

LAA TARGET - ACTION PLAN

LAA Indicator No.	NI 117
Lead Partner Organisation	Connexions
Technical Data Expert	Terry Bigley
Indicator Owner (Sign Off)	Steve Stewart Connexions/ Peter Shearing LSC
Reporting Frequency	

SCS Theme:	Economy, Learning, Skills and Employment A prosperous Coventry with a good choice of jobs and business opportunities for all the city's residents	SCS Priority:	Local people will benefit from economic growth of the city – they will have been supported to develop the skills needed to access jobs, to progress to higher-skilled jobs and to increase their household income.
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1: LAA Target

Indicator Descriptions	Baseline & Year	Target 2008/09	Target 2009/10	Target 2010/11	Success Criteria
16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET) PSA 14	2006/07 8.7%	6.9%	6.0%	5.6%	Reduce the number of school leavers who are not in education, employment or training (NEETs). Increase the proportion of school leavers who complete a first year of further education, employment or training (EETs) and continue into a second year. Increase achievement of Level 2 qualifications and above.

LAA Target information

The LAA has stretch targets for this indicator. Despite a changing economy, the improved downward trend is expected to continue over the next 3 years but will require targeted activity to achieve the additional improvement that is required to achieve the LAA targets. The Coventry Children and

Young People's Partnership are undertaking some initial work in identifying additional activity that could be undertaken by partners to tackle this issue. There is potential for accelerating the progress, resulting from the development of the Integrated Youth Support Service.

2: Equalities and community cohesion implications

Summary of overall negative/ positive impacts on target groups/areas:

In terms of young people completing statutory education at 16 Coventry is among the best in the country in achieving positive destinations (95.3%). The main problem in achieving this is retention in education/training as the NEET figures increase at age 17 and 18. This is in spite of the fact that the Coventry and Warwickshire sub region has the highest retention/success rates in the country for E2E and apprenticeship training.

Around one third of young people in the NEET category are not immediately available to the labour/training market due to a variety of factors e.g. long term illness, in custody, pregnancy or teenage parents etc. Analysis undertaken with young people shows that jobs or employer based training is the main thing that would make a difference to those who are available.

The NEET group is composed of all young people not in education, training or employment. It is also a constantly changing group with some young people moving in and out of the group fairly quickly and others remaining in this position for long periods. Over 80% of the group have had some post 16 employment, education or training experience but for one reason or another this has not been sustained. At any one time between two thirds and three quarters of the group are available to the employment and training market, with the others in a variety of situations preventing engagement – e.g. long term illness, pregnancy, teenage parents, young carers etc.

Of the under 19 NEETs in Coventry 394 (43%) are female and 521 (57%) are male. Of the 394 females 116 are either pregnant or teenage mothers which represents 29% of female NEETs and 12.5% of the total NEET group.

Males are more likely to be NEET than females by a ratio of around 60:40 which is partly a reflection of females higher levels of educational achievement in recent years. It is also a reflection of changes in the labour market where low skill, manual and traditionally male jobs are less prevalent and indicates that some young males have not fully adjusted to these changes.

Of the females who are NEET around a quarter are pregnant or teenage parents which demonstrates the impact a reduction in teenage conceptions could have on the NEET rates in the city.

In terms of ethnicity the groups who are most over represented within the NEET group are white males and young people of mixed heritage. Whilst there are NEET young people in all areas of the city some Wards have higher concentrations than others. The five wards with the highest

number of NEETs are Henley, Binley and Willenhall, Foleshill, Upper Stoke and St Michaels.

The biggest negative factor affecting the achievement of NEET targets is the downward trend in the economy which is affecting the job market. On the positive side increased partnership working has led to LSC contracting with some new vocational provision specifically targeted at the NEET group. Whitefriars has made a significant contribution to this.

The most important actions which would positively impact on NEETs are:-

Improved retention of young people in education and training

Commitment from local employers – particularly large employers in the City – to provide apprenticeships and other vocational training opportunities for young people.

3: Strategic Summary

Description of key activity or activities that may contribute towards achieving target

Led by the LSC, Coventry has a NEET working action group which meets on a regular basis, with the ultimate aim of reducing the number of young people in the NEET group in the City. Partners involved are the LSC, Connexions, Colleges and WBL providers. Other organisations have been involved on an ad-hoc basis, such as Remploy and the Chamber of Commerce. We have contracted for E2E and ESF funded provision within the City, and the E2E budget now includes provision at Level 1. ESF – funded provision with organisations such as Whitefriars, the City Council.

What can we/are we doing:-

Connexions maintain regular contact with young people in the NEET group to encourage and support positive activity

Action Working Group looking at the ‘hot spots’ in the City

How we do encourage employers to offer work placements for these individuals?

Around a third of NEET young people are not currently available to labour market so work with them is for longer term benefit.

The impact on NEET rates will be achieved by targeted work with those available for and genuinely seeking employment and training.

Connexions has contracted with voluntary providers in the city to provide alternative activities for the NEET group. Connexions and Jobcentre are also improving exchange of information about clients which will help to benefit 18 year old NEETs in particular. Through the Integrated Youth Support Service there are now 2 new neighbourhood One Stop Shops in North west and North East of Coventry in addition to the existing City Centre One Stop Shop.

4: Delivery Plan – Performance Monitoring of Actions

Ref Nr	Planned Action(s)	Target/ Milestone	Link to Other Plans	Lead Officer	Progress <i>To be completed as part of quarterly monitoring.</i>
	Coventry Area NEET Action working group		See action plan		
	Connexions Multi- Contract		Connexions plan		
	Establish new One Stop Shops at Broad Street and Jardine Crescent	April 2008		Malcolm Emmerson/Dave Knaggs	New One Stop Shops established April 2008
	Establish trial of Home Study course for Teen Parents	November 2008		Malcolm Emmerson	
	NEET Provision in construction with Whitefriars	July 2008		Julie Venn- Morton	1 st 19 week course completed 16 attended with 14

Ref Nr	Planned Action(s)	Target/ Milestone	Link to Other Plans	Lead Officer	Progress <i>To be completed as part of quarterly monitoring.</i>
					successful completions
	Voluntary Sector NEET Provision Contracted with WAYC, YMCA and Groundwork	March 2009		Malcolm Emmerson	YMCA Scuba Diving course and WAYC First Gear course commenced Groundwork recruiting for November start.
	NEET Provision in TV/Media with CSWP	To commence November 2008		Linda Gilleard	
	Coventry City Council to provide apprenticeship places for NEET young people			Veronica Nisbett	

5. Performance Indicators

Indicators - Performance Monitoring of Indicators								
Ref Nr	Definition	Baseline	Target 08/09	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Target Met Yes/No
NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET) PSA 14	06/07 8.7%	6.9%	8.4%				
Other indicators that will be used to track progress, including disaggregated measures for target groups.								
	Number of Teen Parents who are EET		Target 2010 60%	49.2%				

Indicators - Performance Monitoring of Indicators								
	Number of Young Offenders in ETE		90%	68%				
	Number of Looked After Children in EET		Target 2010 80%	64%				
	Number of young people with Learning difficulty/disability in EET			81%				

6: Funding & Planned Spend

Funding & Planned Spend	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Total	Comment/Rationale
E2E (incl level 1)	£1,989,076	TBC	TBC		Year on Year budget – 1 st August to 31 st July
ESF					
Connexions Multi Contract	Circ£100,000				
Connexions Voluntary Sector Contracting	£40,000				
Connexions Funding	£3.6m				

7: Risk Assessment

Ref No.	Risk	Mitigating action
	Recession	
	Employers – lack of work placements/opportunities	
	Construction Sector Issues	LSC ensuring all apprentices are able to complete their

Ref No.	Risk	Mitigating action
		apprenticeship if made redundant.