

NEET Action Plan – September 2011

Reducing the number of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) is a priority for Leeds, identified in the Children and Young People's Plan. NEET is identified as one of the key "obsessions" for Children's Services to improve outcomes for children and young people, and has been the focus of Outcomes Based Accountability sessions with key staff in Children's Services to identify actions for improvement. The Raising of the Participation Age means that young people will remain in education or training until age 17 by 2013 and until age 18 by 2015. Planning to reduce the number of young people NEET will, therefore, concentrate on increasing the number of young people in education or training.

Reducing the level of NEET is a priority because ensuring young people are in education or work helps increase their confidence, prospects and economic independence. Doing this supports the city's overall economic performance. By targeting groups and areas where being out of education, employment or training is a particular challenge, we can raise aspirations and support informed decision making. The current economic downturn presents particular challenges for young people looking to enter the workplace for the first time and needing help to do so.

A number of actions have been completed since January 2010, these actions are listed at the end to identify the changes that have been made and incorporated in to ongoing delivery of services. The level of NEET improved between January 2009 (9.9%) and January 2010 (8.2%). The NEET figure this year (8.2% for January 2011) is the same as last year, when a significant reduction was achieved, maintaining the level of NEET whilst reducing the level of Not Known has been an achievement over the last year. Work is required to bring the number of young people NEET down further. The level of Not Known recorded in 2011 is the lowest level for January that has ever been achieved in Leeds (4.4%). Reductions in Not Known have brought figures in to line with statistical neighbours.

Task	Outputs	Partners involved	Lead Officer	Milestones	Progress to date
<p>Analysis of young people NEET and their needs in order to proactively match young people with potential learning provision. Increase the recruitment of young people to available programmes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systems in place to ensure recording of qualification level and occupational preference for young people who are NEET. • Young people NEET are asked for permission to share information with learning providers, as routine. • Agreements reached with learning providers and processes in place to give potential learning providers lists of young people who may be interested in provision, particularly for flexible start courses. • Appropriate Information Sharing Agreements in place. 	<p>Connexions providers Learning providers</p>	<p>Mary Brittle</p>	<p>April 11 – system identified to share information July 11 – regular exchange of information in place</p>	<p>System in place so information on young people is being shared with potential learning providers where consent is given. Evaluation of impact to be carried out after 6 months.</p>
<p>Use of Identified Progression Pathways and Support (IPPS) process in all schools to identify a learning pathway and progression route for every young person. Process will identify young people who are at</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage all secondary schools in needs analysis of their Year 8 cohort. • Identify needs of the group and which young people are least likely to remain in learning after Year 11. • Plan learning programmes and support packages to meet needs of identified young people. • Use comparative data to examine outcomes against 	<p>Schools Post-16 learning providers Offsite learning providers</p>	<p>Richard Amos</p>	<p>Foundation Learning project developed in NW to roll out across city during 10/11. “IPPS Ambassadors” to be identified to promote to all secondary heads by Spring 2011. Engagement of all secondary heads</p>	<p>Approach altered to a “Calendared provision planning” process for all young people. Work taking place with curriculum leads in NW schools. Meetings planned for Autumn term with all, followed by individual/group schools discussions to take approach</p>

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risk of becoming NEET and inform future learning offer. Process will also ensure support available is targeted at appropriate young people.	<p>factors such as deprivation, ethnicity and KS2 achievement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of the support offered to young people, particularly young people who access off-site learning as a result of identified need. System developed to pass appropriate information to post-16 learning providers, and assist those providers to evaluate and review risk of disengagement for young people 			<p>in at summer meeting in June 2011.</p> <p>All schools and other partners engaged for 2011/12.</p> <p>First cohorts to be affected by RPA (Yrs 8 and 9 in AY 10/11) to have identified post 16 pathway by June 2012.</p>	<p>forward.</p> <p>Work with Leeds City College and Pudsey consortium looking at current Yr 11's to ensure progression pathways for all – including progression agreements into College.</p> <p>Work with SILCs and YOS on adapting process to meet specific needs of client groups.</p>
Developments of briefing / training for all staff working with children, young people and families to understand the value and importance of learning, build aspirations, understand attendance requirements and RPA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short briefing designed to give brief information about importance of learning, school attendance, RPA and progression to workers engaging with young people, parents and families. Briefing distributed to appropriate services, organisations and networks who have contact with young people and families. Delivered to staff in public facing roles across the council as well as in Children's services. 		Mary Brittle	<p>April 11 – briefing designed and distributed</p>	<p>Briefing written, presentation available for use with different audiences.</p> <p>Information to be adapted and uploaded to Leeds Pathways for use by different staff.</p> <p>Roll out of briefing to different audiences beginning.</p>
Development of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshops delivered to 	Primary	Terry	<p>Sept 11 – INSET</p>	Contact made with

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resources and training for primary schools on the careers curriculum, including systems for work across primary and secondary schools.	<p>primary school staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource pack made available to all Leeds primary schools. 	schools 14-19 Team.	Walsh	programme issued to schools Dec 11 – resource pack available on Leeds Pathways	primary schools to gage level of interest. Planning for INSET event has begun.
Development of models for parental engagement in high schools to improve the progression information and advice available to parents through schools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent / carer advice pages developed on Leeds Pathways 	14 – 19 Team Schools	Andrea Cowans	October 2011 – new pages on Leeds Pathways	Parent and carer pages under development, software upgraded and content written. Will go live in October
OBA process takes place in the clusters to identify specific actions around reducing NEET to be carried out at a local level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each cluster has carried out OBA exercise in relation to reducing NEET. Actions at a cluster level are identified. 	Cluster chairs, Cluster managers	Ken Morton		Sessions planned for Autumn Term 2011 in majority of clusters
Development of online resources to support learner progression.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of resources available via Leeds Pathways on progression into all post 16 opportunities, including careers and labour market 	All High schools, parents / carers 11-19(25) IAG	Andrea Cowans	Online resources developed and piloted by Sept 2011 Leeds Pathways	U-explore licence for all schools and colleges for 2011/12 academic year. Local LMI pages

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	<p>information, information on employability, skills, enterprise and apprenticeships.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of an interactive online advice and guidance service for young people and families 	and Progression group Connexions		developments implemented by April 2012	under development. Software development specified, expected October 2011
Review of NEET reporting in preparation for future arrangements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options identified for future reporting requirements and systems to fulfil requirements. 	LCC – IYSS Ed Leeds	Mary Brittle	Nov 11 – Options identified and decision taken for 2012/13	Review begun. Will be part of the review of IAG delivery by the LA that takes place in order to plan for changing LA responsibilities.
Examination of reasons for drop out and low progression rates for young people using knowledge of Connexions service.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of reasons why young people drop out of education or do not progress Participation of young people and Connexions PAs in this work to identify reasons. Report shared with learning providers about the reasons for drop-out with recommendations. 	Ed Leeds, 14-19 Team LSC Colleges Schools Connexions providers	Terry Walsh	<p>July 10 – Group established</p> <p>Sept 10 – Analysis of reasons and action required</p> <p>May 11 – report produced and disseminated</p>	March 11 - Initial analysis completed. Supplementary survey undertaken and reported to IAG Strategy Group in May 11.
Establish information sharing protocols with other organisations / services on young people in order to prevent young	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear information sharing protocols in place with learning providers to identify young people likely to become NEET or Not Known and share data appropriately. Clear information sharing 	IYSS Connexions providers Schools Colleges WBL providers JobCentre plus	Mary Brittle	May 2011 – 1 st draft of ISA (Information Sharing Agreement) based upon the Leeds	<p>Data transfer between databases with Children’s Services is happening.</p> <p>Processes with colleges in place.</p>

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people becoming Not Known and gain information on those whose status has become Not Known.	<p>protocols in place with other partners to gather information about young people and ensure it is recorded appropriately on the Connexions database.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing agreement in place with JobCentre Plus • Information sharing agreement in place with PCT or elsewhere about young people becoming parents • Information sharing agreement in place with housing services to identify contact information for young people 	NHS Housing		<p>Interagency Protocol.</p> <p>July 2011 - Agree content of the ISA with all relevant learning providers.</p> <p>Aug 2011- Information sharing processes in place</p>	<p>Ongoing discussions with JC+, still awaiting feedback on proposed arrangement.</p> <p>Initial discussion with Housing services in LCC. Data transfer did not result in receipt of useful information, joint working protocols being developed.</p> <p>Discussion happening with Early Years Service to agree information sharing on young parents</p>
Improve transition process for learners at risk of not making a successful transition to post-16 provision from Year 11.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer programmes / transition arrangements developed to ensure smooth transition to post-16 from Year 11. • Clear system in place to target opportunities available to young people most likely to disengage from post-16 learning. • Identification of appropriate support systems for vulnerable young people to improve attendance on in 	Colleges Schools Connexions providers	Mary Brittle	<p>March 11 – meeting to look at operational delivery</p> <p>July / Aug 11 – programmes delivered</p> <p>Sept 11 – review of enrolment levels</p>	<p>Discussions about referrals from Connexions to available summer programmes took place in May. Referrals process agreed. Connexions PAs to refer young people to offer advertised by learning providers. Review to be carried out in November, once initial</p>

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	September.				activity survey returns are available.
Transfer of information about young people's support needs and systems in place to meet those needs from KS4 providers to post-16 providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement between providers about the information that needs to be transferred. • System agreed across schools and post-16 providers to transfer information. Linked to CAP. • Agreement about how information is used. 	Schools Colleges	Richard Amos	<p>July 2011 - Liaison with post - 16 learning providers, in order to determine their information needs</p> <p>Sept 2011 – agreements on information that can be shared and development of process.</p> <p>Jan 2012 – clear process for appropriate information sharing in place</p>	Relevant data fields agreed with Colleges. Process for data transfer being developed. Data sharing agreements being developed to ensure compliance with Data Protection Act.
September Offer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the Sept guarantee is recorded accurately for all young people • Ensure monitoring of the guarantee means that all young people are made a suitable offer in 2011 • Ensure data from the recording of the guarantee can be used to influence the development of learning provision. • Learning providers signed 	Connexions providers IYSS PST 14-19 Team	Terry Walsh	<p>Feb 11 – review of processes and guidance produced for Connexions PAs</p> <p>May 11 – communication with learning providers about systems for 2011</p>	<p>September Offer Group meeting monthly and processes in place for 2011. Group includes learning providers.</p> <p>Data transfer actions to be undertaken have been identified. Connexions PAs working to clear guidelines to ensure</p>

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	up to a 'clearing house' system for young people who have not identified an appropriate post-16 pathway.				recording of Sept Guarantee status. Monthly meetings in place to identify issues and plan actions.
Work on needs of priority groups in planning for RPA . For example: teen parents, LDD, young carers, young people in housing need etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of priority groups of young people who do not engage with current learning offer and require specialist provision. • Engage young people / support workers from priority groups in review of current offer. • Report with recommendations produced for 11-19 (25) LSP. 	Learning providers Connexions providers Teenage Pregnancy Board Housing services	Mary Brittle	Sept 11 – priority groups identified March 12 – report produced	
Progression from offsite learning and alternative providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data provided to schools replicated for off-site learning providers on destinations of Year 11 leavers. • Off site learners contacted and supported by Connexions PAs. 	Prospects Off-site learning providers	Terry Walsh	Jan 12- destination report made available to 11-19 LSP	PAs have set the flag on Insight for all current Y11 students who are engaged in off-site learning with a provider on the LCC approved framework. IYSS Insight team aware of need to prepare extraction reports.
Joint working between the IYSS, Jobcentre Plus and other partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot approach to joint working in South Seacroft, & evaluation of the pilot project. • Agreed approach to 	IYSS Jobcentre Plus	Maz Asghar	Sept 2010 – pilot project begins. April 2011 – project evaluation.	Project began September 2010. Project end

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	<p>transition at 18 for young people NEET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint working with young people NEET to develop Think Family approach to deliver support to young people and their families. 			<p>May 2011 – evaluation report available, present to IAG Strategy group, to determine future action.</p> <p>May 2011 - Dialogue with JC+, re. agreed transitional arrangements.</p> <p>July 2011 - Facilitate further input / WFD re. Think Family Approach methodology.</p>	31.03.2011. Draft evaluation report circulated. Final evaluation to be completed by September 2011

ACTIONS COMPLETED IN 2011/12

- Information shared with schools on NEET rates (16-18), process is now in place for termly sharing with schools of figures and details of young people NEET.
- Awareness raising for young people in KS4 and parents of financial support available to young people and families for young people to continue in learning, information on Bursary Fund is now available on Leeds Pathways.
- Work with secondary schools to understand new duties for careers guidance that will be in place under the Education Bill – briefings have taken place for schools staff and plans are being developed in individual schools
- Use of Leeds Pathways to apply for opportunities for young people NEET. System is in place so young people can apply using Leeds Pathways by registering at the Connexions Centre. Development work has taken place on the Starting Out pages to better capture the opportunities available for young people who are NEET, this will be implemented during 2011. Further development of the common application process for young people who are not in Year 11 awaits national development work by UCAS.

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