



Practitioner-delivered research around NEETs

Project legacy for the sector



- NIACE commissioned by LSIS to manage the project
- research delivered by providers with support from NIACE
- contributed to participants' CPD
- see the seminar report on the Excellence Gateway research site <http://www.excellencegateway.org.uk/research>
- also available soon on the research site will be:
 - 1) the research tools and support materials used by NIACE
 - 2) a summary report and preliminary findings
- data file available for further analysis

Understanding and supporting young people and adults not in education, employment and training



NEET national research project

Aims of the project

- Improve understanding of the aspirations, motivations and behaviours of young people and adults who are not in education, employment or training;
- Support providers in the learning and skills sector to secure institution and locality specific evidence to develop their understanding in relation to these issues;
- Inform individual provider strategies to meet the needs of young people and adults in their locality.

Our approach

- 124 learning providers
- Over 2,000 face to face interviews with young people and adults
- Testimonies – what inspires you?
- Research tools and support materials
- Online survey of providers to assess impact
- Early analysis of 10% interviews
- Coding of all transcripts for future analysis

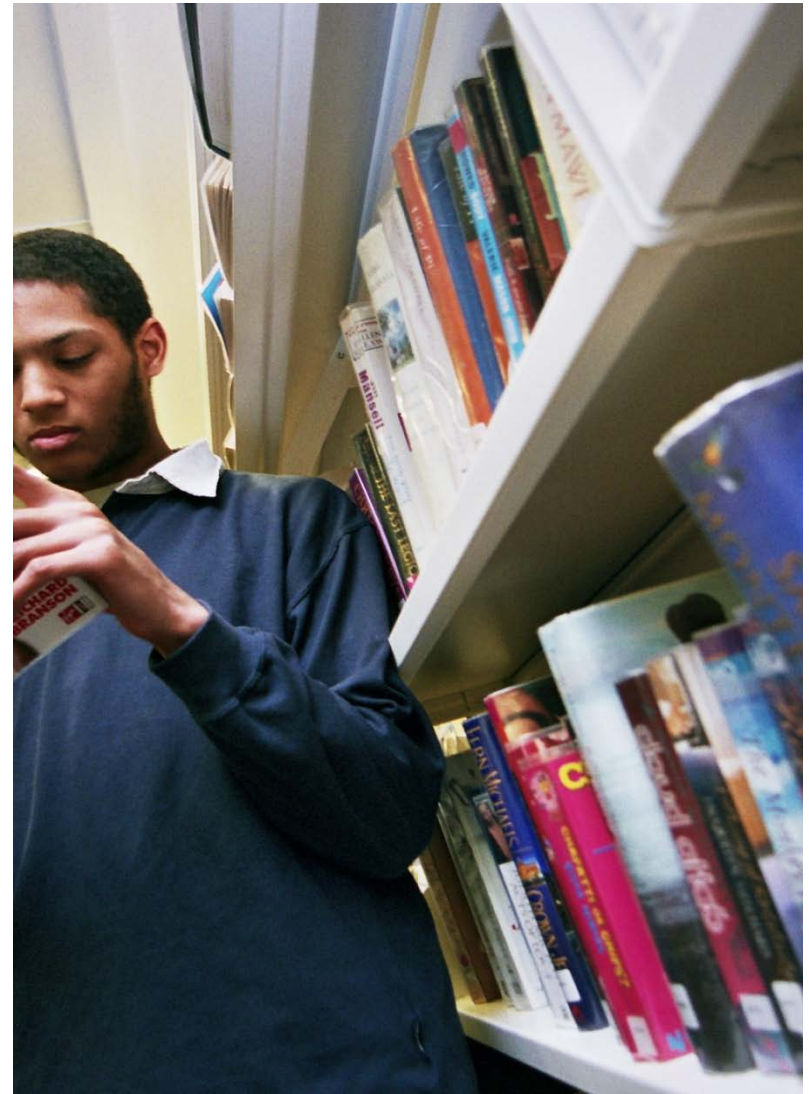
Provider impact

Much more than just a research project!

- Practitioners developed and utilised research skills
- Providers developed better relationships with local partners
- The project created a community of interest
- The project was a field led innovation addressing a key and challenging social policy
- Providers and practitioners need to be aware of, and understand policy, in order to communicate it well.

‘This is the first time we have participated in this type of research. We have found both the process and methodology easy to use and follow . . . The research has helped us to gain a better understanding of the needs of NEETs.

As these constitute the vast majority of our current clients, this has proved to be invaluable. We will use this information in future planning and funding applications.’





Who we are:

Third Sector ACL provider

300 users per year

Funded by SFA; EU

Our research:

Interviewed 30 adult 'NEET's in March 2010

Very diverse circumstances, diverse needs



NEET needs are not neat....:

- Health
- Mental health
- Children
- Irregular work patterns
- Demand for spaces
- Eligibility
- Cultural
- Negative experiences – JCP interference; poor quality learning

What works?

- Individual approach
- High quality IAG
- High expectations

And how?

- Increased confidence
- Motivation
- Communication
- Cultural or attitudinal shift

Funding and Affordability

- Individual support is expensive
- Complex needs impact on success rates
- Tension between balance of outputs

What helps?

- 'Flexible outcomes' driven by user need
- Recognition of 'soft' milestones
- Joined-up approach between ACL and DWP programmes

Next steps

- Build 1:1 support into the timetable
- Focus entry level courses on wider skills
- Provide time to achieve
- Reach the next tier of the Adult NEET 'community of interest'
- Identify funding opportunities to do this