

## Overview of Responses and Recommendations

<b>Budget Proposals 16/17: Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) Support</b>		<b>Jane Seymour - Service Manager, SEN &amp; Disabled Children's Team</b>		<b>19 January 2016 Version 2 (Exec)</b>	
<b>Proposal:</b>	To remove Council funding for a supported employment service for young people aged 16 to 25 with disabilities				
<b>Total budget 15/16:</b>	£20,000	<b>Recommended officer saving 16/17:</b>	£0		
<b>Initial proposed saving 16/17:</b>	£20,000 (100%)	<b>Final recommendation to Executive 16/17:</b>	To continue to fund this service at the current level.		
<b>Nos of responses:</b>	12 responses were received, of which five were from organisations and seven were from individuals.				
<b>Key issues raised:</b>	The main thrust of the consultation responses concerned the importance of employment for the individual's well being, quality of life and mental health and also the potential additional cost to statutory services and society if young people with disabilities are unable to access employment.				
<b>Equality issues:</b>	Respondents noted that the proposal would affect young people with disabilities and their families. Young people whose parents were unable to help them get employment and hold down a job were felt to be more at risk.				
<b>Suggestions for reducing the impact on service users:</b>	<b>Suggestion</b>	<b>Council response</b>			
	Providing WBC special schools with funding to provide the service	Neither of the West Berkshire special schools has the relevant expertise in house or the capacity to deliver this service. They could secure a service from an external organisation if resourced to do so but this would not generate any savings.			
	Seeking support from the Achievement for All NEET Team	It is not known what the Achievement for All NEET Team offers. This will be explored.			
<b>Alternative options for applying the saving in this area:</b>	<b>Suggestion</b>	<b>Council response</b>			
	Stop the rise in Councillors' allowances, reduce the number of Councillors and raise Council Tax each year for the next 5 years.	This is a matter for Council Members.			
<b>Suggestions for how others may help contribute:</b>	No suggestions made.				

**NB:** This overview and recommendation paper should be read in conjunction with the Summary of Responses and Verbatim Responses received in relation to this proposal, circulated electronically to all members alongside the agenda pack and published online on our [Consultation Portal](#).

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<b>Officer conclusion as a result of the responses:</b>	This is a new service which is in the process of being set up and will be provided by an organisation called Ways in to Work. It is partially funded by a DfE grant which may become a recurring source of funding but this is not yet known. If Council funding is withdrawn there will still be some DfE funding to provide a level of service. Ways in to Work is a community interest company and may be able to draw in funding from other sources such as European Social Fund.		
<b>Officer recommendation as a result of responses:</b>	Feedback has not uncovered any further issues which would prevent the council from proceeding with this proposal. However, given that the Public Health grant has been ring-fenced for a further two years it is recommended that this service continue to be funded at an annual sum of £20,000.		

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