

# Provision for Young People Aged 14-19



Leading learning and skills

## North West Strategic Analysis

26 November 2008

Issue 1: Declining 14-19 population.....	6
Issue 2: Participation and NEET .....	8
Issue 3: Retaining young people in learning at age 17 .....	24
Issue 4: Ensuring all young people have an equal chance of success in learning.....	26
Issue 5: Level 2 at 16 with/without English or Maths .....	35
Issue 6: Level 2 and Level 3 at 19 .....	37
Issue 7: Effective roll-out of Diplomas.....	45
Issue 8: Provision for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LDD).....	48
Issue 9: Travel to Learn and cross-boundary planning.....	49
Annex: Young Apprenticeships and Key Stage 4 Engagement Programmes.....	51

### Overview

- 1 This section analyses LSC funded provision for young people aged 14-19. It covers:
  - **Apprenticeships** (both Apprenticeships at Level 2 and Advanced Apprenticeships at Level 3) and Entry to Employment provision;
  - Learning delivered by **Further Education** colleges and **Sixth Form colleges**;
  - Learning delivered by **School Sixth Forms**.
- 2 In common with other sections of the Strategic Analysis, this draws together information on participation and success rates in learning alongside relevant data on the North West cohort of young people, to develop a comprehensive overview of the key facts and issues in relation to 14-19 learning. These conclusions form the starting point for the development of the regional commissioning statement, due to be published in Winter 2008.

### Context

- 3 The Machinery of Government changes will see funding for 16-18 learning and skills transferred from the LSC to Local Authorities in 2010. The LSC's 14-19 Strategic Analysis 2008/09 therefore provides analysis at Regional, Sub-regional level. In addition the LSC has provided each Local Authority with an analysis for the LA area to support planning for 2009-10. [Provide hyperlink to local analyses.](#)
- 4 These changes are the latest in a series of reforms intended to ensuring that every young person is equipped with the skills to fulfil their potential in work and life. To achieve this, the Government is reforming 14-19 education and driving forward a wider Youth agenda. The programme of reform for the 14-19 phase of education has 3 clear goals:

- To ensure that all young people participate until at least their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday in education and training that stretches and challenges them to achieve their potential and go on to further or higher education or skilled employment.
  - To give young people the knowledge and skills that employers and the economy need to prosper in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
  - To close the achievement gap so that all have an equal opportunity to succeed, irrespective of gender, race, disability or background.
- 5 Substantial progress has been made against these goals, including the introduction of Diplomas (see Figure 51) and the extension of the September Guarantee to all 17 year olds and as a result we have seen more young people participating and achieving in education and training and then progressing further.
- 6 Despite this, significant challenges remain, which is why the Government has made the commitment to raise the participation age to give every young person the opportunity to remain in education or training. The children who started year 7 this September will be the first to stay in education and training until 17.

### The Next Steps Document

The DCSF published the *next steps* document which sets out four priorities to deliver a 14-19 entitlement for all young people to the right learning opportunities and the right support:

- A high quality learning route for every young person that enables them to participate, achieve and progress
- The support to integrate all services for young people, so that they can make the most of their opportunities and choices
- Stronger local partnerships and consortia arrangements
- Establishing the right delivery arrangements at a local, regional and national level

Within these four priorities:

- Learning for young people will lead to qualifications from one of four routes:
  - **Apprenticeships** – with an entitlement to a place by 2013 for all 16 year olds suitably qualified
  - **Diplomas** - with an entitlement by 2013 for all 14-16 year olds to the first 14 Diplomas and for 16-18 year olds to all 17 Diplomas
  - **Foundation Learning Tier**- with an entitlement by 2010 to study one of the progression pathways
  - **General qualifications**, e.g. GCSEs and A levels
- There will be the right support, including:
  - **Excellent Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG)** and support to make the right choices at 14 and 16. LSC in the NW, working with partners, has developed a toolkit to support organisations in delivering IAG to meet the Quality Standards for IAG
  - A 14-19 Prospectus in every area setting out the courses and support available at <http://www.area-prospectus.com/>
  - **A Common Application Process** linked to the 14-19 Prospectus that makes it easier to apply for education and training
  - **The September Guarantee** to ensure all 16 and 17 year olds have an offer of a suitable place in learning. **LSC in the NW has worked with partners to develop a September Guarantee Toolkit which draws together best practice in delivering the guarantee at 16 and ideas for implementing the guarantee at 17**  
<http://www.lsc.gov.uk/LSCGOVUK/Scripts/PublicationDownload.aspx?id=f6017db4-d3b7-4ef0-8793-43ff593dce40>
  - **Support to learn** – financial and practical support can also make the difference between participation and non participation. Nearly half of all young people are supported to

participate in learning through the Education Maintenance Allowance and Care to Learn is also successful in supporting young parents to stay in learning.

## Targets and priorities

Our *Statement of Priorities: Better Skills, Better Jobs, Better Lives* sets out the LSC's priorities & key actions for the year 08/09 – 09/10. The focus is on three key priorities:

1. Creating demand for learning & skills.
2. Transforming the FE system to meet demand.
3. Delivering better skills, better lives, better jobs.

### **Priority Groups for the LSC**

Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) many of whom are:

- Care Leavers.
- Teenage Parents
- Learners with Learning Difficulties &/or Disabilities.
- Young Offenders
- Those living in areas of deprivation.
- Those who face issues of social exclusion.
- Young people in jobs without training

## Public Sector Agreement (PSA) targets

**The comprehensive spending review (CSR)** provides investment to support increased youth participation.

- 2008-09 will bring an increase of circa £296m (4.8%) of which 4% will be for apprenticeships
- 2009-10 sees an increase of circa £253m (4%), 27% of which will be for apprenticeships
- 2010-2011 sees an increase of £274m (4.1%).
- There will be an increase in funds for specialist provision for learners with learning difficulties &/or disabilities: £90m across the period of the CSR i.e. a 48% increase from 2007/08 to 2010/11.

As part of the *Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR)*, the Government has set out 4 new strategic priorities for the period 2008/09 to 2010/11. Under each of these priorities is a set of PSA targets. LSC's contribution will be measured by the proportion of young people achieving level 2 & 3 by the age of 19. Our national targets are:

- To increase the proportion of young people achieving Level 2 at 19 from 71.4% in 2006 to 82% by 2011. Current NW position is 72.4%, up 1.3% from 70.1% in 2006.
- To increase the proportion of young people achieving Level 3 at 19 from 46.8% in 2006 to 54% by 2011. Current NW position is 44.6%, up 1.7% from 42.9% in 2006.
- To reduce the percentage of 16-18 year olds classified as NEET by 2 percentage points by 2010, from a baseline of 10% in 2004. NW position at Nov-Jan 2007/08 7.9%, down 1.1% from 9% in Nov-Jan 2005/06 (the Nov-Jan average is used to measure progress against the PSA target)

The LSC also aims to increase participation in education and training among 17 year olds to a rate of 86% by 2011. We will also focus on narrowing existing equality gaps in the achievement of qualifications at Levels 2 and 3.

## Local Area Agreements and Multi Area Agreements

Local Area Agreements (LAAs) are three-year agreements between an upper tier local authority area & central government describing how local priorities will be addressed by delivering local solutions. Each LAA includes targets & indicators. The LAA for each Local Authority in the North

West, showing the indicators & targets, can be found at <http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelId=8399572>. LAA targets are broadly aligned to PSA targets, based on an approved set of 198 national indicators which form the core of the LA performance management regime, supplemented by locally agreed indicators.

**A Multi-Area Agreement (MAA)** is a cross-boundary LAA addressing issues better dealt with in a larger spatial area e.g. transport/housing/employment/skills. They provide greater flexibility & devolved decision making.

**Greater Manchester** MAA was signed off in 2008. It covers Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford, & Wigan. For the LSC the key activity is to develop an employment & skills strategy, a key element of which is the greater integration between employment support & skills provision including the piloting of Flexible New Deal.

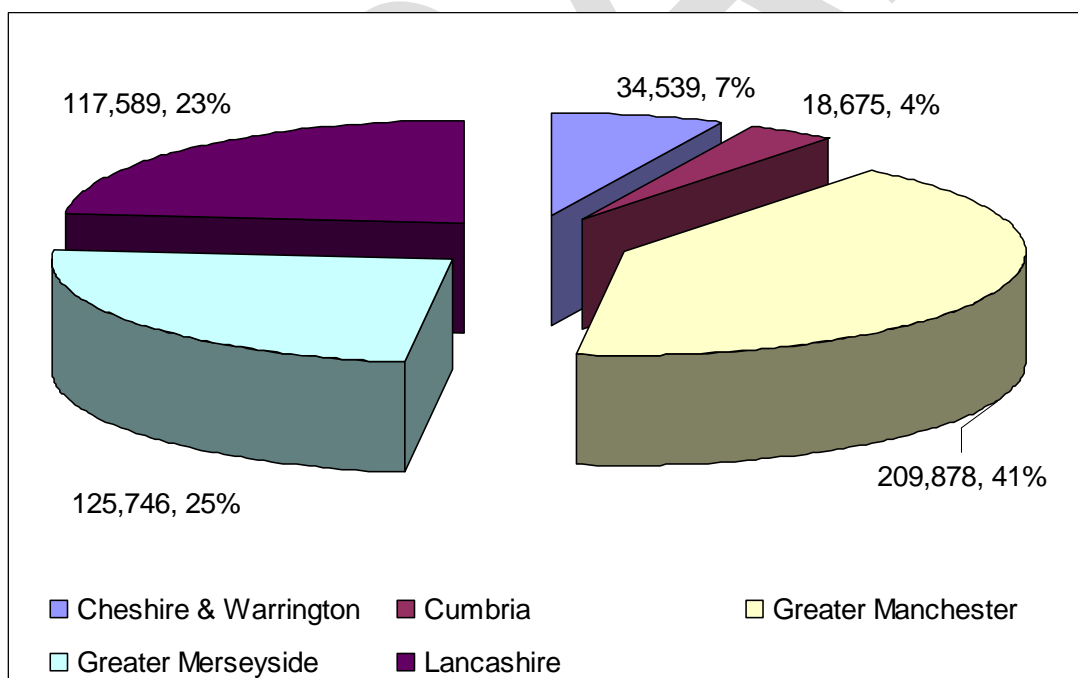
**Liverpool City Region:** covers Liverpool, Sefton, Knowsley, St Helen's, Wirral & Halton. The development of an MAA on economy, skills & employment was agreed in Sept 2007. Proposals for the first submission centre on Integrating Employment & Skills.

**Fylde Coast:** Involving the Blackpool unitary authority together with the district councils of Fylde and Wyre & Lancashire County Council.

### Young people aged 14-19 in the North West

- In 2006 there were estimated to be around 560,974 young people aged 14-19 in the North West (projection from the 2001 census). That equates to 8.2% of the total North West population of 6,853,200. The largest share of the 14-19 cohort is in Greater Manchester and the smallest is in Cumbria.

**Figure 1: Proportion of 14-19 population in each sub-region in the North West.**



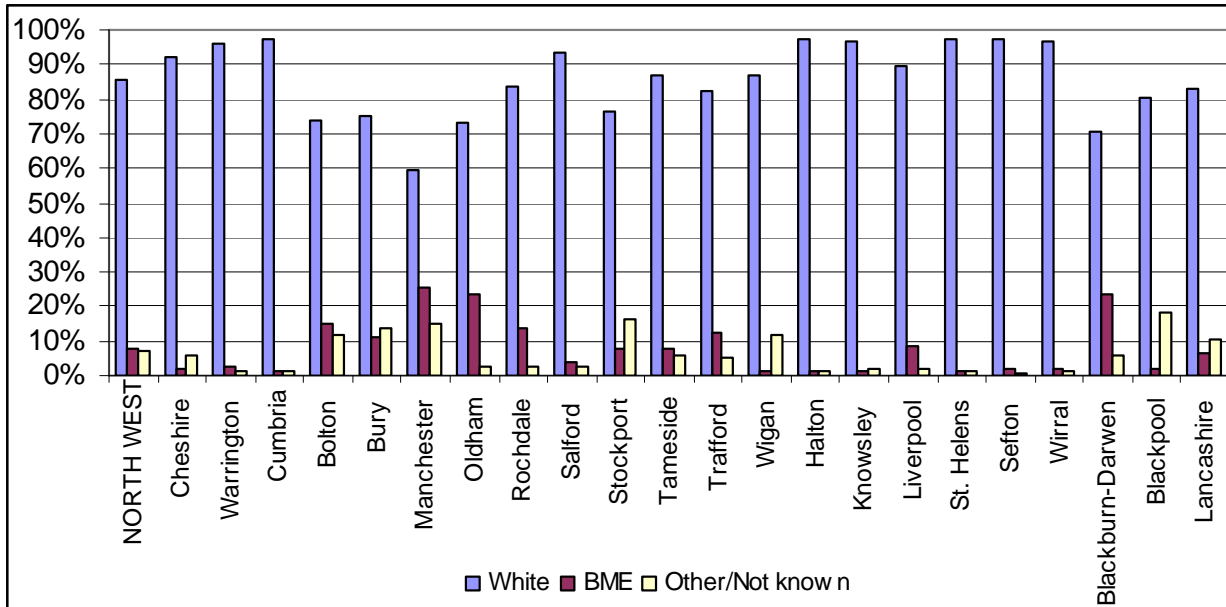
Source: Cohort Projections produced by NWLSC Data Team, based on 2001 Census of Population

### Ethnicity

- The 16-19 population in the North West is ethnically quite diverse. The largest group is White, at approximately 85 percent, with the largest Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups being Pakistani and Indian.

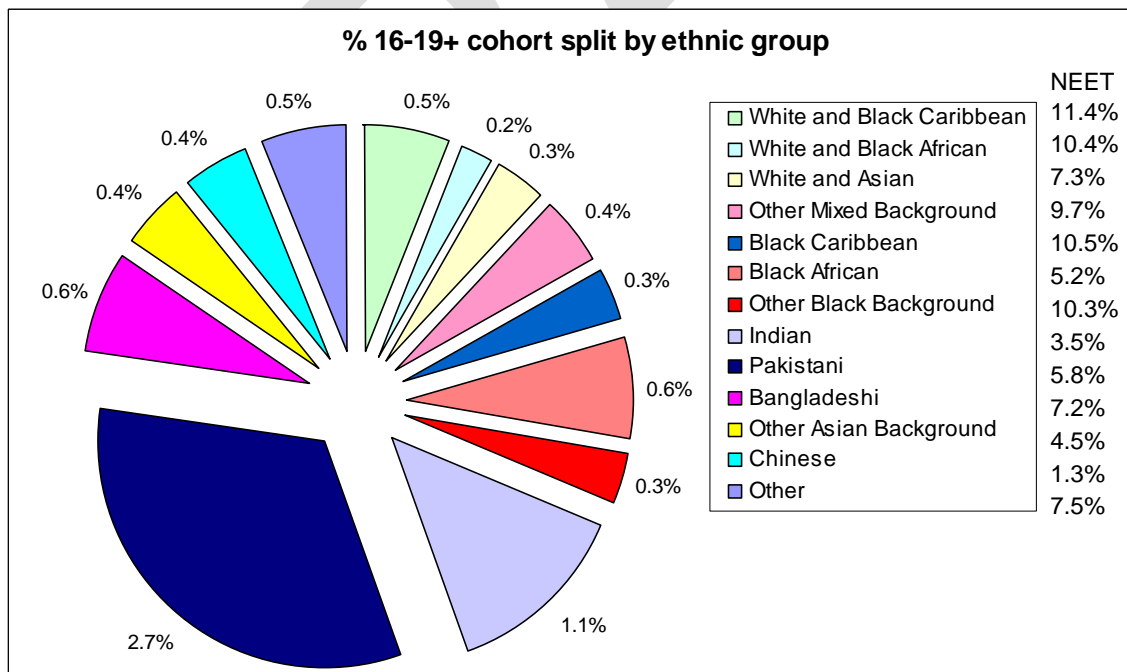
9 The ethnic mix is richest in Greater Manchester, where over 20 percent of the cohort is from BME groups. The city of Manchester is the most ethnically diverse local authority district (LAD), with a BME cohort of 25.6 percent, and Cumbria, Halton and Knowsley are the least diverse, with a BME cohort of 1 percent.

**Figure 2: North West 16-19 population by ethnicity**



Source: Connexions' At Risk report December 2007.

**Figure 3: 16-19 year olds in the region in each minority ethnic group, Dec 2007**



Source: Connexions' At Risk report December 2007.

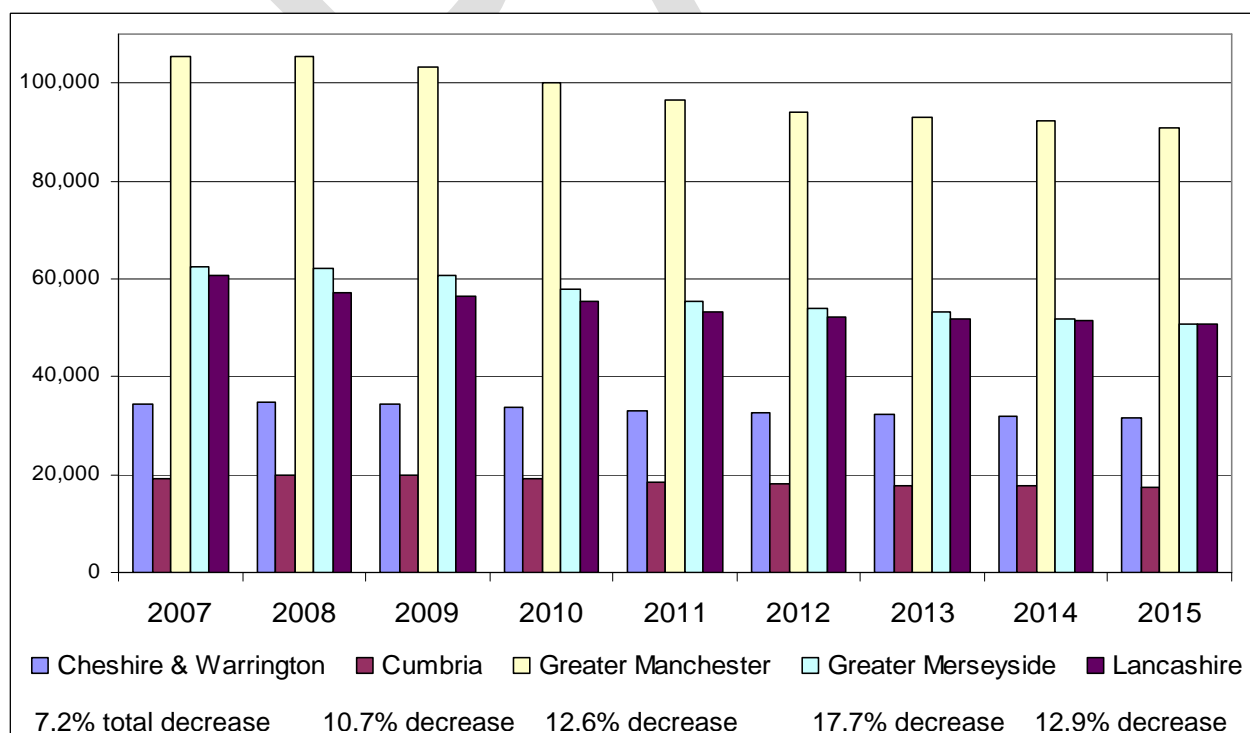
## Key 14-19 issues in the North West

- Issue 1:** Significant decline in the 14-19 population, with wide regional variances
- Issue 2:** Increasing participation and reducing NEET, especially in hotspots
- Issue 3:** Retaining young people in learning at age 17
- Issue 4:** Ensuring all young people have an equal chance of success in learning
- Issue 5:** Level 2 at 16 with/without English or Maths is below the National Average
- Issue 6:** Level 2 and Level 3 at 19 are below the National Average
- Issue 7:** Effective roll out of Diplomas
- Issue 8:** Provision for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities
- Issue 10:** Significant Travel to Learn across LA boundaries in urban areas

### Issue 1: Declining 14-19 population

- 10 **The 14-19 population in the North West is projected to decline by 13.4%, or a little over 76,000 young people, in the period 2004 to 2015.** The total 14-19 population in the North West in 2015 is projected to be 478,000 compared to 559,375 in 2007.
- 11 Figure 54 at the end of this report sets out detailed 14-19 cohort projections for England, the North West and each sub-region between 2008 to 2015. Figure 3 summarises the changes and shows that **Greater Merseyside will experience the largest overall percentage reduction** in 16-18 cohort.

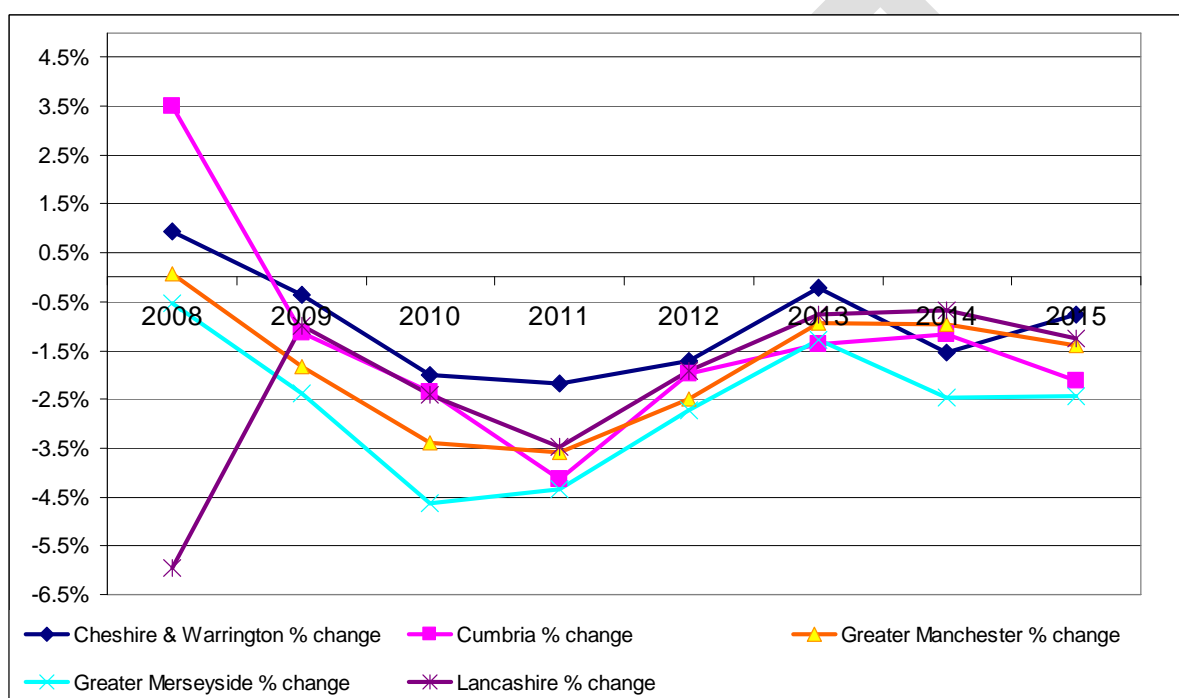
**Figure 3: Annual change in the 14-19 population in the North West to 2015**



Source: 2006 Sub-national Population Projections Unit, ONS: Crown Copyright.

- 12 **These cohort changes will have implications for planning and funding 14-19 provision**; planning will need to focus on providing the appropriate mix and balance of provision in each area within a context of a reduced volume of learners in many areas.
- 13 The rate of population decline is evident in each of the five sub regions in the NW. Figure 4 shows the year-on-year percentage decline in the 16-18 population in the North West. It illustrates how sharply the population will fall between 07/08 and 10/11, after which the decreases are less steep. The percentage decrease will be greatest in Greater Merseyside. **At no point between 2008-09 and 2014-15 does the cohort return to 2007-08 levels.**

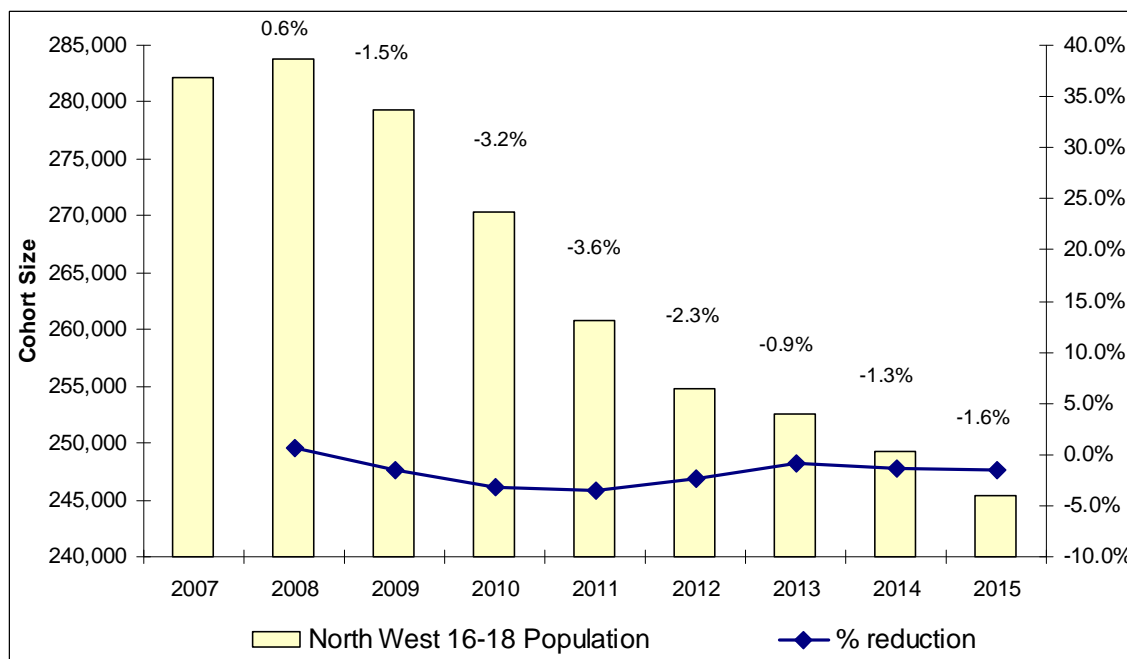
**Figure 4: Percentage change in 16-18 population year-on-year to 2015**



Source: 2006 Sub-national Population Projections Unit, ONS: Crown Copyright

- 14 The impact of these reductions varies within sub regions also; for example **Liverpool will see a 21.6% decline in its 16-18 population** between 2007 and 2015.
- 15 **Local authorities and their 14-19 Partnerships will want to identify school catchment areas and sub groups within the cohort where decline is likely to be highest.** For planning purposes, such analysis will allow 14-19 partnerships to identify whether smaller learner numbers will be concentrated in certain areas, or whether some providers are likely to be affected more significantly than others by the falling cohort.
- 16 Reforms designed to increase participation may offset cohort decline to a certain extent but the in-learning population, notwithstanding this, is likely to fall in many areas and this will need to be reflected within local 14-19 plans.

**Figure 5: Percentage change in 16-18 population year-on-year**



Source: Sub-national Population Projections Unit, ONS: Crown Copyright.

## Issue 2: Participation and NEET

- 17 Young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEET<sup>1</sup>) are a priority group for the LSC. Being outside employment, education or training means that a young person is at risk of missing out on the skills and opportunities that would enable them to reach their full potential.
- 18 Young people fall into the NEET category for a variety of reasons. LSC priority groups such as young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, lone parents, young offenders, young people with mental health difficulties, people living in deprived neighbourhoods, and people who are socially excluded are at an increased risk of falling into NEET. Low aspirations, low appreciation of the value of learning and skills and inadequate information, advice and guidance can also be factors affecting NEET rates.
- 19 The 14-19 reforms outlined above are intended to provide a greater range of learning routes to enable more young people to access learning that suits their learning needs and goals. **In particular, the extension of the September Guarantee to 17 year olds in 2008 is expected to have a significant impact on the NEET figures for the North West.**
- 20 Nationally, participation in **full time education**<sup>2</sup> has been rising consistently for over a decade. Figure 6 shows a national rise in participation in full time education

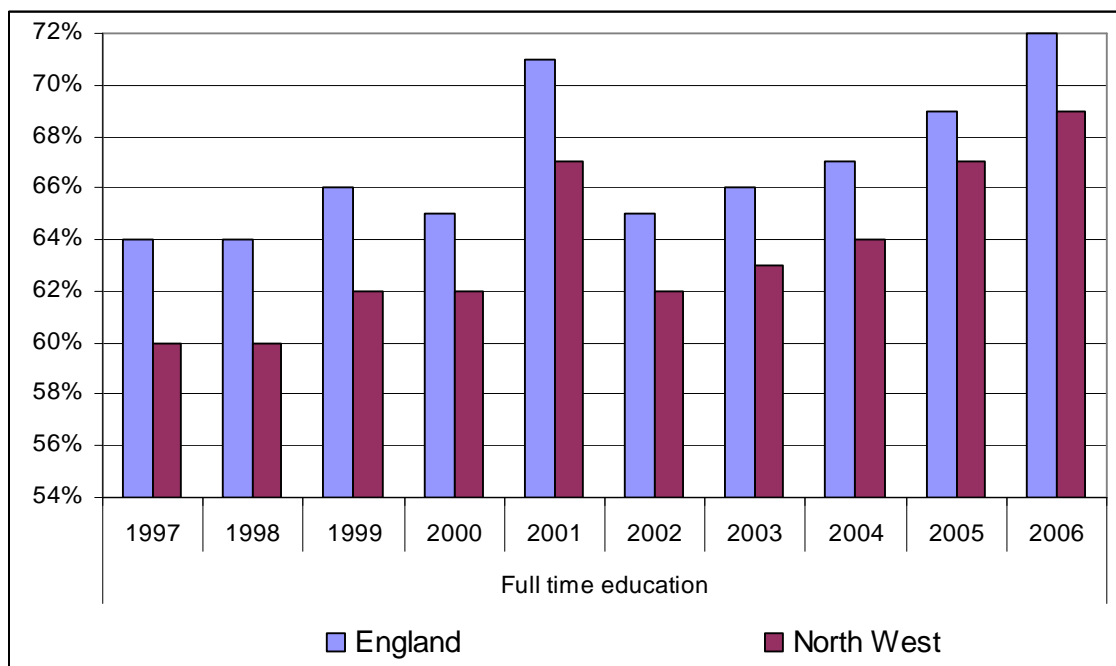
<sup>1</sup> The rate of NEET is one of the national indicators used by government in the performance framework for local authorities. The NEET rate used is measured between November and January each year. The precise definition can be found at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/doc/annex2.doc>.

<sup>2</sup> The definition of full-time education varies according to institution type: **Schools:** a full-time pupil is someone studying 10 ½ day sessions a week; **Further Education Institutions:** full-time full-year learners are defined as those enrolled on programmes of at least 450 guided learning hours (glh) per year, or for at least 150 glh per tri-annual period or more than 16 glh per week for shorter courses. **Higher Education Institutions:** full-time full-year students are those studying 21 hours a week for 24 weeks. Full-time learners

by young people aged 16 and 17 from 64 percent in 1996 to 72 percent in 2006. During the same period, participation in full time education by 16 and 17 year olds in the region has grown from 60 to 69 percent.

- 21 **The national targets for participation in learning by 17 year olds are 84% by 2009/10, 86% by 2011, and 90% by 2014/15.**

**Figure 6: Participation in Full Time Education by 16/17 year olds in England & NW**



Source: DCSF: Participation in Education, Training and Employment by 16-18 Year Olds in England (SFR22/2007)

- 22 Participation in learning (including education, training and employment where the latter includes structured, planned training, funded either by the government or by employers) by those completing year 11 in 2007 was 89.2% in the North West, compared to an England figure of 89.3%.
- 23 Despite the continued increase in participation, non-participation in education, employment or training (NEET) remains a key issue. Figure 7 shows that the North West has seen a significant decrease in the percentage of young people classified as NEET over the past 12 months. Nevertheless, at the end of December 2007, 7.7% of 16-18 year olds in the North West were NEET, equating to 18,754 young people.

in independent further & higher education establishments are excluded from full-time education, but included in other education & training (OET). Young people doing FE as well as WBL in the same FEI are included in both full-time education & WBL, but are also reported separately as the overlap group & are only counted once in the totals. Those doing WBL in FEIs are in the WBL information only. Others in publicly funded full-time education while in Employer Funded Training (EFT) are included in full-time education but not reported separately; they are not included in the EFT figures.

**The national PSA NEET target** (2004 Spending Review Public Service Agreement target 12):

- To reduce the proportion of young people not in education, employment or training by 2 percentage points by 2010. 10% of young people were not in education, employment or training in 2004, therefore the national target rate is 8 percent.

- 24 Nationally, NEET is measured against survey based estimates and progress is published annually in a Statistical First Release (SFR). These results cannot be broken down locally.
- 25 Regionally and locally, Connexions measures NEET against locally held data (the Client Caseload Information System, or CCIS). The two methods use different definitions and yield different results (for example, nationally in 2004 the NEET rate was estimated at 10 percent, while CCIS data showed it to be 8 percent), however progress can be tracked locally and aggregated to assess the regional picture. As the aim is to reduce NEET, direction of travel is more important than data sources.
- 26 In 2005/06, the national November/December/January data for the North West showed a NEET rate of 9.01 percent and in 2006/07 the corresponding rate was 9.8 percent. Figure 7 shows the most recent data, demonstrating that **NEET has reduced by 1.9 percentage points compared to the two previous years.**
- 27 NEET Hotspots (areas where NEET has been persistently higher than 10 percent and comprises over 650 16-18 year olds) identified by government have been the subject of intense, focused action to identify the reasons for high NEET and early drop-out from education and training, and to devise partnership approaches to NEET reduction. Evaluation of these activities has identified that:
- **Targeted interventions can be highly successful** – for example in Blackburn with Darwen, the Partnership Works Project brought together LSC, Connexions, Blackburn College, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, Training 2000 and NACRO to address the fact that “*that although the area had good arrangements in terms of provision and collaboration, too many young people were still slipping through the net and becoming NEET*”. The partnership aimed to help 50 percent of the targeted 180 young people to enter employment, education and training (EET). It had achieved its target five months early.
  - **Collaboration and sharing of good practice are essential to reducing NEET.** In Knowsley, it was identified that this practice needed to extend to sharing data on young people, so that their needs were known from the outset. Ensuring a young person had a single point of contact that they trusted – such as a mentor – was also key to success.
  - In Manchester it was noted that **an alternative curriculum** with “*flexibility, small groups, vocational activity, learning at their own pace and implementing their own rules and regulations about what learning entails*” is sometimes needed for young people who have not found other routes suitable, as a bridge back to mainstream activities.
  - **Employer engagement is vital**, especially where young people’s aspirations are focused on employment. In Liverpool, an employer engagement strategy was

delivered by a specially recruited team who sought to gain employers' support and commitment to recruiting young people who had undergone training.

**Figure 7: 16 -18 year olds NEET November to January 2007/08**

Area	16-18 year olds known to Connexions <sup>3</sup>	16-18 yr olds NEET <sup>4, 5</sup>		% of 16-18 year olds whose current activity is not known
		Estimated number	%	
<b>North West</b>	<b>247,578</b>	<b>19,570</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
Cheshire	23,337	1,090	4.7%	3.0%
Warrington	6,417	370	5.8%	4.2%
Cumbria	16,469	860	5.2%	2.5%
Bolton	9,062	1,060	11.8%	5.8%
Bury	8,379	540	6.5%	4.0%
Manchester	15,069	1,440	9.5%	4.0%
Oldham	8,721	670	7.7%	4.1%
Rochdale	6,264	680	10.9%	6.9%
Salford	8,618	660	7.6%	3.8%
Stockport	11,395	790	6.9%	2.5%
Trafford	7,135	470	6.6%	3.0%
Tameside	7,830	640	8.1%	3.1%
Wigan	11,978	980	8.2%	3.5%
Halton	4,274	490	11.5%	5.9%
Knowsley	4,634	700	15.0%	6.1%
Liverpool	16,008	1,850	11.5%	3.5%
Sefton	11,203	800	7.2%	5.2%
St. Helens	6,899	590	8.5%	1.8%
Wirral	11,816	1,120	9.5%	3.4%
Blackburn with Darwen	7,078	540	7.6%	2.9%
Blackpool	7,348	540	7.3%	2.9%
Lancashire County	37,641	2,740	7.3%	3.5%

Source: NCCIS<sup>6, 7</sup>

<sup>3</sup> 16-18 year olds in education are counted in the area in which their education establishment is located (except those in HE).

<sup>4</sup> 16-18 year olds known to be undertaking a Gap Year, or in custody, are not recorded by Connexions as NEET.

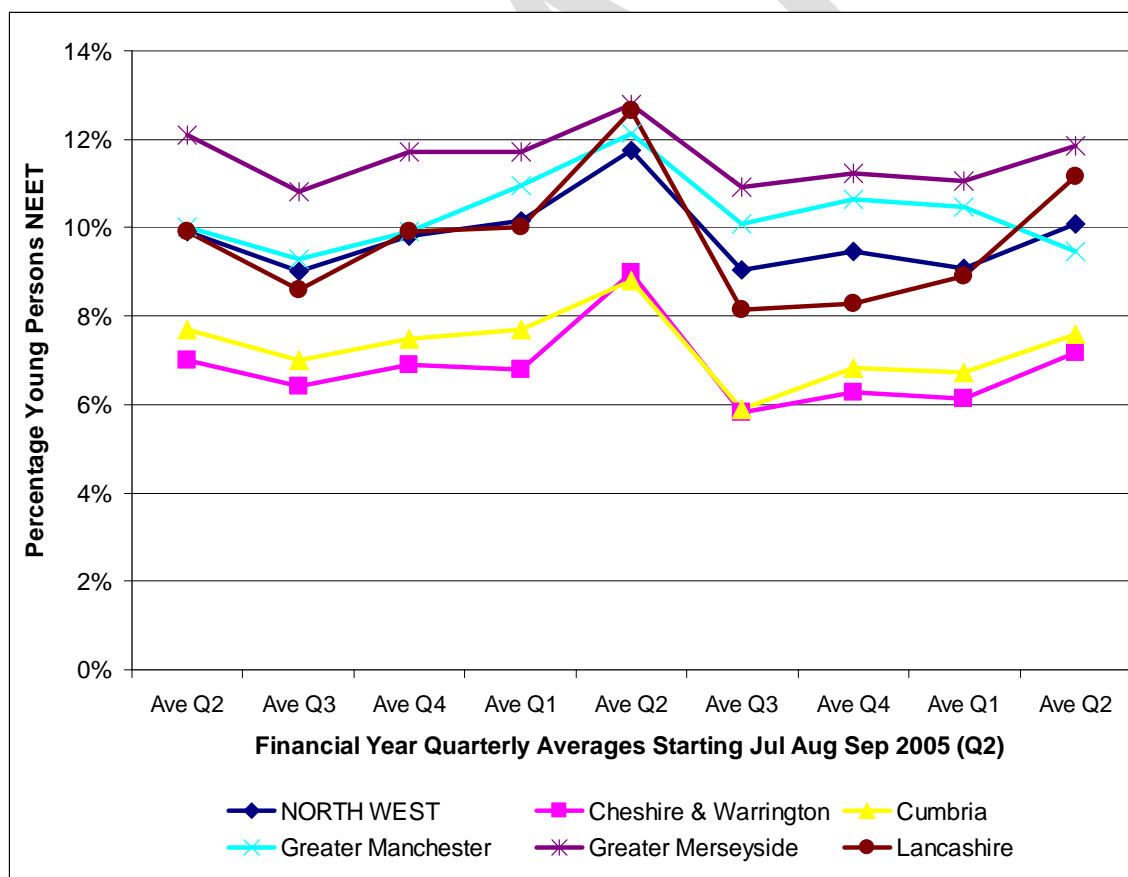
<sup>5</sup> The percentage & number NEET are adjusted to assume that a proportion of young people whose current activity is not known are NEET.

<sup>6</sup> 2007 data are an average of figures provided by Connexions at the end of November 2007 - January 2008. They include all young people known to Connexions who were aged 16, 17 or 18 on these dates.

<sup>7</sup> The figures cannot be compared with DCSF estimate of the proportion of young people NEET. The official figures measure the entire population, not just those known to Connexions, use academic age, not actual age etc.

- 28 Figure 8 provides a summary of NEET over the period April 2005 to December 2007, based on local Connexions data. It graphically illustrates the differences in NEET rates over time, and the differences between sub-regions.
- 29 Seasonal differences in NEET rates account for some of the biggest fluctuations. In general, NEET rates are lowest in Quarter 3 (October-December), reflecting the academic year, and highest during the summer months of July to September (Quarter 2).
- 30 For example, in April-June 2005, Greater Merseyside had a NEET rate of 12.1 percent and at the end of 2007, the rate was 11.9 percent. Between the two measurement dates, the NEET rate reached a high of 12.8 percent in summer (July-September) 2006 and a low of 10.8 percent in Oct-December 2005. The overall trend can only be measured by comparing the same quarter each year. On this basis, the region is not seeing much of a shift in NEET rates, but if we look at the sub-regions, the trend is for a shift downwards in Cheshire and Warrington, Cumbria and Lancashire, but a slight increase in the urban areas of Greater Manchester and Greater Merseyside.
- 31 Regardless of which source is used, the highest NEET rates have been consistently seen in Knowsley, and the lowest in Cheshire.

**Figure 8: Percentage young people NEET April 2005- December 2007**



Source: Local Connexions data

- 32 Planning for increased participation in the 2009-10 academic year requires examination of the NEET figures alongside the declining cohort population figures, as illustrated in the table in Figure 9.
- 33 The latest (2006) population estimates from the Office of National Statistics have been used to produce the cohort projections, but it must be noted that, as these are estimates, they contain a margin for error which gets higher as the data is disaggregated to lower geographical levels. As a result, detailed planning should not be based upon these estimates as the sole data source – local administrative data should be used to supplement.

**Figure 9: 16-18 Cohort decline 2008-2015 & numbers NEET Nov 2007-Jan 2008**

	Cohort decline 2008-2015		Numbers NEET in 2007/08
	Numbers	Percentage	
<b>England</b>	<b>-180,458</b>	<b>-9.0%</b>	<b>109,300</b>
<b>North West</b>	<b>-38,401</b>	<b>-13.5%</b>	<b>19,620</b>
Cheshire & Warrington	-11,576	-18.6%	1,460
Cumbria	-1,801	-10.9%	860
Greater Manchester	-6,278	-11.0%	7,930
Greater Merseyside	-14,487	-13.8%	5,550
Lancashire	-2,685	-13.4%	3,820

Sources: ONS 2006 sub-national population projections & NCCIS data

- 34 For example in Figure 10 the sub-regional data does not add up to the regional figure, and as a result the percentage change in the 16-18 cohort looks much higher at sub-regional level than it does regionally.
- 35 Across the North West, the fall in the 16-18 cohort between 2008 and 2015 needs to be viewed alongside the number of young people in NEET. For example, **Figure 7** shows that there were 19,570 in NEET at the end of 2007 - half the number of the predicted fall in cohort for the region. Based on this data, **even if all young people currently in NEET were to be successfully placed in learning, there would still be around 19,000 surplus places in education and training across the region.**
- 36 **In these circumstances, Local Authorities will face an ever-greater challenge to achieve growth in participation and are likely to need to plan to deliver the entitlement within a smaller number of places overall in some areas.**

**Figure 10: Projected change in numbers of young people aged 16-18**

AREA	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	volume change	% change
<b>England</b>	<b>2,008,270</b>	<b>1,983,488</b>	<b>1,942,419</b>	<b>1,900,877</b>	<b>1,876,714</b>	<b>1,863,995</b>	<b>1,849,837</b>	<b>1,827,812</b>	<b>-180,458</b>	<b>-9%</b>
<b>North West</b>	<b>283,739</b>	<b>279,372</b>	<b>270,418</b>	<b>260,818</b>	<b>254,863</b>	<b>252,590</b>	<b>249,267</b>	<b>245,338</b>	<b>-38,401</b>	<b>-10.4%</b>
Cheshire & Warrington	16,489	16,167	15,584	15,232	14,902	14,863	14,939	14,688	-1,801	-11%
Cumbria	19,964	19,737	19,274	18,475	18,112	17,863	17,654	17,279	-2,685	-13.5%
Greater Manchester	105,350	103,429	99,929	96,348	93,941	93,068	92,162	90,863	-14,487	-13.8%

AREA	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	volume change	% change
Greater Merseyside	62,209	60,738	57,923	55,415	53,898	53,204	51,893	50,633	-11,576	-18.7%
Lancashire	57,124	56,560	55,193	53,273	52,258	51,854	51,497	50,846	-6,278	-11%

Source: 2006 population estimates from ONS. Sub-regional data does not equate to regional data.

## Year 11 destinations

- 37 Figure 11 shows the destinations of those completing Year 11 in 2006 and 2007. It highlights the very different pattern of participation in the North West, where participation in work based learning, including Apprenticeships, is much higher than in England. In fact the North West shares with the North East the distinction of seeing **one in ten young people aged 16-18 enter an Apprenticeship** – the highest rates of Apprenticeship participation in the country.
- 38 Figure 11 also shows that **the overall percentage of young people in the region engaging in education or training has increased for all types of learning**, except employment with training, which has fallen slightly. However, the figure for employment without training has remained constant and is in line with the England average.

Figure 11: Destinations of Year 11 leavers (age15/16) 2006 & 2007 as % of all leavers

		Full-time education	GST: <sup>8</sup> Training	GST: <sup>9</sup> Employed	Employment		Not settled	Moved out of contact	No response
					with training	no training			
NORTH WEST	2006	75.7	3.3	4.6	3.8	2.1	8.1	1.2	1.0
	2007	77.3	3.8	4.8	3.3	2.1	7.1	0.9	0.7
ENGLAND	2006	77.9	2.8	2.8	3.7	2.2	7.3	1.5	1.8
	2007	80.0	2.9	3.0	3.5	2.1	6.2	1.1	1.3

Source: Connexions' Annual Activity Survey 2007

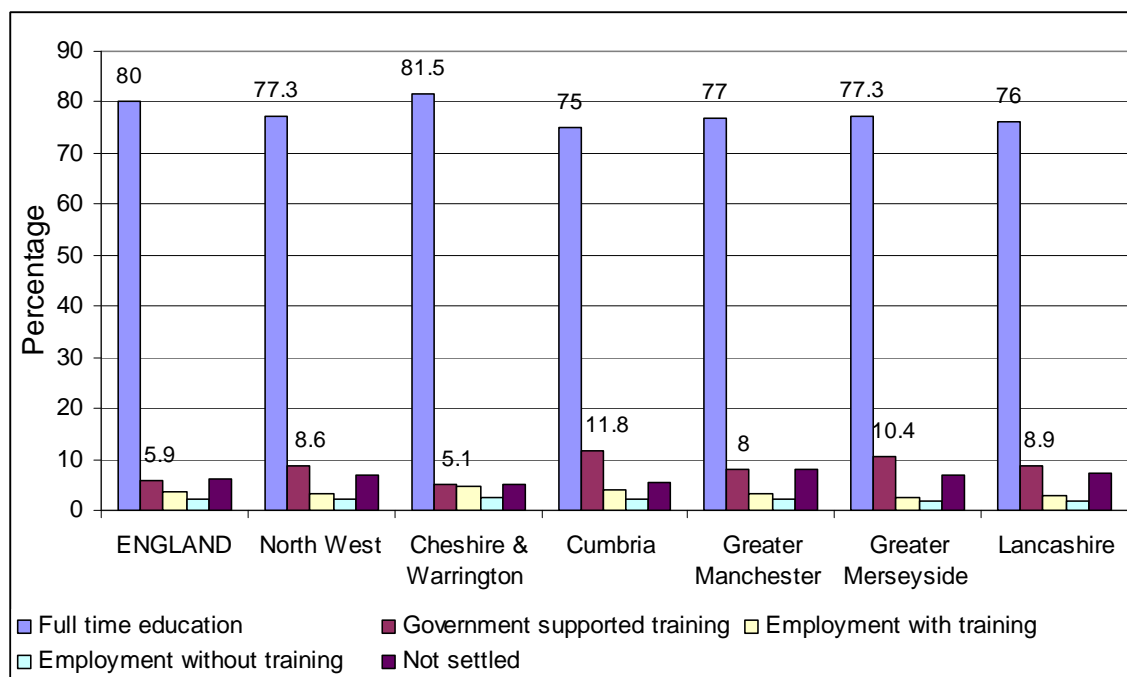
## Young people in employment without training

- 39 Young people who enter employment without formal training gain work experience and acquire skills, as they learn how to perform the tasks required by the job. However, they are not continuing with planned, high quality learning which develops transferable skills. Analytical work consistently shows that those with only basic skills are likely to be disadvantaged in later life in terms of employment and earnings. Figure 12 illustrates the destinations of young people leaving year 11 in 2007 in the North West. **Young people in employment without training and their employers are priority groups to be targeted for Apprenticeships.**

<sup>8</sup> Government sponsored training i.e. where the government contributes funding.

<sup>9</sup> GST includes Apprenticeships, Advanced Apprenticeships, NVQ learning and Entry to Employment.

**Figure 12: Destinations of Year 11 leavers 2007**



Source: Connexions' Annual Activity Survey, Dec 2007.

### Participation in learning by route

40 Figure 13 shows the educational establishments that 16-18 year olds in England attended in 2006 and 2007 following completion of Year 11.

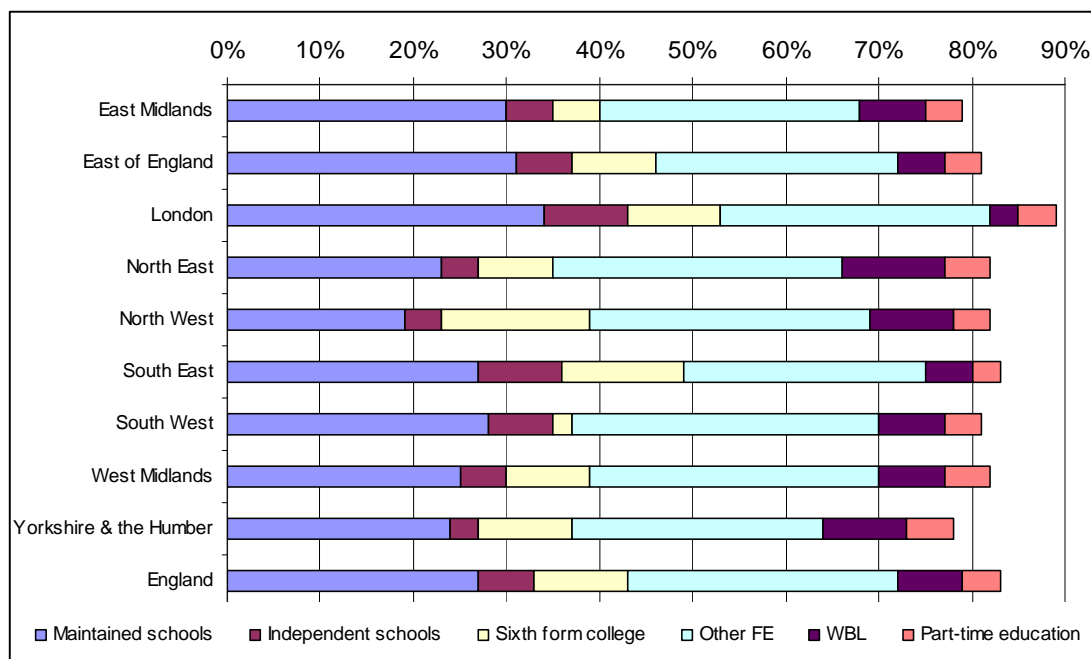
**Figure 13: 16-18 year old participation in full time education by institution type, England, 2006/07**

End of calendar year	2006	2007 provisional
Maintained schools <sup>1</sup>	18.5%	18.8%
Independent schools <sup>2</sup>	4.4%	4.6%
Sixth form colleges	7.1%	7.2%
General FE, tertiary and specialist colleges	27.7%	28.3%
Higher education institutions	8.5%	8.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>66.1%</b>	<b>67.7%</b>

1. Includes all pupils in maintained schools & maintained special schools. 2. Includes all pupils in independent schools, non-maintained special schools, city technology colleges, academies & pupil referral units. 3. Full & part time education  
 Source: Update of SFR22/2007 DCSF: Participation in Education, Training & Employment by 16-18 Year Olds in England (<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000792/SFRTables2.xls>)

41 A comparison of the routes taken by young people in each region is shown in Figure 14. This data is based on the location of the provider.

**Figure 14: 16 & 17 year old participation by route in each region and England 2007**



Source: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000792/Region-rounded.xls#2006!A1>

42 Whilst overall participation in post-compulsory education (excluding work-based learning) in the NW is similar to the national picture, there are some significant differences in the routes chosen by young people at age 16:

- **A significantly smaller proportion continue their studies within school sixth forms:** around 25 percent in the NW compared to 37 percent in England and 48 percent in London.
- Consequently, **the proportion of young people who participate in full time FE, including Sixth Form Colleges, is much higher** than in other regions –51 percent compared to 42 percent for England as a whole.

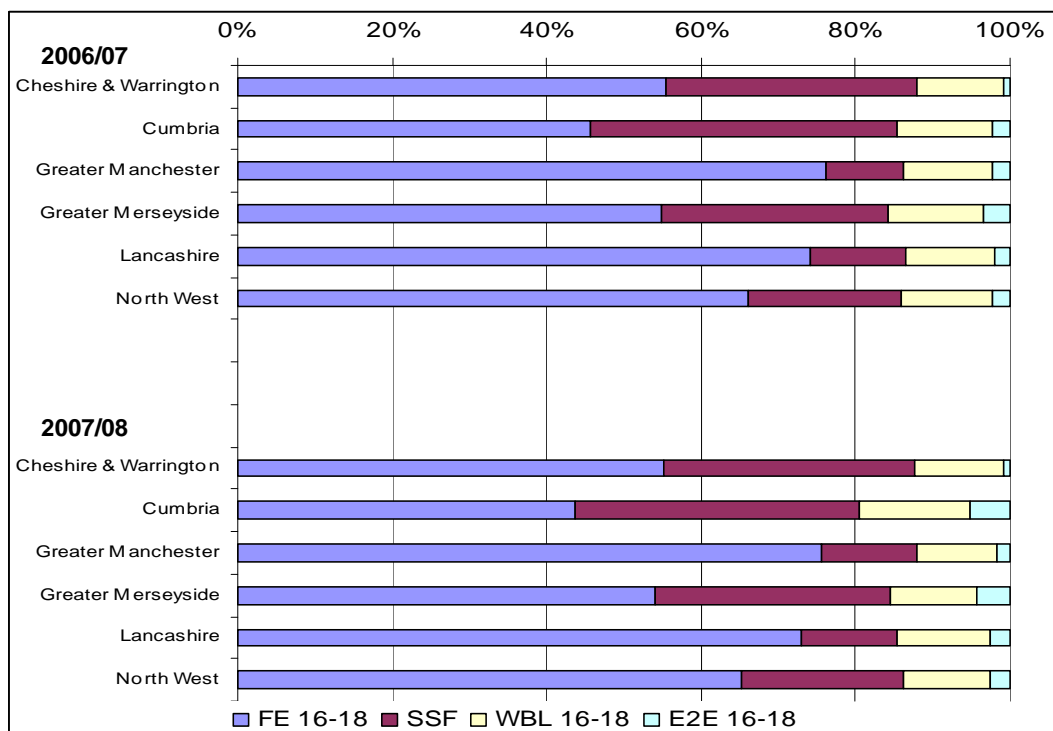
**Figure 15: 16-18 Participation routes 2006/07 & 2007/08 by sub-region (admin data)**

	FE learner numbers		School Sixth Form learner numbers		Work Based Learning in learning		Entry to Employment in learning	
	2006/07 (F05) <sup>10</sup>	2007/08 (F04)	2006/07	2007/08	2006/07 Final	2007/08 Period 12	2006/07 Final	2007/08 Period 12
Cheshire & Warrington	12,462	13,391	7,316	7,820	2,488	2,841	197	176
Cumbria	5,624	5,817	4,884	4,881	1,532	1,918	274	676
Greater Manchester	51,214	52,923	6,797	8,610	7,750	7,097	1,513	1,269
Greater Merseyside	22,347	22,400	12,014	12,757	5,018	4,620	1,422	1,777
Lancashire	26,567	25,646	4,354	4,375	4,125	4,265	734	896
<b>North West</b>	<b>118,214</b>	<b>120,177</b>	<b>35,365</b>	<b>38,443</b>	<b>20,913</b>	<b>20,741</b>	<b>4,140</b>	<b>4,794</b>

Source: Individualised Learner Records data produced by NWLSC Data and Analysis Team

<sup>10</sup> F05 is the final data return made by colleges & includes achievements/success rates. F04 is the Autumn return & includes more accurate, near-final learner numbers for the year. This F04 data cut may miss some learners who appear in the F05 data, so conclusions here cannot be final.

**Figure 16: Chart of 16-18 Participation routes 2006/07 & 2007/08 by sub-region**



Source: Individualised Learner Records data produced by NWLSC Data and Analysis Team

Between 2006/07 and 2007/08 there were several shifts in participation. For example, FE participation rose by 1.7 percent, school sixth form participation increased 8.7 percent and Entry to Employment numbers rose by 15.7 percent. In contrast there was a 0.9 percent reduction in work based learning. This is a concern given the government aim for one in five young people to participate in apprenticeships in the future.

At sub-regional level there were more dramatic changes, some of which appear to be displacement from one learning route to another. In Greater Manchester, there was a large shift from work based learning/Entry to Employment into school sixth forms and FE. Lancashire appears to have experienced a decrease in overall participation, but this is probably due to data being incomplete.

### Participation in Further Education

- 43 **FE Participation in the North West rose by 6.7 percent between 2005/06 and 2007/08 – a volume increase of 7,929, the second largest increase nationally.** The bulk of this increase took place between 2005/06 and 2006/07, when the region had the highest volume increase in the country.

**Figure 17: Trends in FE participation 2005/06 to 2007/08**

Region	Learner numbers			Volume change		Percentage Change 2005/06 - 2007/08
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2005/06 to 2006/07	2006/07 to 2007/08	
East Midlands	52,611	54,065	56,437	1,454	2,372	7.3%
East of England	74,252	76,489	80,185	2,237	3,696	8.0%
Greater London	97,525	98,444	97,825	919	-619	0.3%
North East	42,101	42,576	44,351	475	1,775	5.3%
<b>North West</b>	<b>118,525</b>	<b>125,555</b>	<b>126,454</b>	7,030	899	<b>6.7%</b>
South East	116,274	123,092	125,210	6,818	2,118	7.7%
South West	69,342	69,906	71,694	564	1,788	3.4%
West Midlands	89,880	89,584	90,922	-296	1,338	1.2%
Yorkshire & the Humber	72,906	75,616	78,794	2,710	3,178	8.1%
<b>England</b>	<b>733,942</b>	<b>755,875</b>	<b>771,872</b>	<b>21,933</b>	<b>15,997</b>	<b>5.2%</b>

Source: Individualised Learner Records data produced by NWLSC Data and Analysis Team

- 44 **General FE Colleges are by far the largest providers of FE to 16-18 year olds**, with around 65 percent of the total FE market and increases in numbers each year.
- 45 Sixth Form Colleges deliver FE to just under 30 percent and the numbers have also grown over the three year period shown in Figure 18. Specialist Colleges have also seen a growing learner cohort, although their share is quite small at around 2.5 percent.
- 46 The next largest providers of FE are private providers, with a growing learner cohort, Local Education Authorities, where numbers appear to be reducing and Higher Education, which is growing.
- 47 Charitable organisations have a small 16-18 learner cohort, which has been rising year on year.
- 48 **Total 16-18 learner numbers in FE rose by 5 percent between 2005/06 and 2007/08, compared with an increase in the cohort size of less than one percent.**

**Figure 18: FE 16-18 Participation 2005/06 to 2007/08 by type of organisation**

	2005/06 F05		2006/07 F05		2007/08 F04		Percentage volume change 2005/06 to 2007/08
	Learner Numbers	%	Learner Numbers	%	Learner Numbers	%	
General Further Education	67,095	65.1%	68,671	64.6%	69,423	64.2%	+3.5%
Sixth Form College	29,789	28.9%	31,445	29.6%	32,249	29.8%	+8.3%
Higher Education	441	0.4%	379	0.4%	660	0.6%	+9.7%
Former External Institution	85	0.1%	80	0.1%	43	0.0%	-49%
Private	2,097	0.1%	2,101	0.1%	2,293	0.1%	+9.3%
Charitable	110	0.1%	123	0.1%	145	0.1%	+31.8%
Specialist	2,513	2.4%	2,702	2.5%	2,794	2.6%	+11.2%
Local Education Authority	953	0.9%	760	0.7%	577	0.5%	-39.5%

	2005/06 F05		2006/07 F05		2007/08 F04		Percentage volume change 2005/06 to 2007/08
	Learner Numbers	%	Learner Numbers	%	Learner Numbers	%	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>103,083</b>		<b>106,261</b>		<b>108,184</b>		<b>+5%</b>

Source: Individualised Learner Records data produced by NWLSC Data and Analysis Team

## Participation in 16-18 Apprenticeships (Apprenticeships and Advanced Apprenticeships)

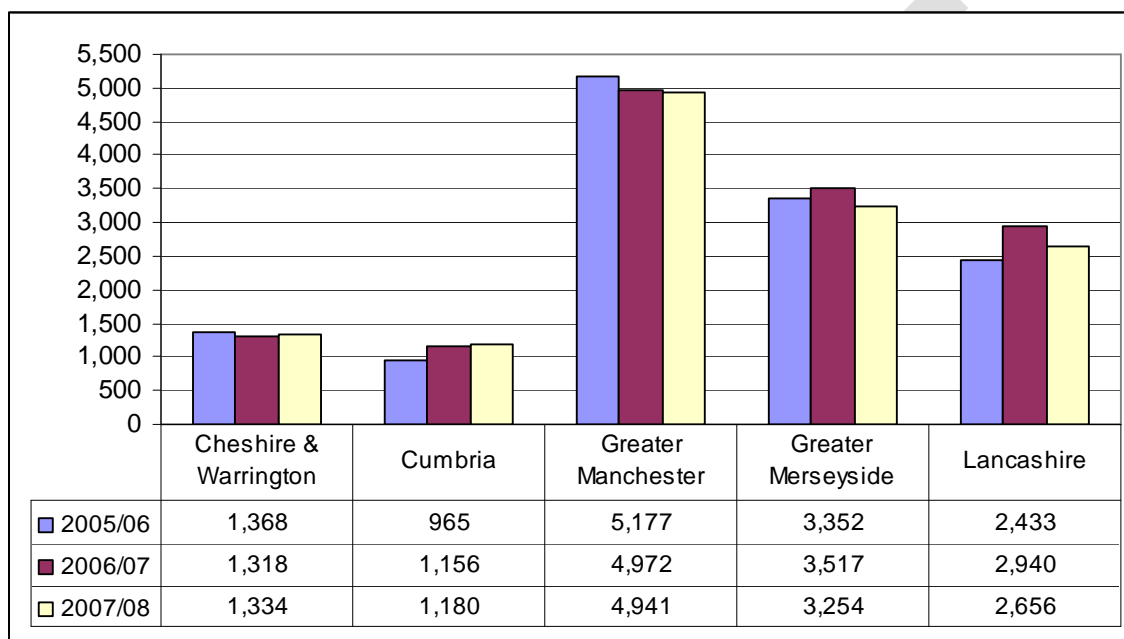
- 49 Young people will have an Apprenticeship entitlement from 2013; it is the government's ambition that one in five young people take this route within the next decade. **Currently one in 10 young people take an Apprenticeship in the North West, making it the highest performing region in England**, but there is a long way to go to achieve the ambition.
- 50 The creation of the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) will increase the focus on and profile of Apprenticeships. NAS will be fully functional by April 2009. It will operate at a national and sub-regional level, offering a vacancy matching service from September 2008 that is designed to ensure that by 2013 all suitably qualified young people who want an Apprenticeship will have the opportunity to do so. NAS will provide a skills brokerage service that works with employers and Apprentices from the initial interest by the young person to completion of the Apprenticeship and further progression.
- 51 **Apprenticeship starts in the NW have consistently been higher than in any other region**; only the National Employer Service, which contracts with large organisations across the country, has more starts. Figures for 2007/08 to date show a 4.1 percent reduction in starts since last year, but the data is still incomplete.

**Figure 19: Trends in Apprenticeship/Advanced Apprenticeship participation 2005/06 to 2007/08**

Region	Apprenticeship Starts			Percentage Change		
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2005/06-2006/07	2006/07-2007/08	Overall
East Midlands	7,883	8,068	9,062	2.3%	12.3%	15.0%
East of England	7,059	7,479	7,651	5.9%	2.3%	8.4%
Greater London	5,300	4,993	5,876	-5.8%	17.7%	10.9%
National Employer Service	17,277	20,676	20,255	19.7%	-2.0%	17.2%
North East	7,242	6,895	6,698	-4.8%	-2.9%	-7.5%
North West	15,721	16,701	16,016	6.2%	-4.1%	1.9%
South East	10,189	11,051	9,835	8.5%	-11.0%	-3.5%
South West	8,709	9,134	8,935	4.9%	-2.2%	2.6%
West Midlands	10,419	10,130	9,853	-2.8%	-2.7%	-5.4%
Yorkshire & the Humber	10,364	10,585	11,033	2.1%	4.2%	6.5%
<b>England</b>	<b>100,163</b>	<b>105,712</b>	<b>105,214</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>

- 52 The North West had 16,700 Apprenticeships/Advanced Apprenticeships starts in 2006/07, resulting in an “in-learning” cohort of more than 20,900; an increase of 6.9 percent on 2005/06.
- 53 Figure 20 shows the change in participation in **Level 2 Apprenticeships** in the sub-regions of the North West. Please note that the 2007/08 figures are from period 12, and therefore do not represent a full year’s data.

**Figure 20: Apprenticeship (Level 2) Starts 2005/06 to 2007/08 (P12)**

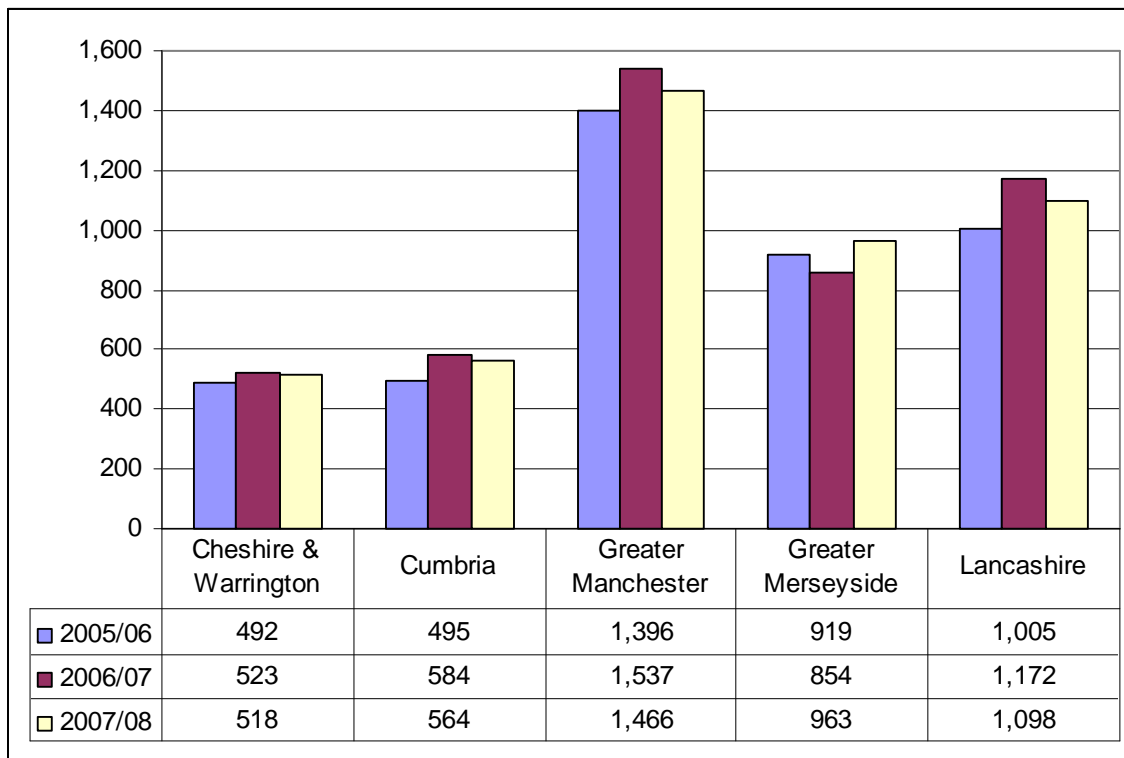


Source: LSC WBL ILR 2005/06 to 2007/08 (Period 12)

- 54 Full year data between 05/06 and 06/07 shows a 4.6 percent rise in Apprenticeship starts at Level 2 in the North West. The rise is not consistent across the region, however, with Greater Manchester and Cheshire and Warrington seeing a fall of around 4 percent and Lancashire and Cumbria seeing increases of around 20 percent.
- 55 Between 2006/07 and 2007/08 the picture changed, with a decrease in starts of about 4 percent. Lancashire had the highest reduction at -9.7 percent, Cumbria and Cheshire and Warrington saw slight increases of around 1 and 2%. Considering the large increase in 2006/07, it is not surprising that there has been a period of consolidation, during which any provision that failed to meet Minimum levels of Performance will have been removed.
- 56 Figure 21 shows 16-18 starts in Advanced Apprenticeships (Level 3) in the North West and sub regions. Again, the 07/08 data is for period 12; the final year data may show additional volumes.
- 57 16-18 Advanced Apprenticeship (Level 3) starts in the North West increased by 7 percent (+302) between 2005/06 and 2007/08 (Period 12). The largest percentage increase was in Cumbria (+13.9 percent) but the highest increase in numbers was in Lancashire (+93 starts).

58 All sub regions show an increase in starts at Level 3 between 05/06 and 07/08. The decreasing cohort from 08/09 onwards will pose a challenge for the new National Apprenticeship Service in increasing participation in Advanced Apprenticeships.

**Figure 21: Advanced Apprenticeship (Level 3) Starts 2005/06 to 2007/08 (P12)**



Source: LSC WBL ILR 2005/06 to 2007/08 (Period 12)

### Entry to Employment<sup>11</sup> (e2e)

59 Figure 15 shows the starts and in-learning data for e2e in the years 2005/06 to 2007/08 (period 12). Start numbers dropped in 2006/07 by 12.1 percent, but recovered strongly in 2007/08. The numbers actually on the programme (in learning) also dipped in 2006/07 and there was a similar recovery in 2007/08, indicating that demand for e2e is as strong as ever.

60 It is too early to say whether the re-tendering of the programme in Summer 2008 has had an impact on numbers.

**Figure 22: Trends in Entry to Employment (starts & in learning) 2005/06 to 2007/08**

2005/06	2006/07	2007/08 <sup>12</sup>	% change 2005/06 to 2006/07	% change 2006/07 to 2007/08
---------	---------	-----------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------

<sup>11</sup> e2e is aimed at young people aged 16 - 18 years if it is appropriate & will enable progression to an apprenticeship, further learning or a job. Young people under the Extended Guarantee can also participate in e2e. Learning is undertaken 3 interdependent core areas: basic & key skills, vocational development, & personal & social development. e2e is not time-bound, it is based on the needs of each individual – some may need relatively short periods of time to prepare for progression, others have more complex personal and social needs & may require much longer periods before they are ready to enter & sustain suitable training & employment.

<sup>12</sup> Period 12 data.

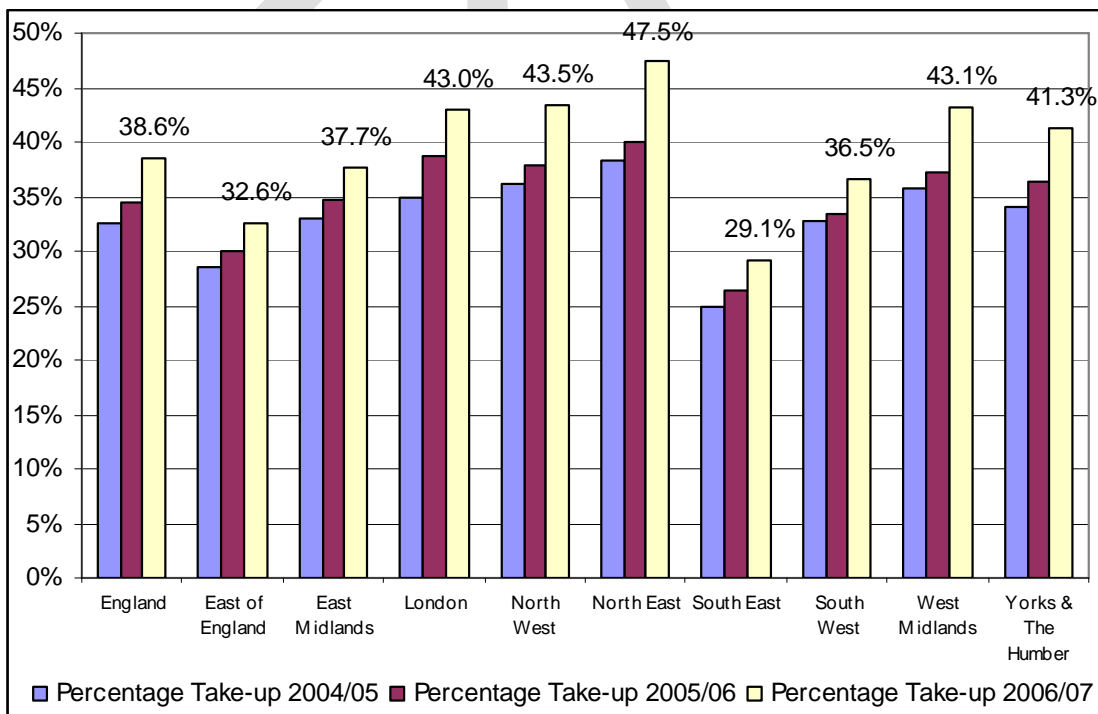
LSC of the Learner	starts	in learning	starts	in learning	starts	in learning				
Cheshire & Warrington	246	541	197	467	209	520	-20.1%	-13.7%	6.1%	11.3%
Cumbria	322	717	264	625	277	566	-18.1%	-12.8%	5.1%	-9.4%
Greater Manchester	1,535	3,215	1,447	3,433	1,588	3,661	-5.7%	6.8%	9.8%	6.6%
Greater Merseyside	1,464	2,959	1,369	3,105	1,674	3,095	-6.5%	4.9%	22.3%	-0.3%
Lancashire	987	1,823	724	1,674	899	2,097	-26.6%	-8.2%	24.2%	25.3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4,553</b>	<b>9,255</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>9,304</b>	<b>4,646</b>	<b>9,939</b>	<b>-12.2%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>16.1%</b>	<b>6.8%</b>

Source: Individualised Learner Records data produced by NWLSC Data and Analysis Team. Data based on the place of residence of learners.

### Supporting Participation: Education Maintenance Allowance take-up

- 61 Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is part of the Learner Support Programme managed by the LSC. It is designed to help young people with the costs associated with learning, such as bus fares, and help to ensure that financial considerations are not a barrier to participation. Figure 24 illustrates the increase in take-up of EMA across the North West.
- 62 **Take-up of EMA in the North West is higher than it is nationally.** Overall scheme take up in the region increased by 5 percentage points between 06/07 and 07/08, from 80,752 to 84,779, more than the national trend of 4.5%. Cheshire & Warrington have had the highest increase at 6.7 percent.

Figure 23: Take-up of EMA by 16 year olds 2004/05 to 2006/07



Source: Analysis of national data by NWLSC Research team

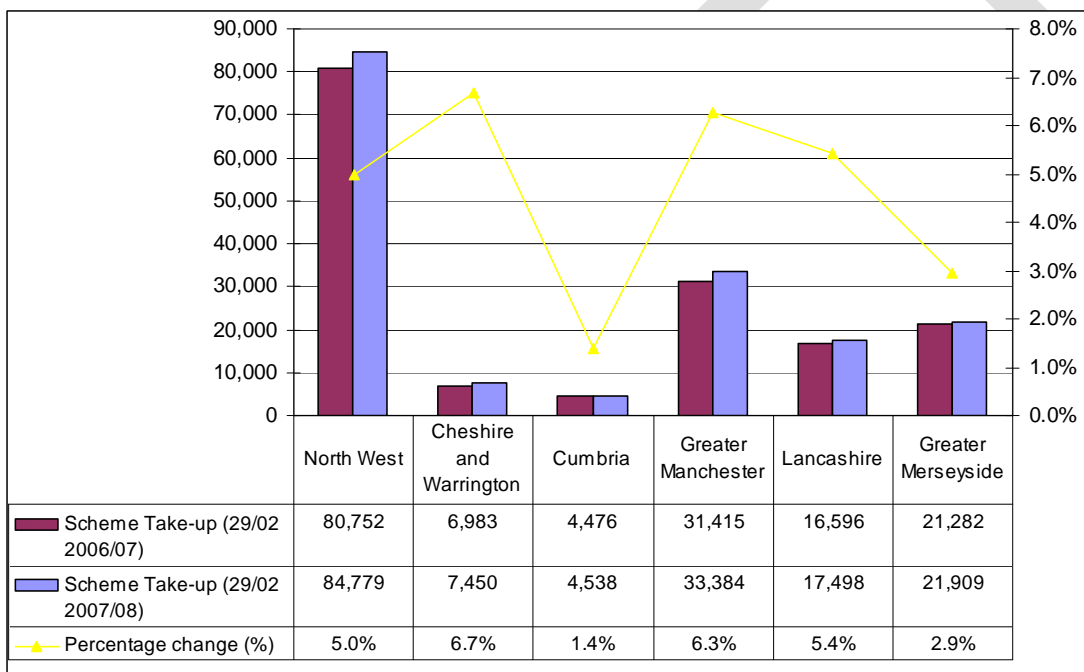
63 Data for August 2008 show that take-up by eligible young people was as follows:

- 44 percent of eligible 16 year olds, compared with a national average of 39 percent
- 36 percent of eligible 17 year olds, compared with a national average of 31 percent
- 12 percent of eligible 18 year olds, compared with a national average of 11 percent

While the regional picture on take-up is better than the national one, there is still work to do:

- firstly on increasing take-up by young people aged 17 and 18 who are already in learning, and
- secondly, on increasing both participation and EMA take-up by these age groups.

**Figure 24: Take-up of EMA in the North West**



Source: Analysis of national data by NWLSC Research team

64 The majority of regional EMA take up in August 2008 is in full-time education split by:

- Full-time Education: 87,568 young people
- e2e: 8,141 young people
- Programme Led Apprenticeship (PLA): 2,259 young people

65 Regional take up of EMA by those on full time education increased by 3 percent between 06/07 and 07/08. This small percentage increase masks large increases in take-up of EMA by those undertaking e2e and PLA.

- **The number of young people on e2e who took up EMA grew by 25 percent between August 2007 and August 2008.**

- The increase was greater for Programme led Apprenticeships, where the numbers grew from 1,580 in August 2007 to 2,259 in August 2008 – an increase of 43 percent.

66 A table showing detailed take-up by those in full time education or training by district can be found at Figure 55.

### Issue 3: Retaining young people in learning at age 17

67 National data shows that while 86 percent of North West young people aged 16 participated in education or work based learning in 2006, only 77 percent of 17 year olds did. This suggests that many 16 year olds take a one year course and then leave learning, or start a longer course, fail to complete and withdraw early.

68 This is a major concern, not only because some of these young people join the NEET group, but because by not staying in learning, they limit their future chances of career success and prosperity.

69 If more young people stayed in learning at age 17, not only would this boost overall participation, it would improve Level 2 attainment and increase progression to Level 3. It is therefore important to understand why some young people leave education and training at this age:

- **Are they becoming NEET at 17 having dropped out of their first year of post 16 education or training?**
- **Are they completing a 1 year education or training programme and entering jobs without training?**
- **Are they completing a Level 2 Apprenticeship within an industry where employers want them to gain more work experience before progressing to an Advanced Apprenticeship?**

Figure 25: Participation in education & work based learning by 16 & 17 year olds, 2006 (national data)

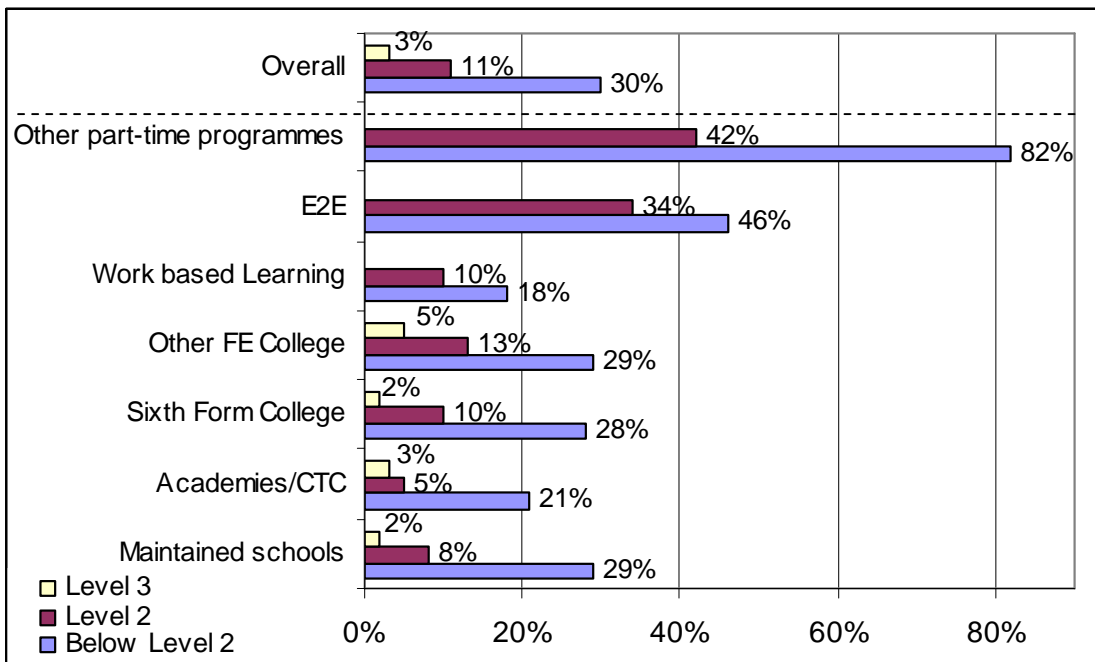
	Participation by age					
	Percent		Numbers		Change	
	Age 16	Age 17	Age 16	Age 17	Volume	Percentage
<b>North West</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>81,300</b>	<b>71,600</b>	<b>9,700</b>	<b>-11.9%</b>
Bolton	88%	77%	3,300	2,900	400	-12.1%
Bury	83%	73%	2,200	1,900	300	-13.6%
Cheshire	87%	78%	11,500	10,300	1,200	-10.4%
Cheshire	88%	79%	7,900	7,000	900	-11.4%
Halton	85%	73%	1,400	1,300	100	-7.1%
Warrington	82%	78%	2,200	2,000	200	-9.1%
Cumbria	87%	79%	5,800	5,100	700	-12.1%
Knowsley	86%	74%	2,000	1,700	300	-15.0%
Lancashire	84%	77%	17,000	15,300	1,700	-10.0%
Blackburn with Darwen	88%	77%	1,900	1,700	200	-10.5%
Blackpool	84%	70%	1,600	1,300	300	-18.8%
Lancashire	83%	77%	13,500	12,300	1,200	-8.9%

	Participation by age					
	Percent		Numbers		Change	
	Age 16	Age 17	Age 16	Age 17	Volume	Percentage
Liverpool	90%	78%	5,300	4,600	700	-13.2%
Manchester	92%	79%	5,200	4,500	700	-13.5%
Oldham	87%	75%	2,700	2,400	300	-11.1%
Rochdale	83%	71%	2,600	2,200	400	-15.4%
St Helen's	80%	71%	2,000	1,700	300	-15.0%
Salford	83%	69%	2,400	2,000	400	-16.7%
Sefton	90%	82%	3,700	3,300	400	-10.8%
Stockport	84%	74%	3,200	2,800	400	-12.5%
Tameside	79%	68%	2,500	2,100	400	-16.0%
Trafford	92%	82%	2,700	2,300	400	-14.8%
Wigan	84%	76%	3,400	3,100	300	-8.8%
Wirral	89%	79%	3,900	3,500	400	-10.3%

Source: DCSF <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000792/LA-rounded.xls#2006!A1>

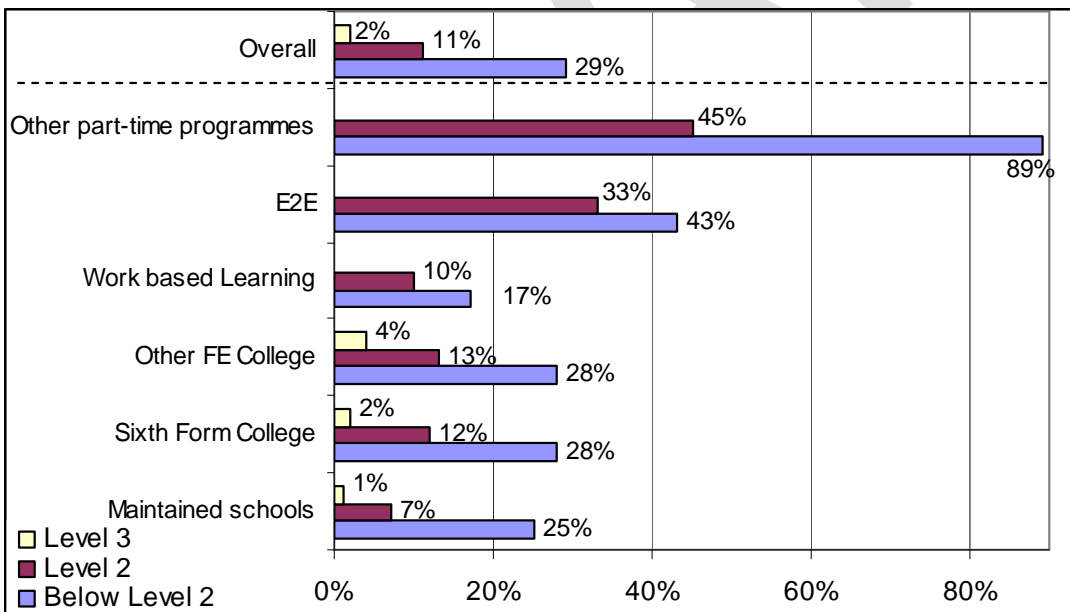
- 70 Analysis of the types of learning that young people leave early is also important in understanding and addressing the problem. Figure 26 and Figure 27 illustrate that **drop-out by young people whose attainment is below Level 2 is the highest overall**, but that **drop-out is much lower in work-based learning than in other types of learning**.
- 71 Drop out by those whose attainment level is below Level 2 is higher in FE and Sixth Form Colleges than in School Sixth Forms in the North West, whereas nationally it is slightly higher in School Sixth Forms.
- 72 The drop-out rate only counts those who were participating in learning in year 12 and not participating in any education or WBL the following year. So those who switch course or institution between years 12 and 13 will **not** count as having dropped out in these figures. The figures also exclude those studying in independent schools.

**Figure 26: National drop-out rates between Year 12 and 13 by institution type & year 12 attainment**



Source: Joint DCSF and LSC Level 3 Priority Review, August 2008.

**Figure 27: North West drop-out rates between Year 12 and 13 by institution type & Year 12 attainment.**



Source: Joint DCSF and LSC Level 3 Priority Review, August 2008.

## Issue 4: Ensuring all young people have an equal chance of success in learning

73 There are two criteria that need examination here;

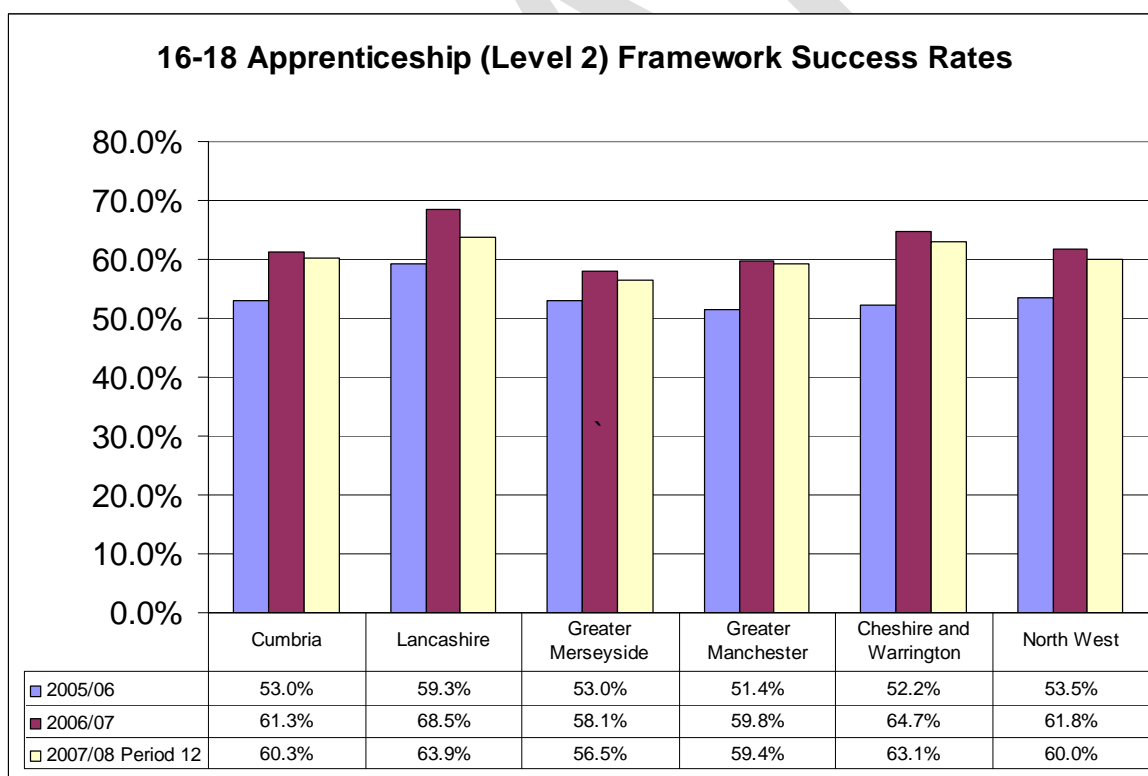
- **overall success rates** in the different learning routes for young people, and

- whether **disadvantaged young people** achieve less well in learning.

## Apprenticeship and Advanced Apprenticeship Success Rates

- 74 North West Apprenticeship (Level 2) Framework Success Rates<sup>13</sup> for 16-18 year olds have increased by 6.5 percentage points between 2005/06 and 2007/08 Period 12 to reach 60 percent. There was a slight reduction in the success rate between 2006/07, when it was 61.8 percent, and the 2007/08 success rate. The current national success rate for 16-18 year old Apprenticeships is 63.6 percent.
- 75 The significant improvement in success rate during 2006/07 was in part driven by the withdrawal of poor provision in line with the policy on Minimum Levels of Performance. Such provision is either transferred to high quality providers or re-commissioned via Open and Competitive Tendering.
- 76 The highest success rate in the region in 2007/08 was in Lancashire (63.9%). The greatest improvement in success rate between 2005/06 and 2007/08 was in Cheshire and Warrington (+10.9% points). However, the highest volume of framework leavers was in Greater Manchester (4,464, or 37 percent of the North West total).

**Figure 28: 16-18 Apprenticeship Framework Success Rates – residency based (i.e. based on where learners live)**

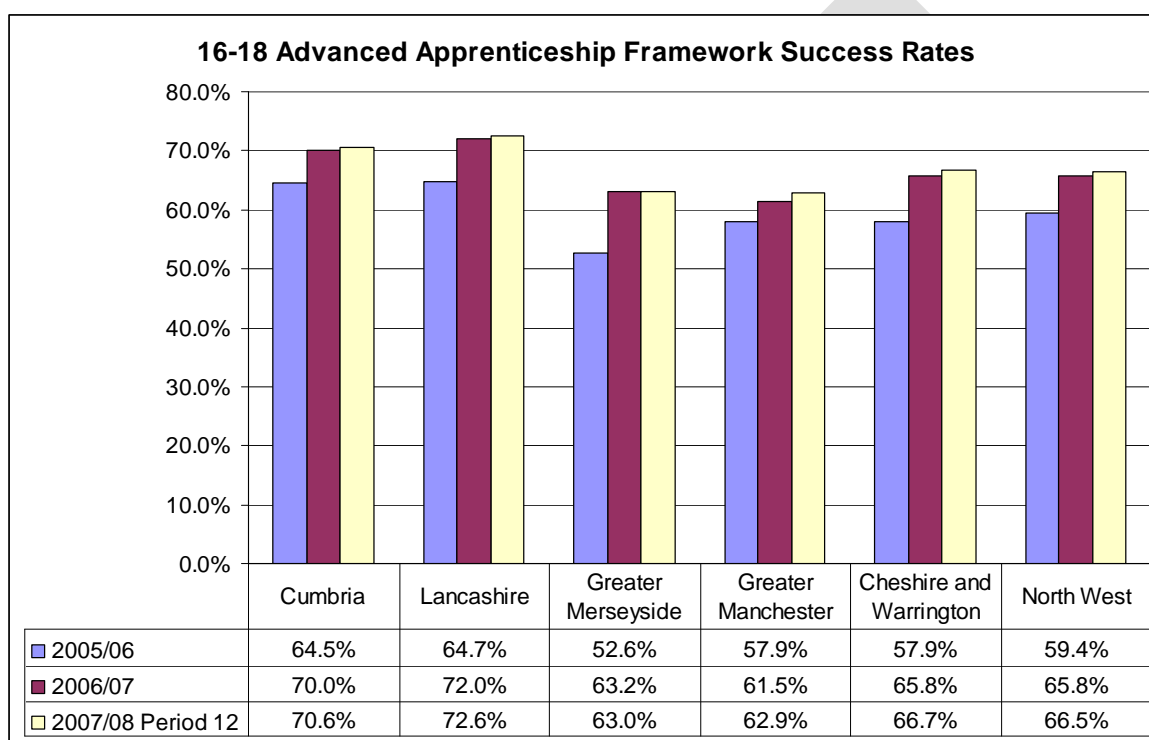


Source: LSC WBL ILR 2005/06 to 2007/08 (Period 12)

<sup>13</sup> Apprenticeships are jobs with training that build skills & lead to qualifications. Advanced Apps provide the training, skills & qualifications needed for management or technician roles. They last at least two years & lead to a Level 3 NVQ, key skills qualifications & a technical certificate, which together comprise the framework & must be completed if the App is to be counted a success.

- 77 **The North West has a framework success rate of 66.5 per cent for 16-18 Advanced Apprenticeships to date in 2007/08 (P12). This compares with a national success rate of 62.4 percent.**
- 78 The highest rate in the region is in Lancashire (72.6%), the largest increase in success rate over the period is in Greater Merseyside (+10.3% points), however this rate is still behind the regional average.
- 79 The highest volume of framework leavers is in Greater Manchester (1,278) however, this has decreased by 17 per cent since 2005/06.

**Figure 29: 16-18 Advanced Apprenticeship Framework Success Rates – Residency Based**



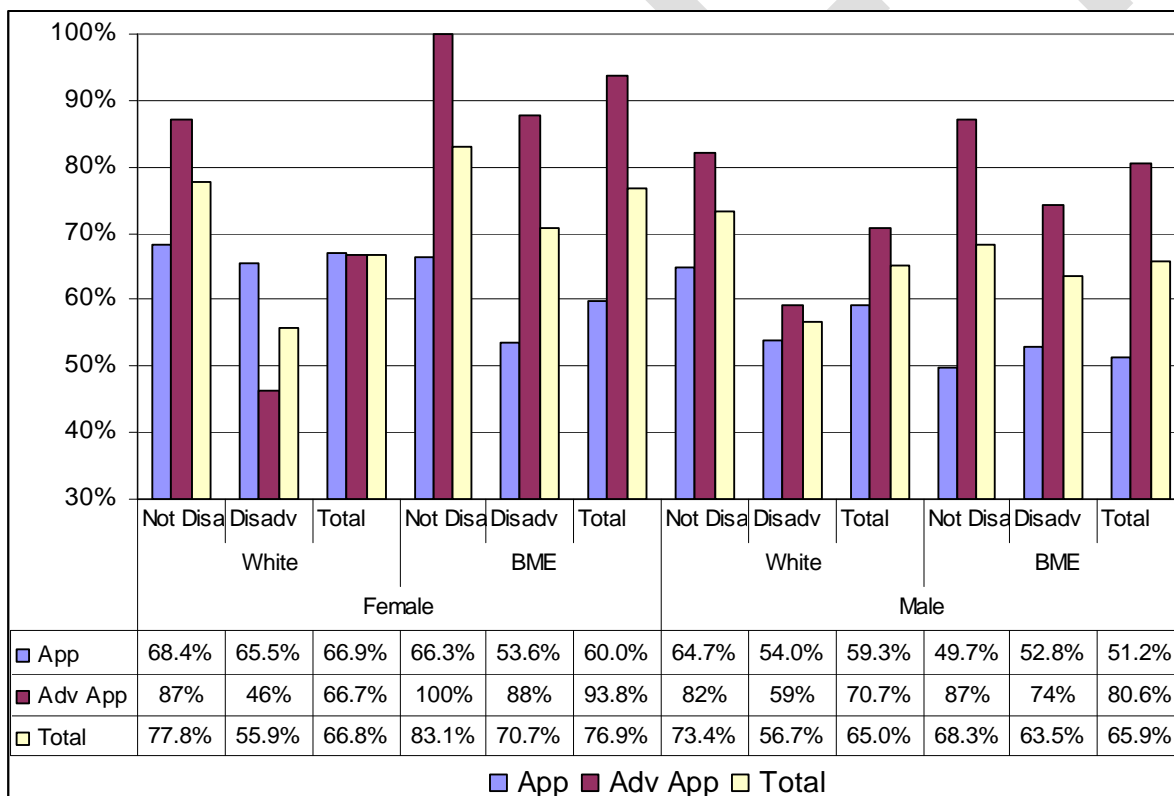
Source: LSC WBL ILR 2005/06 to 2007/08 (Period 12)

### Success rates and Equality and Diversity

- 80 Success rates on Apprenticeship and Advanced Apprenticeship vary across genders and ethnicities. Whether a learner is disadvantaged (defined here as in receipt of Widening Participation funding) also has a major impact on success. Figure 30 shows the range of success rates in the North West.
- 81 **Females have higher success rates than males overall**, with Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) females who are not residents of disadvantaged areas achieving the highest success rate of all – 100 percent in Advanced Apprenticeships. However, the actual numbers are very small – out of 16,203 leavers in 2006/07, only 599 were from BME groups – less than 4 percent. **The lowest success rate for females** was for white females who are resident in disadvantaged areas for Advanced Apprenticeship.

- 82 Males comprised just over half of all leavers, but only 47 percent of BME leavers – females from BME groups appear to be more likely to participate in Apprenticeships/Advanced Apprenticeships than males. **The highest male success rate** was achieved by BME Advanced Apprenticeship leavers who were not residents of disadvantaged areas. The lowest was for BME Apprenticeship leavers who are residents of disadvantaged areas.
- 83 **Being disadvantaged depressed success rates** most for white females leaving Advanced Apprenticeships – there was a 40 percent achievement gap between those who live in disadvantaged areas and those who don't. Males had a 20 percent achievement gap. On the whole, Apprenticeships success rates appeared to be less affected by disadvantage than Advanced Apprenticeships rates.
- 84 Success rates for Advanced Apprenticeships are more varied than for Apprenticeships; this is mainly due to the smaller numbers who take Advanced Apprenticeships – 79.3 percent of leavers (12,851) were from Apprenticeships.

**Figure 30: Apprenticeship & Advanced Apprenticeship Success rates for 16-18 year olds 2006/07, by gender, ethnicity & disadvantage**



**Success Rates in Further Education**

- 85 **FE success rates in the North West have been above the national average for several years**, and while success rates continue to improve year on year, the rate of increase in other parts of the country has recently been faster, so they are closing the gap. In 2006/07, the most recent academic year for which data is available<sup>14</sup>, the NW overall FE success rate for young people aged 16-18 was 77.5

<sup>14</sup> F05 data showing the 2007/08 success rates will be available in Spring 2009.

percent – the same as the national rate. It should be remembered that, in the NW a larger proportion of young people participate in FE than is the case nationally.

- 86 Success rates in FE are measured by comparing the number of learners who complete a course and achieve their qualification with the total number that started the course. As a result, the success rate is affected by both learner retention and achievement rates. For example, if 100 learners start a course, 80 complete the course, with 50 of those achieving their qualification, the success rate is counted as 50 percent (100 learner starts ÷ 50 qualifications achieved).
- 87 Comparable success rates for School Sixth Forms are not collected– the methodology for sixth forms is to compare the numbers achieving with the numbers entered for the examination. Learner retention is not a factor in counting success. So if 100 young people commence studying A levels, 80 of them complete the course but only 60 take the exams, then the success rate will be based upon the 60 who took the exam - if 50 are successful the success rate is counted as 83.3 percent (60 learners entered for exams ÷ 50 qualifications achieved). In FE the same success rate would be counted as 50 percent (100 starts ÷ 50 qualifications achieved).
- 88 FE Qualifications at Levels 2 and 3 that are longer than 24 weeks are recorded as long courses. Success rates for these courses are used in this analysis as they capture a greater proportion of the total learner volume than full Level 2 or 3 success rates (as not all long courses are full level 2 / 3).<sup>15</sup>

**Figure 31: Summary of FE Success Rates for 16-18 year olds; North West & National (England)**

	Long Level 2			Long Level 3			Overall		
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Cheshire & Warrington	62.7%	67.0%	71.6%	75.8%	79.7%	80.0%	72.5%	77.0%	78.5%
Cumbria	67.6%	72.1%	75.8%	76.9%	79.7%	82.0%	74.3%	78.1%	81.1%
Greater Manchester	60.9%	63.5%	68.5%	72.4%	74.8%	77.8%	69.3%	72.1%	75.4%
Greater Merseyside	67.5%	71.1%	73.7%	79.1%	80.8%	83.0%	76.3%	78.6%	80.2%
Lancashire	64.2%	71.5%	76.0%	81.0%	83.4%	84.3%	75.9%	80.7%	81.8%
<b>North West</b>	<b>65.6%</b>	<b>69.7%</b>	<b>73.4%</b>	<b>77.5%</b>	<b>79.8%</b>	<b>82.0%</b>	<b>74.3%</b>	<b>77.5%</b>	<b>79.7%</b>
<b>National</b>	<b>63.5%</b>	<b>68.3%</b>	<b>72.2%</b>	<b>75.2%</b>	<b>77.5%</b>	<b>79.3%</b>	<b>71.9%</b>	<b>75.1%</b>	<b>77.5%</b>

	Full Level 2			Full Level 3		
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Cheshire & Warrington	63.6%	68.5%	71.5%	62.6%	69.6%	74.0%
Cumbria	66.9%	72.8%	73.9%	61.8%	65.1%	71.4%
Greater Manchester	60.6%	65.0%	68.0%	56.3%	63.8%	64.7%
Greater Merseyside	66.9%	70.5%	69.8%	63.5%	65.1%	71.2%
Lancashire	67.6%	72.4%	75.9%	61.7%	66.9%	68.3%

<sup>15</sup> For example a GCSE in Maths would not be considered a full Level 2 qualification. Attainment of five or more GCSEs at grades A\* to C is required for a full Level 2.

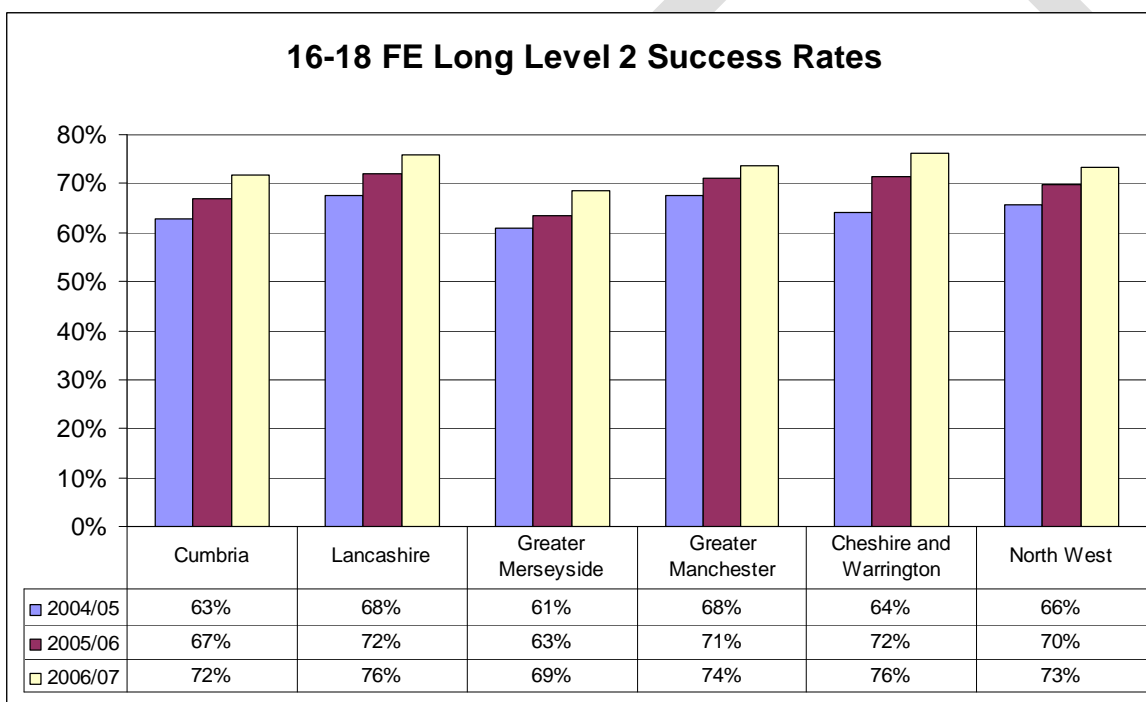
	Full Level 2			Full Level 3		
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	65.5%	70.0%	71.0%	61.5%	65.3%	69.9%
National	63.3%	67.9%	70.5%	60.1%	64.8%	68.6%

Source: NW Reporting Platform, utilising Individual Learner Records data produced by NWLSC Data and Analysis Team.

### FE Long Level 2 Success Rates

89 The FE 16-18 long Level 2 success rate for the North West was 73.4 percent in 2006/07, compared to a national rate of 72.2 percent. Success rates were highest in Lancashire and in Cheshire & Warrington (76%) and lowest in Greater Merseyside (69%). See Figure 32.

Figure 32: 16-18 FE Long Level 2 Success Rates



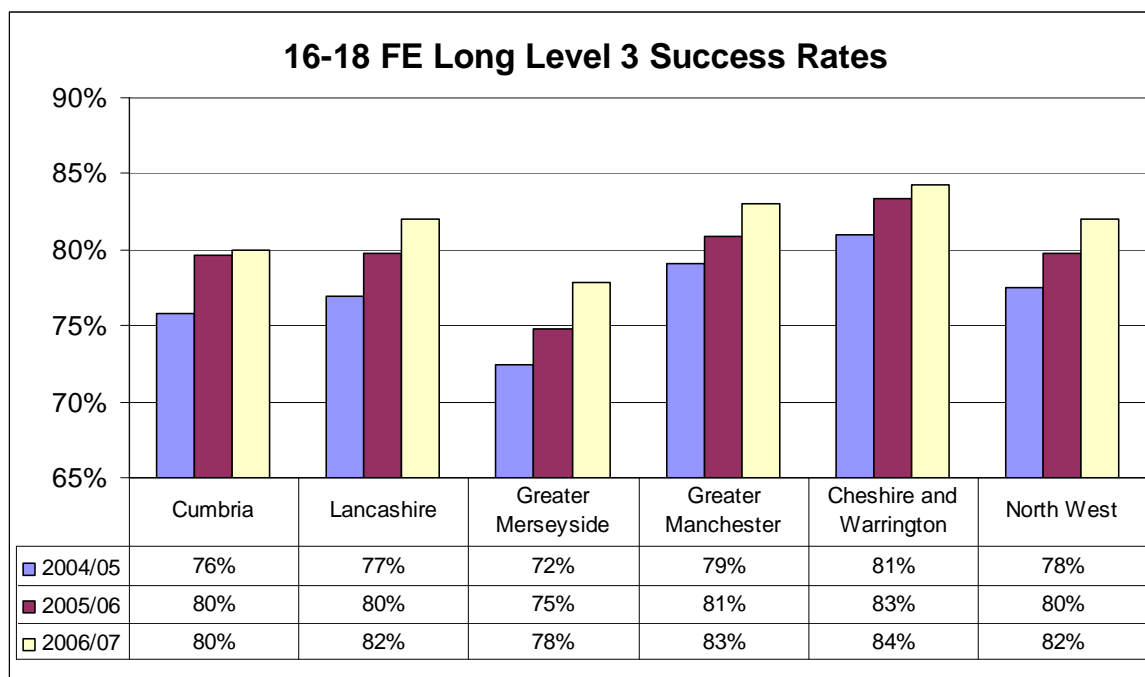
Source: LSC NW FE ILR 2004/05 – 2006/07 (provider-based data)

### Long Level 3 Success Rates

90 Figure 33: shows that the 2006/07 North West success rate for FE long Level 3 qualifications for 16-18 years olds was 82%, this rate has improved year on year, is 3 percentage points above the national average and the gap has remained constant for 3 years.

91 The highest success rate in the region is in Cheshire & Warrington (84%), the lowest is in Greater Merseyside (78%). However, along with Lancashire, Greater Merseyside has improved at a faster rate than other areas of the North West since 2004/05 (+6% percentage points).

**Figure 33: 16-18 FE Long Level 3 Success Rates**



Source: LSC NW FE ILR 2004/05 – 2006/07

### Success rates and Equality and Diversity

92 There is wide variation in success rates across differing ethnic groups and genders. However, some clear messages emerge:

- Female success rates are generally higher than male
- Learners who are disadvantaged have lower success rates overall.

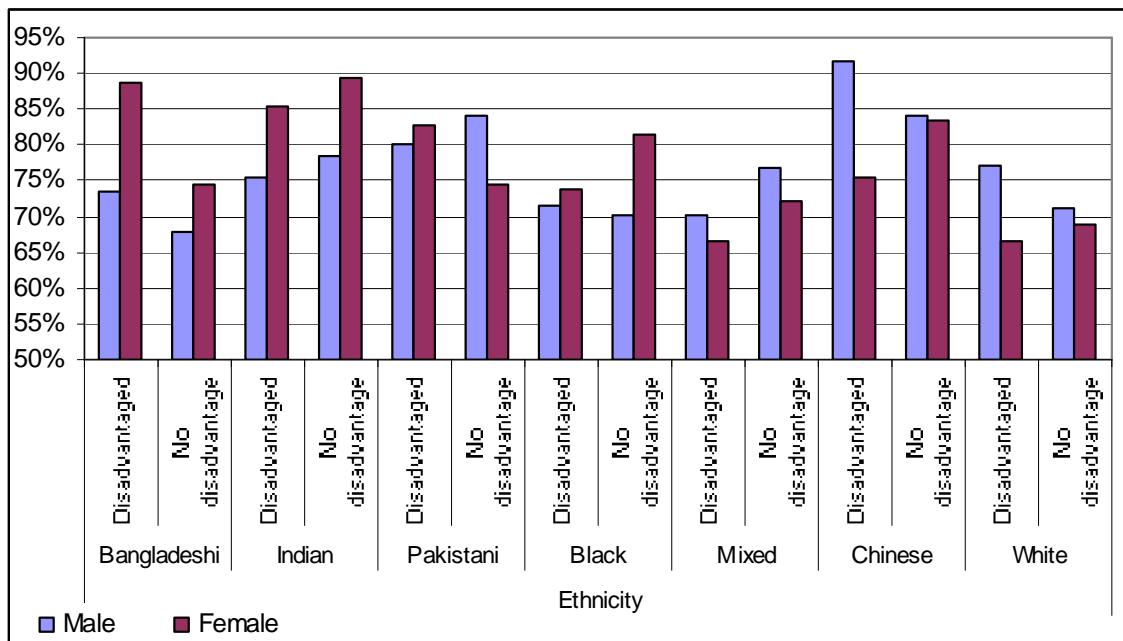
**Figure 34: Overall success rates by gender and disadvantage**

Level	Female		Male	
	Disadvantaged	No disadvantage	Disadvantaged	No disadvantage
Long Level 2	72%	76%	71%	74%
Long Level 3	79%	85%	76%	82%

93 The following charts set out the performance of different ethnic groups in more detail. Notable points:

- The very high success rates achieved by Chinese learners – disadvantaged males are the highest performing group overall at Level 2 and disadvantaged females at Level 3, demonstrating that disadvantage does not depress performance for Chinese young people
- The low overall success rates achieved by people of mixed race. For this group, disadvantage has a clear effect on performance – at Level 2 there is a 6-7 percentage point difference between those who are disadvantaged and those who are not. At Level 3 the difference is 8-9 points.

**Figure 35: 2006/07 regional long Level 2 16-18 success rates by gender, ethnicity & disadvantage status.**

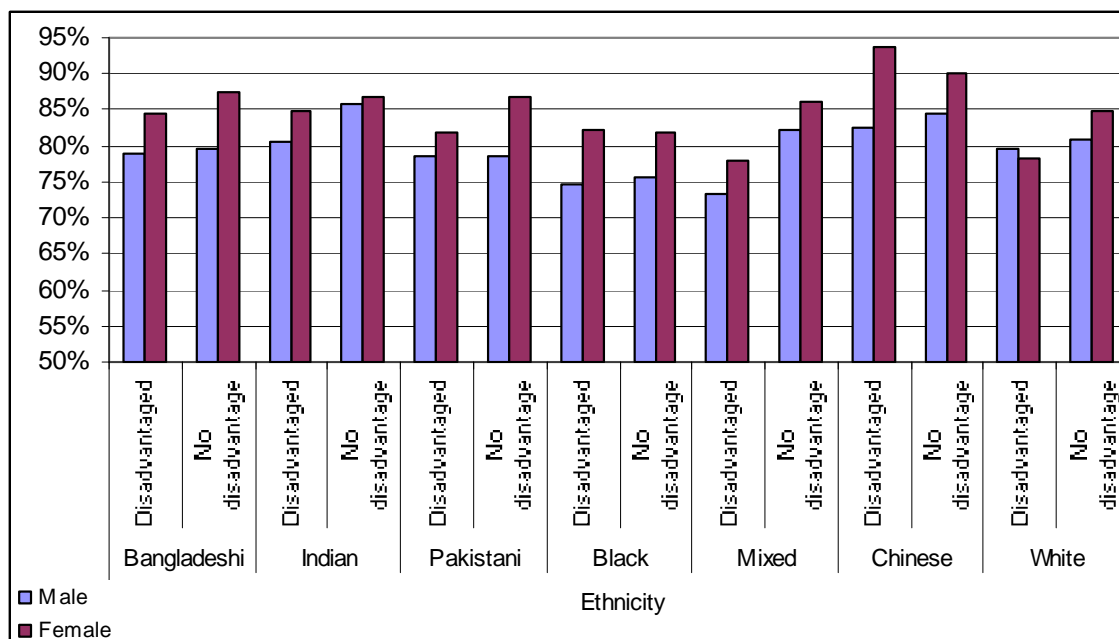


Source: Data analysis by NWLSC Research Team based on F05 ILR data extracted by NWLSC Data Collection & Analysis Team

### Level 2 success rates (long qualifications)

- 94 Females achieved a slightly higher overall success rate than males in long Level 2 qualifications, at 74 percent compared to males' 73 percent. However in some ethnic groups males achieved better results – notably Mixed, Chinese and White.
- 95 Disadvantaged individuals who are Indian, Black or Mixed race have lower success rates. However, disadvantaged Bangladeshi females out-perform their non-disadvantaged peers by 15 percentage points and disadvantaged Pakistani females by 11.
- 96 Disadvantage appears to affect the performance of females more than males; the differential between those who are disadvantaged and those who aren't ranges from 2 to 15 percentage points. For males it is only 1 to 9 percentage points. In some instances, however, the differential is in favour of disadvantaged groups – such as in the Bangladeshi example.

**Figure 36: Regional long Level 3 success rates by gender, ethnicity & disadvantage status.**



Source for both charts: Data analysis by NWLSC Research Team based on F04 ILR data extracted by NWLSC Data Collection & Analysis Team

### Long Level 3 success rates (long qualifications)

- 97 Females achieved a higher overall success rate than males in long Level 3 qualifications, at 83 percent compared to males' 80 percent. Only disadvantaged White males out-performed their female peers, indicating that White females are more affected by disadvantage.
- 98 The group which appears to be affected most by disadvantage is the Mixed heritage, where there is a 9 percentage point differential for males and 8 for females (Males 73 percent success rate for disadvantaged/82 percent for those not disadvantaged, Females 78 and 86 percent respectively).
- 99 Disadvantaged Chinese females have a higher success rate than their non-disadvantaged peers.
- 100 If the average success rates for males and males are compared, there is an equal performance gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged groups of 3 percent. For males, the differential ranges from 0 to 8, and for females from 0 to 9.

### Entry to Employment

- 101 57.6 percent of 07/08 leavers had a positive outcome. Of 9,139 total leavers, 2,181 went into employment (24 percent), 1,855 into FE (20 percent) and 1,169 into Apprenticeships (13 percent).
- 102 **Although only 8 percent of leavers were from Black and Minority Ethnic Groups, they achieved higher positive outcome rates than White leavers, regardless of whether or not they had LDD.**

- 103 **The overall highest positive outcome rate (61.8 percent) was achieved by BME females with LDD.** The lowest overall rate (54.7 percent) was achieved by White females with no LDD.
- 104 **Male performance was better than female overall,** only BME males with LDD performed slightly less well than their female counterparts; in all other instances, male performance was higher.
- 105 Females were more likely to progress into Apprenticeships than males and less likely to progress into FE; the most popular progression route for males and females was employment.
- 106 Females with LDD were less likely to enter employment than those with no LDD (almost ten percentage points difference between their progression rate and the average for all groups at 15.2 percent and 24.3 percent); whereas males with LDD were more likely to enter employment (24.5 percent entered employment compared to the average of 24.3 percent).

**Figure 37: e2e Leavers & Positive Outcomes 2007/08 Period 12**

Gender	Number of Leavers				Positive Outcomes				Total Leavers	Overall Positive Outcomes
	LDD		No LDD		LDD		No LDD			
	White	BME	White	BME	White	BME	White	BME		
Females	413	34	2,814	228	55.2%	61.8%	54.7%	56.6%	3,489	57.1%
Males	944	66	4,221	419	55.5%	59.1%	58.7%	58.9%	5,650	58.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,357</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>7,035</b>	<b>647</b>	<b>55.4%</b>	<b>60.5%</b>	<b>56.7%</b>	<b>57.8%</b>	<b>9,139</b>	<b>57.6%</b>

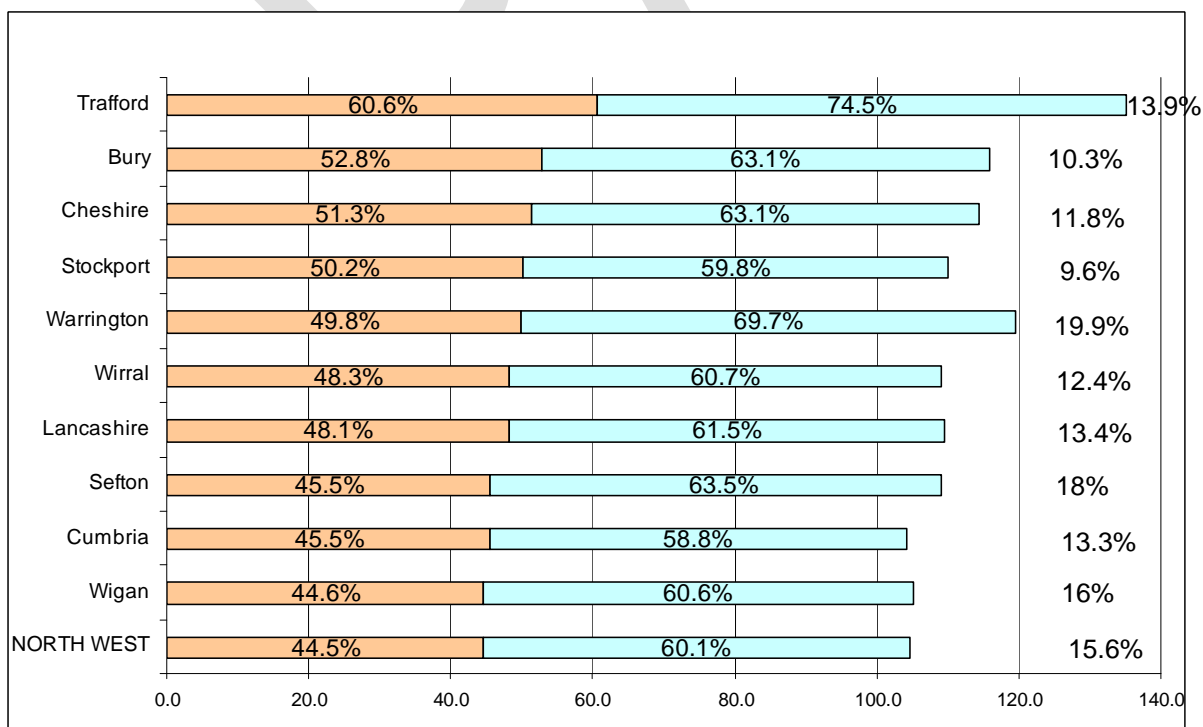
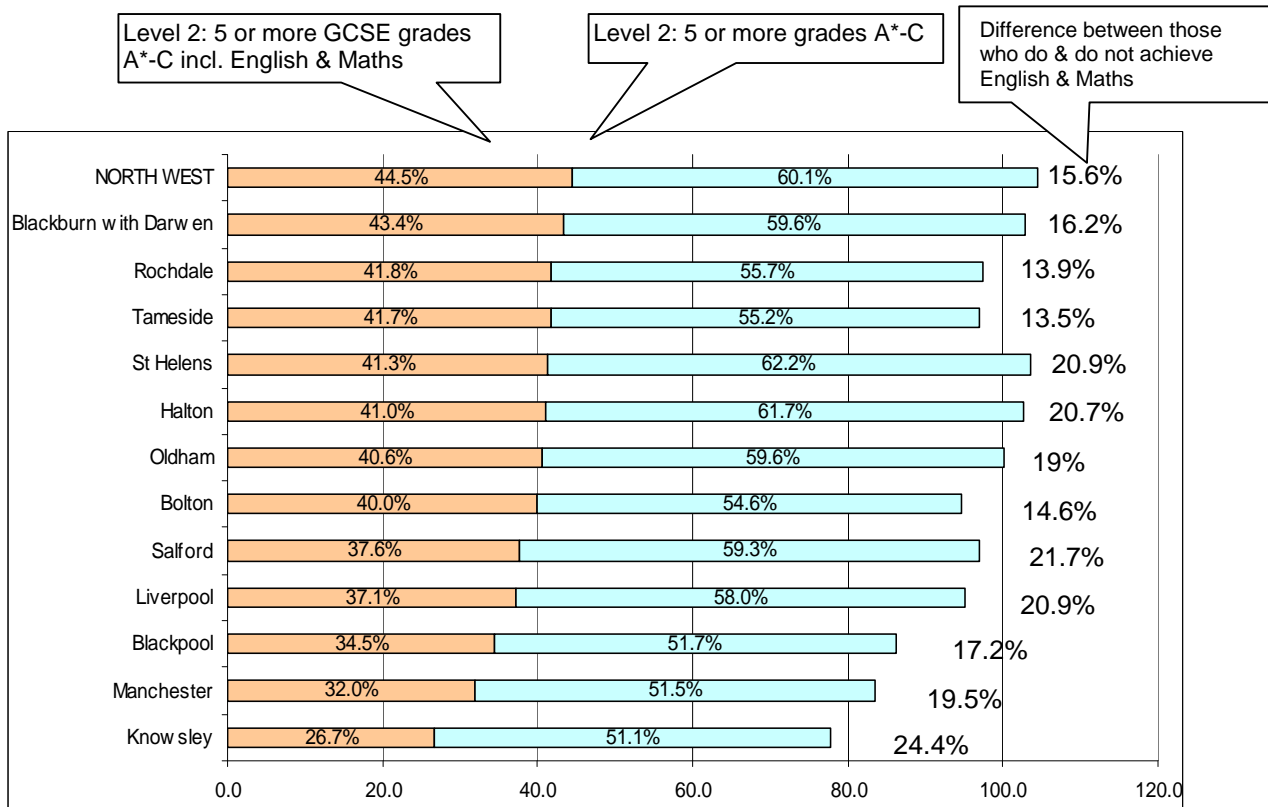
Percentage progressing to Apprenticeships		Percentage progressing to Further Education		Percentage progressing into Employment	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
10.8%	16.0%	21.2%	18.8%	26.2%	20.1%

## Issue 5: Level 2 at 16 with/without English or Maths

- 107 Attainment of a Level 2 (5 or more grades A\*-C at GCSE) is regarded as essential to ensure a young person has the skills necessary for employability. However, a Level 2 that does not include the necessary skills in English and Maths may not provide a firm foundation for further progression to a Level 3 qualification (including Diplomas, A levels, Advanced Apprenticeships or other vocational qualifications). In turn, this can limit progression to Higher Education or the higher skilled jobs that contribute to growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The other sections of the 2008 Strategic Analysis (Adult Learner Responsive and Employer Responsive) highlight the demand for higher level skills.
- 108 In the North West 60.1% of young people achieved a Level 2 by the age of 16 in 2006. However, only 44.5% achieved a Level 2 including English and Maths.
- 109 Figure 38 shows the proportion of 16 year olds achieving a Level 2 with and without Maths and English. The graphs illustrate that some schools with relatively lower rates of Level 2 achievement nevertheless have higher proportions of Level 2 with English and Maths. For example, Rochdale has a 55.7 percent rate of overall Level

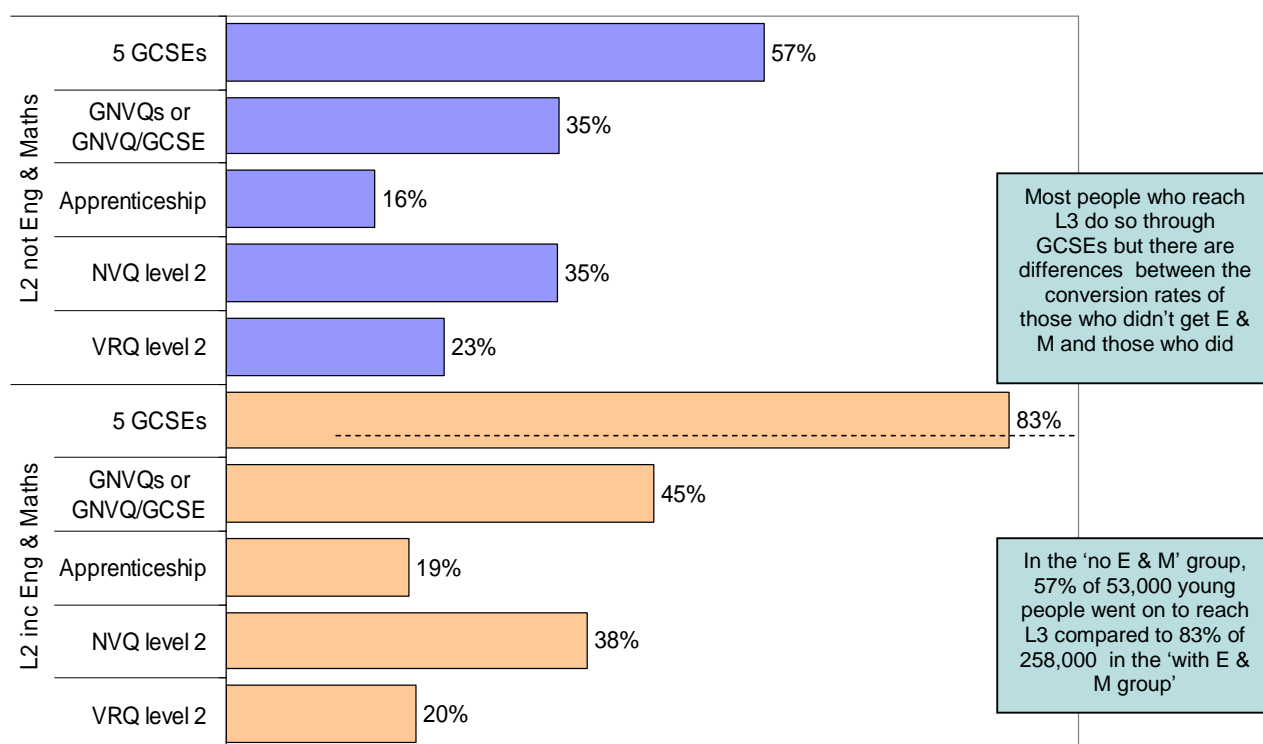
2 achievement and a 41.8 percent achievement rate for Level 2 including English and Maths. This latter rate of achievement is higher than that achieved in St Helen's, Tameside, Oldham, Halton, Salford and Liverpool, all of which had a higher rate of overall Level 2 attainment. The gap between the achievement of Level 2 with Maths and English and without was greatest in Knowsley.

**Figure 38: Attainment of Level 2 with and without English & Maths 2006/07**



Source for both charts: <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000768/revisedGCSE2008additionaltables2.xls>

**Figure 39: National progression to Level 3 at 19 by the route through which young people attained Level 2, & whether Level 2 included English & Maths.**



Source: Joint DCSF and LSC Level 3 Priority Review, August 2008

## Issue 6: Level 2 and Level 3 at 19

110 The DCSF leads on 198 indicators from the National Indicator Set that underpins PSA targets. Seven of these relate to 14-19 reforms, and these include addressing:

- the inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19 (where the aspiration is that 66% of those in receipt of free school meals at age 16 should achieve L2 by the age of 19); and
- the inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19.

111 It is essential to the wellbeing and future prosperity of young people, society and the economy that young people have the skills to pursue productive careers. Level 2 is widely regarded as the threshold for employability and acts as a stepping stone to achievement at higher levels. Job opportunities for those qualified to level 3 are expected to expand in the future. The Leitch review has made it very clear that the number of unskilled jobs will decline sharply and more young people must achieve Level 3 qualifications to ensure financial security in the future.

### Level 2 achievement at age 16

112 All young people need a solid foundation of attainment if they are to progress in the post 16 phase of their learning. Ideally, young people would achieve a Level 2 at age 16 by securing five or more GCSEs at grades A\*-C and including Maths and English. It is in recognition of the fact that many young people do not reach this

benchmark by age 16 that PSA targets for post-16 attainment exist. They also help to identify to what extent colleges, school sixth forms and work based learning providers are adding value for young people post-16.

113 Figure 40 and Figure 41 set out the GCSE attainments for young people in the region between 2004/05 and 2007/08. They show that steady progress is being made, but that there are significant variations in performance across the region. Trafford has been the strongest performer and Knowsley the weakest. The chart demonstrates that many districts in the region have made a lot of progress in improving attainment – more than has been achieved nationally, but starting from a lower point. The most improved districts include:

- **Halton**, which has improved its overall Level 2 at 16 achievement by 21.3 percentage points and its Level 2 including Maths and English by 16.5 percentage points. Considering in 2004/05 they had attainment levels lower than England, the fact that they now out-perform the national average is a great achievement.
- **Blackburn with Darwen**, 19 percentage points improvement overall, with 10 percentage points including Maths and English. Blackburn with Darwen are now doing better than England in their overall attainment, having started in 2004/05 at a much lower point..
- **Salford**, 17.5 and 7.6 percentage points respectively and now very close to the England average on their overall Level 2 at 16. Again, Salford's performance in 2004/05 lagged the England average by a significant margin.

114 Some districts have made less progress:

- St Helen's' Level 2 including Maths and English attainment was slightly lower in 2007/08 than it was in 2004/05, following an improvement in 2006/07.
- Cheshire and Cumbria have both outstripped England in their improvement of Level 2 including Maths and English. However they are the only two districts in the region to have achieved a lower percentage point improvement than the England average for overall Level 2 attainment.

**Figure 40: Attainment of 5+ GCSE grades A\*-C 2004/05 to 2007/08 with & without Maths & English**

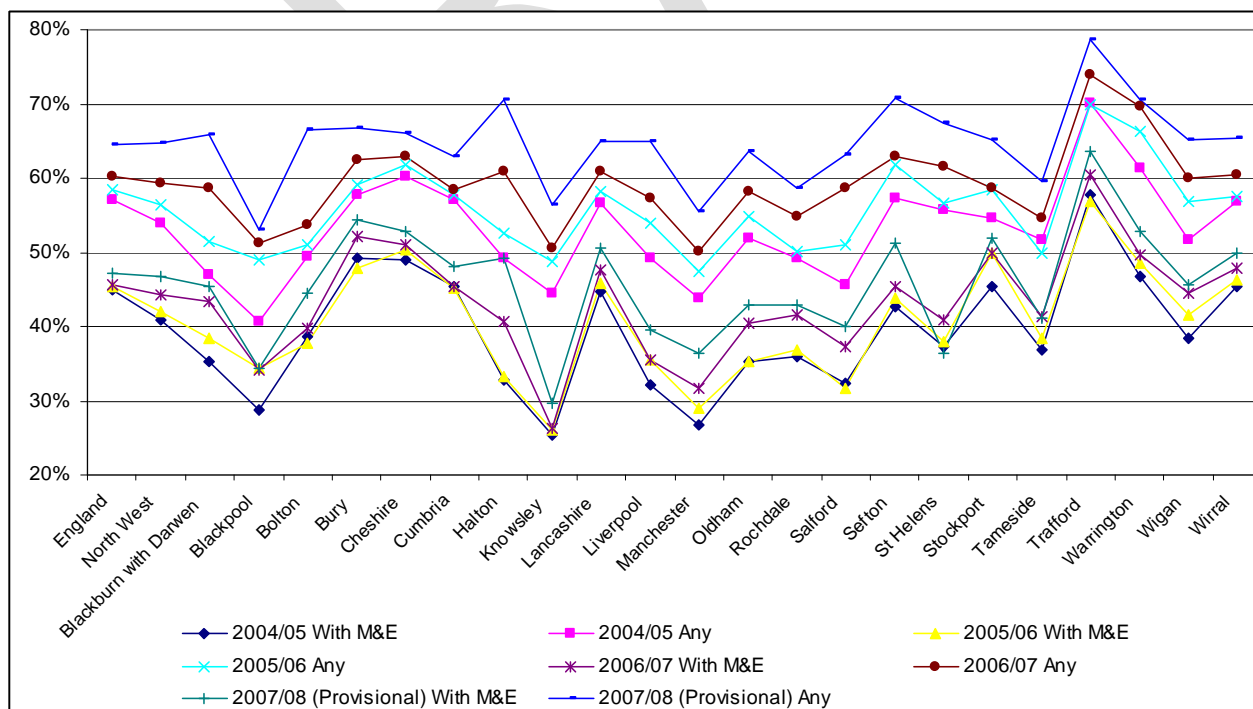
	2004/05		2005/06		2006/07		2007/08 <sup>16</sup>		Percentage change 2004/05 to 2007/08	
	With M&E	Any	With M&E	Any	With M&E	Any	With M&E	Any	With M&E	Any
<b>England</b>	<b>44.9%</b>	<b>57.1%</b>	<b>45.3%</b>	<b>58.5%</b>	<b>45.7%</b>	<b>60.3%</b>	<b>47.2%</b>	<b>64.6%</b>	2.3%	7.5%
North West	40.8%	54%	42%	56.5%	44.2%	59.4%	46.8%	64.7%	6.0%	10.7%
Blackburn with Darwen	35.3%	46.9%	38.4%	51.4%	43.3%	58.7%	45.3%	65.9%	10.0%	19.0%
Blackpool	28.8%	40.7%	34.3%	49%	34.2%	51.3%	34.4%	53.1%	5.6%	12.4%
Bolton	38.6%	49.4%	37.8%	50.9%	39.7%	53.6%	44.4%	66.6%	5.8%	17.2%
Bury	49.3%	57.8%	47.9%	59%	52.2%	62.4%	54.3%	66.8%	5.0%	9.0%
Cheshire	49%	60.2%	50.4%	61.7%	51.1%	62.9%	52.7%	66%	3.7%	5.8%
Cumbria	45.4%	57.1%	45.2%	57.7%	45.3%	58.5%	48.2%	62.9%	2.8%	5.8%

<sup>16</sup> Provisional data

	2004/05		2005/06		2006/07		2007/08 <sup>16</sup>		Percentage change 2004/05 to 2007/08	
	With M&E	Any	With M&E	Any	With M&E	Any	With M&E	Any	With M&E	Any
Halton	32.8%	49.2%	33.3%	52.5%	40.6%	61%	49.3%	70.5%	16.5%	21.3%
Knowsley	25.5%	44.6%	26%	48.7%	26.4%	50.6%	29.7%	56.4%	4.2%	11.8%
Lancashire	44.7%	56.7%	45.8%	58.3%	47.7%	60.8%	50.6%	65%	5.9%	8.3%
Liverpool	32.1%	49.2%	35.4%	53.9%	35.6%	57.4%	39.6%	65%	7.5%	15.8%
Manchester	26.8%	43.9%	29%	47.4%	31.6%	50.1%	36.3%	55.6%	9.5%	11.7%
Oldham	35.3%	52%	35.3%	54.8%	40.4%	58.2%	42.9%	63.6%	7.6%	11.6%
Rochdale	35.9%	49.2%	36.9%	50.1%	41.5%	54.9%	42.9%	58.7%	7.0%	9.5%
Salford	32.4%	45.6%	31.7%	50.9%	37.3%	58.6%	40%	63.1%	7.6%	17.5%
Sefton	42.7%	57.4%	43.9%	61.7%	45.3%	62.9%	51.2%	70.7%	8.5%	13.3%
St Helen's	37.2%	55.7%	38%	56.6%	41%	61.5%	36.3%	67.5%	-0.9%	11.8%
Stockport	45.5%	54.7%	49.9%	58.5%	49.9%	58.7%	51.9%	65.1%	6.4%	10.4%
Tameside	36.8%	51.7%	38.4%	49.8%	41.3%	54.5%	41.2%	59.6%	4.4%	7.9%
Trafford	57.7%	70.2%	56.8%	70%	60.4%	73.9%	63.7%	78.7%	6.0%	8.5%
Warrington	46.8%	61.3%	48.5%	66.3%	49.7%	69.7%	52.9%	70.6%	6.1%	9.3%
Wigan	38.4%	51.7%	41.6%	56.8%	44.4%	60.1%	45.6%	65.2%	7.2%	13.5%
Wirral	45.4%	56.8%	46.3%	57.5%	47.9%	60.4%	49.9%	65.3%	4.5%	8.5%

Source: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/index.shtml>

**Figure 41: Chart showing attainment of 5+ GCSE grades A\*-C 2004/05 to 2007/08 with & without Maths & English**



Source: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/index.shtml>

## Post 16 added value

- 115 For those young people who do not achieve the Level 2 benchmark at the age of 16, the post 16 sector is crucial to their progression. The more value the sector can add for young people between 16 and 19 the better, not only to help the region achieve its targets, but to give young people the best start in working life.
- 116 In fact the sector has increased its contribution steadily since 2004/05, as can be seen in Figure 42 and since 2005 has equalled the England rate of value added. The Level 3 achievement rate has also increased throughout this period.

**Figure 42: Value added by the post-16 sector in the North West 2004/05 to 2006/07**

	19 years old in 2003/04		19 years old in 2004/05		19 years old in 2005/06		19 years old in 2006/07	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Level 2 by age 16	43,080	47.0%	44,356	48.3%	46,394	50.0%	48,963	51.2%
Level 2 by age 17	48,734	53.2%	51,227	55.8%	53,400	57.6%	56,883	59.5%
Level 2 by age 18	54,313	59.3%	57,487	62.7%	60,629	65.4%	65,001	68.0%
<b>Level 2 by age 19</b>	<b>58,447</b>	<b>63.8%</b>	<b>61,708</b>	<b>67.3%</b>	<b>65,021</b>	<b>70.1%</b>	<b>69,222</b>	<b>72.4%</b>
<b>Value added by the post-16 sector between 16 &amp; 19</b>	<b>16.8%</b> (National: 17.2%)		<b>19%</b> (National: 19%)		<b>20.1%</b> (National: 19.2%)		<b>21.2%</b> (National: 20.9%)	
Level 3 by age 16	61	0.1%	51	0.1%	83	0.1%	65	0.1%
Level 3 by age 17	10,935	11.9%	13,574	14.8%	13,969	15.1%	15,132	15.8%
Level 3 by age 18	30,444	33.2%	32,978	35.9%	33,902	36.6%	36,370	38.0%
<b>Level 3 by age 19</b>	<b>35,271</b>	<b>38.5%</b>	<b>38,550</b>	<b>42.0%</b>	<b>39,736</b>	<b>42.9%</b>	<b>42,606</b>	<b>44.6%</b>
Number of people in each cohort	91,585		91,753		92,702		95,590	

- 117 **72.4% of young people in the North West achieved Level 2 by 19 in 06/07, a rise of 2.3 percentage points from 70.1% in 05/06.** These figures compare to national achievement of 73.9% in 06/07 and 71.4% in 05/06 – a rise of 2.5 percentage points.
- 118 **44.6% of young people in the North West achieved Level 3 by 19 in 06/07, a rise of 1.7 percentage points from 42.9% in 05/06.** These figures compare to national achievement rates of 48% in 06/07 and 46.6% in 05/06 - a rise of 1.4 percentage points.
- 119 Against both indicators, the North West has made better progress, but from a lower starting point.
- 120 Figure 43 and Figure 45 illustrate achievement of Level 2 and Level 3 at age 19 in the North West compared to national achievement. The North West lags behind the national average in terms of achievement of Level 2 and Level 3 at 19.
- 121 The gap between the national attainment rate and that of the North West has decreased at Level 2+ but remained constant at L3.

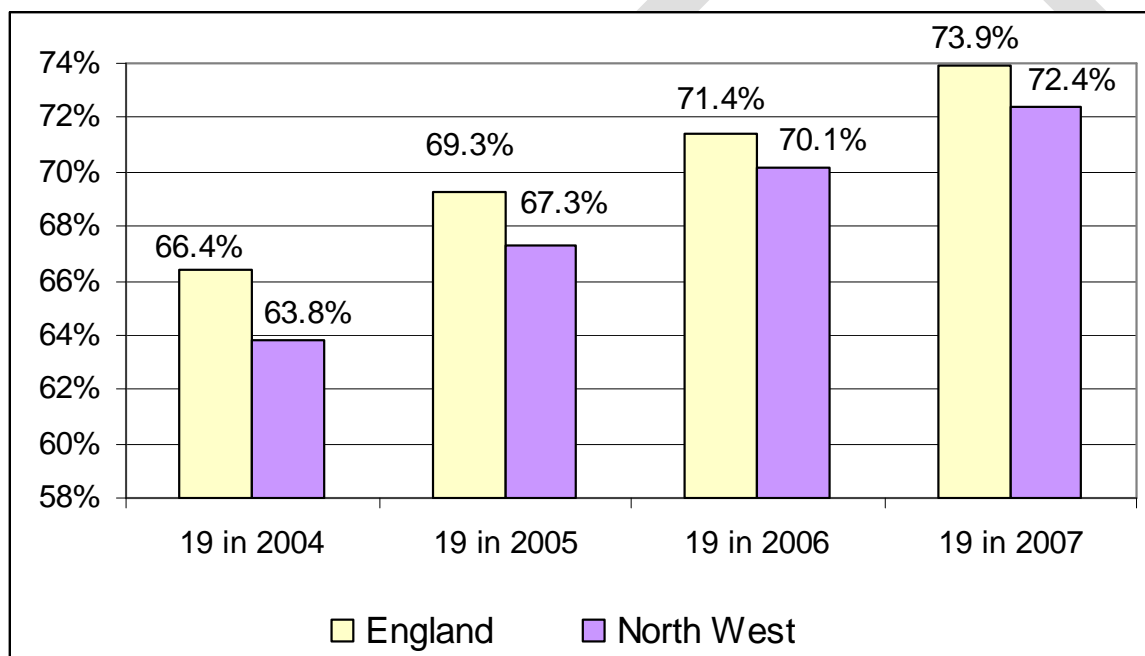
122 It should be noted that some young people achieve Level 2 at 17, are not ready for Level 3 at 19 but go on to achieve in their 20s. Nevertheless, these attainment gaps will need to be addressed if young people in the North West are to have equality of opportunity with their peers from other regions.

**Figure 43: Proportion of 19 year olds in England qualified to level 2, by region and cohort**

Young people aged:	North East	North West	Yorkshire & the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East of England	Greater London	South East	South West	England
19 in 2004	64.3%	63.8%	63.5%	63.2%	63.5%	68.9%	64.4%	71.4%	70.0%	<b>66.4%</b>
19 in 2005	66.8%	67.3%	66.0%	66.8%	67.1%	71.3%	67.4%	73.8%	72.8%	<b>69.3%</b>
19 in 2006	69.1%	70.1%	67.7%	68.7%	69.5%	72.5%	71.1%	75.3%	74.5%	<b>71.4%</b>
19 in 2007	73.2%	72.4%	69.9%	71.2%	72.1%	74.7%	74.1%	77.6%	76.1%	<b>73.9%</b>
Overall increase	8.9%	8.6%	6.4%	8%	8.9%	8.6%	9.7%	6.2%	6.1%	7.5%

Source: [http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000774/Addition\\_SFR04-2008\\_Regional\\_Data.xls](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000774/Addition_SFR04-2008_Regional_Data.xls)

**Figure 44: Achievement of Level 2+ at 19**



Source: [http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000774/Addition\\_SFR04-2008\\_Regional\\_Data.xls](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000774/Addition_SFR04-2008_Regional_Data.xls)

**Figure 45: Proportion of 19 year olds in England qualified to level 3, by region and cohort**

Young people aged:	North East	North West	Yorkshire & the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East of England	Greater London	South East	South West	England
19 in 2004	35.6%	38.5%	37.9%	38.8%	39.3%	45.6%	43.1%	48.8%	44.4%	<b>42.0%</b>
19 in 2005	39.1%	42.0%	40.8%	42.8%	42.9%	48.2%	45.8%	52.7%	48.5%	<b>45.4%</b>
19 in 2006	39.8%	42.9%	41.7%	44.2%	44.2%	48.7%	48.5%	53.9%	49.4%	<b>46.6%</b>
19 in 2007	41.6%	44.6%	42.8%	44.5%	45.8%	49.6%	50.5%	55.3%	50.2%	<b>48.0%</b>
Overall increase	6%	6.1%	4.9%	5.7%	6.5%	4%	7.4%	6.5%	5.8%	6%

Source: [http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000774/Addition\\_SFR04-2008\\_Regional\\_Data.xls](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000774/Addition_SFR04-2008_Regional_Data.xls)

**Figure 46: Achievement of Level 3 at 19**



Source: [http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000774/Addition\\_SFR04-2008\\_Regional\\_Data.xls](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000774/Addition_SFR04-2008_Regional_Data.xls)

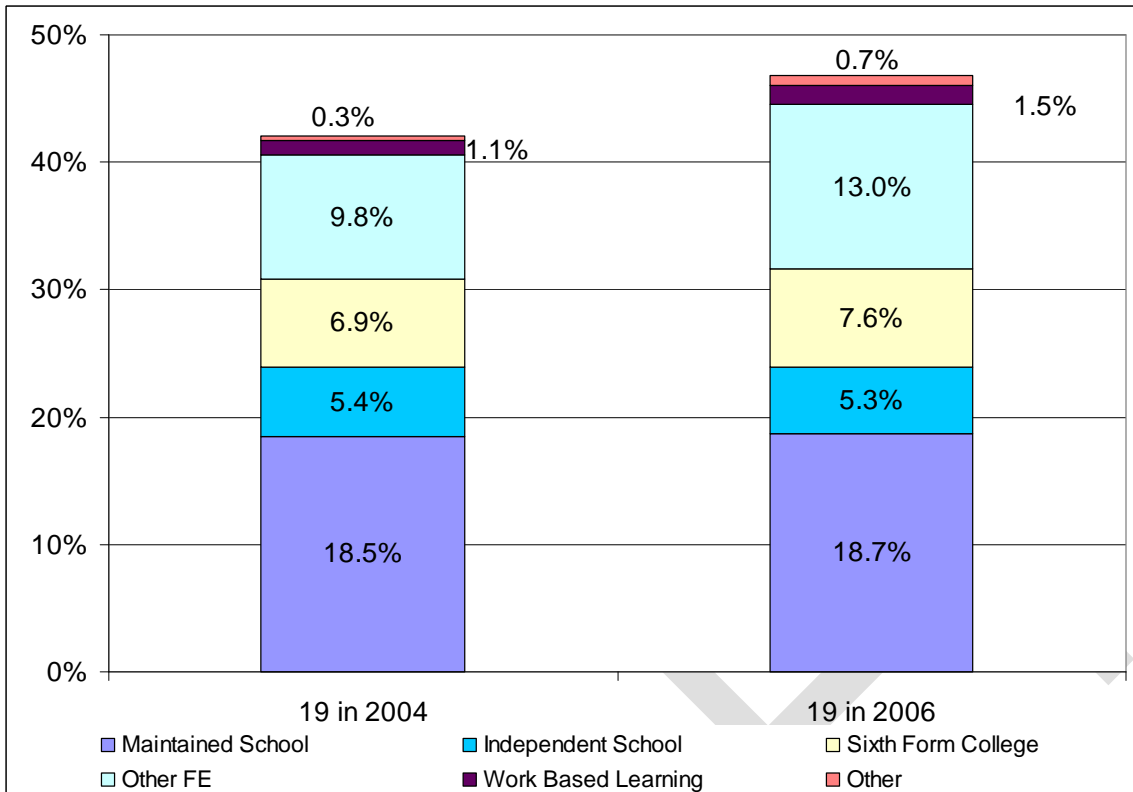
- 123 **From The Joint DCSF and LSC Level 3 Priority Review, Aug 2008:** 'The Government set a threshold target for the first time for the achievement of L3 by age 19 as part of CSR 07. The target, for 54% of 19 year olds to achieve L3 by 2011, is challenging. Current achievement is 48%, - 0.1percentage points below trajectory. To ensure we do not slip further below the trajectory for level 3 attainment, and to accelerate progress towards the 2011 PSA target, DCSF and the LSC have identified 14 actions they and partners need to take to secure delivery of more young people achieving L3 by the age of 19.'
- 124 The North West has seen a 6.1 percentage point improvement in achievement of Level 3 at 19. This is the 4th highest level of improvement nationally. The region also has the 4th highest level of Level 3 attainment of all nine regions.
- 125 Nationally, schools are the biggest single provider of Level 3 – but if the contributions of Sixth Form Colleges are added to those of general FE colleges, they exceed the schools' contribution.

**The Joint DCSF and LSC Level 3 Review** identified five key challenges to be addressed to accelerate achievement at L3:

- **Robust performance management system** with clear accountability and data systems
- **Apprenticeship numbers at L3** to be improved, with clarity on entry to L3 and progression
- **IAG entitlement at 14;** national training package to spread knowledge of 14-19 agenda; review CEG curriculum in schools
- **Maths and English** – new approach to increase these skills in those who just miss out at 16, or just scrape a C grade at GCSE
- **Sector led good practice sharing** – teaching and learning, management, collaboration

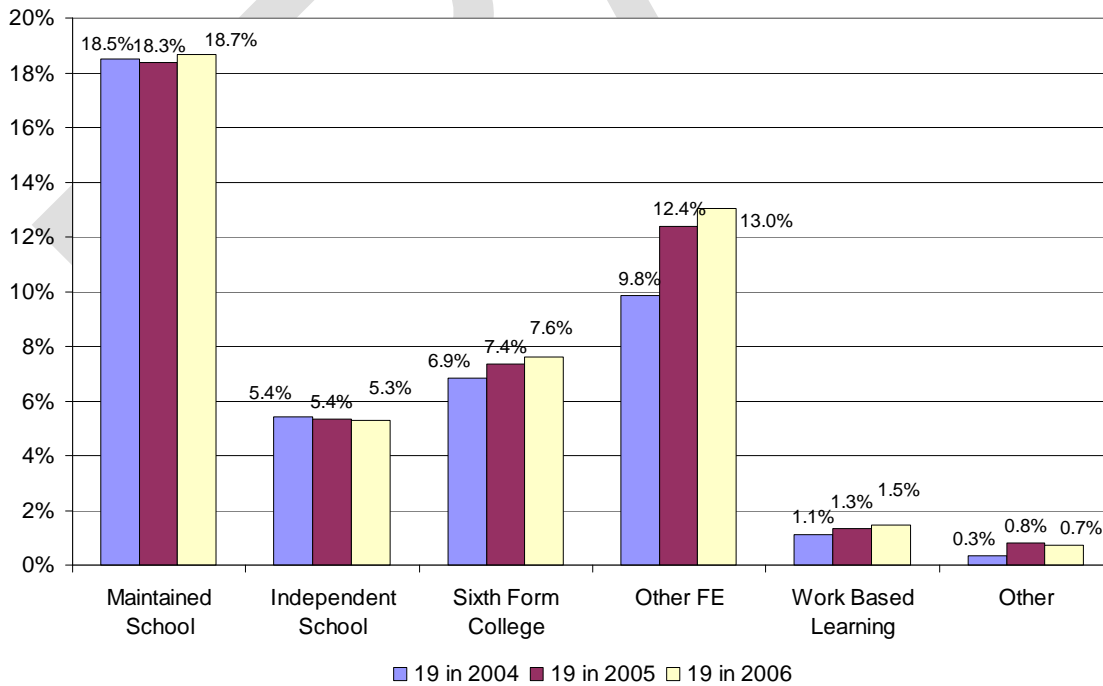
Full details and agreed actions for each of these challenges are given in the report.

**Figure 47: Provider types where young people achieve Level 3 (England)**



Source: Joint DCSF and LSC Level 3 Priority Review, Aug 2008

**Figure 48: Learning routes by which young people achieve Level 3 at 19 (England)**



Source: Joint DCSF and LSC Level 3 Priority Review, Aug 2008

## Equality and Diversity

- 126 The Level 2 and 3 targets are now underpinned by indicators NI81<sup>17</sup> and NI82, both of which are concerned with closing the inequality gap in attainment of level 2 and 3 at age 19 in each Local Authority between those young people who were in receipt of free school meals at academic age 15 and those who were not.
- 127 National tables have been published that set out for each local authority district the gap in achievement. The relevant regional data is summarised in Figure 49 and Figure 50. The gap at Level 2 was 26 percent in 2007 – maintained from 2006 - and the Level 3 gap was 28 percent – slightly lower.
- 128 These gaps are substantial, but of more concern are the districts where the gap appears to be widening; at Level 2 these include Warrington, Bury, Rochdale, Stockport, Trafford and Blackpool. At Level 3, Manchester, Trafford, Wigan, Halton and Knowsley are in this position.
- 129 There are many other areas where the trend is for the gap to go up and down year on year. Those areas where there is a consistent downwards trend in the gap are:
- Level 2 – Cheshire, Bolton, Oldham and Wirral;
  - Level 3 – Oldham and St Helen's.

**Figure 49: Level 2 attainment at 19 by Free School Meals eligibility**

	Not Free School Meals Eligible			Free School Meals Eligible			Attainment gap (percentage points)		
	19 in 05	19 in 06	19 in 07	19 in 05	19 in 06	19 in 07	19 in 05	19 in 06	19 in 07
Cheshire	78%	79%	81%	43%	45%	50%	35%	34%	31%
Warrington	74%	76%	79%	42%	47%	44%	32%	29%	35%
Cumbria	76%	78%	80%	48%	46%	50%	28%	32%	30%
Bolton	71%	71%	73%	40%	43%	45%	31%	28%	27%
Bury	75%	76%	77%	51%	53%	50%	24%	23%	28%
Lancashire	65%	71%	73%	48%	51%	55%	17%	19%	18%
Oldham	69%	72%	74%	45%	50%	55%	25%	22%	18%
Rochdale	67%	70%	74%	47%	48%	52%	20%	22%	23%
Salford	65%	67%	69%	40%	38%	42%	25%	29%	27%
Stockport	78%	79%	78%	47%	47%	47%	30%	31%	31%
Tameside	70%	73%	74%	50%	48%	53%	20%	25%	21%
Trafford	77%	81%	83%	50%	53%	54%	27%	28%	29%
Wigan	73%	74%	75%	40%	45%	44%	33%	30%	31%
Halton	70%	71%	72%	40%	45%	40%	30%	26%	31%
Knowsley	61%	67%	73%	42%	48%	54%	19%	20%	18%
Liverpool	72%	72%	76%	45%	51%	55%	26%	21%	22%
Sefton	79%	78%	81%	55%	54%	58%	24%	25%	23%
St Helen's	74%	74%	76%	39%	44%	48%	35%	30%	28%
Wirral	79%	80%	82%	46%	51%	51%	33%	29%	31%
Blackburn with Darwen	72%	73%	73%	51%	47%	52%	21%	26%	21%

<sup>17</sup> (See <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/708777.pdf>).

	Not Free School Meals Eligible			Free School Meals Eligible			Attainment gap (percentage points)		
	19 in 05	19 in 06	19 in 07	19 in 05	19 in 06	19 in 07	19 in 05	19 in 06	19 in 07
Blackpool	63%	64%	66%	39%	42%	39%	24%	22%	27%
Lancashire	75%	77%	79%	47%	49%	53%	28%	29%	26%
<b>North West</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>26%</b>

**Figure 50: Level 3 attainment at 19 by Free School Meal eligibility**

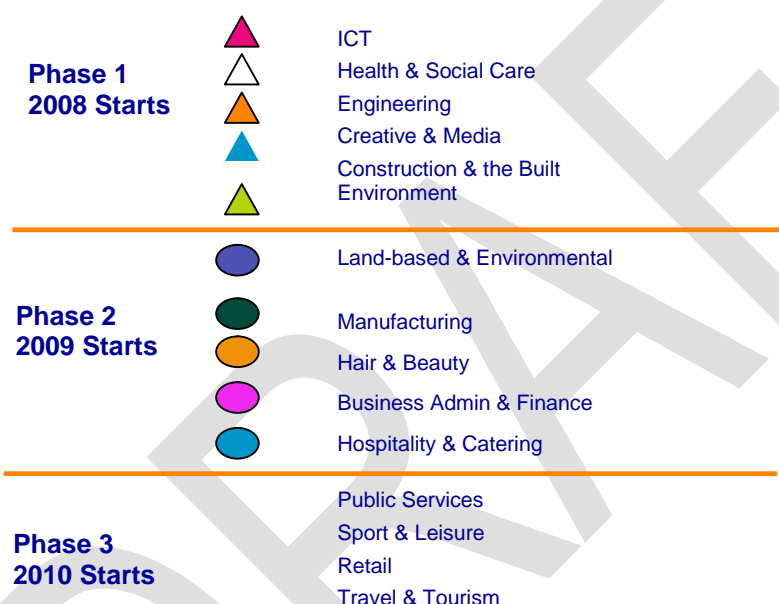
	Not FSM Eligible			FSM Eligible			Attainment gap (percentage points)		
	19 in 05	19 in 06	19 in 07	19 in 05	19 in 06	19 in 07	19 in 05	19 in 06	19 in 07
Cheshire	54%	54%	54%	19%	18%	19%	35%	36%	36%
Warrington	50%	49%	52%	15%	16%	19%	35%	33%	33%
Cumbria	48%	50%	51%	16%	16%	20%	32%	34%	31%
Bolton	44%	45%	44%	19%	20%	24%	25%	25%	20%
Bury	46%	46%	48%	21%	22%	22%	25%	24%	26%
Manchester	39%	43%	43%	24%	24%	24%	15%	19%	20%
Oldham	45%	43%	43%	22%	23%	26%	23%	20%	17%
Rochdale	39%	38%	40%	20%	21%	23%	19%	17%	17%
Salford	36%	39%	38%	16%	13%	16%	20%	26%	23%
Stockport	51%	54%	51%	22%	20%	20%	29%	34%	31%
Tameside	41%	41%	41%	19%	19%	18%	22%	22%	23%
Trafford	55%	57%	60%	22%	26%	27%	32%	32%	33%
Wigan	43%	43%	45%	15%	18%	16%	28%	25%	29%
Halton	41%	40%	41%	16%	17%	15%	25%	23%	25%
Knowsley	29%	36%	38%	15%	17%	19%	14%	19%	19%
Liverpool	44%	42%	44%	19%	19%	21%	25%	23%	23%
Sefton	51%	48%	52%	21%	21%	26%	30%	27%	26%
St Helen's	46%	46%	47%	16%	17%	18%	31%	30%	29%
Wirral	53%	53%	53%	18%	21%	20%	35%	32%	33%
Blackburn with Darwen	44%	43%	44%	24%	22%	26%	20%	21%	17%
Blackpool	35%	33%	36%	13%	17%	16%	23%	16%	20%
Lancashire	48%	49%	51%	22%	21%	23%	26%	29%	28%
<b>North West</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>25%</b>

Source: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000774/SFR04-2008.pdf>

## Issue 7: Effective roll-out of Diplomas

130 Diplomas offer a once in a generation opportunity to tackle the historic divide between academic and vocational learning. They offer a mix of classroom learning and hands-on experience, including functional English, Maths and ICT, to equip young people with the skills, knowledge and understanding they need for further or higher education and long-term employability.

- 131 The first five Diploma lines (Creative and Media, Construction and the Built Environment, Engineering, Information Technology and Society, and Health and Development) began in September 2008; seventeen Diploma lines will be available by 2011. In addition, Extended Diplomas will enable young people to complete some additional units in addition to their full diploma.
- 132 There have been three Diploma Gateways to date, which is the process by which consortia of providers provide self-assessments of their readiness to deliver diplomas.
- 133 In the North West, 16 consortia were awarded diploma lines without conditions in Gateway 1. They will deliver Diploma lines from Sept 2008. Another 11 were given conditions to meet before commencing delivery in 2009. In Gateway 2, the North West had 26 consortia in category one (able to deliver Diplomas from Sept 2009) and 22 consortia with some conditions to meet. A planning event was held in April for Gateway 3.
- 134 The diploma lines that will be available nationally are illustrated below.



- 135 The table that follows sets out the results of the first 2 Gateways, showing how Diploma availability has risen dramatically between Gateways 1 and 2, and how the range of Diploma lines has grown.

**Figure 51: Diploma Lines awarded via Gateways 1 & 2**

Area	Gateway 1 Diploma Lines Commencing September 2008	Gateway 2 Diploma Lines Commencing September 2009
<b>Blackburn With Darwen</b>	Engineering	<b>Blackburn College:</b> CBE, SHD <b>Our Lady &amp; St John:</b> C&M
<b>Blackpool</b>		<b>Blackpool 14-19 Partnership:</b> BAF
<b>Bolton</b>	Construction, Engineering, SH&D	<b>Bolton LA Consortia:</b> C&M, IT, H&B, HOS, Man, BAF
<b>Bury</b>	Engineering	<b>Bury Learning Partnership:</b> IT, BAF, C&M, H&B, SHD

Area	Gateway 1 Diploma Lines Commencing September 2008	Gateway 2 Diploma Lines Commencing September 2009
Cheshire	<b>Macclesfield:</b> Engineering, <b>Vale Royal:</b> C&M <b>Crewe &amp; Nantwich:</b> Engineering, SH&D	<b>Crewe &amp; Nantwich:</b> C&M, BAF <b>Ellesmere Port &amp; Neston:</b> C&M, Eng, H&B <b>Macclesfield:</b> C&M <b>Vale Royal:</b> CBE, Eng, BAF <b>East Cheshire Consortium:</b> BAF, Man, SHD <b>Cheshire Land Based:</b> ELB
Cumbria	Furness: Construction, SH&D, C&M, Engineering, IT	<b>Carlisle 14-19 Partnership:</b> CBE, H&B, C&M, Eng <b>Eden 14-19 Partnership:</b> IT, ELB <b>South Lakes Federation:</b> BAF, C&M <b>West Cumbria 14-19 Partnership:</b> Man, Eng, C&M <b>Furness 14-19 Partnership:</b> BAF, H&B, HOS
Halton	Construction	<b>Riverside College Halton:</b> C&M, SHD <b>Halton 14-19 Strategic Partnership:</b> IT, BAF
Knowsley	C&M, Engineering, IT	<b>Knowsley 14-19 Partnership:</b> H&B, BAF, HOS
Lancashire	<b>Burnley Pendle:</b> C&M <b>Chorley &amp; S Ribble:</b> Engineering <b>Hyndburn:</b> C&M <b>Lancaster &amp; Morecambe:</b> C&M	<b>Chorley &amp; South Ribble:</b> C&M, H&B, <b>Fylde Coast:</b> C&M, CBE <b>Hyndburn, Rossendale &amp; Ribble Valley:</b> CBE, IT, HOS <b>Lancaster &amp; Morecambe:</b> SHD <b>Preston:</b> SHD, H&B, ELB <b>Burnley &amp; Pendle:</b> BAF, ELB
Liverpool	Engineering, C&M, SH&D, Construction, IT	<b>Liverpool:</b> H&B, HOS, ELB <b>Liverpool (East):</b> C&M, IT <b>Liverpool (South):</b> BAF, C&M, IT <b>Liverpool (North):</b> BAF
Manchester	Construction, C&M, IT	<b>Manchester:</b> SHD, H&B, BAF
Oldham	C&M, Construction	Oldham: Eng
Rochdale	<b>Middleton:</b> IT, SH&D	<b>Middleton:</b> CBE, Eng <b>Rochdale North:</b> C&M <b>Rochdale South:</b> C&M <b>Rochdale Consortium:</b> IT, H&B
Salford	C&M	<b>Salford:</b> CBE, IT, HOS, H&B, SHD
Sefton	<b>Formby:</b> SH&D	<b>Maghull:</b> C&M <b>Southport:</b> C&M <b>North Sefton:</b> BAF, H&B <b>South Sefton:</b> HOS, CBE
St Helen's	Engineering	<b>St Helen's Partnership:</b> C&M, SHD, BAF, CBE
Stockport		<b>Stockport:</b> Eng, C&M, CBE, SHD
Tameside	Engineering	<b>Tameside 14-19:</b> C&M, SHD, IT
Trafford	Engineering, SH & D, Construction	<b>Trafford 14-19 Consortium:</b> C&M, IT, BAF, H&B,

Area	Gateway 1 Diploma Lines Commencing September 2008	Gateway 2 Diploma Lines Commencing September 2009
		HOS, Man
Warrington	SH&D	<b>Warrington 14-19 Partnership:</b> C&M, CBE, Eng, BAF, H&B, HOS
Wigan		<b>Wigan 14-19 Partnership:</b> C&M, H&B, HOS, IT, ELB
Wirral		<b>Wirral 14-19 Learning Communities:</b> C&M, CBE, Eng, SHD, BAF, H&B, HOS, IT
<b>Total Numbers</b>		
C&M	10	12
SHD	8	12
CBE	7	25
Eng	12	19
BAF	0	13
H&B	0	17
HOS	0	11
IT	5	4
ELB	0	9
Man	0	6
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>128</b>

<b>Key</b>	
<b>C&amp;M</b>	Creative & Media
<b>SHD</b>	Society, Health & Development
<b>CBE</b>	Construction & the Built Environment
<b>Eng</b>	Engineering
<b>BAF</b>	Business, Administration & Finance
<b>H&amp;B</b>	Hair & Beauty Studies
<b>HOS</b>	Hospitality
<b>IT</b>	Information Technology
<b>ELB</b>	Environment & Land-Based Studies
<b>Man</b>	Manufacturing & Product Design

## Issue 8: Provision for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LDD)

136 Young People with LDD have a lower participation rate in education, employment and training than all young people. There is a 15 percentage point difference between the rates of participation in education, employment and training for young people with LDD and all young people.

137 NEET rates are also higher for young people with LDD at 20% for young people with LDD compared to 9.7% general rate. A smaller proportion of young people with LDD enter employment. It is therefore a continuing priority for the LSC to increase participation for young people with LDD to ensure they are fully prepared for life, including working life.

- 138 Another concern for young people with LDD is their vulnerability to mental health difficulties. The Foundation for Learning Disabilities has identified that *“Children and young people with learning disabilities are 6 times more likely to have mental health problems than other young people”*.
- 139 Between 2005/06 and 2007/08, overall numbers of learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities aged 16-18 increased on LSC funded provision. This reflects the growing numbers of children identified as having Special Educational Needs in schools in the region. As this trend continues in schools, so the numbers with LDD in LSC funded learning are expected to continue increasing.
- 140 The main concern is the rising costs of supporting these learners in order to meet their needs. For example, between 2005/06 and 2007/08 the numbers of NW learners in specialist residential colleges have remained stable but the total costs have risen by 19% from £20,603,580 annual cost in 2005/06 to £24,498,094 in 2007/08.
- 141 Of those learning out of region, significant proportions are attending colleges specialising in provision for those with sensory impairment.
- 142 Further information will be added on trends in Additional Learner Support and on numbers attending specialist residential colleges.

**Figure 52: 16-18 Learner Numbers in Further Education<sup>18</sup> & Average In Learning for Work Based Learning & Entry to Employment 2005/06 to 2007/08<sup>19</sup>**

Learners aged 16-18	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
Learners with LDD	20,521	12.6%	21,831	13.3%	22,194	13.3%
Learners without LDD	131,565	80.8%	133,074	81.2%	138,486	82.8%
No Information Provided	10,800	6.6%	9,075	5.5%	6,511	3.9%
Total	162,886		163,980		167,192	

Source: ILR data extracted by NWLSC Data Collection & Analysis Team

## Issue 9: Travel to Learn and cross-boundary planning

- 143 Partnership working will be essential to the delivery of the 14-19 entitlement, to ensure that all young people have a genuine choice of high quality options, and to achieve a new, collective, responsibility for all learners.
- 144 Enhanced local authority roles in commissioning and managing 14-19 provision will need to work effectively across local authority boundaries. 14-19 reforms will have an impact on all institutions, and no single institution or agency, acting alone, can deliver what will be required. In some cases, single partnerships may not be in a position to deliver the full entitlement, and will need to extend into partnerships with others across local authority borders.
- 145 This is not new; there is an established pattern of travel to learn activity that crosses boundaries within and without the North West. This is summarised in

<sup>18</sup> F04 data

<sup>19</sup> Period 12 data

Figure 53, where it can be seen that Cheshire and Warrington LSC area has the largest proportion of its 16-18 learners travelling outside the sub-region.

- 146 Greater Manchester is the most self-contained sub-region, in that almost 96 percent of its learners stay within the sub-region, but 4 percent of Greater Manchester learners is over 3,000 learners – more than travel outside the sub-region in Cheshire and Warrington (around 2,500).

**Figure 53: Travel to learn patterns in the North West 2006/07<sup>20</sup>**

	Learning within the sub-region	Learning elsewhere in the North West	Learning outside the North West	Not known
Cheshire & Warrington	89.4%	8.8%	2.0%	1.7%
Cumbria	94.1%	4.1%	1.6%	4.7%
Greater Manchester	95.8%	3.2%	1.0%	1.9%
Greater Merseyside	94.8%	4.1%	0.7%	3.6%
Lancashire	92.4%	6.1%	1.5%	3.1%

Source: Data analysis by NWLSC Research Team based on F04 ILR data extracted by NWLSC Data Collection & Analysis Team

<sup>20</sup> Note that percentages do not amount to 100% due to rounding and data issues.

## Annex: Young Apprenticeships and Key Stage 4 Engagement Programmes

### Young Apprenticeships

- 147 As part of the programme of 14-19 reforms, and more specifically the 14-16 phase, the YA programme sits as a distinctive offer to those who would benefit from an occupationally specific and work-based learning route leading to a level 2 qualification by 16.
- 148 The Young Apprenticeship programme is currently in its fifth year and has grown from 1000 to 9000 places nationally. In the North West, the programme has grown from 171 to 1,043 places contracted in Cohort 5 (2008-10) as a result of a bidding process.
- 149 In planning the 6<sup>th</sup> cohort of YAs (2009-11) we are going to move away from the competitive bidding process used previously, towards mainstreaming the programme as an integral part of all areas' 14-19 curriculum offer by distributing funds to all Local Authorities. For 2009/10 we aim to achieve an intermediate step towards safely mainstreaming these programmes, transferring the planning and commissioning role from the LSC to LAs (in line with wider machinery of government changes), but with the LSC teams supporting this process.
- 150 There will be funding nationally for some 9,000 places, which will embrace the 7,000 places for the traditional YA Programme, and some 2,000 which will be offered for the new pilot YA using Diploma qualifications. LAs within the NW region have been indicatively allocated a total of 1,124 places.

### Key Stage 4 Engagement (KS4) Programme

- 151 The 14-19 Education and Skills White Paper 2005, proposed a work-focused route to motivate 14-16 year olds with relatively low attainment, and who were at serious risk of disaffection. The first 21 programmes were established in 2006/07 offering places to approximately 6,000 students nationally. In 2008/09 this increased to 21,500 and is planned to grow to around 28,000 in 2009/10. In the North West the number of places commissioned was 3,775 in 2008/09 and is expected to grow to 3,969 in 2009/10.
- 152 In planning for KS4 Engagement provision in 2009/10 we are moving away from the targeted funding approach used previously and will be able to distribute funds to all LAs. Our aim is to achieve a gradual and sustainable transition from pilots to mainstream, rolling-out both programmes in all LA areas.
- 153 The long-term aim is that the KS4 Engagement programme as a distinct programme and brand will cease, but that learning provision developed through the programme and proved to be effective for disengaged young people will have become a mainstream part of LAs' offer, supported entirely by mainstream funding, with learners working to FLT qualifications and credits (or more immediately to GCSEs/Diplomas where appropriate).

**Figure 54: 16-18 Cohort Projections 2008-2015 (2006 Based Sub-national Population Projections)**

AREA NAME	AGE GROUP	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
North West	16	93,920	89,462	86,860	84,205	83,448	84,548	80,860	79,551
North West	17	95,749	93,825	89,397	86,814	84,162	83,407	84,498	80,841
North West	18	94,070	96,085	94,161	89,799	87,253	84,635	83,909	84,946
<b>North West</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>283,739</b>	<b>279,372</b>	<b>270,418</b>	<b>260,818</b>	<b>254,863</b>	<b>252,590</b>	<b>249,267</b>	<b>245,338</b>

AREA NAME	AGE GROUP	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
England	16-18	2,008,270	1,983,488	1,942,419	1,900,877	1,876,714	1,863,995	1,849,837	1,827,812
<b>North West</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>283,739</b>	<b>279,372</b>	<b>270,418</b>	<b>260,818</b>	<b>254,863</b>	<b>252,590</b>	<b>249,267</b>	<b>245,338</b>
Greater Merseyside (inc Halton)	16-18	62,209	60,738	57,923	55,415	53,898	53,204	51,893	50,633
Cheshire & Warrington	16-18	16,489	16,167	15,584	15,232	14,902	14,863	14,939	14,688
Lancashire LSC	16-18	57,124	56,560	55,193	53,273	52,258	51,854	51,497	50,846
Greater Manchester	16-18	105,350	103,429	99,929	96,348	93,941	93,068	92,162	90,863
Cumbria LSC	16-18	19,964	19,737	19,274	18,475	18,112	17,863	17,654	17,279
Cheshire East	16-18	13,702	13,744	13,622	13,498	13,251	13,263	13,020	12,933
Cheshire West	16-18	13,184	13,121	12,804	12,374	12,192	12,137	11,997	11,762
Warrington	16-18	7,759	7,654	7,400	7,222	7,079	7,051	6,978	7,016

### Unitary Authorities

AREA NAME	AGE GROUP	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Halton	16	1,716	1,631	1,512	1,502	1,442	1,466	1,439	1,470
Halton	17	1,774	1,704	1,620	1,503	1,493	1,434	1,457	1,430
Halton	18	1,617	1,710	1,641	1,561	1,449	1,438	1,383	1,404
<b>Halton</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>5,107</b>	<b>5,045</b>	<b>4,773</b>	<b>4,566</b>	<b>4,384</b>	<b>4,338</b>	<b>4,279</b>	<b>4,304</b>
Warrington	16	2,604	2,511	2,463	2,421	2,370	2,433	2,347	2,414
Warrington	17	2,697	2,578	2,484	2,437	2,393	2,343	2,404	2,319

AREA NAME	AGE GROUP	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Warrington	18	2,458	2,565	2,453	2,364	2,316	2,275	2,227	2,283
<b>Warrington</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>7,759</b>	<b>7,654</b>	<b>7,400</b>	<b>7,222</b>	<b>7,079</b>	<b>7,051</b>	<b>6,978</b>	<b>7,016</b>
Blackburn with Darwen	16	2,251	2,186	2,200	2,103	2,206	2,202	2,112	2,128
Blackburn with Darwen	17	2,278	2,243	2,177	2,189	2,094	2,192	2,188	2,100
Blackburn with Darwen	18	2,078	2,185	2,152	2,088	2,098	2,007	2,099	2,095
<b>Blackburn with Darwen</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>6,607</b>	<b>6,614</b>	<b>6,529</b>	<b>6,380</b>	<b>6,398</b>	<b>6,401</b>	<b>6,399</b>	<b>6,323</b>
Blackpool	16	1,945	1,862	1,840	1,804	1,805	1,876	1,787	1,729
Blackpool	17	1,981	1,988	1,903	1,881	1,843	1,843	1,912	1,823
Blackpool	18	1,894	1,946	1,951	1,868	1,845	1,809	1,806	1,872
<b>Blackpool</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>5,820</b>	<b>5,796</b>	<b>5,694</b>	<b>5,553</b>	<b>5,493</b>	<b>5,528</b>	<b>5,505</b>	<b>5,424</b>

## County Districts

AREA NAME	AGE GROUP	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Greater Manchester</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>105,350</b>	<b>103,429</b>	<b>99,929</b>	<b>96,348</b>	<b>93,941</b>	<b>93,068</b>	<b>92,162</b>	<b>90,863</b>
Bolton	16	3,731	3,585	3,501	3,332	3,433	3,482	3,381	3,318
Bolton	17	3,707	3,701	3,555	3,472	3,305	3,401	3,449	3,350
Bolton	18	3,543	3,541	3,534	3,394	3,313	3,155	3,244	3,290
<b>Bolton</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>10,981</b>	<b>10,827</b>	<b>10,590</b>	<b>10,198</b>	<b>10,051</b>	<b>10,038</b>	<b>10,074</b>	<b>9,958</b>
Bury	16	2,604	2,494	2,409	2,308	2,272	2,301	2,313	2,257
Bury	17	2,606	2,576	2,468	2,383	2,284	2,249	2,278	2,287
Bury	18	2,533	2,481	2,451	2,349	2,269	2,174	2,140	2,168
<b>Bury</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>7,743</b>	<b>7,551</b>	<b>7,328</b>	<b>7,040</b>	<b>6,825</b>	<b>6,724</b>	<b>6,731</b>	<b>6,712</b>
Manchester	16	5,214	4,889	4,748	4,605	4,558	4,541	4,364	4,311
Manchester	17	5,730	5,364	5,043	4,901	4,757	4,707	4,695	4,519
Manchester	18	7,484	7,479	7,105	6,746	6,591	6,415	6,364	6,361

AREA NAME	AGE GROUP	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Manchester</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>18,428</b>	<b>17,732</b>	<b>16,896</b>	<b>16,252</b>	<b>15,906</b>	<b>15,663</b>	<b>15,423</b>	<b>15,191</b>
Oldham	16	3,170	3,128	2,920	2,868	2,977	3,042	2,939	2,882
Oldham	17	3,167	3,154	3,110	2,906	2,853	2,957	3,021	2,919
Oldham	18	2,974	3,044	3,030	2,984	2,790	2,742	2,838	2,897
<b>Oldham</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>9,311</b>	<b>9,326</b>	<b>9,060</b>	<b>8,758</b>	<b>8,620</b>	<b>8,741</b>	<b>8,798</b>	<b>8,698</b>
Rochdale	16	2,995	2,954	2,778	2,761	2,662	2,814	2,749	2,582
Rochdale	17	3,070	2,973	2,930	2,757	2,738	2,643	2,790	2,725
Rochdale	18	2,941	2,950	2,857	2,817	2,652	2,632	2,542	2,679
<b>Rochdale</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>9,006</b>	<b>8,877</b>	<b>8,565</b>	<b>8,335</b>	<b>8,052</b>	<b>8,089</b>	<b>8,081</b>	<b>7,986</b>
Salford	16	2,878	2,696	2,555	2,461	2,393	2,347	2,246	2,158
Salford	17	2,899	2,896	2,720	2,581	2,487	2,423	2,381	2,281
Salford	18	3,130	3,136	3,127	2,950	2,813	2,719	2,656	2,621
<b>Salford</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>8,907</b>	<b>8,728</b>	<b>8,402</b>	<b>7,992</b>	<b>7,693</b>	<b>7,489</b>	<b>7,283</b>	<b>7,060</b>
Stockport	16	3,790	3,513	3,545	3,417	3,318	3,474	3,278	3,150
Stockport	17	4,000	3,741	3,470	3,498	3,372	3,274	3,425	3,233
Stockport	18	3,535	3,765	3,523	3,266	3,291	3,172	3,079	3,219
<b>Stockport</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>11,325</b>	<b>11,019</b>	<b>10,538</b>	<b>10,181</b>	<b>9,981</b>	<b>9,920</b>	<b>9,782</b>	<b>9,602</b>
Tameside	16	3,060	2,909	2,787	2,728	2,725	2,728	2,603	2,612
Tameside	17	3,126	3,038	2,887	2,768	2,709	2,705	2,709	2,586
Tameside	18	2,985	3,027	2,942	2,795	2,682	2,625	2,620	2,624
<b>Tameside</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>9,171</b>	<b>8,974</b>	<b>8,616</b>	<b>8,291</b>	<b>8,116</b>	<b>8,058</b>	<b>7,932</b>	<b>7,822</b>
Trafford	16	2,827	2,766	2,683	2,587	2,464	2,484	2,535	2,451
Trafford	17	2,896	2,772	2,710	2,629	2,535	2,416	2,436	2,482
Trafford	18	2,629	2,687	2,572	2,510	2,436	2,348	2,239	2,258
<b>Trafford</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>8,352</b>	<b>8,225</b>	<b>7,965</b>	<b>7,726</b>	<b>7,435</b>	<b>7,248</b>	<b>7,210</b>	<b>7,191</b>

AREA NAME	AGE GROUP	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Wigan	16	4,205	4,063	3,933	3,805	3,746	3,761	3,550	3,541
Wigan	17	4,093	4,173	4,029	3,901	3,773	3,716	3,730	3,522
Wigan	18	3,828	3,934	4,007	3,869	3,743	3,621	3,568	3,580
<b>Wigan</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>12,126</b>	<b>12,170</b>	<b>11,969</b>	<b>11,575</b>	<b>11,262</b>	<b>11,098</b>	<b>10,848</b>	<b>10,643</b>
<b>Merseyside (Excluding Halton)</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>57,102</b>	<b>55,693</b>	<b>53,150</b>	<b>50,849</b>	<b>49,514</b>	<b>48,866</b>	<b>47,614</b>	<b>46,329</b>
Knowsley	16	2,274	2,148	2,071	1,990	1,994	1,960	1,873	1,835
Knowsley	17	2,317	2,253	2,128	2,049	1,971	1,975	1,943	1,855
Knowsley	18	2,232	2,261	2,198	2,076	1,999	1,923	1,928	1,896
<b>Knowsley</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>6,823</b>	<b>6,662</b>	<b>6,397</b>	<b>6,115</b>	<b>5,964</b>	<b>5,858</b>	<b>5,744</b>	<b>5,586</b>
Liverpool	16	5,430	5,102	4,664	4,657	4,675	4,673	4,357	4,227
Liverpool	17	5,811	5,432	5,107	4,680	4,669	4,685	4,684	4,372
Liverpool	18	6,738	6,717	6,336	5,991	5,568	5,535	5,546	5,549
<b>Liverpool</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>17,979</b>	<b>17,251</b>	<b>16,107</b>	<b>15,328</b>	<b>14,912</b>	<b>14,893</b>	<b>14,587</b>	<b>14,148</b>
St. Helens	16	2,656	2,532	2,393	2,254	2,313	2,251	2,092	2,140
St. Helens	17	2,548	2,622	2,499	2,362	2,226	2,283	2,224	2,068
St. Helens	18	2,330	2,446	2,513	2,394	2,264	2,132	2,187	2,131
<b>St. Helens</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>7,534</b>	<b>7,600</b>	<b>7,405</b>	<b>7,010</b>	<b>6,803</b>	<b>6,666</b>	<b>6,503</b>	<b>6,339</b>
Sefton	16	4,077	3,765	3,610	3,539	3,437	3,431	3,172	3,111
Sefton	17	4,079	4,026	3,720	3,567	3,497	3,395	3,391	3,137
Sefton	18	3,804	3,879	3,827	3,536	3,389	3,322	3,227	3,223
<b>Sefton</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>11,960</b>	<b>11,670</b>	<b>11,157</b>	<b>10,642</b>	<b>10,323</b>	<b>10,148</b>	<b>9,790</b>	<b>9,471</b>
Wirral	16	4,289	4,053	4,047	3,947	3,819	3,831	3,624	3,612
Wirral	17	4,463	4,268	4,033	4,024	3,923	3,797	3,809	3,604
<b>Wirral</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4,054</b>	<b>4,189</b>	<b>4,004</b>	<b>3,783</b>	<b>3,770</b>	<b>3,673</b>	<b>3,557</b>	<b>3,569</b>

AREA NAME	AGE GROUP	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Wirral</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>12,806</b>	<b>12,510</b>	<b>12,084</b>	<b>11,754</b>	<b>11,512</b>	<b>11,301</b>	<b>10,990</b>	<b>10,785</b>
<b>Cheshire (Not inc. Warrington)</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>26,886</b>	<b>26,865</b>	<b>26,426</b>	<b>25,872</b>	<b>25,443</b>	<b>25,400</b>	<b>25,017</b>	<b>24,695</b>
Chester	16	1,443	1,423	1,406	1,358	1,348	1,326	1,287	1,283
Chester	17	1,480	1,472	1,450	1,432	1,384	1,372	1,353	1,313
Chester	18	1,611	1,645	1,635	1,604	1,582	1,532	1,520	1,505
<b>Chester</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>4,534</b>	<b>4,540</b>	<b>4,491</b>	<b>4,394</b>	<b>4,314</b>	<b>4,230</b>	<b>4,160</b>	<b>4,101</b>
Congleton	16	1,179	1,202	1,183	1,179	1,140	1,200	1,095	1,147
Congleton	17	1,233	1,165	1,185	1,163	1,160	1,122	1,180	1,078
Congleton	18	1,114	1,176	1,113	1,126	1,106	1,101	1,066	1,118
<b>Congleton</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>3,526</b>	<b>3,543</b>	<b>3,481</b>	<b>3,468</b>	<b>3,406</b>	<b>3,423</b>	<b>3,341</b>	<b>3,343</b>
Crewe & Nantwich	16	1,601	1,580	1,608	1,588	1,546	1,564	1,442	1,435
Crewe & Nantwich	17	1,601	1,629	1,607	1,632	1,612	1,570	1,588	1,467
Crewe & Nantwich	18	1,465	1,544	1,567	1,543	1,564	1,544	1,506	1,523
<b>Crewe &amp; Nantwich</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>4,667</b>	<b>4,753</b>	<b>4,782</b>	<b>4,763</b>	<b>4,722</b>	<b>4,678</b>	<b>4,536</b>	<b>4,425</b>
Ellesmere Port & Neston	16	1,190	1,149	1,039	1,021	1,012	1,094	1,005	983
Ellesmere Port & Neston	17	1,174	1,175	1,135	1,029	1,009	1,000	1,081	993
Ellesmere Port & Neston	18	1,092	1,105	1,106	1,067	968	950	941	1,015
<b>Ellesmere Port &amp; Neston</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>3,456</b>	<b>3,429</b>	<b>3,280</b>	<b>3,117</b>	<b>2,989</b>	<b>3,044</b>	<b>3,027</b>	<b>2,991</b>
Macclesfield	16	1,888	1,856	1,796	1,794	1,709	1,834	1,768	1,747
Macclesfield	17	1,877	1,888	1,852	1,795	1,789	1,708	1,829	1,764
Macclesfield	18	1,744	1,704	1,711	1,678	1,625	1,620	1,546	1,654
<b>Macclesfield</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>5,509</b>	<b>5,448</b>	<b>5,359</b>	<b>5,267</b>	<b>5,123</b>	<b>5,162</b>	<b>5,143</b>	<b>5,165</b>
Vale Royal	16	1,830	1,658	1,685	1,646	1,686	1,658	1,597	1,541
Vale Royal	17	1,800	1,826	1,656	1,682	1,644	1,682	1,656	1,595

AREA NAME	AGE GROUP	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Vale Royal	18	1,564	1,668	1,692	1,535	1,559	1,523	1,557	1,534
<b>Vale Royal</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>5,194</b>	<b>5,152</b>	<b>5,033</b>	<b>4,863</b>	<b>4,889</b>	<b>4,863</b>	<b>4,810</b>	<b>4,670</b>
<b>Cumbria LSC</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>19,964</b>	<b>19,737</b>	<b>19,274</b>	<b>18,475</b>	<b>18,112</b>	<b>17,863</b>	<b>17,654</b>	<b>17,279</b>
Allerdale	16	1,293	1,212	1,269	1,151	1,159	1,187	1,095	1,107
Allerdale	17	1,271	1,281	1,202	1,256	1,141	1,150	1,176	1,087
Allerdale	18	1,124	1,181	1,191	1,117	1,165	1,060	1,067	1,091
<b>Allerdale</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>3,688</b>	<b>3,674</b>	<b>3,662</b>	<b>3,524</b>	<b>3,465</b>	<b>3,397</b>	<b>3,338</b>	<b>3,285</b>
Barrow-in-Furness	16	997	1,032	1,015	930	935	907	864	828
Barrow-in-Furness	17	1,007	998	1,029	1,013	929	934	908	866
Barrow-in-Furness	18	943	961	951	979	964	885	890	866
<b>Barrow-in-Furness</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>2,947</b>	<b>2,991</b>	<b>2,995</b>	<b>2,922</b>	<b>2,828</b>	<b>2,726</b>	<b>2,662</b>	<b>2,560</b>
Carlisle	16	1,375	1,277	1,235	1,197	1,158	1,170	1,100	1,087
Carlisle	17	1,423	1,382	1,286	1,246	1,207	1,169	1,181	1,113
Carlisle	18	1,367	1,422	1,384	1,292	1,254	1,216	1,180	1,192
<b>Carlisle</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>4,165</b>	<b>4,081</b>	<b>3,905</b>	<b>3,735</b>	<b>3,619</b>	<b>3,555</b>	<b>3,461</b>	<b>3,392</b>
Copeland	16	950	901	885	845	853	861	848	806
Copeland	17	951	937	890	874	835	842	850	837
Copeland	18	859	885	873	829	813	777	784	791
<b>Copeland</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>2,760</b>	<b>2,723</b>	<b>2,648</b>	<b>2,548</b>	<b>2,501</b>	<b>2,480</b>	<b>2,482</b>	<b>2,434</b>
Eden	16	661	627	619	619	637	635	622	596
Eden	17	667	680	645	638	636	652	651	638
Eden	18	630	620	632	598	592	589	603	603
<b>Eden</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>1,958</b>	<b>1,927</b>	<b>1,896</b>	<b>1,855</b>	<b>1,865</b>	<b>1,876</b>	<b>1,876</b>	<b>1,837</b>
South Lakeland	16	1,575	1,343	1,349	1,259	1,286	1,335	1,274	1,229

AREA NAME	AGE GROUP	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
South Lakeland	17	1,536	1,582	1,364	1,370	1,283	1,308	1,353	1,293
South Lakeland	18	1,335	1,416	1,455	1,262	1,265	1,186	1,208	1,249
<b>South Lakeland</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>4,446</b>	<b>4,341</b>	<b>4,168</b>	<b>3,891</b>	<b>3,834</b>	<b>3,829</b>	<b>3,835</b>	<b>3,771</b>
<b>Lancashire LA Area (Not LSC)</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>44,697</b>	<b>44,150</b>	<b>42,970</b>	<b>41,340</b>	<b>40,367</b>	<b>39,925</b>	<b>39,593</b>	<b>39,099</b>
Burnley	16	1,335	1,240	1,149	1,090	1,103	1,092	1,069	1,056
Burnley	17	1,356	1,324	1,231	1,142	1,085	1,098	1,088	1,064
Burnley	18	1,251	1,283	1,255	1,166	1,083	1,030	1,041	1,033
<b>Burnley</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>3,942</b>	<b>3,847</b>	<b>3,635</b>	<b>3,398</b>	<b>3,271</b>	<b>3,220</b>	<b>3,198</b>	<b>3,153</b>
Chorley	16	1,336	1,306	1,267	1,242	1,240	1,206	1,178	1,148
Chorley	17	1,364	1,321	1,291	1,252	1,225	1,225	1,193	1,164
Chorley	18	1,273	1,275	1,235	1,205	1,168	1,142	1,141	1,112
<b>Chorley</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>3,973</b>	<b>3,902</b>	<b>3,793</b>	<b>3,699</b>	<b>3,633</b>	<b>3,573</b>	<b>3,512</b>	<b>3,424</b>
Fylde	16	962	874	900	865	822	891	843	825
Fylde	17	969	970	885	908	874	832	899	852
Fylde	18	874	897	897	821	841	809	772	831
<b>Fylde</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>2,805</b>	<b>2,741</b>	<b>2,682</b>	<b>2,594</b>	<b>2,537</b>	<b>2,532</b>	<b>2,514</b>	<b>2,508</b>
Hyndburn	16	1,251	1,233	1,191	1,207	1,176	1,147	1,075	1,069
Hyndburn	17	1,215	1,245	1,225	1,185	1,199	1,169	1,142	1,071
Hyndburn	18	1,130	1,163	1,190	1,170	1,131	1,145	1,115	1,091
<b>Hyndburn</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>3,596</b>	<b>3,641</b>	<b>3,606</b>	<b>3,562</b>	<b>3,506</b>	<b>3,461</b>	<b>3,332</b>	<b>3,231</b>
Lancaster	16	1,865	1,806	1,788	1,604	1,611	1,744	1,633	1,579
Lancaster	17	1,909	1,904	1,842	1,824	1,644	1,649	1,779	1,669
Lancaster	18	2,548	2,600	2,584	2,501	2,476	2,286	2,289	2,415
<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>6,322</b>	<b>6,310</b>	<b>6,214</b>	<b>5,929</b>	<b>5,731</b>	<b>5,679</b>	<b>5,701</b>	<b>5,663</b>

AREA NAME	AGE GROUP	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Pendle	16	1,342	1,213	1,191	1,140	1,186	1,190	1,119	1,134
Pendle	17	1,356	1,330	1,205	1,182	1,131	1,175	1,180	1,110
Pendle	18	1,251	1,302	1,277	1,158	1,137	1,087	1,129	1,134
<b>Pendle</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>3,949</b>	<b>3,845</b>	<b>3,673</b>	<b>3,480</b>	<b>3,454</b>	<b>3,452</b>	<b>3,428</b>	<b>3,378</b>
Preston	16	1,735	1,653	1,622	1,544	1,516	1,568	1,517	1,426
Preston	17	1,843	1,754	1,671	1,641	1,563	1,536	1,587	1,534
Preston	18	2,091	2,142	2,050	1,961	1,926	1,844	1,818	1,868
<b>Preston</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>5,669</b>	<b>5,549</b>	<b>5,343</b>	<b>5,146</b>	<b>5,005</b>	<b>4,948</b>	<b>4,922</b>	<b>4,828</b>
Ribble Valley	16	902	823	901	836	829	888	844	852
Ribble Valley	17	956	924	846	920	856	849	906	862
Ribble Valley	18	802	891	862	790	855	798	791	843
<b>Ribble Valley</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>2,660</b>	<b>2,638</b>	<b>2,609</b>	<b>2,546</b>	<b>2,540</b>	<b>2,535</b>	<b>2,541</b>	<b>2,557</b>
Rossendale	16	1,057	1,018	982	970	913	857	900	916
Rossendale	17	1,004	1,044	1,006	969	956	903	850	890
Rossendale	18	945	937	973	937	903	891	842	794
<b>Rossendale</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>3,006</b>	<b>2,999</b>	<b>2,961</b>	<b>2,876</b>	<b>2,772</b>	<b>2,651</b>	<b>2,592</b>	<b>2,600</b>
South Ribble	16	1,479	1,392	1,390	1,275	1,291	1,318	1,263	1,249
South Ribble	17	1,451	1,467	1,382	1,378	1,266	1,281	1,307	1,253
South Ribble	18	1,352	1,368	1,382	1,301	1,297	1,193	1,206	1,231
<b>South Ribble</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>4,282</b>	<b>4,227</b>	<b>4,154</b>	<b>3,954</b>	<b>3,854</b>	<b>3,792</b>	<b>3,776</b>	<b>3,733</b>
West Lancashire	16	1,520	1,454	1,377	1,375	1,359	1,399	1,371	1,312
West Lancashire	17	1,517	1,508	1,442	1,366	1,362	1,347	1,385	1,355
West Lancashire	18	1,456	1,489	1,481	1,415	1,343	1,336	1,321	1,357
<b>West Lancashire</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>4,493</b>	<b>4,451</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>4,156</b>	<b>4,064</b>	<b>4,082</b>	<b>4,077</b>	<b>4,024</b>

**Figure 55: Take-up of Education Maintenance Allowance, August 2007 and August 2008**

AREA NAME	Take Up on Full Time Ed			Take-Up on e2e			Take-up on PLA			Total Scheme Take-up		
	as at 31/08 2006/07	as at 31/08 2007/08	% change	as at 31/08 2006/07	as at 31/08 2007/08	% change	as at 31/08 2006/07	as at 31/08 2007/08	% change	as at 31/08 2006/07	as at 31/08 2007/08	% change
<b>North West</b>	<b>77,438</b>	<b>79,994</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>6,507</b>	<b>8,141</b>	<b>25.1%</b>	<b>1,580</b>	<b>2,259</b>	<b>43.0%</b>	<b>83,726</b>	<b>87,568</b>	<b>4.6%</b>
<b>Cheshire &amp; Warrington</b>	<b>6,865</b>	<b>7,294</b>	<b>6.2%</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>88.7%</b>	<b>7,200</b>	<b>7,666</b>	<b>6.5%</b>
Cheshire	5,260	5,506	4.7%	292	336	15.1%	42	64	52.4%	5,521	5,799	5.0%
Warrington	1,605	1,788	11.4%	70	59	-15.7%	20	53	165.0%	1,679	1,867	11.2%
Cumbria	4,238	4,199	-0.9%	446	504	13.0%	110	136	23.6%	4,666	4,697	0.7%
<b>Cumbria</b>	<b>4,238</b>	<b>4,199</b>	<b>-0.9%</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>23.6%</b>	<b>4,666</b>	<b>4,697</b>	<b>0.7%</b>
<b>Greater Manchester</b>	<b>30164</b>	<b>31,768</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>2,332</b>	<b>2,860</b>	<b>22.6%</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>34.7%</b>	<b>32,547</b>	<b>34,485</b>	<b>6.0%</b>
Bolton	3,240	3,404	5.1%	274	360	31.4%	45	86	91.1%	3,519	3,752	6.6%
Bury	1,861	1,992	7.0%	145	160	10.3%	17	29	70.6%	2,005	2,138	6.6%
Manchester	6,580	6,939	5.5%	468	497	6.2%	100	83	-17.0%	7,039	7,368	4.7%
Oldham	3,013	3,175	5.4%	391	458	17.1%	110	185	68.2%	3,426	3,644	6.4%
Rochdale	2,896	3,094	6.8%	202	276	36.6%	24	49	104.2%	3,089	3,331	7.8%
Salford	2,337	2,503	7.1%	212	248	17.0%	85	87	2.4%	2,583	2,742	6.2%
Stockport	2,376	2,492	4.9%	116	163	40.5%	18	23	27.8%	2,497	2,652	6.2%
Tameside	2,603	2,719	4.5%	187	205	9.6%	44	47	6.8%	2,786	2,925	5.0%
Trafford	2,098	2,204	5.1%	31	56	80.6%	13	18	38.5%	2,138	2,256	5.5%
Wigan	3,160	3,246	2.7%	306	437	42.8%	63	92	46.0%	3,465	3,677	6.1%
<b>Lancashire</b>	<b>16,169</b>	<b>16,830</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>1,236</b>	<b>1,602</b>	<b>29.6%</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>21.4%</b>	<b>17,187</b>	<b>18,069</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
Lancashire	12,101	12,513	3.4%	921	1,166	26.6%	41	42	2.4%	12,853	13,396	4.2%
Blackburn with Darwen	2,340	2,432	3.9%	207	263	27.1%	0	1		2,516	2,651	5.4%

AREA NAME	Take Up on Full Time Ed			Take-Up on e2e			Take-up on PLA			Total Scheme Take-up		
	as at 31/08 2006/07	as at 31/08 2007/08	% change	as at 31/08 2006/07	as at 31/08 2007/08	% change	as at 31/08 2006/07	as at 31/08 2007/08	% change	as at 31/08 2006/07	as at 31/08 2007/08	% change
Blackpool	1,728	1,885	9.1%	108	173	60.2%	1	8	700.0%	1,818	2,022	11.2%
<b>Greater Merseyside</b>	<b>20,002</b>	<b>19,903</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>2,131</b>	<b>2,780</b>	<b>30.5%</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>1256</b>	<b>48.3%</b>	<b>22,126</b>	<b>22,651</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
Knowsley	2,651	2,540	-4.2%	245	301	22.9%	104	149	43.3%	2,856	2,814	-1.5%
Liverpool	6,437	6,356	-1.3%	704	798	13.4%	374	558	49.2%	7,207	7,311	1.4%
St Helen's	2,116	2,141	1.2%	216	311	44.0%	83	112	34.9%	2,317	2,381	2.8%
Sefton	3,498	3,558	1.7%	270	401	48.5%	114	152	33.3%	3,761	3,927	4.4%
Wirral	3,714	3,747	0.9%	499	705	41.3%	128	217	69.5%	4,207	4,424	5.2%
Halton	1,586	1,561	-1.6%	197	264	34.0%	44	68	54.5%	1,778	1,794	0.9%

Source: LSC Management Information