

Connexions Northumberland

**Making a Difference in the Lives
of Young People**

2009 And Beyond

A Statistical Analysis



This page is intentionally blank

C o n t e n t s

		Page
Summary Of Issues For Partnership Consideration Arising From 2009 Statistical Analysis		5
Making A Difference In The Lives Of Young People 2009 And Beyond : A Statistical Analysis		13
1	Introduction	15
2	Year 11 Activity Survey 2009	19
	2.1 Engagement in Learning Following Completion of Year 11	
	2.2 Work Based Learning	
	2.3 Occupational Sectors	
	2.4 Annual Activity Survey of Young People with Learning Difficulties or Disabilities (LDD)	
	2.5 Gender Issues : Activity Survey Summary 2009	
3	Activities Of Young People Aged 16-18	27
	3.1 The Northumberland Partnership Cohort	
	3.2 Activities	
	3.3 Young People with Learning Difficulties or Disabilities (LDD)	
4	Young People Aged 16-18 Not In Education, Employment Or Training (NEET)	31
	4.1 Young People Aged 16-18 NEET on 30 November 2009	
	4.2 Joiners to NEET January to December 2009	
	4.3 Young People Leaving NEET	
5	Situation Unknown At 30 November 2009	39
6	Vulnerable Groups – Young People Aged 16-19	41
	6.1 Young People with Learning Difficulties or Disabilities (LDD)	
	6.2 Teenage Mothers	
	6.3 Young People in the Looked After Care System	
	6.4 Young People Supervised by the Youth Offending Service (YOS)	
	6.5 16-19 Year Olds from BME Groups	
7	Apprenticeships – Young People Aged 16-20	47
	7.1 Apprenticeship starts for Northumberland residents	
	7.2 Northumberland 16 to 18 residents	
	7.3 Sector Breakdown for 16 to 18 Northumberland residents	
8	Glossary	51
9	Report Evaluation Form	53
Supplementary Information To Support The Integrated Youth Support Services Locality Profiles		55

This page is intentionally blank

Summary Of Issues for Partnership Consideration

Arising From 2009 Statistical Analysis

This page is intentionally blank

SUMMARY OF ISSUES FOR PARTNERS TO CONSIDER WHICH ARISE FROM 2009 STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF DATA COLLECTED BY CONNEXIONS NORTHUMBERLAND

Set within the context of the Northumberland Whatever it Takes Strategy the Making a Difference in the Lives of Young People report contains a short statement of key points at the end of each section.

This summary attempts to distil those statements to highlight some critical issues and messages for partners to consider in order to impact further upon preventing young people aged 16-18 from becoming Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET) and on helping those young people who have become NEET to re-engage more quickly and successfully.

The achievement of 7.3% NEET for the county in 2009/2010 was significant but our goal is to better the outcome for all young people by narrowing the gap between the best and worst performing areas. The Making a Difference Supplementary Report provides some locality information that might assist planning in specific parts of the county.

1. NEET Reduction

1.1 Situation Unknown: Effective opportunity and support planning depends upon knowing the current status of all 16-18 year olds. Partners can contribute to ensuring that Connexions knowledge and contact with young people is as up to date as possible. Sharing information with the Connexions delivery team will contribute to the value of reports such as this as well as contributing to our deployment of resource to those young people who most need it.

We need to build further on existing joint working with Jobcentre Plus to find effective local/regional solutions.

1.2 NEET Available and Unavailable: To make a bigger difference in the lives of young people who are available to take up an opportunity and those who for a variety of reasons are not yet ready, partners need to:

- maintain the quality, quantity and diverse and flexible range of support to enable even greater focus on the hardest to help young people.
- identify and action ways to better address barriers to engagement post 16 through proactive multi-agency partnership work. Examples include work with Looked After young people to improve information sharing; earlier identification of learners in need of support resulting in better retention of students on full time college, school and training provider courses.
- find new and a greater number of ways to convert good learning to meet the DCSF 'In Learning' definitions eg Teenage Mums.
- focus on supporting those young people who are aged 17 years and over and those with special and additional needs.
- develop route ways of seamless support to better enable young people successfully completing health related treatments in their transitions to education, employment and training.

- consider providing an increasing range of **start dates for courses** especially with start dates in January and at Easter. This would help all groups of young people who are NEET.
- Improve joint sharing arrangements with Jobcentre Plus to enable improved prevention of unemployment and smooth transition where required to adult services.

1.3 Long Term NEET: Each year there is a small increase in the number of young people sliding into long term disengagement. There is a continued need for partners to explore ways to help prevent the duration of NEET from increasing at 17 and 18.

2. Prevention of NEET

2.1 Seamless Transition between opportunities:

- In 2009 although fewer Year 11 students became NEET immediately on leaving school, 4.1% compared with 4.8% in 2008, our goal must be to find ways to reduce this percentage to zero in every school. Strengthening partner contribution to meeting the Government's **September Guarantee** is essential if every young person is truly to have the offer of a suitable post 16 learning place.
- Providers of education, training and volunteering opportunities can make the greater reduction to NEET by supporting **seamless progression** for young people from one form of engagement or learning to another. This should be the case for both completers and young people wishing to move provision.

2.2 NEET Joiners: Although there has been an increase in the numbers of young people joining NEET from education fewer than in 2008 joined NEET at age 16. Personal Advisers working with partners has continued action to improve prevention activities and information sharing.

To achieve further progress:

- partners may wish to consider setting and monitoring agreed local targets to further reduce both first time entry to NEET and the duration of times a young person becomes NEET.
- all opportunity providers can make a difference to NEET by letting their local Connexions Centre know as early and as quickly as possible when a young person is struggling and at risk of leaving the establishment in line with the September Guarantee requirements.
- early action by partners to identify the trigger points that drive young people to become NEET followed by immediate and appropriate support and preparation of those young people for their next steps can have a significant impact.

3. Work based provision:

3.1 Employer engagement: is essential to ensure the creation and inclusion of more flexible opportunities to meet the needs of young people for whom this route way is a preference and to meet both regeneration and new Diploma requirements.

Co-ordination of support for employers will help maximise their engagement in support to young people pre and post 16.

3.2 Employers: can make a difference to NEET by letting their local Connexions Centre know as early and as quickly as possible when they have an opportunity and when they decide to let go a 16-18 year old.

3.3 Apprenticeships – Young People Aged 16-20: There has been limited research to identify from what learning/activity and at what age a young person progressed into an employed apprenticeship. Advertised apprenticeships seem few in Northumberland so indirect progression via conversion from Programme Led Apprenticeships or other forms of work based learning may be a primary route way.

- Further research will assist improved information advice and guidance for young people.
- Building the new partnership, information exchange and employer contact arrangements with National Apprenticeship Service will contribute to improved opportunities for Northumberland young people.

3.4 Employment without training: Jobs without Government endorsed training provide significant opportunities for young people in Northumberland.

There is a continued need to build links with employers and employer engagement to provide appropriate progression routes for these young people with recognised training and qualifications.

What action can we identify to:

- incorporate opportunities for accredited learning in employment opportunities?
- convert short term employment opportunities into sustainable employment?
- enhance partnership links/liaison with employers to promote a learning culture?
- Convert 'locally recognised' training eg national retailers to match the Government definition of learning?

3.5 Occupational Sector analysis: Further research is required in order to gain a complete understanding of the occupational sectors entered by 16-18 year olds. A full analysis could include vocational courses as well as information from Work Based Learning (WBL) entry and would aid the provision of LMI

4. Support for young people with special or additional needs

4.1 Young People with Learning Difficulties or Disabilities (LDD): Our aim is to increase the engagement in learning for young people with learning difficulties or disabilities to the levels achieved by mainstream students. Opportunities to further this aim will be provided via developments within the 14 to 19 Curriculum Developments, The Foundation Learning Tier and Flexible Transport Pilots plus the potential LDD Virtual College Developments linked to the Tynedale Virtual College and changes in commissioning arrangements with the transfer of responsibility from the LSC to the Local Authority.

- A co-ordinated approach that secures breadth and diversity of provision will be essential especially the further development of appropriate post 16 work based opportunities that

enable young people to aspire to the achievement of NVQ Level 1 in timescales matched to their abilities.

- A co-ordinated multi-agency approach to assessment (particularly statutory Learning Difficulty Assessments - formerly Section 139a Assessments) will be essential to identify the needs of these young people and commission the provision required to meet those needs.

4.2 Teenage Mums: To narrow the gap between outcomes for these young people and their peers further exploration and action is needed to enable:

- greater provision of appropriate post 16 opportunities for Teenage Mums.
- support to young people to raise their aspirations.
- action to convert current learning through health initiatives to meet DCSF 'In Learning' specifications.
- greater information sharing with Health Visitors, Midwives and partner agencies about the needs of teenage mums.

4.3 Young People in the Looked After Care System: To narrow the gap between outcomes for these young people and their peers partners need to take action to:

- raise their own levels of expectation and aspiration for young people who are Looked After.
- support young people to raise their aspirations.
- extend the time available on E2E to these young people to enable sufficient qualifications achievement to move on to the next learning opportunity.

4.4 Young People Supervised by the Youth Offending Service (YOS): To better understand the differences in the definitions of EET and ETE applied by the Government for YOS and Connexions.

- Build on information sharing and joint project work between the two organisations.

5 Equality and Diversity

5.1 Equitable engagement of young people from black, minority and ethnic (BME) groups: The percentage of young people whose ethnicity is not known has greatly reduced since 2008 but it still needs improvement. Work to improve information exchange with partners in education is ongoing but continues to require ongoing and urgent attention.

Low numbers of young people identifying as BME can result in the group percentage varying greatly from month to month based on one or two individuals. One young person can equal a large percentage of the cohort.

The total NEET and Unknown figures for the BME groups represent 6 or 7 young people in total.

5.2 Gender Issues: The gap between the numbers of girls and boys who are NEET has been reducing for some time and for 2009 there are now similar numbers of girls than boys who are NEET. A greater number of appropriate work based opportunities for those aged 18 are still needed for both genders especially those who are Teenage Parents.

5.3 Learning for boys: A primary challenge for partners is to improve the scope and range of learning opportunities to enable boys to achieve at least to those levels reached by girls, particularly in some key hot spots. Of critical importance is the need to match the learning offer to their needs and culture.

For further information please contact:

Sally Weir

Head of Service

Tel: 01670 798180

Email: sally.weir@connexions-northumberland.org.uk

This page is intentionally blank

Making A Difference In The Lives Of Young People 2009 And Beyond

A Statistical Analysis

This page is intentionally blank

1 INTRODUCTION

This 'Making a Difference' Report focuses on identifying what 12 months of data can tell us about:

- our progress in making a difference in the lives of young people.
- issues that we may need to address together to achieve further improvements.

Connexions Northumberland and partners within Integrated Services for Young People are charged with ensuring the successful transition to adult life of young people aged 16-19. Progress towards helping all young people to engage in onward Education, Employment and Training (EET) is underpinned by some key indicators and measured targets to improve the engagement of all young people aged 16-18 in the county.

The specific indicators and targets[§] for Northumberland are:

- to increase the percentage of young people aged 16-18 who engage in EET. The position at January 2010 was 88.3%, 0.9% lower than the previous year.
- to increase the percentage of young people aged 16-18 who are engaged in learning that includes progress towards a nationally recognised qualification through both education and work based learning routes. The position at January 2010 was 80.2%, (77.3% in 2009).
- to decrease the percentage of young people aged 16-18 Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET*). Our November 2009 to January 2010 target was (5.9%). This was not met and the average of 7.3% compares with 6.3% over the same period in 2008/09.
- to reduce the percentage of young people aged 16-18 whose activity status was Unknown to Connexions and its partners. The % unknown in January 2010 was 3.1%, the same as the previous year.
- by the end of September each year to ensure that all young people aged 16 and those aged 17 years leaving full time education had the offer of a suitable place in post-16 learning. This target is known as the September Guarantee. In 2009 97.5% of 16 year olds and 89% of 17 year olds had a recorded offer of a suitable place in post 16 learning.
- by January 2011 the aim is to achieve 90% in learning participation rate for young people aged 17 years. The baseline position for 2006 was 75% and the achievement for 2009 was 87%.

The following table sets the January 2010 outcomes for Northumberland within the National and Regional context.

[§] Adjusted NEET: The Government's presentation of the Connexions NEET target is based on a formula. This is provided in the Glossary.

16-18 year olds - % NEET, Not Known and In Learning

November 2009-January 2010 Average

	% NEET *	% Not Known	% In Learning
England	6.4%	4.0%	82.5%
North East Region	9.0%	4.2%	81.5%
Northumberland	7.3%	3.1%	80.2%
County Durham	9.9%	4.1%	79.4%
Gateshead	8.8%	5.0%	82.7%
Newcastle	7.8%	6.5%	85.3%
North Tyneside	8.1%	4.8%	82.9%
South Tyneside	9.0%	6.1%	80.3%
Sunderland	9.5%	4.3%	80.0%
Darlington	7.1%	2.4%	83.4%
Hartlepool	7.4%	2.8%	84.4%
Middlesbrough	9.6%	2.5%	83.0%
Redcar & Cleveland	11.8%	3.8%	79.3%
Stockton on Tees	11.1%	2.7%	78.2%

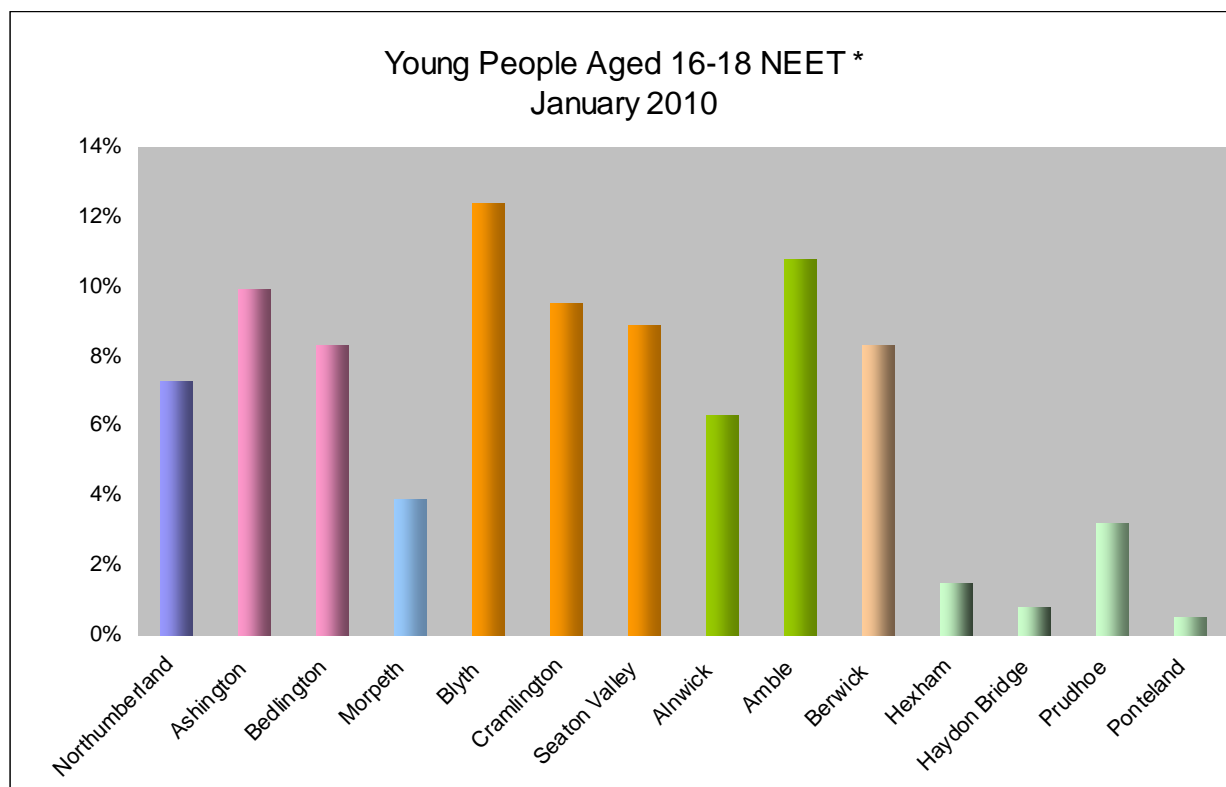
The figures above show Northumberland to have the second lowest NEET and fifth lowest not known positions in the North East Region. The slightly lower 'In Learning' may result from the number of Young People in Northumberland who enter employment without recognised training and the fact that Northumberland is a net exporter of young people to learning to out of county provision.

This table compares with Northumberland's Statistical Neighbours.

	% NEET	% Not Known	% In Learning
England	6.4%	4.0%	82.5%
Northumberland	7.3%	3.1%	80.2%
Calderdale	8.7%	4.2%	80.7%
Darlington	7.1%	2.4%	83.4%
Derbyshire	7.5%	3.8%	78.7%
Durham	9.9%	4.1%	79.4%
East Riding of Yorkshire	5.6%	8.3%	81.2%
North Tyneside	8.1%	4.8%	82.9%
Nottinghamshire	4.7%	4.3%	83.7%
Staffordshire	5.1%	3.7%	85.0%
Stockton-on-Tees	11.1%	2.7%	78.2%
Warrington	5.6%	1.7%	84.9%

Although the figures once again indicate that Northumberland holds a very positive position for NEET / Knot Known / In Learning, there may be lessons to be learnt about how to improve still further from those partners with less than 6.3% NEET.

Within the County context there are significant variations between Connexions Centres as the following table shows:



* **Adjusted NEET:** The Government's presentation of the Connexions NEET target is based on a formula. This is provided in the Glossary.

There are significant variations in the number of NEET young people in the different towns and Connexions centres across the County, all areas show a significant decrease from 2008/09 to 2009/10.

Issue for Partnership Consideration:

1. Partnership Goals and Targets: To maintain and improve upon the reduction in the percentage and numbers of young people who are NEET during the coming year every partner will need to aspire to achieving the NEET position in the lowest areas of the County of 1%. Each partner is asked to take action to prevent NEET and to support those young people who become NEET to progress to a positive outcome as quickly as possible.

The data analysis which follows is based on Connexions information gathered from the Year 11 Activity Survey 2009, activities of the 16-18 cohort and a 12 month analysis of joiners to and leavers from NEET by age and geography between January and December 2009. The following tables summarise key statistics, identify key groups of young people and highlight priority issues for partnership action.

Please note that NEET data used in the following sections of the report is defined as 'unadjusted'. This means that there is likely to be a difference between the percentages applied and described in this report and those published by Government. We have chosen to use the unadjusted data as this will assist in the future planning because the analysis is based on actual figures.

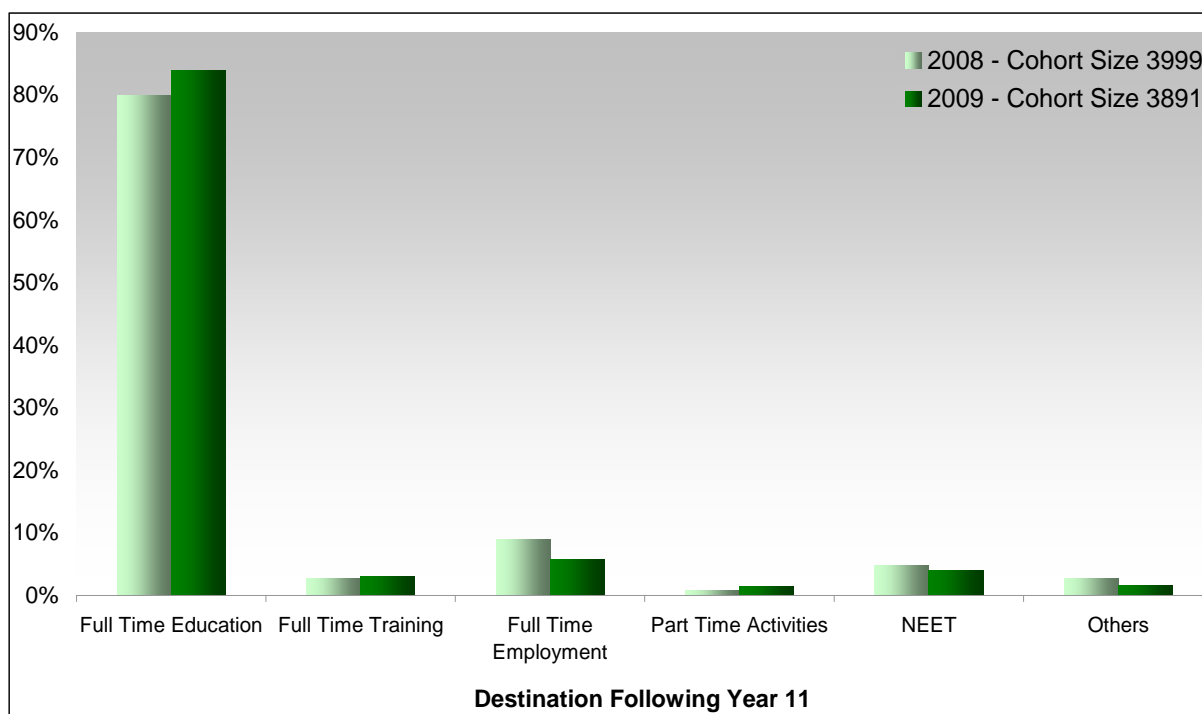
This page is intentionally blank

2 YEAR 11 ACTIVITY SURVEY 2009

The Year 11 cohort includes young people who are not resident in Northumberland. Connexions has a responsibility to follow up all Year 11 leavers and the non residents are included in each of the destination categories.

2.1 Engagement in Learning Following Completion of Year 11

This is a compilation of data that relates to young people who attended Year 11 at schools in Northumberland. Specific individual school data is available and separate reports provided to individual schools. Specific Work Based Learning (WBL) opportunity data is available.



'Others' includes Moved, Custody, Unknown

Significant features include:

- Nationally 86.5% of Year 11 leavers continued into full time education in 2009.
- Regionally 82.5% of Year 11 leavers continued into full time education in 2009.
- In Northumberland 84% of Year 11 leavers continued in full time education (79.9% in 2008), of whom:
 - 68.6% continued in the same school (71.9% in 2008)
 - 1.1% changed to another Northumberland school (1.9% in 2008)
 - 13.3% joined a Northumberland College (12.6% in 2008)
 - 16.7% moved to out of county schools or colleges (13.6% in 2008)
 - The percentage of girls entering Full Time Education after Year 11 (87.6%) was considerably higher than the percentage for boys at (80.5%). See 3.5 Gender issues.
- 8.8% of Northumberland Year 11 leavers entered a work based learning opportunity (11.8% in 2008).

- This compares to 7.2% of Year 11 leavers at National level and 9.9% of Year 11 leavers at Regional level who entered a work based learning opportunity in 2009.
- The percentage of boys entering full time employment (8%) was considerably higher than the percentage of girls (3.3%) – See 3.5 gender issues.
- Apprenticeship take up represents 40.8% of those choosing a full time work based learning route after Year 11 (39.1% in 2008).
- 4.1% of the cohort became NEET (4.8% in 2008), a reduction of 0.7% points.

Issue for Partnership Consideration

2. Student Services Department in school: The number of young people that continue in learning at the same school after Year 11 remains strong, although the county position masks significant local differences between 53% and 83%, slightly less than the 2008 figures of between 53% and 85%.

In 2009 however fewer Year 11 students became NEET immediately on leaving school, 4.1% compared with 4.8% in 2008. Partners need to agree action and set targets to reduce this figure to zero in every school linked to the 14-19 curriculum developments and the government’s September guarantee. The September Guarantee involves the opportunity of a post 16 learning offer for all young people in Year 11.

2.2 Work Based Learning (WBL)**



** Work Based Learning: This is learning that usually means a young person spends the majority of each working day with an employer.

In 2009 a total of 343 school leavers entered a full time training or employment opportunity. Of those 40.8% engaged in an apprenticeship; this compares with 39.1% in 2008 and 42.1% in 2007. Reasons for this are many and varied and may include differences in:

- the availability of local labour market opportunities for young people aged 16 and effects of the current economic climate.
- the work readiness of young people.
- funding support for employers for 16 and 17 year olds by comparison with that available to support adults.
- academic ability of young people choosing a work based route at 16 or 17.
- a wage versus EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance) or Benefit as income for young people.

The current economic climate has resulted in a decrease in the number of opportunities for young people to gain employment with only locally recognised training. Much of the locally recognised training in Northumberland relates to training provided by the Retail Sector. Whilst this is excellent training young people undertaking this pathway are not considered by DCSF to be 'in learning'. The definition of 'in learning' is provided in the Glossary.

The positioning of WBL within the overall learning offer may need to be strengthened to match both the desires and needs of young people and employers to ensure that more young people engage successfully.

Proposals from the Local Authority to develop an Apprenticeship Programme across a range of occupational areas with a focus on certain vulnerable groups will be a major contribution to ensuring a new stock of apprenticeship places in the county. However the impact for young people aged 16 may be limited as apprenticeships are available to young people aged up to 24 years old making entry very competitive.

Issue for Partnership Consideration

3. Work based provision: Employer engagement is essential to ensure the creation and inclusion of more flexible opportunities to meet the needs of young people for whom this route way is a preference and to meet regeneration requirements.

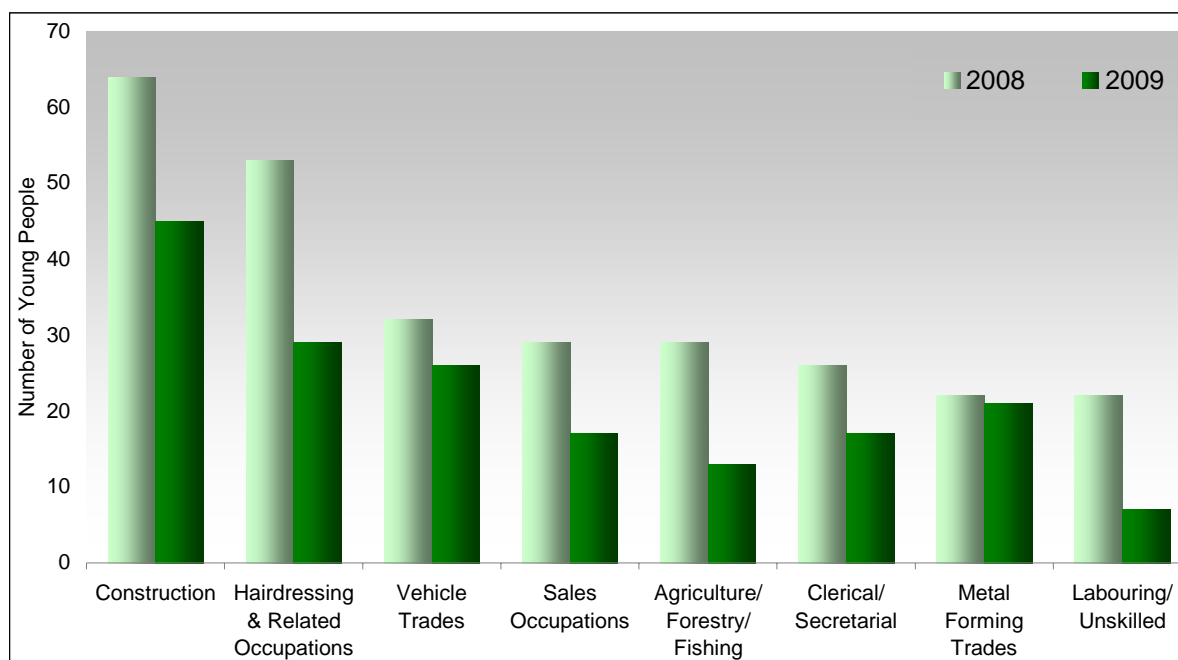
Learning Providers and those funding learning need to continue to seek ways to improve the offer and uptake of learning to the equivalent of NVQ Level 2 via work based routes.

Connexions Northumberland is working closely with the North East Region Vacancy Matching Support Team and their co-ordinators to build up effective working relationships to support young people to access the Apprenticeship Vacancy Matching Service.

2.3 Occupational Sectors

The occupational sectors entered by 16 year olds are not always possible to identify because the focus of some work based opportunities are not occupationally specific eg Entry to Employment (E2E). An analysis of full time Work Related Learning^{††} (WRL) courses taken up by young people is not available.

The chart below therefore sets out only the work based occupational sectors entered by Year 11 leavers in the greatest numbers.



The drop in the percentage of young people entering the construction sectors is a likely consequence on the current wider economic effects on those sectors.

Underlying figures demonstrate an increase in young people entering employment with training to NVQ Level 2 or above qualifications from 5.3% in 2008 to 9.9% in 2009.

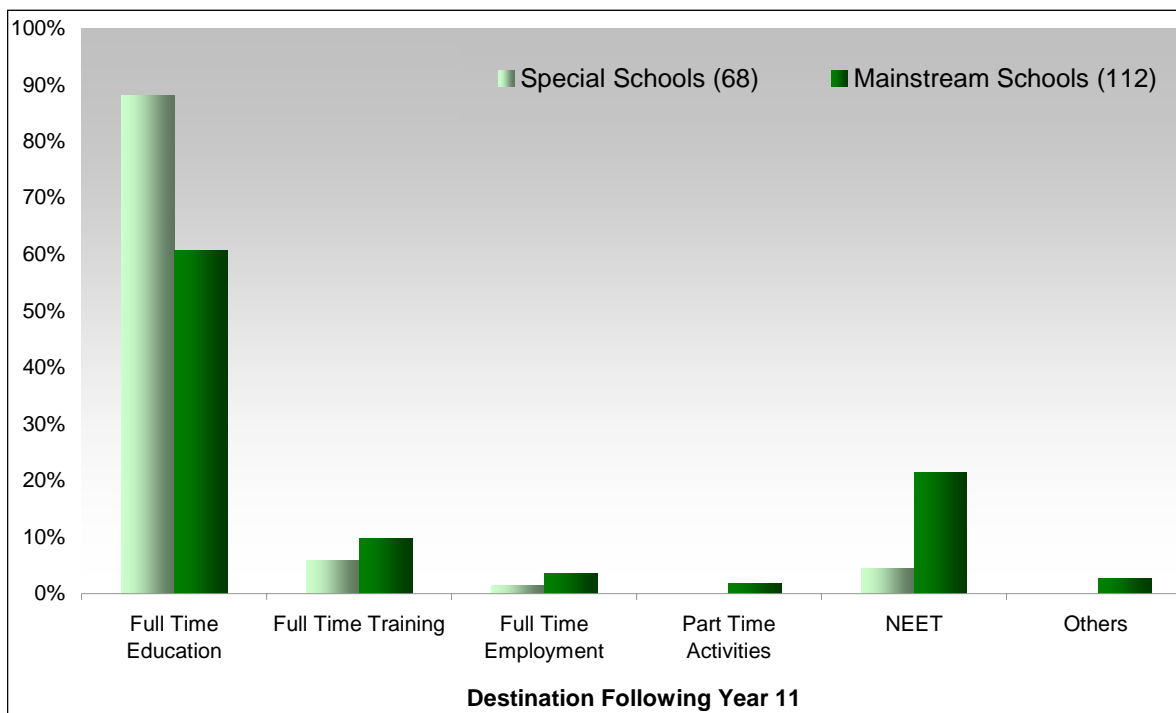
There is a decrease in the numbers entering employment with locally recognised training from 20% to 8.5%.

Issue for Partnership Consideration

4. Occupational Sector analysis: Further research is required in order to gain a complete understanding of the occupational sectors entered by 16–18 year olds in the light of present and future skills gaps in the local economy. A full analysis would include vocational courses as well as information from Work Based Learning (WBL) entry.

^{††} Work Related Learning means that a young person spends the majority of each week in an educational establishment undertaking one day a week with an employer.

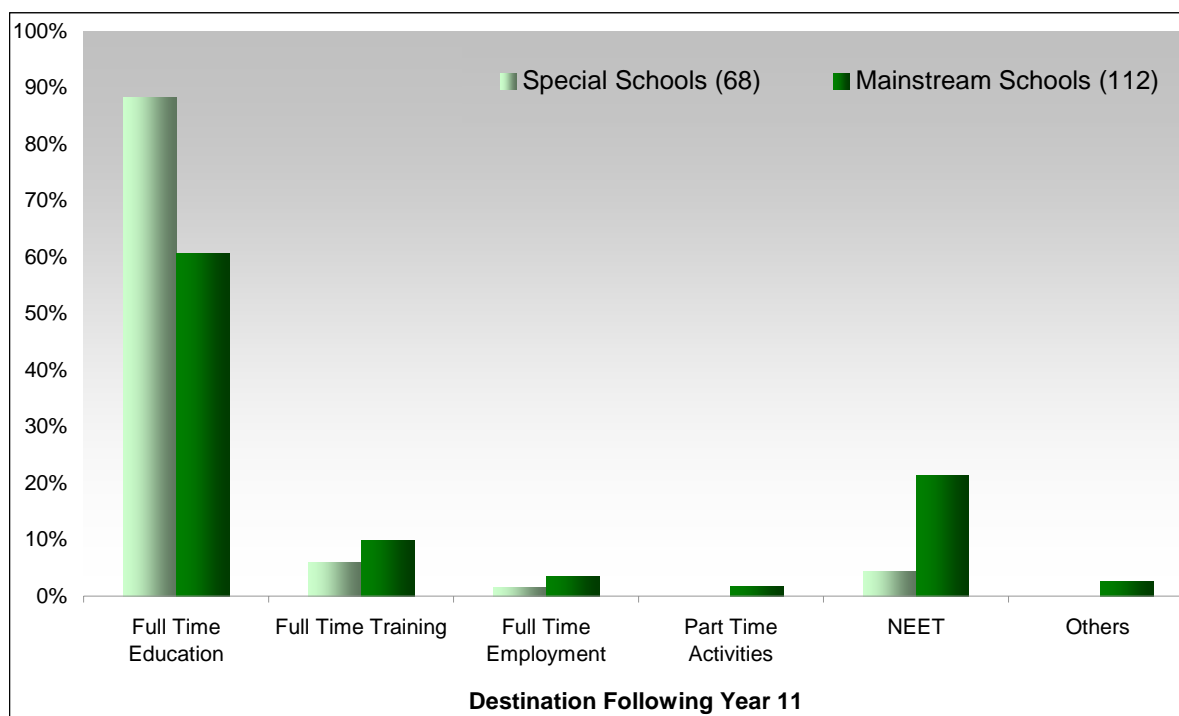
2.4 Annual Activity Survey of Young People with Learning Difficulties or Disabilities (LDD)



The Year 11 population in 2009 was 3891. 180 young people have a learning difficulty or disability. These are young people who have a disability under national and Northumberland Transition Protocol definitions. Young people within the scope of this statistic are those with a Statement of Educational Need (SEN) and other young people identified by schools under the national definition and Northumberland Transition Protocol definitions criteria.

Significant features include:

- 71.1% of young people who have LDD continue in full time education beyond Year 11. This compares with 84.6% of mainstream students (without a disability).
- 11.1% of young people with LDD followed a work based learning route after Year 11. This compares with 8.7% of mainstream students.
- 8.3% of young people who have LDD enter full time training compared to only 2.9% of those from mainstream education.
- 2.8% of young people with LDD entered full time employment compared with 5.8% of mainstream students.
- The percentage of young people with LDD becoming NEET after Year 11 has increased from 9.9% in 2008 to 13.3%. This is considerably higher than that of the Year 11 cohort as a whole at 4.1% (and 3.7% for mainstream students without a disability).
- Of the 180 young people with LDD, 68 attended special schools and 112 attended mainstream schools. The following chart shows the destinations of both groups.



Significant Features include:

- Only 60.7% of young people with LDD leaving mainstream education continue in full time education compared with 88.2% for young people from special school and 84.6% for mainstream students.
- 7.4% of young people from special schools entered full time employment or training compared to 13.4% in both categories for young people with LDD from mainstream schools.
- Fewer young people leaving special schools become NEET 4.4% compared to 21.4% of LDD students from mainstream schools and 3.7% of young people without a disability.

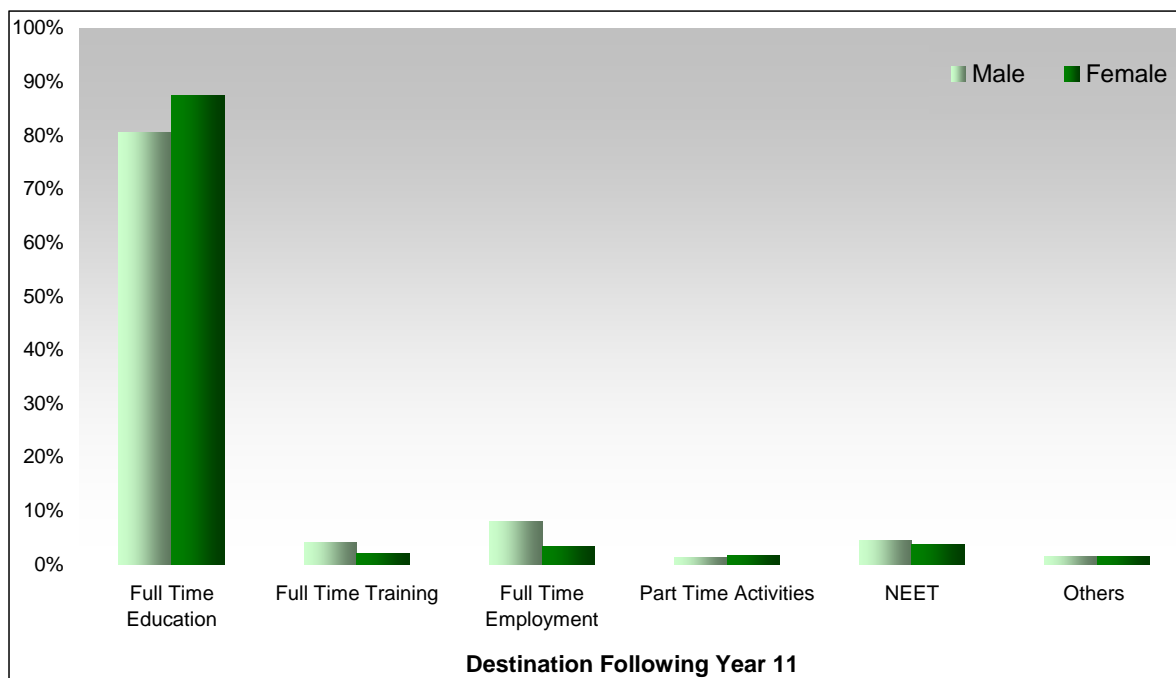
Issue for Partnership Consideration

5. Equitable engagement in opportunities for young people with learning difficulties or disabilities: There has been a 3.4% increase in the number of young people who have LDD who are NEET, since 2009. In the same period the number of mainstream NEET young people has shown a slight fall of 0.4%.

Our partnership target must be to increase the engagement in learning for young people with learning difficulties or disabilities to the level achieved by mainstream students. Development of appropriate institution based and work based opportunities are required.

Opportunities to further this aim will be provided via developments within the 14-19 Curriculum Developments, The Foundation Learning Tier and Flexible Transport Pilots plus the potential LDD Virtual College Developments linked to the Tynedale Virtual College and changes in commissioning arrangements with the transfer of responsibility from the LSC to the Local Authority.

2.5 Gender Issues: Activity Survey Summary 2009



- 80.5% of Year 11 boys (74.8% in 2008) continued in full time education compared with 87.6% of girls (85.4% in 2008). This demonstrates 5.7% increase in boys which is significant but girls remain 7.1% higher than boys. The take up of a work based route continues to show a higher percentage of male entrants.
- The percentage of boys who became NEET on leaving Year 11 dropped from 5% in 2008 to 4.5% in 2009. Girls reduced from 4.6% to 3.8%.
- Ashington, Blyth Valley, and Berwick and Amble indicate lower uptake by boys of full time education after Year 11 than the county average of 80.5%. There is a correspondingly higher entry to employment by boys following Year 11.
- The joiners to NEET for boys from Year 11 are highest in Bedlington at 9.8%. Below the county average of 4.1% are Tynedale, Morpeth, Alnwick, Amble, Ashington and Cramlington.

Issue for Partnership Consideration

6. Learning for boys: There has been a significant improvement in the number of boys remaining in Education post Year 11. However they remain less likely to do so than girls.

A primary challenge for partners is to improve the scope and range of learning opportunities to enable boys to achieve at least to those levels reached by girls. Of critical importance is the need to match the learning offer to their needs and culture.

This page is intentionally blank

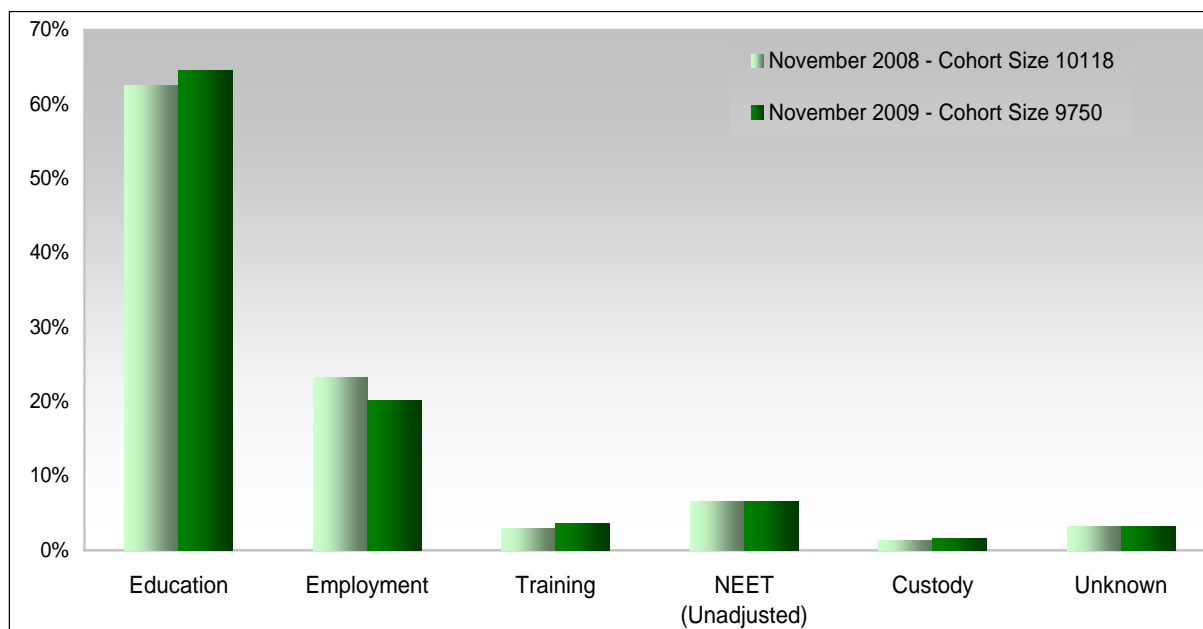
3 ACTIVITIES OF YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 16-18

3.1 The Northumberland Partnership Cohort comprises:

- All young people attending schools and colleges in Northumberland (including non residents).
- Northumberland residents in higher education.
- Young people who have left education and are resident in Northumberland.
- All young people in HMP YOI Castington.

The cohort does not include Northumberland residents in further education at out of county establishments or those in custody out of county.

3.2 The following chart shows the activity of young people aged 16-18 based on Connexions data at 30 November 2008 and 2009.



Significant Features include:

In November 2009, 64.6% of the 16-18 cohort were in education, an increase of 2% on the previous year. Of these:

- 66% were in a school sixth form.
- 21% were participating in further education at a college in Northumberland.
- 12% were in higher education.
- 1% were taking a gap year.
- 20.2% of young people were in an employment opportunity, 39.8% of whom were in employment without training leading to NVQ Level 2 or above.
- 3.6% were in a training only opportunity, a slight increase on the 2008 position.

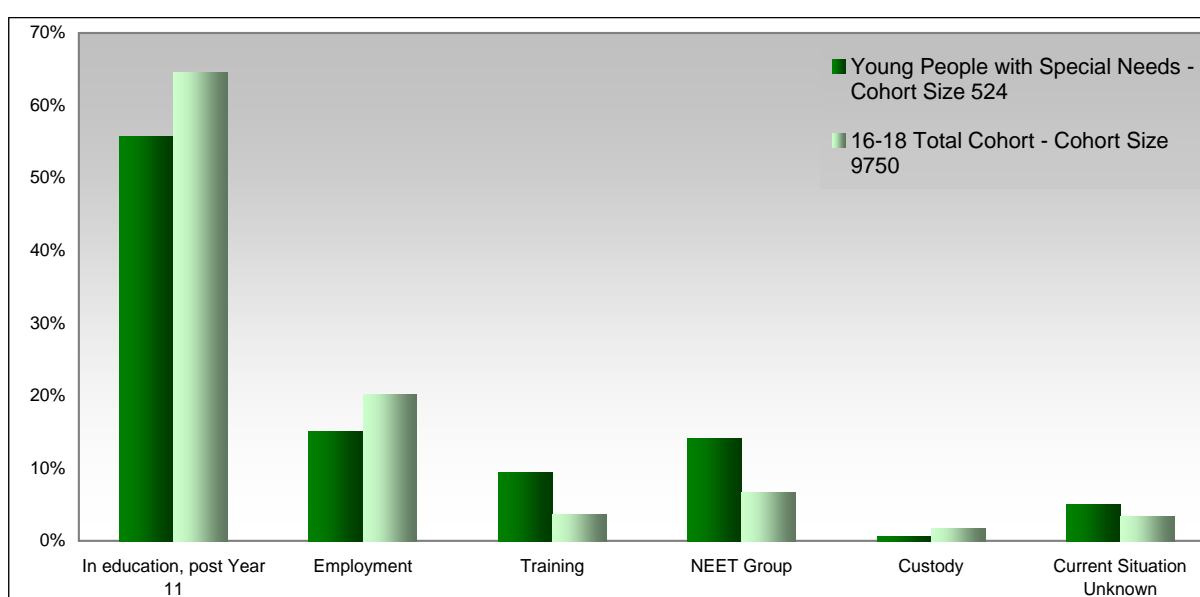
- The unadjusted NEET position was 649 young people (6.7%), a decrease on last year's number of 671 (6.6%). The increased % is accounted for by the reduced cohort size. Of these 649 young people:
 - 76.4% were available to take up an opportunity.
 - 23.6% were not available. (This group includes teenage parents, young people with long term illness, young carers.)
- The number of young people whose situation was unknown remained the same at 3.3%. The increase in the number of young people aged 16-18 in education has had a positive impact on the drop in the numbers of young people who are NEET.

The table below provides the activity status by age.

	November 2008			November 2009		
	Aged 16	Aged 17	Aged 18	Aged 16	Aged 17	Aged 18
Cohort Size	2722	3704	3692	2589	3481	3680
In education, post Year 11	78.0%	65.4%	48.5%	82.0%	68.8%	48.5%
Employment	10.8%	20.1%	35.5%	7.4%	17.0%	32.1%
Training	4.5%	3.5%	1.4%	4.5%	3.8%	2.7%
NEET Group	4.5%	6.6%	8.2%	4.1%	6.1%	9.0%
Custody	0.9%	1.6%	1.2%	1.0%	1.8%	2.0%
Current situation not known	1.2%	2.8%	5.2%	0.9%	2.5%	5.7%

3.3 Young People with Learning Difficulties or Disabilities (LDD)

The following chart compares the activities of the entire 16-18 cohort with those of young people with LDD.



- 55.7% of young people with LDD were in full or part time education compared with 64.6% for the full cohort.
- 15.1% of young people with LDD compared with 20.2% of the full cohort were in an employment opportunity, 46.8% of whom were in employment without training leading to NVQ Level 2 or above compared with 39.8% for all 16-18 year olds.
- More young people with LDD (9.5 %) were in a training opportunity.
- 14.1% of young people with LDD were not in education, employment or training compared with 14.5% of the LDD cohort in 2008 and 6.7% of the full cohort in 2009.
- Of those young people LDD NEET in 2009, 81% were available to take up an opportunity and 19% were not available.
- Whilst there has been a slight drop in the percentage of young people with LDD who were not in employment education and training, they are still an over represented group in this category. In addition a significant number of young people with LDD are in jobs without recognised training.

Issue for Partnership Consideration

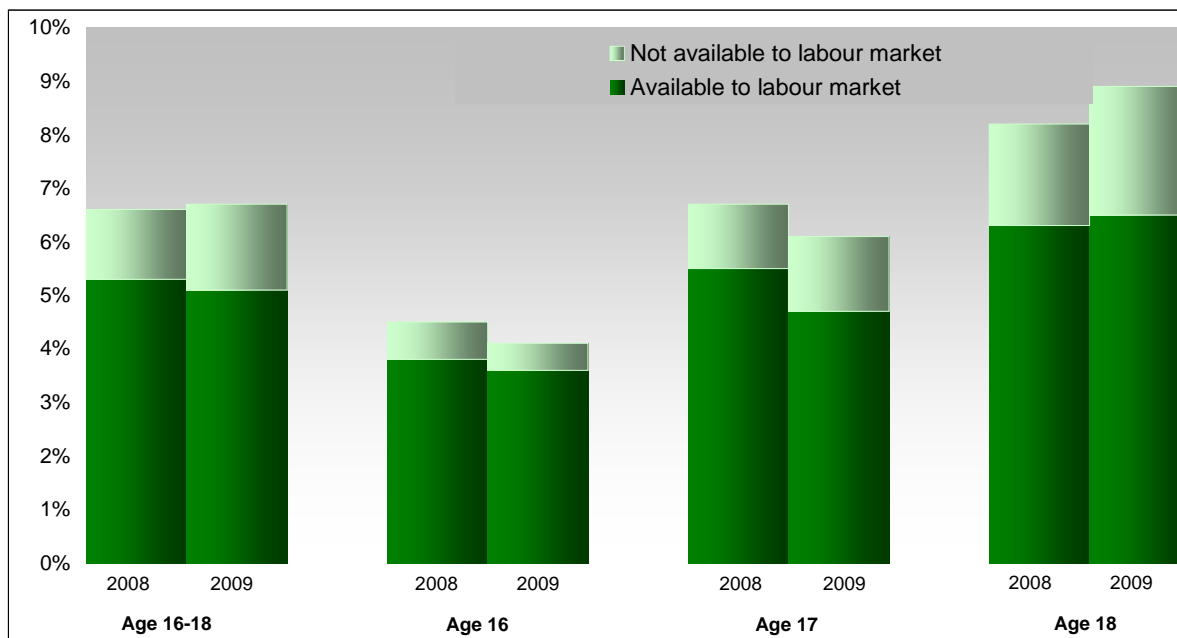
7. Work Based Learning Opportunities for Young People with LDD: More Young People with LDD have been accessing training opportunities. However, any more learning opportunities to support young people who aspire to achieve NVQ Level 1 through a work based route are needed. See Issues for Partnership Issue 5 Equitable Engagement for Young People with LDD.

This page is intentionally blank

4 YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 16-18 NOT IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING (NEET)

4.1 Young People Aged 16-18 NEET on 30 November 2009

On 30 November 2009 there were 9750 young people aged 16-18 in the Northumberland cohort, of whom 649 were recorded as NEET. The following charts are based on this unadjusted data.



Significant features include:

- Of the 16-18 year old cohort 6.7% were NEET, an increase of 0.1% in comparison with 2008.
- The number of 16 year olds who were NEET in November 2009 decreased by 0.4%.
- The percentage of 17 year olds fell by 0.5% but 18 year olds NEET rose by 0.8%.

The county position masks significant local differences as can be seen in the table on page 5.

Issues of information sharing with Adult Services including Midwives and Jobcentre Plus continue to impact on the NEET position for those aged 18.

4.1.1 Available and Not Available to the Labour Market

In November 2009 76% of 16-18 year olds NEET were 'Available' to the labour market and 24% 'Not Available'. The definition of young people who are 'Not Available' to the labour market can include:

- Teenage Parents who look after their children on a full time basis.
- Young people in the latter stages of pregnancy.
- Young people suffering illness including long term illness.
- Young carers.

The table below provides an age comparison with 2008 for all young people with a NEET status at 30 November 2009.

	16-18 Total		Age 16		Age 17		Age 18	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
Cohort Total	10118	9750	2722	2589	3704	3481	3692	3680
NEET Group	671 6.6%	649 6.7%	123 4.5%	107 4.1%	246 6.6%	212 6.1%	302 8.2%	330 9.0%
Available to labour market	537 80%	496 76%	104 85%	93 87%	202 82%	163 77%	231 76%	240 73%
Not available to labour market	134 20%	153 24%	19 15%	14 13%	44 18%	49 23%	71 24%	90 27%

Issue For Partnership Consideration

8. NEET Available and Unavailable:

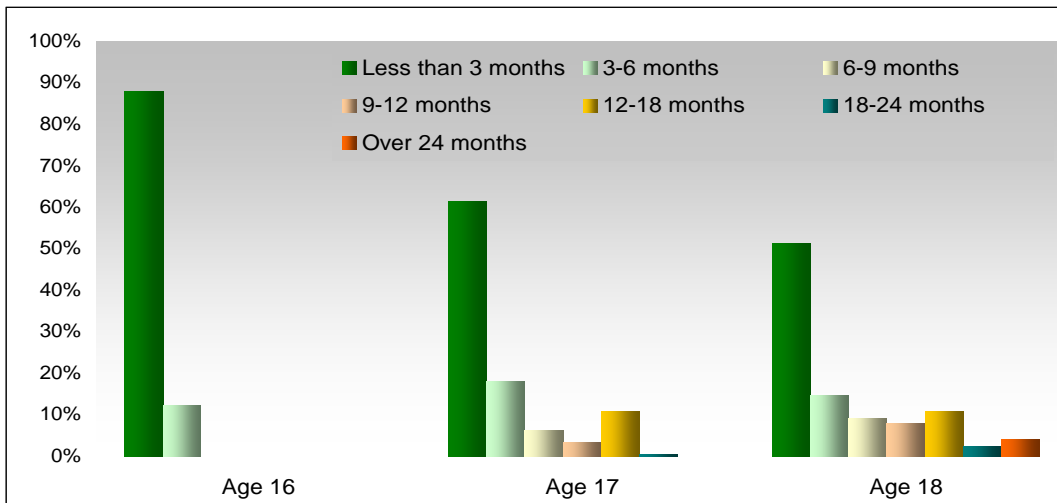
Sustaining a NEET number and percentage at 7.3% (less than the 8.3% for 2007/08) whilst not as low as the 6.3% achievement of 2008/09, has been a considerable achievement. The key factors for success have included greater flexibility in the range of offers open to young people in terms of programme composition and start dates, greater information sharing between partners and a greater awareness of the need to maintain young people in EET opportunities.

To make a bigger difference in the lives of these young people partners need to:

- maintain the quality, quantity and diverse and flexible range of support to enable even greater focus on the hardest to help young people.
- identify and action ways to better address barriers to engagement post 16 through proactive multi-agency partnership work. Examples include work with Looked After young people to improve information sharing; earlier identification of learners in need of support resulting in better retention of students on full time college, school and training provider courses.
- find new and more ways to convert good learning to meet the DCSF 'in learning' definitions which will particularly improve the Teenage Pregnancy NEET figures.
- focus on those young people who are aged 17 plus, those with special and additional needs.
- work with partners to ensure swift engagement of NEET young people and smooth transition between providers.
- develop new ways of joint working with Jobcentre Plus matched to the emerging Government provision for young people age 16-25.

4.1.2 Length of time NEET

The following chart shows the length of time young people were NEET.



Average length of NEET:

- 16 year olds – 8 weeks (9 weeks in 2008)
- 17 year olds – 17 weeks (16 weeks in 2008)
- 18 year olds – 24 weeks (25 weeks in 2008)

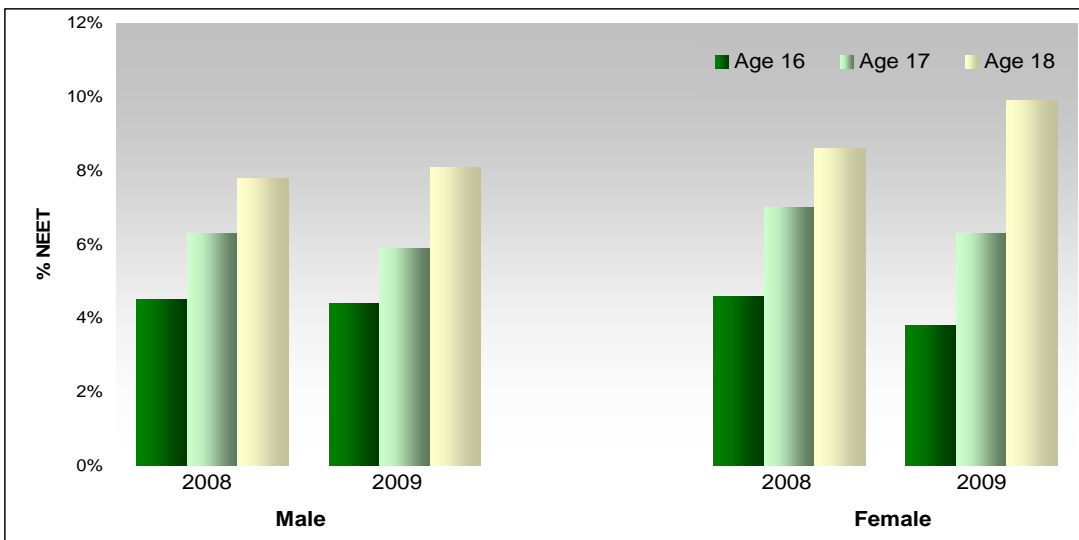
Issue for Partnership Consideration

9. Long Term NEET: Each year there is a small increase in the number of young people sliding into long term disengagement. There is a continued need for partners to explore ways to help prevent the duration of NEET from increasing particularly at 17 and 18 year old.

4.1.3 Gender Issues

Of the 649 young people NEET 50.5% are male and 49.5% female.

The following chart shows the % NEET of male and female within each age group.



- There was a reduction in the number of males who were NEET from 335 in 2008 to 328 in 2009. The greatest reduction was shown by the 17 year olds; the number of 18 year olds increased.
- The number of females NEET also decreased from 336 in 2008 to 321 in 2009. Again the greatest reduction was with the 17 year olds with an increase in 18 year olds.
- Of the 16-18 NEET group, 92% of males were available to the labour market and only 61% of females.
- Of the 126 females Not Available 55% were Teenage Parents, a decrease of 3% on 2008.

Issue for Partner Consideration

10. Gender Issues: The gap between the number of girls and boys who are NEET has been reducing for sometime and for 2009 there are now similar number of girls than boys who are NEET. However, over half of the NEET girls remain Not Available due to pregnancy.

A greater number of appropriate work based opportunities for those aged 18 are still needed for both genders especially those who are Teenage Parents.

4.2 Joiners to NEET January to December 2009

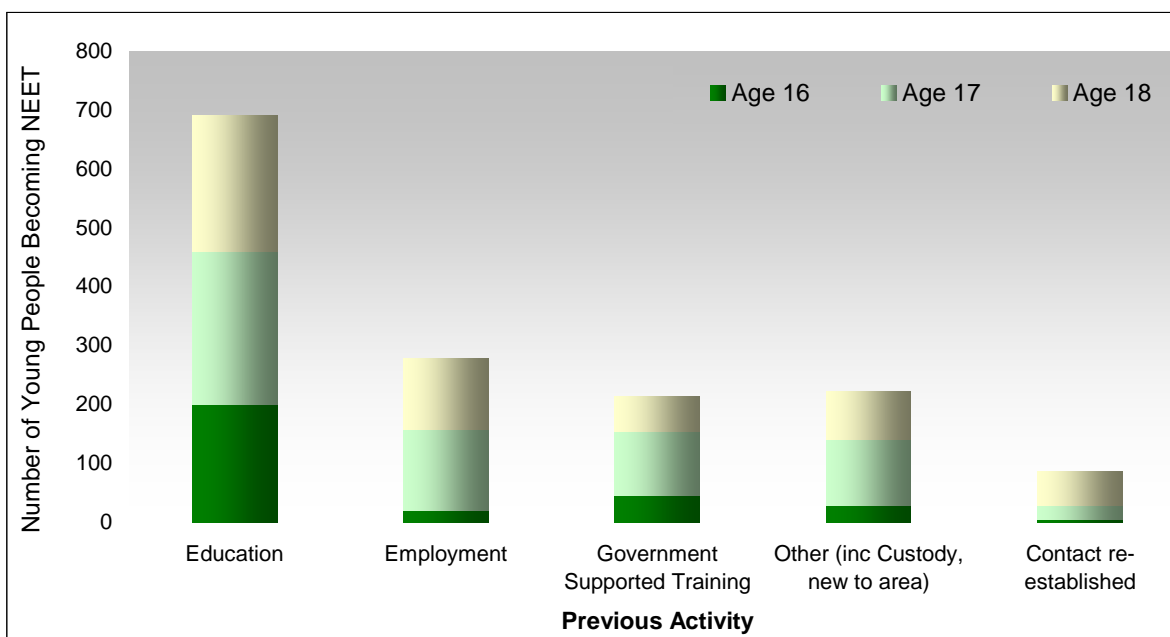
4.2.1 Each time a young person becomes NEET that young person is counted again.

The reported number of joiners to NEET in 2009 was 1,493. This represents 1,332 actual individuals. The following table highlights the level of repeat entry, 15 individuals were NEET on three separate occasions between January and December 2009.

Young People Aged 16-18 who became NEET between January and December

Number of Times Entered NEET	2008		2009	
1	1300	91.0%	1186	89.0%
2	122	8.5%	131	9.8%
3	7	0.5%	15	1.1%
Total	1429		1332	

4.2.2 This is an age analysis compiled from daily recording by Personal Advisers of young people who have become Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET).



Significant features include:

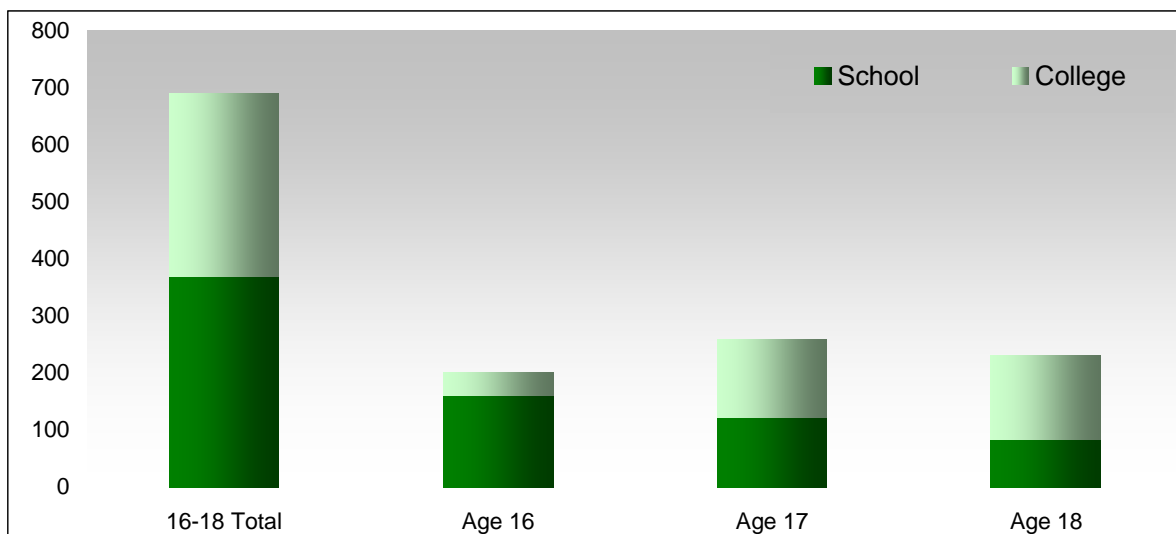
- 97 fewer young people became NEET in 2009.
- 48.9% of young people aged 16 and 17 who are beyond statutory leaving age become NEET through leaving education, an increase on the previous year's figure of 40.5%. This is shown in more detail in the chart 5.2.3.
- 5.8% of joiners were young people previously recorded as not known with whom Personal Advisers had re-established contact.

Issue for Partnership Consideration

11. NEET Joiners: There has been an increase in the number of young people joining NEET during 2009 particularly those joining from full time education courses. In 2008 greater partnership prevention working, information sharing, flexibility had resulted in a decrease. To regain ground:

- partners may wish to consider setting and monitoring agreed local targets to further reduce both first time entry to NEET and the number of times a young person becomes NEET. For example by supporting young people to continue in their current learning until the start date of their next opportunity.
- all opportunity providers can make a difference to NEET by letting their local Connexions Centre know as early and as quickly as possible when a young person is struggling and at risk of leaving the establishment in line with the September Guarantee requirements.

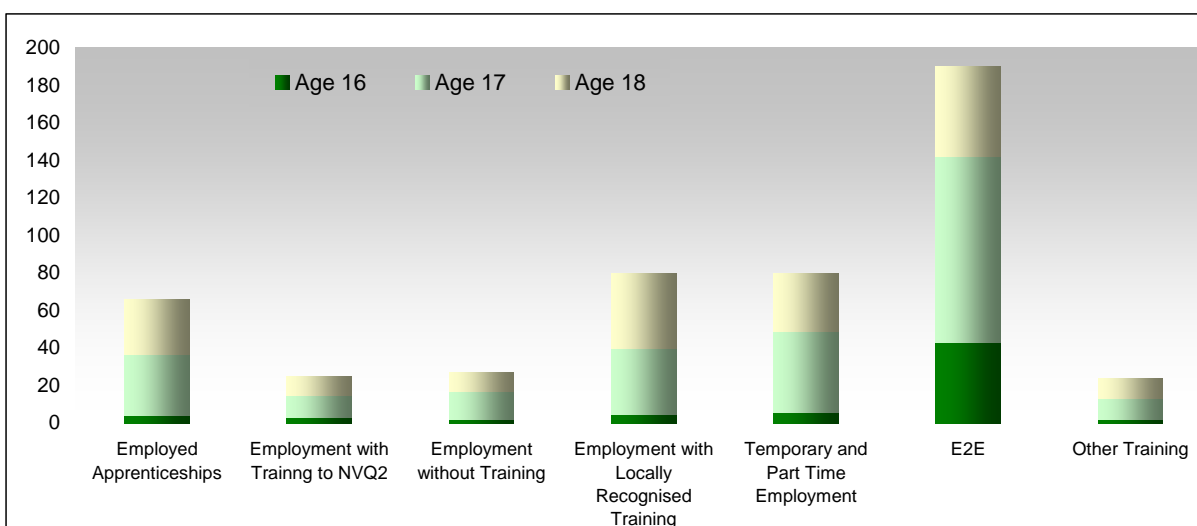
4.2.3 Joiners to NEET from Education (post statutory age)



Significant features include:

- 691 (46.3%) young people aged 16-18 became NEET after leaving education, an increase of 13.6% on the previous year. 53.5% joined from leaving school. The high number of 16 year olds becoming NEET from school (80.6%) is due to the Year 11 leavers registering with Connexions in the autumn.
- For young people 18 years plus the majority of joiners to NEET come from college, they are made up from both course completers and early leavers.

4.2.4 Joiners to NEET from Work Based Learning



Significant features include:

- In 2009 492 young people became NEET joining from work based learning, 50.4% of whom were 17 years olds, a decrease of 3.4%.

- Joiners from E2E (38.6%) represent a significant percentage of 16-18 year olds leaving WBL opportunities to become NEET. This is higher than in 2008 (34.2%). The majority are aged 17.

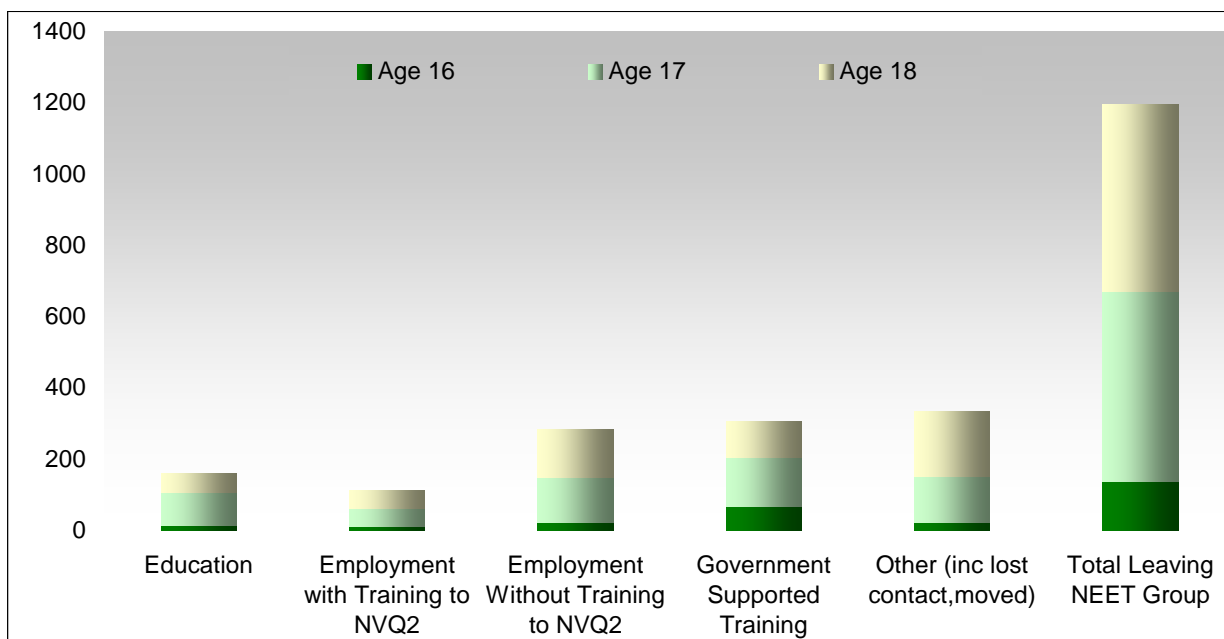
Issues for Partnership Consideration

12. Reducing NEET: Education and Training Providers can make the greatest reduction to NEET by supporting seamless progression for young people from one form of engagement or learning to another in line with the multi-agency “Whatever it Takes Strategy”. This requires review and early action to identify the trigger points that drive young people to become NEET and to ensure immediate and appropriate support and preparation of those young people for their next steps.

Employers can make a difference to NEET by letting their local Connexions Centre know as early and as quickly as possible when they have a new opportunity or when they decide to let a 16–18 year old go. This applies to all providers of opportunities.

4.3 Young People Leaving NEET

4.3.1 This chart shows the opportunities that young people have taken up on leaving NEET.

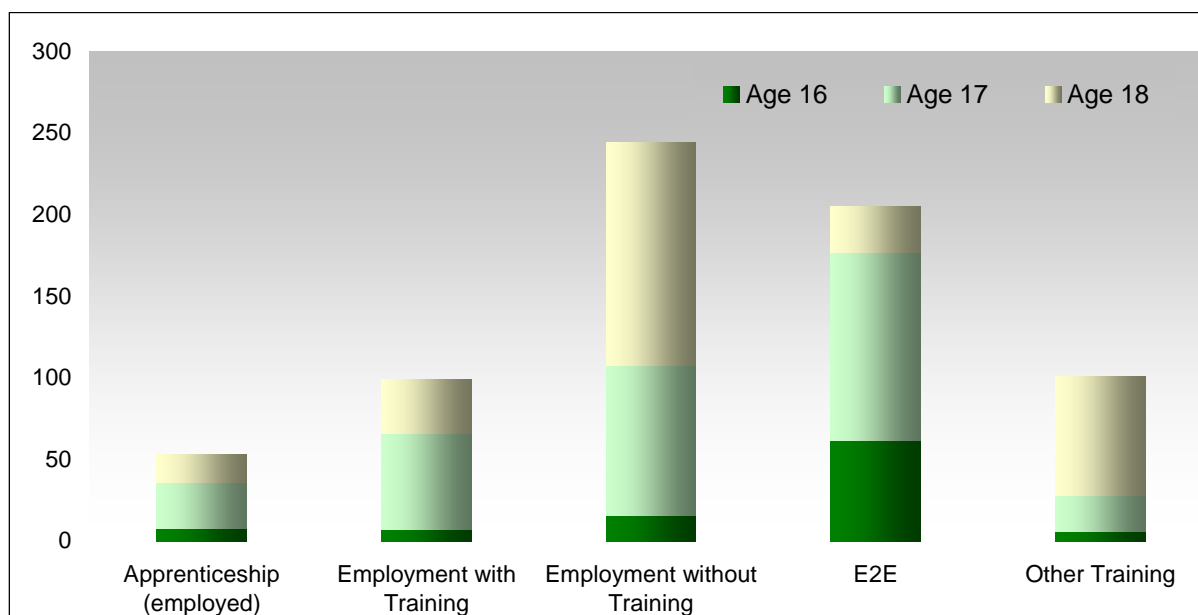


Significant features include:

- 39% of young people leaving NEET enter an education or training opportunity. This is an increase of 2%.
- 33% of young people enter employment, but this is mainly into employment without training to NVQ Level 2.

The chart below shows more detail of the WBL entry.

4.3.2 Young People Leaving NEET to start Work Based Learning



Significant features include:

- Of the 702 young people who left NEET to a work based learning opportunity 56.4% enter employment, mainly into employment without training.
- 58% of 16 and 17 year olds leaving NEET to WBL enter some form of training, including apprenticeships; 26% enter employment without training.
- E2E is heavily used by those aged 16 and 17 at 42.7%.
- Fewer young people enter Apprenticeships with employment than other WBL opportunities.

Issues for Partnership Consideration

13. Employment without training: For young people engagement in employment without training provides significant opportunity, although the number of these types of opportunity have decreased due to the economic climate.

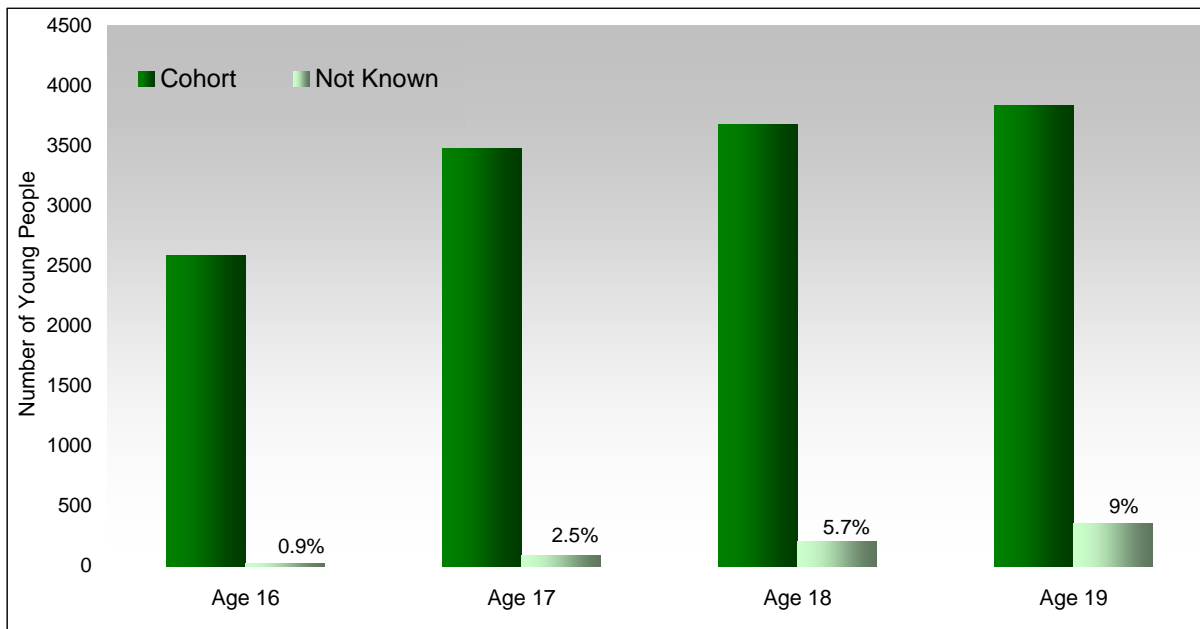
There is a continued need to build links with employers and employer engagement to provide appropriate progression routes for these young people with recognised training and qualifications.

What action can we identify to:

- incorporate opportunities for accredited learning in employment opportunities?
- convert short term employment opportunities into sustainable employment?
- enhance partnership links/ liaison with employers to promote a learning culture?
- establish partnership and information exchange arrangements with National Apprenticeship Vacancy Matching Service (NAVMS)?

5. SITUATION UNKNOWN AT 30 NOVEMBER 2009

The chart below provides an age analysis of young people with a recorded status of Unknown. For the 16-18 cohort our aim was to remain below of 5%. We achieved 3.3%.



Significant features include:

- The situation unknown for 18 and 19 year olds is significantly higher than that for 16 and 17 year olds. There is a need to continue to develop the national information sharing agreements especially between Connexions and Jobcentre Plus, to identify those 18 plus people who are either claiming benefit or who are positively engaged, and Connexions and with midwives to enable more accurate analysis of teenage pregnancy.

Issues for Partnership Consideration

14. Situation Unknown: Effective opportunity and support planning depends upon knowing the current status of all 16–18 year olds. Partners can contribute to ensuring that Connexions knowledge and contact with young people is as up to date as possible. Sharing information with the Connexions delivery team will contribute to the value of reports such as this as well as contributing to our deployment of resource to those young people who most need it.

We need to build further on existing joint working with Jobcentre Plus to find effective local/regional solutions.

This page is intentionally blank

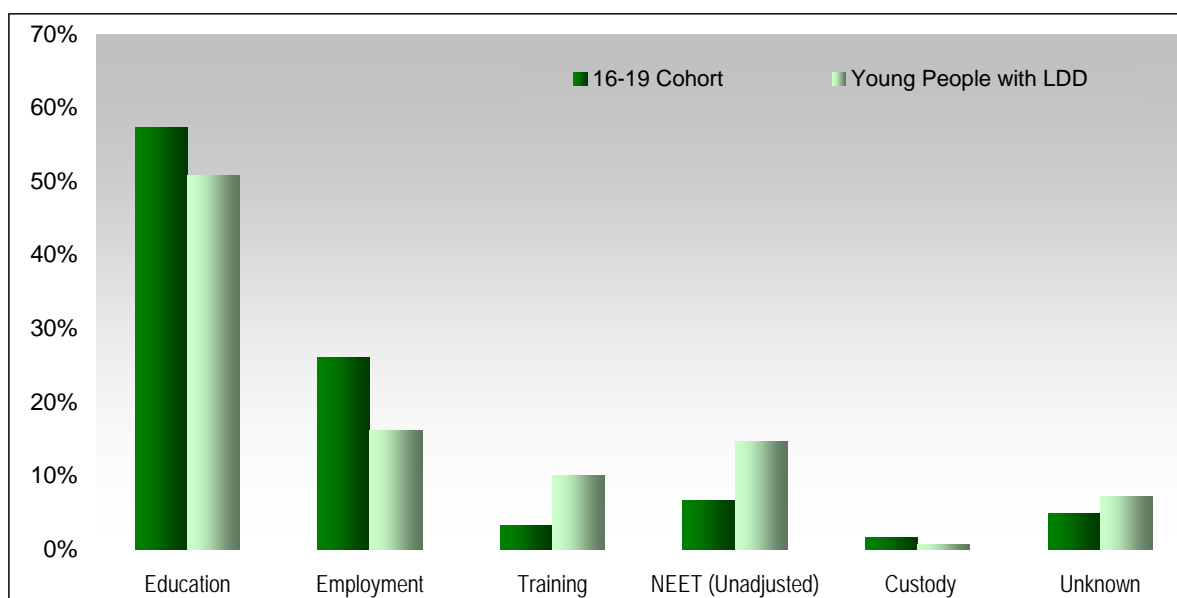
6. VULNERABLE GROUPS – YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 16-19

In addition to providing a universal service to all young people 16-19 years in Northumberland, Connexions Northumberland provides a targeted service to key groups of young people facing barriers to a successful transition to adult life.

The aim of ‘targeted support’ is to narrow the gap for these young people in terms of achieving successful outcomes when compared to the outcomes achieved for the cohort as a whole. The targeted support reflects national and local targets and priorities outlined in Northumberland County Council Children’s and Young People Plan including the Integrated Services for Young People and Targeted Youth Support Initiative.

6.1 Young People with Learning Difficulties or Disabilities (LDD)

In November 2009 there were 672 young people aged 16-19 with LDD, 4.9% of the 16-19 age group.



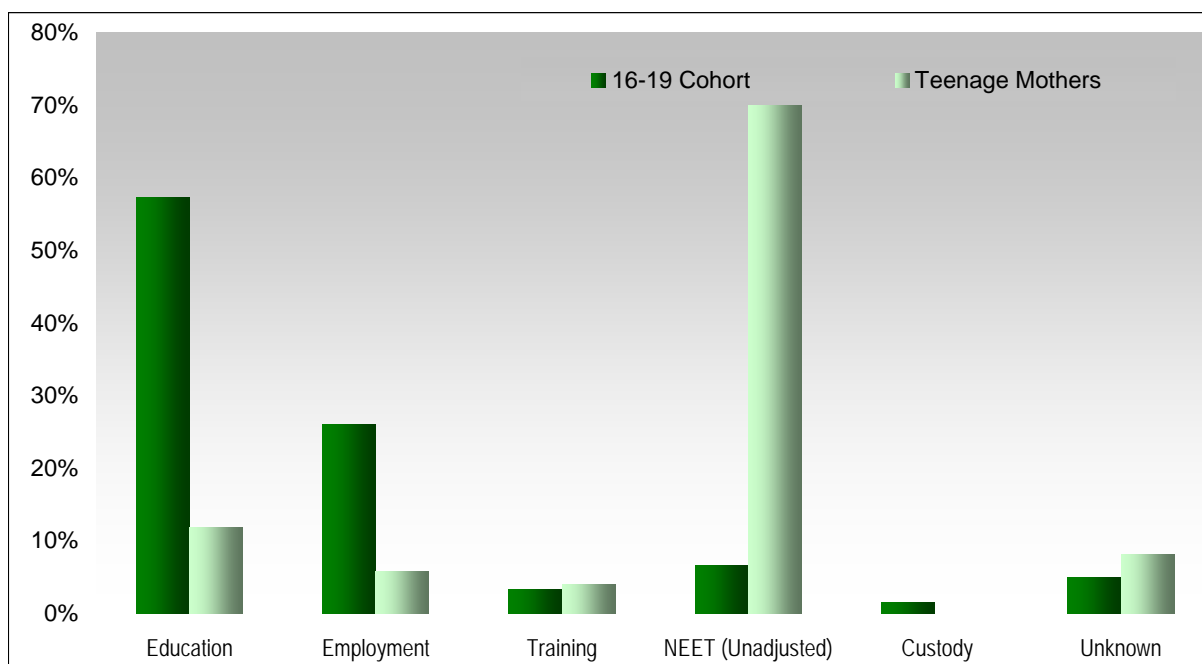
- 77.2% of young people with LDD were engaged in education, employment or training (EET). This is a decrease of 2.1% on the 2008 figure and compares with 86.8% of the whole 16-19 cohort.
- 14.7% of young people with LDD 16-19 years were recorded as NEET compared to 6.6% of the whole cohort. For young people with LDD the NEET figure is 0.4% lower than in 2008.
- More young people with LDD than the 16-19 cohort as a whole were engaged in a training opportunity (10.1%). This is an increase of 0.8% on the 2008 figures.
- Less young people with LDD than the 16-19 cohort as a whole were in full time employment 16.2% to 26.1%. The LDD employment figure for 2008 was 16.9%.

Issues for Partnership Consideration

15. Young People with Learning Difficulties or Disabilities (LDD): See Issue No 5: Equitable engagement in opportunities for young people with learning difficulties or disabilities.

6.2 Teenage Mothers

220 young people (1.6% of the 16-19 cohort) were recorded on the Connexions database as teenage mothers compared with 213 in 2008. This is not a complete analysis as the DfES statistics for the county indicates the number of teenage mothers to be over 300. However, although the data is not fully comprehensive the analysis provides indicators of issues on which partners may wish to consider action.



- The number of teenage mothers engaged in education, employment or training dropped from 23.5% in 2008 to 21.8% in 2009.
- 70% of teenage mothers were NEET, an increase of 9.4% on the 2008 position. The number of 16-19 year olds NEET rose from 6.5% in 2008 to 6.6%.

Issues for Partnership Consideration

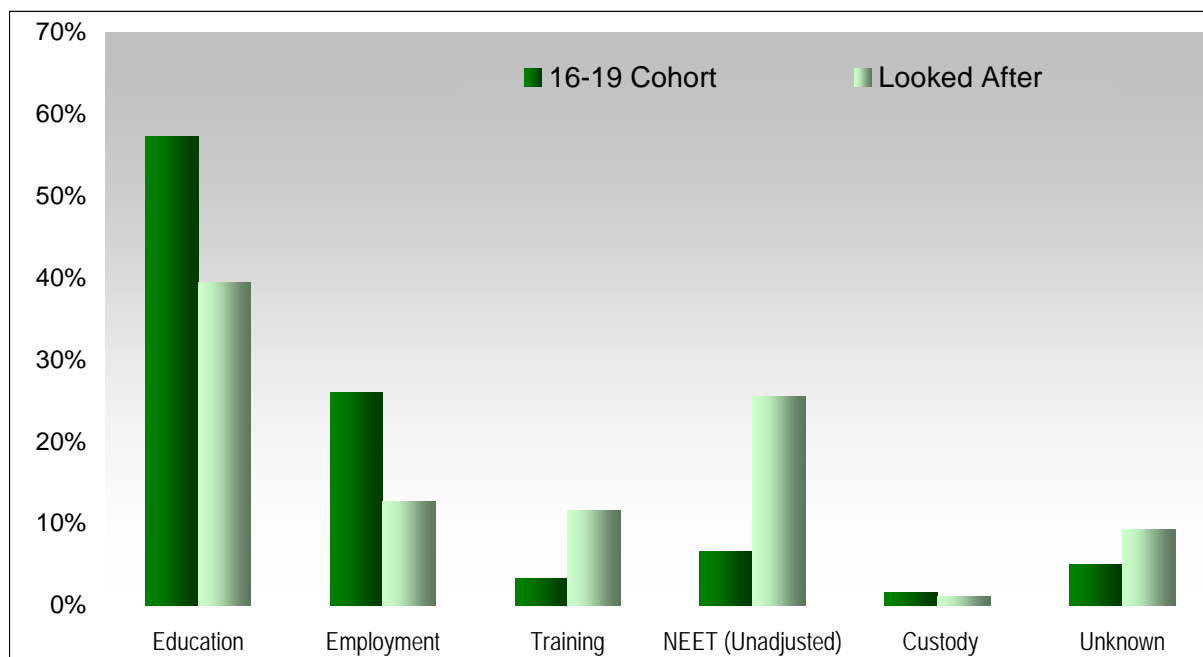
16. Teenage Mums: Further exploration and greater provision of appropriate post 16 opportunities continues to be needed for Teenage Mums. Further exploration to enable the conversion of current learning associated with good parenting to meet DCSF 'in learning' specifications is needed. Similarly greater information sharing with Health Visitors and Midwives would benefit from further improvement.

6.3 Young People in the Looked After Care System

A joint working project between the Northumberland Looked After Care Team and Connexions Northumberland has made it possible to compare the position for young people in and leaving care with all young people aged 16-19.

The table below shows the activity status of these young people compared with their peer group.

In 2009 there were 86 young people in the looked after care system: 0.6% of the 16-19 cohort.



The table shows that there is much work to be done to ensure that the gap in engagement for these young people when compared to that of their peer group is narrowed.

Particular areas to highlight include:

- Only 64% were engaged in an education, employment or training opportunity.
- 25.6% were NEET compared to only 6.6% for the full 16-19 cohort.

Issues for Partnership Consideration

17. Young People in the Looked After Care System: To narrow the gap between outcomes for these young people and their peers partners need to take action to:

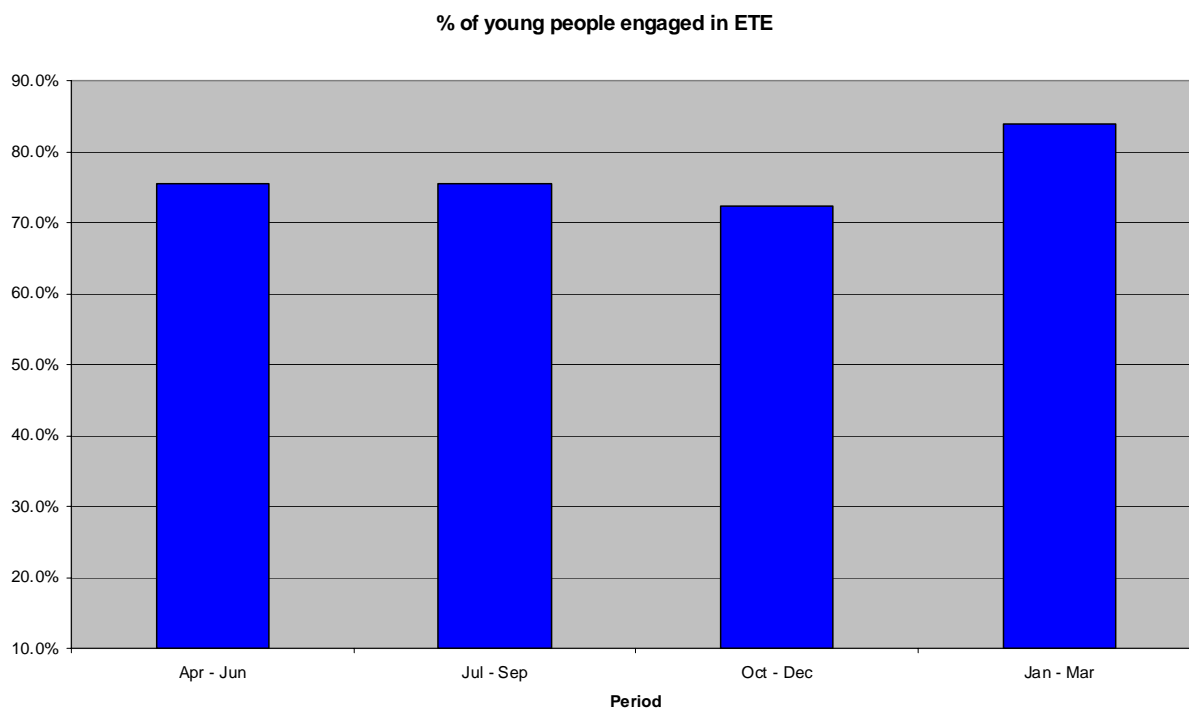
- Raise their own levels of expectation and aspiration for young people who are Looked After.
- Support young people to raise their aspirations.
- Extend the time available on E2E to these young people to enable sufficient qualifications achievement to move on to the next learning opportunity.

6.4 Young People Supervised by the Youth Offending Service (YOS)

The Youth Justice Board definition of Education Training and Employment (ETE) applied to the YOS differs from that of the Department for Children's Schools and Families. The YOS ETE includes all personal development opportunities which actively engage a young person for more than 16 hours in a useful activity. Under DCSF the status of a young person engaged in a personal development opportunity is NEET. The age range also differs and the YOS definition applies to young people aged 10 - 18.

The chart below shows the percentage of young people aged 10 - 18 supervised by YOS who were actively engaged during 12 months from April 2009 to March 2010.

76.7% of young people in 2009/10 were in full time education, training or employment. This is a slight decrease from 78.4% in 2008/09; however Quarter 4 shows an increase in the number of young people in full time ETE.



- Due to the success of the prevention work there are less young people being referred to YOS overall. As a result of this the nature of the referrals tends to be serial offenders who are harder to engage and therefore are harder to retain on learning programmes.
- It has been difficult for young people under the YOS to gain entry to mainstream training and education for reasons of offending history. The absence of school and college start dates in January and at Easter starts would ease the problem as it has for some in Tynedale where some extra start dates were made available.
- Transport is a recurring problem for those from Amble and Cambois.

Issues for Partnership Consideration

18. Young People Supervised by the Youth Offending Service (YOS): Further consideration to providing an increasing range of start dates for courses starting in January and at Easter would help not only young offenders but also all other groups of young people who are NEET.

6.5 16-19 Year Olds from BME Groups (Following the Destination Survey : November 2009)

The percentage of young people whose ethnicity is not known has greatly reduced since 2008 but it still needs improvement. Work to improve information exchange with partners in education is ongoing but continues to require ongoing and urgent attention.

Low numbers of young people identifying as BME can result in the group percentage varying greatly from month to month based on one or two individuals. One young person can equal a large percentage of the cohort.

The total NEET and Unknown figures for the BME groups represent 6 or 7 young people in total.

16-19 year olds from BME groups		% Situation not known	% NEET	% young people whose ethnicity is not known
All 16-19 year olds at 30 November 2009		5.0%	6.6%	28.0%
All 16-19 year olds at 30 November 2008		4.7%	6.5%	42.0%
BME groups where the % NEET or % Unknown is higher than the % for all 16-19 year olds	White Gypsy/Roma (Cohort size 1)		100%	
	Mixed background (Cohort size 12)		8.3%	
	Bangladeshi (Cohort size 9)		11.1%	
	Other Ethnic group (Cohort size 9)	22.2%	11.1%	
	White & Black African (Cohort size 4)	25%		
	Indian (Cohort size 19)	5.3%		

This page is intentionally blank

7 APPRENTICESHIPS – YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 16-20

7.1 Apprenticeship starts for Northumberland residents

Age Range	Programme Group	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10 Aug 09-Jan2010
16-18	Adv Apprenticeships	235	229	254	149
	Apprenticeships	664	644	612	370
16-18 Total		899	873	866	519
19-24	Adv Apprenticeships	258	290	327	154
	Apprenticeships	316	411	315	215
19-24 Total		574	701	642	369
25+	Adv Apprenticeships	#	177	293	108
	Apprenticeships	#	147	292	118
25+ Total		#	324	585	226
Grand Total		1475	1898	2093	1114

Over the year from August 2008 - July 2009, 866 were started by young people aged 16–18. Whilst the greatest proportion (41% in 2008/09) of Apprenticeships has been secured by young people aged 16-18 this was slightly lower than during 2007/08 (45%). The six month data indicates a continuing strong uptake for 2009/10.

The data has been provided by the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS). However, during the recording period some young people may have moved into more than one apprenticeship within the year so there maybe the potential for double counting. **The analysis below should therefore only be used as indicators of areas for further exploration.**

7.2 Northumberland 16 to 18 residents

Age Range	2006/07			2007/08			2008/09			2009/10 Aug 09-Jan2010		
	AA*	A**	Total	AA*	A**	Total	AA*	A**	Total	AA*	A**	Total
16	34	245	279	55	215	270	48	204	252	30	113	143
17	55	245	300	73	213	286	71	228	299	34	130	164
18	146	172	318	101	213	314	135	178	313	85	126	211
Grand Total	235	662	897	229	641	870	254	610	864	149	369	518

* *Advanced Apprenticeships*

** *Apprenticeships*

- The collective figure of young people accessing Advanced Apprenticeships aged both 16 and 17 years is still less than the number accessing the same opportunities age 18. One explanation is that employers may be looking for more experienced, more mature and better qualified starters from schools, colleges and training providers.
- The number of young people aged 16 years accessing apprenticeships is now significantly lower than that at 17 and 18 years of age.
- Since 2006 there has been a small year on year reduction in the number of apprenticeships undertaken by young people aged 16–18. It would be interesting to do a further analysis to identify if this is to do with better retention rates and therefore fewer young people accessing

- more than one apprenticeship during the recording period or issues such as apprenticeship access or reduced availability of apprenticeships.

7.3 Sector Breakdown for 16 to 18 Northumberland residents

Sector Area	Programme Group	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10 Aug09 – Jan2010
01 - Health, Public Services and Care	Adv Apprenticeships	15	17	16	11
	Apprenticeships	32	21	33	25
03 - Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	Adv Apprenticeships	#	#	#	#
	Apprenticeships	24	32	25	15
04 - Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	Adv Apprenticeships	72	94	90	44
	Apprenticeships	108	103	124	67
05 - Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	Adv Apprenticeships	78	48	67	39
	Apprenticeships	168	176	136	75
06 - Information and Communication Technology	Adv Apprenticeships	7	20	20	13
	Apprenticeships	19	18	19	11
07 - Retail and Commercial Enterprise	Adv Apprenticeships	18	15	32	21
	Apprenticeships	168	143	153	107
08 - Leisure, Travel and Tourism	Adv Apprenticeships	6	10	10	11
	Apprenticeships	21	12	26	9
09 - Arts, Media and Publishing	Apprenticeships	0	0	#	#
15 - Business, Administration and Law	Adv Apprenticeships	32	22	15	9
	Apprenticeships	124	139	94	60
Grand Total		899	873	866	519

NB: # denotes number removed for statistical identification purposes

- Comparing 2007/08 with 2008/09 outcomes there has been a small drop in the total numbers of young people aged 16-18 resident in Northumberland accessing apprenticeships. However more young people have successfully won places in Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies (214) and this sector has overtaken Construction, Planning and the Built Environment (203) in having the greatest number of apprentices.
- There has been growth in the number of apprenticeships in Retail and Commercial Enterprise (27) and Leisure, Travel and Tourism (14) in 2008/09.
- Health, Public Services and Care continues to be a major area of interest to young people. Despite a useful increase in the number of Apprenticeships (an increase of 11 since 2007/08) there continue to be limited numbers.
- Another major area of interest to young people where there appear to be fewer apprenticeships available is Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care. The number of Apprenticeships has returned to the numbers available in 2006/07
- There appears to have been a significant reduction of 52 Apprenticeships in the Business, Administration and Law Sector.
- The data after 6 months of 2009/10 seems to indicate strong and possibly increased uptake in the key Sectors of:

- Health
 - Agriculture
 - Engineering
 - Retail
- Apprenticeship take up still historically tends to follow gender specific areas so it is likely that there are very few females going into construction and engineering and hardly any males into hairdressing or care. It would be interesting to have a further break down in the figures provided by NAS by gender to confirm this trend continues to be true for this year.
 - There are only a small number of Work Based Learning Providers based in the county. However, there are other providers based outside of Northumberland who do deliver Apprenticeship programmes in the county.

This page is intentionally blank

8 GLOSSARY

TERM	DEFINITION
Apprenticeship	For the period of this report a young person in an Apprenticeship could have either employed status (receiving a wage) or non employed status (receiving an Educational Maintenance Allowance).
Available to the labour market	These are young people who are NEET who have no known impediment to seeking and securing a suitable opportunity.
BME	B lack M inority and E thnic groups.
DCSF	D epartment of C hildren, S chools and F amilies (formerly Department for Education and Skills).
DfES	D epartment for E ducation and S kills.
E2E	E ntry to E mployment This is the first formal level of post 16 work based learning provision funded by Government and recognised to be eligible for a Training Allowance for the period of this report.
EET	Young people who are in E ducation, E mployment and T raining.
EMA	E ducation M aintenance A llowance For the period of this report EMA was only available to young people continuing in full-time education post 16.
Gap Year	This refers to young people who intend to take up full-time education or other opportunity after a year undertaking other activities. This can include, for example, voluntary work, paid employment to save for costs as a full-time student.
In Learning	The current Government definition of 'in learning' means young people who are undertaking learning that is on an approved list provided by DCSF. The list is updated each year.
LDD	L earning D ifficulties and D isabilities.
NEET	Young people who are N ot in E ducation, E mployment or T raining.
NEET Adjusted	The definitions of NEET that have been used in this analysis are those required under the contract for the delivery of the Connexions contract until 31 March 2006. Until this point in time young people undertaking a Personal Development Opportunity were classified as EET. The calculation of the adjustment is complicated because it also includes a proportion of young people classified as Unknown. That is why there is a difference between the raw data and the publicly presented Government data.
Not available to the labour market	These are young people who have reasons that mean they cannot seek opportunities, eg sickness.
NVQ	N ational V ocational Q ualification These are nationally recognised qualifications providing different levels of learning.

TERM	DEFINITION
PDO	Personal Development Opportunity The definition usually applies to opportunities developed to help young people who are not yet ready to take up post 16 mainstream provision. Young people taking up these opportunities may need extra help with confidence building and essential employability skill development.
Unknown Statistic	This is all young people aged 16-18 whose engagement status is not known. This includes those young people who complete a course/training for whom Connexions does not know the next destination.
WBL	Work Based Learning This term is usually used to describe learning and training that takes place mostly in the work place, eg 4 days in the work place plus 1 day at college.
Without Training	This refers to young people who are not undertaking learning from the approved Government list.
WRL	Work Related Learning This term is usually used to describe learning/training where the young person spends most time in education and only 1 day per week with an employer.

9 REPORT EVALUATION FORM

We want you to have your say. Please spare a few minutes to answer some questions about **Making a Difference** and help us make next year's report even better.

A. Was Making a Difference useful to you?

Yes, a lot Yes, a little
 No, not at all Don't know

B. Which sections were most useful to you?

	Very useful	Quite Useful	Not useful
1. Summary of issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Introduction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Year 11 Activity Survey 2008	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Activities of Young People aged 16-18	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Young People aged 16-18 NEET	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Situation Unknown at 30.11.08	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Vulnerable Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Apprenticeships – Young People aged 16-20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments:

C. What did you think of the style and appearance?

	Excellent	OK	Poor
Colours used	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Layout	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Size	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Charts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Text	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments:

D. Any further comments?

Please return to:

Brenda Donnison
Executive Secretary
Connexions Northumberland
7 Sextant House
Freehold Street
Blyth
Northumberland
NE24 2BA

Tel: 01670 798223

Fax: 01670 798181

Email: brenda.donnison@connexions-northumberland.org.uk

Supplementary Information

To Support The

Integrated Youth Support Services

Locality Profiles

This page is intentionally blank

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION TO SUPPORT THE INTEGRATED YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICES LOCALITY PROFILES

This supplement provides an analysis of sub county locality/main town data collected by Connexions Northumberland for the period November 2009 to January 2010. This is the period of time used by the Department for Children, Schools and Families to measure progress against agreed targets for the county. The targets for November 2009 to January 2010 were to achieve over this period:

- Reduction in the percentage of young people aged 16–18 who were Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET) to an average of 6%
- Maintenance of the percentage of young people aged 16–18 whose engagement status was unknown at or below 5%.
- To increase the % of young people undertaking learning opportunities in Northumberland.
- To contribute to the Narrowing the Gap agenda by supporting vulnerable groups of young people towards matching the same percentage outcomes as those achieved by their peers.

The analysis below is of the learning and engagement status of young people aged 16–18 and in some instances aged 19 by locality/main town for the period November 2009 to January 2010.

Nov 09-Jan 10 Average	Northumberland	Alnwick	Amble	Berwick	Blyth	Cramlington	Seaton Valley	Morpeth	Hexham	Haydon Bridge	Prudhoe	Ponteland	Ashington	Bedlington
16-18 NEET	7.3% (666)	6.3% (35)	10.8% (49)	8.3% (51)	12.4% (138)	9.5% (87)	8.9% (30)	3.9% (25)	1.5% (11)	0.8% (4)	3.2% (16)	0.5% (2)	9.9% (152)	8.3% (65)
16-18 Not Known	3.1% (297)	5.2% (30)	3.5% (22)	4.2% (27)	3.2% (36)	2.1% (20)	4.0% (14)	1.9% (13)	0.1% (1)	0.2% (1)	0.8% (4)	0.2% (1)	5.2% (85)	5.3% (44)
16-18 In Learning	80.2% (7627)	76.4% (438)	75.4% (352)	75.6% (482)	74.6% (844)	78.4% (729)	76.9% (267)	90.5% (600)	85.8% (606)	86.2% (410)	88.3% (447)	94.0% (432)	82.7% (1335)	82.5% (685)
16-19 Teenage Mothers EET	20.9% (46)	22.4% (4)	14.6% (2)	18.6% (3)	18.5% (9)	29.0% (6)	8.3% (1)	22.2% (2)	0.0% (0)	50.0% (1)	71.4% (2)	100.0% (1)	17.0% (10)	28.6% (6)
16-19 LDD NEET	16.6% (103)	27.0% (8)	19.0% (10)	11.2% (6)	27.3% (26)	20.6% (11)	18.2% (3)	14.6% (6)	5.1% (3)	4.5% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	22.3% (22)	9.6% (5)
S140 Assessments	100%													

Berwick

The percentage of young people aged 16-18 NEET (young people both with LDD and without LDD) is higher than the county average and the NEET target for 2009.

The percentage of young people "In Learning" is lower than the county average and reflects the nature of the local economy, with a higher proportion of young people entering employment without recognised training.

A particular issue for the partnership continues to be young people 17 years and 18 years who are NEET. Partners will need to continue to work together to share information to support young people at risk to remain "In Learning".

Alnwick

The percentage of young people NEET (young people both with LDD and without LDD) is lower than the county average but higher than the NEET target for 2009.

The percentage of young people "in learning", 76.4%, is lower than that of the county average of 80.2%.

The percentage of young people with LDD who are NEET stands at 27% the highest in the County – however this comprises only 8 individuals.

The percentage of YP whose destination is Not Know is 5.2% one of the highest in the County

A particular issue for the partnership is to secure a range of learning opportunities appropriate for and accessible to young people in Alnwick Town and the rural and coastal hinterlands.

Amble

The percentage of young people who are NEET (three monthly average November 2009 to January 2010) remains above the county average at 10.8% and higher than the corresponding figure for 2008. This is the second highest NEET figure in the County second only to Blyth.

The 'In Learning' percentage of 75.4.% is along with Blyth and Berwick one of the lowest in the county.

Issues for the partnership include continuing to work together to secure a range of learning provision to meet the needs of all young people in the partnership area.

Tynedale - Hexham / Prudhoe / Haydon Bridge / Ponteland

All key target indicators show a better position than the county average and an improvement on the same period in 2008-2009.

The NEET mainstream and LDD plus the "In Learning" and "Not Known Figures" are all amongst the most positive in the county and an improvement on 2008

The level of attainment of young people with the Tynedale Partnership areas in general can emphasise the under achievement of a minority of young people facing barriers to progression within small local communities.

A number of young people continue to access "In Learning Opportunities" outside of Northumberland including some young people with LDD.

The partnership will need to continue to develop and roll out current initiatives to secure the range of learning provision available to meet the needs of all young people in the partnership area.

Blyth

Although an improvement on 2008 the percentage of young people NEET is significantly higher than the county average.

The percentage In Learning is also below the county average and is reflected in the high NEET figure.

The percentage of young people with LDD who are NEET is much higher than the county average.

Issues for the Partnership are to find ways of continuing to develop and broaden opportunities for young people, engaging those young people in that provision and sustaining successful progressions.

Cramlington

The percentage NEET is above the county average whilst the percentage of Not Known is below.

The percentage In Learning is less than the county figure. This would be higher if those In Learning outside Northumberland were included.

The percentage of young people with LDD who are NEET is higher than the county average.

A particular issue is for opportunities to be offered that NEET young people with LDD will take up.

Seaton Valley

The percentage NEET is above the county average.

The percentage of young people with LDD who are NEET is also higher.

The percentage In Learning is lower than the county average but would be increased as there are those In Learning but doing so outside Northumberland.

Seaton Valley numbers are relatively small so just a few young people moving into NEET can alter the figures significantly so partners will have to keep a close eye on possible shifts and react. Transport for young people in Seaton Valley can be a potential barrier especially for those lacking motivation.

Ashington Partnership

The Ashington NEET figure is significantly above the county average and is the same as the figure in 2008-09.

The figure for those in learning is actually higher than the county average, fairing well in comparison with some areas with a much lower overall NEET percentage.

The percentage NEET figure for those young people with LDD is than that of the county. It is the case however that a high proportion of the NEET group as a whole will have been identified as having some level of LDD during compulsory education.

Bedlington Partnership

The NEET percentage for Bedlington is the same as last year, and remains above the county figure.

The percentage figure for those in learning is higher than that of the county.

The percentage NEET figure for those young people with LDD is significantly less than that of the county. It is also the case that a high proportion of the NEET group as a whole will have been identified as having some level of LDD during compulsory education.

Morpeth Partnership

At 3.9% the Morpeth NEET figure is much lower than that of the county as a whole and represents an improvement on last year's figure.

The Morpeth figure for those in learning is significantly higher than that of the county and is the second highest in the County.

For further information please contact:

Sally Weir, Head of Service

Tel: 01670 798180

Email: sally.weir@connexions-northumberland.org.uk