Self Employment



Portfolio Working



What is it?

Mix & Match

- → freelance contracts
- → multiple projects
- → usually short-term or fixed-term contracts
- → some part-time employed work

What are the benefits?

Mix & Match

- → spread the risk of being out of work
- → variety of work
- → flexibility
- → choice to follow own interests & projects

What are the downsides?

Mix & Match

- → lack of security
- → time management
- → self-discipline
- → organisational skills
- → building a wide professional network

What are the downsides?

Mix & Match

- → What if you get sick?
- → What if you can't travel for work?
- → What are your safety nets?

Is it just another type of exploitation?

Personal autonomy

Although portfolio working is increasingly the norm...

- → hard to access government provision
- puts more pressure on the individual to 'look after themselves'

Is it just another type of exploitation?

Personal autonomy

Although portfolio working is increasingly the norm...

- → can be hard to make ends meet
- → can feel overwhelming
- → can lead to 'self-exploitation'

How can I manage it?

Create safety nets

Assess the risks & put in control measures...

- → build up your savings
 - ♦ 3 months income
 - 6 months income
- → give yourself (more than) enough time
- → self-care & investing in your relationships

How can I manage it?

Don't Be Alone

Build support structures with other precarious workers...

- → consider ways to work cooperatively
- → team up to secure & deliver work / projects
- → support rather than compete

How can I manage it?

Negotiation

Clear & thoughtful communication...

- being intentional
- → What do you want to achieve by doing this?
- → How to balance this with what other people want to achieve?

How can I manage it?

Skill Up & Look Ahead

Get really good at...

- → time management
- → self-discipline
- → organisational skills
- → self-directed'intelligence gathering'& learning

How can I manage it?

Skill Up & Look Ahead

Get really good at asking...

- → What is coming up?
- → What is in high demand?
- → What will be in demand in 6 mths / 1 yrs time?
- → Can I do those things?

Portfolio Working - OK, now, it's your turn...

Mix & Match

What is your mix?

- → What different services can you offer? How often?
- → How will you get this work?
- → How will you spread the risk?

 Some part-time employed work?

