Young People NEET: who are they and what interventions do they receive?

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Overview of Presentation

Definitions
Categories
Current figures
Interventions:
  - Prevention
  - Reintegration
  - Active Labour Market Policies (ALMPs)
Examples of interventions
The issue of the ‘unknowns’
Conclusions
Who is included in the NEET population?

16-18-year olds? (original category)

(15) 16-24-year olds?

(15) 16-29-year olds?

(15) 16-35-year-olds?

Should we also include young people in marginal employment?
NEET Definition

• Economically active (EA):
  (Young) People who are either in employment or unemployed (actively seeking work)

• Economically inactive (EI):
  (Young) People who are not in employment but are not seeking work. Reasons for inactivity include sickness (temporary and long-term), looking after family or home, student, retired and believes there are no jobs available.

  (ONS, 2016)

HOWEVER - not all countries include the EA group and some EI sub-groups in their NEET category e.g. Japan
UK NEET Figures

NEET Figures for October to December 2016:

- 826,000 young people (aged 16 to 24) in the UK
- 11.5% of 16 to 24 year olds (down from 16.5% five years ago)
- 42% of all young people in the UK who were NEET were looking for work and available for work and therefore classified as unemployed:
  - 223,000 men
  - 121,000 women

The remainder were economically inactive (EI):

- 196,000 men
- 286,000 women

ONS (2017) Young People not in education, employment or training (NEET), UK: Feb 2017
NEET categories/segmentation

Eurofound (2016) classifies NEETs in Europe in seven main categories:

- **re-entrants**, who are on the verge of entering employment or training (8%);
- **short-term unemployed**, who are ready and available to work, out of work for less than a year (30%)
- **long-term unemployed**, who are ready and available to work, but unemployed for over a year (22%)
- **unavailable due to illness or disability** (7%)
- **unavailable due to family responsibilities** (15%)
- **discouraged workers**, who have given up looking for jobs because of a perceived lack of opportunities (6%)
- **other inactive**, which is a residual group, including the very ‘hard to reach’ and privileged young people who choose not to work (13%)

Eurofound (2016), Exploring the diversity of NEETs, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg
International Evidence

• Young women have a greater propensity to be NEET and to be NEET and EI
• The reasons for EI vary significantly between males and females
• Young men have a greater propensity to be NEET and EA
• Having low skills, migrant status, ill health, parents with no work or qualifications increases a young person’s risk of NEEThood
• The United Kingdom has the highest proportion of NEETs living as lone parents across the OECD, its rate of 15% being three times the average (OCED 2016)
Early Intervention Measures

• Identifying those ‘at risk’ of becoming NEET i.e. tackling early school leaving
• Early warning systems, including the monitoring of:
  • school attendance
  • academic performance
• One-to-one intensive mentoring support
• Alternative curricula
• Financial Support
• Raising the participation age
Reintegration Measures

- Effective tracking systems
- Agency or agencies – capacity and capability to support the breadth of the population
- Financial support mechanisms
- Intensive support (from trained advisers)
- Tailored education, employment and training solutions
Active Labour Market Measures

- Wage and training subsidies
- Work experience/training programmes
- Apprenticeship programmes/subsidies
- Youth guarantees
- Safeguarding the quality of jobs and wage levels
- Reducing NEET ‘churn’
“TwentyTwenty is dedicated to ensuring young people, aged 16-24, who find themselves disadvantaged and disengaged, achieve sustained further education or employment.”
Lifeskills Centre

2 MONTHS
Engage

4 x 2 week modules
3 days a week
Prep for longer study

6 MONTHS
Journey to work

Journey to work coach

Qualification, skills training, career planning
Employer interaction and work experience
Bespoke intensive personal support

Place of work or further education

12 MONTHS
Journey in work or FE

Volunteer ‘in work’ coach

Supported transition to work or FE
Full personal coaching
Partner businesses resourced to help young people succeed in employment

OUR JOURNEY TO WORK DELIVERY MODEL

twentytwenty
- £10m of YEI, ESF, and match funding to July 2018
- Employment and social inclusion programme for Hull & Humber
- Key Worker support
- Hull - supporting 2,500 unemployed / inactive 16-29 year olds
- Humber – 500 unemployed / inactive 16-24 year olds
- Partnership HLC with 20 local organisations, including 4 local authorities
- Launched April 2016
- Participant referrals via Job Centre Plus or direct to partners
- Diverse range needs-led provision inc. mental health support
- Participants able to move across partnership

HLC contact: Ben Fletcher / Katie Freeman (01482) 327438
The keyworker model

LEARNER JOURNEY

Key Workers

End to End Provision

Engagement

Eligibility, Assessment, Initial LP

Activity, Support and LP

Progression and Post Programme Support, Employer Subsidy

Key Workers

Specialist Provision
Youth Engagement and Progression Framework

• Welsh Government
• NEET prevention and re-engagement (16-24 year olds)
• 6 components
  • identify young people most at risk of disengagement
  • provide better brokerage and co-ordination of support
  • provide stronger tracking and transition of young people through the system
  • ensure provision meets the needs of young people
  • strengthen employability skills and opportunities for employment
  • provide greater accountability for better outcomes for young people
• Local authorities have the key leadership role
Evaluation evidence

- Focus on early identification, brokerage and tracking (16-19-year olds)
- Too early to assess impact on NEET rates
- Careers Wales data is fundamental to the early identification, brokerage and tracking systems of LAs
- Accountability for post-18 group is underdeveloped
- Employability strand remains the most underdeveloped element of the framework
‘Unknown’ Destinations

• Unknown or unrecorded destinations are associated with under 18s group

• Overs 18s group - registration is linked to benefit/welfare receipt

• The analysis of the EU LFS from 2013 – **57%** of NEETs aged 15–24 years were not registered with the PES (Eurofound, 2015)

• Nearly **70 per cent** of the NEET and EI population (both males and females) in the UK are claiming benefits, compared to approximately **50 per cent** of the NEET and EA/unemployed population (54% of men and 42% of women) (Maguire and McKay, 2016)
Conclusions

Redefinition of the term ‘NEET’

• Is it now applied too casually with the result that it masks rising and unacceptable levels of inactivity among young people across the UK?

• If so, do we need to re-appraise the phenomena and issues we are seeking to address, and then re-think both our definitions and, crucially, our policy responses?

• Is the 16-24 (or in some cases 15-24) age range too wide, as it encompasses significantly different ‘sections’ of youth transitions?
Where do we go from here?

• Destinations ‘unknown’ is a worrying trend
• Research and evidence base in the UK is weak
• Need for effective tracking systems to inform and underpin policy development and implementation
• Policy intervention should be inclusive rather than selective
• Policies to address NEET prevention, re-engagement and active labour market policies
Thank you

• Any questions?

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