

Barking & Dagenham Partnership

NI 117 – 16-18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training

Responsible Owner Alan Lazell – Head of Skills and Learning

National Indicator Rationale

Non-participation in education, employment or training between the ages of 16 and 18 is a major predictor of later unemployment, low income, depression, involvement in crime and poor mental health.

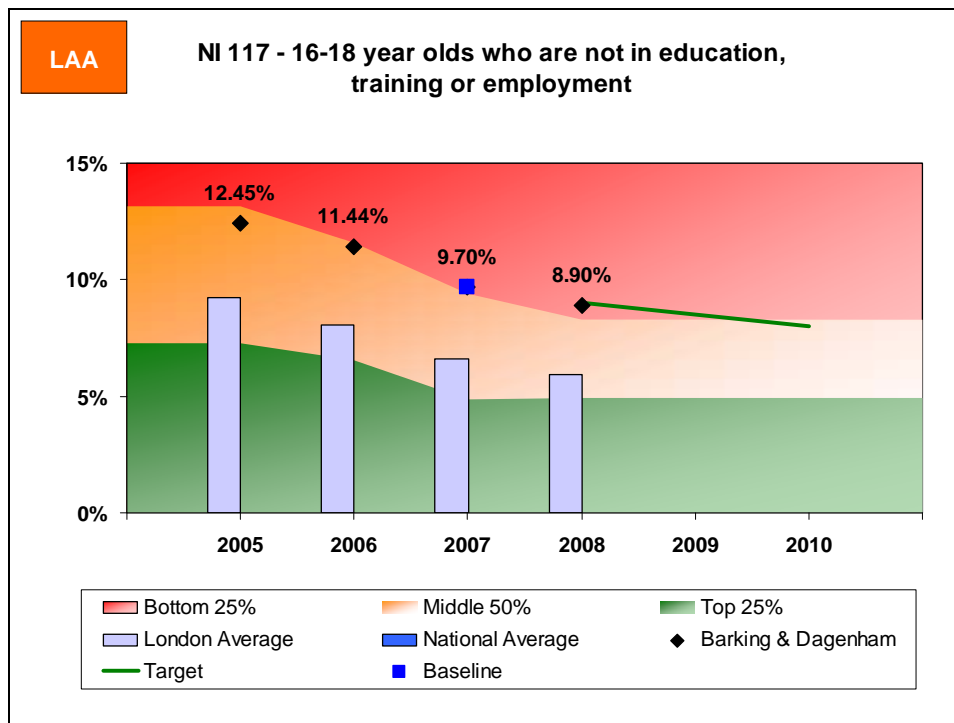
Data are collected monthly. However, this indicator and NEET targets use an annual result which is based on three one-month snapshots of young people's destinations at the end of November, December and January each year.

Data relates to young people who were aged 16-18 on the day of the count.

Current Performance

Performance against Target

2008



Current Performance Commentary

The 2008/09 target is a realistic ask (9%), with an aim to achieving 8.5 and 8% respectively in 2009/10 and 2010/11. It is worth mentioning that our current targets would still not bring us close to the National or London averages, which themselves could reduce by 2011.

The latest GOL progress check rates LBBDD as amber/green on NEETs progress since 2004 where our NEET figure was 13.2% (Nov 04 - Jan 05) reducing to 8.9% in 2008 (Nov 08 - Jan 09).

Although the borough's performance on NEETs is in line with our statistical neighbours, we recognise

that NEET figures remain much higher than the London and national averages and are committed to a more challenging target to further reduce the NEET cohort. September 2009 NEET figures have increased to 10.3% (9.1% Sept 08) because data recording is approximately two weeks behind the 2008 schedule. However, early indications for October show an improvement on September stats and we remain in line with our statistical neighbour group (10.4%) but much higher than the East London average of 7.4%.

Key Issues:

Specific reasons for underperformance, including equalities / area issues where relevant

1.	The majority of the borough's NEETs are from the white indigenous population.
2.	Low academic attainment of young people who leave school with few or no GCSE qualifications.
3.	Poor Post-16 education transition and retention.
4.	Fewer jobs or job losses for those young people in low-skilled / manual employment, as a result of the recession.
5.	High numbers of teenage pregnancies.

Key Projects:

Areas of current /planned projects should focus on reasons for underperformance and link to the Key Issues listed above

Key Issue No.	Project Title	Key Milestones / Date	Project Lead	Project Details
1	NEET guidance		Jane Hargreaves	The Borough has produced NEET guidance and an early identification tool, to be used in schools when dealing with young people who are potentially NEET. This assessment tool lists risk factors and advises on different types of intervention, moving progressively from universal monitoring to heavy intervention for a small number of young people most at risk. The guidance and tool are being piloted in one secondary school.
1,3	14-19 Equality Impact Assessment	Sept 09	Helen Richardson	LBBB is one of the first in the UK to commission a full-scale 14-19 Equality Impact Assessment . The equality assessment probes more deeply into what is happening beneath the Borough's performance improvements and to investigate what

				is happening from an equalities perspective for young people, who are not included, for example, in the 5+ GCSE A*-C category, with or without, English and maths, who have become NEET or teenage parents.
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Key Issue No.	Project Title	Key Milestones / Date	Project Lead	Project Details
2,3	Foundation Learning (FL) Progression Pathways Pilot	Aug 2010	Helen Richardson	The original Key Stage 4 Foundation Learning (FL) Pilot has now been extended to cover 14-19 year olds in the Borough. More local learning providers are participating including two more secondary schools and the Tuition Centre. The participation target for 09/10 is 300 learners to be undertaking this new programme of study at Entry level and level 1.
1,2,3	Skills Centre Centre		Alan Lazell	The Local Authority has recently secured £5.0m of DCSF funding to create a Skills Centre . The Skills Centre will target principally those young people who are already NEET, or who are assessed by schools as vulnerable to becoming NEET. It will provide them with high quality learning environments that resemble a place of work rather than a traditional school or college classroom. High levels of wraparound services for these young people will also be provided and this support crucially will also be available at the key transitions made by students from the Skills Centre on to further education, training or employment. It is expected that many of these young people will progress to the Borough's Apprenticeship Programme.
2,3 &4	Mentoring/volunteering schemes		Jo Feeney	This programme is based around the recruitment of community volunteers to support the social development of NEETs and help them engage in employment and training. Plus the enhancement of some NEET volunteering projects via recently secured LDA funding.

	<i>Barking and Dagenham's Apprenticeship scheme</i>		Alan Lazell	Barking and Dagenham's Apprenticeship Development unit is tasked with achieving the following targets in the period 2008-2011: 750 apprenticeships in total including 100 opportunities in the Council's own workforce. 100 level 2 apprenticeships have been recruited to date and a further 100 minimum by March 2010. An Access to Apprenticeship scheme is now in place for those young people not meeting the entry standard.
	<i>Inspiring Communities</i>		Jo Feeney	Awarded £450k of external funding which will be targeted in the Heath Ward at white indigenous boys and girls to raise their aspirations and reduce the number of NEETs and Teen Pregnancies.

Key Risks:

Risks may relate to specific projects or to performance in general

- The impact of the recession and the increase in unemployment rates is affecting mostly young people.
- ***NEET guidance*** Is currently only available in one school, not all schools
- Even where schools have applied the NEET tool, the school must take responsibility for the faking the action in relation to the pupils identified.
- It is crucial that robust monitoring of commissioned youth provision is carried out and that these contracts are adhered to and outcomes for reducing the number of NEETs are delivered.

Actions for Improvement (To be used for Quarterly Reporting):

Plans for further interventions must be robust and show clear prospects for improving performance

- Plan to ensure progression pathways are available from 2010, for those young people performing below Level 2 and are potentially at risk of becoming NEET and improve Level 2 and Level 3 qualification results.
- Prepare for the 2010/11, commissioning round to secure learning provision appropriate to meet the needs of all 16-19 year olds in the Borough and that fulfils the Local Authority's September Guarantee responsibilities to provide a learning offer for all 16 and 17 year olds leaving school.
- Commission two additional spaces in the Foyer- on the ground floor, an extensive information, advice and guidance facility known as Connexions Plus, is being created. Contained within this facility is also a specialised young people's health clinic. On the first floor, an industry standard digital and media arts training facility will be made available to young people. Accredited

learning programmes such as the Creative and Media Diploma, or BTECs will be offered.

- The tendering process has begun for the Connexions contract which will be re-tendered by January 2010.
- The Youth Integrated Support Service (YISS) is working to bring together partners from the third sector and PCT to align resources and deliver services to reduce NEETs and teenage pregnancy rates by helping young people achieve their aspirations. This will be carried out via Streetbase, which was developed in consultation with over 1200 local young people.
- The introduction of a 'Backing Young Barking and Dagenham' campaign to inform and engage local employers and to highlight the adverse impact of the recession on the 16-12 old age group.
- All front-line staff will be receiving training on teenage pregnancy prevention and mental health sign-posting in order to increase youth engagement in positive activities.
- Taking part in the a DCSF research study to investigate the barriers that young people experience in participating in post 16 education or training. Up to 1000 year 11 leavers will be contacted and asked to be involved in telephone research. In addition to the telephone interviews, the researchers will conduct some face to face interviews with young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET), in a job without training (JWT), a teenage parent or who have learning difficulties and/or a disability. The analysis will be available later this year.