

PROPOSALS FOR TARGETS TO BE RENEGOTIATED IN LAA REFRESH FOR 2010/11

1. NI 117 (NEETs):

- **We propose a target of 11% for 10/11 (using the national ‘place of learning’ measure).**
- The 09-10 out-turn position (based on the Nov to Jan three month average) will be known at the end of February. Most recent data suggests the out-turn will be in the order of 11.2% (08-09 out-turn was 10.5%).
- The economic climate has been a key factor in performance over the last year and will continue to impact during 10-11.
- The ‘net export’ of learners remains a significant factor in calculation of performance, using the national ‘place of learning’ measure as opposed to the ‘residency’ measure.
- Planned initiatives over the next year that may help to offset the negative impact of the recession include:
 - the January ‘guarantee’ of learning for those who leave provision during the autumn period (may impact 2011, not current period);
 - further investment in E2E provision;
 - use of Future Jobs Fund, Communities Fund and the Get on in Life programme;
 - possible development of some bespoke, flexible programmes of learning at Stockton Riverside College.

2. NI 112 (Under 18 Conception Rate)

- **It is proposed that this indicator be removed from the reward element of the LAA. The rationale being:**
- Our TP Strategy, following considerable levels of scrutiny, assessment and advice, is judged to be good.
- Performance remains variable, and it is difficult to be certain as to when, and to what extent, the strategy will begin to show greater impact.
- The national expectation of a 50% reduction from the 1998 baseline was always going to be a challenge, as our 1998 performance happened to be particularly low.
- The most recent nationally published data (June 2008) shows our rate (using the rolling quarterly average) to be higher than the baseline, although still one of the lower rates within the North East and the Tees Valley.
- Partners locally remain committed to addressing this issue, and it remains a key priority within our CYPP.

3. NI 109 (Number of Sure Start Children’s Centres)

- The Council’s good progress in delivering the Sure Start Children’s Centre programme has been acknowledged through external monitoring. We have remained on target for ensuring full coverage of children’s centre services across the whole of the borough by March 2010.
- During the course of the current, final phase of the programme (Phase 3), a review was carried out in relation to the numbers of children centre areas required to serve the under 5 population, taking account of our Integrated Service Area boundaries and the need to maintain a level of service to all

areas of the borough in accordance with the children's centre core offer for 30% and 70% disadvantaged areas.

- As a result, the Children's Trust Management Team agreed proposals for changes to the boundaries and configuration of children's centre areas, enabling the core offer to be delivered through 11 Children's Centres (rather than the 13 proposed originally).
 - No area will be disadvantaged as a result of this reconfiguration. The reach per children's centre will average approximately 1,100 children under 5 with the largest centre serving 1,740 children under 5. This revised plan enables also a more efficient and financially sustainable model of delivery for the future.
 - Agreement to this recommendation has been given by TfC (Together for Children), who monitor implementation of Children's Centre programmes on behalf of government.
4. **NI 151 - Overall Employment Rate** - Maintain the gap between Stockton and the North East average from 2006/7 baseline of Stockton 73% North East is 71.4%. Difference is + 1.6 %. Therefore target would be by March 2010/11 to maintain a gap from North East Average of + 1.6% against the outturn relating to period April 2010 - March 2011. (This outturn would be published in Dec 2011)
5. **NI 153 - Working Age People on out of work benefits.** Maintain the gap between Stockton and the North East regional average from 2006/7 baseline of Stockton on Tees 31.7% North East average 31.5% a difference of -0.2% percentage points. Target would be to maintain this gap by March 2010/11 outturn covering the period April 2010 – March 2011.

16-18 NEET AND NOT KNOWN - UPDATE, 1ST DECEMBER 2009

National NEET targets are measured on a 3 month average (November – January) and based upon where young people participate in learning (place of learning measure).

The following is based upon CCIS *Draft* data as at 30.11.09

16-18 NEET and Not Known (place of learning)

Compared with the same point in time last year, Stockton's NEET has risen from 10.7% (30.11.08) to 11.1% (30.11.09), an increase of 3.7%. The actual number of NEET young people has risen from 632 to 645 (up 2.0%)

The number of young people "Not Known" (i.e. unable to confirm whereabouts/activity) has reduced from 6.1% to 3.6% (224) in the same period.

The significant increase in NEET based on this measure is as a result of a net export of learners. This has been an increasing trend over recent years and net export as compared over the same period rose from 795 to 939 young people (up 18%). This is in part a result of a travel to learn geographical pattern, however the 14-19 Partnership Board are keen to identify if there are any underlying issues around provision in Stockton-on-Tees.

16-18 NEET and Not Known (residency)

This is not a measure used on a national basis but is a more accurate reflection of the NEET situation for Stockton-on-Tees young people. Although the number of actual NEET young people remains the same (645), the proportion of NEETs changes. Using the same period for comparison 16-18 residency NEET has increased from 9.5% to 9.6%, whilst not known has reduced from 6.0% to 3.3%. The Tees Valley NEET average is 9.7%.

The NEET cohort

Post 16 progression rates in Stockton are high. The challenge around NEETs is retention in learning. The NEET rate for the age range is 6.1% (98) 16 year olds; 10.1% (203) 17 year olds and 15.5% (344) 18 year olds. This means that 18 year olds make up 53% of all 16-18 NEETs.

Out of the total of 645 NEET young people, 461 are categorised as seeking EET with 115 young people classed as "not available" due to being a Young Carer, Teen Parent, Pregnant or Illness. There are also 37 young people with "start date agreed" and 31 on Personal Development Opportunities (these are counted as NEET). In terms of "joiners and leavers", 125 young people became NEET during November the highest number (48) leaving Further Education, whilst 121 young people left the NEET group, 92 into employment and training with only 6 entering further education.

Nationally the Government have recognised the issue of retention/ drop out and are about to implement a January "Guarantee" of learning for those who leave provision during the autumn period. A package of support is to be announced soon involving further investment in E2E provision. Locally we are trying to utilise Future Jobs Fund, Communities Fund and the Get on in Life programme to address the NEET issue. We are also looking at funding for some bespoke programmes at SRC in January, learning from the flexible approach adopted by Middlesbrough college.