

Councillor Chris Holley
Convenor
Service Improvement & Finance Scrutiny
Performance Panel

Please ask for: Councillor Clive Lloyd
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Our Ref: CL/JW
Your Ref:
Date: 15 October 2019

BY EMAIL

Dear Councillor Holley

Thank you for your letter dated 4 September 2019.

In answer to your questions I respond as follows.

1. *You told us how the majority of these targets were met or within 5% of being met. We heard how EDCP18D showed a 12% increase in the number of NEETS (not in education, employment or training) compared to 17/18. The comments states that 3.9% of the year 11 cohort had a very high vulnerability profile. Is this 3.9% of the NEETS or 3.9% of year 11 overall?*

3.9% of year 11 overall.

2. *EDCP18D – Refers to ‘known’ NEETS, but we do have a query about ‘unknown’ NEETS. Do you believe that there are unknown NEETS, and if so, can you tell us what the strategy is for supporting them?*

All NEET Young People are tracked via Careers Wales from school leaver age through until the age of 18, this includes all colleges and training providers updating careers of any students dropping out of courses. All NEET young people are contacted by Careers Wales to ensure that they receive an offer of support for the most appropriate service to meet their needs. If contact via Careers Wales has not been possible the young person is automatically referred over to the local authorities NEETS Team, where two outreach workers are dedicated to locating these young people and making them an appropriate offer of support. This strategy has ensured that Swansea has always maintained a very low level of unknown young people and enables very accurate reporting of true NEET figures.

3. *Regarding BBMA4 which relates to the number of apprenticeships or trainee starts in the Council, we have not met this target. Given the financial restraints of the Council, should this target be reviewed to be more realistic?*

The 18/19 target of 50 apprenticeships/ traineeships for BBMA4 was found to be unrealistic, because in the current financial climate and the freeze on recruitment, service areas are unable to find the resources to take on apprentices. The 19/20 target has now been set at 16 as this is felt to be realistic and achievable, mainly through the annual Corporate Building Services apprentice recruitment.

Yours sincerely



**COUNCILLOR CLIVE LLOYD
CABINET MEMBER FOR RESILIENCE
& STRATEGIC COLLABORATION**