

16-19 YEAR OLD LAC COHORT NEET/EET REPORT

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE SERVICES

1. Purpose of the report

This report has been requested by members of the Corporate Parenting Board, following the Report of the Virtual Head Teacher, presented at the last meeting. It compares the LAC NEET cohort with the whole NEET cohort.

2. Background

The proportion of Sunderland Young People (YP) aged 16-19 (Years 12-15) Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET) has remained at a rate of between 6 and 8% for a number of years. At the end of February 2015 the total 16-19 cohort was 9843 with 708 identified as being NEET - a proportion of 7.2%.

3. Looked after Children (LAC)/Care Leavers

The tables below illustrate the status of LAC/Care leaver YP aged 16-19. As this information is presented in Academic Year splits it should be noted that the numbers in Year 15 diminish as the YP reaches the age of 20 and the LA responsibility in terms of tracking and supporting ceases.

Year Group	Overall cohort %age NEET	LAC/Care Leaver %age NEET							
Yr 12	3.5%	10.6%							
Yr13	6.4%	28.5%							
Yr14	12.4%	35.2%							
Yr15	14.6%	46.6%							
Total	7.2%	26.0%							

Year Group	FE	6th Form	Apprenticeship	WBL*	Traineeship	Total EET
Yr 12	25	3	2	11	1	42
Yr13	11	3	2	9	0	25
Yr14	11	3	5	3	0	22
Yr15	5	0	0	3	0	8
Total	52	9	9	26	1	97

Year group	Custody	Carer	Parent	Pregnant	Volunteer	NEET	Unknown	Total NEET
Yr12	1	0	1	0	1	2	0	5
Yr13	2	1	2	0	0	4	1	10
Yr14	0	0	0	1	1	8	2	12
Yr15	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	7
Total	3	1	3	1	2	18	6	34

* WBL = Work Based Learning (usually Foundation up to Level 2)

Points to note

- From a significantly higher starting point LAC/Care Leaver YP mirror the local (and national trend) of year on year increase in NEET proportions.
- In terms of destinations LAC YP are:
 - Less likely to move into Further Education (FE) (53%) than the mainstream cohort (63%).
 - Significantly less likely to move to 6th form (9%) than the mainstream cohort (23%)
 - More likely to begin an Apprenticeship (9%) than the mainstream cohort (6%)
 - Significantly more likely (27%) to move into a work based learning programme than the mainstream cohort (6%).
- As YP from this cohort are significantly more likely to become part of the NEET group they are given priority eligibility for support from Connexions staff and priority entry into provision provided under the 16-19 Youth Contract (delivered by Pertemps group in Sunderland) and the regional LA7 NEET project. It is worth noting that both of these projects come to an end in July 2015.
- The Virtual School is available to provide advice and guidance regarding possible education provision post 16, and has information about Bursaries for LAC/Care Leavers who remain in full time education.
- The Virtual School liaises closely with the Universities, and carers, to set up taster sessions for all interested LAC from Year 8 upwards, in order to raise aspirations.
- The Pupil's home school ensures that a pathway involving education, employment or training is agreed in the Pupil's final PEP (Year 11).

4. Recommendations

Corporate Parenting Board members are asked to note the contents of this report.