nottinghamshire County Council, Economic Development</b> Assistant Women's Issues Officer (initially part time) Researching, developing and promoting women and family friendly employment policies and good employment practices for homeworkers. Culminated in the production of two good practice guides disseminated to local employers and agencies.
1995-1996	<b>National Group on Homeworking (<a href="http://www.ngh.org.uk">www.ngh.org.uk</a>), National Policy Worker</b> Researching, developing and promoting policies to improve the employment terms and conditions of Britain's homeworkers.

- 1996-2001 Hartlepool Borough Council, Economic Development, Local Economic Initiatives Team**  
 Women's Opportunities Co-ordinator – developing and managing programmes to assist women returners and lone parents to return to training, employment and self employment. This involved day to day budget management, monitoring of finances and project activity against agreed funding requirements and targets and the evaluation of project performance.  
 New Deal 25 Plus Families into Work Co-ordinator (one year secondment) – involved working intensively with families to overcome issues of social and economic exclusion. This role also had a remit to inform and influence policy development and the findings of the pilot were fed into the mainstream New Deal 25 Plus programme in Hartlepool.  
 Employment Development Officer – developing innovative responses to worklessness in Hartlepool as part of New Deal for Communities and Neighbourhood Renewal Fund.
- 2001-2002 Bristol City Council, Economic Regeneration, Pathways to Work Manager**  
 Managing a partnership of public and voluntary sector organisations to provide a range of employment support services to those furthest removed from the labour market: lone parents, minority ethnic groups, ex-offenders, those with basic skills needs, those aged over 40 years, disabled, women returners.
- 2002 Hesters Way Regeneration Partnership ([www.hwnp.org](http://www.hwnp.org)), Partnership Manager**  
 Providing a strategic direction for a cross sector economic regeneration partnership. Seconded to Sure Start Cheltenham on a part time basis in March 2002.
- 2002-2004 Sure Start Cheltenham ([www.surestart.gov.uk](http://www.surestart.gov.uk)), Programme Manager**  
 Managing all aspects of this Government funded early-years (0-3 year olds) programme, including a multi-disciplined team, contract management, financial and budget management, strategic and operational management. Work included development and implementation of a commissioning model of delivery; monitoring and evaluation.
- 2004-2006 Connexions Tees Valley ([www.connexions-direct.com](http://www.connexions-direct.com)), Kick Start Project Manager**  
 Responsible for the overall management of a £9.7million ESF (objective 2) youth project across Tees Valley. This project aimed to support young people aged 13-19 and their families and supporters, in partnership with the voluntary and community sector, to remove barriers to education, training and employment.
- 2006 - Consultant ([www.tracyelwin.com](http://www.tracyelwin.com))** – key areas of work include: project development, management and evaluation in the fields of community economic development and regeneration. Recent contracts include:
- Evaluation of the Keeping Young People Engaged Project for the Tees Valley Youth Offending Service .**  
 The broad aim of the project is to ensure that at least 90% of young people on community orders as part of ISSP are engaged in education, training and employment activities (ETE). The evaluation brief set out a number of objectives:
- To provide an evaluation of the contribution of Placement Support Officers (PSOs) in achieving the 90% target of young people engaged in ETE activities.
  - To demonstrate the impact the PSOs have had on the lives of the young people they have supported, and the added value PSOs and KYPE have had on delivery of the YOS.
  - To present the ISSP Partnership with a credible business case for continued funding of the PSOs, for use in negotiation with the Youth Justice Board (YJB).
- Research into youth unemployment in Hartlepool for Hartlepool Borough Council.**  
 The brief aimed to develop an evidence base focussing on the following issues:

- What is the real scale of the NEET problem in Hartlepool and what are the factors that lead to 16 and 17 year olds becoming classified as NEET?
- What has been the impact of mainstream publicly funded employment and training programmes targeted at 16-24 year olds?
- Where are the gaps in mainstream provision?
- What are the perceptions of employers and young people?

**Project Management of an Employment Support Project for Middlesbrough Council.** The project consists of three 'gateways' offering a range of employability support to workless residents.

**Design and delivery of training courses for A4e ([www.a4e.co.uk](http://www.a4e.co.uk))** . Target groups included women returners and young people (not in education, employment or training - NEET) with the aim of raising confidence and skill levels.

