# Preparing colleges for an increase in learners, including those not willing to learn

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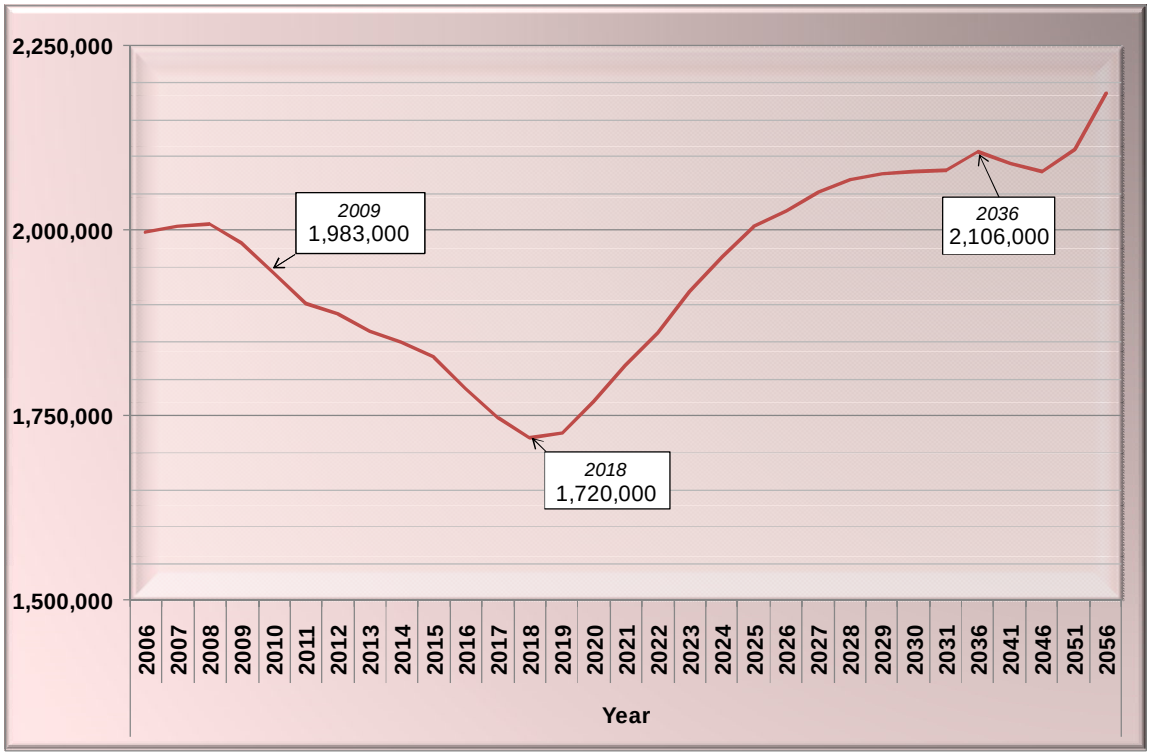
30 June 2009

# An increase in numbers…?

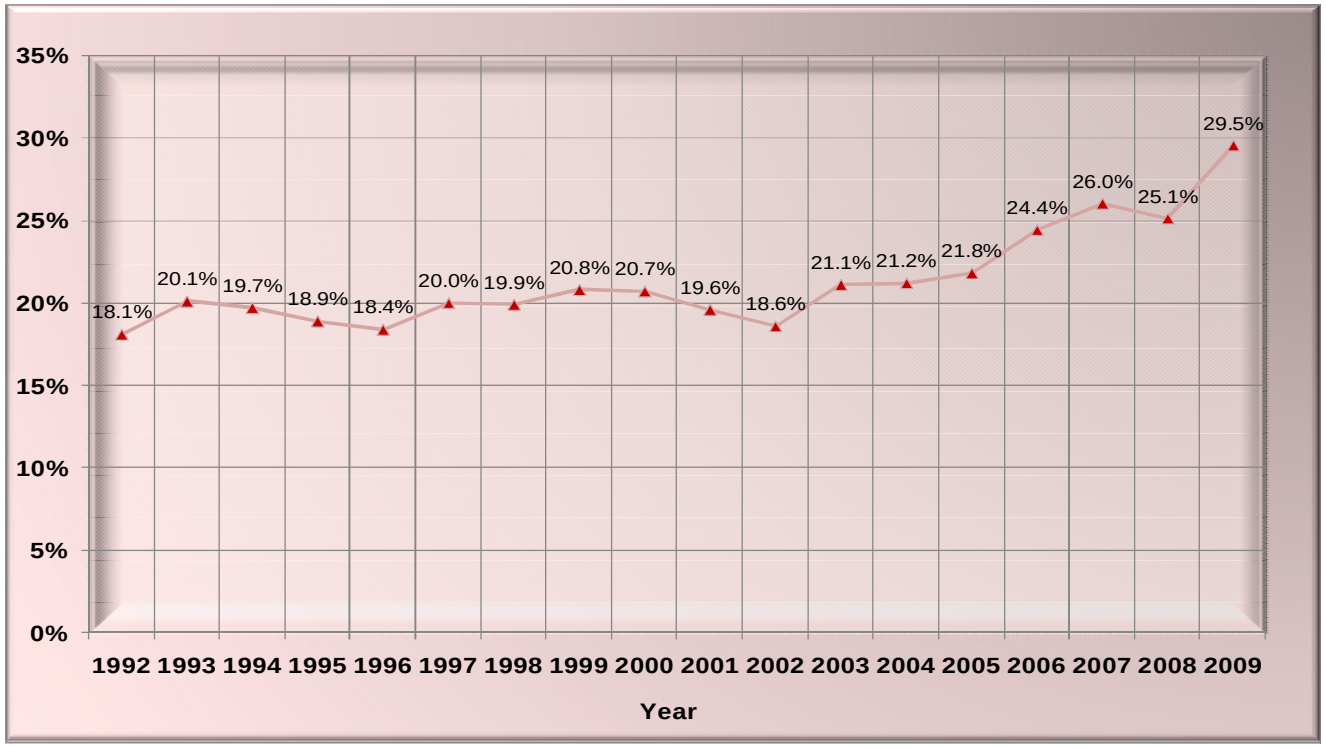
## Number of young people in the UK is falling and projected to continue




## So is there a problem?

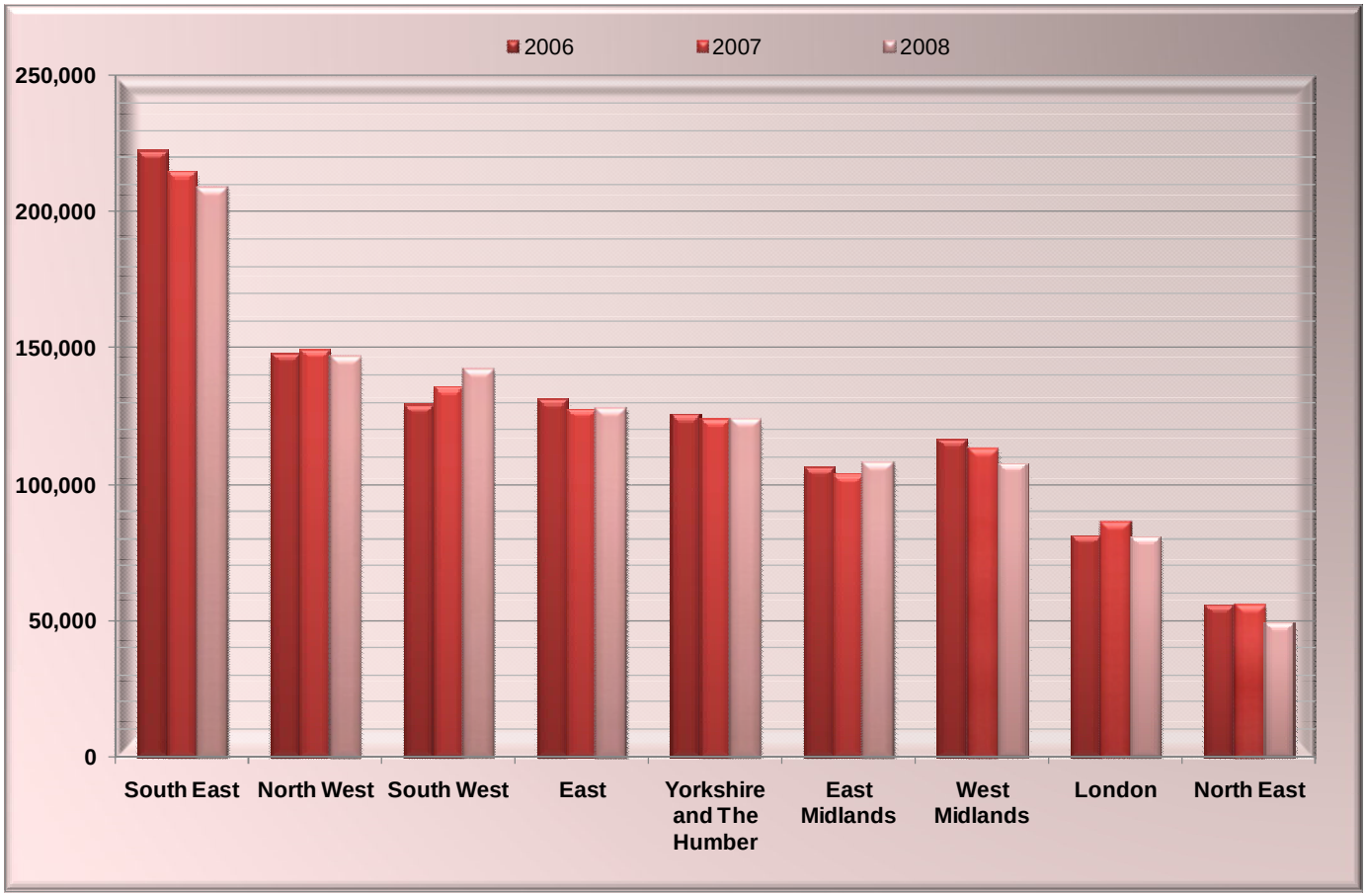
# Unemployment amongst young people
# Figures show this is rising

## Unemployment rates -16-17 age cohort, England (1992-2009)



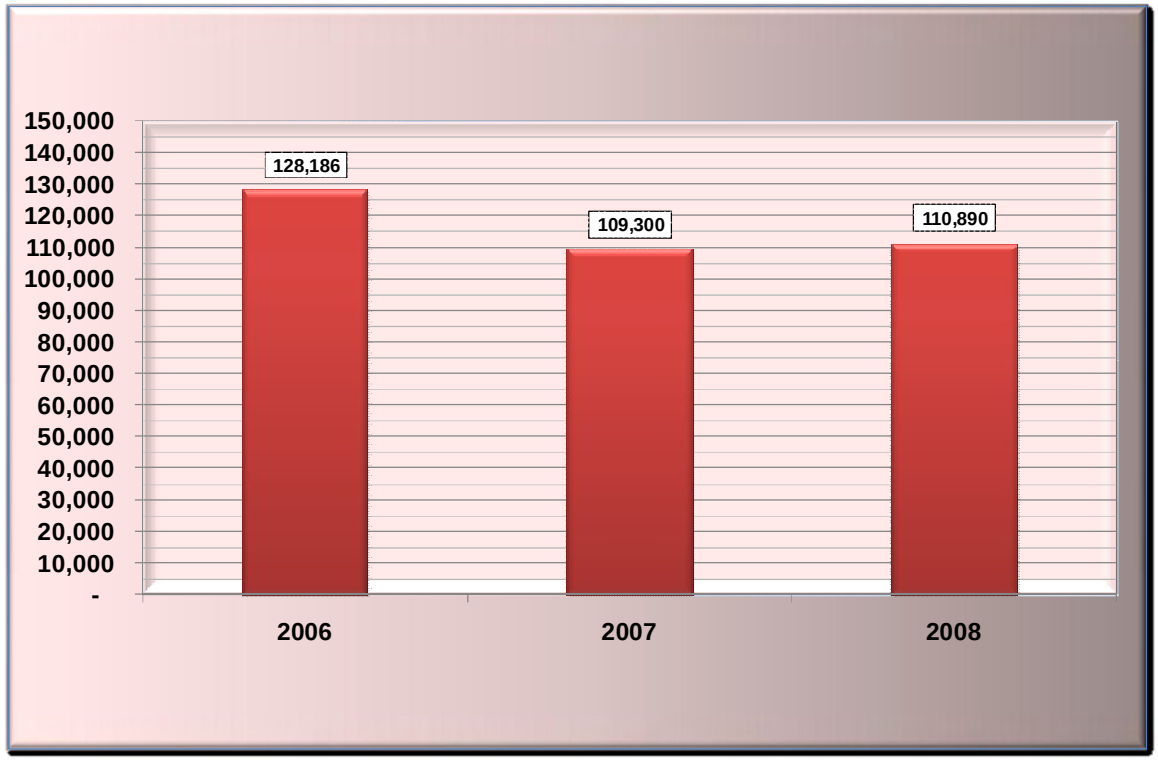

Economic context  Effect on provision

# Employment rate, 16-19 age cohort by region (2006-2008)



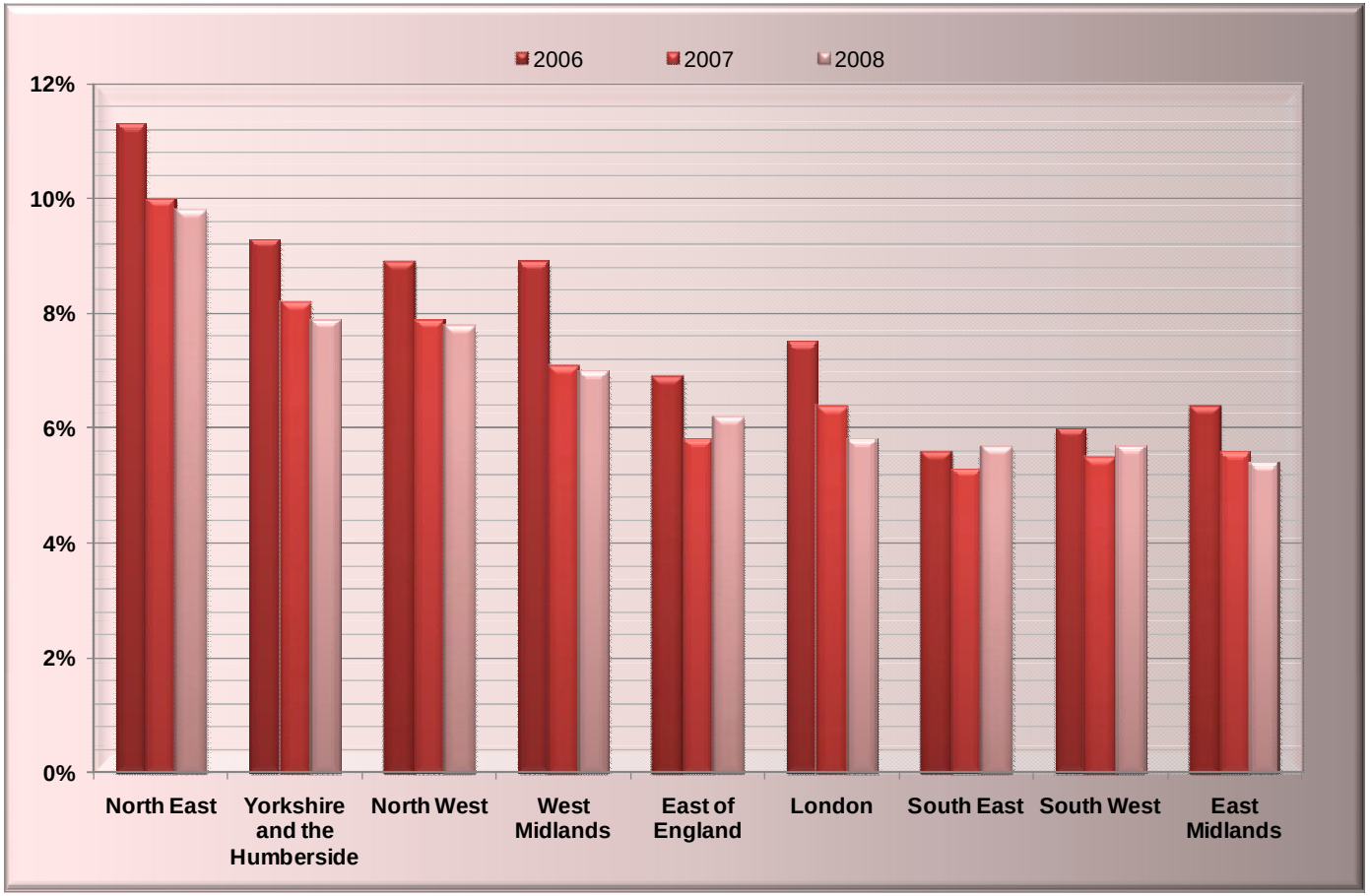

*Source: Labour force survey*

# National NEET Statistics




16-18 age cohort, England (2006-2008)

# Regional NEET statistics




*Connexions, 2006-2008*

# Challenges

- Workforce capacity
- Efficiency savings and budget pressures
- MoG and Changes in the commissioning framework
- Local authority enforcing statutory responsibilities..?
- Commissioning landscape is changing with MOG changes
- Cross sector collaboration
- Truancy
- Reducing opportunities in employment

# Innovation at a local level

- Flexible start provision eg Bradford, Kirklees and Wakefield Colleges
- College partnerships with specialist providers.
- Support systems in colleges
- Alternatives at 14-16
- A “portfolio of activities”
- WBL and Apprenticeships potential

# Solutions

- Innovation
  - dealing with larger numbers of students on less money
- Choices at 14
  - Re-energise and reconsider what we offer learners at this age.
- Diplomas
  - A mechanism for change
- Year 8s now
  - links with this cohort
- Increase collaboration
  - joint training, on-site visits
- Third Sector
  - relationships with specialist providers
- Flexible start dates
- Better IAG

# Out of the Box?

- A problem or a lifestyle choice?
    - i-neets
- Finlandisation
  - A credible vocational alternative
- Entitlement v RPA
  - “Be there when you need us”
- Academic, Vocational and Employability Skills
  - Profile and Top Up

# For more information about LSN

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