

## Module 2 – Looking to the Future

### Topic 1 – Discovering your Passions & Skills

#### Why explore?

- Dreams are surely too idealistic - what about mortgages etc?
- Practical benefit in targeting for job ads and networking etc
- Give yourself permission to think about these topics

#### Passions

- What is passion?
  - internal energy
  - driving you to action
  - extroverts and introverts can be passionate
- Types /focus of passions
  - passion for causes – e.g. poverty/environment etc
  - passion for roles
    - *not the cause*
    - *role is the thing that fires you up*
    - *e.g. problem solving/advice giving/serving*
    - *watch you don't deprive someone of their role*
  - passion for people
    - *depends on your personality*
    - *may be 1:1 interaction or may be many that enthuses you*
- Watch out for "Yes, but..."
  - try to take away boundaries

#### Skills

- Skills are organic - they grow and wither
  - be aware of changes in your skills profile
- Do a skills analysis
  - If I was recruiting me then...
    - *may unearth skills*
  - think about a hobby about which you are passionate - could it be a career?
  - volunteering is a good stepping stone to finding out what your current skills are

#### Next Steps

- prepare 3 CVs highlighting
  - causes
  - roles
  - people
- capture ideas quickly - write them down
  - take a broad brush approach - much easier to focus down rather than start narrow and attempt to widen out
- think about your personal survival budget - how much do you really need to get by?
- think about the skills vs qualifications balance - experience is highly valuable to build on the qualifications - back to volunteering option
- for applications and interviews
  - try and understand the employer's perspective
  - think of the job in terms of the TASKS that need done, the ROLES that need occupied and the COMPETENCIES needed to do them



## Resources to help during Covid-19

- help the employer to understand that you are the right person for the job/organisation
- look for a match (not 100% - more like 75-80%) of your passions/skills to the job requirements

### Points from question/answer time

- moving from a hobby to work - there sometimes is a danger of quarantining your hobbies so that they are preserved from the fear of failure
  - if you have 80% of the answer you can probably do the job
  - think about what aspects of the job that appeals to you are the key ones - an example was given of someone wanting to be a doctor who just would not be able to do the job - but it was the helping people and greeting them and meeting their needs which drove this individual and another outlet for these was found in a different role
  - there is no longer a guarantee of a “job for life” – with this in mind it may be helpful to think of a “career” as “a journey where you have come from and where you are going to which you carry out within a particular business/professional area”
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