Schools Forum Budget Working Group – High Needs Task Group

Task Group Title:

How do we improve the offer for young people with SEND post-16 (both MLD and SLD/PMLD includes post-19)?

What is in and out of scope (definition and clarification)?

- Herefordshire resident young people aged 16-25 with SEND.
- Increase the number of these young people who are EET.
- Reducing NEET e.g. reducing the over representation of young people considered to have Behaviour, Emotional Social of Development (BESD) difficulties.
- Exploring the need and potential for a Hub for those young people with MLD.
- Ensuring post 16 education and training provision meets needs and aspirations

What steps have you taken to gather additional information including contacting/visiting other areas (attach additional information)?

Visited Worcestershire Transition Service.

Information from other local authority areas including Luton Borough Council, Kensington and Chelsea,

What are the group's recommendations	What are the advantages of this proposal?	What are the	Please state the
(with costs if possible MG to assist if		disadvantages of	alternatives
required)?		the proposal	considered, their
		including risks	costs along with
		and how they	advantages and
		can be	disadvantages of
		mitigated?	each?

 The group recommends that the 'transitions' moving into adulthood service/team needs additional resource to co-ordinate bespoke learning and employment pathways for some individuals.
 Envisage that this is a parttime role. This is not to provide Careers Information Advice and Guidance. Need to scope out costs with MG. A key driver of the SEND reforms is to ensure that young people are given support to prepare for adult life, including a focus on access to employment and independence

Young people entering post-16 education and training should be accessing provision which supports them to build on their achievements at school and which helps them progress towards adulthood. Young people with EHC plans are likely to need more tailored post-16 pathways <u>SEND Code Of Practice</u> 8.22.

Young people who have more complex needs and disabilities and who may need ongoing support from adult social care are given support from the Transition Team. The Transition Team provides support and guidance to parents and young disabled people between the ages of 14 and 25 years.

Additional resource is needed to complement the existing team for a brokerage adviser who will work with young people who are not able to access local mainstream further education. They will create bespoke packages of education and training which meet the individual's needs. They will work closely with the young person and the people that know them best. As well as education and training providers, employers and agencies such as Job Centre Plus Access to Work Advisers.

The broker will work together with relevant professionals and the young person to support them to identify what outcomes they would like to achieve in respect of education and training and employment.

This recommendation will not replace the schools and colleges responsibilities to:

provide information, advice and guidance about options post 16; deliver a curriculum to raise awareness and prepare young person for adulthood; and work experience where appropriate.

The goal is that young people are accessing the right provision given the right support at the right time in order to progress

Do nothing. This is not an option. To do nothing would deny young people the support needed to prepare for employment and independence. Young people are more likely to end up being NEET and dependent on services, which in turn affects their health and wellbeing.

Employ a full-time broker – it is not envisaged with the number of young people that would need this support would at this time warrant a full-time broker.

	and to achieve clear outcomes that help them access adult life and, where possible, fulfil their aspirations.	
2. Work needs to be undertaken with employers to develop employment pathways. This is a focus for the next 12 months as part of CWD and Autism partnership strategy and plans. Linking into the first recommendation above.	See above	See above
3. Further work needs to be undertaken to ensure that housing meets needs. Work is currently underway with adult social care.		
4. Before making any recommendations for a Post 16 MLD Hub, there is a need to understand what current provision is available in Herefordshire for young people with MLD from secondary school onwards. To identify what is working well, good practice and gaps. Who should take this work forward? Resource needs to be identified to undertake this work.	This will ensure that we understand the need to inform any future commissioning.	Commission provision without undertaking a needs analysis to establish gaps in provision etc. This could result in the wrong type of provision in the wrong place being underutilised.
5. That funding is made available in the short term as	This proposal will support those young people most at risk of becoming NEET on leaving school to make a successful	Do nothing. Young people are more

a contingency to continue the successful SEMH project that took place with Brookfields and St Davids. The aim of this project is to support students to make a positive transition in to post 16 education, employment or training; to support students to positively engage in their post 16 placement and to support post 16 providers in maintaining student engagement.*

transition into education, training and employment. It will ensure that there is not a gap in provision for those young people leaving school in 2016.

Each young person not in employment, education or training bears a cost to the public purse, through benefit payments, lost tax revenue and healthcare and criminal justice costs, says a report by the Work Foundation and the Private Equity Foundation and Public Health England local action on health inequalities: Reducing the number of young people NEET.

Each Neet, aged 16 to 18, is estimated to cost the economy £56,000 over the course of their lifetime with a further £104,000 per person cost due to missed opportunities and work that they would have created

Spending time not in employment, education or training (NEET) has been shown to have a detrimental effect on physical and mental health. This effect is greater when time spent NEET is at a younger age or lasts for longer. On average, such young people are more likely to be unemployed, have lower-paid jobs, have addictions or go to prison

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* **Project details** - Out of the starting 20 students, the programme finished with 17 that were *engaged* with the support programme, a retention of 85%. Out of the final 17 students, 1 had been removed from the provider due to poor attendance, one had left the provider due to moving out of county and 1 other was due to medical reasons and placed in a medical facility out of county.

Out of the final 17, that equates to 82.4% prevented from becoming NEET within the duration of the Programme.

The reason we are recommending funding in the short-term as a contingency is that ESF funding has been tendered and procured but we (local authority and Marches LEP) are awaiting contract implementation meetings with the successful bidder which could cause a delay to provision starting. It is hoped that we can get contracts in place in June and that the programme will start in June/July 2016. The contract ends 31 March 2018.

The ESF funding procured is to support young people who are:

- Aged 15-24 years on the start date of activity AND
- NEET OR
- Identified as being at risk of becoming NEET

For 15-16 year olds either on or off school roll, the use of ESF funds is restricted to those young people who are disengaged from regularly timetabled learning and are at risk of not participating post-16 or who are on the LA's Risk of NEET Indicator List. Pre-16 provision will support underachieving pupils in schools/academies and ensure statutory provision for those off the school roll.

The successful bidder must provide differentiated delivery for different groups of young people, demonstrating an in-depth understanding of their varied and complex needs. This must include the provision of personalised and flexible programmes

including (but not exclusively):

- ex-offenders, offenders and those at risk of offending
- those with disabilities including those with mild to moderate learning difficulties and/or disabilities
- those with mental health difficulties including behavioural and social difficulties
- those in care and care leavers
- young carers and teenage parents
- those from BME communities including travellers
- those who have been home educated
- those who are homeless
- those who have previously been excluded from school or withdrawn from post-16 learning programmes
- those with substance misuse issues
- graduates, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds

The Services must provide individual and continuous mentor/key worker support to encourage continued engagement. The mentor/key worker will be expected to engage with a young person's parent or carer as appropriate to foster positive outcomes.

The Services must include enhanced provision for those with learning difficulties and disabilities or other vulnerable groups who may require specialist support and training in alternative learning environments.

The Services must facilitate and broker opportunities for young people and support local employers to take on young people

£598,700 is available for Herefordshire.

Pre 16 NEET More Developed £102,000 80 young people

Post 16 NEET More Developed £496,700 195 young people