



Area Board Local Priorities report – Feb 27th 2023

The Pewsey Area Board in May 2022 reviewed available local data and evidence, and integrated this with local knowledge and community conversation to agree the following local priority themes:

- ❖ To help provide positive activities for young people
- ❖ To help protect the environment and reduce carbon footprint
- ❖ To improve bus services and access
- ❖ To improve the health and wellbeing of older and vulnerable adults



Each priority theme has one or more specific local actions that with the support of the Strategic Engagement and Partnership Manager and Area Board Delivery Officer, the Pewsey Area Board will positively address. Some of the recent progress made includes:

1. To help provide positive activities for young people

- The Open Blue Bus has continued to operate in Burbage and Upavon. However, a more sustainable approach is required that can build upon the success of the bus over the past 2 years. The Area Board has offered to work with both Parish Councils and will be open to considering financial support to any new work.
- A meeting of local stakeholders has been arranged on 9th March at 5pm in the Little Lunchbox to look at how the Youth offer in the village of Pewsey can be moved forward. One-off events are being arranged for 2023 but the goal is to be able to offer an ongoing place for young people to go.
- Community First Youth Project Officers funded by the area board are continuing to support our local youth offer and are arranging events, talking to the schools and working with Trenchard Lines

2. To help protect the environment and reduce carbon footprint

- Contact has been made with Pewsey PC and Green Great Bedwyn with a view to holding a joint event and to consider if there are any projects that we can move forward in the area. This will be taken forward over the next few months.

3. To Improve bus services

- The work to introduce the new Demand Responsive Bus services in the Pewsey Vale is going well with the new bus's having been purchased. The service should start around Easter, and we will be holding a launch event to promote it. Details are still to be arranged.



4. To improve the health and wellbeing of older and vulnerable adults

- The health and wellbeing group met in early February and applications have been submitted for the area board's consideration to support the Dementia Café, set up a hardship emergency fund for the Pewsey area and to continue the support for Arts Together who provide art activities to the vulnerable and elderly in our community
- The latest Cost of Living update is included in the Area Board pack and highlights some of the work that is going on to help our communities through this challenging time