Background to The Prince’s Trust Scotland

The Prince’s Trust is the UK’s leading youth charity.

- The Trust has 35 years of experience providing personal development support for socially excluded young people, helping them to achieve positive destinations.

The Trust aims to support 50,000 young people aged 13 to 25 this year, 5,000 of them in Scotland.

- The young people we support are educational underachievers under 16 years old, and older young people who are unemployed, each of whom will have low personal, social or employability skills. Many of our clients are in need of more choices and more chances.

- To ensure the maximum value and impact of our work, we actively seek to support those who are from particularly vulnerable and over-represented groups (including single parents, looked-after children and care leavers, and those with mental health needs) and present specific needs (such as those experiencing homelessness or substance abuse, or exhibiting offending behaviour).

Our programmes give young people a chance to develop the personal motivation and confidence they need to turn their lives around.

- The Trust in Scotland delivers seven high-quality personal development programmes, either in-house or in partnership with a range of public, voluntary and private sector partners.

- We have recently enhanced the scope and scale of our interventions by merging with the well-respected fellow youth charity Fairbridge. The Fairbridge programme, which focuses on the hardest to reach young people in need of more choices and more chances with complex and multiple needs, runs alongside the established programmes xl clubs, Team, Get Started, Get into, Enterprise and Community Cash Awards.

- All of the programmes seek to progress young people beyond their barriers and into employment or further training. By doing so, the Trust is a key contributor to the goals of preventative spending, reducing youth unemployment, and investment to turn challenges into assets.

- The Trust also seeks to influence public policy informed by the needs of these young people and our experience in supporting them.

The Prince’s Trust Scotland welcomes the opportunity to provide further evidence to the Equal Opportunities Committee to help to define the scope of its inquiry.

This briefing note provides further information on the “Positive Living” project, run within the Fairbridge programme, which addresses homelessness and related issues for young people.
1. Background to the “Positive Living” project

In 2010, Fairbridge designed a project which aimed to tackle not only specific aspects of youth homelessness, but which was a long-term programme of personal and social development, involving one-to-one support.

Projects like this are necessary if the target set in the Homelessness etc (Scotland) Act 2003 and confirmed by the Scottish Government spending review in 2007, for all unintentionally homeless households being entitled to settled accommodation by 2012, is to be met.

The project aimed to address the complex and interdependent barriers which young people experiencing homelessness often face to their progression.

- Homelessness is a greater problem for young people in Scotland than any other part of the UK. In other words, of all the people who are homeless in the UK, in Scotland a higher proportion of them are young people than is the case in any other constituent part of the UK.

- Beyond the official statistics, the “hidden homeless” (those in temporary accommodation or “sofa surfing”) means the true scale of the problem may be underestimated.

- Homelessness and drug or alcohol misuse have a complex relationship, but are largely self-reinforcing (i.e. one is a cause of the other and vice versa). This is because homeless hostels are often hugely negative environments, reinforcing negative or harmful behaviours (esp. alcohol and substance misuse, with the availability of such substances rife) and reinforcing barriers to engagement, progression, personal and social development and employability. Young people are typically subject to influence by other hostel-dwellers, especially those who are more mature or who have been in the system for longer. Young people, especially those who become homeless for the first time, can be manipulated by more experienced hostel-dwellers to feed or reinforce their own drug habit or alcoholism.

- Homelessness also has an extremely high incidence of overlap with mental health issues (low self-esteem, social isolation, personal trauma and emotional distress are almost always present, and in some instances these manifest themselves in depression, personality disorder, self-harm and suicide. Many homeless young people have a history of physical or sexual abuse, and have become homeless in an effort to prevent these problems re-occurring.

- Homeless young people also are involved in or are victims of anti-social behaviour and crime.

- These multiple needs are not helped – and are often exacerbated – by chaotic environments and circumstances. Homeless young people often experience a cycle of moving between one hostel and another, or into temporary accommodation in B&Bs. As a 2008 Scottish Government study put it, homeless young people “often have multiple personal and social issues and need to move from crisis to stability before any real progress in terms of developing employability can be made.”
Fairbridge (prior to its integration with The Prince’s Trust) sought and obtained £359,500 in funding from The Big Lottery Fund Scotland under its “Investing in Communities” scheme to run the project.

2. Details of the “Positive Living” project

The Fairbridge programme combines long-term personal and social skills development with one-to-one support.

- One of the four key aspects of skills development Fairbridge supports is independent living skills. These are the skills homeless young people need to maintain a home and a stable lifestyle. They include healthy eating and nutrition, cooking and food preparation skills (including cooking on a budget), living and working with others, budgeting and managing money, finding and maintaining a home (including DIY skills), health and hygiene (including First Aid), plus sexual health and responsible parenting. Specific follow-on courses (after an introductory Access Course) deal with different aspects of these skills.

- Although other voluntary providers offer courses dealing with specific aspects of independent living, the Fairbridge programme is unique in tackling this as a comprehensive set of personal and social skills coupled with one-to-one support.

- We worked with 30 referral partners to identify suitable young people for the project. Over three years, the project would support 240 young people (i.e. 80 each year for three years, broken down as 30 per year in Glasgow, 30 per year in Edinburgh and 20 per year in Dundee). We worked with specific specialist partners to deliver the project including, for example, Tayside Council on Alcohol (TCA).

- Young people will be brought into the programme by an Outreach and Development Worker (ODW). ODWs work with young people to assess their needs and set their personal goals for progression. ODWs often form a key trusting relationship with each young person in their charge: often this will be the first mature relationship the young person has ever formed with an adult. The 210 research report Back From The Brink by CENTRIS high-lighted this aspect as one of the key factors behind the success of the Fairbridge model.

- Every young person joining the Fairbridge programme for the first time goes on an Access Course. Lasting six or eight days, and with a residential component, this course involves working together with other young people of a similar age to achieve goals. It often involves high-impact activities and challenging situations to take young people out of their comfort zone. It also shows that personal development may be difficult but it can also be enjoyable.

- After the Access Course, each young person with their ODW reviews the course in the light of their personal goals, and works out which follow-on options are most suited to them.

Follow-on courses available within the Positive Living project included:
• “Bairfridge” – facing an empty fridge and cupboards, young people were given a specific budget to buy food, and tasked with spending the money wisely to ensure sufficient meals were acquired, covering important nutritional food groups, and understanding how to prepare and cook fulfilling meals based on those purchases.

• “High Hopes” – replacing the synthetic highs of alcohol and drug abuse with “natural high” experiences and adrenaline-fuelled activities, such as abseiling, rock climbing, high wire activities, combined with “comedown” advice through positive and natural relaxation techniques, and drug and alcohol education sessions.

• “Home Alone” – concentrating on basic First Aid, safety in the home, simple DIY, as well as more contextual issues such as financial capability, and housing issues such as rental agreements, dealing with landlords, understanding your rights re homelessness and housing and how to enforce them.

• “Impact Arts” – young people, again on a limited budget, were tasked with planning and agreeing a scheme to redecorate a shared living space. This allowed them not only to express themselves creatively but also plan and organise, negotiate and make decisions with others, and deal with practical limitations of space, light and texture.

• “Come Dine With Me” – young people learned a basic set of recipes which they then prepared alone for themselves and for others. In Dundee some young people having completed the course prepared a three-course meal under the guidance of a professional chef for 60 invited guests in an “F Word” dinner.

• “Waiting” – in combination with charity PhotoVoice, young people planned a photographic exhibition, capturing images of their local environments. Launched at Braehead Shopping Centre, the exhibition was seen by tens of thousands of members of the public over two weeks, and then went on display around Scotland. This course also intended to improve young people’s advocacy skills and highlight the continuing problem of long waits for secure housing in some parts of Scotland.

• Regular alcohol and drug awareness courses were also held with those listed above.

Given the stage of development of the young people we worked with, and the complex and multiple barriers they faced, the results of the project in the first year were extremely encouraging:

• 84 young people were recruited (above the target of 80).

• 21 positive living courses were delivered across the three teams, helping 60 young people.

• Almost all young people reported improvements in their motivation and confidence.
13 continued to engage with the Fairbridge programme, 27 young people were able to access services from other agencies and **31 were securely housed** in the first year alone.

- **21 gained a qualification** and 12 could demonstrate that they had reduced their drug or alcohol use.
- **22 moved into employment**, 9 moved on to **further education**, 14 took advantage of a Government pre-employment training programme and 5 started volunteering.

Susan Millar  
National Partnership Manager  
Prince’s Trust Scotland  
2 December 2011
SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN SUBMISSION FROM PRINCE’S TRUST SCOTLAND

The Personal Development Partnership

Progress report
for The Scottish Government

August 2011
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Participant stories: Jack*, aged 16

Unemployed and on “The Bubbles”: Jack was living at home with his mum and dad but was in danger of getting thrown out due to his change in behaviour (thought to be due to his drug use which included the new craze at the time “Bubbles”) and laziness during the day while recovering from the night before.

Jack had stopped attending school, was not working and was now hanging around with a different set of friends who were of concern to his parents. Jack was initially taken to SDS by his parents in an attempt to get him out of this “rut”; however it was felt that he would benefit from taking part in alternative provision to help him build his levels of commitment and capacity to engage in vocational training.

“I bunked off school a lot. When I went to Careers (SDS) looking for a training course they wouldn’t put me on on one because they didn’t think I would go. I was taking bubbles sometimes and when I told them, they thought I had a drug problem. I was just sitting in the house not doing much... There was nothing happening and I couldn’t get into training or a job or anything.”

Escaping the “rut” – the PDP: From the options open to him, Jack chose to explore the possibility of engaging with The PDP. Jack is a really friendly and approachable young person, which enabled him to engage well with the PDA and a positive working relationship was quickly established. The PDA referred Jack to the Fairbridge “Access Programme” where he really impressed all of the tutors by developing his ability to set goals and work towards them. They recommended that he also join the “Spirit of Fairbridge” – a chance to help crew a 92 foot Schooner around the West coast of Scotland – to enhance his ability to work with others and deal with challenging situations. He received a glowing report from this venture and on his return felt able to kick his drug habit.

Constructing a future with his PDA: Jack worked with his PDA to write a CV, and was able to transfer the skills he had learnt on the Fairbridge programmes into positive and desirable skills required by employers. The PDA then introduced Jack to local Job Brokers who, again impressed with his personality, skill-set and now his CV, put him forward for two interviews. He did not need to attend his second interview as he was successful in gaining employment at the first! Jack worked over the Christmas period and continued to meet regularly with his PDA. When the sessional work came to an end, his PDA helped him arrange a meeting with SDS. The SDS worker stated that she was impressed by the change in Jack and did not hesitate in recommending him for the Training Programme he had initially wanted to attend.

“I wasn’t sure about it [the PDP] but met The PDA and it was OK. It gave me more confidence and got me doing more stuff. It let me prove to Careers that I could stay on a programme and so could do training. My PDA took me down to the job brokers and helped with interviews. He helped me with my CV... I went straight to a job and my PDA helped me all the way. [I’m] at Claverhouse Training just now training for CSCS [Construction Skills Certification] just now and hopefully getting a placement on a building site soon... I want a full time job with decent money. Maybe go abroad!”

*not his real name
Executive Summary

The Personal Development Partnership (PDP) is an innovative ‘one-stop development shop’ which aims to help disengaged young people (aged 14-19), who are at risk of involvement with drug/alcohol misuse or on the cusp of offending/anti-social behaviour, to achieve a positive destination in employment, education or training. The PDP is a partnership of four organisations (Venture Trust, Fairbridge, The Prince’s Trust Scotland and Venture Scotland), and is designed to utilise the extensive experience they each have in working with vulnerable and chaotic young people to support them on to positive destinations.

The PDP was contractually established as a three-year pilot in March 2010 with funding from the Cashback for Communities Initiative managed by the Scottish Government. Following six months of set-up and further groundwork, the PDP became operational in Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow in autumn 2010.

The partnership was tasked with engaging with 14-17 year olds in the last term of the third year of school onwards, identified by MCMC partnerships as disengaged from education, employment or training, who may not yet be in trouble with the law, but are at risk of a negative destination.

The PDP’s objectives were to improve the life chances for young people referred to the programme; to develop closer partnership working and information sharing between the partners and local authorities and to develop closer partnership working between the voluntary sector partners.

In turn, the partnerships success would be measured on:

- The number of young people moving into a positive destination
- The effective partnership working and information sharing, and service development between the voluntary sector partners participating
- The effectiveness of links with local authority partners

This report outlines the developments and progress the partnership has made to date, identifies areas for development, sets out improvement plans already in place and looks at future proposals for strengthening the project going forward.

It is clear that the PDP has made significant progress on a number of fronts. It has established a presence and operational profile in the three “Phase 1” areas of Edinburgh, Dundee and Glasgow, resulting in increasing demand for, and referrals from, agencies working with young people in the MCMC cohort considered at risk of offending, anti-social behaviour and social exclusion.

Having established the PDP brand and its purpose, we have now built up a successful referral base in the three cities. The PDP hubs have successfully enabled over 100 individuals to access the ongoing personal development support offered by the four partner agencies. To date, the PDP has engaged 135 people. Analysis of outcomes indicates that the PDP has supported 24 young people into positive destinations.
Several areas for operational and strategic development have been identified and steps have already been taken to address these, namely:

- PDP partners concentrating on transforming the partnership from a pilot project to a sustainable alliance. A longer-term strategy and business plan are under development.
- PDP management structure is changing to adapt to lessons learned, to ensure the project is sufficiently equipped for effective delivery of the current contract.
- PDP is increasingly realising the added-value of the partnership itself. This is evidenced by the examples of increasingly integrated provision for under-16’s and identifying mechanisms for young people to transfer more smoothly through the partnership.

**Progress so far**
The PDP was established to create a new partnership-based approach to provision for young people within the MCMC cohort. In piloting this joined-up approach, this initiative has sought to achieve three specific contractually agreed outcomes, including:

- **Improved Life Chances**: To achieve a coordinated approach to working with young people that will ensure there are no gaps in provision from the voluntary sector, and that the work is linked up with the wider statutory service provision to the young person. Impacts, outcomes and progress are all shared between the partners and MCMC lead professionals to increase the chance of securing a positive and sustained destination for young people.
- **Integration with Local Authority Partners**: To create a more streamlined and integrated service delivery model for Local Government from key representatives of the Voluntary Sector in Scotland – specialising in outdoor and personal development opportunities for young people trapped by persistent disadvantage.
- **Effective partnership development**: To develop a model of co-operation and partnership working and shared resources that may be transferred to other joint projects.

**Improved Life Chances**
**Changing lives - preliminary outcomes**
In addition to the hard outcomes of entering training, education and employment, young people are also developing invaluable life-skills which enable them to sustain their positive destination. These include building their confidence, self-esteem, employability, increased community engagement, building healthier relationships and attaining and sustaining independent living within appropriate accommodation.

To date, 24 young people have entered positive destinations via the PDP programme (see table 1). This is a significant achievement given the age range and client group the PDP works with and we anticipate outcomes will increase in the coming months as the time between referral, engagement on programmes and entry into positive destination speeds up.
Table 1 – Positive Destinations Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Referral area</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dundee</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>Glasgow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entered employment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entered education/training</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entered volunteering</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 – Young people progression through the PDP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Referral area</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dundee</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>Glasgow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progressed to other PDP provision</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Integration with Local Authority Partners

Obtaining referrals and engaging young people

The tables below demonstrate that all three hubs are engaging with young people and that key referral routes are now established and operating. 135 young people have already received support from the PDP, having been referred from 40 different partner organisations including MCMC leads, youth offending services, other social work teams, SDS and 22 different schools. There have been successful and well-attended launches in Glasgow and Edinburgh which served to promote the individual hubs to the appropriate agencies, with the Dundee launch due in late 2011.

All hubs have now received referrals/interest from agencies previously not targeted and from local authorities, such as the Lothians, Angus and Dumbarton, which are currently not covered by the PDP. The PDP is now established and is building its strong reputation and it is expected that referrals will continue to increase as more agencies become involved.

Table 3 – Number of young people who have engaged, by area and gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Local authority</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Totals</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dundee</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>Glasgow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>135</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Eight additional young people are waiting to start education at the end of August.
### Table 4 – Number of young people engaged, by area and age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Referral area</th>
<th>Totals</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dundee</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>Glasgow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 5 – Number of referrals presenting with history of offending, by area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presenting issues</th>
<th>Local authority</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dundee</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offending</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 6 – Number of young people accessing partner provision

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner provision</th>
<th>Referral area</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dundee</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairbridge – Access Course</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT – Team programme</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT – Get Started</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venture Scotland – The Journey</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venture Trust – IYF</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals (number of partner places taken up)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The numbers received across each local authority correspond to original forecasts in those areas. The bias towards young people under-16 has posed challenges for the partner agencies and provision could not keep pace with demand at that stage since the only programme within the PDP with suitable training was the Fairbridge Access Course. One of the differences in the Glasgow hub was that Glasgow City Council (GCC) was one of the ten pathfinder Local Authorities selected to take part in the pilot phase of Activity Agreements and the only one of the three Local Authorities taking part in the pilot phase. This to some degree explains the higher number of initial participants taking up places on the Fairbridge Access course with its established provision for this age-group.

Both Venture Trust and The Prince’s Trust Scotland are reviewing their provision for under 16’s (details outlined in *Innovation in Core Provision*) and PDAs have also actively sought to broaden their referral routes within Local Authorities, to ensure there are a greater proportion of young people over 16 engaged in the PDP. This was aided by extending the target age range of the PDP up to 19 years.
A significant number of the young people currently engaged have been identified as not only on the cusp of offending but have already presented offending behaviour, demonstrating the PDP is engaging with the key client group the project is designed to help.

**Effective partnership development:**

**Local progress – the ‘hubs’**

Each of the hubs based in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Dundee is developing its own identity and given the flexibility afforded by Cashback for Communities, has the freedom to focus on developing specific solutions to satisfy local needs. The following provides an overview of local progress and operational developments.

**Edinburgh Hub:**

In Edinburgh, excellent working relationships have been developed between the PDA and MCMC, and also Social Emotional and Behavioural Development (SEBD) schools/support services, Skills Development Scotland (SDS) and the Youth Offending Service (YOS). SDS and YOS have been identified as key strategic relationships for the PDP and the need to increase the referral-rate from these two sources has led to the PDA recently being given a regular ‘hot-desk’ within these services offices. This new development is expected to increase the volume of referrals from these sources. The relationship of these agencies with the PDP is co-ordinated through an Edinburgh Reference Group which oversees the implementation of the PDP in Edinburgh. This group is also responsible for making sure it receives referrals, whilst the PDPs performance is accountable to it.

The PDP was established with the expectation that most young people referred would initially make use of PDP partners’ existing provision, with additional or bespoke courses established as the number of PDP participants scaled up. In fact, the profile of presenting characteristics amongst referrals has increased the need for the establishing new, bespoke provision sooner than expected in the piloting period.

Developments in Edinburgh include:

- **Under 16s provision**: it became apparent in Edinburgh that PDP partners’ provision was insufficient for PDP needs with regard to age range, and that the development of more bespoke provision would be required. Initial solutions include Venture Trust (which initially had no programmes suitable for under-16s) running a bespoke pilot for this age group in conjunction with the PDP across all three local authorities.

- **Winter school leavers**: In Edinburgh there was a particular need for provision at the point in the academic year when a cohort of young people falling under the MCMC umbrella leave school. The PDA has developed a dedicated winter school-leavers course with Fairbridge and in partnership with SDS.

- **Additional employability support**: The PDA, in conjunction with an SDS worker, has set up and been delivering an employability group with a PDP focus. The PDA is also working with Venture Trust on a post-course support group, focussing on employability and independent living skills. There has been steady participation in this group and it will continue to run and now extend to other eligible young people.

- **Early engagement**: A cohort of young people, for reasons of age and development stage, were initially uncertain about engaging in the more intensive personal development programmes offered by the PDP partners. To overcome this, the Edinburgh PDA developed links with ‘The Bike Station’ and helped tailor an existing course, ‘Build Your Own Bike’, to the specific needs of the PDP young people. The PDA also actively participated in the course. In addition to the immediate course outcomes, this process enabled the PDA to build a trusting relationship with the young people concerned, and hence build their confidence and ‘buy-in’ to the more in-depth personal
development programmes that the PDP had to offer. The majority went on to take up places with the four PDP partners.

Whilst the initiatives above have met the initial needs in this regard, it is recognised that as the referral rate reaches capacity, the PDA will not always have the time/resources available to deliver group work, alongside the 1:1 and referral requirements of the PDA role. It is a wider issue that all the PDAs have recognised in terms of the management of their complex role. As a result the role of the PDA is now under review by the PDP Strategy Group.

**Dundee Hub:**
The PDP has developed excellent working relationships with the MCMC team in Dundee, who continue to be a key referral source. Developing wider referral routes is an on-going priority in Dundee and successes to date include:

- **Collaborating with Xplore**, a Dundee based youth work agency, to redevelop the Fairbridge Access (Summer Programme) provision to allow under 16’s to access it. Xplore has subsequently become a key referral source for the PDP in Dundee
- Also collaborating with Xplore to utilize their peer-mentors as PDP volunteers
- Working alongside Venture Trust to develop the Inspiring Young Futures programme to meet the demand for under 16’s provision, currently working with Venture Trust PDAs to recruit from the Fairbridge Under-16’s Summer Programme
- A gap in provision for young adults with learning disabilities was identified by MCMC. Therefore, the PDP is currently developing provision with Barnardos, Social Work and Fairbridge specifically for young people with learning disabilities.
- PDP is establishing links with Early & Effective Interaction Group to build another key referral route
- Building strong relationships with School Community Support, Youth Justice (Choice Project) and partnership working with Discover Opportunities Job-Brokers to progress young people into Positive Destinations.

The PDP is well established in Dundee and with a new additional PDA coming on board soon, it is well positioned to develop strongly.

**Glasgow Hub:**
The Personal Development Partnership’s work in Glasgow initially focused on providing opportunities for 14-15 year olds, in line with the MCMC requirements. This resulted in increased referrals to the Fairbridge Access course, which is designed to cater for this age group. Increased visibility and regular meetings with the Head of Glasgow’s MCMC team have been established.

Recognising that there was a gap in provision for under 16’s across the partnership, The PDP is introducing additional provision as The Prince’s Trust and Venture Trust launch two new programmes. Venture Trust is piloting a new residential programme for this younger age-group across the three hub cities, which will give them the opportunity to undergo a tailored wilderness-based personal development programme. It is aimed at developing the self-confidence and self-awareness of participants to enable them to make
informed life choices, leading to more sustainable behaviours and lifestyle. The Prince’s Trust is launching a flexible, non-mainstream version of its xl programme, which encourages young people to work together as a team on personal, interpersonal and team skills, citizenship and community engagement. The programme will help young people re-engage with education or give them an opportunity to remain engaged until they are able to access the 16+ provision within the Partnership. The PDP in Glasgow has developed a wider referral network to specifically target young people across the 14-19 age range and provide them with a comprehensive development plan, drawing on the resources of all the partners. Development successes include:

- engaged with the Community Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV) as a new referral route and although it was agreed the young people are too high tariff for the PDP, this engagement has led to increased referrals from non-mainstream organisations including a number of SEBD schools.
- established working links with the City of Glasgow College’s Development Worker for Liberated Prisoners. The Development Worker is keen to use the PDP as a gateway to provision for young people due to be released from Polmont prison. Initial meetings have taken place to explore how the PDA can engage with those eligible for release prior to their release date to have a development plan in place and a clear path of progression identified, to reduce the young person’s likelihood of re-offending.
- intensive work with social work to build relationships with staff within their youth justice departments across Glasgow. As a result, the PDA is Glasgow is a member of the Youth Justice Forum, which includes representatives from Social Work, Education, Health and Police. The aim of the forum is to discuss young people on an individual basis, with inputs from the appropriate statutory areas. The PDA actively participates in these meeting by reporting on young people involved in the PDP as well as receiving referrals directly from case conferencing.
- engagement with the newly established Early and Effective Intervention Groups (EEI), which focuses on young people who have offended and hold one or two charges. This forum then decides on the disposal for these offences (warning letter, police visit, forward to the Scottish Children’s Reporter Association or involvement in development provision). The EEI groups are facilitated by the Glasgow Community Safety Services, which has access to the police crime management systems which can identify the young people for discussion. The PDA performs a similar role to that of the Youth Justice Forum.
- worked closely with Enhanced Vocational Inclusion Programme (EVIP), who provide school aged young people with an alternative to mainstream schools and offer access to college provision. EVIP referrals are normally joint between schools and social work departments and require sign off from both, however the PDP has been authorised to become one of those signatories, giving us greater responsibility and influence with statutory departments. To date, the PDP in Glasgow has received 25 referrals from EVIP.

By accessing 16+ and with the introduction of two new programmes, it is expected that the number of young people who specifically meet the PDP target group should increase. Glasgow currently manages over 55 per cent of all PDP referrals and is actively recruiting a volunteer mentor for a three month period (Oct-Dec 2011) to support young people in transition. This additional resource will allow the PDA to focus on developing new leads and referral routes, as well as being able to offer more in-depth one-to-one mentoring with young people.
Innovation in Core Provision

With the majority of PDP referrals currently falling into the under-16’s category, the partners recognised the need to diversify the provision on offer to satisfy the project demands. This has resulted in the core partners tailoring and developing programmes for young people under-16, has enabled PDP young people to access drop-in employability group work sessions offered by PDP partners.

The latest provision includes:

- **Venture Trust**: piloting a new Under-16’s residential programme for young people from across the three hub cities. This will give them the opportunity to undergo a tailored wilderness-based personal development programme, aiming to develop the self-confidence and self-awareness of participants to enable them to lead more sustainable lifestyles.
- **Prince’s Trust Scotland**: xl outside the mainstream encourages young people to work together as a team on personal, interpersonal and team skills, citizenship and community engagement.
- **Fairbridge**: Collaborating with Xplore, a Dundee based youth work agency, to redevelop the Fairbridge Access (Summer Programme) provision to allow under 16’s to access it.
- **Venture Scotland**: bespoke volunteer training for PDP young people incorporating a five-day wilderness residential and transition into volunteer roles both within the partner organisations and in a range of community based settings.

In February 2011 The PDP increased the age of its target group from 14-17 to 14-19. This was in response to an extremely challenging economic climate which further displaced an already vulnerable group of young people and distanced them even further from the labour market. This extension to the age range will allow the PDP to widen its referral remit further, helping long term dis-engaged young people to start to move toward a positive destination, as well as helping PDA’s support young people accessing the PDP in the post-16 phase.

In addition, the Partnership is also investigating how it can service the needs of young people who have learning difficulties, a common-trait in vulnerable young people who have struggled within the mainstream education system. Advice and support from an experienced agency will be used to help put this in place.

**Innovation – Private Sector**

Scottish Power has been approached to explore the opportunities to develop a new innovative programme in conjunction with The PDP. Cashback for Communities is keen for Scottish Power to add a business dimension to The PDP to increase employability opportunities for young people leaving the programme.

Discussions between the PDC and Scottish Government representatives have taken place to clarify the detail of how Scottish Power can work in partnership with the PDP in supporting young people once they have completed their PDP journey. It was apparent that the readiness of the young people to enter directly
into a Scottish Power Apprentice level programme was not a realistic expectation and that a bridging intervention would be more suitable and appropriate to their needs.

The programme will begin in November 2011 with taster sessions provided by Scottish Power, including visits to a wind farm and power station at Cruachan as well as to the Scottish Power training centre. From this ten young people with a genuine interest in this sector will be selected to take part in the “Bridging the Gap” programme in January. This six month programme has been developed to allow young people leaving the programme to gain Access 3 or Intermediate 1 Level qualifications. They may then be eligible to join the Scottish Power Foundation in Engineering Course, with the possibility of progressing to a Modern Apprenticeship.

Those young people who do not proceed to the Foundation Course will have gained a qualification and engaged with a college. It is hoped that these young people will gain employment or training with Scottish Power’s service organisations, continue on at college or return to the PDP. All participants will also gain their Duke of Edinburgh award through this programme.

Marketing and Promotion

Marketing literature and promotional materials have been developed to support the on-going profile raising activities surrounding the partnership. The website is subject to ongoing development, with the addition of a Programme Calendar for young people, and an Events Diary for a strategic overview. The partners recognise the need to develop the public profile of the PDP and the role it plays in supporting the work of Cashback for Communities.

A media plan has been devised which will focus on highlighting key activity in each of the hub areas, including new developments and the impact in the local community (see Appendix A). A case study template has been designed and cascaded to the PDC and PDAs to ensure we gather real-life evidence and can use this material for promoting the programme on a wider scale, within both national and local press. Partners are currently identifying young people who are on their second or third intervention through the PDP, as this provides strong material for publicity and media.

Performance Monitoring

A range of forms have now been developed and are being used across the partnership including common forms for referral, registration, course completion and exit. Profile Forms, recording age, gender, postcode and referral source - have been developed and are in use to check that the young people taking part in the programme are in the PDP target group (for examples, please see Appendix B). Once engaged with the PDP, the PDAs use information provided by Local Authority professionals to establish the background of young people referred to the project. In addition, each young person is asked to provide a self-assessment, using forms based on GIRFEC principles. The current, interim client tracking system will be replaced by a comprehensive database. This report also provides a monthly profile of expenditure, including expenditure at each of the three payment stages.

Performance Reporting

A monthly performance report, which includes referral, progression and spend targets, is produced by the PDAs (please see attached Appendix C). A performance report is produced for the quarterly meetings of the Strategy Group.
The PDP has contracted an external agency to design and deliver a database which will allow the partnership to:

- Track young people throughout their journey
- Effectively monitor and evaluate the partnerships
- Produce reports and statistical evidence

Until this database is fully operational the external agency will provide a model which has a basic search and reporting facility. This will enable the PDAs, with basic IT support from the partners, to input and record data immediately. This is a temporary measure as the fully operational database will follow.

Lessons Learned

- The existing structure of a steering group and working group, with part-time project coordinator is not sufficient to manage and steer a project of this scale and complexity. Alternative structures and lines of accountability are under consideration by the Strategy Group.
- The combined PDA/PDC role employed to manage the Dundee hub and oversee the project operations has been ineffective and a full-time PDA for Dundee has now been employed;
- A new strategy group in place of the steering group has been instigated. This will enable strategic and operational issues to be discussed more openly ensuring key project decisions are made more quickly and communicated;
- The project has experienced significant personnel changes within the Partnership at the highest levels. With a number of leading figures in the project moving on from respective organisations – the group has adapted well to the changes. All organisations remain as committed and passionate about this Flagship initiative.
- The project has outgrown its original organisation structure. Following start up and implementation phase the Partnership recognises the need to strengthen key development areas of the project and are developing a new provisional working strategic and operational structure which is better fit for purpose.
- The hubs need to adopt a dual tariff: this will enable some young people to flow more quickly on to PDP provision, while higher tariff young people can be more fully assessed and prepared before starting a programme;
- SDS should be engaged as a key referral agency allowing the PDP to reach many more young people who are struggling to find work or enter further education, but can be considered ‘at risk of offending’;
- The next milestone for PDP is to set out our business plan for fulfilling this contract in its final 18 months and in parallel, position the project to expand.

CONCLUSION

In this pilot period, the PDP has made significant progress in providing a consistent and cohesive provision for disengaged young people. The three hubs have engaged with 135 young people, with considerable sustained outcomes reported to date.

The PDP has had to adapt to a changing economic and social environment and a shift in service demand. Drawing on the strengths of each partner, a number of effective solutions have been devised and implemented to ensure the project is fit for purpose. These include:
• **Adjusting age range of client group**: young people have been amongst the hardest hit by the economic downturn, with the client group the PDP works with becoming increasingly disengaged and alienated from the labour market. By increasing the age range to 19, the PDP is in a position to support vulnerable young people who have limited opportunities and have been disengaged for considerable time.

• **Developing wider referral routes**: although the original objective was for the PDP was to receive referrals through MCMC teams across the three hubs, it was identified that there was still a cohort of young people not engaged in MCMC provision. A joint decision was taken between the MCMC teams and the PDP to widen the referral routes to, for example Youth Justice Forums, to engage with the hardest to reach young people.

• **Programme development**: the increasing demand for alternative provision for under 16’s has been met by the introduction of four new programmes. Venture Trust is introducing a new residential programme which will unite young people from across the three hubs. Similarly, The Prince’s Trust Scotland is developing a programme out-with the mainstream.

• **Structure**: a strategy group has been established to support direction and decision-making. Operational structure is now under review, with a restructure of staffing imminent.

• **Toolkit**: a programme Toolkit will be developed for the PDP. The materials to be produced will include information on Roles, Responsibilities and Training; Programme Delivery; Health and Safety; Emergencies; Programme Resources and Literature; Evaluation and Outcome Monitoring Processes; Quality Management.

Prince's Trust Scotland
2 December 2011
The Cost of Exclusion

Counting the cost of youth disadvantage in the UK

For more information about The Prince’s Trust visit: princes-trust.org.uk
Acknowledgements

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The publication of this report would not have been possible without the invaluable support of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group – the largest corporate supporter of The Prince’s Trust Enterprise Programme.

We would also like to thank all the young people supported by The Prince’s Trust who were featured as case studies in this report.
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When we released our first Cost of Exclusion report with The Prince’s Trust in 2007, the UK had a strong economy and lower levels of youth unemployment.

Today, the work of The Prince’s Trust is more relevant than ever – with the cost of youth unemployment, crime and underachievement at a new high.
Executive Summary

The cost of youth unemployment

The cost of youth unemployment in the UK is estimated in this report in terms of productivity loss and Jobseeker’s Allowance (JSA). A conservative estimate of costs would be £48 million, based on the productivity of unemployed people being equal in value to JSA. An upper bound estimate is based on the productivity of young unemployed people being equal to the average weekly wage for their age group (20-24). On this basis, the cost of youth unemployment is £155 million a week.

The cost to the Exchequer of youth unemployment and inactivity is £22 million per week in JSA.

A conservative estimate of the productivity loss to the economy would be around this amount again. An upper estimate is £133 million a week.

The unemployment rate for 16-to-24-year-olds for the period April 2009 to March 2010 was 19.7 per cent in the UK. The unemployment rate has increased significantly since before the recession. For the period April 2007 to March 2008, the rate was 13.7 per cent. JSA alone costs the taxpayer £22 million every week. On top of this there is the cost to the economy of lost productivity. If the productivity of unemployed young people age 20-24 were equal in value to JSA, an aggregate estimate of lost productivity would be approximately £26 million. If the productivity of unemployed young people age 20-24 were equal in value to the average weekly pay of employed young people, the productivity loss would be £133 million a week.

The report also highlights a significant rise in the number of long-term unemployed young people, with the number of 16-to-24-year-olds who have been unemployed for 12 months or longer recently hitting a 16-year high.

Long-term unemployment comes at a cost. A conservative estimate for the annual cost of a young jobseeker would be £5,400 but, based on the upper estimates in this report, it can be as much as £16,000.

The report also shows how The Prince’s Trust can use just £1,000 — a comparatively low sum — to support an unemployed young person through an intensive personal development programme into work, training or education, helping them leave the dole queue for good.

See chapter 1 for the full analysis of youth unemployment and the solutions available.

The cost of youth crime

The estimated cost of youth crime for Great Britain was in excess of £1.2 billion in 2009. This is £23 million a week.

This is based on the average cost associated with each crime committed, together with information on the total number of convictions.

The sum takes into account the cost of imprisoning children and young people, which is estimated at £587 million for 2009.

Clearly, any reduction in youth crime could lead to a significant saving to our economy.

The rate of re-offending after prison for children and young people is extremely high — about 75 per cent re-offend within two years.

Even though the number of convictions has reduced, the rate of imprisonment has continued to accelerate in the UK. The prison rate in England, Wales and Scotland is very high relative to most European countries. Also, children and young people account for a relatively high proportion of prisoners compared to other countries.

This report also highlights a strong causal link between both unemployment and crime and educational underachievement and crime. A one per cent reduction in unemployment or educational underachievement is estimated to lead to a one per cent reduction in the crime rate, in relation to property offences.

Children and young people who end up in prison are disadvantaged in many other ways. High proportions have been in care, have been homeless or have experienced violence at home.

Chapter 2 of this report looks at how we spend more than £1.2 billion on youth crime a year. It also highlights the work that is being done to help young people turn their lives around, therefore reducing these high costs.
The cost of educational underachievement

The cost of educational underachievement in the UK is estimated as £22 billion for a generation.

This calculation is based on the estimated lifetime cost of an individual not having qualifications (£45,000) multiplied by the number of young people in the population who have no qualifications.

It takes into account evidence that there are high wage returns for those who stay in education – at least 10 per cent on average.

The percentage of people with no qualifications is very high. In 2009, the percentage of people aged 16-24 with no qualifications in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively was 11 per cent, 12.4 per cent, 9.2 per cent and 19.3 per cent.

The UK compares unfavourably with many other countries when it comes to the percentage of young people who leave the education system with low-level qualifications.

There is a lot of evidence of high wage returns for those who stay on in education - at least 10 per cent on average. Over the working life, this is estimated to be worth £45,000, illustrating the high potential loss of income for those who are unable to take advantage of opportunities to pursue their education.

There is also evidence suggesting that Level 1 and 2 qualifications increase the probability of employment. Moreover, evidence suggests that education not only impacts on wages and employment but also has a direct or indirect effect on other aspects of wellbeing such as health.

See chapter 3 for the full analysis and details of The Prince’s Trust’s in-school curriculum, helping young people at risk of exclusion and underachievement at school.
1. The cost of youth unemployment

The cost of youth unemployment in the UK is estimated in this report in terms of productivity loss and JSA.

There is a cost to the taxpayer of £22 million a week in terms of Jobseeker’s Allowance. On top of this, there is the cost to the economy of lost productivity. A conservative estimate for this is approximately the same amount per week again. An upper bound figure for lost productivity is £133 million, making the upper estimate for youth unemployment £155 million a week.

This chapter looks at the facts and the costs of youth unemployment. It provides a regional comparison across the UK and it shows how we compare to other countries.

It concludes with some solutions, showing how The Prince’s Trust is tackling youth unemployment. By helping young people into jobs and training, we could save up to £155 million a week and make a difference to hundreds of thousands of lives.

1.1 Youth unemployment: calculating the costs

Young people have been hit hard in this recession. Unemployment rates are particularly high for those who have few qualifications.

The unemployment rate for 16-to-24-year-olds for the period April 2009 to March 2010 was 19.7 per cent in the UK. The unemployment rate in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively was 20 per cent, 21.6 per cent, 17 per cent and 16.6 per cent.\(^2\)

The unemployment rate for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively has risen from 14.2 per cent, 14.3 per cent, 13.2 per cent and 10.4 per cent in 2007.

Unemployment rates among less educated young people in the recent recession were well above those of previous recessions (Gregg and Wadsworth, 2010). They show that men and women age 16-24 with low education, or few qualifications, had unemployment rates of 26.4 per cent and 19.6 per cent in 2009.\(^3\)

While it is not surprising that youth unemployment has worsened in the recession, a more surprising fact is that the youth labour market worsened before the downturn - between 2004 and 2007 (Petrongolo and Van Reenen, 2010).

This report has taken into account the following two key factors when calculating the cost of youth unemployment: the direct cost of the JSA benefit, and the productivity loss to the UK economy. Here, we look at each of these in turn.

\(^2\) This is the unemployment rate, which takes those 16-to-24-year-olds who are economically active as a denominator. The youth unemployment figures as a percentage of the population in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively were 12.8 per cent, 12.5 per cent, 11.4 per cent and 9.9 per cent in 2009. It is more common to refer to the unemployment rate, so this report refers to this throughout.

\(^3\) Low education is defined at the bottom 50 per cent based on the level of educational attainment (LFS).


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**The taxpayer’s bill for benefits:**
£22 million per week

The net cost of youth unemployment to the Exchequer depends on the duration of unemployment and the extent to which young people move on to other types of income benefit. Even if they find a job, a working person on a low income may be eligible to claim for income support or a working tax credit.

JSA is unique to unemployed people. The weekly allowance has recently increased from £50.95 to £51.85. For 16-to-24-year-olds, the amount paid out in JSA alone adds up to £22 million per week.

**The productivity loss to the UK economy in terms of foregone income: up to £133 million per week**

In calculating the productivity loss, we have an upper bound figure and a more conservative estimate.

A more conservative estimate would be that the productivity cost of unemployed people is equal in value to the JSA amount of £51.85 a week. We can multiply this by the number of unemployed young people age 20-24 to obtain an aggregate estimate of weekly foregone productivity across this UK.

The upper bound figure is based on average earnings for employed people in this age range as an estimate of the average earnings unemployed persons might expect to receive if they were in employment. On this basis, weekly pay is about £262. This should be thought of as an upper band since young people who are unemployed may be different from those in employment in a way that is difficult to capture using variables in the Labour Force Survey.

Average weekly pay of £262 compares very favourably to the income and non-income related benefits received by unemployed persons in the same age range (£95 on average – estimated using the Family Resources Survey).

If we use £262 per person, per week as an estimate of foregone earnings and multiply this by the number of unemployed 20-to-24-year-olds by region, we obtain an aggregate estimate of weekly foregone earnings. The productivity loss in terms of foregone earnings is £133 million per week for the UK when measured in this way.

The table opposite shows the estimated cost of youth unemployment, based on the upper bound calculation for lost productivity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government office region</th>
<th>Unemployed 20-24*</th>
<th>Maximum lost productivity per week</th>
<th>JSA claimant count 24 and under**</th>
<th>JSA total region</th>
<th>Maximum total lost to the economy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>13,600</td>
<td>3,563,200</td>
<td>19,165</td>
<td>993,705</td>
<td>4,556,905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>36,200</td>
<td>9,484,400</td>
<td>38,355</td>
<td>1,988,707</td>
<td>11,473,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>27,500</td>
<td>7,205,000</td>
<td>23,815</td>
<td>1,234,808</td>
<td>8,439,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>431,700</td>
<td>113,105,400</td>
<td>426,185</td>
<td>17,880,213</td>
<td>150,985,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>509,100</td>
<td>133,384,200</td>
<td>426,185</td>
<td>22,097,692</td>
<td>155,481,892</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


---

4 This is an upper bound estimate.
5 We consider persons aged between 20-24 (rather than 16-24) because many 16-to-19-year-olds are in education rather than in employment. Also, we do not follow this procedure to estimate foregone earnings of the economically inactive because of the greater difficulty of comparing such people to those in employment (for example, people may be economically inactive because of an illness).
6 In England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively, the more conservative estimates would be £22 million, £1.4 million, £1.9 million and £0.7 million per week respectively.
7 There are also issues of general equilibrium effects arising from large increases in employment. This is another reason for thinking of the ‘productivity loss’ as an estimate.
Case study
Nathan Cuddihy

When Nathan Cuddihy was 13 his family relocated to Rugby. He didn’t have many friends and struggled through school. When he left he managed to secure a full-time job but when the recession hit he was made redundant.

Nathan took the news hard. His father was also struggling to find work so his family were relying on Nathan’s mother’s part-time income to survive. Times were tough and - although Nathan applied for anything he could find - he was on the dole for almost a year.

Being out of work knocked Nathan’s confidence; he became despondent and lost all motivation. With hardly any friends and no confidence, Nathan was in a bad place, sitting at home all day.

His mum knew he needed help and took him to see The Prince’s Trust. The Trust signed Nathan up for its personal development course, the Team programme.

The programme gave Nathan a reason to get up in the morning. Over the 12 weeks he improved his confidence, communication and teamwork skills to such an extent he was offered a role as a volunteer Assistant Team Leader for the following programme.

The Trust went on to help Nathan through a Get into Logistics course in partnership with DHL. He used this as an opportunity to impress the company and as a result was offered full-time paid work.

Nathan says: “The Trust came along at just the right time. The Team programme helped me get my head together and figure out what I wanted and the work experience gave me the opportunity to get a job.”
1.2 Youth unemployment: the long-term picture

Youth unemployment soared in the recession and is still very high compared to before the recession. However, the overall figures appear to be stabilising.

It is a very different picture when we look at long-term unemployment. The number of 16-to-24-year-olds who have been out of work for six months or more in the UK is 388,000 - this has increased almost 70 per cent since before the recession (2008). The number out of work for 12 months or more is 232,000 - this is a 90 per cent increase and the highest number for 16 years.

Youth unemployment has increased in all regions of the UK since our last Cost of Exclusion report was published before the recession (The Prince’s Trust, 2007). Gregg and Wadsworth (2010) suggest that the reason the increase has not been even higher, given the depth of the recession, is due to a substantial rise in the number of young people staying on in education.

The unemployment rate for 16-to-24-year-olds for the period April 2009 to March 2010 was 19.7 in the UK. The unemployment rate in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively was 20 per cent, 21.6 per cent, 17 per cent and 16.6 per cent.

### Youth unemployment (16-to-24-year-olds)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>Percentage rise over two years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>229,000</td>
<td>381,000</td>
<td>388,000</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– six months or more</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>121,000</td>
<td>180,000</td>
<td>232,000</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– 12 months or more</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Labour Market Statistical Bulletin, figures are from October in each year

The number of JSA claimants has also increased significantly. The tables below show the number of JSA claimants who have been out of work for six months and those who have been out of work for 12 months.

### JSA claimants (16-to-24-year-olds)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sep-08</th>
<th>Sep-09</th>
<th>Sep-10</th>
<th>Percentage rise over two years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Claiming</td>
<td>39,290</td>
<td>99,785</td>
<td>80,790</td>
<td>106%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– six months or more</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claiming</td>
<td>5,840</td>
<td>10,745</td>
<td>25,830</td>
<td>342%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– 12 months or more</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Office for National Statistics

As shown in the tables above, long-term unemployment among young people has increased dramatically during and since the recession. The next section includes the regional breakdown of these figures across the UK.

1.3 Youth unemployment: a regional perspective

Youth unemployment has increased in all regions of the UK since our last Cost of Exclusion report was published before the recession (The Prince’s Trust, 2007). Gregg and Wadsworth (2010) suggest that the reason the increase has not been even higher, given the depth of the recession, is due to a substantial rise in the number of young people staying on in education.

The unemployment rate for 16-to-24-year-olds for the period April 2009 to March 2010 was 19.7 in the UK. The unemployment rate in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively was 20 per cent, 21.6 per cent, 17 per cent and 16.6 per cent.

### Unemployment rate by region and country across the UK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North East</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>16.8</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td>23.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>19.2</td>
<td>22.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>16.8</td>
<td>22.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>16.3</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>22.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire and The Humber</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>20.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Midlands</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>19.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>18.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>21.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>14.1</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>17.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Annual population survey
As illustrated in section 1.2, the number of young people in long-term unemployment has increased in the recession and is still rising. The tables below show figures for the UK broken down by region and country. In the English regions, Yorkshire and The Humber and the East Midlands have seen the highest percentage increase in young people claiming JSA for six months or more and those claiming for 12 months or more.

### Claiming JSA for six months or more (16-24-year-olds)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government office region</th>
<th>September 2008</th>
<th>September 2009</th>
<th>September 2010</th>
<th>Percentage rise over two years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire and The Humber</td>
<td>3,635</td>
<td>9,795</td>
<td>8,215</td>
<td>126%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Midlands</td>
<td>2,805</td>
<td>7,915</td>
<td>6,305</td>
<td>125%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East</td>
<td>2,760</td>
<td>8,720</td>
<td>6,195</td>
<td>124%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>2,505</td>
<td>6,855</td>
<td>5,350</td>
<td>114%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>5,755</td>
<td>12,995</td>
<td>11,115</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>5,595</td>
<td>13,735</td>
<td>9,955</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West</td>
<td>1,665</td>
<td>5,370</td>
<td>2,950</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East</td>
<td>2,565</td>
<td>5,860</td>
<td>4,390</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>4,950</td>
<td>9,915</td>
<td>7,925</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>2,330</td>
<td>5,965</td>
<td>5,220</td>
<td>124%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>2,910</td>
<td>7,375</td>
<td>7,360</td>
<td>153%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>1,820</td>
<td>5,290</td>
<td>5,815</td>
<td>220%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Column Total</td>
<td>39,290</td>
<td>99,785</td>
<td>80,790</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The Labour Force Survey

### Claiming JSA for twelve months or more (16-24-year-olds)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government office region</th>
<th>September 2008</th>
<th>September 2009</th>
<th>September 2010</th>
<th>Percentage over two years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Midlands</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>2,750</td>
<td>721%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire and The Humber</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>845</td>
<td>2,960</td>
<td>711%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>2,055</td>
<td>396%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>1,475</td>
<td>334%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>1,140</td>
<td>1,770</td>
<td>4,615</td>
<td>305%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>835</td>
<td>1,330</td>
<td>3,040</td>
<td>264%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>156%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>154%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>1,045</td>
<td>1,725</td>
<td>123%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>2,015</td>
<td>309%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>730</td>
<td>1,870</td>
<td>434%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>915</td>
<td>1,810</td>
<td>610%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Column Total</td>
<td>5,840</td>
<td>10,745</td>
<td>25,830</td>
<td>342%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The Labour Force Survey
1.4 Youth unemployment and inactivity: an international perspective

The recession has had a huge impact on youth unemployment in many countries. Data from the European Labour Force Survey is shown below (Eurostat, 2010). This shows that the youth unemployment rate for those aged under 25 is much higher in the UK than in countries such as Germany, Denmark, Austria, Norway and The Netherlands.8

With regard to the change over the last 10 years, there has been a large increase in youth unemployment in the UK of more than six percentage points between 1999 and 2009.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>1999</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>24.4</td>
<td>15.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>11.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>27.3</td>
<td>37.8</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>19.1</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>22.9</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>28.7</td>
<td>25.3</td>
<td>-3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>-5.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Eurostat, 2010

8 The UK also has one of the highest rates of young people who are NEET in Europe today. See OECD Education at a Glance, 2010: % of 15–24 year olds who are not in education and unemployed or out of the labour force in 2008.http://www.oecd.org/document/52/0,3343, en_2649_39263238_45887844_1_1_1_1,00.html

1.5 Youth unemployment: the long-term consequences

Many argue that there is a ‘wage penalty’ or ‘scar’ from youth unemployment, even if individuals avoid being unemployed again.

This is a personal cost of not being in work, education or training, which goes beyond the immediate loss of earnings and impacts on future earnings too.

Gregg and Wadsworth (2010) have argued that the justification for intervention to prevent long or frequent periods out of work or education among young people does not rest just on the current unemployment, but on the long-term scars that these young people experience and potentially feed into the next generation. Although these scarring effects are not confined to young people, they are more common for this age group.

Burgess et al. (2004) show that the long-term effects of unemployment are conditional on the individual’s skill level with a lasting adverse effect for low-skilled individuals but not for mid to high skilled individuals. The former group is more likely to experience unemployment in the long-term.

The Prince’s Trust YouGov Youth Index (2010) has also illustrated that “psychological scarring” due to unemployment can leave young people at risk of lower happiness and poorer health.

Gregg and Tominey (2005) estimate that youth unemployment imposes a wage scar on individuals in the order of 12–15 per cent at the age of 42, with a lower penalty if individuals avoid repeat incidence of unemployment.
Case study
Adam Turner

When Adam Turner lost his job in a local garage in Crewe, he began to drink heavily. He became depressed and his life started to unravel - to the point that he attempted suicide.

Adam says: “I started having a few drinks so that I could fall asleep without having horrible dreams. It got to the point that I couldn’t sleep without alcohol and then I realised that I couldn’t do anything without drinking. In the end, I was scared to go outside.”

Adam would get out of bed early in the morning to stock up on alcohol before locking himself away for the day. Then his best friend committed suicide.

Adam said: “I began to realise that I was actually jealous that he was dead and I still had to wake up every morning. On New Year’s Eve 2007, I decided that I didn’t want to see another year in so I took an overdose.”

Adam’s suicide attempt was a turning point and he sought professional help for his depression and drinking. His GP knew that having a reason to get up in the morning was key to Adam’s recovery and he recommended that Adam contact The Prince’s Trust.

Adam joined The Team Programme. The 12-week personal development programme rebuilt his confidence and gave his life structure and routine.

Adam decided that he wanted to work with animals and the Team programme gave him the motivation to pursue his ambition.

Once he completed the scheme, Adam took part in an access course and has since started a degree in zoology at Chester University. Alongside his degree, Adam works at the Blue Planet Aquarian.

He says: “I have lots of positive things in my life now. I don’t see the future as something to be scared of anymore.”
1.6 Tackling youth unemployment: The Prince’s Trust

The role of youth charity The Prince’s Trust has arguably become more relevant than ever due to the recent recession.

The Trust runs a range of programmes to support young people into work, training and education. The charity focuses on young people who have struggled at school, are long-term unemployed, are in or leaving care and those who have been in trouble with the law.

The Team programme
Team is The Trust’s flagship 12-week personal development scheme, giving unemployed young people confidence, motivation and skills for work. Last year, more than three-quarters of the young people on the course moved into work, education or training.

The ‘Get into’ programme
‘Get into’ is a short, pre-apprenticeship course giving young people experience in a specific sector. The scheme is run across different sectors including, among others, construction, retail, hospital services and social care. Currently, more than half of young participants are in work three months after they have completed the programme and 76 per cent are in work, education, volunteering or training.

The Enterprise Programme
The Prince's Trust Enterprise Programme gives young people the opportunity to develop their enterprise skills and explore the world of business. For those who go on to set up their own businesses, The Trust offers a low-interest loan and a mentor. After 12 months, 87 per cent of young people are still trading or in alternative employment.

The ‘Get Started’ programme
The ‘Get Started’ programme is a short, intensive personal development scheme. The Prince’s Trust uses sport and the arts to engage young people who are out of work and lacking the skills and confidence to move their lives forward. 73 per cent move into work, education, volunteering or training after the course.

Counting the Cost

Rob, 20, has been out of work and claiming JSA for 12 months.

According to the more conservative estimate for lost productivity in this report, there is an annual cost to the economy of around £5,400 associated with Rob’s unemployment. Based on the upper bound calculations used in this report, Rob costs the economy more than £16,000 a year.

The Prince’s Trust can use a relatively low sum of around £1,000 to support Rob through an intensive development programme into work, training or education, helping him leave the dole queue for good.

More than three in four young people on Prince’s Trust programmes move into jobs, training and education, and The Trust helps more than 40,000 young people every year.

As illustrated by Rob’s example, every young person supported out of unemployment and into work represents a significant saving to the UK economy.
Case study
Jay Kamiraz

Jay Kamiraz had a difficult childhood, growing up in a family where no-one worked. He was bullied at school and, at the age of 16, problems at home led to him becoming homeless.

He says: “I was always different from everyone else at school. I never felt like I fitted in and people could see that and used it as a way to target me.”

At 17, Jay was brutally attacked and put in hospital. An operation saved his life but he suffered internal injuries, which still affect him now.

He said: “It was really hard. I didn’t think I was going to survive. I was in such a bad state of mind. Whatever confidence I had was knocked out of me by the attack and becoming homeless.”

Jay began to get his life back on track with the help of a key worker and slowly started to build up his confidence, eventually moving into his own flat.

He also got involved in a project to raise money for Tsunami victims, bringing together singers to form a diverse choir called ‘Souls of Prophecy Gospel Choir’. The choir was so successful Jay realised he could turn it into a business.

Jay came to The Prince’s Trust for help creating JK Creative Arts Management Ltd, providing bespoke entertainment for weddings, corporate events, film and TV and other industries.

With the popular Souls of Prophecy Gospel Choir on the books, business is now booming, growing from four engagements in its first year to more than 40 in the second.

Jay says: “If you need support then The Prince’s Trust is there to help you. They transformed my life. I want to let other young people know that they can achieve their dreams too.”
2. The cost of youth crime

The estimated cost of youth crime in Great Britain today is in excess of £23 million a week. This is more than £1.2 billion a year.

The cost of youth crime has been calculated by using the average cost associated with each crime committed together with information on the total number of convictions.

This chapter looks at the facts, the costs and the regional and international comparisons of youth crime. It concludes with how The Prince’s Trust is working to reduce the costs of youth crime and break the cycle of youth offending.

2.1 Youth crime: calculating the costs

Although the number of convictions of young people has fallen in recent years in England, Scotland and Wales, the prison population has increased in all parts of the UK.

Furthermore, the UK has a higher number of children and young people incarcerated than many other countries.

More than 200,000 young people aged under 21 were cautioned or found guilty of offences by the courts in 2008 in England and Wales. About 84 per cent of these young people were male. The most common types of offence were motoring offences and ‘theft and handling stolen goods’.

Here are some key facts and figures about youth crime:

- In England and Wales, the number of children (under 18) held in a secure children's home was 167 in September 2009. The number in a secure training centre was 224 and the number in a young offender institution was 2,165. The cost per place per year in each of these institution types was £125,000 (secure children’s home), £160,000 (secure training centre) and £60,000 (young offender institution).
- At the end of June 2009, there were 9,775 young people aged 18-20 in prison.
- The total cost per prisoner per year is £41,000.

Given these facts, we can estimate an approximate cost of incarceration of children and young people under 21. This amounts to £587 million.

The re-offending rate is high for children and young people when they are released from prison.

- 75 per cent of children released from custody in 2007 re-offended within a year.
- Around 75 per cent of young men released from prison in 2004 were reconvicted within two years of release.

Therefore, the cost of incarceration seems to be high and not particularly effective (given a very high re-offending rate). This is all against a backdrop of severe social disadvantage for the children and young people who end up in prison. For example, according to The Prison Reform Trust (2009):

- 71 per cent of children in custody have been involved with, or in the care of, social services before entering custody.
- 40 per cent of children in custody in England and Wales have previously been homeless.
- Two out of five girls and one out of four boys in custody report suffering violence at home.

Young people are also the most common victims of crime. Over half of young offenders have themselves been a victim of crime over the same year in which they committed their offence (Devitt et al. 2009).

---

9 The Prison Reform Trust (2009)
The cost of imprisoning children and young people is estimated as £587 million for 2009. However, reconviction rates are very high. Around 75 per cent of young men released from prison in 2004 were reconvicted within two years of release.

The costs of youth crime are not only those that accrue to the Criminal Justice System. Dubourg and Hammond (2005) follow Brand and Price (2000) in an attempt to estimate broadly-defined costs of a subset of crimes (under ‘notifiable offence categories’). Costs are incurred in anticipation of crimes occurring (such as security expenditure), as a consequence of criminal events (such as property stolen and damaged) and in the course of responding to crime. By using the average cost per crime, together with information on the number of convictions in each region in 2008, we estimate the total regional and national cost. This is inevitably an estimate, not least because a conviction is not the same as a crime.\textsuperscript{12}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Number of convictions (age 10-17)</th>
<th>Estimated total cost (£000s)</th>
<th>Number of convictions (age 18-21)</th>
<th>Estimated total cost (£000s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>83,996</td>
<td>340,688</td>
<td>174,627</td>
<td>708,287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>4,395</td>
<td>17,826</td>
<td>111,53</td>
<td>45,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>7,888</td>
<td>31,994</td>
<td>19,811</td>
<td>80,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Britain</td>
<td>96,279</td>
<td>390,508</td>
<td>205,591</td>
<td>833,877</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The average cost is a weighted average of the following types of crime: violence against the person, sexual offences, robbery, burglary, theft and handling goods, criminal damage. Weights are derived from the prevalence of these crimes among young people. This cost (£4,056) is multiplied by the number of convictions to obtain the estimated total cost. The average cost of crime in England and Wales is also applied to Scotland.

The total cost of crime for those age 10-17 (£390,508,000) and those age 18-21 (£833,877,000) comes to £1,224,385,000 a year.

\textsuperscript{12} Others have put the costs of youth crime much higher. For example, the Youth Crime Commission, organised by the Police Foundation, published a report this year that puts it at £4 billion. They reached this figure by combining the known costs of youth offending services and custody with rough estimates for how much ‘dealing with young offenders’ costs the police, the courts, legal aid and the Crown Prosecution Service. These estimates were achieved by taking a 10th of each of these services’ expenditure as 21 per cent of all people arrested for a notifiable offence and proceeded against are under 18. This makes our figure, based on the same methodology as our last report (The Prince’s Trust, 2007), a more conservative estimate.
Case study
Billy Webb

Billy Webb grew up in a house where recreational drugs were normal and his father would come and go for large periods of time.

From the age of 11, Billy started playing truant from school and hanging out with a bad crowd. His new friends were involved in petty crime and would carry knives.

The gang culture made Billy feel safe and gave him the sense of belonging he was lacking in his home life.

However, this safety was an illusion and Billy lost two friends to knife crime.

He says: “I vividly remember a 17-year-old friend dying in my arms. I looked at him and thought that could be me.”

Billy realised if he carried on down this path he would end up dead like so many around him. He made the decision to leave the gang and try to make something of his life.

Billy was trying to get work and keep on the straight and narrow when a caretaker on his estate pointed him in the direction of The Prince’s Trust and Rydon Construction’s Get into Construction programme.

The course was just what Billy needed. It gave him structure and a focus that had been missing from his life. He excelled on the course and his enthusiasm was such he was given a full-time job by Rydon and is now in management training.

Billy is now a role model to others on his estate, including his younger brother.

He says: “If I had carried on with my life the way it was I would be dead or in prison by now. As it is, I am someone who people look up to on my estate. I have been able to prove you can make a success of your life by working hard.”
2.2 Youth crime: links to unemployment and educational underachievement

There is robust evidence that reducing unemployment or educational underachievement would lower the crime rate.

There is a strong link between educational underachievement, unemployment and crime. Educational underachievement increases the probability of unemployment. Both educational underachievement and unemployment increase the probability of turning to crime. Correlations are evident in the basic statistics.

For example, according to the Social Exclusion Unit (2005), nearly two-thirds of young offenders were unemployed at the time of arrest compared to 46 per cent of those aged over 25.

According to the Prison Reform Trust (2009), almost 60 per cent of young offenders have learning difficulties or borderline learning difficulties. A report by the CBI (2008) found that 29 per cent of men and 8 per cent of women who had not been in education, employment or training at the age of 16-18 were involved in crime between the ages of 17 and 30. This is three times the rate for all young adults.

There are some studies that find good evidence for a causal relationship between crime and unemployment. Levitt (2004) states that, controlling for other factors, almost all studies report a substantively small but statistically significant relationship between unemployment rates and property crime. He suggests that a typical finding is that a one percentage point increase in the unemployment rate is associated with a one percentage point increase in property crime.

Other studies focus on the causal relationship between crime and educational underachievement. Machin et al. (2010) have produced a recent study for the UK. They discuss the following mechanisms through which staying on in education might affect crime rates:

- Schooling may alter preferences in indirect ways which may affect decisions to engage in crime – risk aversion, for example.

Machin et al. (2010) use the change in the compulsory school leaving age in 1972, to investigate whether crime reduced as a result of forcing teenagers to stay an extra year in school (from 15 to 16). The effect of education on crime might work through any of the mechanisms mentioned above. They show a strong causal impact of education on property crime (though not on violent crime). Their estimates suggest that a one per cent reduction in the population with no educational qualifications results in a 0.85 to one per cent fall in property crime.

Therefore, it would be logical to expect a one per cent fall in the unemployment rate or a one per cent fall in the population with no educational qualifications to have a commensurate impact on the crime rate. In a cost-benefit analysis, these estimates would be applied to the whole population and not only young people. However, if we apply these estimates only to those who were found guilty by the courts or cautioned for relevant offences (i.e. burglary; robbery; theft), a one per cent fall would mean 381 fewer such offences by those aged under 20.

Of course, not only does unemployment make crime more likely but a criminal record also makes future unemployment more likely. This could be a result of both the stigma attached to a period in prison and the effect of imprisonment on the acquisition of human and social capital.\textsuperscript{13}

A previous study suggests that as few as 90 per cent of those leaving prison enter unemployment, comprising two to three per cent of the average monthly in-flow to the unemployment pool.\textsuperscript{14} What is clear from most studies is that incarceration at a young age can have a long-term and significant impact on an individual's life.

\textsuperscript{13}This is discussed by Western et al (2001).

\textsuperscript{14}This is according to Fletcher et al (1996).
2.3 Youth crime:
a regional perspective

**Convictions**

If we look at the regional picture since the last Cost of Exclusion report, the pattern looks quite different across regions. While the fall in convictions has been evident in most regions, the direction of change has been the opposite in London, where the number of convictions is a good deal higher (particularly for those aged 18-21) than it was in 2004. When we consider the overall number of convictions expressed as a proportion of 15-to-24-year-olds in each region, the long-term trend has been one of decline. There has been increasing convergence between countries of Great Britain, with major improvements evident in Wales over recent years.

**Convictions of young people aged 18-21**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>% change</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>% change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East of England</td>
<td>17,048</td>
<td>17,244</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>8,258</td>
<td>7,753</td>
<td>-6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Midlands</td>
<td>17,972</td>
<td>13,047</td>
<td>-27.4%</td>
<td>7,076</td>
<td>6,342</td>
<td>-10.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>27,899</td>
<td>35,359</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>11,688</td>
<td>12,809</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East</td>
<td>18,256</td>
<td>15,221</td>
<td>-16.6%</td>
<td>8,847</td>
<td>8,854</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>32,579</td>
<td>26,130</td>
<td>-19.8%</td>
<td>16,618</td>
<td>13,999</td>
<td>-15.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East</td>
<td>23,986</td>
<td>22,709</td>
<td>-5.3%</td>
<td>11,538</td>
<td>11,574</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West</td>
<td>15,936</td>
<td>13,678</td>
<td>-14.2%</td>
<td>6,329</td>
<td>6,351</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>15,552</td>
<td>16,708</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>9,235</td>
<td>8,385</td>
<td>-9.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire</td>
<td>18,358</td>
<td>14,531</td>
<td>-20.8%</td>
<td>8,775</td>
<td>7,929</td>
<td>-9.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>187,586</td>
<td>174,627</td>
<td>-6.9%</td>
<td>88,364</td>
<td>83,996</td>
<td>-4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>16,489</td>
<td>11,153</td>
<td>-32.4%</td>
<td>6,016</td>
<td>4,395</td>
<td>-26.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>19,244</td>
<td>19,811</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>7,250</td>
<td>7,888</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Number of estimated convictions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2004 (age 10-17)</th>
<th>Estimated total cost (£000s)</th>
<th>2008 (age 18-21)</th>
<th>Estimated total cost (£000s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East of England</td>
<td>7,753</td>
<td>31,446</td>
<td>17,244</td>
<td>69,942</td>
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<td>East Midlands</td>
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<td>25,723</td>
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<td>52,919</td>
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<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>12,809</td>
<td>51,953</td>
<td>35,359</td>
<td>143,416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East</td>
<td>8,854</td>
<td>35,912</td>
<td>15,221</td>
<td>61,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>13,999</td>
<td>56,780</td>
<td>26,130</td>
<td>105,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East</td>
<td>11,574</td>
<td>46,944</td>
<td>22,709</td>
<td>92,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West</td>
<td>6,351</td>
<td>25,760</td>
<td>13,678</td>
<td>55,478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>8,385</td>
<td>34,010</td>
<td>16,708</td>
<td>67,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire</td>
<td>7,929</td>
<td>32,160</td>
<td>14,531</td>
<td>58,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>83,996</td>
<td>340,688</td>
<td>174,627</td>
<td>708,287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>4,395</td>
<td>17,826</td>
<td>11,153</td>
<td>45,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>7,888</td>
<td>31,994</td>
<td>19,811</td>
<td>80,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Britain</td>
<td>96,279</td>
<td>390,508</td>
<td>205,591</td>
<td>833,877</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.4 Youth imprisonment: an international perspective

With the exception of Northern Ireland, the prison rate per head of population is much higher in the UK, compared to many other countries. This was true in our last report (The Prince’s Trust, 2007), and remains so today. The rate of imprisonment has continued to accelerate. Furthermore, the percentage of prisoners who are children (i.e. under 18 years of age) is higher in England and Wales compared to all countries on the below list apart from the Netherlands. The situation is similar in Scotland. All parts of the UK have a relatively high proportion of prisoners who are between the age of 18 and 21 when compared with other countries.

Note: Statistics from the Council of Europe, Annual Penal Statistics. Survey 2002 and 2008
The prison population includes pre-trial detainees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Prison population rate per 100,000 inhabitants in 2002</th>
<th>Prison population rate per 100,000 inhabitants 2008</th>
<th>Percentage of Prisoners under 18 years of age, 2008</th>
<th>Percentage of Prisoners from 18-21 years of age, 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>England and Wales</td>
<td>137.1</td>
<td>152.8</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>62.3</td>
<td>85.8</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>128.7</td>
<td>156.5</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>92.3</td>
<td>96.3</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>90.2</td>
<td>98.4</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>64.1</td>
<td>62.9</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>66.7</td>
<td>67.3</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>87.6</td>
<td>104.1</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>78.0</td>
<td>84.8</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>10.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>99.8</td>
<td>96.0</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>100.8</td>
<td>102.8</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>7.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>58.8</td>
<td>70.6</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>132.8</td>
<td>101.2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>126.2</td>
<td>159.7</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>73.0</td>
<td>75.8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Case study
Kyle Baptiste

By the age of 14, Kyle Baptiste from Leeds had been repeatedly excluded from school after school in West Yorkshire and his future looked bleak.

His mum was working two jobs to make ends meet but still the family was living in extreme poverty.

He says: “Our house wasn’t decorated and we didn’t have a fridge. At times, I could hear my mum crying at night because she couldn’t afford to buy me the things I needed.”

When his mother was at work Kyle had the evenings to himself and the local gang became his surrogate family. Crime became part of his life and he ended up serving an 18-month sentence at the age of 21.

Kyle wanted to do something positive with his time in prison and to help other inmates. He researched his options and decided to build a radio station from scratch. He applied to The Prince’s Trust for help with his plan and was given Community Cash Award funding to start up the project.

Working on the radio station gave the prisoners skills, qualifications and experiences they could take with them when they left custody. Now over a thousand people have now done the course.

With the motivation and self-confidence he gained from working on the project he left prison determined not to go back to his old ways.

Kyle wanted to go on helping people and has secured a job as a community outreach worker with a Leeds-based social enterprise, Future Arts, which aims to help young people who want to make it in the music industry but who lack the technology they need.

Kyle says: “Prison was a real turning point for me. I had time to think about who I was and where I was going with my life. I was lucky that I had a chance to do something with my time there, something that has had a long lasting positive effect on my future.”
3. The cost of educational underachievement

The cost of educational underachievement for the current generation of young people age 17-24 is estimated at £22 billion.

Educational underachievement has a substantial – and lasting – effect on individuals. Oreopoulos and Salvanes (2009) document evidence on the relationship between education and a long list of benefits: success in the labour market; better health; reduced probability of risky behaviours; trust and civic participation. At a macro-economic level, educational underachievement also affects the relative performance of the UK economy over time.

Young people most at risk of educational underachievement include pupils who truant, those who are excluded, those with offending backgrounds and those with poor literacy or numeracy skills. Other influential factors include gender, health, low family income and parents’ education and unemployment. This chapter concludes by highlighting how The Prince’s Trust is working to help young people achieve more at school.

3.1 Educational underachievement: calculating the costs

Many studies show a strong causal relationship between staying longer in education and average earnings. These studies suggest there are large payoffs to investment in education – either in terms of boosting employability or from wage returns.

Even basic qualifications can have a significant knock-on effect on the probability of employment and on wages. Studies have found that, controlling for other characteristics, Level 1 numeracy or literacy skills raise the probability of employment by about five percentage points. For those in work, these skills can raise wages by about nine percentage points in the case of numeracy skills and seven percentage points in the case of literacy skills. Although Level 1 numeracy and literacy are equivalent to standards that should be achieved by age 11, around 20 per cent of adults do not meet this standard.

Dearden et al. (2004) analyse the returns to education for the individual at the margin of deciding whether or not to stay on in education beyond the age of 16. They use the British Cohort Study, which surveys individuals born in a week of April 1970 at intervals through their lives. Returns to staying on in education are estimated for various subgroups of “marginal learners” when they were aged 29-30 (1999/2000). They find substantial returns to staying on in education for all subgroups of the population. On average, the wage return to “staying on” is about 11 per cent for men and 18 per cent for women. Lower returns of six to eight per cent are estimated for male drop-outs of either low ability or lower socio-economic group. However, higher returns are estimated for people from low income families. Within this subgroup, the wage return estimate is 13 and 17 per cent for men and women respectively.

For the purposes of this report, we will estimate an average wage return for leaving school with qualifications of 10 per cent. To get an idea of how much a wage return of 10 per cent is worth over working life, the Family Resources Survey 2008/09 was used to obtain a wage profile for a cross-section of men of each age between 20 and 64. The aggregate discounted value of a 10 per cent rise in average wages was then calculated. This comes to around £45,000, illustrating the high potential loss of income for those who are unable to take advantage of opportunities to pursue their education.

We estimate the cost to the UK economy under the assumption that each person without qualifications suffers a 10 per cent loss in earnings over their lifetime. We do this by multiplying the individual cost (£45,000) with the number of young people (aged 17-24) with no qualifications (i.e. % with no qualifications in the Labour Force Survey multiplied by population figures). This amounts to £22 billion.

15 See McIntosh and Vignoles (2000) and Layard et al. (2002) for the importance of basic literacy and numeracy skills for labour market returns.
16 The estimate for literacy is not statistically significant. However, results for literacy skills are more sensitive to the data set used. Estimates using the International Adult Literacy Survey suggest higher effects. Estimates reported here control for family background and age seven ability.
17 We use the Family Resources Survey from 2008-09 and a discount rate of 3.5%.
Case study
Toni Elkington

Toni Elkington was 12 when she found out her mum had cancer. Her world fell apart and she turned to drink and drugs to block out the pain.

As her mother’s condition worsened, Toni started to run away from home and was eventually taken into foster care. Shortly after this, her mum died.

Toni says: “After my mum died, I thought the only place I would end up would be in prison or dead. I never got up in the morning to go to school. I would spend a whole day in bed, taking drugs and getting off my head on booze. I think I went through practically every foster home in Leeds.”

Toni was also getting in trouble with the police and ended up on a supervision order.

Toni was heading for disaster but then she was given a new foster placement. This was a turning point as her new foster parents insisted she attend school.

The school recommended Toni join The Prince’s Trust xl club, which offers 14-to-16-year-olds an alternative curriculum and one-to-one support.

The xl club gave structure to Toni’s disjointed life. She started to put effort into her studies and even took extra classes. As a result, just 10 months later she sat and passed 10 GCSEs.

After finishing school, Toni went to college to study construction and has since secured a job as a plasterer.

Toni says: “If it wasn’t for The Prince’s Trust, I think I would have been sent down a long time ago or maybe I would have overdosed on drugs. Instead, I’m in full-time work, sober and in control of my life.”
3.2 Educational underachievement: a regional perspective

The percentage of young people with no qualifications is very high. In 2009, the percentage of people aged 16-24 with no qualifications in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland was 11 per cent, 12.4 per cent, 9.2 per cent and 19.3 per cent respectively. Within England, there is little variation, with most regions having 10-11 per cent of young people without qualifications, apart from the West Midlands - where the figure is 13.7 per cent - and the South West - where the figure is 8.7 per cent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government office region</th>
<th>Number of 16-24 year-olds</th>
<th>16-24 year-olds with no qualifications</th>
<th>Percentage of 16-24 with no qualifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>652,900</td>
<td>86,900</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Midlands</td>
<td>542,800</td>
<td>64,500</td>
<td>11.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>857,300</td>
<td>101,700</td>
<td>11.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East</td>
<td>328,600</td>
<td>35,800</td>
<td>10.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>894,900</td>
<td>93,600</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire and The Humber</td>
<td>681,500</td>
<td>68,400</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>630,800</td>
<td>62,600</td>
<td>9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East</td>
<td>945,800</td>
<td>93,900</td>
<td>9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West</td>
<td>589,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>England</td>
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<td>Wales</td>
<td>368,100</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>613,000</td>
<td>55,100</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>228,000</td>
<td>40,600</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>7,333,000</td>
<td>787,600</td>
<td>10.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Labour Force Survey

3.3 Educational underachievement: an international perspective

The UK compares unfavourably to many other countries in respect to the percentage of young people who leave the education system with low-level educational qualifications.

The graph below shows the percentage of the population aged 18-24, with - at most - lower secondary education, who are now not in further education or training. In 2009, nearly 16 per cent of 18-24 year olds in the UK fell into this category. Although this is greatly exceeded in some other countries (Portugal, Spain and Italy), it is higher than in many others. The UK ranks fourth out of the 13 countries listed below.

Eurostat (2010).

The percentage of young people (aged 16-24) with no qualifications

- England
- Wales
- Scotland
- Northern Ireland
3.4 Tackling educational underachievement
The Prince’s Trust

Seventy-three per cent of young people helped by The Prince’s Trust are educational underachievers, including young people who are facing exclusion from school.

The Prince’s Trust is tackling educational underachievement in schools through its xl curriculum for pupils at risk of truanting or exclusion.

The Prince’s Trust xl programme runs in mainstream schools as well as in pupil referral units, secure units and young offender institutions. It empowers young people to play an active role in planning their activities, helping keep them in school and gain qualifications.

Last year, The Prince’s Trust worked in partnership with 596 schools and centres, helping 12,864 young people through 1,054 xl clubs.

The cost of a full-time placement in a Pupil Referral Unit is about £15,000 a year. To run The Prince’s Trust xl programme, helping up to 15 pupils for two years, costs a school just £2,000.

18 Back on Track – A strategy for modernising alternative provision for young people, DCSF, 2008.
Case study
Lisa Dunlop

Lisa Dunlop from Northern Ireland was devastated by the break-up of her parents. She started to rebel and dropped out of school at the age of 14 with no qualifications.

Her employment prospects were hampered by a lack of GCSEs and she had a number of temporary jobs but nothing with any real future.

At the age of 18, Lisa became pregnant but unfortunately the father of her child was sent to prison leaving Lisa to cope on her own. She struggled financially and emotionally.

Ten years later, Lisa was a single mum with two children, no job prospects and post-natal depression, which led to a breakdown.

Lisa started to feel that the only way out was suicide. She had her suicide note already written but knew deep down she didn’t want to leave her two young children.

The morning after writing her suicide note Lisa received a letter telling her a business unit she had enquired about was available.

Lisa took this as a sign that she was meant to do something with her life and, with the support of The Prince’s Trust, set up her business – Beauty Secrets. The Prince’s Trust gave Lisa a low-interest loan and a mentor for support. Located in a busy area of Belfast, the shop offers beauty treatments and holistic therapy.

Lisa is now a successful business woman with plans to expand.

She says: “My life is a million miles away from those dark days when I was thinking about ending it all. Being a business woman is something that makes me feel good about myself. It’s an important part of who I am now.”
4. Conclusion

The recent recession has hit young people particularly hard, pushing those with few qualifications ever further from the jobs.

This report finds that the implications of youth unemployment stretch beyond the immediate effects on those in the dole queue. There is a cost to the taxpayer of £22 million a week in terms of Jobseeker’s Allowance. On top of this, there is the cost to the economy of lost productivity. A conservative estimate for this is approximately the same amount per week again. The upper bound figure given in this report for lost productivity is £133 million, making the upper estimate for youth unemployment £155 million a week.

Other aspects of youth disadvantage add a further burden to the taxpayer. Youth crime is estimated to cost more than £23 million a week, while educational underachievement comes at a cost of £22 billion for the current generation of young people.

And the costs go beyond the financial. Unemployment has a huge emotional toll on young people across the UK, who all too often face a downward spiral towards depression, poverty, drug addiction or worse. This unemployment trap has a massive impact on young people, as well as their families and the communities they live in.

With the cost of disadvantage in the UK at a new high, the work of charities such as The Prince's Trust is arguably more relevant than ever. Young people who approach The Trust have often reached rock bottom after years of fruitless job hunting, a failed education or time spent in prison. They may feel that there is little hope for them.

But every day, The Trust supports 100 more of these young people, giving them the skills and confidence for work and enterprise. With the right support, hundreds of thousands of young people who were once a huge burden to the economy are now able to pay taxes, act as role models to others and even create new jobs where there were none.

This report reveals that these interventions – which help young people into jobs, stay on in education or avoid crime – are vital for the sake of the UK economy. They also represent excellent value for money, given the massive price that the state is already paying for social exclusion. For a fraction of this cost, The Prince’s Trust can support a jobless young person through an intensive personal development course, helping them leave the dole queue for good.

At this time when there is huge pressure on the public purse, the Cost of Exclusion shows that it is possible to help young people into jobs while saving the state billions. Government, charities and employers must work together now to deliver this vital change.
Notes on methodology

Youth unemployment
We have used the information available in the Labour Force Survey to estimate the probability of unemployment for people in the 20-24 age range according to observable characteristics – age, gender, marital status, ethnicity, qualifications, and health and dependents. Collectively, these variables have relatively low power in explaining unemployment. Hence, our methodology does not produce different results than if we simply use average earnings for employed persons in this age range as an estimate of the average earnings unemployed persons might expect to receive.

We use an average of £262 per week, per person. This should be thought of as an upper bound since young people who are unemployed may be different from those in employment in a way that is difficult to capture using variables in the Labour Force Survey. Weekly pay of £262 on average compares very favourably to the income and non-income related benefits received by unemployed persons in the same age range (£85 on average – estimated using the Family Resources Survey). The estimated costs vary by region, depending on the proportion of persons unemployed and the number of people in the 20-24 age range.

A more conservative estimate of lost productivity is based on the value of Jobseeker’s Allowance. It is reasonable to assume that unemployed people are less productive on average than those in employment – particularly if they remain unemployed for a long time. Furthermore, a proportion of unemployment is likely to be ‘voluntary’ in that there is a wage above which unemployed people would take any job. In that context, one might think of JSA as being like a reservation wage. If all unemployed people were at this point, the productivity loss could be valued as equal to the JSA. This is the basis of our conservative estimate.

Crime
We have been able to obtain information on convictions by region (except for Northern Ireland) and on the population of penal institutions for all countries of the UK. However, such data are only indicators of the extent of crime. It is important to note that many recorded crimes are never brought to justice.

The graphs show the number of convictions of young persons in England, Wales and Scotland for two age categories: age 18-21 and age 16-17. These numbers are presented as a percentage of the population aged between 15 and 24 so as to adjust for demographic trends. It is not possible to get population numbers in exactly the right categories for the whole time period. In any case, since there are often multiple convictions per person, it would not make sense to interpret numbers as the percentage of the population who are convicted.

Educational underachievement
To discover the scale of underachievement in the UK, we looked at the percentage of 16-24 year-olds who do not have any educational qualification, using successive waves of the Labour Force Survey (from 1979 to 2009). Weighting factors are applied to each survey respondent in such a way that results are representative of the population in terms of age distribution, sex and region of residence (see LFS Survey User Guide for further details).

Prince’s Trust Scotland
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References

The Cost of Exclusion
Counting the cost of youth disadvantage in the UK

For more information about The Prince's Trust visit:
princes-trust.org.uk