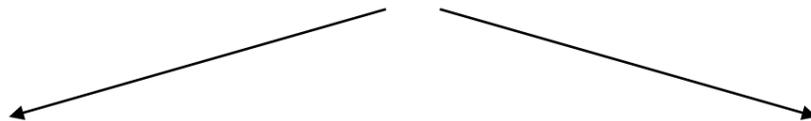


Probing exercise

I: 'so what effect, if any, did that first meeting with your personal adviser have on your plans for finding work?'

P: 'I don't know, I guess we looked at local jobs and that's what I needed at the time. The woman... the personal adviser person did a search for local jobs and showed me the construction job, which I suppose was helpful. I mean I didn't get that job but it was the kind of job I wanted, so yeah... I'd say it was ok'.



Example 1

I: 'So she was helpful then?'

P: 'Yeah, she was helpful'

I: 'Ok, great.... Is there any other support you would have liked from your personal adviser?'

P: 'Nah, not really. Like I said, the main thing I wanted at the time was a local construction job and she found one'

I: 'But you didn't get it?'

P: 'No'.

I: 'Ok, if I could move on then.....'

Example 2

I: How do you mean: you supposed it was helpful?'

P: 'Well, I....I suppose.....I mean I didn't get the job in the end so it didn't help in that way, but you know, that wasn't her fault'

I: 'So, in what way did it help?'

P: 'I guess it put the wind up me' [chuckles]

I: 'put the wind up you?'

P: 'yeah, like I'd sort of assumed that I knew all the construction companies round here, and I go through my mates, I've done that all the time I've been working. This one she showed me was new to the area, I hadn't come across it before'

I: 'Yes, you mentioned before that you go through your mates?'

P: 'Yeah, it usually works. I mean sometimes things are a bit slow and it take a few weeks to find something through them, but you just wait it out, sign on again...like I said before, construction work can be a bit on/off'

I: 'you said it usually works, but are there any other reasons why that's how you've looked for work in the past?'

P: 'ah...well, it's habit isn't it? You know your mates, they know you. You see them in the pub, and pick things up that way. It's dead easy.. why change it? I had enough mates in the building trade that I thought I knew what was happening round here'

I: 'so what was it that put the wind up you?'

P: 'I suppose I sort of realised things had changed locally, there's new companies and new developments out of town. I'd been at Neary's for seven years before it shut down so I hadn't seen all the changes.....'

I: 'and your mates, how much help did you get from them, if any?'

P: 'nah. Nothing doing. A good few of my mates moved away, got injured, left the trade. A few mates from Neary's moved on but they were brickies.. had different skills from me'

I: 'so what effect, if any, has knowing about the changes you've talked about had on the way you look for work?'

P: 'I guess I look wider now... I use the local paper and check the boards at the jobcentre when I go to sign on'.

I: 'ok...just to go back to what you said looking at local jobs was what you needed at the time... was there anything else that you needed?'

P: 'Nah, not really. I mean... when I didn't get the job they said it was because I didn't have the right forklift licence, but apart from that, you know, I'm 47 I know how to do an interview and all that'.

I: 'A forklift licence?'

And so on.....