Trowbridge Shadow Community Operations Board

Report to Trowbridge Area Board on the first phase of the consultation September 2012

Since mid-June 2012 the Trowbridge Shadow COB have been explaining the concept of a campus and asking people across the community area what services and facilities they want and need as part of the Trowbridge community campus proposal.

Thank you to everyone who has fed in their views so far

How the consultation was carried out.

- A paper questionnaire was produced with an online version linked to a video.
- Members of the SCOB supported by members of TCAF spent three days in the Shires and a
 further three days based in the Town Hall and a day at Tescos giving out questionnaires and
 talking to members of the public.
- Specific presentations have been given to the Youth Parliament, the Sports Forum, Trowbridge Neighbourhoods Partnership and Trowbridge Town Council Leisure Committee.
- A special pupil version of the questionnaire was distributed to all secondary and primary schools in the Trowbridge area.
- All secondary and primary schools agreed to send the questionnaire home to parents either in paper or electronic form.
- Some questionnaires have been hand delivered.
- Copies of the questionnaire have been placed with and collected from the Tourist Information Centre, Library, Sports Centres, supermarkets and some local shops.
- There have been several articles in the Wiltshire Times, The Trowbridge Magazine and an interview on BBC Wiltshire Sound.

Initial feedback

At the time of preparing the report responses are still coming in however the initial responses suggest;

- Overwhelming support for the idea of a campus.
- Overwhelming support for the proposal that the sports complex should be able to act as a regional centre.
- In terms of community facilities there was most desire for places for groups to meet, a café, library services, access to health and wellness and a space for exhibitions.
- In terms of leisure facilities there was most support for a large sports hall, gym and fitness rooms, 6-8 line pool, learner pool and leisure pool.
- In terms of accessibility people were most concerned to have longer opening hours and appropriate timing for sessions.
- From a transport perspective concerns were most about safe access for pedestrians, adequate parking and access from safe cycle paths.
- A small minority expressed concern about the project at a time of public spending cuts and possible duplication of existing facilities.

It must be stressed that these are initial views and feedback will change as more responses come in.

The highest number of responses so far has been from young people up to the age of 18. Most other age groups were well represented apart from the 18-25s and the over 60s.

Support from local schools has also been strong with schools across the community area agreeing to help distribute the questionnaire, as well as working with students to feed in their views.

Support from local people has been good and people have fed back some really great ideas and suggestions about what could be included in the campus proposal.

Next Steps

In order allow time for other questionnaires to come in and to try and increase the response rate form 18-25s and over 60s the SCOB has decided to extend the consultation until the Senior Citizen's Area Board meeting of 18 October.

During this period the COB will work to target responses from the 18-24 age group though Wiltshire College, employers through the chamber of commerce and sports clubs, as well as targeting social media such as facebook.

Responses from the over 60s will be targeted through the Area Board meeting and other organisations such as luncheon clubs and existing groups or clubs.

A detailed analysis of the results of the consultation will then be provided for the November Area board meeting. On the basis of this analysis a detailed proposal will be drawn up including options for location to be consulted on indicatively in February and March 2013.

How can I help or get involved?

- Do you help support a lunch club or meeting group for the over 60's in the Trowbridge area?
- Do you know lots of young people aged 18-24?

If you would like a member of the COB to come along to your regular meeting or if you are able to help distribute copies of the questionnaire please get in touch by email CampusConsultation@wiltshire.gov.uk or telephone 01225 718350.

• Would you like to take part in the consultation but have not had time to fill in the questionnaire?

The questionnaire can be accessed and completed online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/TrowbridgeCommunityCampus