

Appendix A	Scrutiny of the support and provision for young adults Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET)		UPDATED	11 February 2025
SUMMARY: Slough BC is responsible (page 2) for tracking and supporting young people that are NEET. This task group will review the current provision, the organisations that provide elements of it, where gaps or challenges in provision exist and for whom, and the implications of the White Paper: Get Britain Working, making recommendations where appropriate.				
Scrutiny Officer	Michael Edley	Steering Group	MEMBERS: Cllr Hulme (Chair)	
Project Lead	Cherie Sears			
Strategic Lead	Neil Hoskinson / Sue Butcher	Other stakeholders	Cllr BEDI, Colleges, businesses, local support providers, FSB Thames valley, large orgs and business	
Outcomes		Objectives	Outputs	
1. Stakeholders have access to a map of the provision for 16-25 NEETS, that includes qualifying education and apprentice type opportunities, routes to employment, where support can be found and relevant providers, key skills etc		Interviews with key stakeholders Service Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customer Journey, linked support Catalogue of courses, apprentice and other in-work training opportunities, routes to employment, related support and the respective providers. Gap analysis prioritising greatest need, skills building blocks essentials 	
2. NEETS provision providers and SBC have access to information that could help identify possible alternative models to address challenges and maximise opportunities to meet unmet needs of young adults NEETS		Literature research, discussion with experts/orgs/evidence from other Local authorities etc Assess implications of Get Britain Working white paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of literature and possible expert witness to identify range of options and best practice, esp for those 16+ on EHC plans and with special educational needs. 	
3. Stakeholders have identified opportunities where joint/co-ordinated action can deliver better/more than when acting independently		Long list of alternative/ joint options, models and approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solutions to NEETS unmet/gaps in provision that can be best delivered jointly or by co-ordinating more effectively 	
In Scope		Out of Scope	Critical Success Factors	
16-19 yo, 19-25 SEND, 19+ EHCP KK NEETS		13-16 year olds	Ability to engage key stakeholders or their reps Good body of existing literature/research	

Local authorities have broad duties to encourage, enable and assist young people to participate in education or training. Specifically, these are:

- To secure enough suitable education and training provision to meet the reasonable needs of all young people in their area who are over compulsory school age but under 19 or aged 19 or over and for whom an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan is maintained. A duty under section 15ZA of the Education Act 1996. To fulfil this, local authorities should have a strategic overview of the provision available in their area and identify and resolve gaps in provision.
- To make available to all young people aged 13-19, and to those between 20 and 25 with special educational needs (SEN), support it considers appropriate to encourage, enable or assist them to effectively participate in education or training.
- Tracking young people’s participation is a key element of these duties. Local authorities are required to collect information about young people so that those who are not participating, or are NEET, can be identified and given support to re-engage.

In addition, the Education and Skills Act 2008 placed two RPA-related duties on local authorities with regard to 16 and 17 year olds:

- Local authorities must promote the effective participation in education and training of 16 and 17 year olds in their area with a view to ensuring that those persons fulfil the duty to participate in education or training. A key element of this is identifying the young people in their area who are covered by the duty to participate and encouraging them to find a suitable education or training place.
- Local authorities must make arrangements – that is, maintain a tracking system - to identify 16 and 17 year olds who are not participating in education or training. Putting in place robust arrangements to identify young people who are not engaged in education or training or who have left provision enables local authorities to offer support as soon as possible.

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Percentage of 16-17 year olds not in education, employment, and training (NEET) or whose activity is not known	Low	Monthly	Jul-24	G	5.4% (254)	↓	Aug-24	G	5.9% (281)	<=national average	All NEET young people are offered practical support and guidance through 'face to face' information advice and guidance (IAG) positioned in community building across Slough as well as drop in sessions and telephone support. All NEET are regularly contacted offering continued support and encouragement. Report submitted to CLT highlighting the challenges alongside a proposal to improve support for the NEET cohort Business case for further resource to support the increasing caseloads, significantly larger than statistical neighbours.	ED for Children's Services	2022/23 Slough 4.9% (217) National 5.2% South East 6.9%
Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training	High	Monthly	Jul-24	G	52.0% (51)	↓	Aug-24	A	46.9% (46)	>=52%	Virtual school meet with all young people who are NEET as well as personal advisors.	ED for Children's Services	2022/23 Slough 49.0% National 56.0% South East 57.0% SN average 54.9%