

## Youth Unemployment Review Panel

### Members

Councillors Addis, Cowell, James, Kingscote and Pentney

(Contact Kate Spencer on t: 01803 207014 or e: [scrutiny@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@torbay.gov.uk))

**Wednesday, 23 May 2012 at 5.30 pm**  
to be held in the **Meadfoot Room, Town Hall, Castle Circus,**  
**Torquay, TQ1 3DR**

### Agenda

- 1. Election of Chairman**
- 2. Current Position**  
To receive a briefing on the current position in respect of young people looking for work and the providers, services and initiatives available to assist them. (Pages 1 - 13)
- 3. Project Plan**  
To agree the Project Plan for the Review (including the Scope, Timetable and Communications Plan). (Pages 14 - 15)

# Agenda Item 2

## Youth Unemployment

### Initial Briefing Note

#### 1. The Current Situation

1.1 The **Not in Education, Employment or Training** (NEET) figures for January – March 2012 is **5.1%**. This figure relates to 16-18 year olds based on residency (i.e. young people who lives in Torbay) and is the new way of producing the figures for the Department for Education as opposed to occupancy (i.e. young people who study in Torbay) which stands at 4.7%, down from 5.9% at the same time last year.

1.2 Young people are more likely to be NEET at 17 (i.e. a year after mandatory school leaving age) and even more so at 18:

**NEET at 16 = 3.0%**

**NEET at 17 = 4.6%**

**NEET at 18 = 5.9%**

1.3 At any time this means that **around 200-220 16-18 year old young people are NEET** but the population keeps changing so some young people start a course of education, then drop out and become NEET for 1 or 2 months then get a job or start another course. They may become NEET again in a few months, others may be NEET for several months then start a course and are not NEET again. This is called NEET churn and up to 900 young people may be NEET for at least 1 month in any year. Of these the main groups within the NEET population are young carers, most of whom are teen parents and those with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities. Other vulnerable groups are represented in the NEET population in small numbers. Some young people in the NEET group are not available (either have recently become parents or are medically unfit due to long term illness). Many of the NEETS are either looking for a Level 2 course, having completed Level 1 study but perhaps are deemed unlikely to succeed, or are looking for employment. 3.9% of the EET cohort are in jobs without training.

1.4 Torbay Council has commissioned Careers South West (CSW) to track young people post-16, to support various teams in Children's Services in early intervention work to prevent 16-18s becoming NEET and to support young people who are NEET to move into EET. The number of "Not Knowns" is very low for Torbay (currently 1.2% (54 young people)). The performance of the provider against contract is monitored quarterly and there are regular meetings of CSW staff with various council staff teams such as Youth Offending, Young Carers, Targeted Youth Support, Teen parents, 14-19 and Raising Participation.

1.5 In March 2012, 4.9% of Torbay's working population were in receipt of **Job Seekers Allowance** compared with 2.9% in the south-west and 4.1% nationally. For males the figure is higher than for females with 6.9% of men claiming compared with 2.9% females. This is a similar split to the national picture. Torbay's economy based

around tourism means that many jobs are seasonal and therefore the percentage of claimants rises in the winter months.

- 1.6 From Jan 2009 the percentage of the working age population claiming Job Seekers Allowance in the Bay rose sharply from under 3% to over 4% reaching 5% in February 2012.
- 1.7 Through effective partnership working the percentage of 16 – 18 year old Not in Employment, Education and Training has remained low, with Torbay being one of the best performing areas in the country, however this does not translate into good employment prospects for 18-24 year olds. In March 2012, 1,125 of 18-24 (10.6%) year olds in the Bay were in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance compared with 6.2% in the south-west and 8.3% nationally.
- 1.8 225 (2.4%) have been claiming for between 6-12 months and 85 (0.8%) for over 12 months.
- 1.9 Claimant rates for the 18-24 year olds rose above 8% in December 2008 peaking at 11.2% in February 2010. Torbay's claimant rate in April 2011 was the highest in the South-west. Although a relatively small proportion of 18 to 24 year olds remain on job seekers allowance for more than 12 months, this is still higher than the South-west average and may reflect the seasonal nature of employment along with initiatives to support young people into work.

## **2. Benefits available to young unemployed people**

- 2.1 If a young person wishes to claim benefits and they are aged 16-17, providing they are eligible, they will claim **Hardship** paid at £56.25 for a single person per week for up to 9 weeks. Once the 9 weeks has passed, the claimant needs to re-apply. There are currently 8 Hardship claimants in Torbay, with a further 2 pending. Numbers of claimants fluctuate greatly over a year (during July 2011 numbers were significantly higher as young people completed one academic year and may not have had a place in learning for the next year).
- 2.2 Once a young person reaches 18 years of age, providing the eligibility criteria is met, they can claim **Job Seekers Allowance**. There are currently 112 eighteen year olds claiming JSA and 171 nineteen year olds claiming JSA.
- 2.3 Careers South West work closely with Job Centre Plus to ensure young people claiming benefits receive advice, guidance and support with the aim of the young person moving into a positive outcome (Education, Employment or Training (EET)). The agreed procedures are as follows:
  - Careers South West to refer any young person to the under 18s Adviser at Job Centre Plus to make a hardship applications
  - For any young person wishing to claim JSA, a Careers South West Adviser will complete an ES9 with the young person. Part of the ES9 form is about an agreement between the young person and Careers South West which outlines how the young person will attend a weekly appointment to discuss EET options.

- Once the claim has been processed the Job Centre will fax through names of 16-18 year old claimants on a weekly basis. We inform the Job Centre whether we have seen the client. The Job Centre will sanction those young people who do not adhere to their claim terms and conditions. Any interventions with a young person with regard to any benefits or claims are recorded on CCIS (the tracking system for 16-18 year olds).

2.4 Job Centre Plus are now offering an 8 week work experience placement for any claimant aged 16 or over. In Torbay and South Devon 42% of those who have completed work experience, have progressed into employment.

### **3. The Council's Role**

3.1 In terms of NEETs and pre-NEETs, for young people aged from 16-19 years (or 16 – 25 for LLDD) this includes: working with all local (within travel to learn area) providers to ensure sufficient, high quality and relevant learning provision is available locally to meet learner needs, to ensure the September Guarantee is met (every young person aged 16 or 17 to be offered a place in learning each September) and to promote and facilitate the Raising of the Participation Age to 17 in 2013 and 18 in 2015. In order to fulfil this role we work with schools with sixth forms, the local FE college, providers of Apprenticeship training and delivery partners of specific NEET projects e.g. ESF(which is detailed below). The Council has a duty to track the educational progress of young people from ages 16-19 through a client tracking system (we have commissioned Careers South West to perform this duty using CCIS and to make monthly returns to DfE on our behalf).

3.2 The Council also has a duty to provide education for young people up to the current statutory school leaving age including where they have been excluded from mainstream provision and to provide suitable education for young people with a statement of special educational need up to age 25 where educational progress can be shown. In Torbay much pre-NEET work happens within the Torbay 14-19 Learning Partnership to re-engage young people before they are excluded from school i.e. early intervention with pre-16s providing a range of different learning experiences – see below.

3.3 The Council also has a duty to provide impartial Information, Advice and Guidance and support to vulnerable young people who require greater levels of support to progress in post-16 EET than the National Careers Service (see below) can offer. This includes carrying out Learning Difficulty Assessments (S139a) for young people who are giving up their SEN statement after age 16 to move into FE either locally or at an Independent Specialist Provider. The Council has commissioned Careers South West to provide this service alongside the tracking service.

3.4 In addition, the Council can support 16-24 Youth Employment as an employer by considering apprenticeships and work experience opportunities themselves. It can also support as a partner by spreading the word that young people are worth being given a chance, engaging with businesses in the Torbay area and those considering inward investment. When looking at planning applications, a view on how employment opportunities may figure in any development is helpful with a commitment to employ local people. Jobcentre Plus being cited on proposals at an

early stage is also welcomed, we can then work with colleges and providers to ensure the young people are prepared appropriately for job opportunities as they arise.

#### **4. Responsibilities of schools, further education and higher education institutions**

- 4.1 **Schools** (including LA maintained schools, academies, free schools, studio schools, UTCs) provide learning up to the statutory school leaving age (the end of the academic year in which a young person becomes 16). Maintained schools must deliver the National Curriculum, academies and free schools do not have to. Schools, from September 2012, have a duty to ensure universal provision of careers education and impartial Information, Advice and Guidance to young people from years 9-11 in order to help their progression post-16. They will also signpost the new National Careers Service to support this.
- 4.2 **National Careers Service** (info from central government via CSW) was launched in April 2012. Although primarily focused on helping adults aged over 19 in England, it will provide access to information useful to people of all ages – fuelling the potential of millions. The National Careers Service is designed to help people make informed decisions about careers, skills and learning, giving them the best chance of leading fulfilling lives. People of all ages can access the service online or over the telephone and adults will have additional access to community-based face to face advice.
- 4.3 To make this happen, the service has been designed around two core principles:
- The individual customer's needs to shape the delivery of the service.
  - The service will be seen as the 'gold standard' for careers advice.
- 4.4 Customers of the service will benefit from expert, impartial advice on jobs and careers, including Apprenticeships, and the opportunities supported by local, regional and national economies. Customers will also be able to make an informed choice about where they learn (by having access to user-friendly information on courses and providers) and about sources of funding to support their learning and training. The online channel of the service will integrate these sources of information and every adult is encouraged to open a Lifelong Learning Account. A Lifelong Learning account gives clear information on skills, careers and financial support in a single, personalised online space, giving more control over the individual's learning and working life.
- 4.5 Customers who require more support to understand and make use of this information can speak to a professionally qualified National Careers Service adviser either on the phone or, for adults, in a face-to-face community setting. We believe that careers advice is one of the essential keys to unlocking social mobility and increasing aspiration, progression and fulfillment.
- 4.6 Locally the service is offered in local Job Centres, Libraries and other outreach venues. If a young person is 18 and claiming benefits, they are entitled to see a Careers and Skills Advisers through the National Careers Service.

- 4.7 **Post-16 learning opportunities** can be offered by schools with sixth forms, FE colleges and training providers offering 16-18 and 19+ Apprenticeships or other work based learning. Employers should ensure that young people aged 16-18 are offered training (at least 280 hours per annum), whether in full time or part time employment.
- 4.8 **Higher Education** establishments offer a range of generally post-18 courses which meet the needs of young people and, where good practice is developed, also meet some local or national employment need/skill shortage but they are independent of direct government control for their educational offer.
- 5. Responsibility after the age of 19**
- 5.1 The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), through Jobcentre Plus, is responsible for supporting young people aged 18-24 who are claiming a DWP working age benefit. This support includes job search advice, agreeing an action plan towards employment and referring to partner organisations and colleges/providers to overcome any barriers to work, as well as engaging with employers to source work experience and employment opportunities.

Prepared by Liz Porter, Torbay Council

(with input from Job Centre Plus)

### Pre-NEET and Re-engagement Education Work

#### Undertaken by the 14-19 Team within Children's Services, Torbay Council

Below is a flavour of some of the pre-NEET's work that the local authority (14-19 Team) undertake with schools, South Devon College, external training providers, employers and other agencies:-

Accredited Vocational Education at KS4 and KS5 (*funded by schools and DSG – practical learning*) In 2011/2012 there are 21 different Vocationally Related Qualifications (VRQ's) covering 9 different employment sectors offered to KS4 (14-16 year olds) across Torbay.

- Qualifications range from Entry Level to Level 2 (A\*-C equivalent)
  - Each qualification offers progression to the next level
  - Some consideration given to local employment needs
  - From 2008 -2011 there was expansion of training provider base, prompting the 14-19 Team to support them with high quality training in professional development and safeguarding
- Impact –**
- Between 700- 800 learners (mainly level1) access VRQ's annually (some reduction since Sept 2011)
  - Average annual pass rate – 96% (97.2% in 2011)
  - Average annual retention rate – 91% (94.5% in 2011) – strongly suggests that young people are enjoying and valuing these courses
  - VRQ's added 26489 performance points to Torbay school's attainment tables in 2011 ( it is likely that those learners who gained these would not have done so in more academic related subjects)
  - Some schools invested heavily in a range of resources to deliver VRQ's (Combe Pafford, TCC, PCSC and Westlands). In some cases it involves modern resource and courses taught by well qualified vocationally trained tutors. SDC provide 14-16 year olds with access to their industry standard facilities and staff that were originally developed for post-16 training.
  - Recognised as contributory factor in raising attendance and reducing exclusion

KS4 Foundation Learning (FL) programme (*funded by schools and DSG – practical learning and Early Intervention Grant*):

This requires a degree of personalised learning that matches the need of the learner. These programmes have been successful with the most disaffected and challenging young people in Torbay.

Personalised learning is founded on a concentrated diet of –

- Core and functional skills including Literacy, Numeracy and IT
- Work related Learning – including work experience and VRQ's as above
- Personal, Social education – focussing on ambition, motivation, accountability, employability and personal responsibility
- Other interests including GCSE's as appropriate

### **Impact –**

- over 240 of the most challenging and vulnerable learners on flexible FL courses throughout the year ;
- 205 predicted to pass Skills for Progression qualifications in 2012
- FL programmes recognised as a contributory factor in Torbay's low NEET's
- Greater numbers of young people are more confident (and ready) to access further education at 16

KS3 and KS2 Intervention through a new learning support programme (PULSE) based at Parkfield (*funded by schools and Behaviour and attendance funding and Early Intervention funding*)

Still in its first year, the project has received plaudits both locally and regionally for its approach to tackling poor attitudes to learning. It's an early intervention strategy with the focus on positive attitudes to learning and the future including employment

### **Impact –**

- Early data shows that a significant majority of pupils are returning to schools with refreshed attitudes
- LA looking to increase capacity of programme to include harder to reach pupils
- **Effective innovation that directly tackles youth unemployment** - LA secured funding to employ 5 x 17/18 year old NEET's as f/t trainee learning support assistants whilst working towards a level 2 pre-Apprenticeship qualification.

Raising of the Participation Age roll out in 2013. Torbay has been successful in its application for 1 year's grant funding from the DfE for locally led delivery projects to trial a number of initiatives around RPA (*successful bid for DfE direct funding*)

### **Impact (intended) –**

- To increase levels of supported post-16 transition for level 1 learners in attempt to increase post-16 retention in learning and therefore reduce NEET levels.
- To plug the gap in 'Employment with Training' opportunities locally by trialling an 'Earn as you Learn' programme (similar to that at PULSE)

Increased Local Employer Engagement with disaffected young people

Still in its first year after the recruitment of suitable and caring employers to form the Torbay Employers Group Foundation Learning Work Experience scheme. It targets those KS4 young people most in danger of exclusion. The scheme offers learners an extended work experience placement of one day per week (throughout the school year), integral to 5 day individual personalised timetables created by the school.. Young people get real working experience with supportive employers and a Level 1 qualification in employability skills.

### **Impact –**

- 15 learners gained skills for employment qualification in the first year
- 2 participants offered jobs with training through their placement 'employer'
- scheme gaining local recognition eg one employer and one learner were both category winners at the South Devon Skills Awards event in March 2012
- Demand is there to expand the scheme from Sept 2012

- During his self- assessment procedure one learner stated - *“If it wasn’t for my work experience day with Jason at the zoo I wouldn’t still be in school. I’m not sure that I’d even be living at home. Jason has given me confidence and belief that I have a future.....I’m applying to college now for a place on animal care”*.

**Foundation Learning and PETROC (NEETS Engagement Programme) *ESF funded***

In addition to mainstream further education courses, South Devon College offer a range of bespoke courses for young people delivered away from the main campus. Careers South West identify and refer young people to this provision through caseload management. PETROC provision is ESF funded, subcontracted to South Devon College, with small numbers also at Prince’s Trust and Westward Pathfinder.

**Transition Support for young people to education, employment and training**

Torbay Council has commissioned work under this contract (*funded from Early Intervention Grant*) in respect of learner tracking, IAG and support for vulnerable groups, including S139as – (see above). At age 19 NEETs move to JCP support

Liz Porter

May 3rd 2012

# Agenda Item 2

## Appendix 2

### Agencies working with Jobcentre Plus in Torbay and Support Offered

- South Devon College Basic Skills Courses (SFA Funded) - courses to improve customer's numeracy and literacy skills
- EQUIP Training SW Ltd - Learn Direct Numeracy and literacy flexible courses working towards nationally recognised OCR qualifications
- Careers Advice Service
- Opportunity Plus South West - provision funded by the Big Lottery to inspire and motivate individuals who are experiencing difficulties returning to employment.
- Paignton Sec (Info Tech Training Centre) - SFA funded training in
  - Business Administration
  - Information Technology
  - Leadership & Management
  - Customer Service
  - Retail & Retail Operations
  - Hospitality
  - Basic Skills – English and Mathematics
- Princess Trust
- JCP Support Contract (Working Links) modules in;
  - Finding and Getting a Job
  - Finding and Getting a Job for Professionals and executives
  - Jobsearch Support Centre
  - Keeping the Job
  - Launch Pad
  - Vocational training
- Work Clubs (DWP funding assistance)
  - Eat That Frog CIC - *people or disadvantaged (through age, disability including mental health and learning disability) to gain and sustain paid employment. Provision specific for young care leavers and other vulnerable groups to gain qualifications through Learning Plus contract that the organisation holds. Advice on CV, Jobsearch and applications for jobs. Offer information and advice on training and support available to people when they move into work e.g. vocational training, support with budgeting, bank accounts etc. To offer guidance on how adult social care can offer a care package that supports gain/sustain paid employment.*
  - The Foyer Work Club (Independent Futures) - *All 16 to 24 year old JSA/ESA unemployed customers To offer impartial advice and practical support in the following*
    - Create, Develop and Update CVs
    - Applying for work
    - Job search
    - Interview skills and preparation
    - Personal Presentation
  - Hele's Angels - *Work club focuses support to the 18-24 age group and provides help with CV's interview techniques, application forms, spec approaches etc.*
  - Hele Hub CIC –
    - A range of free newspapers to search for jobs
    - Assistance with CV

- *Mock Interviews*
    - *Help with completing application forms*
    - *Computer and Internet access and staff available to help support attendees with their job search*
  - **'I Can Do That' (Brixham Paignton & Torquay)** - *Offering varied support, including CV's, on line applications, help with interview techniques*
  - **South Devon College Work Club at Paignton Library** - *Offering impartial advice and practical support in the following*
    - *Create, Develop and Update CVs*
    - *Applying for work*
    - *Job search*
    - *Interview skills and preparation*
    - *Personal Presentation*
  - **Stone Court** - *Help with jobsearch, access to vacancies, on-line applications, and interview techniques. Help with CV's /Careers Advice through Nextstep. (Appointments are needed for this facility).*
- **Enterprise Clubs (DWP funding assistance)**
    - **'I Can Do That' Torquay Enterprise Club** - *The Enterprise Club will run alongside the existing Work Club providing help and advice to anyone who is in the early stages of considering self –employment. The provider will link in with other providers such as Outset Torbay*
    - **South Devon Enterprise Club (Opportunity Plus South West)** - *Through workshops which will inspire and motivate jobseekers to consider self employment as a route back to work. Provides basic start up information for individuals who may not have a business idea. The organisation will have the ability to link in with other partners in the area and will signpost appropriately.*
  - **Outset Torbay** - *Offers 1-2-1 advice and coaching, foundation workshops, introduction to enterprise workshops, Business start up workshops, continuing support and networking.*
  - **The Torch Project** - *Run by a Christian charity, the Torch Project can offer advice on a wide range of subjects, including: debt; business start up; form filling (by appointment); access to education grants. They also provide a 24hour counselling service.*
  - **Work Together**
    - **Alzheimer's Society Babbacombe & Brixham Cafés** - *As a volunteer you will be involved in a variety of activities to support the running of the Café, from supporting and encouraging people with dementia and their carers to share their experiences to helping to run social activities*
    - **Coalition of Disabled People South Devon** - *Information and advice for people living with disabilities, including counselling, budgeting, welfare rights, volunteering opportunities and an advocacy service. Can also offer help with form filling for benefits, and advise on appeals process for benefits such as ESA*
    - **Mutual Aid & Self Help (MASH)** - *Charity shop offering day opportunities, mainly for people with mental health problems. Proceeds go to vulnerably housed people. Works with homeless projects in Torbay. Supplies household goods and furniture to those in need*
    - **Torbay Community and Voluntary Action** - *Anyone with an interest in volunteering in Torbay, this is an ideal opportunity to gain experience in the world of work, update your CV and support your local community*
  - **Hand in Hand** - *Hand in Hand is a volunteer mentor service provided by Torbay Council to parents who may want help with their children. Mentors can support parents with difficult children, but can also mentor children who are experiencing problems such as bullying, isolation etc. They also supply an advocate service for young people, especially relating to school attendance issues*
  - **Torbay Children's Centres**

- Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) – Torbay CAB debt advice
- Torbay Depression & Anxiety Service - *Depression and Anxiety Service, is available to anyone over the age of 18, who lives in Torbay, who has mental health barrier to work. For example, anxiety, stress, depression or panic attacks and they are not currently receiving treatment*
- Torbay Council Homeless Options and Housing Benefit Teams

Karen Hooper

Jobcentre Plus [karen.hooper@jobcentreplus.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:karen.hooper@jobcentreplus.gsi.gov.uk)

8 May 2012

### The Youth Contract Offer

The **DWP-led elements** of the Youth Contract which are now available include:

- 160,000 wage incentives worth up to £2,275 each, for employers who recruit an 18-24 year-old from the Work Programme;
- An extra 250,000 work experience places, including those that offer training and guaranteed interviews, ensuring that there is an offer of a place for every 18 to 24 year-old who wants one, before they enter the Work Programme; and
- Extra adviser support through Jobcentre Plus for all 18-24 year olds including a referral to a careers interview delivered by the National Careers Service within the first 3 months of a Jobseeker's Allowance claim.

### Wage incentives

#### Youth Contract:

- 160,000 wage incentives worth up to £2,275 each, are now available to employers who recruit an 18-24 year-old from the Work Programme for at least 26 weeks.
- For employers to claim the Wage Incentive, the job has to be expected to be a sustained permanent job.
- Wage incentives will usually be paid after a young person has been employed for 26 weeks however smaller employers will be able to receive a part payment after 8 weeks worth up to £700.
- Two Wage Incentive rates are also available once a young person has remained in work for 26 weeks. This includes a full payment of £2,275 for a full-time job (30+ hours per week) and a part-time rate (16-29 hours per week) of £1,137.50.
- Wage incentives are primarily available to the private, voluntary and community sectors and social enterprise employers. Central Government Departments and their executive agencies will be excluded from claiming them, but the wider public sector, such as NHS trusts, will not.
- Work Programme providers are responsible for working with employers to identify suitable opportunities where a wage incentive can be paid and an individual on the Work Programme can only attract one wage incentive.
- Interested employers can find out more by visiting the [DWP Youth Contract](#) website or by contacting local Work Programme providers direct:

Provider	Contact name	Telephone	Email
Prospect Services	Simon Flenley	07818013703	<a href="mailto:simon.flenley@prospects.co.uk">simon.flenley@prospects.co.uk</a>
Working Links	Sue Dann	07791 226705	<a href="mailto:sue.dann@workinglinks.co.uk">sue.dann@workinglinks.co.uk</a>

## **AGE 16-24:**

- Through the Youth Contract, the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills have also made, through the AGE 16-24 programme, an extra 20,000 apprenticeship incentive payments available, worth £1500 each, to small employers (<250 employees) who take on their first apprentice aged 16-24 years old.. This takes the the total number of Apprenticeship Incentive payments through AGE 16-24 to 40,000. These incentive payments are available now in England and are administered by the National Apprenticeship Service. Further information is available on the [National Apprenticeship Service website](#)  

Note: An employer cannot access the Youth Contract Grant (£2,275) and AGE 16-24 (£1,500) for the same individual.

## **Support for disengaged 16 to 17 year olds in England**

- As part of the Youth Contract, Government announced plans to invest £126m in England over the next three years to support the most disengaged and disadvantaged 16-17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training.
- On 21 February, the Deputy Prime Minister announced that Government would use this new resource to introduce a programme to help disengaged 16 and 17 year olds make a sustainable move into full-time education, an Apprenticeship or work with training.
- Under the new scheme, providers will be rewarded for their successes through a strong system of payment by results, paying them when they have moved disengaged young people into positive outcomes and kept them engaged in lasting activity.
- Contracts for the new programme will be expected to be in place by June 2012 and will be let on a regional basis following an open competition run by the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA).
- Further information on this programme is available on the [YPLA website](#)  .

Karen Hooper

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8 May 2012

## Overview & Scrutiny

*Confidence in your Council*

### Youth Unemployment

#### Project Plan – Scoping Document Draft version – April 2012

##### **Objective of the Review**

To consider the factors which influence youth unemployment in Torbay and to facilitate partnership working across the public, private and third sectors to address the issue.

##### **Scope of the Review**

1. To understand the issues facing young people looking for work and the providers, services and initiatives available to assist them.
2. To consider the views of employers on their needs and how young people are equipped with the skills that are demanded.
3. To ensure that Council policies support youth employment.

##### **Constraints**

This review will look at the situation for young people leaving full-time education until the age of 25 years.

##### **Rationale for the Review**

The Labour Market Statistics, published by the Office for National Statistics in April 2012, show that 8.2% of 16-24 year olds in Torbay are claiming Job Seekers Allowance. This is an increase of 0.2% since March 2011 and equates to 1110 young people. The same statistics show that 2.4% of this age group have been claiming for over six months (an increase of 1.6% since March 2011).

There are a range of agencies within Torbay operating a number of schemes and initiatives aimed at helping to get young people into work.

If you would like to be involved in this review, please email [scmthy@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:scmthy@torbay.gov.uk) or telephone [01803 203000](tel:01803203000) on 01803 203000.

### **Expected outcome of the Review**

(What is the Panel expected to produce at the end of the review – e.g. a revised/new policy for adoption, a report on which a decision can be made about future service provision)

[To be completed]

### **Consultees (sources of evidence)**

Young People  
Torbay Council – Children’s Services Directorate  
Torbay Development Agency  
Careers South West  
Secondary Schools  
South Devon College  
Job Centre Plus  
Third Sector Organisations

### **Key Timings**

[To be completed]

### **Selected key documents**

### **Review panel membership**

Councillor Addis  
Councillor Cowell  
Councillor Kingscote (Place Scrutiny Lead)  
Councillor James  
Councillor Pentney (Business Scrutiny Lead)

It is anticipated that the [Overview and Scrutiny Board/Health Scrutiny Board] will consider the report of the Panel in [Month and Year]. Once the report has been adopted it will be forwarded to the appropriate decision maker(s) for consideration.