

14-19 Funding Conference

**‘The transfer of funding and
commissioning responsibilities’**

John Freeman CBE

11 March 2010 – *20 days to go!*

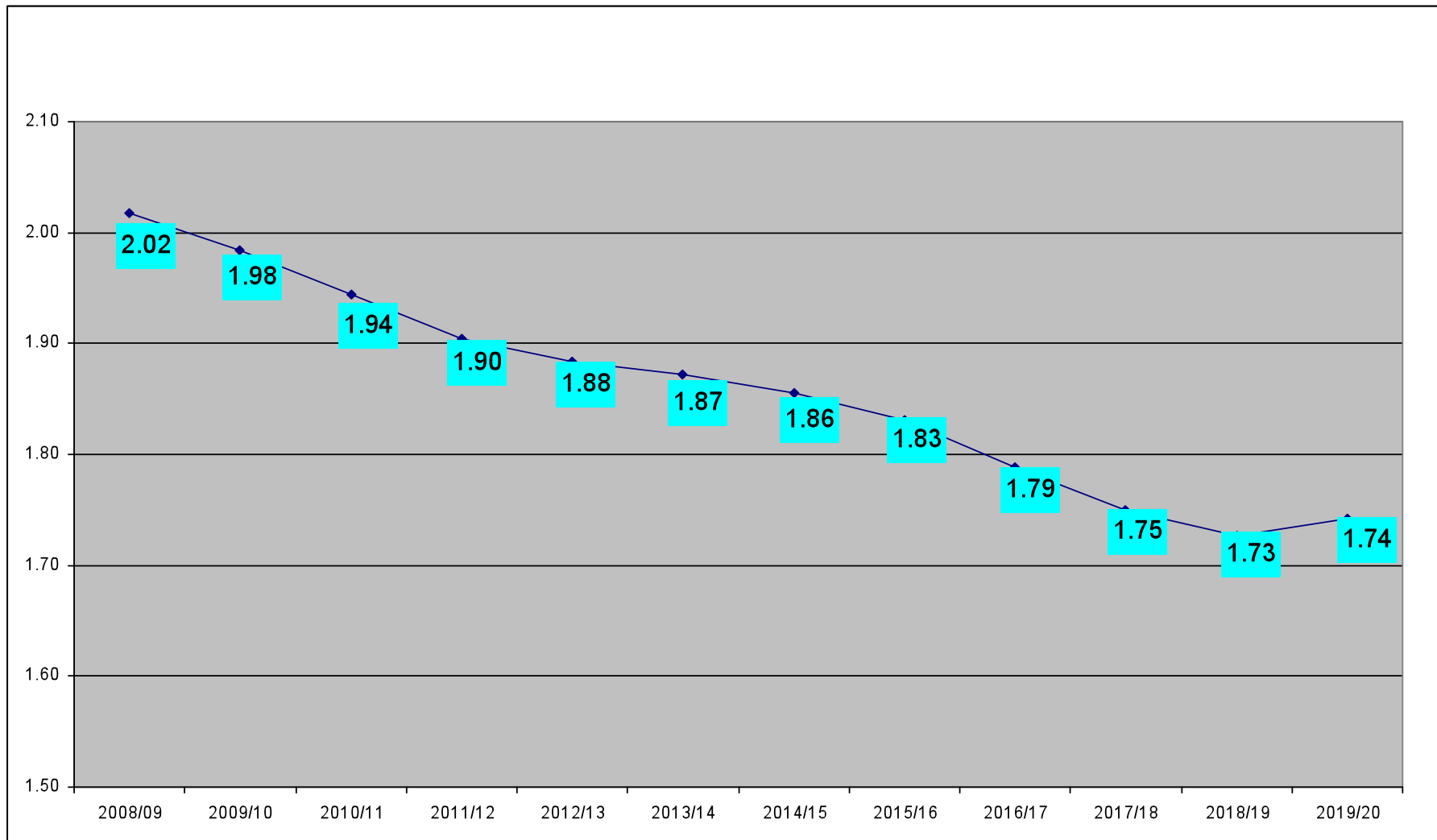
Local authority commissioning of 16-19 education and training

“From 1 April 2010, local authorities will have responsibility for commissioning and funding all education and training for young people up to the age of 19 (and 25 with learning difficulties), making them the strategic lead for all children’s services from 0 to 19.”

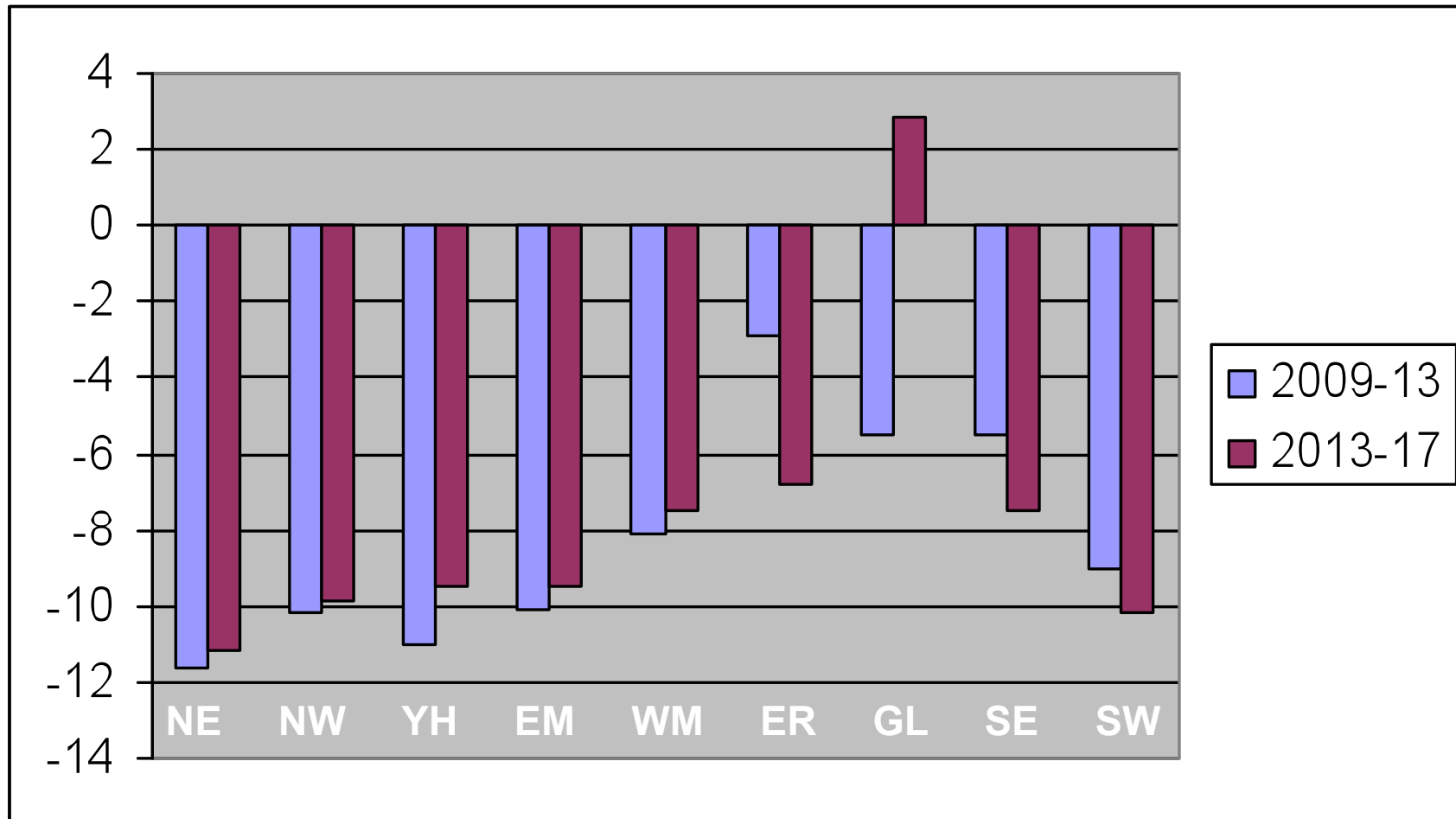
(from DCSF summary of ASCL Act 2009)

What are the facts?

16-18 population 2008/09 – 2019/20



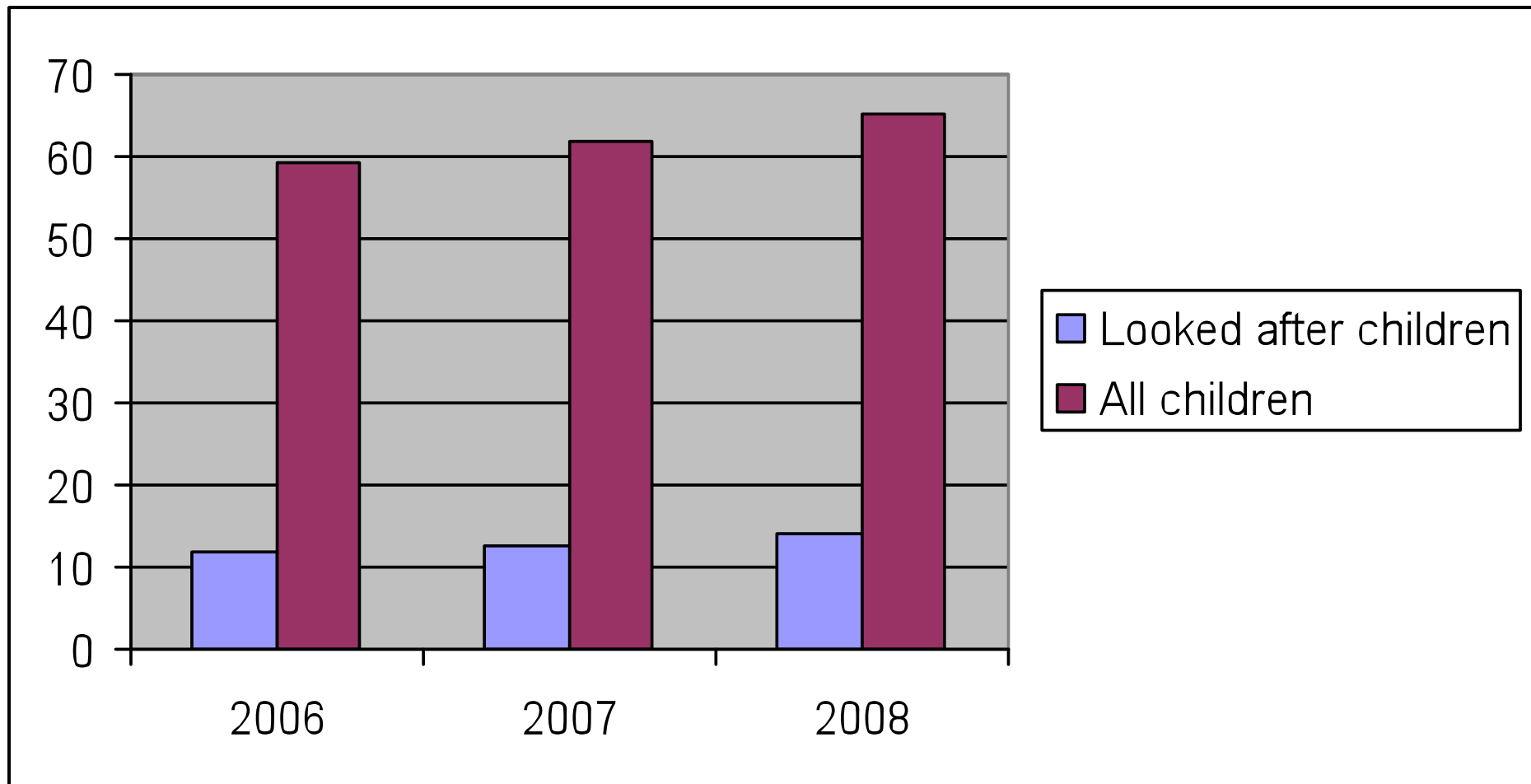
Young people's population trends to 2017



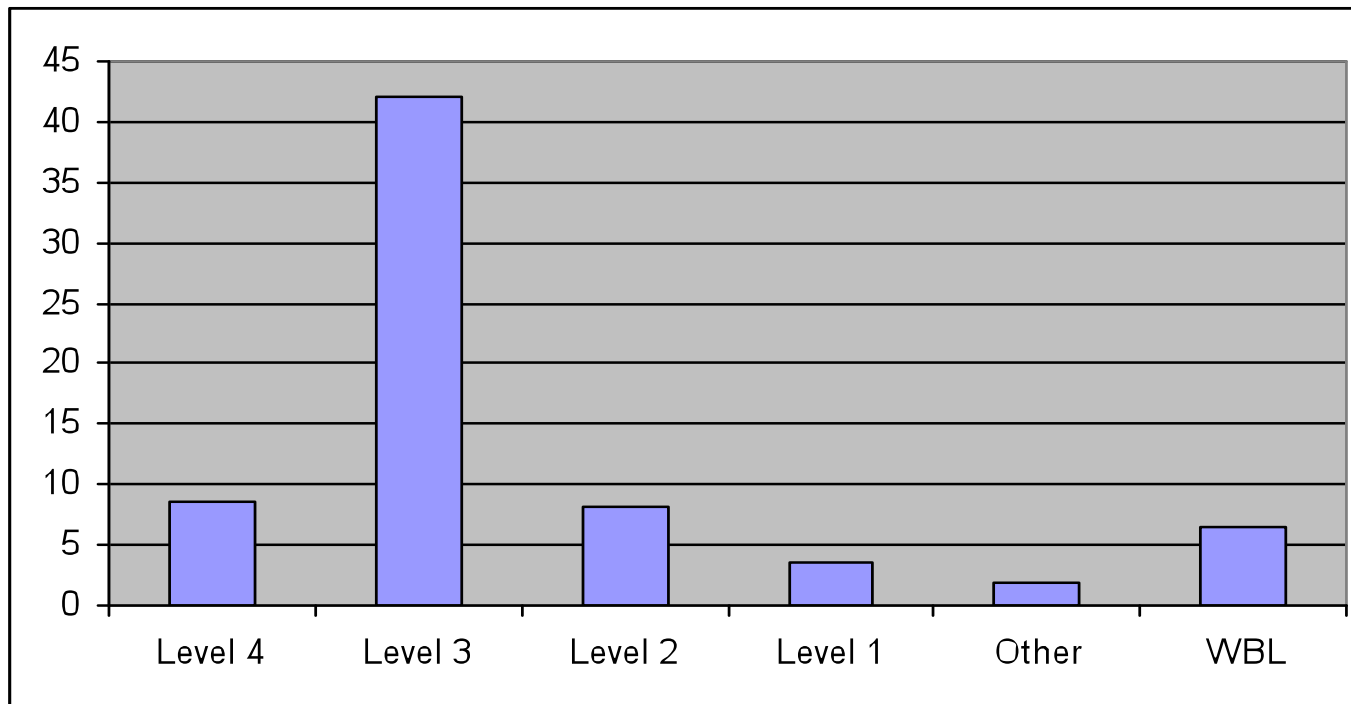
NEET characteristics 2008



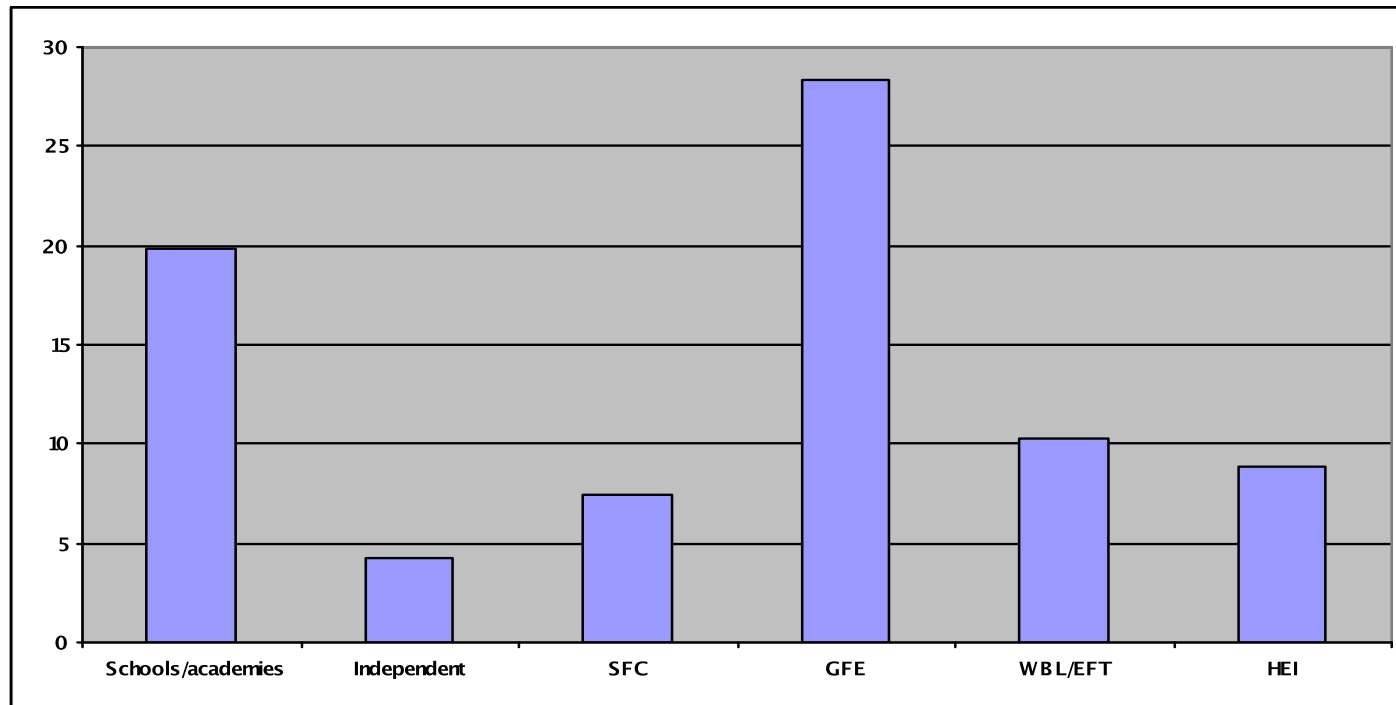
**Children in the care of Councils:
5 GCSEs at A*-C in Year 11**



What do 16-18 year olds study?



Where do 16-18 year olds study?



14-19 Providers 2008/09

Maintained schools with sixth form	1,800
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Maintained schools without sixth form	1,425
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Academies/CTCs	140
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Sixth Form Colleges	94
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General FE and Tertiary colleges	250
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Specialist colleges	35
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E2E providers	400
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Apprenticeship providers	900
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What are the implications for policy and local leadership?

The national 14-19 transformation agenda

The 14-19 transformation agenda is about much more than the technicalities of funding:

- new curriculum entitlement

(GCSE/A, Diplomas, FL, apprenticeships)

- RPA (17 by 2013, 18 by 2015)

- local authority commissioning

- information, advice and guidance

Commissioning

There is an apparent dilemma here; on the one hand, learner demand is at the heart of the system; on the other hand, commissioning plans would seem to indicate a more top-down approach.

Two observations:

- High-quality IAG is at the heart of the commissioning process – putting the learner first.
- Commissioning plans must be developed as a truly collaborative activity.

Commissioning for every young person to succeed

At age 19, all young people should be ready for higher education or a skilled job, with the best outcomes for those with additional needs.

The new curriculum should provide appropriate opportunities for every young person.

Raising the age of participation means that we have to motivate and excite those at risk of disengagement, finding opportunities for them to succeed.

Diversity of needs

Young people exhibit a huge diversity of need; high-quality IAG is critical in helping identify and meet those needs.

The needs of **the economy** are also diverse; both geographically and over time; at present, for example, we should be focusing on the needs of the local economy as the country comes out of recession.

14-19 transformation is therefore about very much more than children's services; there is an impact on the whole council - and the whole area.

The new architecture

- schools, colleges and other providers
- local delivery consortia
- 14-19 Partnerships and Children's Trusts
- Local authorities (key powers and duties)**
- Sub-Regional Groupings
- Regional Planning Groups
- YPLA (and SFA)
- DCSF (and DBIS)

The key strategic issue

What is it that local authorities will commission from providers to ensure that every young person aged up to 17 is engaged in education, training or work with training by 2013? (and up to 18 in 2015?)

This is a non-trivial and urgent question – and we have not yet found the answer.

And while it will be expensive – the cost to society will be far greater if we don't succeed.

Benefits and Challenges

Benefits: joined-up planning and provision, clear lines of local accountability, better relationships, focus on every young person

Challenges: developing the new architecture, ensuring the resources, building the new relationships, implementing for April 2010 - *and beyond.*

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