



Target Period NEET Report

Education, Learning and Skills Statement
Kingston upon Hull
2022 – 2023

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TECHNICAL REPORT: Target Period NEET Report

REVISION HISTORY

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1. INTRODUCTION

This report contains details of young people resident in Hull who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET). Specifically, it shows the proportion of year groups 12 and 13 who are NEET or Not Known and compares Hull's performance against regional and national figures and that of its statistical neighbours.

The Department for Education monitors the participation of young people in employment, education or training in all local authority areas. This data is supplied by each local authority all of whom have a statutory duty to do so on a monthly basis. The overall performance measure used is a combined average figure of young people who are NEET and Not Known over a three month period (December 2022 to February 2023) as this accurately reflects the number participating.

2. HULL NEET, NOT KNOWN & IN LEARNING STATISTICS

2.1 Combined NEET and Not Known

The Department for Education now measures the performance of each local authority based on a combined NEET and Not Known figure. Previously, performance was based on the NEET figure only as the Not Known figure was considered separately.

Although the local authority reports on both NEET and Not Known figures on a monthly basis, its annual performance is judged on a three month average figure taken from December to February.

Hull's annual performance for 2022/23 is a combined figure of **6.7%** (NEET **6.2%** and Not Known **0.5%**). This was significantly higher than the England average (**5.2%**), and slightly higher than the regional average (**6.5%**), but lower than our statistical neighbours' average (**7.0%**)

It is **1.1%** higher than last year's three monthly average of **5.6%** for Hull. It is also higher than the annual performance figure for 2020-2021 (**5.3%**).

2022/23 annual figures	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23
Not Known	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%
(% and no. of young people)	36	32	25
NEET	6.3%	6.3%	6.1%
(% and no. young people)	398	397	387
Combined	6.9%	6.8%	6.5%
3 Month Average			6.7%

Figure 1: Hull's annual three monthly combined NEET & Not Known data for 2022-2023

2021/22 annual figures	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22
Not Known	0.6%	0.5%	0.3%
(% and no. of young people)	35	30	21
NEET	5.0%	5.1%	5.3%
(% and no. young people)	306	312	324
Combined	5.6%	5.6%	5.7%
3 Month Average			5.6%

Figure 2: Comparison annual three monthly combined NEET & Not Known data for 2021-2022

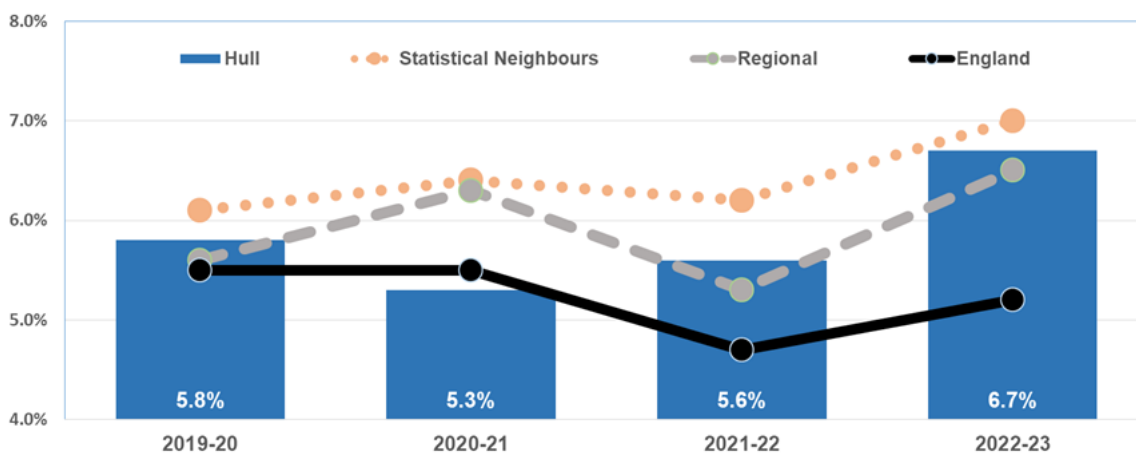


Figure 3: Comparison annual three monthly combined NEET & Not Known data for last 4 years

All areas have seen an increase in their NEET and Not Known populations since 2021-22, however Hull's increase is significant after a period of relative stability (in relation to the NEET and Not Known statistics) over the past 5 – 10 years. The increase in Hull relates specifically to the rising NEET figure as the Not Known figure still remains relatively stable and in line with previous years. Section 2.2 explores the increase in NEETs in further detail.

2.2 NEET

Although monitored monthly, it is important to note that comparison to previous periods/quarters is useful to show any changes in the group; it should not be looked at in isolation. The NEET figure is not a static figure and is not made up of the same young people each month. The NEET figures from the start of the reporting year (March 2022) to the end of the statistical period (February 2023) are given below. Data from last year (2021-2022) is also included for comparison. The month of November registered the highest number (401) of NEETs.

2022-2023	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Dec-Feb Ave
Percent	5.4%	5.7%	6.2%	5.9%	5.9%	5.3%	5.4%	5.9%	6.4%	6.3%	6.3%	6.1%	6.2%
Number	327	349	374	360	357	321	340	369	401	398	397	387	
2021-2022	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Dec-Feb Ave
Percent	5.7%	5.9%	5.9%	5.9%	5.9%	5.5%	4.9%	4.9%	4.7%	5.0%	5.1%	5.3%	5.1%
Number	329	343	344	340	342	320	298	296	287	306	312	324	

Figure 4: Hull NEET stats by month for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023

The monthly NEET trends for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 are shown below:

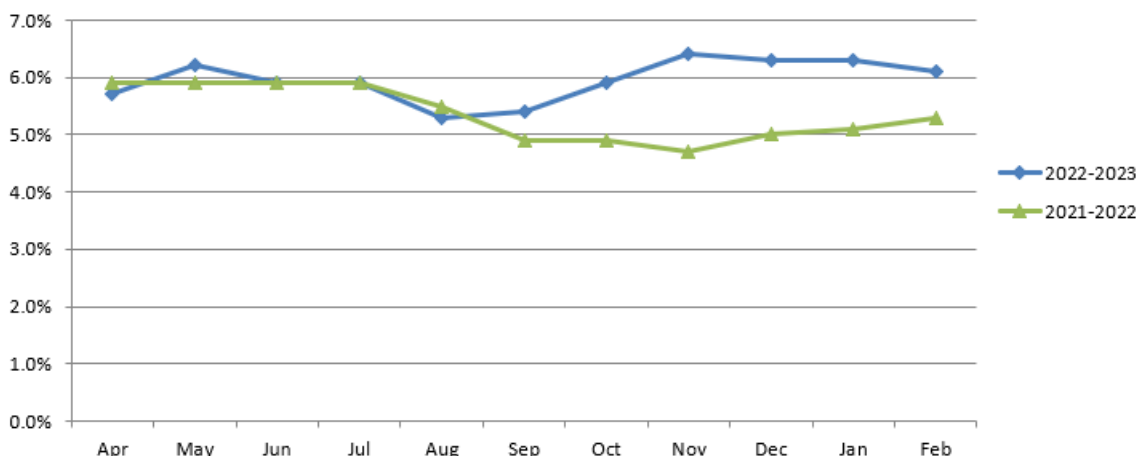


Figure 5: Hull monthly NEET trends for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023

The data indicates a higher number of NEETs in September 2022 compared to September 2021 (in September 2021 there were 298 young people who were NEET whereas in September 2022, this figure was already significantly higher at 340 total NEET). Additionally, in October/November 2022, 140 young people joined the NEET list as opposed to only 78 'joiners' in October/November last year. During the target period this year, there were actually less NEET 'joiners' (a total of 129 this year as opposed to a total of 146 last year) and the Connexions service assisted more young people to move out of NEETs this year during the target period (a total of 143 NEET 'leavers' this year as opposed to a total of 109 last year). To summarise, the key issue was the higher number of NEETs in September followed by a further surge in October and November 2022.

2.3 Not Known

The average percentage of Not Knowns for the annual reporting period (December 2022 to February 2023) was **0.5%**. This was exactly the same percentage as the previous reporting period.

2022-2023	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Average
Number	36	32	25	
Percentage	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%
2021-2022	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Average
Number	35	30	21	
Percentage	0.6%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%

Figure 6: Hull “Not Known” monthly data for the 2022/23 annual reporting period

2.4 Comparison with regional, national and statistical neighbours

The data below shows how Hull compares with its statistical neighbours (local authorities with similar characteristics) for the 3 month average reporting period.

December 2022 – February 2023 Years 12 and 13

Rank	Local Authority	Combined NEET & Not Known	NEET	Not Known	In Learning
	Hull	6.7%	6.2%	0.5%	86.9%
1	Stoke-on-Trent	10.9%	4.1%	6.7%	85.8%
2	Middlesbrough	4.4%	4.1%	0.3%	93.9%
3	Blackpool	11.1%	7.0%	4.0%	82.1%
4	Hartlepool	3.9%	3.9%	0.0%	93.6%
5	North East Lincolnshire	7.7%	7.2%	0.5%	87.3%
6	Salford	7.0%	4.8%	2.2%	89.5%
7	Plymouth	6.6%	4.4%	2.2%	90.4%
8	South Tyneside	5.9%	5.8%	0.1%	90.1%
9	Southampton	7.3%	4.1%	3.2%	89.5%
10	Portsmouth	5.6%	3.9%	1.6%	90.4%
Ave		7.0%	4.9%	2.1%	89.3%

Figure 7: Hull NEET, Not Known and In Learning three monthly statistics compared with statistical neighbours for 2022/23. (1 = closest statistical match and 10 = furthest statistical match).

- Hull's average combined NEET and Not Known figure for the 2022-2023 reporting period was **6.7%**. This was the sixth lowest of all our statistical neighbours and was **0.3%** lower than the statistical neighbours' average of **7.0%**.
- Hull's average NEET figure for the reporting period is **6.2%**. This is the third highest (lower is better) of all our statistical neighbours and **1.3%** higher than the statistical neighbours' average of **4.9%**.
- Hull's average Not Known figure for the reporting period is **0.5%**. This is the joint fourth lowest (lower is better) of all of our statistical neighbours and is **1.6%** lower than the statistical neighbours' average of **2.1%**.
- Hull's average In Learning figure for the reporting period is **86.9%**. This is the third lowest (higher is better) of all of our statistical neighbours and is **2.4%** lower than the statistical neighbours' average of **89.3%**.

Data relating to national and our regional geographical neighbours is also available and is shown below.

December 2022 – February 2023 Years 12 and 13

16-18 Academic age (Years 12 and 13)	Combined NEET & Not Known	NEET	Not Known	In Learning
England	5.2%	2.8%	2.4%	92.1%
Yorkshire & Humber	6.5%	3.3%	3.2%	90.7%
Barnsley	4.1%	2.6%	1.4%	92.8%
Bradford	6.8%	2.1%	4.7%	91.7%
Calderdale	4.4%	3.8%	0.5%	91.2%
Doncaster	4.3%	3.3%	1.0%	93.2%
East Riding	2.9%	2.3%	0.6%	92.7%
Kingston upon Hull	6.7%	6.2%	0.5%	86.9%
Kirklees	3.3%	2.5%	0.8%	92.7%
Leeds	9.2%	3.9%	5.3%	89.0%
North East Lincolnshire	7.7%	7.2%	0.5%	87.3%
North Lincolnshire	7.9%	2.4%	5.5%	91.4%
North Yorkshire	9.7%	1.9%	7.7%	90.0%
Rotherham	7.2%	4.9%	2.3%	88.3%
Sheffield	8.5%	4.5%	4.0%	88.7%
Wakefield	3.5%	2.6%	0.9%	92.8%
York	4.1%	0.7%	3.4%	94.6%

Figure 8: Hull statistics compared to regional and national averages for the 2022/23 annual reporting period

Hull's average combined NEET and Not Known figure of **6.7%** is **0.2%** higher (lower is better) than the regional average of **6.5%** and **1.5%** higher than the England average of **5.2%**.

Hull's three monthly average NEET percentage for the reporting period is **6.2%** which is **2.9%** higher (lower is better) than the regional average of **3.3%** and **3.4%** higher than the England average of **2.8%**.

Hull's three monthly average Not Known percentage for the reporting period is **0.5%** which is **2.7%** lower (lower is better) than the regional average of **3.2%** and **1.9%** lower than the England average of **2.4%**.

Local authorities with a high level of Not Knowns will have an artificially low NEET count. Hull's low Not Known figure is very positive. This gives reassurance to stakeholders that the local authority is being proactive in engaging with its resident young people. Knowing the status of young people means that the local authority and its partners are able to assist these young people and move them towards a positive outcome. The disadvantage of this is that from a reporting perspective, a low Not Known figure can result in a higher NEET figure and is true in Hull's case.

The percentage of Hull resident young people in learning at **86.9%** is **3.8%** lower (higher is better) than the regional average of **90.7%** and **5.2%** lower than the England average of **92.1%**.

2.5 Young people in learning

The average percentage of young people in learning over the reporting period (December 2022 to February 2023) was **86.9%**. This was a decrease of **1.3%** from last year when it was **88.2%**.

2022-2023	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Average
Percentage	87.3%	86.8%	86.7%	86.9%
2021-2022	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Average
Percentage	89.0%	88.3%	87.4%	88.2%

Figure 9: Three month average figures for young people in Hull who are in learning for the years 2022-23 and 2021-22

A detailed breakdown by activity (see figure 10) indicates that the decrease in the number of young people in learning in February 2023 is partly attributable to small reductions of young people participating in all activities with the exception of apprenticeships and other training, which have both seen slight increases. Coupled with this, there has also been an increase in young people on re-engagement provision which the DfE do not class as being ‘in learning’ – see Section 2.6 for further information.

	Full Time Education		Training		Apprenticeships		Work Based Learning		Part time education		Employment with Training		Other		Total	
	Feb 23	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 22
ENGLAND	86.1%	86.9%	1.1%	1.2%	4.4%	4.3%	0.9%	1.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.6%	0.6%	0.2%	0.2%	92.4%	93.1%
YORKS & THE HUMBER	82.6%	83.7%	1.5%	1.5%	6.2%	5.9%	1.4%	1.4%	0.1%	0.1%	1.0%	0.9%	0.2%	0.2%	91.5%	92.2%
Kingston Upon Hull, City of	74.8%	75.3%	1.1%	1.6%	9.7%	9.0%	0.9%	1.4%	0.0%	0.1%	1.0%	1.4%	0.3%	0.2%	86.7%	87.4%

Figure 10: 16-17 year olds (academic age) in education and training by activity in Feb 2023, and change over the last 12 months

2.6 End of February 2023 - participation rates of young people

In addition to the cohort of young people who are recorded as being ‘in learning’ by the DFE, there are also a number of young people who are on re-engagement provision. The combined total of the two cohorts is recorded by the DFE as the ‘participation’ rate. See below table (note: total participating may not equal sum of other fields due to DFE rounding):

	Total in learning Feb 23	Total on re-engagement provision Feb 23	Total participating Feb 23	Total in learning Feb 22	Total on re-engagement provision Feb 22	Total participating Feb 22
ENGLAND	92.4%	0.3%	92.6%	93.1%	0.2%	93.2%
YORKS & THE HUMBER	91.5%	0.3%	91.6%	92.2%	0.2%	92.3%
Kingston Upon Hull, City of	86.7%	1.6%	88.3%	87.4%	1.0%	88.3%

Figure 11: 16-17 year olds (academic age) participating in education, employment and training in Feb 2023 and change over the last 12 months

As the above data indicates, the February 2023 participation rate in Hull has remained the same as the previous year although the in-learning rate has fallen slightly. The fall in the ‘in learning’ rate appears to be mainly due to the increase in the number of young people on re-engagement provision, which is higher than the England and regional percentages.

In Hull, both the participation and the in-learning rate remain below the national and regional percentages. This is partly due to the fact that a significant number of young people in Hull are choosing to progress into employment without training. This is possibly connected to the impact of the pandemic (where areas of deprivation appear to have been particularly adversely affected) combined with the cost of living crisis which appears to be related to a number of young people who are choosing to progress into employment without training in order to boost the family income and/or support themselves. Although employment without training is viewed as a positive destination by many young people themselves, it is not in line with the RPA (Raising of the Participation Age) government guidance. The data shown in figure 12 confirms that although there are slightly less young people choosing to progress into employment without training compared to last year, the percentage in Hull remains significantly higher than both England and the region.

	Part time employment		Temporary employment		Employment without training		Self-employment		Employment - total	
	Feb 23	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 22
England	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%	2.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.6%	2.4%
Yorkshire & Humber	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	2.4%	2.5%	0.0%	0.0%	2.8%	2.8%
Kingston Upon Hull	0.7%	0.7%	0.3%	0.1%	4.2%	5.2%	0.1%	0.0%	5.2%	5.9%

Figure 12: 16-17 year olds (academic age) in employment in Feb 2023 and change over the last 12 months

In addition to the above factors, as outlined in Section 2.2, the rising number of YP who are NEET is also a contributory factor. The below table summarises the holistic picture in February 2023 (note: total cohort may not equal 100% due to DFE rounding):

	ENGLAND	YORKS & THE HUMBER	Kingston Upon Hull, City of
Total participating (includes re-engagement provision plus total in learning)	92.6%	91.6%	88.3%
Total in employment (includes self-employed, part-time employment, temporary employment and employment without training)	2.6%	2.8%	5.2%
Total NEET and not known	4.6%	5.5%	6.5%

Figure 13: Holistic picture showing activity of 16-17 year olds (academic age) in Feb 2023

2.7 NEET group profile by year group

At the end of February 2023 there were **387** NEET young people who were resident in Hull, this is an increase of **63** young people from this time last year when there were **324** NEET young people. In 2022 **44.1%** (143/324) of the NEET group were in year 12 and **55.9%** (181/324) were in year 13. In 2023 **45.2%** (175/387) of the NEET group were in year 12 and **54.8%** (212/387) were in year 13.

	Year 12	Year 13	Total
NEET Number	175	212	387
NEET Percentage	45.2%	54.8%	

Figure 14: Hull NEET group profile by year group at end of February 2023

Figure 15 confirms that the **1.5%** increase in the Year 13 NEET/NK percentage, during the reporting period, is generally in line with statistical neighbours and the region (who also saw similar increases) but lower than the percentage increase for England (**0.6%**). At **8.1%**, the Hull percentage is lower than both the region and statistical neighbours but higher than England.

	Academic Age 17 (year 13)							
	2022 - 2023				2021 - 2022			
	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Ave	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Ave
England	7.9%	6.7%	6.0%	6.9%	7.1%	6.1%	5.7%	6.3%
Yorkshire & Humber	10.7%	8.2%	7.3%	8.7%	8.1%	7.2%	6.5%	7.3%
Kingston Upon Hull	8.5%	8.1%	7.7%	8.1%	6.8%	6.6%	6.5%	6.6%
Statistical Neighbours	9.4%	9.3%	8.9%	9.2%	8.8%	8.0%	7.5%	8.1%

Figure 15: Year 13 Three Month Averages - NEET & Not known

Figure 16 confirms that the **0.7%** increase in the Year 12 NEET/NK percentage, during the reporting period, is slightly less than the region (which had a **0.9%** increase) but slightly more than the statistical neighbours and England, who both saw a **0.4%** increase. At **5.4%**, the Hull percentage is higher than the region, statistical neighbours and England.

	Academic Age 16 (year 12)							
	2022 - 2023				2021 - 2022			
	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Ave	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Ave
England	4.1%	3.5%	3.3%	3.6%	3.6%	3.0%	2.9%	3.2%
Yorkshire & Humber	5.3%	3.9%	3.6%	4.3%	3.7%	3.4%	3.2%	3.4%
Kingston Upon Hull	5.3%	5.5%	5.4%	5.4%	4.5%	4.6%	4.9%	4.7%
Statistical Neighbours	4.7%	4.9%	4.8%	4.8%	4.6%	4.3%	4.2%	4.4%

Figure 16: Year 12 Three Month Averages - NEET & Not known

2.8 End of February - vulnerable groups

The end of February NEET group (the most recent data set of the reporting period) can be sub-categorised by vulnerability. The largest vulnerable group who are NEET are those who were in alternative provision in compulsory education which is **29.3%** of the February NEET group (**95** young people). Other classifications of vulnerability and their prevalence within the cohort are detailed below in figure 17.

N.B. A young person may appear in more than one of these groups e.g. a pregnant young person may also be a care leaver.

February 2023				
Total cohort number = 6,308		NEET only cohort number = 387		
Vulnerable Groups	Number in cohort	Of which NEET	Of which NEET as a percentage	As a percentage of total NEET group
CLA (children looked after)	108	25	23.1%	6.5%
Caring for own child	40	31	77.5%	8.0%
Refugee / Asylum seeker	20	0	0.0%	0.0%
Carer not own child	11	11	100.0%	2.8%
Care Leaver	69	19	27.5%	4.9%
Supervised by YOT	55	21	38.2%	5.4%
Pregnancy	26	13	50.0%	3.4%
SEND - EHCP	322	39	12.1%	10.1%
Alternative Provision*	365	95	26.0%	24.5%
Mental Health**	161	70	43.5%	18.1%
Educated at Home (Y11)	171	34	19.9%	8.8%

Figure 17: Profile of Hull NEET young people categorised by vulnerable group as at end February 2023

* A Mental Health flag was added by the DfE in April 2021 to identify any young person who the local authority is aware is experiencing poor mental health and is impacting on their engagement and participation. This information can be obtained from the young person themselves, a parent/carer or other sources e.g. social worker, education institution, or support organisation. It is not a compulsory field and the young person may not have a 'diagnosis' or be in contact with the local Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS).

** Alternative provision includes all Year 11 young people who are on roll at Rise, Aspire, Boulevard Centre and Sullivan Centre plus any young people recorded as 'dual roll' (ie. where the learner is registered at the mainstream school but they also attend alternative provision).

2.9 End of February - NEET group by ward

Of Hull's **387** NEET young people the highest percentage (**10.1%**) reside in Orchard Park ward (**49** young people). This has doubled since last year when only 23 NEET young people (5%) resided in the Orchard Park ward. Kingswood has the lowest percentage (**1.2%**) of young people who are NEET residing in the ward (**3** young people). **2** young people who were NEET in February had no ward information due to moving house recently. A city-wide profile of NEET young people by ward is shown in figures 18 and 19.

Ward	February 2022			February 2023		
	Number of YP in Ward	Number of NEET YP in Ward	Percentage of NEET YP in Ward	Number of YP in Ward	Number of NEET YP in Ward	Percentage of NEET YP in Ward
Avenue	251	16	6.4%	253	12	4.7%
Beverley & Newland	209	10	4.8%	260	13	5.0%
Boothferry	247	6	2.4%	243	8	3.3%
Bricknell	195	5	2.6%	190	8	4.2%
Central	218	12	5.5%	254	14	5.5%
Derringham	247	5	2.0%	224	7	3.1%
Drypool	233	12	5.2%	242	15	6.2%
Holderness	284	9	3.2%	264	7	2.7%
Ings	218	6	2.8%	236	6	2.5%
Kingswood	205	4	2.0%	258	3	1.2%
Longhill & Bilton Grange	336	19	5.7%	336	21	6.3%
Marfleet	390	28	7.2%	379	36	9.5%
Newington & Gipsyville	376	22	5.9%	400	25	6.3%
No Ward Info Available	35	2	5.7%	25	2	8.0%
North Carr	437	31	7.1%	497	38	7.6%
Orchard Park	457	23	5.0%	485	49	10.1%
Pickering	210	13	6.2%	196	10	5.1%
Southcoates	363	24	6.6%	356	20	5.6%
St Andrew's & Docklands	338	27	8.0%	341	29	8.5%
Sutton	294	10	3.4%	296	13	4.4%
University	210	17	8.1%	229	20	8.7%
West Carr	326	23	7.1%	344	31	9.0%
Total	6079	324	5.3%	6308	387	6.1%

Figure 18: Profile of Hull young people who are NEET by ward as at end February 2023 compared to end February 2022

Year 12 and Year 13 NEETs in Hull by Ward February 2023

Ward	Cohort	NEET	NEET%
Avenue	253	12	4.7%
Beverley & Newland	260	13	5.0%
Boothferry	243	8	3.3%
Bricknell	190	8	4.2%
Central	254	14	5.5%
Derringham	224	7	3.1%
Drypool	242	15	6.2%
Holderness	264	7	2.7%
Ings	236	6	2.5%
Kingswood	258	3	1.2%
Longhill & Bilton Grange	336	21	6.3%
Marfleet	379	36	9.5%
Newington & Gipsyville	400	25	6.3%
No Ward Info Available	25	2	8.0%
North Carr	497	38	7.6%
Orchard Park	485	49	10.1%
Pickering	196	10	5.1%
Southcoates	356	20	5.6%
St Andrew's & Docklands	341	29	8.5%
Sutton	296	13	4.4%
University	229	20	8.7%
West Carr	344	31	9.0%
Total	6308	387	6.1%

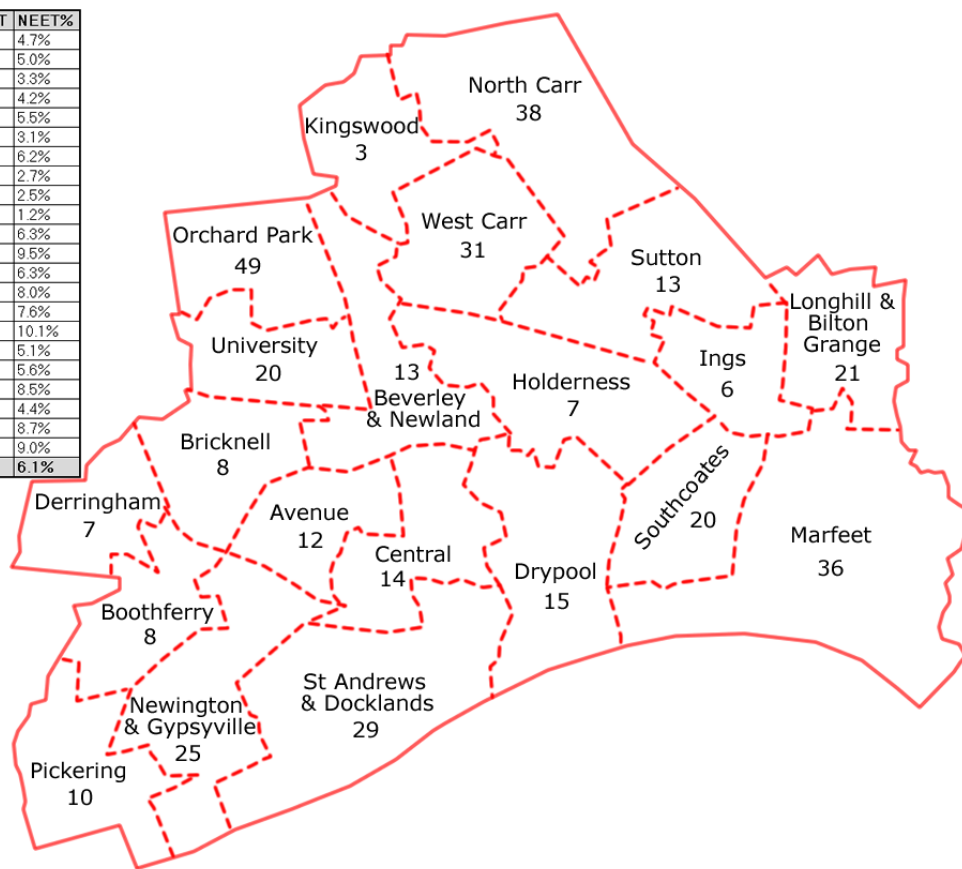


Figure 19: Geographic profile of Hull NEETs at end February 2023

2.10 End of February - NEET group split into available and not available to the labour market

The NEET group is split between those young people available to the labour market and those not available to the labour market. By way of example, governing factors that make young people not available to the labour market include pregnancy, illness or being a teenage parent.

2.10.1 NEET available to the labour market

At the end of February, out of a NEET cohort of **387** young people, **265** were NEET available to the labour market, shown in Figure 18 below. This equates to **68.5%** of the total NEET cohort compared to **74.4%** (241/324) last year.

Activity	Year Group		Total	Percentage
	12	13		
NEET available - not yet ready for work or learning	11	12	23	8.7%
NEET available - seeking employment, education or training	110	129	239	90.2%
NEET available - Start Date agreed (RPA compliant)	1	0	1	0.4%
NEET available - Working not for reward	1	1	2	0.8%
Total	123	142	265	

Figure 20: Profile of Hull young people who are NEET and available to the labour market by year group at end of February 2023

Note: 'not yet ready for work or learning' could be due to the young person requiring intensive support around motivational, behavioural, or social issues before re-engaging in employment, education or training

Of the **265** young people who are NEET available to the labour market, **142** are in year 13 which is **53.6%** of the NEET available cohort, and **46.4%** are in year 12 (**123** young people). The percentage split is similar to last year when 131 young people (54.3%) were in year 13 and 110 young people (45.7%) were in year 12.

How long NEET	Year Group		Total	Percentage
	12	13		
0-3 Months	59	64	123	46.4%
4-6 Months	62	43	105	39.6%
Over 6 Months	2	35	37	14.0%
Total	123	142	265	

Figure 21: Hull NEET young people who are available to the labour market by duration at end of February 2023

37 young people (**14.0%**) have been NEET for more than 6 months with the percentage split across the three NEET time periods being similar to last year.

2.10.2 NEET not available to the labour market

At the end of February, out of a NEET cohort of **387** young people, **122** were not available to the labour market (**31.5%** of the total NEET cohort). This has increased significantly compared to the previous year when **83** were not available to the labour market (**25.6%** of the total NEET cohort).

Activity	Year Group		Total	Percentage
	12	13		
NEET not available - currently unlikely to be economically active	1	0	1	0.8%
NEET not available - Illness	27	42	69	56.6%
NEET not available - Other reason	2	4	6	4.9%
NEET not available - Pregnancy	2	5	7	5.7%
NEET not available - Teenage Parents	8	21	29	23.8%
NEET not available - Young carers	2	8	10	8.2%
Total	42	80	122	

Figure 22: Profile of Hull young people who are NEET and not available to the labour market by year group at end of February 2023

80 young people who are NEET not available to the labour market are in year 13 which is **65.6%** of the NEET not available cohort, whilst **34.4%** are in year 12 (**42** young people). The percentage split is slightly different to last year when 50 young people (60.2%) were in year 13 and 33 young people (39.8%) were in year 12.

6 young people were recorded as ‘not available to the labour market – other reason’ as they were unable to enter education, training or employment and were not covered by any other category (which includes them being out of the country for an extended period). **1** young person was recorded as ‘not available to the labour market – unlikely to be economically active’ as they have a permanent disability or illness that prevents them from undertaking any form of education, employment or training.

How long NEET	Year Group		Total	Percentage
	12	13		
0-3 Months	21	28	49	40.2%
4-6 Months	16	20	36	29.5%
Over 6 Months	5	32	37	30.3%
Total	42	80	122	

Figure 23: Profile of Hull young people who are NEET and not available to the labour market by duration at end of February 2023

37 young people (30.3%) have been NEET for more than 6 months which is higher than last year when only 15 young people (18.0%) had been NEET and not available to the labour market for more than 6 months. See next section for further information relating to this increase.

2.11 NEET RAG Ratings

The Connexions Service currently use the below RAG rating methodology in relation to the NEET cohort (where a 'reasonable timeframe' is agreed to be approximately 3 months):

- Green – good/reasonable chance of progressing to Employment, Education and Training (EET) within a reasonable timeframe
- Amber – some chance of progressing to EET within a reasonable timeframe
- Red – very little/no chance of progressing to EET within a reasonable timeframe
- Blue – Light touch support needed during the next 3 months with very little chance of progressing to EET within that timeframe
- Purple – New NEETs are auto-marked as 'purple' which means 'no RAG rating currently allocated'

The below table summarises the RAG ratings for the NEET cohort of **387** young people (at the end of February 2023) and shows that 68% of the total NEET cohort (263/387) were RAG rated as 'red'.

	Neet Available (number)	Neet Available (%)	NEET Not Available (number)	NEET Not Available (%)	Total NEET (number)	Total NEET (%)
Green	27	10.2%	0	0.0%	27	7.0%
Amber	59	22.3%	2	1.6%	61	15.8%
Red	156	58.9%	107	87.7%	263	68.0%
Blue	11	4.2%	13	10.7%	24	6.2%
Purple	12	4.5%	0	0.0%	12	3.1%
Total	265	100.0%	122	100.0%	387	100.0%

Figure 24: RAG rating information relating to Hull young people who were NEET at end of February 2023

A research exercise undertaken in January 2023 identified that, at that point in time, there were 157 young people who were 'NEET available - RAG Rated Red'. Detailed analysis of this cohort revealed that these individuals face significant barriers that undoubtedly impact on their ability to progress into employment, education and training. Figure 25 shows the barriers that were present across the total cohort of 157 young people, with each individual having an average of 3.71 barriers. Any one of the below barriers in isolation would usually be enough to impact significantly on the chances of the young person moving from NEET to EET. However, with a cohort average of 3.71 barriers (with 46 YPs who have 5 or more barriers), the ability of these young people to move into EET is highly unlikely without significant inter-agency work and high-cost solutions. Figure 25 also shows that one of the key issues relates to the difficulty of actually engaging with these young people as 97 of the 157 avoid contact with the Connexions Service and training providers.

Barrier/issue	Total (disclosed during course of discussions/known about) across the cohort of 157 NEET Available RAG Red YP
Young person only wants employment	41
Young person avoids contact from Connexions/training providers eg. does not answer phone, does not reply to messages, does not attend appointments etc.	97
Mental health issues	46
Death of significant person	4
Threatening behaviour towards staff at CX or TP from parent/yp	4
Working with YOT	19
Poor experience of education and/or impact of bullying	29
EHCP	17
SEND school support	45
CLA	18
No IT access	1
Impact of trauma	9
Lack of confidence impacting on progression	41
Physical ill health	6
Drug or alcohol issues (YP or family)	6
Chaotic living arrangements	42
Exposure to abuse and/or exploitation	6
Alternative timetable at school or EHE	34
Lack of motivation	55
Working with a social worker	31
Caring responsibilities	8
Other barriers not listed	25
Total	584

Figure 25: Profile of barriers that were identified in relation to Hull young people who were 'NEET available - RAG Rated Red' at end of January 2023

Analysis shows that the total number of ALL interventions across this group (including messages left, phone calls not answered etc) was 3075, which is an average of 20 interventions per young person during the duration of the time the Connexions service has worked with them (from when they started Year 12 until the end of January 2023). Many of the young people also had a large number of interventions with the service prior to this but these have not been included in the above table. The highest number of total interventions with one individual (from when they started Year 12 to the end of January 2023) was 65.

3. TARGET PERIOD SUMMARY

3.1 Data key points

- For the target period (December 2022 to February 2023) the average percentage of young people who were either NEET or Not Known in Years 12 and 13 and resident in Hull was 6.7%. This was 1.3% higher than last year's three monthly average of 5.6%.
- Our combined NEET and Not Known figure of 6.7% (target period) is higher than the England average of 5.2%, and the regional average of 6.5% but lower than our statistical neighbours' average of 7.0%. The data indicates that the key issue was the higher number of NEETs in September followed by a further surge in October and November 2022.
- The percentage of Hull resident young people in learning (during the target period) at 86.9% is 3.8% lower than the regional average of 90.7%, 5.2% lower than the England average of 92.1% and 2.4% lower than our statistical neighbours of 89.3%. This appears to be due to the fact that in Hull there are; significantly higher numbers of young people choosing to progress into employment without training; significantly higher numbers of young people participating in re-engagement provision; and higher numbers of NEET young people
- In February 2022, 44.1% (143/324) of the NEET group were in year 12 and 55.9% (181/324) were in year 13. In February 2023, 45.2% (175/387) of the NEET group were in year 12 and 54.8% (212/387) were in year 13.
- Out of a NEET cohort of 387 young people in February 2023, 265 (68.5%) were available to the labour market and 122 (31.5%) were not available to the labour market. There has been a percentage shift compared to last year when, out of a NEET cohort of 324 young people, 241 (74.4%) were available to the labour market and 83 (25.6%) were not available to the labour market.
- Of Hull's 387 NEET young people in February 2023, the highest percentage (10.1%) reside in Orchard Park ward (49 young people). This has doubled since last year when only 23 NEET young people (5%) resided in the Orchard Park ward.
- The largest vulnerable group who are NEET are those who were in alternative provision in compulsory education which is 24.5% of the February NEET group (95 young people).
- At the end of February 2023, 68% of the total NEET cohort (263/387) were RAG rated as 'red' ie. very little/no chance of progressing to EET within a reasonable timeframe. Analysis confirms that each individual within this group has an average of 3.71 barriers.

3.2 Summary of potential contributory factors to the increase in NEETs

The below factors appear to be contributing to the increase in NEETs:

- Significant increase in the 16-18 cohort (up from 5,550 in 2020 to 6,303 in 2023).
- Drop out from post 16 provision remains relatively high.
- Lack of suitable provision (particularly for those with lower levels of attainment and multiple barriers).
- Limited availability of provision post the September start.
- Current economic backdrop - we are now also seeing Youth Unemployment (18-24 year olds claiming universal credit) creeping up. Data confirms there were 1,585 young people claiming universal credit in September 2022 compared to 1,805 in March 2023.
- Diminishing engagement provision – DWP funding for Hull’s Youth Hub (and nationally) ceased in December 2022 and ESF funded Springboard Youth Employment Initiative will end in November 2023.
- Fallout following the pandemic especially in relation to mental health and happiness of the NEET cohort (as identified in a recent Princes Trust Report¹). The report confirms that many young people are facing significant barriers (including social isolation, anxiety and mental health issues) but the NEET cohort appear to have been disproportionately adversely affected by the impact of the pandemic.
- Lack of family / peer support / positive role models.
- Uncertainty around funding streams following government announcement in December 2022 which confirmed the cessation of traineeship funding.

3.3 Moving forwards

- The Connexions Service to conclude reflections on service offer (currently underway) in order to identify new ways of working.
- Service leaders to consider innovative ways to engage the significant cohort of young people who are 'NEET available - RAG Rated Red' and who avoid contact with our PAs/training providers. Innovative solutions (outside of the usual model of training delivered at centres) are needed for this group of young people.
- Explore options within the Local Authorities 'youth offer' to provide a locality based engagement programme.
- The Connexions Service to formally engage with the work of the 'team around the school' support offer. Initial pilot to engage Sirius North Academy with a view to addressing the significant increase in NEET on the Orchard Park Estate.
- Continue to actively engage with the Education, Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to ensure the fallout following the removal of the Traineeship programme, is minimised locally.
- All providers to consider how they can support the NEET cohort of young people with relevant courses that can be accessed throughout the academic year.
- Where required, strengthen partnership working arrangements with schools and colleges to enhance support for those young people identified as being 'at risk of becoming NEET'.
- New CCIS data system to be introduced Sept – Dec 2023 will integrate within the local authority's new wider Education data system, enhancing internal and external data sharing intelligence.

4. GLOSSARY

<p>Alternative Provision</p>	<p>Alternative Provision (AP) is defined as: education arranged by local authorities or schools for pupils who, because they are unable to attend mainstream education because they are: excluded from mainstream education due to behavioural issues (this can include those young people now attending further education); unable to attend mainstream education due to either physical or mental ill health (can include pregnant mothers); waiting for a school place or for whatever reason, would not otherwise receive suitable education; education arranged by schools for pupils on a fixed period exclusion; and pupils being directed by schools to off-site provision to improve their behaviour.</p>
<p>Care leaver</p>	<p>A young person, who was looked-after by a local authority for a period of 13 weeks, or periods amounting in total to 13 weeks, which began after he/she reached 14 and ended after he/she reached 16.</p>
<p>Currency Lapse</p>	<p>A young person's currency relates to how they are participating in education, employment or training. A young person's activity lapses on the earliest of their expected course end date, four weeks after their current activity review date or when the currency period for their current activity has been reached.</p>
<p>CLA (children looked after)</p>	<p>A child is looked-after by a local authority if he or she has been provided with accommodation for a continuous period of more than 24 hours, in the circumstances set out in sections 20 and 21 of the Children Act 1989, or is placed in the care of a local authority by virtue of an order made under part IV of the Act.</p>
<p>Mental Health flag</p>	<p>This is to identify young people who are experiencing poor mental health which may be impacting their engagement and participation. This circumstance identifies a young person who local authorities are aware is experiencing poor mental health. This information can be obtained from the young person themselves, a parent/carer or other sources e.g. social worker, education institution, or support organisation. To note: this is not a compulsory field and the young person may not have a 'diagnosis' or be in contact with the local Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS).</p>

Parent - caring for own child	A young person who provides regular and on-going care for their own child whether as part of a larger family unit or as a single parent.
Parent – not caring for own child	A young parent who does not provide regular and on-going care for their own child.
Refugee/Asylum Seeker	According to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, a refugee is a person who "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country." Asylum is "protection granted by a State on its territory against the exercise of jurisdiction by the State of origin, based on the principle of non-refoulement and characterised by the enjoyment of internationally recognised refugee rights, and generally accorded without limit of time."
SEND	Special educational needs and disability (SEND) - A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her
Supervised by YOT	A young person who is the subject of supervision by the Youth Offending Team (YOT). There are some instances where YOT supervision is for agreement locally taking account of individual circumstances and is not a statutory requirement.
Statistical Neighbour	Statistical neighbour models provide one method for benchmarking progress. For each local authority (LA), these models designate a number of other LAs deemed to have similar characteristics. These designated LAs are known as statistical neighbours. Any LA may compare its performance (as measured by various indicators) against its statistical neighbours to provide an initial guide as to whether their performance is above or below the level that might be expected.
Young carer	Young people who provide regular and on-going care and emotional support to family members who are physically or mentally ill, disabled or drug/alcohol addiction. The term does not apply to the everyday and occasional help around the home that may often be expected of or given by children in families.

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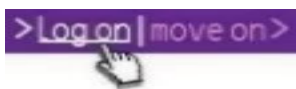
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