



Community Engagement Report – Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Community Area

Royal Wootton Bassett Area Board

19th January 2022

Action Plan for the Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Community Area Board

1. Purpose of the Report

1. To receive feedback and note progress on priority actions identified in the area board action plan (29 Sept 2021).
2. To confirm the removal of priority actions identified in the action plan:
 - a) Young People - Develop the Local Youth Forum (Practitioners group). The Forum is being re-established and will update the Area Board directly in future.
 - b) Older and Vulnerable Adults - Re-establish the Health and Wellbeing Group – Complete (group will now update Area Board directly).
 - c) To set up an Older and Vulnerable People and their Carers Group – now combined with the Health and Wellbeing Group.
 - d) Environment - Promote the Wiltshire Council Climate Strategy and COP26 – Complete 12/11/21.
3. To request the Community Engagement Managers, work with local groups and organisations and the relevant Area Board Champions to consider new actions for inclusion in the Action Plan priority list (appendix 1).
4. To confirm that, where appropriate, the RWB&C Area Board will focus its time and resources upon existing and new priority actions during 2022/23.



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2. Update on the Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade action plan:

Since the last meeting, in September, Board Members and the Community Engagement Managers have been actively working with the community to move forward actions. A few are now complete, while others are still at a stage of development.

To date priority actions, listed below and displayed in **appendix 1**, have been identified and these can be categorised as short (a), mid (b) and longer term (c+) in their urgency/anticipated achievement:

Young people

- a) Reconvene the Community Area Youth Forum to confirm priority issues outlined in the Status Report and identify priority actions/activities that can be undertaken with and without the Area Board.

In progress – A meeting of the Forum is planned in Jan 2022.

- b) Establish a Community Area Young Peoples Voice group.

In development – Wiltshire Council is in the process of setting up a Youth Council and Royal Wootton Bassett Academy and Braydon Forest Schools have both engaged with this initiative. There are also community seats open to young people who live, but do not receive their education from a school in the Wiltshire Council administrative area. An area board youth survey has received responses from approx. 600 young people from the community area. Further development of a RWB&C specific youth voice group will be discussed at the Youth Forum.

Older and Vulnerable People

- a) Re-establish the Health and Wellbeing Group.

In progress – meetings have taken place with key people to re-establish and develop a Health and Wellbeing Group. Representatives have been requested from each parish in the community area to join the group. An initial meeting is planned for the Spring.

- b) To set up an Older and Vulnerable People and their Carers Group.



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In progress – discussions about this issue have resulted in a decision to combine the Health and Wellbeing Group with the Older and Vulnerable People and their Carers Group for development.

The Environment

- a) Promote the Wiltshire Council Climate Strategy and COP26.
Complete – consultation on the Climate Strategy and COP26 have both taken place.
- b) Establish an Area Board wide Environment Group
No action reported to date.

Economy

- a) Establish current issues affecting local business and promote regeneration of the high street.
Ongoing – officers have been preparing to roll out an initiative designed to support local high street businesses.
- a) Raise awareness of organisations working locally to eliminate poverty (fuel, IT, financial, food)
Ongoing – foodbanks in RWB, Lyneham and Cricklade have all received financial support to continue their work locally. Engagement with organisations such as the Swindon Food Co-operative and Safe and Warm Wiltshire is helping to build knowledge, but further work is needed to identify specific actions.

Community Resilience

- (a) Work with Town and Parish Councils to re-establish and develop a RWB&C Area Parish Forum.
In progress – Prior to the Covid pandemic the area board had successfully trialled holding a quarterly Parish Forum. Members will discuss reinstating these sessions in Spring 2022.



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3. Conclusion

The first few months of the adopted RWB&C Action Plan has seen some progress. Unsurprisingly some workstreams have moved forward faster and further than others.

The Action Plan has been designed to help keep track of activities and projects taking place and it is likely that some actions and projects have yet to be picked up.

Partners, community groups and individual volunteers are encouraged to let the area board know if they are starting a project which is addressing one of the priority issues and to remember that the Area Board is keen to focus its grants budgets upon projects which can demonstrate links to the Plan.

The Action Plan should not be a static document, but a dynamic framework, to be revised, adapted and updated as matters change, needs arise, and projects are completed.

As actions are completed and/or issues are resolved, they will be removed from the Action Plan and other issues raised may move onto the plan.

Equally all other issues and actions may be progressed outside of the action plan as and when possible.

Other issues awaiting prioritisation in the Status report can be viewed at **appendix 2**.

4. Recommendations

1. To receive feedback and note progress on priority actions identified in the area board action plan (Sept 2021 – Jan 2022).
2. To confirm the removal of completed priority actions identified in the action plan:
 - a) Young People - Develop the Local Youth Forum (Practitioners group).
The Forum is being re-established and will update the Area Board directly in future.
 - b) Older and Vulnerable Adults - Re-establish the Health and Wellbeing Group – Complete (group will now update Area Board directly).



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- c) To set up an Older and Vulnerable People and their Carers Group – now combined with the Health and Wellbeing Group.
 - d) Environment - Promote the Wiltshire Council Climate Strategy and COP26 – Complete 12/11/21.
3. To request the Community Engagement Managers, work with local groups and organisations and the relevant Area Board Champions to consider new actions for inclusion in the Action Plan priority list (appendix 1)
 4. To confirm that, where appropriate, the RWB&C Area Board will focus its time and resources upon existing and new priority actions during 2022/23.

5. Background

Every 3 to 4 years, Wiltshire Council's public health department working with key partners and organisations, undertakes a thorough analysis of data available to provide a summary of the current and future needs of people in Wiltshire. This information which is called the "Community Area Joint Strategic Needs Assessment" (JSNA) is broken down to and presented around Wiltshire's 20 community areas to help local communities in their prioritisation and decision making.

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and associated lockdown measures, it was agreed that each community area board would lead on the creation of a short "Community Area Status report" to capture and reflect the main messages from local data and community discussions. The intention was to also reflect some of the impact of the pandemic upon our community.

This was brought to the Area Board in July 2021 and adopted. The next step was to use this information to help inform and select priorities that the Area Board would focus its resources upon.

All local organisations, groups, clubs and individuals have a desire and a joint responsibility to address local issues. The area board wanted to identify how it can best use what time, influence and resources it has in order to help make a difference. Area Boards in Wiltshire were asked to initially agree between 3 and 5 priorities to focus upon and then take some actions that will help address them. These priorities can be changed at any time if required. The criteria used to select them included:



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- Is there evidence to suggest that this is a local issue that needs to be addressed?
- Is the Area Board best placed to take one or more actions that will help?
- Is there support for this from the wider community?
- Are there associated actions which can deliver desired outcomes within the next 18 months?

Having looked at the evidence the Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board agreed that its priorities fell broadly into 2 themes and 6 streams, as listed below, with 3 Wiltshire Councillors working as Champions for each theme:

PEOPLE Champions: Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr David Bowler, Cllr Mary Champion.

Young people - Mental Health & Wellbeing and Positive Activities

Older People - Isolation and access to services

Vulnerable individuals and families – including the economically vulnerable

Community Resilience – cross community area communication and co-operation.

PLACE Champions: Cllr Bob Jones, Cllr Steve Bucknell, Cllr Jacqui Lay.

The Local Economy - Promote local business and address IT, Food & Fuel Poverty.

The Environment – Addressing climate change targets.

A rolling work plan is being maintained to record what actions have been proposed, their status and other information.

The Community Engagement Managers have been asked to provide an overview of progress which the Area Board has been involved in/or is aware of.

The action plan can be changed as and when the board thinks it appropriate, when actions have been completed and as new issues arise.

Appendix 1. Action Plan to be updated by Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board

Priority	Action	Leads	Partners Engaged	Funding Required	Comments	Status
Young people Mental Health & Wellbeing and Positive Activities	Reconvene the Community Area Youth Forum (Practitioners group) to confirm priority issues outlined in the Status Report and identify priority actions/ activities that can be undertaken with and without the Area Board. This group originally began to meet during lockdown and was made up of people working with young people from across the community area in a wide variety of spheres (paid and voluntary) from Teachers and Youth workers to sports coaches and uniformed group leaders. They previously focussed upon taking the opportunity to share information and discuss issues affecting young people. Completion 25/01/22	Cllr Allison Bucknell	RWB Town Council, Cricklade Town Council Royal Wootton Bassett Academy, Bradon Forest School, Rise Trust (Youth), Purton Parish Council, Cricklade Local Youth Network, RWB Local Youth Network, RWB Hockey Club, Launch to Learning, Army Welfare Service Lyneham; Police Youth /Early Intervention team, RWB Netball.		Top priority The Forum is being re-established and will update the Area Board directly in future. 25/01/22 Recommended for closure on the Action Plan – 19/01/22	
	Develop a young people voices group to develop appropriate ways to engage and consult with local young people		Rise Trust (Youth), Army Welfare Service Lyneham, Cricklade Local Youth Network, RWB Local Youth Network		Top priority Royal Wootton Bassett Academy and Braydon Forest Schools have both engaged with Wiltshire Youth Council initiative. Community seats also open to young people who live but are not educated at a school in the Wiltshire Council administrative area. An area board youth survey has received responses from approx. 600 young	

					people from the community area. Need for a specific youth voice group will be discussed at the Youth Forum.	
	Develop Local Youth provision, street based and café style in the towns and assess provision in the villages.		Rise Trust (Youth), Army Welfare Service Lyneham, Cricklade Town Council, Purton Parish Council, RWB Town Council.	Yes, under investigation	Ongoing	
Older People Isolation and access to services	To set up an Older and Vulnerable People and their Carers Group (OVPC). This would have a primary focus on engaging, in an informal manner, with people from the community who are involved with running activities and events for older people, vulnerable adults and carers. In the hope that they are best able to provide anecdotal evidence of local experiences and gaps in support.	Cllr David Bowler			discussions about this issue have resulted in a decision to combine the Health and Wellbeing Group with the Older and Vulnerable People and their Carers Group for development.	
	To Re-establish the Health and Wellbeing Group (H&W). This would concentrate upon information sharing and discussion of the issues and experiences raised by the OVPC group. Complete Spring 22	Cllr Mary Champion	Community Together, Link 6 & RWB; RWB Walking Group, Thursday Memory Group; Zoe Millington, Wiltshire Centre for Independent Living; Pips Community Café; Cricklade Open Door; RWB Shed; Cricklade Link Celebrating Age Wiltshire; Wiltshire Council Health Trainer; Local Area Coordinator; RWB, Purton and Cricklade Libraries; RWB Children's Centre;		Top priority meetings have taken place with key people to re-establish and develop a Health and Wellbeing Group. Representatives have been requested from each parish in the community area to join the group. An initial meeting is planned for the Spring	
	Undertake an audit of the activities and events for Older and Vulnerable People	Cllr David Bowler			Ongoing	

	and Carers to establish current status and identify what support may be required/possible to support development of new and existing groups				Request for information sent out to all parishes to help consolidate local knowledge.	
	Support the ongoing development of the Celebrating Age project in the Area. This project has successfully provided activities for older people and carers across the community area pre and during the pandemic. It is now working towards its third phase, which plans to return to more face-to-face events and activities.	Cllr Mary Champion	Wiltshire Music Centre; Local volunteers, Health & Wellbeing Group.	Yes, £1,500 allocated from H&W budget 09/2021	Ongoing Links directly to action suggested in Status Report: Encourage, support and promote positive/accessible activities.	
Environment	Promote the Wiltshire Council Climate Strategy and COP26. Complete 12/11/21	Cllr Steve Bucknell	RWB Environmental Group		Top priority consultation on the Climate Strategy and COP26 have both taken place.	
	Establish an Area Board wide Environment Group				No action reported to date.	
Economy	Establish current issues affecting local business and retail (promote regeneration of the high streets and villages).	Cllr Bob Jones			Top priority officers have been preparing to roll out an initiative designed to support local high street businesses.	

	Raise awareness of organisations working locally to eliminate poverty (fuel, IT, financial, food)	Cllr Jacqui Lay			Top Priority Foodbanks in RWB, Lyneham and Cricklade have all received financial support to continue their work locally. Engagement with organisations such as the Swindon Food Co-operative and Safe and Warm Wiltshire is helping to build knowledge, but further work is needed to identify specific actions.	
Community Resilience	Develop a Community Area Parish Forum.	Cllr Allison Bucknell	All Town and Parish Council Chairs and Clerks		Top priority Prior to the Covid pandemic the area board had successfully trialled holding a quarterly Parish Forum. Members will discuss reinstating these sessions in Spring 2022.	

Appendix 2: Issues identified in the status report for further consideration (those already escalated to the action plan are marked accordingly)

Issue	Possible actions (where identified)	Key supporting evidence source	Area Board priority streams – where relevant	Escalation to priority stream or other organisation leading
Social Isolation and access to activities for Older and Vulnerable people	Encourage, support and promote positive/accessible activities.	JSNA data/RWB&C Health and Wellbeing group/RWB&C Covid-19 volunteer support group forum.	PEOPLE	Older and Vulnerable People
Mental Health and Wellbeing	Encourage, support and promote self-help activities with signposting to	RWB&C Health and Wellbeing group/RWB&C Covid-19 volunteer support group forum.	PEOPLE	Older and Vulnerable People
Hospital admissions through self-harm notably higher than Wiltshire rate.		JSNA data	PEOPLE	
Access to Medical services	Partnership working and communication with local surgeries	Discussions with partners	PEOPLE	
Academic achievement.	Identify, support and promote initiatives being developed locally regionally and nationally to support young people and families who are likely to be negatively impacted by a widening academic achievement gap. Explore opportunities to	JSNA data / RWB&C Area Youth Forum	PEOPLE	Young People

	<p>improve access to IT equipment and broadband for young people and especially those living in economically vulnerable households.</p> <p>Maintain regular communication with schools and encourage/ support their recovery curriculum and transition schemes.</p>			
<p>Provision of joined up, relevant youth support, guidance and activities.</p>	<p>Develop new opportunities to provide a combination of ongoing street based/café style youth work providing support, signposting, mentoring.</p> <p>Confirm the current offer for youth activities in the community area. Ensure that robust safeguarding</p>	<p>RWB&C Area Youth Forum</p>	<p>PEOPLE</p>	<p>Young People</p>

	<p>policies and procedures are present and that opportunities are accessible..</p> <p>Encourage and support relevant activities for young people, especially during school holidays and at times of locally recognised anxiety.</p> <p>Develop links between local youth providers and encourage their ongoing conversations, training and development especially relating to new approaches to youth work, safeguarding and funding opportunities.</p>			
Listening to young people.	Discuss and develop a new, locally relevant way to link with the views of local young people	RWB&C Area Youth Forum	PEOPLE	Young People

	using technology, existing channels and street-based youth workers to better understand issues they are facing. Identify new ways to capture the issues and views of young people (traditional style surveys are unhelpful).			
Cross community area communication and co-operation/	Encourage and promote more cross area working/information sharing and communication between town and parishes	RWB&C Town and Parish Forum/conversation and Community Safety Forum.	PEOPLE	Community Resilience
Anti-Social Behaviour and perceptions of ASB in some parts of the community	Develop and promote ongoing conversations between parish reps and Wiltshire Police, link with detached youth provision.	RWB&C Community Safety Forum.	PLACE	
There is a higher than the Wiltshire average level of road collisions and deaths		JSNA data and Fire and Rescue Service.	PLACE	
Lack of affordable housing	access to good quality / carbon	JSNA data	PLACE	

	neutral housing esp in villages			
Personal debt and financial challenges are increasing rapidly		Office of National Statistics, JSNA data	PEOPLE	
Transport is very difficult for non-car owners.		All partner discussions	PLACE	
Link schemes do not have enough drivers		Link Schemes	PEOPLE	
Alcohol related hospital admissions higher than Wiltshire rate.		JSNA data	PEOPLE	
Need to develop safer cycle routes across the community area.		RWB&C Eco Fest and Environmental groups	PLACE	
Support for Local Sustainable shops and businesses		Local Businesses and Environmental groups.	PLACE	Economy
Need for more environmental housing with reduced carbon levels.		JSNA data and environmental groups	PLACE	Environment
Challenge to achieve energy performance targets and climate change targets in an affordable way		JSNA data and environmental groups	PLACE	Environment
Waste and Recycling			PLACE	Environment
Support and promotion of businesses affected by COVID-19 .		Local Businesses and community discussions	PLACE	Economy
Promotion of High Streets and Local Businesses		Local Businesses and community discussions	PLACE	Economy
Only 13.4% of adult carers felt they had the social contact they'd like.		JSNA data	PEOPLE	

8% of 0-19yr olds thought to be living in poverty			PEOPLE	Economy
Addressing Food Poverty			PEOPLE	Economy
Fuel Poverty			PLACE	Economy
Highways infrastructure and maintenance			PLACE	
Support for people living with dementia			PEOPLE	
Development of appropriate digital literacy in older/vulnerable people who are currently not able to access appropriate equipment or learning opportunities.			PEOPLE	
adults living with SEND in the community and the pressures faced by carers, especially those carers who are also parents with their own vulnerabilities.			People	
Working / learning from home – access to equipment / internet			PLACE	
YP -Worries over future opportunities – achieving recognised qualifications, access to further education, work experience, apprenticeships, work etc.			PEOPLE	
Road Safety – reduce collisions			PLACE	CATG
Community Safety – County Lines			PLACE	Community Safety Forum

Environment – meet carbon neutral	Community Orchard/Wood/Tree Planting Schemes		PLACE	Environment
Environment - rewilding			PLACE	Environment
Environment – improve EPC ratings			PLACE	Environment
Environment – sustainable businesses			PLACE	Environment
Environment – Active Travel			PLACE	Environment
Environment – walking routes			PLACE	Environment
Economy - debt management			PLACE	Economy
Economy – private rental market			PLACE	
Economy – rural transport			PLACE	
Economy – local business support			PLACE	Economy
Economy – employment opportunities			PLACE	Economy