

**Report to:** Performance Scrutiny Committee

**Date of Meeting:** 15 January 2015

**Lead Member/Officer:** Lead Member for Education/Head of Education

**Report Authors:** Head of Education/14 – 19 Network Co-ordinator

**Title:** NEETS (young people ‘not in education, employment or training’)

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**1. What is the report about?**

The measures being taken to deal with the number of pupils in the County who are NEET (‘not in education, employment or training’).

**2. What is the reason for making this report?**

To provide information regarding the measures being taken to proactively support those young people in danger of becoming NEET in order to improve performance against this measure; and ensure that none of the County’s young people fall in to this category; and are fully equipped with the necessary skills to contribute to the development of the local economy.

**3. What are the Recommendations?**

That members review and comment on the performance against this measure.

**4. Measures taken to support NEETS**

Since 2005 Denbighshire has developed a number of strategies to reduce the number of NEETs. This has been in accordance with policy directive from the Welsh Government and the requirements of the 14-19 Network Plan. As a result of the approach taken, Denbighshire has seen the following improvements:

- The % of pupils leaving statutory education with the level 2 threshold (5A\*-C or equivalent) has continuously improved to approximately 88%.
- The % of pupils in full time education has risen to 88.4 % in 2013.
- Since 2005 there has been an overall reduction in % of NEETS with two exceptions: 2008 and 2013.

Please refer to Appendix 1 which details the context of the work undertaken to reduce the number of NEETS and provides an overview of all statistical information.

**5 How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**

This report contributes to the Corporate Priority of improving performance in education. It also contributes to the objective of ensuring that Denbighshire has a highly skilled workforce and economically active residents, as part of both the local and regional Economic Ambition and Skills Strategy.

**6 What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

Overall cost is difficult to determine. However, there is a potential requirement for support from services such as Children and Adult Services, Housing and Revenue and Benefits for those residents who become economically inactive and do not have the skills and qualifications to enter the workforce.

**7 What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision?**

N/A

**8 What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

N/A

**9 Chief Finance Officer Statement**

N/A

**10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

- Reduction of 14-19 and Potential funding after 2014.

**11. Power to make the Decision**

Article 6.3.4(b) outlines scrutiny's powers with respect to policy objectives and performance.

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