

Issue: Thursday 19 March 2015

Impetus-PEF response to ‘Teenagers NEET: Numbers hit a new low’

In response to the announcement today by Nick Boles MP and Department for Education on the fall in number of teenagers classified as not in education, employment or training (NEET), Jenny North, Director of Policy and Strategy at Impetus-PEF, comments, “Although the number of 16-18 year old NEETs are reducing, the number of 18-24 NEETs was back on the rise in the last quarter of 2014 (0.7%) to 905,000. Supporting young people to take part in formal education for longer is a good thing, however given this recent change in the participation age, the ONS and the Department of Education should consider changing the way in which they measure the number of NEETs across the UK to accurately reflect this.”

“Impetus-PEF are pleased to see the government is responding to our research [Out of Sight](#) published in December; many local authorities have a much bigger NEET problem in reality than their official data suggests because of the high number of ‘not knowns’ in their catchment, estimated at over 50,000 NEETs across England. We are pleased the Minister is urging councils to do more – but we need government to press hard on this issue because these young people are neither getting the help they need individually, nor the priority they need collectively.”

Impetus – The Private Equity Foundation (Impetus-PEF) transforms the lives of disadvantaged 11-24 year olds by ensuring they get the support they need to succeed in education, training and employment. It does this by identifying the most promising youth charities and social enterprises and providing them with a combination of long-term funding and sustained strategic advice. This pioneering approach enables its portfolio charities to reach their full potential, in turn enabling them to reach more disadvantaged young people