

Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee

11 June 2014

Report of the Assistant Director Governance and ICT

Update on Youth Unemployment Statistics

Summary

1. This report provides Members with the latest youth unemployment statistics for York which the Committee asked for following an update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the previously completed Youth Unemployment Scrutiny Review.

Background

2. At a meeting of the Economic and City Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 27 March 2012 it was agreed that during the 2012/13 municipal year, they would carry out a review around youth unemployment. The review recommendations were agreed by Cabinet in May 2013 and at the meeting in January 2014 Officers provided ECDOSC with an update on the implementation of those approved recommendations.
3. The Committee learnt that:
 - the review had supported a 40% reduction in youth unemployment in the city;
 - as of December 2013 the overall figure of youth unemployment benefit claimants stood at 465;
 - there were only 105 young people who had been unemployed for over six months;.
 - York was the third lowest city in the UK for youth unemployment.
4. The Committee signed off the recommendations as being fully implemented in January 2014 and asked to receive youth unemployment statistics in six months' time. These are detailed in paragraphs 6-12.

Consultation

5. The Learning City York Partnership Manager has provided the update information contained in this report.

Update on Youth Unemployment

6. Success Measures:

Scrutiny Target: Reduce youth unemployment by 40% from May 2012 (to 525)

Skills Strategy Target: Reduce youth unemployment to pre-recession levels of Feb 2008

7. Key Statistics: JSA Claimants 18-24 in York

Feb 2008 (pre-recession)	515 (2.1%); All age claimant count = 1.5% of working age population
May 2012 (start of scrutiny)	875 (3.2%); including 185 x 6-12 months and 105 x 1 yr+
November 2012 (interim)	740 (2.7%)
May 2013 (final report)	650 (2.4%)
August 2013	595 (2.2%); including 75 x 6-12 months and 90 x 1 yr+
April 2014	370 (1.3%) – historic low since 2006; 280 under 6 months; 45 x 6 – 12 months; 45 x 1 yr+ months (on Work Programme);

8. Summary of Additional Support / Activity:

Head Start (LCR funded)	28 x longer-term (6-9 months) unemployed 18-24s provided with pre-employment and in-work support inc. mentor; training; travel grant; wage incentive for employer (delivered by York Learning and Learning City, CYC)
Head Start (CYC EIF funded)	40 x Work Programme returners (2 yrs unemployed); same support as above (delivered by York Learning and Learning City, CYC)

Apprenticeship Brokerage Service Working with SMEs in York who are new to Apprenticeships to create higher value jobs with training for young people

9. Key Issues Moving Forward:

More jobs / better jobs Sustainable jobs ie: 6 months+; better paid; jobs with training (Apprenticeships)

Target groups Single parents; young people with learning difficulties and disabilities; graduates

National/Regional Context

10. All nine regions of England and every Local Authority area saw a fall in 16 to 18-year-old NEET at end 2013

	16-18 year olds known to the local authority	16-18 year olds NEET		% whose activity is not known
YORKS & HUMBER	179,648	No. 10,240	5.7%	7.2%
Barnsley	8,223	440	5.4%	7.6%
Bradford	18,202	980	5.4%	2.6%
Calderdale	7,660	440	5.7%	4.4%
Doncaster	10,984	600	5.5%	14.5%
East Riding	11,204	370	3.3%	13.6%
Kingston upon Hull	9,757	560	5.7%	4.5%
Kirklees	15,560	890	5.7%	5.4%
Leeds	22,898	1,530	6.7%	7.0%
North East Lincolnshire	6,032	490	8.1%	2.0%
North Lincolnshire	6,102	370	6.1%	5.9%
North Yorkshire	18,747	810	4.3%	14.8%
Rotherham	9,714	620	6.4%	5.6%
Sheffield	17,272	1,140	6.6%	6.3%
Wakefield	11,613	620	5.3%	2.5%
York	5,679	240	4.2%	3.9%

11. All nine regions of England saw fall in 18-24 year-old youth unemployment NEETs (Quarter 1 2014).
12. For England in the first quarter of 2014 (January to March) compared to the same period in 2013:
 - there are 774,000 16 to 24-year-olds who are NEET (13.1%) - this is down 135,000 (2 percentage points) on last year, and is the lowest rate for this quarter since 2005;
 - there are 122,000 16 to 18-year-olds NEET (6.7%) - this is down 29,000 (1.5 percentage points) on last year, and is the lowest since comparable data began in 2001;
 - there are 652,000 19 to 24-year-olds NEET - this is down 105,000 (2.3 percentage points) on last year, and is the lowest since 2008;
 - in Yorkshire & the Humber – 15.9% of 18-24 year olds in Q1 of 2014 (Jan – March) were unemployed, compared to 18.8% in Q1 2013.

Options

13. Having considered the information included in this report Members can:
 - i. request further updates on youth unemployment either in a separate report like this one or in the Performance and Monitoring Report;
 - ii. agree to receive no further updates.

Council Plan

14. This report is directly linked to the 'Create Jobs and Grow the Economy' priority of the Council Plan 2011-15.

Implications

15. There are no known financial, human resources, equalities, legal or other implications associated with the recommendation made in this report.

Risk Management

16. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy there are no known risks associated with this report.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- i. note the contents of this report;
- ii. request further updates biannually via the quarterly Performance and Monitoring Reports.

Reason: To make Members aware of the youth unemployment position in York.

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Report Approved



Date 29/05/2014

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Abbreviations used in this report and its annex

CYC – City of York Council
EIF – European Investment Fund
LCR – Leeds City Region
NEETs – Not in Education, Employment of Training
SME – Small and Medium Enterprises