

APPENDIX B

NEET Services in Bradford East

Tier 1 NEET – Bradford

Pre the budget cuts of 2012 the Youth Service took in house through TUPE arrangements Personal Advisors who were used to deliver Tier 1 NEET Services and were funded through the Children's commissioning budget. In December 2012, £481,000 was put into the base budget of the Youth Service from the Children's Commissioning budget, to enable the role of Youth Worker and Personal Advisor to be merged and the Youth Service has since this date had responsibility for the Tier 1 element of the NEET service.

As young people move into school year 7 their details are inputted on to the Integrated Youth Support System (IYSS) and they are allocated a personal advisor from Prospects. In school year 11 Information Guidance and Advice work will begin with the young person. Prospects will identify young people who are at risk of becoming Tier 1 NEET when they leave school and these young people are case loaded to the Youth Service to provide more intensive support. The remainder are case loaded to Prospects.

There are clear guidelines that support the differentiation between the different Tiers of support and young people can transition through the Tiers as their support needs change. Tier 1 young people are the districts most vulnerable young people and includes those excluded from education, non attendees, young carers, care leavers, pregnant girls, young parents and young people involved with the criminal justice system

Working within the parameters set by the Business Rules professionals who work with NEET young people determine the level of need for individual young people. Those identified as Tier 1 are referred to the Youth Service for support. In Bradford East referrals are made to the Senior Youth Worker who will allocate the case to a local youth worker. Bradford East Youth Workers have on average 6 Tier 1 NEET young people on their caseloads.

Once a young person has been allocated to a youth worker they arrange to meet the young person to make an assessment and they will work with a young person to draw up an agreed action plan. The youth worker will try to meet with the young person weekly to support them in identifying areas of interest, training, employment and opportunities that support their transitions from NEET to EET.

This work is both challenging and time consuming; initial contact can be difficult - workers will often make several visits to the registered address in attempts to make contact. Some of the young people at Tier 1 can have chaotic lifestyles and frequently change addresses and contact numbers so workers often have to undertake research with other organisations (YOT, Social Care, Families First etc) with a view to making contact with an individual young person. It is not unusual to find a young person has moved out of the area, and some young people are not willing to engage with the youth worker. Young people may be homeless, have mental health issues, drug or alcohol use, involved in the criminal justice system, have drug or alcohol misuse issues, and these issues often present a barrier to their successful transition to EET. These primary needs need to be addressed before the young person is in a position to begin to think about education training and employment.

Youth workers work hard to develop positive and voluntary relationships with young people and will offer a young person a wide range of opportunities to develop their skills. They will be offered

opportunity to participate in youth provision or volunteering in an attempt to build skills and confidence and become work ready. The Youth Workers will adopt a range of approaches to overcome the challenges of working with young people who are living chaotic lifestyles. Youth Workers will team up with other professionals and agencies working with the young person to get a team around the young person. Youth workers will support young people to attend appointments e.g. doctors, Job centre, getting birth certificates, bank accounts etc. Day time drop in sessions have been run to support young people's primary needs including emotional well being and budgeting. Time and space has been created within open access sessions to support CV writing and job searches. The Youth Work Team offer one-to-one coaching sessions with interview techniques, 'counselling' and advice to young people on life choices.

Between 1 September 2014 and 1 September 2015 Bradford East Youth Work Team worked with 99 Tier 1 NEET young people of which 38 have progressed to Education, Employment or Training.

The table below outlines profile of the existing Tier 1 young people supported by the Bradford East team in comparison to other Constituency areas.

	East	Keighley	Shipley	South	West
Number of T1 NEET	99	65	33	84	96
EET destination	38	19	11	21	30
Seeking Jobs/Training	20	22	10	14	23
Not active NEET	10	11	5	10	5
Moved out of the area	8	2	1	10	8
Over age	4	9	6	11	15
Lost contact	20	2	-	18	15

Appendix C outlines the work undertaken by Prospects delivering the Connexions Service to young people who are NEET and in Tier 2 and Tier 3 or EET and in Tier 1.