

A Wirral Strategy for Increasing Young  
People's Participation in Education,  
Employment or Training.

2010/2011

DRAFT

## 1. Introduction

Reducing the number of young people aged 16-18 that are not in education, employment or training (NEET) is a key cross-departmental government priority and a Local Area Agreement target for Wirral.

This strategy and action plan is an update of the first joint agency education, employment or training (EET) strategy for Wirral; launched in May 2007 and reported on to the Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership Board. and Children & Young People's Management Board

This new document is structured around the DCSF Strategy to increase the proportion of 16-24 year olds in education, employment or training as part of the 'Backing Young Britain' campaign which states that: 'Young people are the future of our country and of our economy. Thanks to record investment in education and training, more young people than ever before are acquiring the skills and qualifications they need for success in life and work. But the economy is changing and we now need to go further to support all young people to build their skills to secure greater productivity and economic growth. The global recession has brought about a new challenge of falling youth employment. We are already taking decisive action to prevent young people from dropping out and support them to engage in education and training in order to gain the knowledge, skills and aptitudes they need for the upturn.

The frame work provides a model and rationale for activity that will lead to an increase in EET and reduction in NEET among young people across Wirral.

The number of young people aged 16-18 who are Not in Education, Employment or Training is an indicator of the number of young people who will be unemployed for long periods in their lives. Long-term unemployment can have a significant negative impact on people's lives. Our vision should be that all young people will have the skills and support they need to engage in learning, in order to build better futures.

The development of an Integrated Youth Support Strategy presents an opportunity to take a more holistic approach to the Youth Offer In Wirral. Targeted Youth Support, as a key element and expectation of IYSS, will be a driving influence for

resource deployment. Every Child Matters, Youth Matters and the 14-19 Strategy all combine to create an opportunity to develop the way organisations work together to achieve the five outcomes, increase participation in learning and reduce the number of young people who are NEET. Furthermore, as we move towards the raising of the participation age, in 2013, the engagement of 16-18 year olds in learning will increasingly influence policy. Based on the principle of 'Something for everyone and more for those who need it' targeted work will be a part of the Universal Service available to all young people.

The EET Strategy supports a range of other plans including the Children and Young People's plan, the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy, the Multi Agency Looked After Plan, the Local Area Agreement, the 14-19 Strategy and the Youth Justice Plan.

	ET	IAG	14-19	CT	FI
Increase Participation ( <b>EET</b> ) - young people in structured learning and in education employment and training and Reduction in Disengagement ( <b>NEET</b> ) - young people not in education employment and training.					
Strand	Effective early intervention	Delivery of Advocacy, brokerage and information, advice and guidance (IAG) role	Supply of learning provision across 14-19	Client Tracking	Financial incentives
Principal Activities	<p>Supporting early intervention work with vulnerable young people and families.</p> <p>Supporting local school and college behaviour and retention strategies.</p> <p>Supporting the development of key stage 4 (KS4) alternative curriculum and the identification of young people most likely to benefit.</p> <p>Supporting school and colleges through the delivery of broad based IAG.</p> <p>Ensuring that schools and colleges understand the importance of arrangements for referral to targeted support at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>Encouraging schools to become more accountable for the destination (outcomes) of their pupils beyond the age of 16.</p>	<p>Sustaining access for all young people to good quality impartial information, advice and guidance through Personal Advisers (PA) and other professional staff.</p> <p>Ensure that Connexions Pas and other key workers have the training they need within the context of the broader children's workforce by developing local professional standards through delivery of advocacy, brokerage and the IAG role.</p> <p>Sustain and link Connexions service delivery at a local level with partner agencies to maximise outcomes for young people including targeted support for those who are, or at risk of becoming, NEET.</p> <p>Helping teenage mothers and care leavers to re-engage in learning.</p> <p>Effective assessment and support given to young people with learning difficulties/disabilities (LDD).</p>	<p>Develop the curriculum to deliver personalised learning.</p> <p>Develop specific strands of work under the local implementation of the specialised national diplomas.</p> <p>Share information on the needs of the young people in the area with the Learning and Skills Council, to inform local planning (particularly in relation to work based learning).</p> <p>Sustain and link effective activity with local employers.</p> <p>Support development of learning prospectus.</p>	<p>Sustaining the forensic use of data to inform local planning and strategies.</p> <p>Developing use of data systems (CCIS/Profile) to meet wider Partnership needs.</p> <p>To work effectively alongside developing Local Authority systems such as Contact Point and database of children missing education.</p> <p>Sustaining the development of information sharing agreements.</p>	<p>Sustaining effective promotion of financial incentives for young people to remain in learning up to the age of 19 (Education Maintenance Allowance and Care to Learn schemes).</p> <p>Supporting enrolment processes to post 16 learning by alerting young people to financial incentives.</p> <p>Sharing analysis and performance with the LSC against % of young people eligible accessing EMA Support young people in the EMA and C2L application process.</p> <p>Promoting the benefits of higher education and providing clear information on financial funding frameworks for higher education in the UK.</p>
Outputs	<p>% Y11 school leavers in learning and "not settled".</p> <p>% half days missed.</p>	<p>% young people with LDD EET/NEET.</p> <p>% teenage mothers EET/NEET.</p> <p>% young offenders EET/NEET.</p> <p>% care leavers EET/NEET.</p> <p>% of young people from BME groups in NEET.</p>	<p>Developing professional standards for the delivery of IAG and ensuring effective transitions for young people at age 16/17 – the September Guarantee.</p> <p>Ensuring all young people who are eligible receive a section 139a review (LLDD).</p>	<p>Reduce the number of young people not known.</p> <p>Consolidate and strengthen data and quality analysis..</p>	<p>Sustaining effective promotion of financial incentives - % improvement in eligible young people accessing EMA.</p>

## Targets

This strategy aims to draw together two key outcomes

- Increasing the rate of participation in learning for young people aged 13-19 (EET)
- Decreasing disengagement of young people aged 16-18 (NEET)

Within this broad aim specific targets exist for statutory agencies.

The main and relevant targets are as follows

- The Local Area Agreement NEET target for Wirral.
- The Connexions service key drivers and targets.
- The LSC targets for participation in structured learning and the numbers of young people reaching Level 2 and Level 3 at 19 target.

## NEET targets

The PSA target for Wirral for the reduction in the number of 16-18 young people NEET by 2010 is 6.9%. The LAA has identified this area within its priorities and the progression towards this is an area identified as a stretch target. Greater Merseyside Connexions Partnership has set targets for increasing participation and a trajectory towards 2010. The NEET targets for Wirral are reflected in the LAA, CYPP and IYSS strategies for Wirral.

The targets are as follows:

November 2008	Performance	9.5%
November 2009	Target	7.1%
November 2010	Target	6.9%

## **The rationale for reducing NEET – the national context**

For all those engaged in work with children and young people the rationale for reducing NEET is simple and derives from a determination to help young people to overcome barriers to achievement, be settled, develop their skills through learning and start on a route to a fulfilling and useful adult life. Investigation of the 1970 British Birth Cohort study has shown that being NEET for six months is likely to mean that by the age of twenty one a young man is:

- More than four times likely to be out of work
- Three times more likely to have depression and mental health issues
- Five times more likely to have a criminal record
- Six times less likely to have any qualifications

(Bridging The Gap: New opportunities for 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training – Social Exclusion Unit 1999.)

Successfully tackling this issue – particularly around young people who are NEET for a prolonged period – is therefore a priority for government, both for preventing enduring disadvantage in adulthood and in relation to our future economic competitiveness.

Reducing the number of NEET will not only improve the life chances of the individual young people, but will contribute towards Social Inclusion; Community Stability and Coherence.

## **NEET Characteristics & at risk Sub Group**

The heterogeneous nature of the NEET group is significant.

Effective targeting requires understanding of the different needs of the many different sub-groups which make up the NEET cohort and determining which require intervention.

Evidence points to the following reasons as to why young people may be NEET:

- Some are in between EET opportunities.
- Some choose to be NEET as a consequence of their current influences.
- Some lack the necessary life skills.
- Some have unrealistic EET expectations.
- Some don't find the EET opportunities that they are looking for (Supply and Demand).
- Some find they were given inappropriate information prior to starting at college and drop out.
- Some have chaotic personal circumstances e.g. homeless, substance misuse.
- Some have caring responsibilities e.g. teenage parents, young carers.
- Some have physical/mental/learning difficulties.
- Some for other personal reasons.

Cutting across these definitions is the need to understand the characteristics and categories of young people most likely to experience sustained and problematic NEET status.

Qualitative research conducted by the Connexions Service in Norfolk in 2007 with 77 young people identified the following:

“Triggers” to NEET and “Enablers” to EET

<b>Triggers to NEET</b>	<b>Enablers to EET</b>
<p><b><u>Primary Triggers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaving care</li> <li>• Homelessness</li> <li>• Difficult parental relationships</li> <li>• Lack of qualifications</li> <li>• Early school leaver</li> <li>• Criminal record</li> <li>• Caring for a parent</li> <li>• Bullying</li> <li>• Pregnancy</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Secondary Triggers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parental separation</li> <li>• Drug and alcohol misuse</li> <li>• Lack of appropriate advice at school</li> <li>• Moving home frequently</li> <li>• Bereavement</li> <li>• Learning difficulties</li> <li>• Poor access to transport</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Primary Enablers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family/parental support</li> <li>• Financial support</li> <li>• Advice, guidance and information from specialists eg. Connexions PAs, support workers</li> <li>• Post 16 education</li> <li>• Entry2Employment (E2E)</li> <li>• Transport</li> <li>• Parenthood</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Secondary Enablers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being in a stable relationship</li> <li>• Stopping drug/alcohol misuse</li> <li>• Peer activities/influences</li> <li>• Gaining work experience/ voluntary work</li> <li>• Career planning</li> </ul>

Further research conducted on Wirral in December 2007 found a number of the above characteristics at play with the young people interviewed, but also recognised some of the following traits:

- A lack of self awareness – a tendency to see themselves as employable when they are not
- Confused career choices – a refusal to consider anything but their stated preference, or else have no real preference at all
- A likelihood of leaving a course or a job if something else in their life becomes more pressing
- A tendency to drift along and allow time to pass without taking action

**The research identified the following solutions:**

**The need for good preparatory work at school, increasing their self awareness and giving them a good understanding of the choices open to them, their own aptitudes, and career paths**

**Support as and when other things in their life cause problems that could lead to them leaving their job or course**

**A greater element of challenge and motivation to prevent aimless drifting and the consequent development of poor routines.**

## The Local Context:

The most recent National Data available on NCCIS (National client Caseload Information System) shows the NEET rate for England in January 09 is 6.70% of the 16-18 population.

This can be compared with the NEET rates for Greater Merseyside in the table below:

**N.E.E.T. percentage by area at end of January 2010 – Nov-Jan average (G.M.C.P. data).**

**GMCP DATA**  
 % Adjusted NEET 2010  
 % Adjusted NEET 2009

	Halton	Knowsley	Liverpool	Sefton	St Helens	Wirral	Company
% Adjusted NEET 2010	10.3	8.93	8.4	6.83	8.95	8.9	8.46
% Adjusted NEET 2009	13.43	12.49	9.98	8.00	9.71	8.89	9.8

The pace of improvement is slow, and does not follow the trajectory towards the 2010 PSA target of 6.9%.

Where EET has increased it reflects the following:

- Continued improvement in retention in post 16 learning (particularly in the September to January period)
- A high proportion of year 11 leavers continuing in learning
- The impact of the September Guarantee, extended to include all 17 year olds.
- A focus on transition beyond year 11 and in sustaining the involvement of young people in Learning & Employment.

### Increase in the numbers of 16-18 year olds in learning.

- The overall “in learning” rate across Greater Merseyside has risen to a rate not experienced before and the same can be said for all of the six local areas that comprise the sub-region. Table 3 below outlines the situation in a year-on-year comparison.

### 16-18 “In Learning” percentage by local area at the end of January 2010.

	Halton	Knowsley	Liverpool	Sefton	St Helens	Wirral	Partnership Total
% of 16-18 who are in learning at end January 2010.	79.8	78.7	81.8	85.9	86.1	82.3	82.9

% of 16-18 who were in learning at end January 2009.	70.7	72.3	78.4	81.8	83.1	79.4	78.8
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- The national trend is a negative one whilst locally we have seen the largest ever rate of increase of the “in learning” population, in part fuelled by the lack of employment opportunities.

The high levels of participation among the 16 year old cohort is not being sustained and we now have the highest numbers of 18 year old NEET at 50.3% of the January NEET cohort.

Sustaining the impact of the first destination survey; by supporting young people to remain in learning throughout their 17 & 18 years is one of the key challenges facing partners in securing a measurable improvement in EET.

Wirral has a high rate of NEET “Churn” with significant numbers of young people moving in and out of learning throughout the year.

The Churn is another key indicator of the NEET challenge.

The cohort is in daily flux and significant efforts are afforded to tackling the total cohort (including those in settled destinations) to ensure that all young people across the borough, receive support and guidance when they need it.

Good partnership arrangements are in place to provide information on the ebb and flow of young people in and out of post 16 learning. These will be augmented by Government requirements (outlined in the November 2007 Action Note) for all post 16 Learning Providers to notify the Connexions service as soon as a young person drops out of learning.

In Wirral effective tracking measures are in place and result in low levels of young people not known to the Connexions Service: 2.95 % for January 2010 (compared to 3.44% January 2009).

#### Supporting Vulnerable Young People:

Improving participation rates for young people will contribute toward other key IYS PSA targets for the Borough reflecting participation and resilience:

- Reduce under 18 conception rates
- Increase participation in positive activities
- Reduce substance misuse harm levels
- Reduce numbers of young people not engaged in education, employment & training
- Reduce number of 1<sup>st</sup> time entrants to the youth justice system. The table below outlines the participation rates in Education, Employment & Training for the Key Vulnerable groups of young people in Wirral:

	<b>Jan 2009</b>	<b>Jan 2010</b>
<b>16-19 Young Mothers EET</b>	29.58%	25.99%
<b>16-25 LDD in EET</b>	72.70%	70.15%
<b>19 year old Care</b>	34.72%	44.26%

<b>Leavers EET</b>		
<b>16-18 year old Supported by Y.O.S EET</b>	54.07%	52.41%

The year on year comparison shows significant distance to travel to improve EET rates among our most vulnerable young people. In depth analysis of the needs of the young people; a number of whom feature in more than one category is available.

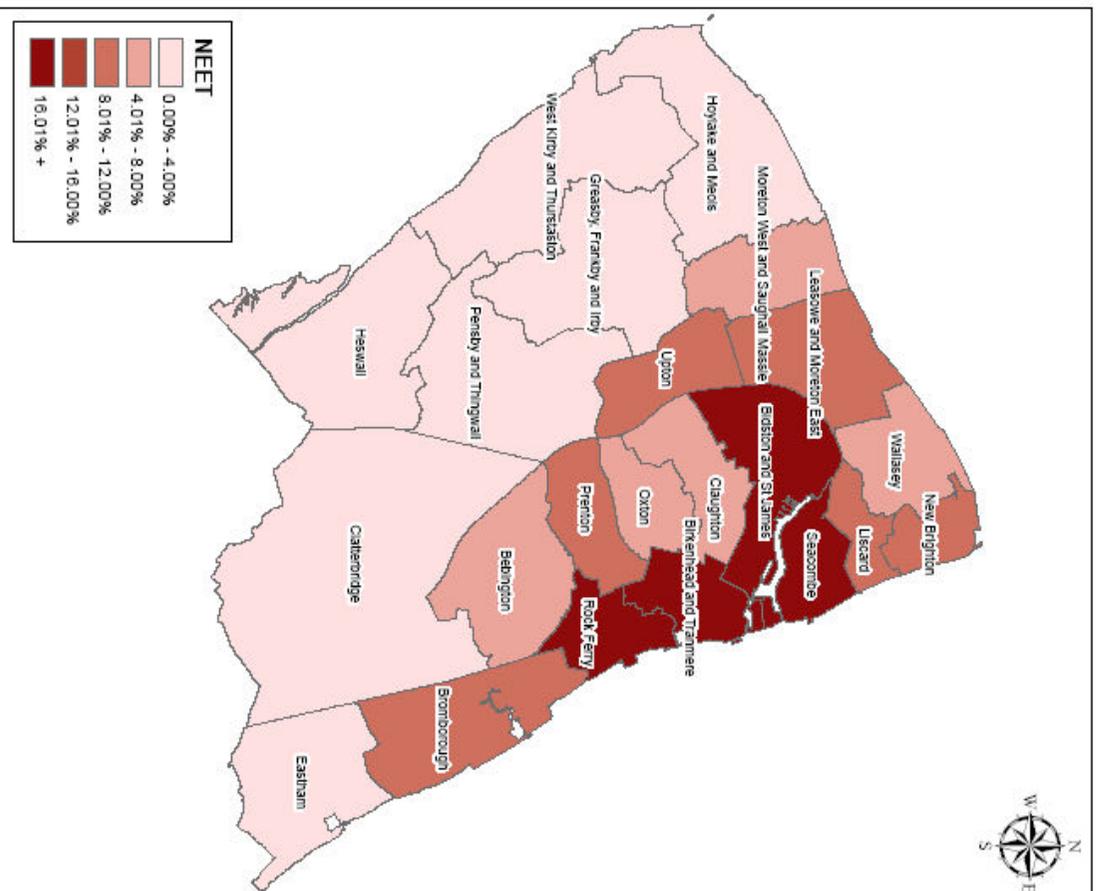
Guidance points to a need for:

- Improved level 1 and entry level provision
- Opportunities with supportive and understanding Employers
- Improved availability and access to childcare
- Supportive personal development youth opportunities etc.

To conclude the local analysis; the following table provides data for January 2010 on levels of NEET and participation by Ward:

<b>Ward</b>	<b>NEET</b>	<b>EET</b>
Bebington	26	471
Bidston & St James	121	461
Birkenhead & Trammere	85	430
Bromborough	40	392
Catterbridge	14	339
Cloughton	41	472
Eastham	16	388
Greasby, Frankby & Irby	17	443
Heswall	4	343
Hoylake & Meols	18	435
Leasowe & Moreton East	63	478
Liscard	65	498
Moreton West & Saughall Massie	25	408
New Brighton	49	406
Oxton	22	357
Pensby & Thingwall	14	357
Prenton	43	455
Rock Ferry	91	450
Seacombe	102	522
Upton	55	500
Wallasey	25	561
West Kirby & Thurstaston	13	394
No Ward/Non Wirral Ward	29	296
<b>Total</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>9856</b>

## Wirral 16-18 NEET Percentage by ward - January 2010



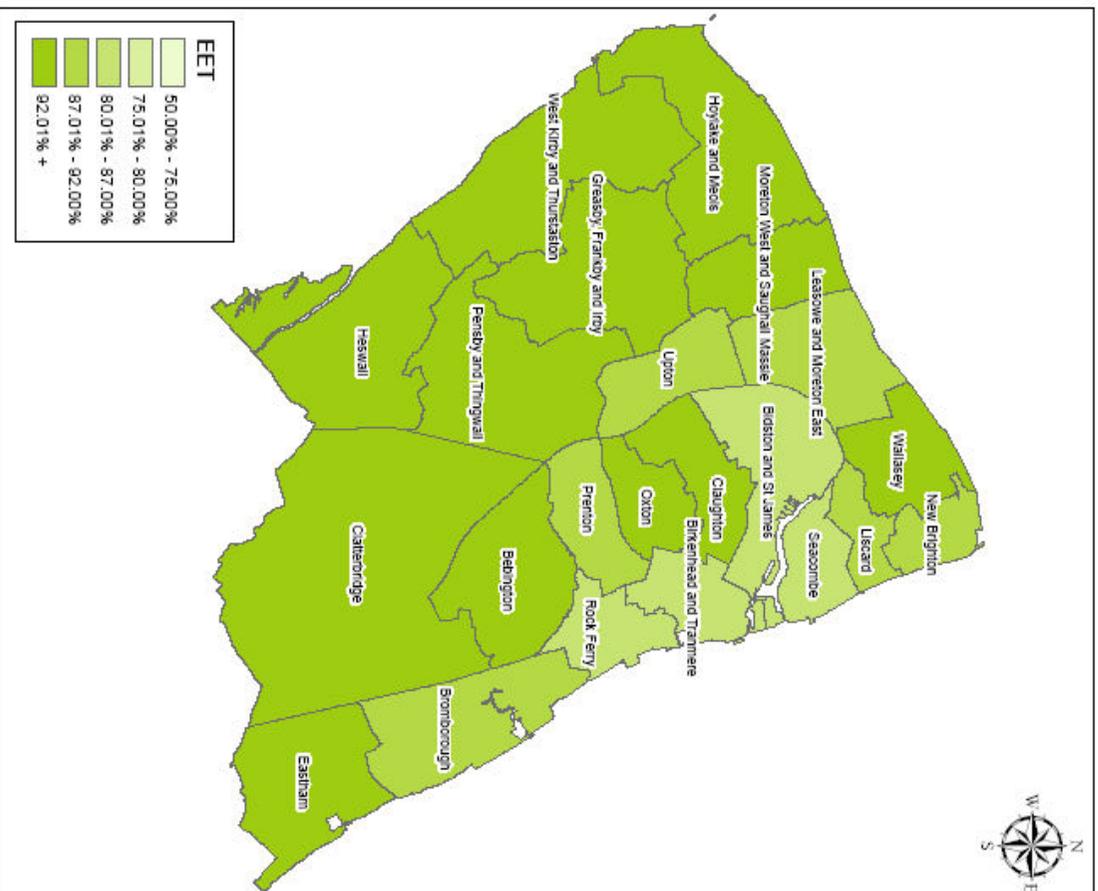
**connexions**  
GREATER MERSEYSIDE

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Maps at scale of: 1 : 100,000

Note: The total cohort figure used in these calculations excludes those young people who have moved out of contact or did not have their ward listed.

## Wirral 16-18 EET Percentage by ward - January 2010



Maps at scale of: 1:100,000

Note: The total cohort figure used in these calculations excludes those young people who have moved out of contact or did not have their ward listed.

The data reveals significant geographical disparities in levels of participation:

### **NEET**

- Highest average 16-18 NEET % in Wirral – Bidston and St James : 20.30%
- Lowest average 16-18 NEET % in Wirral – Heswall : 1.15%
- Average 16-18 NEET – 7.91%

### **EET**

- Highest average 16-18 EET % in Wirral – Heswall : 98.85%
- Lowest average 16-18 EET % in Wirral – Bidston and St James : 80.45%
- Average 16-18 EET – 92.10%

### **Learning**

- Highest average 16-18 Learning % in Wirral – Heswall 97.69%
- Lowest average 16-18 Learning % in Wirral – Bidston and St James 74.00%
- Average 16-18 Learning – 85.91%

## **Closing the Gap.**

In the final analysis, the available data reveals significant (work) for the partnership to improve overall levels of participation for our 16-18 young people.

- Our vulnerable young people are out of step with their peers in respect of achievement and participation.
- Current Headline NEET performance is not on trajectory to achieve the 2010 PSA target.
- Post 16 provision; particularly for vulnerable young people should be mapped against need to ensure supply meets demand.
- The partnership should align provision and maximise opportunities presented by new funding streams to make an impact.
- Other good practice developed via the extension of the Activity Agreement Pilot and the roll out of the September Guarantee to 17 year olds need to be fully embedded.

The action plan that follows is how partners in Wirral will address these issues.

## 1) Effective Early Intervention

1.	Objectives	Actions	Measure	Lead
1.1	Develop and Deliver a joint training package for pre and post 16 institutions and the Voluntary/Faith sector on the identification and need of the 'at risk to NEET' group. To include information on post 16 opportunities; 14-19 developments, finance including EMA etc.	Establish a Task and Finish group as a sub gp of S and EWB to: Develop Pack and Deliver Information sessions.	Information sessions delivered.	KB/MC
1.2	Consider the Assessment, Planning, Implementation and Review (APIR) framework in light of CAF to identify NEET / employability skills and job ready processes.	Implement revised assessment processes in Autumn 09.  Connexions will work with DCFS to develop arrangements to joint monitor progress in relation to CAF delivery and other assessment processes	Numbers of profiles completed. Numbers of action plans agreed.	Jackie Galligan
1.3	Initial assessment to identify support level required by PA. Target support for vulnerable groups. All Schools including special schools have linked PAs and arrangements which are agreed annually for attendance at annual reviews in years 9, 10 and 11, plus post 16 where appropriate	Responsive joint working and referral mechanisms that make services and solutions accessible for young people –agreed through annual PAGs.	Improved contact and intervention rates	Sheila Lynch / Connexions Neighbourhood Managers

## 2) Delivery of advocacy, brokerage & I.A.G

	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Lead</b>
<b>2.1</b>	Develop the curriculum offer to all young people pre and post 16 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- vocational diplomas pre 16</li> <li>- Entry and Level 1 course post 16</li> </ul>	<p>Develop and implement a Diploma implementation plan for 2009 delivery</p> <p>Submit diploma application for Gateway 3</p> <p>Pilot FLT test and trial programme</p> <p>Undertake review and analysis of existing partnership provision and underpinning systems</p>	<p>Plan in place with milestones to be reviewed each term</p> <p>Submission made Autumn 2008</p> <p>FLT model developed and evaluated</p> <p>Education Plan in place. Protocols and partnership agreements developed and agreed</p>	14-19 Team
<b>2.2</b>	Extend the curriculum offer to young people via the availability of January starts in post 16 learning.	<p>Audit existing opportunities available to young people post Christmas.</p> <p>Identify demand by the NEET Cohort for Post 16 provision to be available for a January start.</p> <p>Explore feasibility of offering new starts to Young People in January.</p>	<p>Report in place for September 14-19 Board mtg- now supported via January Guarantee</p>	Jackie Galligan
<b>2.3</b>	Review the impact of the NEET Hot Spot project & Local Solutions and how examples of good practice	<p>What Next Team Manager will produce an end of project</p>	<p>Report to be received by 14-19</p>	14-19 Manager

	can be sustained upon completion of the project. To include: targeted support for 17 year olds at risk of dropping out:	evaluation report.	Board	
<b>2.4</b>	Evaluate the KS4 Engagement Project and measure the impact on young people who have participated in the programme. Build review and recommendation into the roll out of the programme from September 2009.	Manage the delivery of the KS4 Engagement programme	Bi-annual evaluation	14-19 team
<b>2.5</b>	Promote volunteering and other personal development opportunities through the curriculum; eg Princes Trust and Duke of Edinburgh Award as a pathway to future success in Education; Employment & Training.	Engage with Wirral CVS to identify and promote Volunteering Opportunities	Increased participation of young people in volunteering	Jackie Galligan/CVS
<b>2.6</b>	Review availability of post 16 provision available for the NEET cohort, in particular opportunities at Entry and Level 1.	Audit of Provision.	Report produced and informs provision planning	Andy Cannell/Paul Smith
<b>2.7</b>	Ensure the needs of the NEET young people are reflected in Wirral's Investment Strategy and that new opportunities for young people emanating from this strategy are quickly and widely disseminated.	NEET issues are championed via Wirral Economic Development Strategic Partnership.	NEET issues reflected as key priority.	Sheila Lynch
<b>2.8</b>	Fully engage with employers and other opportunity providers to ensure the local Labour Market is aware of NEET issues, and to secure possible opportunities for young people.	Develop and implement employer engagement plan.	EE Plan in place	14-19 team/Connexions

### 3) Supply of learning provision across 14-19

	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Lead</b>
<b>3.1</b>	Ensure all young people have access to high quality, expert, independent, impartial and appropriate Information, Advice & Guidance pre and post 16, which is consistent with the D.C.F.S IAG quality standards.	All Young people have access to a named Connexions Personal Adviser, attached to their place of learning, or via the 4 Connexions Centres on Wirral. Personal Advisers qualified at NVQ4 in Advice and Guidance or equivalent.	Connexions Local Delivery Plan.	Connexions
<b>3.2</b>	To maximise the September Guarantee for school leavers; ensure that the intended destinations of year 11 and year 12 are recorded; that offers of post 16 learning received by young people are logged and the take up of places in Education, Training & Employment, with learning, is tracked.	Connexions Service records offers received by Young people of Learning Opportunities.	Reports produced by Connexions and shared with Partners	Jackie Galligan/Paul Smith/Vivian Stafford
<b>3.3</b>	Ensure that the extension of September Guarantee offer is available to all 17 year olds; that strategies are in place to sustain current learners and re-engage those who are NEET.	Connexions Service records offers received by Young people of Learning Opportunities	Reports produced by Connexions and shared with Partners	Jackie Galligan/Paul Smith/Vivian Stafford
<b>3.4</b>	Build on the September Guarantee in the implementation of the January Guarantee 2010.	Connexions Service records offers received by Young people of Learning Opportunities	Reports produced by Connexions and shared with Partners	Jackie Galligan/Paul Smith/Vivian Stafford
<b>3.5</b>	Ensure comprehensive information is available on post 16 opportunities for young people and their	Continue to develop and promote <a href="http://www.i-">www.i-</a>	Prospectus and CAP in place.	14-19 team

	parents & carers. Including continuing development of E.prospectus, i-choosewirral.org.uk.	<a href="http://choosewirral.org.uk">choosewirral.org.uk</a> and the roll out of the common application process		
<b>3.6</b>	Review support provided to vulnerable young people; young parents; care leavers; young people supported by the Y.O.S and those young people with L.D.D to improve their respective participation routes in comparison with their peers.	Vulnerable Groups Multi Agency Focus Groups to be convened to review current practice, and identify improvement actions.	Focus groups in place. Improvement in Participation recorded.	Neighbourhood Managers.
<b>3.7</b>	Map and evaluate existing support for young people pre and post 16 to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Connexions Targeted &amp; Universal support</li> <li>- P.A.Y.P</li> <li>- Y.I.P</li> <li>- Learning Mentors</li> <li>- ESF projects :Learn Wise, Stay Wise, Work Wise</li> </ul>	Audit support and resources available via the multifarious funding streams available.  Produce report which highlights examples of good practice.	Audit completed.  Report produced and received.	Jackie Galligan
<b>3.8</b>	Promote and support the process for the Wirral Apprenticeship programme, including NEET young people, those from vulnerable groups and those currently lacking progression routes.	Vacancy details advertised on Connexions Core Data base and applications via NAS website.	Numbers of applications made.	Andy Cannell
<b>3.9</b>	Provide recruitment and matching service to employers across the Borough.	Updates to be provided to all partners on vacancy notification Review the impact of recession on the available opportunities	Increased numbers of vacancies generated and filled	Andy Cannell
<b>3.10</b>	Maximise the opportunities presented by the extension of the Activity Agreement Pilot.	Action Plan for the roll out of the Activity Agreement	Action Plan received	Carol Healey

	Ensure young people not yet ready for post 16 learning are engaged on the Activity Agreement Programme ESF Work Wise programme and other Personal Development Opportunities.	Extension programme produced. Ensure ESF NEET project interfaces with the Activity Agreement		Vivian Stafford
<b>3.11</b>	Implement NEET Tiger Task and finish group to increase the pace of NEET reduction	Task group formed with Senior Leadership. Terms of reference and timeframe agreed.	NEET reduced by 2% by January 2011.	Mike Potter

## 4) Client Tracking

	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Lead</b>
<b>4.1</b>	Information of young people who are not attending school; or who are not on the school roll to be shared across the partnership to ensure young people are able to access Information, Advice & Guidance and support about post 16 opportunities.	Systems to be put in place to share information.	Support extended to Young People not engaging with schools	Mike Clarke/Jackie Galligan
<b>4.2</b>	Maintain current tracking interventions which are having an impact including: Home visits; email; phone calls; letters; text; Recognise that there is a significant investment in time in maintaining contact with the cohort and explore ways that this can be streamlined without negating the output.	Connexions Local Delivery Plan, identifies actions and resource for Client tracking and Support.	Percentage of Wirral 16-18 cohort not known to the Connexions Service	Sheila Lynch
<b>4.3</b>	Undertake qualitative work with a group of 18 year old NEET young people to further develop the partnership, understanding of risk and resilience factors and to identify successful strategies for engagement and move on.	Undertake research.  Produce report	Improved understanding of barriers to participation	Jackie Galligan
<b>4.4</b>	Post 16 providers of Education & Training are required to provide information of any young people who drop out/leave early or fail to complete their chosen programme to the Connexions Service: as per DCFS guidance.	Systems in place to transfer data on learners not completing post 16 courses.	Support to re engage in EET offered to Young People at the earliest opportunity	Neighbourhood managers.
<b>4.5</b>	All NEET young people are allocated and case loaded to a designated Personal Adviser in order to	Caseloading Strategy in place.	Increase in number of young	Neighbourhood Managers

	encourage application for and commitment to entry and progression within EET opportunities.		people who are EET.	
<b>4.6</b>	All NEET young people are tracked and offered support at a minimum every two weeks.	Systems in place.	Connexions Frequency Of Follow up Reports	Jackie Galligan
<b>4.7</b>	Work in partnership to maximise the potential of using 'Contact Point' to reduce the number of young people not known to services.			LA Lead.
<b>4.8</b>	Action Note Cx237 outlines government plans to introduce a post 16 progression measure, which will make information on the destinations of former pupils available to school. The government plans to make this information available to the public. -	The Partnership should consider how best to: Generate the Information In what format will it be available How the Information will be shared with Schools/Colleges How the information will move into the public domain.	Learning Communities to review data and trends.	Learning Community Chairs

## 5) Financial Incentives

	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Lead</b>
<b>5.1</b>	Continue to promote the EMA and Care to Learn grant, and support young people in their applications to these funding streams.	Strategies in place to promote EMA etc	Take up of EMA, Care to Learn etc	LSC/LA
<b>5.2</b>	Review numbers of young people in receipt of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Job Seekers Allowance</li> <li>- Incapacity Benefit</li> </ul> Consider how best to support young people in receipt of benefits; to ensure they are able to move on into Education, Employment & Training.	Connexions and Job Centre Plus to review.	Reduce numbers of Young people in receipt of benefits.	Job Centre Plus/Connexions
<b>5.3</b>	JSA/New Deal Support the implementation of Flexible New Deal eligibility whereby mandatory fast tracking in place for all 18 year olds who have been NEET for 26 weeks or more (prior to turning 18). Support the successful implementation of the Future Jobs Fund	Connexions/Job Centre Plus statement of joint working to reflect changing legislation and opportunities to support young people in to Employment, Training and Education  Co-location pilot to be developed, evaluated and further rolled out.	Protocols in Place	Job Centre Plus/Connexions