

CAPITAL CITY PARTNERSHIP



**NOT IN EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION OR TRAINING (NEET) 16-19  
SUMMARY (2008)**

**More Choices More Chances**

**Compiled by Stephen McMurray**

## Introduction

This summary updates information presented in 'The Position of Joined up for Jobs Target Groups' report in 2005. This report considered each target group and in addition to the categories below included; overlaps between the different target groups, perceived gaps in service provision, information gaps, and conclusions and recommendations. This report is available from CCP.

## Scope

A significant number of the school leavers from 2006-07 did not enter employment, education or training. This represents the situation in October of that year, so it may well be that some people had been active in the months before.

| <u>TARGET GROUP</u>                                    | <u>NUMBER IN EDINBURGH</u>   | <u>NOT WORKING</u>                                     | <u>SOURCES</u>                          |
|--|--|--|---|
| NEET School Leavers 16-19 (More choices, more chances) | Unemployed and seeking Employment or Training – <b>563</b><br>Unemployed and not seeking Employment or Training – <b>80</b><br>Destination Unknown – <b>26</b> | <b>669</b> in SLDS, likely to be at least <b>1,000</b> | School leaver destination survey (SLDS) |

## Definition

The not in employment, education or employment category (NEET) contains people aged 16-19 who are unemployed, but seeking employment or training; those unemployed and not seeking employment or training (could be for a variety of issues, such as caring responsibilities, sickness, or taking a gap year).

## Employment

The school leaver destination survey reports that of the state secondary schools reporting in 2006-07 in the City of Edinburgh: **1,072** were in Employment; **1,085** were in Higher Education; **875** were in Further Education; and **121** were in Training.

## Benefits

In February 2008, there were **660** JSA claimants aged 19 and under in Edinburgh. In May 2007, there were **80** IB/SDA claimants aged 16-17 in Edinburgh and **1,540** IB/SDA claimants aged 18-24 in Edinburgh. In May 2007, there were **40** Lone Parent Income Support (LPIS) claimants aged 16-17 in Edinburgh and **1,090** LPIS claimants aged 18-24 in Edinburgh.

## Barriers to Employment

- Many educational issues around poor qualifications, possible literacy/numeracy issues, negative attitudes to training.
- Whole range of social issues is possible, including; confidence, motivation, caring responsibilities, low expectations.
- Labour market issues around; not prepared to do the work on offer, lack of knowledge of opportunities, increased competition from migrants.
- Employers wanting more experience from employees.
- Lack of jobsearch skills.
- 16/17 year olds not eligible for certain programmes, such as New Deal.
- Disincentive to go on short-term training due to losing benefits.
- Geographical/transport issues specific to young people.

## **Employability Services**

Most relevant services are likely to be:

- **Apex Scotland** – Runs the Employment Guidance Unit, for young people at risk, which offers a number of services, including; employability assessment and guidance.
- **Careers Scotland** – Provides career planning services and employability support to pupils in school. Has statutory duty to help school leavers secure employment, training or education.
- **Edinburgh Cyrenians** – "People with Potential" preparation for work courses (PWP).
- **The Fairbridge Project** – Along with other organisations is working with 140 of the most disadvantaged school pupils in Edinburgh and helping them develop their confidence, motivation and life skills.
- **15:24 Project** – Consists of 20 partners engaged in 9 project elements across Edinburgh and Lothians. Consists of 3 strands – assessment and tracking, key worker support and mentoring.
- **Get Ready for Work** – Managed by Scottish Enterprise, is a national training initiative for 16-18/19 year olds who are not ready to enter the work place.
- **JET Programme** – Run across a number of secondary schools in Edinburgh. Offering work placements to school students.
- **Modern Apprenticeships** – Managed by Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothian (SEE&L), offer those aged over 16 paid employment combined with the opportunity to train for jobs at craft, technician and management level.
- **The Prince's Trust** - Runs XL programme which is working with school pupils and developing their softer skills, confidence and self esteem. Also offers the Team Programme.
- **Skillseekers** – Training programme run by SEE&L, primarily for 16-18 year olds. Majority now have employed status.

## **Further Reading**

Careers Scotland (2007) School Leaver Destination Report 2006/07, Edinburgh

Scottish Executive (2006) More Choices, More Chances, Edinburgh

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