






## Appendix C

Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee: Learning at Work: Policy Review recommendations 2010/11

Review Progress Summary				
 not on schedule	 on schedule	 undeliverable	 achieved	Total
0	28	1	20	49

Ref	Recommendation	Action	Owner	Timescale	RAG	Progress
A	That the Council's Corporate Parenting Board takes a lead role in reducing the percentage of Looked After Children and Care Leavers classified as NEET to the level of the city as a whole and provide a quarterly report to the Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee in relation to progress on this target	<p>The Children and Young People in Care Strategy 2011-2013 Delivery Plan contains specific actions to achieve this outcome. Progress on the plan is reported to the MALAP and Corporate Parenting Board on a quarterly basis</p> <p>Children's Services will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with City Services to provide apprenticeships for care leavers</li> <li>• Deliver teenagers to work to enable young people in care to have work taster opportunities</li> <li>• Provide extended support to care leavers over 21 who wish to attend university</li> <li>• Ensure high quality advice and guidance to care leavers through a two-day secondment from Connexions</li> <li>• Continue to deliver a job club for care leavers aged 16 and 17 who are currently NEET to support their transition into education, training and employment</li> </ul>	M Boustead  Corporate Parenting Board/MALAP	September 2012		<p>City Services were able to offer care leavers five apprenticeships. Currently three young people are engaging with this opportunity. The Leaving Care Service have also offered specific financial support to ensure that the young people on apprenticeships can maintain their own accommodation without being financially penalised.</p> <p>This year's Teenagers to Work Programme is currently being organised and young people are being matched with the opportunities available within the Local Authority and external agencies. It is anticipated that 15 young people will be offered the opportunity to gain the 4 weeks work experienced offered.</p> <p>The Leaving Care Service is currently supporting 10 care leavers at University. They will</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continue to work with the National Care2Work programme to develop practice in Sunderland</li></ul>				<p>remain supported post 21 if they have not completed the course on their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. A dedicated worker from the Leaving Care Service whose experience is supporting young people in education, training and employment has been allocated as their lead professional to ensure their needs are met. Care leavers accessing higher education also receive generous financial support from the Leaving Care Service.</p> <p>The two day secondment from the Connexions Service is ongoing. This ensures that there is a specific understanding of the needs of care leavers and the barriers they face in terms of accessing ETE. It also ensures that the support is of a sufficiently intensive kind that is able to overcome some of those barriers. The Connexions PA has responsibility for the Job Club which offers intensive support for those 16/17 year old living independently and are NEET.</p> <p>The work with NCAS is ongoing. Work is underway to</p>
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						renew the Quality Mark that Sunderland Leaving Care Service achieved in 2011. Work with NCAS ensures that practice is benchmarked and shared on both a regional and national level.
<b>B</b>	That Children's Services look to explore with schools ways of supporting young people for their post-16 future both for academic and vocational routes, including basic skills, through the facilitated sharing of best practice with a particular focus on those young people who may not follow an academic pathway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14-19 post within restructure to gather evidence of good practice with 14-19 partners</li> <li>• Develop further mechanism of dissemination, eg themed agendas at 14-19 Strategic Group, pen portraits of young people who have undertaken a variety of learning/training routes</li> <li>• Investigate all age careers services and impact on support for young people</li> <li>• Agree way forward for 2011/12 with prospectus, work related learning and work experience (consider implications on post 16)</li> </ul>	B Scanlon  14-19 Partnership	July 2012	●	<p>Work to implement RPA is focusing on developing Risk of NEET Indicators to identify those in pre-16 education at risk of not making progression to post 16 education and to identify necessary support to allow them to do so (as identified in national best practice).</p> <p>Participation and Engagement (PEG) Task Group set up linked to Education Leadership Board, replacing previous 14-19 and NEET Improvement Board. Focus on RPA agenda in addition to continuing to tackle NEET figures</p> <p>Connexions service has been reconfigured to respond to new national position on universal all age careers advice.</p>
<b>C</b>	That Children's Services look to ways of working closer with our partners, in particular Job Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify current level of participation by JCP on key local strategic groups</li> </ul>	B Scanlon  Connexions	January 2012	●	Successful Pilot completed with Connexions/ Job Centre Plus which has increased access for

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	<p>Plus, to ensure more appropriate support in the transition of young people (16-19yrs) into the adult labour market (19-24yrs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify involvement in existing programmes between JCP/Young People's Services and draw out best practice</li> <li>• Facilitate the involvement of suitable partners on relevant steering groups where transition is key</li> <li>• Continue to develop links between the 14-19 Strategic Group and JCP through ESF funding (with particular focus on JCP clients accessing Supported Apprenticeship programmes)</li> <li>• Develop protocols between Connexions and JCP to ensure JCP advisors are aware of opportunities that are available through 14-19 Partners for JCP clients</li> <li>• Continue to investigate data sharing protocols between Sunderland City Council and JCP to enable more targeted support to be offered to any 16-19 year old JCP client via Connexions and partners organisations</li> <li>• Work with Economic Development Team to carry out feasibility study into incorporating contractual clauses into inward investors contracts specifying</li> </ul>	<p>(Delivery)</p>			<p>young people to training/ learning/ apprenticeship opportunities;</p> <p>Representative from Job Centre Plus now sits on NEET Improvement Board</p> <p>Further work being undertaken to incorporate appropriate clauses into contractual arrangements for recruitment/ work experience including Buy Sunderland First</p>
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		requirements for recruitment of local NEET individuals, increased work experience places for 16-24 year olds and increased Apprenticeship places for 16-24 year olds				
<b>D</b>	That in recognising the reduced resource from the Connexions Service there should be an increasing focus, in relation to resource allocation, on those pupils who may not follow an academic pathway to enhance the opportunities available to these young people in providing experiences and an understanding of work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connexions Personal Advisers work with schools to identify pupils in this category</li> <li>• Appropriate school staff liaise with Connexions to organise relevant activities</li> <li>• Young people are monitored to ensure they benefit from these experiences</li> </ul>	B Scanlon  Connexions (Delivery)	Ongoing but monitored and reported on a monthly basis	●	<p>The restructured Connexions Service is focused on working with young people who are NEET or who are at risk of becoming NEET;</p> <p>From April 2012 universal Information, Advice and Guidance is the statutory responsibility of schools but LA retains statutory responsibility for vulnerable groups and universal IAG is offered to schools on a traded basis.</p>
<b>E</b>	That Children's Services work with partners across Sunderland to look at options for a co-ordinated approach to tackle the issues associated with the removal of EMA funding from the majority of young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish Task Group to identify issue relating to removal of EMA</li> <li>• Conduct survey on uses of EMA with college and school sixth form students to inform the use of the new grant</li> <li>• Co-ordinate consultation return on EMA replacement/Bursary Grant on behalf of Sunderland NEET Improvement Group and 14-19 Partnership</li> <li>• On receipt of funding guidance for EMA replacement, develop uniform citywide protocols and</li> </ul>	B Scanlon  EMA Task Group	Jan 2012	●	<p>Task Group has now completed its work in relation to the removal of EMA</p> <p>Survey and consultation now complete</p> <p>Guidance and protocol for post 16 bursary now in place</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>guidance for funding</li> <li>• Use electronic guidance tools – Area Wide Prospectus, Connexions websites, etc – to increase awareness of replacement scheme and claims procedures</li> <li>• Work with Sunderland City Council staff to ensure refreshed transport policy accounts for EMA removal</li> </ul>				
<b>F</b>	That further utilisation of the Pallion and Harraton Centre be explored in relation to vocational delivery in line with the findings from the Wolf Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunderland Futures to consider implications/impact of new government directives identified within the Education Bill and the proposals within the Wolf Review</li> <li>• Consider the impact any changes of Sunderland Futures function/curriculum/training offer will have on post 16 provision</li> </ul>	B Scanlon 14-19 Partnership	November 2012	●	<p>The future utilisation of the Pallion Skills Centre is currently being determined in the light of national changes to the curriculum to increase the focus on academic qualifications;</p> <p>The Harraton Skills Centre will continue to deliver vocational courses in 13/14.</p>
<b>G</b>	That the 14-19 Partnership Board monitor the future direction of schools in relation to academic and vocational pathways and assess the impact (potential and actual) of any changes on those pupils at risk of becoming NEET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14-19 Officer to continue to work with established School Curriculum Leaders group to monitor academic and vocational pathways</li> <li>• Establish new lines of communication with SSS and Connexions staff with remit for data and targets</li> <li>• Monitor current position and identify key priorities and indicators – identify areas for partnership offer, eg</li> </ul>	B Scanlon 14-19 Partnership	July 2012	●	<p>Participation and Engagement manager post being created to continue work with School Curriculum Leaders</p> <p>Implications of all age careers service are now better known. Schools now have statutory responsibility for universal Information, Advice and Guidance (Connexions advice is now provided on buy-back basis)</p>

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		<p>Humanities, Languages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider impact of all age careers service and changes to role and remit of schools</li> <li>• Consider implications on the future direction of schools on post 16 provision</li> <li>• Investigate the future direction of post 16 provision.</li> </ul>				
<b>H</b>	That Children's Services look to develop the 14-19 Partnership Board to provide a more targeted approach to the issue of NEET's including strengthening the strategic relationship with the Economic Leadership Board, the City's Economic Masterplan and the work of partner organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen 14-19 Partnership links with NEET Improvement Group – NEET Improvement Group to report progress towards action plan on a termly basis to 14-19 Strategic Group</li> <li>• Review membership of 14-19 Strategic Group to include representatives of the City's Economic Masterplan and the City's Skills Strategy</li> </ul>	B Scanlon  14-19 Partnership	July 2012	●	Governance arrangements for 14-19 Group/ NEET Improvement Group have been reviewed. Participation and Engagement Group will hold its first meeting in April 2013.
<b>I</b>	That Children's Services look to engage and develop relationships with a cross section of small, medium and large employers and seek to have employer representation on the 14-19 NEET Improvement Board to tackle a broad range of issues related to the support and development of apprenticeships across Sunderland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A member of the Economic Development Team is invited to attend the Improvement Board</li> <li>• A representative from Gentoo is invited to attend the Improvement Board</li> <li>• The Economic Development Team advise on developing relationships with a cross section of employers</li> <li>• Data is obtained from the National Apprenticeships Service to monitor the number of young people taking up apprenticeships in Sunderland</li> </ul>	B Scanlon  NEET Improvement Group	July 2012	●	<p>NEET Improvement Board ( to be amalgamated into Participation and Engagement Group) now includes membership from:</p> <p>Economic Development Team and Gentoo who are developing the approach and linkages to a cross section of employment sectors; The number of young people taking up apprenticeships is regularly monitored;</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data obtained by National Apprenticeship Service with focus on the number of local employers currently offering Apprenticeship opportunities and in which employment sectors</li> <li>• The 14-19 Strategic Group re-establish the Employer Engagement Group with particular focus on securing Work Experience opportunities for local 16-18 year olds who are NEET</li> <li>• The LSP team arrange a follow-up to the 2010 Apprenticeship Employer Event with particular focus on targeting small to medium enterprise organisation</li> </ul>				Business Task Group set up, reporting to Economic Leadership Board, which includes schools and employers as members.
<b>J</b>	That the Council investigates the ways to promote, support and develop the benefits to employers in the area, including the recognition of good practice, reporting progress back to the Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee	Working with the partnership of training providers in the city and the existing employers network activities will be identified that identify existing good practice and develop case studies for communication and promotional activity.	S Stanhope Director of HR and OD	Six-monthly from January 2012	●	A report was provided to Management Scrutiny Committee in relation to progress with apprentices. In addition a presentation was made to West Area Committee meeting with other employers to share good practice to assist in progressing the expansion of apprenticeship activity across the area. Similar events have been held across Sunderland and the Council has offered support in sharing our good practice.





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						The networking site Linked in has also provided a forum to share good practice albeit this is Nationally. There is regular contact with representatives at the NAS and TUC to discuss progress and they are promoting our good practice with colleagues / employers. We have also offered support through these links to anyone who may need it.
<b>K</b>	That the Connexions Service looks to gather additional data for training providers on actual employment rates following training and apprenticeship schemes to determine the success of these, as well as, actual drop-out rates (inclusive from day one) and the career pathways of this group of young people	Connexions Hub Services will produce a comparison of three years individual data of all young people undertaking training to highlight opportunity routes, percentages into positive outcomes and drop out rates as well as re-entry into learning	B Scanlon  Connexions (Hub)	July 2011 and ongoing but monitored and reported on a monthly basis.	●	This is monitored and reported on a monthly basis
<b>L</b>	That the Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee look to disseminate the findings and recommendations of this review to as wide an audience of key stakeholders as possible including Elected Members, Headteachers, the Chamber of Commerce and members of the relevant partnerships referred to	The Scrutiny Committee, through the established working group, will look to circulate the report to a wide variety of stakeholders and provide those stakeholders with the opportunity to invite members of the Committee to present the report findings at an appropriate meeting of their respective groups	N Cummings	December 2011	●	The report has been circulated to a wide variety of stakeholders and the offer has been made to discuss findings etc with groups, including the NEET Improvement Groups

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	in these recommendations					
<b>M</b>	That the Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee write to the Secretary of State for Education and then Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills relating to those concerns identified in this report where a review of government policy at a national level may impact upon life choices for young people identified as NEET	The Scrutiny Committee, through the established working group, will draft a letter to the respective Secretary's of State. The letter will be afforded final approval at a formal meeting of the Committee. Any correspondence and subsequent actions will be communicated through the Committee and established working group	N Cummings	July 2011		The committee contacted the Sec. of State for Business, Innovation and Skills. No response was received. The Committee also contacted the Sec. of State for Education and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee visited the DoE in London to discuss key issues from the report.
<b>N</b>	That a working group be established by the Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee to receive regular information on the progress of the recommendations identified within this report	The CYPL Scrutiny Committee will provide the membership of this committee at its formal meeting in June 2011. Following this the Committee will meet on an ad-hoc basis to progress recommendations L and M as well as receiving progress reports on other aspects of the review. This will be in addition to the regular six-monthly progress report provided to the committee	N Cummings	April 2012		The Committee is no longer constituted through changes to the scrutiny function and this action is therefore no longer deliverable.