

Slide 3

Policy Context

>lsc
Leading learning and skills

01

National Policy



Environment

Includes:

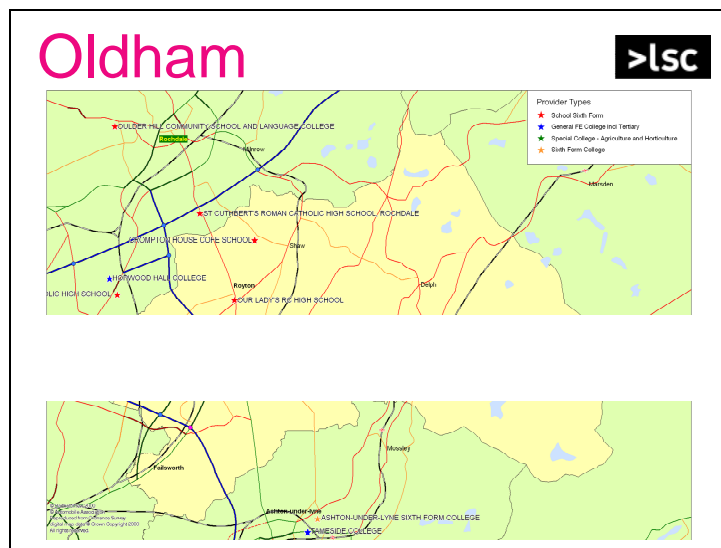
- Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR)
- National Apprenticeship Service (NAS)
- Foundation Learning Tier (FLT)
- Diplomas
- 14-19 Qualifications Strategy
- 14-19 Expert Group

A qualification will cease to be funded as a free-standing qualification if:

- a. there are qualifications within the national suites which can meet the needs of young people, employers, universities and wider society as well as this qualification;
- b. the effectiveness of the qualifications within the national suites in meeting these needs has been demonstrated in practice in a sufficiently wide range of circumstances; and
- c. the qualifications within the national suites are nationally available.

16-18 Infrastructure 
Leading learning and skills

03



The Oldham area is shaded the lighter colour.

The map includes all schools with sixth forms, sixth form colleges and FE colleges both within the Borough and in the surrounding area.

WBL providers have not been included because the actual location of the provider is less important as the majority of learning takes place at the employer site. The WBL provider may be located in the Borough but the employer site could be outside of the Borough boundaries.

Schools/14-19 Partnerships



Data requested

16-18 Participation

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Leading Learning and Skills

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Slide 27

In-school Cohort Sizes >lsc


Establishment Name	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13	Grand Total
Breeze Hill School	164	160	151			475
Counthill School	213	233	241			687
Crompton House C of E School	195	207	197	158	134	891
Failsworth School	294	292	293			879
Grange School	149	176	165			490
Kaskenmoor School	149	150	169			468
New Bridge School	37	34	32	30	40	173
North Chadderton School	267	269	266	90	66	958
Our Lady's RC High School	191	178	209	74	57	709
Royton and Crompton School	230	236	235			701
Saddleworth School	256	258	259			773
South Chadderton School	130	155	163			448
St Augustine of Canterbury RC High School	149	170	161			480
The Blue Coat C of E School	221	222	220	139	119	921
The Hathershaw Technology College	204	205	199			608
The Radclyffe School	254	286	285			825
Total Cohort Oldham	3,103	3,231	3,245	491	416	10,486

This data shows young people in Oldham schools in 2006.

The numbers should be considered in the light of the projected 5.4% decline in the cohort population by 2015.

This declining cohort is already evident in this slide as it illustrates 9 schools are showing smaller year groups, 4 are static and just 3 increasing.

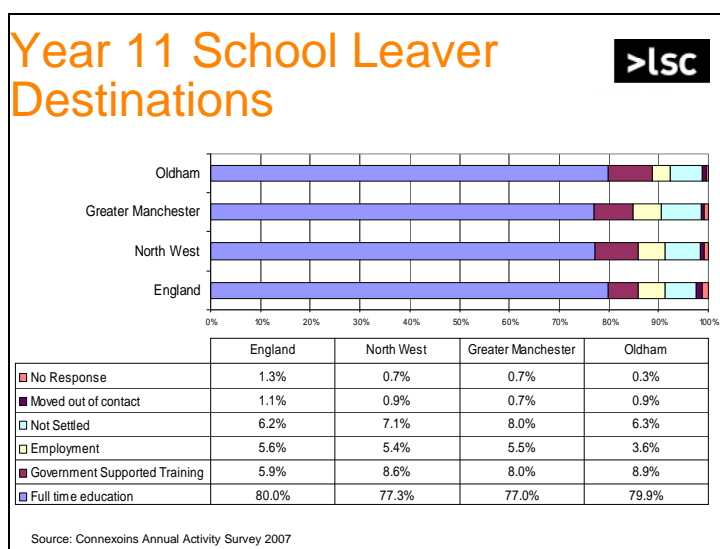
In-school Cohort Sizes by Year & SEN Status



Oldham Special Educational Needs status	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Grand Total
No Special Provision	2,501	2,619	2,662	457	370	8,609
School Action	390	372	371	3	3	1,139
School Action Plus	139	149	148		2	438
Statement of SEN	73	91	64	31	41	300
Oldham Total	3,103	3,231	3,245	491	416	10,486

Source: PLASC 2006

The LA has slightly increasing numbers of children who are the subjects of Statements of SEN and shows a consistent approach to pre-Statement support. National and regional research has identified that the proportion of learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities is increasing year on year. Government policy is for more of those young learners to participate in mainstream provision, rather than to enter specialist and/or residential provision. Given that we know young people with LLDD are more likely to become NEET, the increasing cohort of young people with special educational needs will pose an increasing challenge for 14-19 partners, especially local authorities, in future years. Early identification of LLDD and sharing good classroom practice within partnerships continues to be important.



The previous slide showed overall participation in funded learning continuing to grow, reaching 91.3% in 2007 (includes FE and jobs with training).

Participation split:

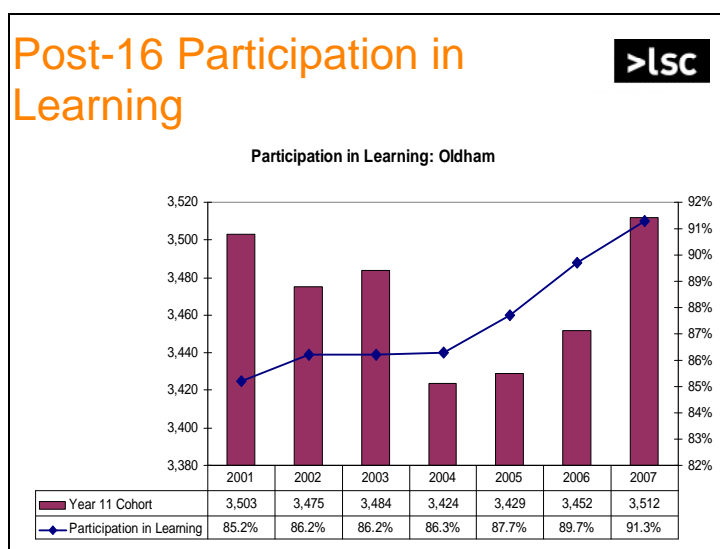
79.9% of young people in Oldham were in full time education in 2007, an increase of 1.8% from 2006. This is higher than the regional average (77.3%) and comparable to the England average (80.0%). Of those young people in learning, 63% of students entering FE access Level 3 courses compared with 59% last year.

This increase in the staying on rate has had a **significant impact** on the NEET rate. The Oldham 'Moving On' report indicates that NEET leavers for Year 11 have fallen by a quarter (23.3%). The extended September Guarantee should have an impact on the Year 12 drop-off.

Government Supported Training is significantly higher at 8.9% than the national average and comparative to the regional and GM profile (North West 8.6% and GM 8.0%).

The key finding is that Oldham residents do participate in WBL at a rate similar to elsewhere, but to do so they have to access providers who are either located outside Oldham or whose contract is held by another LSC team (lead and feed).

However, 6.3% of Oldham school leavers are not settled. Whilst this may be a short term situation, for some, it may lead to them not fulfilling their potential.



Note: institutionally based data

The participation in learning rate is defined in the Connexions report “Moving on 2007” as the percentage of the cohort entering full-time education, LSC-funded work-based training or jobs with NVQ or other planned training. This rate is a key headline target set by DCSF for Connexions.

The chart shows a substantial improvement in participation between 2001 and 2007. With similar sized cohorts for both 2001 and 2007, the rate of participation has increased from 85.2% to 91.3%.

It is important to note that the definition of “Other planned training” could cover a range of levels and further investigation could be required.

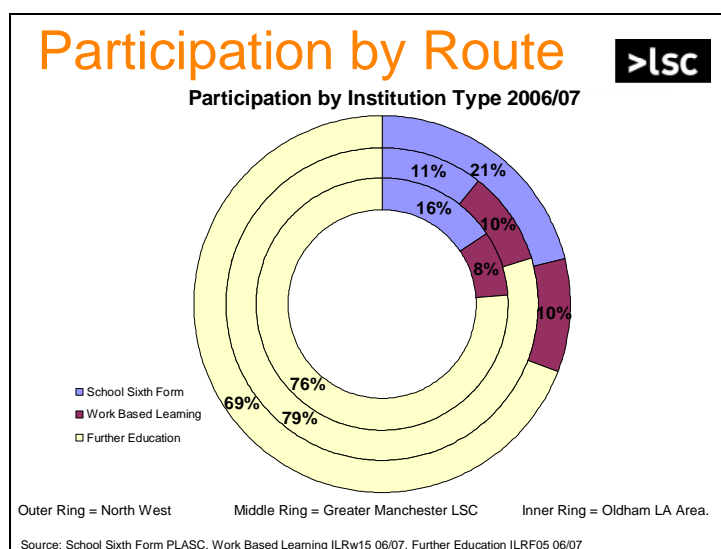
A relatively small cohort can also lead to large shifts in percentage participation.

The increase in young people’s participation in full time education has been

supported by the introduction of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA).

EMA[1] rolled out in September 2006 for 16 to 18 year olds and has continued to have a positive effect on participation both regional and nationally.

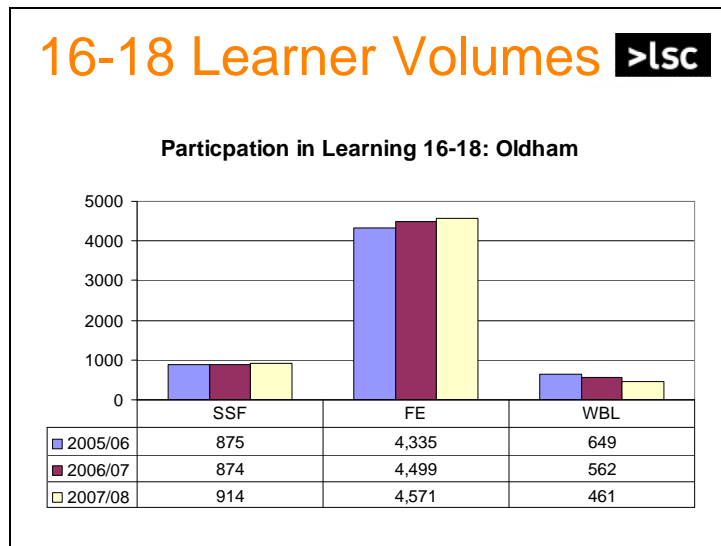
[1] EMA is a fortnightly payment of up to £60 for students aged 16 to 19. It is paid directly to young people from households with an income of less than £30,810 who stay in education after the end of compulsory schooling.



Please note: The information shown in the chart is institution-based. It does not represent Oldham residents in learning. Local authorities will have responsibility for learners participating in provision delivered by providers located in their local authority district, not simply for learners resident within their area.

The most immediate difference between Oldham and elsewhere is the smaller cohort entering work based learning (but bear in mind that this is provider-based, and there are only a few WBL providers in the area).

Oldham has a higher proportion of young people entering FE than the region, but a smaller proportion than Greater Manchester (the GM proportion is especially high; one reason being that the number of school sixth forms in GM is lower than average). Further analysis is required to identify whether these differences apply to Oldham residents - it may be that the pattern looks this way due to the configuration of providers in Oldham. There are few WBL providers in Oldham, but in any event, the travel to learn pattern is likely to mirror the travel to work pattern (although not entirely, as young learners are less likely to travel as far as workers are).



Please note: this slide displays residents of Oldham in learning rather than volumes of learners in Oldham institutions.

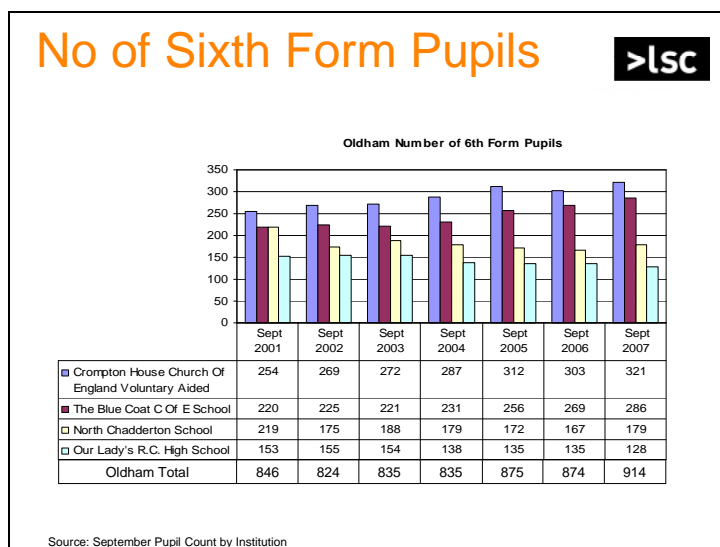
Volumes of Oldham resident learners aged 16-18 split by funding stream are shown in the chart. Key points to note are:

The consistently higher volumes of those in further education compared to other learning routes.

The lack of data available for School Sixth Form for 2007/08. (note: the data shown for 2007/08 FE & WBL are initial volumes, not full year's data).

The decline in WBL participation volumes is mirrored by the rise of FE volumes.

(WBL Data for 2007/08 from Period 6)



Institution based data

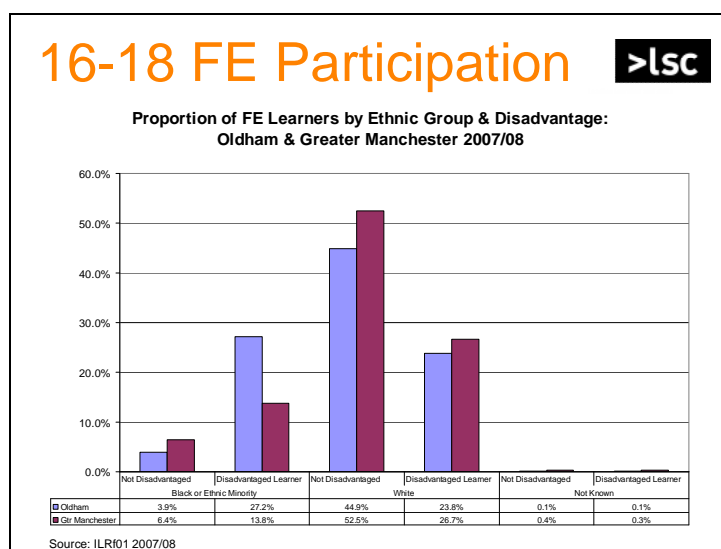
The Oldham total school sixth form cohort from Sept 2001 to Sept 2007 fluctuates from 846 in Sept 2001, falling to 835 in 2003/04, then rising gradually in Sept 2005 to 875, and reaching 914 in Sept 2007.

Focusing on individual schools:

Our Lady RC High School – cohort declining 153 in Sept 2001 to 128 in Sept 2007.

Crompton House Church of England (VA) continues to grow 254 in Sept 2001 to 321 in Sept 2007.

Note: Rochdale resident learners boost the cohort size in some schools.



Resident based data

The total volume of Oldham residents aged 16-18 studying in Further Education, as at F01 data return 2007/08, is 4,571. That equates to 9.2 per cent of the Greater Manchester total of 49,257.

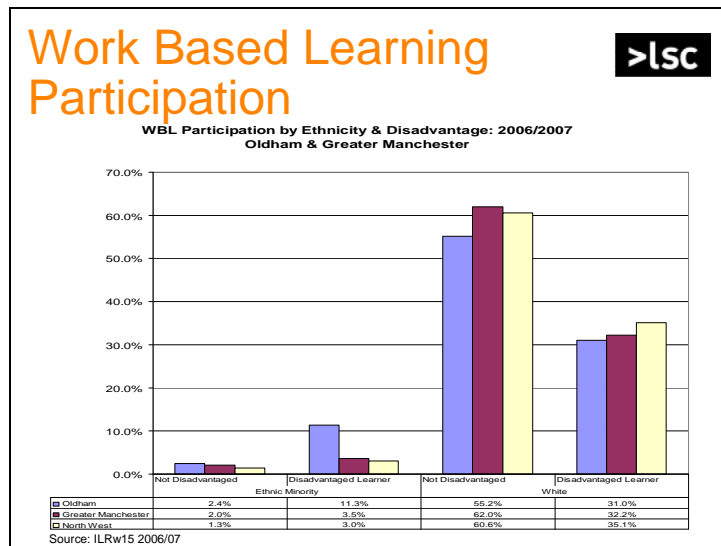
There are significant differences between the Oldham and Greater Manchester areas in terms of participation in FE.

Of the total number of learners aged 16-18 in FE, the proportion who are from a **Black or Minority Ethnic group AND from a disadvantaged background** in Oldham is 27 per cent, much higher than the Greater Manchester Average (13.8%). Conversely, the proportion of FE learners from a **white ethnic group without a disadvantage** is 44.9 per cent, lower than the Greater Manchester rate of 52.5 per cent.

This appears to show a greater level of participation by BME disadvantaged learners in Oldham. However, further analysis is needed to compare these figures to the total population data at 16-18 and to a similar breakdown for WBL to assess how far these differences are determined by the ethnic profile of the two areas.

It has been established by research that some BME groups have a cultural preference for academic, as opposed to vocational, learning, and this may contribute to the picture.

In both areas, **white learners without a disadvantage** account for the highest proportion of total learners.



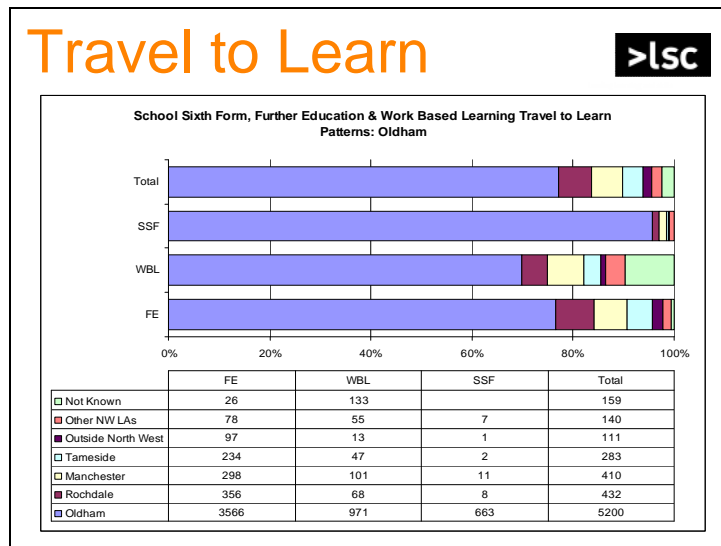
Residency based data

The chart illustrates the differences in WBL participation by BME and white groups, both in Oldham and in Greater Manchester. It also demonstrates that the FE participation figures on the previous slide cannot be simply a reflection of the ethnic profile of the area.

Ethnic minority learners in Oldham make up 13.7 per cent of total WBL participation compared to 31.1 per cent of FE participation.

White learners without a disadvantage make up 55.2 per cent of total 16-18 apprenticeship learners, compared to 62 per cent in Greater Manchester.

Analysis of the entire 16-18 cohort is required to identify variances in representation.



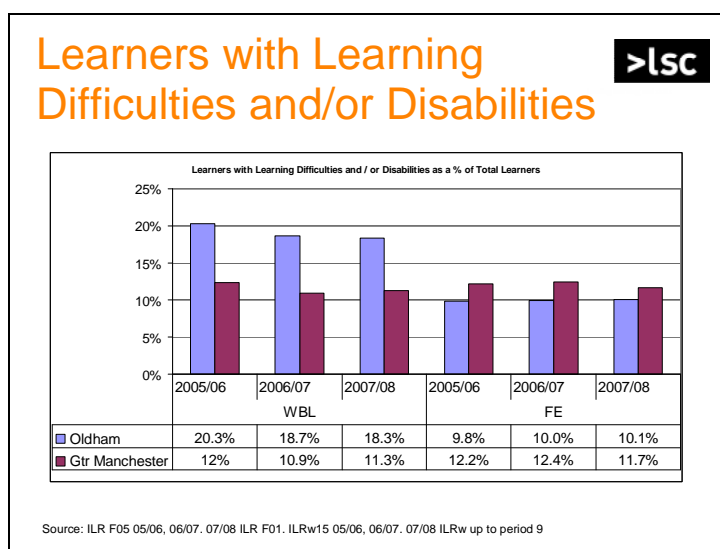
The majority of Oldham residents aged 16-18 attend provision in Oldham local authority district.

However, significant volumes of learners in every local area of Greater Manchester, including Oldham, cross borders to attend learning provision.

Manchester is the most popular out of area destination for Oldham resident learners, with 7% of the SSF, FE & WBL total, equating to 1,378 learners from Oldham attending learning in Manchester.

In total there are 4,293 16-18 year old Oldham resident learners attending provision outside the local area out of a total of 20,266 Oldham learners aged 16-18. This equates to 21.2% of all Oldham learners aged 16-18.

There is a relatively large proportion of learners in WBL (8%) the location of whose provision has been recorded as Not Known, this may indicate data recording issues.



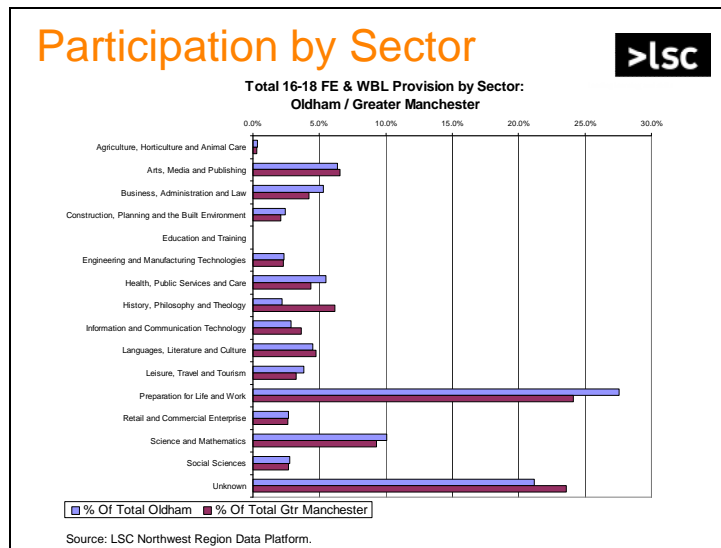
Oldham residents with a learning difficulty and/or disability are more likely to participate in work-based learning than learners with LDD in Greater Manchester as a whole.

The reverse is true for FE learners, where a slightly higher proportion of Greater Manchester learners consider themselves to have LDD.

As previously indicated, young people with LDD are much more likely to become NEET. (The review of LLDD carried out by the LSC in the North West indicated that “NEET rates are higher for young people with LDD at 20% for young people with LDD compared to a general NEET rate of 9.7%). In Oldham there is a high rate of participation in WBL by young people with LDD, and this requires further analysis to identify whether this is a result of specialist providers being involved or any other factor that could be applied elsewhere.

Earlier on in this presentation, we identified that most young people achieve their Level 2 by age 17, but many are not ready to start a Level 3 course (mainly due to the low proportion of learners achieving GCSE Maths and English at grades A* to C), therefore having a higher risk of becoming NEET.

Further investigation is needed into retention and achievement rates.

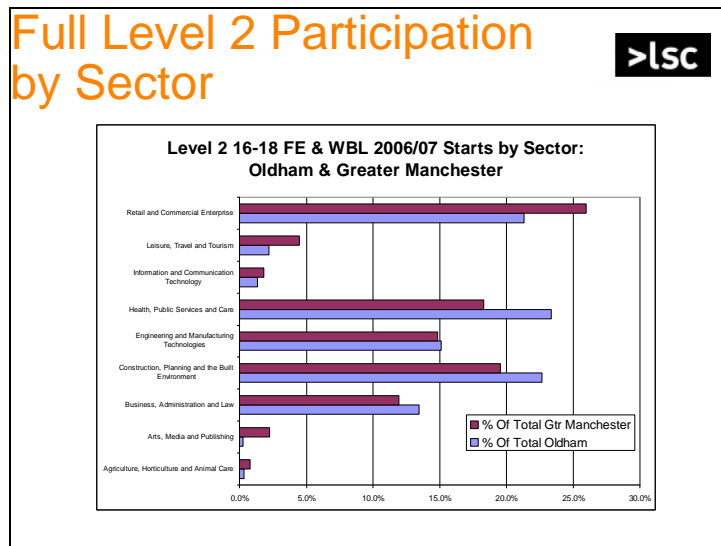


Note: data shown is for Oldham Resident Learners (not Oldham institutions), therefore a direct comparison to the economic structure of Oldham may not be appropriate – A comparison to the Greater Manchester could prove more useful.

It is important to note that as well as having a clearly defined economy itself, Oldham is also a part of the wider Greater Manchester economy, as well as the wider travel to learn patterns identified in provision.

For example: taking the Oldham economic structure, and comparing it to the information in this slide would suggest that there is a significant gap in Manufacturing provision. This is not necessarily the case as Oldham residents could be catered for in this sector subject in a different local area.

The other side of this argument is to consider what contribution the different sector subject areas delivered to Oldham residents are making to the Greater Manchester economy.

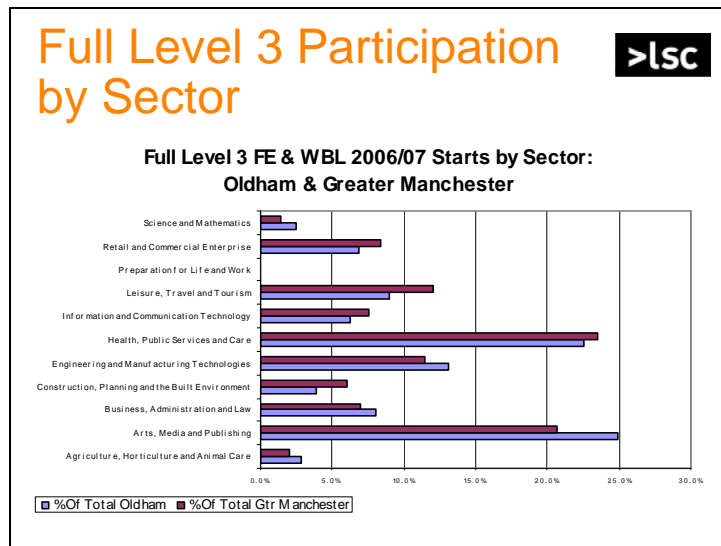


Residency based data

At Level 2, the highest proportion of FE / WBL learners aged 16-18 (Oldham residents) are studying in the Health, Public Services and Care sector subject area. (23% of Total Level 2).

The top 3 sector subject areas for Greater Manchester are Retail and Commercial Enterprise; Health, Public Services & Care and Construction, Planning and the Built Environment.

This is also the case for Oldham, with between 260-285 learners in each sector subject area.




Residency Based Data

In both Oldham and Greater Manchester, the highest proportion of overall full Level 3 learners are in the Health Public Services and Care SSA, and Arts Media & Publishing. Each with around 20-25% of the overall total full Level 3 volume.

In Oldham, this equates to 169-187 learners.

NEET Volumes



Geography	December 2007			
	Adjusted EET	Adjusted NEET	% NEET	16-18 not known
England	1,496,796	105,870	6.6%	73,700
North West	223,326	18,754	8.7%	9,121
Greater Manchester	84,387	7,469	8.1%	3,702
Oldham	7,938	687	8.0%	345

At 8.0%, the percentage of 16-18 year olds classed as NEET in Oldham is lower than the Greater Manchester average and the North West and England figures.

There is further information concerning the NEET group on the following slide.

NEET Percentages

	% 16-18s Not Known	% 16-18s in learning	% change over last 12 months	% 16-18s NEET	% change over last 12 months	% joining NEET from EET	% leaving from NEET for EET	% leaving NEET - currency exp.
England	4.5%	77.3%	2%	6.6%	-13%	27%	51%	10%
North West	3.7%	77.1%	2%	7.7%	-11%	31%	53%	7%
Greater Manchester	3.9%	76.4%	4%	8.1%	-17%	31%	48%	5%
Oldham	4.0%	77.2%	1%	8.0%	-6%	40%	60%	3%

Source: Government Office North West December 2007

Notable points:

Oldham's higher participation rate compared with Greater Manchester

The high NEET rate, compared with the region and England

The low percentage of young people not known to Connexions. (Each young person for whom there is no recently recorded destination becomes classified as 'Not Known'. All young people who become Not Known have lapsed from a previously known destination e.g. education, NEET.) This has probably boosted the NEET rate, as those young people who were previously out of contact tend to be identified as NEET once contact is re-established

The relatively small reduction in NEET compared with GM, the North West and England

The much higher degree of churn, with people entering and leaving NEET at much higher rates than anywhere else. This may indicate that jobs are readily available, but also that the jobs aren't necessarily high quality. It also suggests there may be retention issues.


Some of the main contributors to NEET in the region:

too many young people not retained in learning at 17, either because they took a one year course, or because the provision is unsuitable.

Regional research has identified that young people with LDD are much more likely to become NEET (NEET rate of 20% regionally, compared with a rate of 9.7% at the time of the research)

Nationally, it has been identified that the groups most vulnerable to becoming NEET are looked after children, young parents, those with LDD, young offenders, those who fail to achieve Level 2 @ 16.

Note: Data is from Government Office and may not reflect local Connexions data.

16-18 Performance  Leading learning and skills

05

		% of 15 year old students achieving 5+A*-C (& equivalent) including English & Maths GCSEs			
		2004	2005	2006	2007
Hulme Grammar School for Girls		97%	97%	97%	100%
Hulme Grammar School for Boys		91%	99%	95%	97%
Crompton House C of E School		77%	86%	79%	87%
The Blue Coat C of E School		56%	77%	75%	75%
Saddleworth School		57%	45%	47%	51%
North Chadderton School		41%	40%	34%	48%
Our Lady's RC High School		31%	44%	47%	49%
The Radclyffe School		22%	21%	24%	47%
Royton and Crompton School		33%	37%	42%	37%
The Hathershaw College of Technology & Sport		32%	24%	26%	32%
Fallsworth School		18%	35%	23%	29%
South Chadderton School		25%	22%	29%	29%
Counthill School		17%	20%	16%	27%
St Augustine of Canterbury RC High		27%	32%	36%	27%
Grange School		12%	13%	15%	20%
Breeze Hill School		12%	14%	17%	17%
Kaskenmoor School		10%	11%	20%	17%
Oldham Average		31.8%	35.3%	35.3%	40.6%
England Average		42.6%	44.3%	45.3%	46%

High and Improving – Saddleworth

High and Stable – Hulme Grammar School for Girls

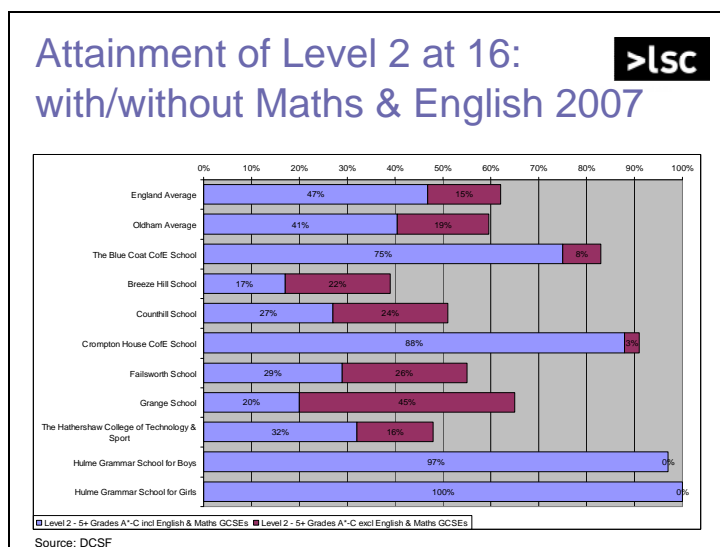
Low and Improving – Our Lady's RC High School

There is a lot to of achievement to build on in Oldham. Huge progress has been made on the proportion of young people achieving the benchmark of five A*-C grades @ GCSE including English and Maths.

In 2004, the gap between Oldham and England was almost 11 percentage points. In 2007 it was 5.4 – almost half.

Oldham has had a 21.7% increase over the four years, compared with only a 7.4% increase in England.

But across England the challenge is to ensure that every child gets the support they need to achieve this crucial benchmark, if not before 16, then after it. Without this foundation, young people will face major hurdles when they attempt to progress to Level 3 and beyond into HE.



1 of 2 slides

Individual schools have been ranked from high to low on achievement of Level 2 at 16 including English and Maths.

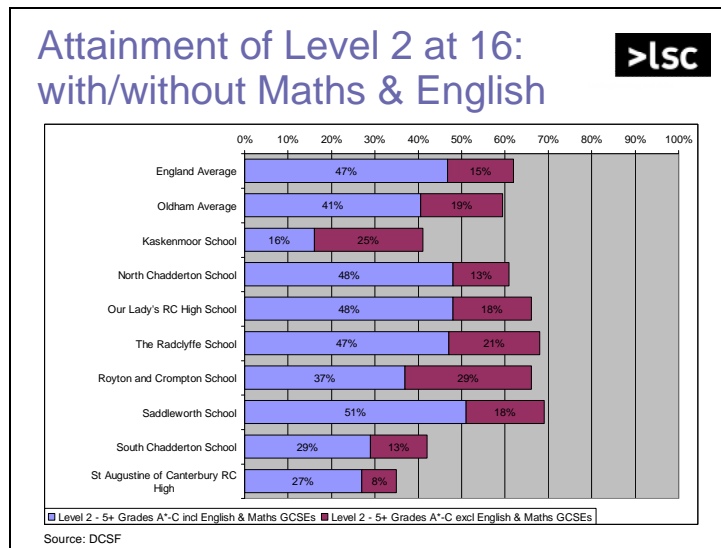
Level 2 including English and Maths is extremely important in terms of progression to Level 3.

Key issues include:

Attainment of Level 2 at 16 with English and Maths is low, therefore retention and progression to higher level courses is correspondingly low. This is because these learners do not have the platform from which to make the jump from Level 2 to Level 3.


Many people achieve Level 2 at age 17. This can lead to a high drop out rate age 17 due to the lack of English and Maths skills.

There is a degree of urgency attached to this issue because of the requirement in 2008 to extend the September Guarantee to those aged 17. It is therefore important to identify appropriate provision routes to retain these young people.



Part 2 of 2 slides

Level 2 including English and Maths is extremely important in terms of progression to Level 3. The gap between the Oldham and England averages places young people in Oldham at a considerable disadvantage in relation to their peers.

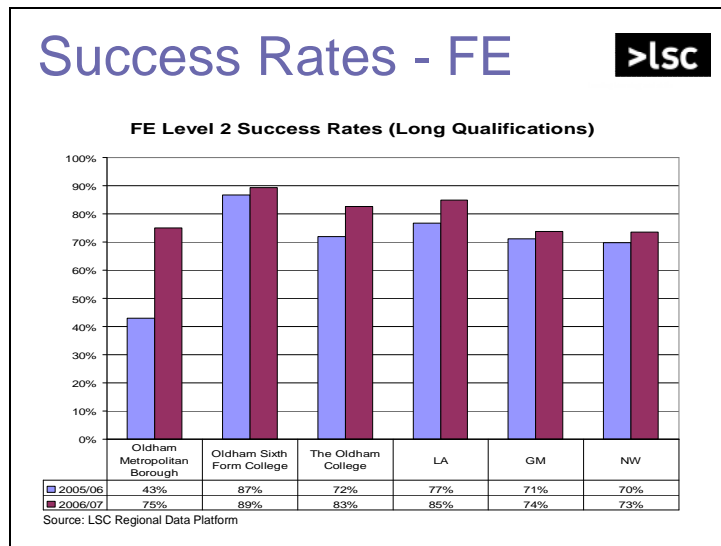
Post-16 General & Applied A/AS or Equiv. Achievement 2007 

	Number of students aged 16-18	General & Applied A/AS or Equivalent Achievement		
		Number at end of A/AS or equivalent study	Average point score per student	Average point score per examination entry
Oldham Average			695.1	207.5
GM LSC Average			717	204
England Average			731.2	207.5
The Blue Coat C of E School	263	124	898.9	204.9
Crompton House C of E School	296	136	887.9	212.2
Hulme Grammar School for Boys	122	74	930.2	214.1
Hulme Grammar School for Girls	83	41	1,015.2	226.8
North Chadderton School	160	65	658.8	205.9
Oldham College	1,985	298	543.3	212.6
Oldham Sixth Form College	2,080	836	692.3	206.6
Our Lady's RC High School	133	57	667	195.5

Source: DCSF

The points scores refer to the QCA methodology for scoring achievement at Level 3. In respect of A-levels, learners achieve 270 points for a grade A, and the scale goes down in steps of 30 to 150 points for a grade E.

On average, young people from sixth-forms and the sixth-form colleges in Oldham achieve 207.5 points per exam entry, which is just below a Level C grade per entry. This is just above the Greater Manchester average of 204 points (close to a C grade) and almost identical to the National Average of 207 points (C grade).

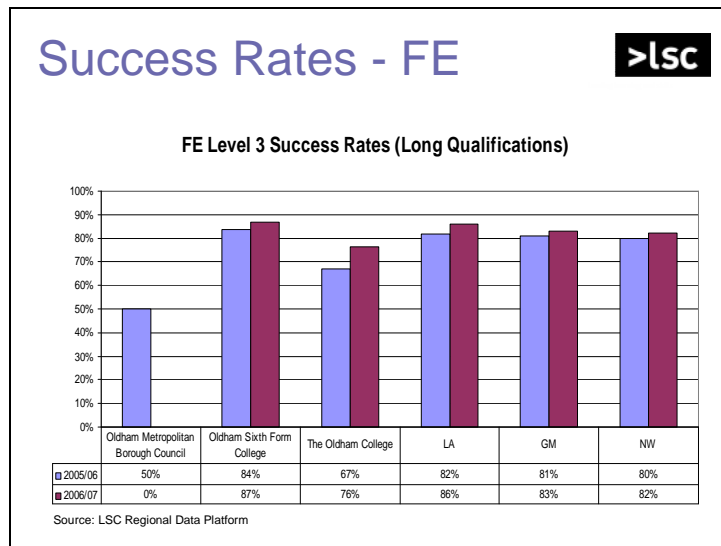


FE Full Level 2 Success Rates in Oldham (institutions) have been higher than the Greater Manchester and North West averages for the past 2 years.

Success rates by provider are mixed, but improving at all institutions.

FE Level 2 success rates are approximately equal for both males and females, and are higher for learners from a Black or Minority Ethnic group (86% BME, 84% White).

FE Level 2 success rates are also higher for those learners with a learning difficulty and / or disability (LDD: 89%, Non-LDD 84%)



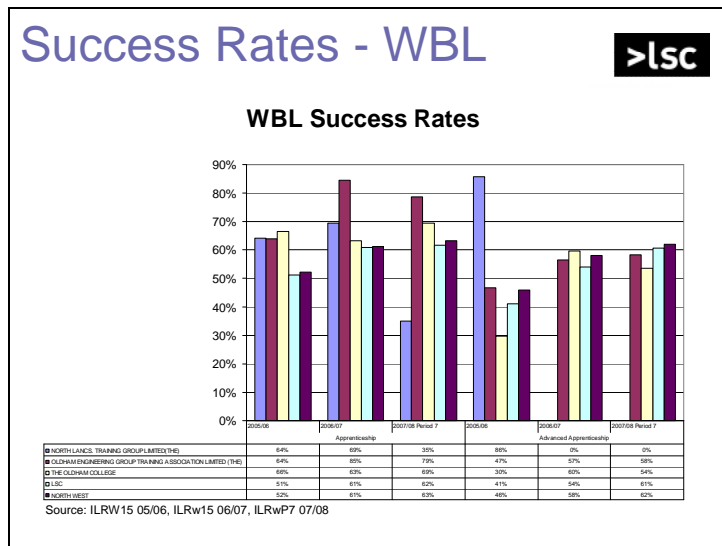
FE Full Level 3 success rates in Oldham (institutions) are higher than the Greater Manchester and North West rates, and the gap has widened between 2005/06 and 2006/07.

As with Level 2, success rates by provider are mixed, but each provider we have data for is improving.

In Oldham female success FE rates at Level 3 are higher than male (87% to 84%).

Success rates for those from BME groups are higher than those from white backgrounds (87% to 85%)


Success rates for those with and without a learning difficulty and / or disability are equal at 86 per cent.



Please note: the 2007/08 data is taken from period 7.

Apprenticeship success rates in Oldham have shown improvement in the past three years.

Advanced Apprenticeships have generally lower success rates, but have displayed a similar increase across the period.

Proportion reaching Level 2 Threshold by Age 19 by Area 

Greater Manchester	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004-2007
England	66.4%	69.3%	71.4%	73.9%	7.5%
North West	63.8%	67.3%	70.1%	72.4%	8.6%
Greater Manchester	62.7%	66.1%	69.1%	71.4%	8.7%
Bolton	63.7%	65.1%	66.6%	68%	4.5%
Bury	67.9%	70.1%	72.2%	72%	4.5%
Manchester	51.6%	55.5%	59.0%	63%	11.1%
Oldham	58.6%	61.3%	64.1%	67%	8.4%
Rochdale	54.5%	58.4%	60.4%	64%	9.9%
Salford	50.5%	55.5%	58.1%	59%	8.9%
Stockport	71.2%	72.0%	73.2%	73%	2.0%
Tameside	57.9%	61.9%	64.5%	66%	8.5%
Trafford	67.7%	71.6%	74.6%	78%	10.4%
Wigan	61.6%	65.8%	67.5%	69%	7.5%


Source: Fisher Family Trust

Provider Based Data

The largest percentage point increases in Level 2 attainment are seen between the ages of 17 and 18 for most areas:

For Oldham, the cohort shown in the slide (67% L2 @19) had an attainment rate for Level 2 at 16 of 46 per cent. At 17 there was a large jump to 54.6 per cent and then a similar increase when they were 18 years old.

The rate of increase between ages 16 and 19 for this cohort in Oldham was 20.9 percentage points, exactly the same as the national rate. However, this was a slightly slower rate of increase than the regional rate of 21.2 per cent.

Proportion reaching the Level 3 Threshold by Age 19 by Area 

Greater Manchester	2004	2005	2006	2007	Change 2004-2007
England	42.0%	45.4%	46.6%	48.0%	6.0%
North West	38.5%	42.0%	42.9%	44.6%	6.1%
Greater Manchester	38.0%	41.4%	42.3%	43.5%	5.5%
Bolton	38.9%	41.9%	43.4%	43%	4.6%
Bury	41.1%	44.1%	44.6%	46%	4.9%
Manchester	33.7%	35.7%	37.9%	39%	4.9%
Oldham	36.5%	39.6%	38.4%	39%	2.8%
Rochdale	27.9%	32.7%	32.1%	34%	6.0%
Salford	26.0%	29.8%	31.6%	31%	5.3%
Stockport	46.6%	48.4%	50.8%	50%	3.3%
Tameside	31.1%	34.4%	35.2%	35%	4.1%
Trafford	44.0%	49.0%	51.7%	55%	10.9%
Wigan	33.5%	37.9%	38.4%	40%	6.3%

Source: Fisher Family Trust

Provider Based Data

The main points to note about Level 3 attainment at 19 are:

The gap with regional and national averages

The gap has widened in recent years.

Looking at achievement of Level 3 by age 20 in 2005/06 (requested by partnership director):

The gap with the national average increased between ages 19 and 20, as did the gap with the regional average.

The increase in attainment between ages 18 and 19 was 5.2% points, whereas the increase between ages 19 and 20 was just over half this at 2.7% points.

Summary



- The proportion of young people achieving a Level 2 qualification in Oldham by the age of 19 has increased by 8.4 percentage points since 2004 to 67% in 2007. This is a significant improvement over time (below the North West average of 72.4% and national average of 73.9%).
- Overall, the proportion of young people achieving 5 or more A* to C grades in 2006 was 59.5%, below the regional average of x% and the national average of 62%.

Key Findings

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Issues & Actions

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