

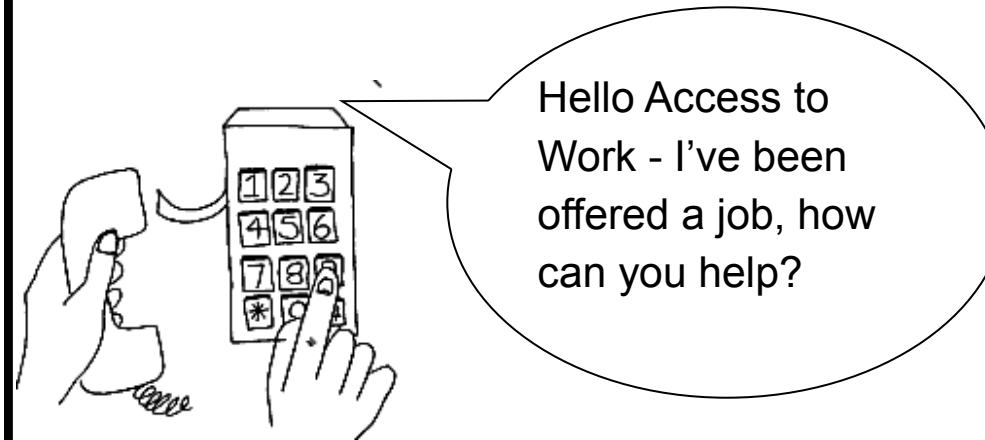
# Getting started with Access to Work support - A PERSONAL STORY BY OMAR



1. I WAS OFFERED A JOB AT THE LOTHIAN CENTRE FOR INCLUSIVE LIVING (LCIL) AS AN INDEPENDENT LIVING OFFICER.



2. I CONTACTED ACCESS TO WORK ON 0845 268 8489 TO FIND OUT IF I WAS ABLE TO APPLY FOR FUNDING TO PAY FOR A SUPPORT WORKER TO HELP ME IN WORK.



3. AN ACCESS TO WORK ADVISOR PHONED ME BACK WITHIN 10 DAYS TO ARRANGE A TIME TO DO A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW AND COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM. THE AIM WAS TO FIND OUT WHAT TYPE OF WORK I'D BE DOING AND WHAT SUPPORT I MIGHT NEED FOR WHEN I STARTED THE JOB.....THEY THEN SPOKE TO MY NEW EMPLOYER ABOUT THE SUPPORT I NEEDED TO GET THE APPLICATION APPROVED.



If people have individual enquiries about Access to Work they can contact the central UK phone number for the scheme on

**0345 268 8489 or 0845 268 8489.**

Alternatively disabled people living in Edinburgh, Midlothian and East Lothian can contact Grapevine the disability information line on

0131 475 2370 or email us at: [grapevine@lothiancil.org.uk](mailto:grapevine@lothiancil.org.uk) if they have general enquiries relating to the Access to Work and other employment/workplace issues. the latest updates on

LCiL have also produced a number of factsheets and resources from Access Work on our website which people can access for free from these pages:

<http://www.lothiancil.org.uk/e-library/>





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4. I WAS EVENTUALLY OFFERED SUPPORT FROM ACCESS TO WORK TO PAY FOR A SUPPORT WORKER TO COVER ALL THE HOURS I WORKED. I WAS TOLD THAT IF MY SUPPORT NEEDS CHANGED AT ANY POINT I COULD CONTACT ACCESS TO WORK

Hi I'm Dale,  
Omar's  
support worker



5. MY NEW EMPLOYER SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH ACCESS TO WORK.



6. THINGS I GET HELP WITH AT WORK...



This is my specialised chair that the assessor recommended to Access to Work as equipment that would help me do my job.



Here's me at my desk with my support worker who helps with some of the things that I need help with at work e.g. filling, photocopying, typing and attending meetings.

7. NOW I HAVE ALL THE SUPPORT I NEED AT WORK AND RECEIVE A PHONE CALL EACH YEAR TO CHECK I HAVE MY SUPPORT NEEDS ARE MET. THIS PROCESS WILL CONTINUE UNTIL 2015 WHEN I WILL HAVE TO REAPPLY FOR MY FUTUR WORK NEEDS.

