

NEET in Cheshire East – position statement Sept 2011

APPENDIX D

Changes in reporting.

Levels of participation and NEET are now reported based on residency. – and not on where they are educated, as was previously the case. Data is also reported on the three full academic years after compulsory schooling. This means that they will be reported on until the 31st August of the academic year in which they would become 19 years old. This is a change from the previous system where they were tracked only until their 19th birthday, regardless of when in the academic year this fell. The result of this change will be an almost fixed cohort size throughout an academic year, with minor variations resulting as young people leave or enter the area. For comparison the total 16-18 cohort size for June 2010 was 9,253 but for June 2011 is now 12,700.

Activities of young people age 16-18 in Cheshire East

	Cohort Size	Number EET	%	Number in learning	%	Actual Number NEET	Actual number Not known	Adjusted NEET number	Adjusted NEET %
CE April 2011	12683	11340	89.4%	10461	82.5%	587	756	762	6%
CE May 2011	12681	11406	89.9%	10452	82.4%	561	713	741	5.9%
CE June 2011	12700	11326	89.2%	10352	81.5%	578	795	783	6.2%
CE July 2011	12697	11292	88.9%	10287	81.0%	594	810	794	6.3%

Young people recorded as EET are those who are in education, employment or training which includes those registered on gap years, those in part time or temporary education or employment and those employed without training. The 'in learning' figure includes those in full or part time education or on a recognised training course. It does not include temporary or part-time employment, employment without training or with only locally recognised training or those on a gap year. The adjusted NEET figure is different from the actual NEET figure as it assumed that a proportion of the Not Knowns will be NEET. DfE use a formula to make this adjustment.

This shows that overall the level of participation has been fallen slightly over the past 3 months while the NEET level has increased slightly.

Comparison with previous levels, national and regional levels and statistical neighbours.

Data is available for June 2011 from the National Client Caseload Information Service (NCCIS) and is shown in the table below. It should be noted that as the reporting methodology is now based on residency and academic age as detailed above, the 2010 data has been taken from the NCCIS database which has been reworked to attribute those in education back to their resident area, which means that this data will not match local CCIS information for this period. This data relies on the original submission containing accurate information about the resident area and should be taken as a guide only.

	Not known June 2011		In learning June 2011		16-18 year olds NEET June 2011	
	Academic Age 16-18s	% change over last 12 months	Academic Age 16-18s in learning	% change over last 12 months	Academic Age 16-18s NEET	% change over last 12 months
ENGLAND	8.50%	7.60%	78.87%	2.40%	6.50%	-8.50%
North West	7.30%	19.70%	78.60%	2.45%	7.90%	-4.80%
Cheshire East	6.3%	162.5%	81.5%	-1.1%	6.2%	8.8%
Cheshire West & Chester	6.4%	14.3%	82.1%	2.2%	5.0%	-18.0%
Warrington	5.6%	24.4%	81.5%	2.4%	6.3%	-7.4%
North Yorkshire	5.7%	159.1%	82.5%	1.4%	3.8%	-5.0%
Hampshire	14.4%	1.4%	73.3%	3.3%	5.8%	-3.3%
West Berkshire	3.1%	55.0%	78.2%	2.9%	4.3%	-18.9%
Central Bedfordshire	4.6%	48.4%	86.5%	4.0%	3.0%	-42.3%
Herefordshire	9.9%	-20.8%	73.5%	3.0%	7.6%	0.0%
Solihull	14.8%	31.0%	73.4%	-1.4%	8.0%	-9.1%
Warwickshire	9.8%	127.9%	80.5%	2.4%	5.0%	-15.3%
Worcestershire	6.7%	-26.4%	79.4%	4.1%	6.6%	1.5%

Figures in bold are those which are either significantly different from the average or where the data is moving in a direction contrary to the intended target. Hence CE is red (bold) for the increase in NEET – highest amongst statistical neighbours and the percentage in learning, which is showing a downward trend.

Breakdown of data into local areas

Of the 51 wards in Cheshire East, NEET young people make up more than 5% of the 16-18 cohorts in 11. These are listed below. 21 wards have a NEET level of 2% or below, with 2 wards, Disley and Wilmslow Dean Row having no NEET recorded.

	Cohort Total	NEET Total	NEET as a % of the Total Ward Cohort
Crewe St Barnabas	246	42	17.1%
Crewe Central	259	44	17.0%
Crewe South	446	58	13.0%
Crewe North	182	21	11.5%
Macclesfield East	143	15	10.5%
Crewe West	496	46	9.3%
Crewe East	576	48	8.3%
Macclesfield Hurdfield	166	13	7.8%
Macclesfield Central	200	15	7.5%
Macclesfield West and Ivy	374	25	6.7%
Macclesfield South	316	20	6.3%

Breakdown by age

	Academic Age 16			Academic Age 17			Academic Age 18		
	Jun 11	Jun 10	% change in year	Jun 11	Jun 10	% change in year	Jun 11	Jun 10	% change in year
ENGLAND	5.5%	5.9%	-8%	6.6%	6.9%	-5%	7.4%	8.1%	-9%
NORTH WEST	6.6%	7.1%	-8%	8.3%	8.3%	0%	8.8%	9.2%	-5%
Cheshire East	4.6%	5.7%	-19%	6.7%	6.7%	0%	7.2%	5.7%	26%
Cheshire West & Chester	3.9%	5.5%	-29%	5.3%	6.8%	-21%	5.7%	6.3%	-9%
Warrington	4.30%	5.90%	-28%	7.10%	7.60%	-7%	7.60%	6.90%	11%

The table above shows that while there has been a decrease in the NEET rate amongst 16 year olds, the 17 year olds have remained static but there has been a significant rise in the percentage of 18 year olds who are NEET. This might suggest that there is effective practice in supporting 16 year olds into appropriate engagement (employment or training) but that this is not so when young people leave formal education at age 18. Work has already begun to improve the links with Jobcentre Plus to try to ensure the best support to young people as they move from Connexions into their service.

Tackling NEET in Cheshire East - ESF programme

Connexions were successful in gaining the ESF contract aimed at preventing and reducing NEET in Cheshire East. After a delayed start, this programme began delivering in July 2011 and will continue until December 2013 with a maximum contract value of £922,447. The programme is aiming to work with 420 young people during this time, age between 14-18 who are NEET or potential NEET. Of these, there is a target of 335 participants who will be disadvantaged. Criteria for this are that the young person is either a responsibility of the Cared for Children team or Youth Offending Service or have been NEET for 6 months or live in an identified NEET hotspot. The programme, called 'Success 4 Life' operates over 2 days per week, when participants will work with a variety of providers to develop personal skills and motivation which will enable and encourage them to progress into learning or employment. They will also have the opportunity to gain a recognised qualification. Recognising that this is a difficult group to engage with, it is anticipated that 160 will gain the qualification and 148 will make the positive progression into employment or training. Providers who are delivering on this programme are Education Business Plus, Princes Trust, Fire Service, Youth Federation, and Young Enterprise. Connexions carry out the initial assessment and referral to the programme and provide ongoing PA support. Each course will have 16 places available for either pre-16 potential NEET or 16-18 yr olds who are NEET. Courses will begin every 3 weeks and will be based mainly in Macclesfield or Crewe to support the NEET hotspots with a small number in Congleton. The LA is represented on the Steering Group to monitor and support the uptake, progress and impact of the programme.

Authors : Peter Cavanagh & Nicola Axford – 14-25 Team

9th September 2011.