

## **BRIEFING FOR WARMINSTER AREA BOARD – May 2024**

The Warminster Area Health and Wellbeing Forum comprises nearly 70 members and aims to join together those needing help and support to those best able to meet that need, in an efficient and cost-effective way.

**Use of the Health and Wellbeing booklet,** created as an adjunct to the 2023 Health and Wellbeing Fair, remains strong with steady demand for the hard copy versions and over 200 views on the Wiltshire Together platform accessible <a href="here">here</a>.

The Valuing Volunteering Fair is almost upon us – the date is Saturday 1 June from 1030 to 1230 at the Civic Centre in Warminster. Its aims are: to identify and publicise the importance of volunteering to organisations, to individuals, and to the community as a whole; to quantify and value the contribution made by volunteers within the community; and to showcase and promote the myriad volunteering opportunities for people of all ages, backgrounds and skills. Thirty organisations have agreed to attend and we are also looking to monetise the volunteer effort used by these organisations to assess their contribution to the local economy and to our community.

To extend the benefit of the event, we will invite these and other organisations to a workshop at Warminster School on 23<sup>rd</sup> October to help to develop a **Vision for Volunteering in Warminster.** The health and wellbeing benefits of volunteering are well documented and we also want to ascertain any gaps in provision and who may be best placed to fill those gaps.

We are in early discussions with Wiltshire Council on their **Neigbourhood Collaboratives** project which aims to bring together all local parties in Warminster and Westbury and to identify – and address – key priorities in the local area. We recognise that we are not the only stakeholders in this and will widen our contacts once we gain a better understanding of the practicalities from their pilot projects elsewhere in Wiltshire.

**David Reeves** 

Secretary – Warminster Area Health and Wellbeing Forum 2024

20 May