



Marlborough Area Board

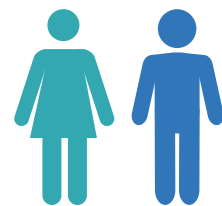
End of Year Report

May 2021 - March 2023

Marlborough Area Board

The Marlborough Community Area is made up of 15 rural parishes surrounding the market town of Marlborough. The whole of the area lies within the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The village of Avebury is home to prehistoric circles and stones dating back to 2500 BC and hosts a museum with one of the most important prehistoric archaeological collections in Britain.

The Area Board is Marlborough's local cabinet for Wiltshire Council, bringing local decision making into the heart of the community area. The Area Board is made up of 3 unitary councillors, all of whom are also members of Marlborough Town Council. The councillors are the voting members of the board, and all those who engage in the board's work are equal members, able to influence decisions, shape and deliver on local priorities.



**Total
Population
18,135**

Area Board Investment

The Area Board invests in local community projects and initiatives that meet local priorities and deliver positive outcomes for residents. The Area Board aims to work in partnership to achieve maximum value for its investment.

Total Area Board Investment

£47,500	£35,426	£15,400
Community	Youth	Older and Vulnerable Adults
Total Community Contribution		
£604,391	£199,915	£38,012

The total amount invested in projects through additional community contribution, from fundraising, grants, services in kind or volunteering

Local Priorities

The Marlborough Area Board reviewed available local data and evidence and integrated this with local knowledge and community conversation to agree the following local priority themes. The Area Board has undertaken a series of more specific local actions to positively address them, including the key achievements below:

Children and Young People



Marlborough Area Board has made investment into activities and services for young people in the area. There has been a wide range of local youth organisations and sports clubs that have received grant funding from the area board to improve their offer to young people. Funding went into Marlborough Area Youth Forum as the organisation grew to employ their own qualified youth worker who will help to run the town's youth club.

Climate change and the environment

Marlborough is one of six Air Quality Management Areas in Wiltshire, partly due to heavy traffic and congestion at a busy junction in town. The area board has worked closely with Wiltshire Highways and Marlborough Town Council to plan for a traffic flow survey to better understand traffic through the town to allow solutions to be developed that reduce congestion and prevent pollution. Working alongside the Town Council, the area board helped plan and deliver a "Climate Day". Over 200 people attended the event which included lots of displays from local and countywide groups that support wildlife and encourage sustainability, along with talks about living waste-free or "dropping a tonne of CO2" through changing the choices we make in our lives.



Reducing isolation and loneliness



Marlborough's Health and Wellbeing Group members have lots of experience in the sector. In October 2022, they organised a "Live longer, better" event that showcased the work of Prof. Muir Gray into how older people can be encouraged to remain more physically and mentally active in order to stay healthier longer. Around 65 people attended, from a range of backgrounds, professional and voluntary, and has led to a better understanding of how the services and activities for older people in the area helps keep everyone fitter and healthier for longer.

Community-led projects



The Marlborough Area Board works with a network of local partners, organisations and residents in the town and villages. The Board acknowledges the talents, expertise and knowledge of the local community and empowers and facilitates community led action to co-deliver local services.

Area board members believe that no one should be prevented from taking part in activities through being unable to afford it, especially young people who will benefit significantly from staying active. In 2021, the board worked with Marlborough Sports Forum and the many sports clubs that make it up to put on a Taster Day for young people to try all the varied sports available within the town, and to have some fun. Hundreds of young people took part and tried out something they might never have done.

This event was followed with a grant to the Sports Forum to manage on behalf of the individual clubs. This funding is there to help support young people into sport by subsidising membership fees, playing kit or other expenses if they and their family found those costs difficult to meet. Since the Taster Day event, this offer to help support young people has extended out to other organisations, such as local Scouts or Guides groups.

A key mission of Wiltshire Council's Business Plan is to help Wiltshire be a place where 'We stay active'. Keeping physically, socially and mentally active has direct and positive impacts on brain function, weight management, reducing disease, and the ability to enjoy life. Improving all these things for residents will lead to greater happiness, more economic independence, and less service reliance.

Engagements

The Marlborough Area Board works alongside other organisations to make things happen in the local community. These groups include the town council, voluntary and community groups, youth organisations, sports clubs and local charities.

The Area Board wouldn't be able to achieve what they do without these partners working on the ground with them. The Area Board hosts regular business meetings, engagement activities, events, surveys and working groups to stimulate and support local community action.

**Area Board
Business meetings**

8



Attendances

201

**Area Board
working groups**

22



Attendances

224

**Engagements/
events/ activities**

3



Attendances

315

**Area Board
surveys**

3



Responses

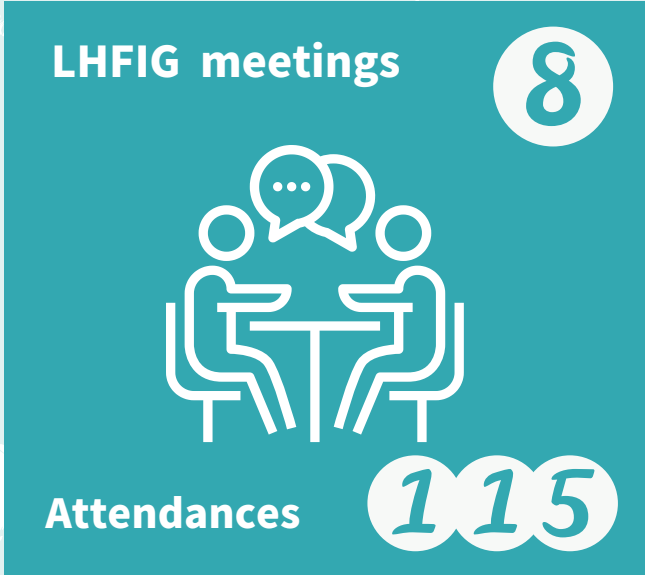
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Local Highways and Footpath Infrastructure group

The Local Highways and Footpath Infrastructure group (LHFIG) is a sub group of the Marlborough Area Board, which deals specifically with highway issues. It aims to find solutions for local road safety concerns, traffic problems, improving footpaths and pavements and small scale parking issues.

The amount allocated is dependent on the geographical size and population for the community area. It is suitable for schemes that improve safety, increase accessibility and sustainability by promoting walking, cycling and public transport and improve traffic management.

- ### LHFIG Projects April 2021 - March 23
- A4 Froxfield, Eastern Gateway implementation.
 - Marlborough, Kingsbury Street – Social distancing measures.
 - Speed limit assessment for the C18 from A4361 at Broad Hinton to Marlborough, including Free's Avenue
 - A4361 speed limit implementation.
 - Ogbourne Maizey – 20mph speed limit assessment.
 - A4 Forest Hill – speed limit assessment.
 - B4192 Chilton Foliat – speed limit assessment.
 - Mildenhall, signs and traffic calming implementation.
 - Ogbourne Maizey 20mph limit implementation.
 - A4 Manton – Topo survey.
 - Advert and implementation of waiting restrictions along the B4003 near Avebury'



Agreeing and delivering priorities for 2023/24

By agreeing and delivering to local priorities, the Area Board is able to proactively address issues by focusing its resources and working in partnership with local organisations, volunteers and residents. To effectively select local priorities it is important that there is a regular review of the evidence available and the views of the residents are sought. To aid Councillors to agree their priorities, the list below provides some of new sources of data and evidence:

- **JSNA Wiltshire Intelligence**: The 2022 Wiltshire JSNA presents data on the current and future health and wellbeing needs of people in Wiltshire
- **Census 2021 results**: results from the 2021 census are being released in a phased manner, which started in June 2022
- **VCSE research - Wessex Community Action**: state of the Wiltshire voluntary and community sector 2022
- **Annual report - Wiltshire Citizens Advice**: Wiltshire Citizens Advice annual report 2022

As well as being evidence led, priorities should be selected where the Area Board believes it can realistically make a positive impact upon them. To aid the delivery of the chosen priorities, the Engagement and Partnerships team will support the Area Board councillors through the development of the Area Board local action plan.

Based on the work undertaken in 2022/23 and the new evidence available, some of the key priorities that the Board may wish to consider are as follows:

- Children and Young People: youth engagement, employment & skills and positive activity opportunities,
- Older and Vulnerable People: supporting positive mental health and wellbeing and reducing social isolation,
- Road Safety: feeling safer on our roads and encouraging active travel.

As a thread through each of these priorities, Marlborough Area Board will promote projects that:

- Address all forms of deprivation in our area,
- Tackle climate change and support the natural environment.

It is recommended that for each priority selected, an area board councillor takes responsibility for overseeing its delivery and reporting back to the Area Board on progress. The Engagement and Partnerships team will support the Area Board councillors in undertaking this work.