

CALNE Area Board

06th Sept 2022

Report from the Calne Community Area Youth Forum

1. Purpose of the Report

- a) To report on progress made in addressing the Area Board youth priorities selected for 2022/23
 - b) To note discussions and actions laid out in the meeting notes of the last Youth Forum.
 - c) To consider recommendations from the Youth Forum:
 - Add to Youth section of the Area Board Community Action Plan: 'Work with the Environment group to develop a young people's Environment themed event in the autumn of 2022'.
 - Add to the Youth section of the Area Board Community Action Plan: 'Encourage projects that will promote and support young people to adopt positive voices and social interactions'.
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2. Calne Area Youth Forum – NOTES/Update for the Area Board:

Meeting held on 14th June 2022:

Attendees: Chair: Cllr Sam Pearce-Kearney - Wiltshire Council and Calne Town Council; Patty Kelly – Kingsbury Green Academy; Danielle Blake - Rise Trust; Mark Edwards - Calne Town Council; Ruth Hill – Wordfest and Home Schooler; Jane Vaughan - Wiltshire Council.
Apologies: Jason Tudor – Principle, Kingsbury Green Academy; Dave Wiley – Kingsbury Green Academy; Cameron Strawson – Youth Voice, Wiltshire Council; Stan Woods - OB4CY; Corinna Davidson/Kathy West – A Place for Us;



2.1. SP-K welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.2. Review of Area Board priorities

At its meeting on 31st May, the Area Board had set the Priorities/Actions for attention moving forwards – the Forum was asked to discuss:

Calne Area Action Plan (Youth Section) 31/05/2022.

Positive activities for Young People (including those living with SEND)	Priority	Action	Additional comments
	Young People – Mental Health and Wellbeing	Develop Local Youth provision outreach and safe space (continuation of Action 1.2)	Discuss continued collaborative approach with the Town Council and assess needs in villages.
	Young People – Mental Health and Wellbeing	Review of existing local outreach and safe space arrangements.	Suggestion that a review is arranged with other Area's in the North of the County to compare approaches.
	Young People - Mental Health and Wellbeing	'Happy News' project – phase 2. Continuation of Action 1.5 .	Youth Forum project for Calne Young people vulnerable to anxiety and mental health issues as a result of exposure to 24-hour media/social media, with a fixation upon bad/sensationalised news stories.

Action 1.2 – DB provided an overview of the Outreach and Safe Space provision taking place in the community area. Everyone acknowledged the value of this work. DB also highlighted the need to recognise the individual character of the needs of young people in each of the Community areas and also the experience of young people from one area travelling to another for support. JV reported that the idea was not to necessarily change the way O&SS is currently provided, but that all partners have an opportunity to discuss their experiences and also whether there are any opportunities that are not currently being utilised.

Action 1.5 – It was noted by all that the Happy News project was a worthwhile activity and that many young people engaged with the paper. It was also suggested that many more young people would interact better with a social media-based approach to countering 24 hour bad/sensationalised news stories.

2.3. Potential additions to the Action Plan/Issues list –

- **Joint project with Environment group to hold a Young People's Environment event in the autumn**

SPK and JV would work with the Environment group, ME would identify an officer from the Town Council, Patty would identify someone from KGA, it was hoped other schools, might also get involved).

- **Encouraging Positive Voices and Actions:** PK reported new concerns emerging from KGA relating to some young females quite rightly expressing a right to have their voices heard but expressing their views in a very negative way and to the detriment of other young women. There was a feeling that this may be linked to constant interactions with negative influences on social media,

lack of monitoring of social media use by parents and general lack of awareness about appropriate behaviours in social situations – and that this may be linked to a wider phenomenon emerging out of the pandemic and long periods of community lockdown and personal isolation requirements. This has been noted in people of all ages as they appear to struggle to click back in to normally accepted social conventions.

The group discussed a variety of projects that might be helpful for promoting positive ways to raise your voice including: a Wordfest project looking at providing Stand up comedy training sessions; a suggestion that information session about social media platforms could be delivered to parents; Wordfest physical story telling workshops as part of their Tale Trails app; Identify a Social Influencer to come and deliver workshops/talks for young people.

All to consider how these ideas might be moved forwards and to communicate between meetings.

PK would speak to KGA drama teacher for help identifying ideas/contacts re. other potential projects.

2.4. Thriving/Surviving?

- **Are recent suggestions of a rise in eating disorders especially amongst boys reflected locally?**

No specific local knowledge relating to this issue – PK noted that, with regards to addressing mental health issues, KGA uses strategies for self-care generally, rather than focussing on specific conditions.

PK would feedback whether other members of staff at KGA held any evidence of increases in these issues.

- **Who is missing** (Are we hearing the experiences of all young people in the community)?

The group is still not including specific links to young carers, refugees nor is it linking with some of the more traditional youth activity groups (uniformed groups and local sports clubs etc).

2.5. Recommendations for the area board/action plan:

- **Note discussions and actions laid out in the meeting notes.**
- **Add ‘Work with the Environment group to develop a young people’s Environment themed event in the autumn of 2022’ (Action 1.6).**
- **Add ‘Encouraging projects that will promote and support young people to adopt positive voices and social interactions’ to the Youth section of the Community Area Action Plan (Action 1.7).**
- **Agree revised update to the Youth Section of Area Board Community Action Plan (see below – appendix A.)**

2.6. Next meeting - The next meeting was planned for the 2nd week in September.

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Appendix A - revised update to the Youth Section of Calne Area Board Community Action Plan – Sept 2022

Priority	Action	Lead	Additional Comments	Funding Required?	Status
Positive activities for Young People (including those living with SEND)	Action 1.2 Develop Local Youth provision, street based and café style in the town and assess provision in the villages.	Cllr Sam Pearce-Kearney	08/03/22: Area Board Match Funding allocated to Calne Town Council towards development of local youth provision in Calne. This project is a collaboration between the Area Board and the Town Council facilitated by the Rise Trust (Youth). /// 07/12/21: Partners engaged: Calne Town Council, Rise Youth Trust, Wiltshire Police.	Yes	Amber
	Action 1.4 Develop appropriate ways to engage and consult with local young people.	Cllr Sam Pearce-Kearney	Marked as COMPLETE 08/03/22: The Area Board noted that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Wiltshire Council Youth Survey – has been completed with a response from about 200 Calne Young People, the area board is awaiting publication of those results. •Wiltshire Youth Council – the election of the local young people representatives has taken place awaiting clarification about how the Youth Council will engage with the area board. •Office of the PCC have developed a Youth Commissioner programme. •The Area Board/Town Council continues to develop Youth engagement via the Rise Trust •The Youth Forum enables other agencies and groups to feed in and include young people in their conversations. /// 07/12/21: Partners to engage: Calne Town Council, Kingsbury Green Academy, Home School Network, A Place for Us. 		Amber
	Action 1.5: Happy News for Young People project, emerging from the Local Youth Forum	Initially CEM and Calne Town Council Business manager	First phase of project developed with the Local Youth Network, aimed to engage young people from all settings. Mark as COMPLETE Easter 2022.		
			To be progressed at next Youth Forum	Yes, to be confirmed.	amber
	Action 1.6: Work with the Environment group to develop a young people's Environment themed event.	Cllr Sam Pearce Kearney/Cllr Ian Thorn	Cllrs Thorn and Pearce-Kearney to discuss and report back to Youth and Environment Forum	Yes, to be confirmed.	amber
	Action 1.7: Encourage projects that will promote and support young people to adopt positive voices and social interactions	Youth Forum	To be progressed at next Youth Forum	Yes, to be confirmed.	amber