

**WILTSHIRE COUNCIL
SALISBURY AREA BOARD**

15 May, 2014

Review of community area partnership arrangements in Salisbury

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To recommend new partnership working arrangements for the City.

2. Background

2.1 A review of SCCAP was launch in June 2013 and the conclusions were reported to the Board on 12 September 2013 ([download report](#)).

2.2 The Board called for a consultation workshop to be convened to recommend how community activity may be better coordinated and supported across the City. The Workshop took place at the City Hall, Salisbury on 7th March 2014 – a report on the outcome of the workshop is attached.

2.3 The Area Board subsequently agreed to withdraw funding from SCCAP from 1st April 2014.

2.3 The proposals presented in this report were subsequently considered by Salisbury City Council's Services Committee on 7th April who supported the approach and agreed to work with the Board to implement the new arrangements.

3 Moving forward

3.1 In order to move forward with the commitment to help improve coordination and support for community led activity in the City, the Area Board is now asked to consider proposals based on the outcome of the review work undertaken so far.

4 New partnership arrangements for Salisbury

4.1 Building on the outcome of the review and consultation workshop, it is proposed to move away from a formal organisation-led partnership approach towards an open approach that supports and coordinates the work of existing community groups, focusing on:

- Supporting existing and new groups in the City, rather than duplicating or controlling activity.

- Encouraging and supporting practical community-led actions and projects delivered by existing or new community groups
- Stimulating community-led activity around priorities set by the community itself.
- Building stronger relationships, making connections and improving communication between existing community groups
- Enabling existing groups to come together and link-up around shared priorities for action in Salisbury.
- Bringing together the Salisbury Area Board and Salisbury City Council to enable, facilitate and support this new community-led approach.

4.2 This new approach will support, coordinate and link-up the activities of existing groups in the City – such as business, faith, charity, health, sports, arts, youth, environmental and social groups. It will be an open devolved network – with all groups welcome. The new approach will aim to encourage the delivery of agreed community priorities by helping local groups to deliver practical local projects. This will be encouraged, facilitated and supported by the Area Board and the City Council through grants, advice, support and practical assistance where needed. Get-togethers or meet-ups will be informal, issue based and action focused with groups participating if and when they see they have a shared interest in the issue concerned. This will be supported by ad-hoc task and project groups around specific issues, priorities and projects.

4.3 The approach is to be community-led and work in partnership with the Area Board and City Council.

4.3 Key to this new approach will be improved communication and networking facilitated by:

- A small, informal group to coordinate the development of the network
- Improved and shared use of social media and regular email contact facilitated by community reporters
- Periodic informal meet-ups and social events
- Team working based around the facilities at the new Salisbury Campus
- Asset mapping and resource sharing across the City
- A biennial priority setting and action planning conference based on the Salisbury JSA – a new approach to community planning that will help initiate and focus community action.

5. Next steps

5.1 The proposals set out in this paper mark a significant change in emphasis but build upon and evolve from the good work initiated by SCCAP in 2008. If members of the Area Board are supportive of the approach described here,

then an inaugural meeting of the key partners will be organised to agree how to move forward.

6. Recommendation

1. That a new network based approach that coordinates and supports the work of existing community groups is supported based on the principles set out in this paper.
2. That a small, informal group be established to coordinate the development of the network
3. That a member of the Area Board is nominated to attend the coordination group meetings
4. That discussions be held with existing partnerships, networks and community groups to help build commitment to the new approach

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