

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL SALISBURY AREA BOARD

13 November 2014

Establishing a local youth network for Salisbury

1. Changes to the way the Council provides positive activities for young people

As the Board is aware, the council has agreed to implement a community-led model for youth activities. This involves delegating responsibility and resources to Wiltshire's 18 Area Boards, to bring young people and the community together to develop a responsive and locally driven positive activities offer for young people.

With the right support, the council believes that empowering young people and the community in this way will better deliver what young people want. This will increase opportunities for young people's participation and involvement, and help them to build resilience, make positive lifestyle choices, achieve in learning, gain independence and ultimately make a successful transition to adulthood.

2. The role of Salisbury Area Board

Under the new approach, Salisbury Area Board will:

- be responsible for designing, developing, delivering and reviewing positive activities for young people in their area.
- be allocated an annual budget for positive activities. This will complement other local resources which are available, to develop and enable a positive activities offer which is tailored to local needs. There may be other local partners that wish to contribute additional resource to supporting positive activities for young people.
- need to work in partnership with young people and the wider community to secure a positive activities offer which meets local needs. This will be facilitated by a Local Youth Network.
- Secure positive activities for young people aged 13-19 (up to 25 years of age for young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities) that are inclusive and accessible to all young people in the City.

3. Establishing a local youth network for Salisbury

To support the Council's new community-led model, a Local Youth Network (LYN) will be established as a sub group of the Area Board. The LYN will represent a wide range of community stakeholders who will work in partnership to facilitate the delivery of a range of positive activities across the City. Young people will play a central role in all aspects of the LYN. The Salisbury Local Youth Network will identify local needs,

priorities and outcomes and make recommendations to the Area Board on how funding for positive activities for young people should be deployed.

The LYN will be an important mechanism for enabling the community to take control over the design, development, delivery and review of positive activities through the Community Area Board. Terms of Reference have been developed for the LYN and are included as Appendix 1.

The LYN will facilitate closer partnership working at a local level, particularly between voluntary and community providers of youth activities. The aspiration is that this approach will develop a more joined-up and consistent positive activities offer for young people and help to reduce overlap and duplication.

The Board's Community Youth Officer, Winnie Manning, will be instrumental in establishing and supporting the Local Youth Network, providing professional advice, maintaining communications and helping facilitate its local activities.

4. Proposed Membership of the Salisbury LYN Management Group

The proposed membership of the LYN Management Group will be tabled at the meeting.

5. Salisbury 'Our Place' project

Wiltshire Council has been successful in securing government funding to develop and evaluate the new community-led model in Salisbury. Around £17,000 has been secured to assist with: the establishment of the LYN; engagement with young people; developing new ways of measuring the impact of local activities and evaluating the benefits of the new ways of working.

An initial youth engagement event has been planned. This will take place at the City Hall on 2nd December at 4pm. Young people have been invited to find out more about the Local Youth Network and to ask if they would like to join the wider group or the management group of which there are up to 6 places. There will also be an opportunity for young people to shape future youth engagement activities, identify local priorities and begin to develop a local action plan to guide the work of the LYN and the Area Board.

In addition, a wider stakeholder engagement event has been organised and this too will take place at the City Hall on 16th December. The programme for the event is set out at Appendix 2.

The costs associated with both events will be met from the 'Our Place' funding.

6. Budget

In addition to the 'Our Place' budget and the dedicated community youth officer, the Council has agreed to allocate funds to the Area Board as follows:

- 2014/15 - £22,203 (plus any additional funds held locally)
- 2015/16 - £37,040

7. Recommendations

- 1. that Salisbury Area Board approves the terms of reference and membership of the LYN management group (as tabled at the meeting).**
- 2. that in respect of urgent matters that may arise from time to time between meetings, the Community Area Manager, in consultation with the Community Youth Officer and the Chairman of the Area Board, be granted delegated authority to approve expenditure not exceeding £1000 from the youth budget for projects in relation to positive activities for young people. A report explaining any such decision and the reasons why it was considered to be urgent shall be reported to the next ordinary meeting of the Area Board.**
- 3. that authority be delegated to the Community Area Manager to manage an annual budget of up to £500 to cover expenditure related to the management of the LYN and its activities. A report giving details of any expenditure incurred will be reported to the next ordinary meeting of the Salisbury Area Board.**

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