

**SUBJECT: MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL YOUTH SERVICE –
MONMOUTHSHIRE NEET REDUCTION STRATEGY**

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 7th October 2015

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

1. PURPOSE:

1.1 To present to the Children and Young People's Select Committee the draft Monmouthshire NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training) Reduction Strategy and action plan, which will be delivered by Monmouthshire's schools and Youth Service.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 To receive and scrutinise the draft NEET Reduction Strategy prior to submission to the Cabinet for approval.

3. KEY ISSUES:

3.1 The Monmouthshire NEET Reduction Strategy sets out its commitment to creating better outcomes for young people aged 11-25 through increasing engagement and progression of existing and future provision, with the aspiration of creating a NEET-free county.

3.2 Schools, Education Welfare Service, Pupil Referral Service, Youth Service and Careers Wales with the LA will work together with a single goal: to support and improve outcomes for young people at risk of becoming NEET or who are NEET. This model has reduced Monmouthshire NEET figures to 1.7% in 2015 (2nd lowest in Wales).

3.3 Whilst the good work achieved in Monmouthshire schools to date in identifying and preventing disengagement at all stages of their education is acknowledged, this strategy will build on schools' contribution and will work towards an early identification system, a suitable curriculum and learning pathway to support skills development and qualifications.

3.4 Primary Schools have a key role to play in the early identification of children at risk of becoming NEET.

4. REASONS:

4.1 Draft NEET Reduction Strategy in place in 2012; the need to review this and develop a revised strategy in line with local and national priorities.

4.2 Welsh Government has committed to the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework 2013, which provides a delivery model centred on the needs of young people identifying 6 key areas for achieving better outcomes for young people.

4.3 The NEET Reduction Strategy will contribute towards the implementation of the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework Plan for Monmouthshire 2015/16.

4.4 This strategy's action plan will contribute to:

- Monmouthshire Single Integrated Plan Outcome 3 (Good Access and Mobility) and Outcome 8 (Access to practical and flexible learning).
- Monmouthshire Partnership Administration Continuance Agreement that outlines the council's four priorities of supporting Education, Supporting Vulnerable People, Enterprise and Jobs Growth and Council Effectiveness.
- The Council's Improvement Objective 1 for Education as set out in the 2015-18 Improvement Plan.
- Chief Officer reports for CYP which plans a Youth Service provision to support young people.

4.5 This strategy will ensure that provision and services meets the need of all young people primarily in Key Stages 3, 4 and 5 at risk of becoming NEET or who are NEET.

4.6 To collectively ensure effective use of resources in the current financial climate.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 No cost implications to MCC

6. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:

The significant equality impacts identified in the assessment (Appendix 1) are summarised below for members' consideration:

The actual impacts from this report's recommendations will be reviewed annually and criteria for monitoring and review will include:

- To monitor annual reports by the Post 16 Steering Group on the outcomes achieved through collaboration.

- To monitor the impact of delivered services to young people and communities to ensure they are relevant, age appropriate and meet current needs and trends of the communities.

7. SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The report outlines the Youth Service's aims to continue pre and post 16 services in order for them to remain accessible, safe, available and relevant to the young people of Monmouthshire.

8. CONSULTEES:

Departmental Management Team
Headteachers
Head of Achievement and Attainment
Youth Engagement and Progression Co-ordinator
Post 16 Steering Group
14-19 Curriculum Group
Keeping in Touch Group
Engagement and Progression Stakeholders
Integrated Youth Offer Group

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Please see links to the associated papers for this report:

Glossary of terms Appendix 2

10. AUTHOR:

Hannah Jones, MCC Youth and Engagement Coordinator

11. CONTACT DETAILS:

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The “Equality Initial Challenge”

Appendix 1

Name: Hannah Jones Service area: CYP, Youth Service Date completed: 16 th April 2015		Please give a brief description of what you are aiming to do. To drive forward the Monmouthshire NEET Reduction Strategy which sets out its commitment to creating better outcomes for young people aged 11-25 through increasing engagement and progression of existing and future provision, with the aspiration of creating a NEET free county	
Protected characteristic	Potential Negative impact Please give details	Potential Neutral impact Please give details	Potential Positive Impact Please give details
Age		X	X – all young people in Key Stage 3, 4 and 5 will be identified when requiring additional support to support them achieving the desired qualifications, work placement and employment
Disability		X	
Marriage + Civil Partnership		X	
Pregnancy and maternity		X	
Race		X	
Religion or Belief		X	
Sex (was Gender)		X	
Sexual Orientation		X	
Transgender		X	

Welsh Language		X	
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Please give details about any potential negative Impacts .	How do you propose to MITIGATE these negative impacts
➤	➤
➤	➤
➤	➤
➤	➤

Signed

Designation

Dated

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

What are you impact assessing	Service area
NEET status of young people currently in Monmouthshire	CYP Youth Service
Policy author / service lead	Name of assessor and date
Hannah Jones	

1. What are you proposing to do?

The strategy sets out its commitment to creating better outcomes for young people in Monmouthshire through increasing engagement and progression of existing and future provision. It aims to ensure that all young people successfully move into immediate post-16 education, employment or training with the aspiration of creating a NEET-free county. It recognises that early identification and intervention are vital in supporting young people in their learning and enabling them to reach their potential beyond the age of 16.

2. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics in a **negative** way? If **YES** please tick appropriate boxes below.

Age		Race	
Disability		Religion or Belief	
Gender reassignment		Sex	
Marriage or civil partnership		Sexual Orientation	
Pregnancy and maternity		Welsh Language	

3. Please give details of the negative impact

There should be no negative impact on the protected characteristics above

4. Did you take any actions to mitigate your proposal? Please give details below including any consultation or engagement.

There is no proposed change to service delivery currently, however full consultation with skateholders has been undertaken in line with the Engagement and Progression Framework to ensure that young people in Monmouthshire have access to services to prevent them becoming NEET.

5. Please list the data that has been used to develop this proposal? eg Household survey data, Welsh Govt data, ONS data, MCC service

user data, Staff personnel data etc..

- 14 -19 Local Area Network
- 14 -19 Curriculum Group
- Keeping In Touch Group
- Post 16 Steering Group
- Integrated Youth Offer Group
- Careres Wales Data

Signed...Hannah Jones Designation...Engagement and Progression Coordinator...Dated...16-4-15.....

Appendix 2

Glossary of terms

ALN	Additional Learning Needs
CAP	Common Application Process
DWP	Department of Work and Pensions
EAS	Educational Achievement Service
EIS	Early Identification System
EPC	Engagement and Progression Coordinator
FSM	Free School Meals
GEMS	Gwent Ethnic Minority Service
JAF	Joint Assessment Framework
JWT	Jobs Without Training
KIT	Keeping in Touch
LA	Local Authority
LAC	Looked After Child
LSB	Local Service Board
MAM's	Mult Agency Meetings
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
PRS	Pupil Referral Service
SIP	Single Integrated Plan
TAF	Team Around the Family
YEPF	Youth and Engagement Progression Framework
WASPI	Wales Accord on the Sharing of Personal Information