



Corsham Area Board

End of Year Report

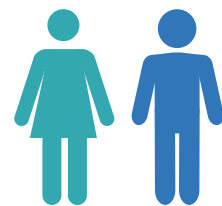
May 2021 - March 2023

Corsham Area Board

Corsham Community Area covers 77km² of countryside in the north-west of Wiltshire. It is made up of the historic market town of Corsham, the large parishes of Box, Colerne and Lacock as well as many small rural settlements.

The Area Board is Corsham's local cabinet for Wiltshire Council, bringing local decision making into the heart of the community area. The Area Board is made up of 4 unitary councillors. 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.

The community area has a vibrant and active community, cultural and sporting hubs, a range of voluntary and community sector support organisations and a collaborative town council.



**Total
Population
21,260**

Area Board Investment

The Area Board invests in local community projects and initiatives that meet local priorities and deliver exceptional outcomes for residents. The Area Board aims to work in partnership to achieve maximum value for its investment. They take a long term view to invest in prevention and early intervention, focusing on tackling inequalities and improving social mobility.

Total Area Board Investment

£35,113	£27,632	£13,245
Community	Youth	Older and Vulnerable Adults
Total Community Contribution		
£148,524	£104,713	£56,589

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

Local Priorities

The Corsham 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:

Youth engagement and positive activity opportunities



The Local Youth Network has supported the completion of Wiltshire Council's Youth Needs Assessment, invested in local outreach and safe space youth provision and arranged workshops to provide local groups and individuals with opportunities to understand contextual safeguarding of young people.

Addressing climate change

The Corsham area Climate group has facilitated site visits to local organisations and businesses to understand their sustainability programmes and has promoted local events such as Corsham's Eco Fair, Repair Café and Sustainability Breakfast. The Area Board has invested in community orchards and solar panels at Corsham RFC.



Promoting wellbeing and reducing social isolation in older and vulnerable people



The Area Board has continued to co-ordinate the Corsham Health and Wellbeing Group, supported the development of the Celebrating Age programme across the community area and worked in partnership to organise a multi-agency 'foot health' and slipper exchange event to promote falls prevention and the local activities offer.

Supporting the local economy

The Area Board 'economy' lead has supported the Corsham Means Business networking drop ins and shared advice and opportunities for local businesses.



Community-led projects



The Corsham Area Board has developed a strong, well established and highly functioning network of local partners, organisations and residents in the town and villages. The Board recognises the talents, expertise and knowledge of the local community and empowers and facilitates community led action to co-deliver local services.

The Corsham Area Climate Group has been established to bring together organisations including Corsham Climate Action and Town and Parish councils to coordinate local action to address climate change and reverse biodiversity loss.

Over 20 local groups and organisations are represented on the Corsham Health and Wellbeing group. The Area Board has supported Corsham Community Club and Celebrating Age events which regularly bring together senior residents to socialise and participate in a range of activities.

The Corsham Local Youth Network engages, collaborates and shares information with 14 local youth organisations. The Area Board invested in mental health and emotional wellbeing support for young people at The Corsham School through music and art therapy sessions, a digital empowerment programme and the SPARK wellbeing festival for 200 year 9 students.

The Area Board councillors and Engagement and Partnerships Team have worked with Wiltshire Council services, partner organisations and voluntary and community sector organisations to promote and support initiatives which address economic inequalities and help to alleviate pressures on the cost of living. The Area Board has helped to promote the network of Warm Spaces and encourage participation in the FUEL holiday activity programme.

Engagements

The Corsham 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**

6



Attendances

108

**Area Board
working groups**

13



Attendances

232

**Engagements/
events/ activities**

47



Attendances

764

**Area Board
surveys**

3



Responses

399

Local Highways and Footpath Infrastructure group

The Local Highways and Footpath Infrastructure group (LHFIG) is a sub group of the Corsham Area Board, which deals specifically with highway issues. They aim to find solutions for local transport issues, such as road repairs, traffic problems, road layouts and parking.

The amount allocated is dependent on the geographical size and population for the community area and the funding allocation is for capital expenditure and can be used to provide new and improved highway infrastructure.

LHFIG Projects 2022/23

- Lacock Bridge/Bowden Hill – Speed Limit Reduction
- A4/Cross Keys Road – Speed Limit Assessment
- Rudloe – Toucan Crossing/Shared Use Path (alongside S106)
- Corsham Freestone Way – 3x bus stop hard standings
- Colerne Market Place - Footway Improvements
- Colerne Fosseway – Signing and Lining safety works
- Corsham Smiths Yard – Direction signing
- Corsham Station Road – Building protection
- B3109 Bradford Road – Speel Limit Assessment
- Neston Pool Green/Elley Green – Pedestrian Improvements
- Corsham 20mph – 20mph assessment
- Box Leafy Lane – Speed limit assessment & Pedestrian assessment
- Corsham Park Lane – Speed Limit Assessment
- Corsham Middlewick Lane – Pedestrian Assessment.



LHFIG meetings

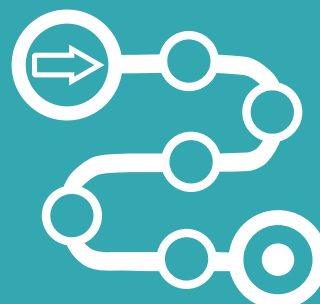
8



Attendances

LHFIG projects completed

14



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:

- **Youth engagement and positive activity opportunities**
- **Addressing climate change**
- **Promoting wellbeing and reducing social isolation in older and vulnerable people**
- **Supporting the local economy**

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.