



TRAINING COURSES



You've read the Book, now see it live...

We can come to you - physically or online- for in-house training of up to 16 people. If you can't see what you want, do contact us. Our practical "in-house" training courses - with or without a mental health twist & adapted for devolved differences - is from £40 a head per **including** a copy of the Big Book as course pack and trusty companion.

Introductory courses: for beginners with no prior knowledge assumed - e.g. support workers, CMHTs, LMAs.

An introduction to changing benefits (1-day)

A one-day overview course for those new to the benefits system who want feel able to understand the changing system, peoples questions and signpost with confidence. A firm foundation for further more in depth training. Also available as a more limited **half-day awareness** session

Benefits and Mental Health (2 day)

The original Course of the Book! A revised and updated in-depth look at maximising income in 3 steps.. "Introductory" **only** in that **no** prior benefits knowledge, assumed, but takes you to the next level with a practical focus on key benefits in a mental health context. You will gain confidence in tackling ESA/UC and PIP forms, writing effective supporting letters and checking benefit sums. For support workers, CMHTs & HAS

Benefits and Older People - 1 or 2-day option

In one day, a similar plan as the course above, but now looking at the less complex, but still baffling, issues for people over pension age - and the often missed *Pension Credit* and *Attendance Allowance* (from both a mental and physical health perspective). Over two days, we can also look at key benefits in 50s. For support works, grants, assessors & HAS

Intermediate courses:

for those with intro awareness to focus in specific benefits

Changing Sickness and Disability Benefits 1-day

Just as **Sickness benefits** settled from the last migration, a new shake-up (and partial migration) changes things for *Employment & Support Allowance* and *Universal Credit (for limited capability)*. In **disability benefits**, many await the switch from DLA to PIP, changes are afoot in Scotland and new issues around reviews and renewals. A catch-up building on experience.

Benefits when too unwell to work 1-day

This course focuses in-depth on the benefits for "sickness" - *Statutory Sick Pay, Employment and Support Allowance and Universal Credit (limited capability)*. What happens and when, on becoming unwell? What's changing for ESA and how does UC do things differently? Sickness assessment? How to fill in forms, support a claim or help with an appeal?

Success with PIP and ADP (1-day)

This course helps clarify the basics of *Personal Independence Payment's* processes & problems and differences coming in Scotland. How to make difficulties fit the criteria and points grids on the form? How to make the switch from DLA? How to make sure extras happen and support a claim, review or renewal.? And how to take challenge adverse decisions?

AA and DLA from claim to appeal 1-day

The "old" disability benefits - *Disability Living Allowance and Attendance Allowance*—are still there for younger and older folk. Same aim as PIP but very different assessment and so ways and tips to: fill forms, support claims and reviews and challenge an adverse decisions

For detailed course outlines, costs, availability, requests for something tailor-made, please contact us on:
enquiries@bigbookofbenefits.com

Or please visit www.bigbookofbenefits.com or see us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/bigbookofbenefits)

Universal Credit (UC) in practise - 1 or 2 day option

An in-depth look at this flagship reform: latest timetables, migration issues, elements, cutback, work allowances, practical tips and claiming issues, doing sums with confidence, work conditionality & sanctions, payments and appeals. A full overview in 1 day or combine over 2 days with **UC "problem areas"** - see below.

Welfare Reform and cuts: An overview (1-day)

A catch-up and run-through of the all the recent benefit cuts and "welfare reform" changes, tailored to the impacts for your client groups, and in-depth tactical tips on problem areas. Assumes a good general benefits awareness. If not see **An Introduction to Changing Benefits**

Housing Benefit to UC housing costs (1-day)

A one-day catch up on all the changes to *Housing Benefit* - local housing allowances, bedroom tax, single room rents, benefit caps, two child policies, payments etc. And how do things change under *Universal Credit's housing costs element* and what happens under *Pension Credit*.

Advanced courses:

aimed at those who advise people on benefits entitlement - welfare rights workers benefits advisers, CAB advisers etc. More technical, but retaining accessibility, practicality and humour.

Mental health: sickness & disability benefits

A 1-day course for those who may know their PIPs and ESAs, but want to explore best ways to express tricky linked to common mental health diagnoses on WCA and PIP/DLA forms, and in MRs and appeals,. And the added barriers people with face in accessing benefits and advice

ESA and UC limited capability for advisers

The nitty-gritty detail of ESA/UC and the WCA - and recent changes - plus tactical tips for helping people through assessments and migration. An in depth look ESA/UC and differences switches from Ir-ESA and why C-ESA remains important, appeals etc Assumes some WCA familiarity.

Recent & forthcoming changes for advisers

A detailed exploration of recent and forthcoming changes across the benefits system, the special Covid-19 arrangements and their implications as well as catching up on reforms such as PIP, UC and Scottish benefits.

PIP for Advisers or UC "problem areas"

Two different one-day courses - separately or together. You may have already got to grips with the basics of PIP or UC, so we focus on:

- for **PIP** - tricky processes/issues for specific client groups and PIP caselaw, challenging PIP decisions updates and *Adult Disability Payment*
- For **UC** - ways through the chaos, complexities, the sums in detail, better off and migration issues, income confusions and other issues

Other Courses:

We get asked for other courses too. :-). We can mix and match from the above or work up something completely different for your need e.g. : **Benefits for EEA nationals or Children, Young People & Disability or Changing Benefits in Scotland**

All courses can adapt to your needs and be presented with and without a mental health bias and adapted for devolved differences. For **online courses** timings are different - so, an e.g. "one-day" course would be delivered over two half days)

"Made a frightening subject interesting and clearer - non jargonistic and thought provoking"
"Informal....full of humour... Delivery of essential information both verbal and through visual aids"
"The best course I have been on in all the years I've been employed by..."
"Informative, lively, very interesting and essential for my work with service users"
"Superb course - very informative and relevant to client group"

