



# **Pewsey Area Board**

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# **End of Year Report**

**May 2021 - March 2023**

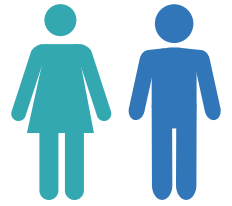
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# Pewsey Area Board

Pewsey Community Area covers 268km<sup>2</sup> of rural countryside in the middle of Wiltshire known as the Pewsey Vale. The community area covers a broad and rich valley between the Marlborough Downs to the north and Salisbury Plain to the south and extends to Wiltshire's eastern boundary. Pewsey is the service centre for the Vale of Pewsey

The Area Board is Pewsey's local cabinet for Wiltshire Council, bringing local decision making into the heart of the community area. The Area Board is made up of 3 unitary councillors. The Councillors are the voting members of the board, and all those who engage in the board's work are equal members, able to influence decisions, shape and deliver on local priorities.

The community area has a range of vibrant and active voluntary and community sector support organisations. These are a rich source of community activities






**Total  
Population  
14,365**

## Area Board Investment

The Area Board invests in local community projects and initiatives that meet local priorities and deliver exceptional outcomes for residents. The Area Board aims to work in partnership to achieve maximum value for its investment. They take a long term view to invest in prevention and early intervention, focusing on tackling inequalities and improving social mobility.

### Total Area Board Investment

<b>£50,231</b>	<b>£17,773</b>	<b>£15,270</b>
<b>Community</b>	<b>Youth</b>	<b>Older and Vulnerable Adults</b>
		
<b>Total Community Contribution</b>		
<b>£424,211</b>	<b>£57,136</b>	<b>£29,993</b>

The total amount invested in projects through additional community contribution, from fundraising, grants, services in kind or volunteering

# Local Priorities

The Pewsey Area Board reviewed available local data and evidence and integrated this with local knowledge and community conversation to agree the following local priority themes. The Area Board has undertaken a series of more specific local actions to positively address them, including the key achievements below:

## Improving the provision of positive youth activities



The Pewsey Area Board has supported the Open blue bus. The Open Blue bus has visited Burbage 14 times and Upavon 13 times with 12 to 14 young people aged between 11 and 15 years old, in each community regularly coming. The bus provides a place for young people to meet up, hang out and have fun. The bus provides hot chocolate and toasties and the opportunity to play board games, on electronic consoles, table football, dodgeball and frisbee outside. Often games of tag and hide and seek on and around bus organised by the young people themselves have proved most popular.

## Improving public transport and encourage walking and cycling



Pewsey Vale Tourism Partnership used Area Board grant funding to invest in way markers for the new walking and cycling route around the edge of the Pewsey Community Area. This has allowed local people with little disposable income the chance to explore their area and offers a draw to visitors to the area.

## Improving the health and wellbeing of our local communities



The Pewsey Art Group supports around 12 local people who are living with dementia and their carers weekly. They “get creative” and physically make things, which is fun and good for manual dexterity and retaining cognitive skills. The groups help combat social isolation by giving a reason to get out of the house and meet up with other people. The groups can also provide respite to carers by offering a few precious hours where they can safely leave their loved one with their friends, knowing they will be both content and safe.

## Community-led projects



The Pewsey Area Board has developed a strong, well established and highly functioning network of local partners, organisations and residents in the area. The Board recognises the talents, expertise and knowledge of the local community and empowers and facilitates community led action to co-deliver local services.

A shining example of the type of support and change that area boards can drive forward through community-led action is the development of a Pewsey Vale demand responsive transport (DRT) bus. Pewsey Area Board working with Pewsey Community Area Partnership (PCAP) and other partners have supported the implementation of this new service that will be fully operational from early summer 23.

This service is a flexible, on-demand bus service, people can phone or book a bus service, see in real-time when the vehicle will arrive and make payment via an app, to take them anywhere within the service area at a time to suit them.

It will cover much of Pewsey Vale; from the eastern edge of Devizes, north to Beckhampton and Marlborough, and east to Collingbourne Ducis, Shalbourne and Froxfield, including Pewsey, Burbage, Great Bedwyn and Everleigh.

A key mission of Wiltshire Council's Business Plan is to help Wiltshire be a place where 'We have vibrant, well-connected communities, and it aims to help build an efficient and effective transport network, including viable alternatives to the car.



# Engagements

The Pewsey Area Board works alongside other organisations to make things happen in the local community. These groups include the city council, voluntary and community groups, youth organisations, sports clubs and local charities.

The Area Board wouldn't be able to achieve what they do without these partners working on the ground with them. The Area Board hosts regular business meetings, engagement activities, events, surveys and working groups to stimulate and support local community action.

## Area Board Business meetings

9



Attendances

260

## Area Board working groups

6



Attendances

62

## Engagements/ events/ activities

11



Attendances

291

## Area Board surveys

2



Responses

515

# Local Highways and Footpath Infrastructure group

The Local Highways and Footpath Infrastructure group (LHFIG) is a sub group of the Pewsey Area Board, which deals specifically with highway issues. They aim to find solutions for local transport issues, such as road repairs, traffic problems, road layouts and parking.

The amount allocated is dependent on the geographical size and population for the community area and the funding allocation is for capital expenditure and can be used to provide new and improved highway infrastructure.

## LHFIG Projects 2022/23

- North Newnton Footway
- Easton Royal Village Gates
- Froxfield Access protection markings
- A345 Near Upavon Deer Warning Signs
- A346 Burbage Horse and Rider Warning Signs
- Pewsey Fordbrook installation of Bus Shelter
- A342 Rushall Site Clearance Work and Topographical Survey



Two schemes were developed to enable bids for Substantive Highways Scheme Funding at Rushall (new footway) and at Woodborough (new footway and traffic calming build out). The Rushall bid was successful, but the Woodborough bid just missed out on funding. It is the intention to re-submit the bid for Woodborough during 23/24.

### LHFIG meetings

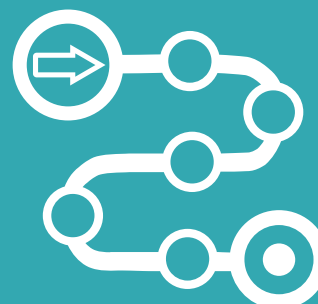
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**Attendances**

### LHFIG projects completed

9



# Agreeing and delivering priorities for 2023/24

By agreeing and delivering to local priorities, the Area Board is able to proactively address issues by focusing its resources and working in partnership with local organisations, volunteers and residents. To effectively select local priorities it is important that there is a regular review of the evidence available and the views of the residents are sought. To aid Councillors to agree their priorities, the list below provides some of new sources of data and evidence:

- **JSNA Wiltshire Intelligence**: The 2022 Wiltshire JSNA presents data on the current and future health and wellbeing needs of people in Wiltshire
- **Census 2021 results**: results from the 2021 census are being released in a phased manner, which started in June 2022
- **VCSE research - Wessex Community Action**: state of the Wiltshire voluntary and community sector 2022
- **Annual report - Wiltshire Citizens Advice**: Wiltshire Citizens Advice annual report 2022

As well as being evidence led, priorities should be selected where the Area Board believes it can realistically make a positive impact upon them. To aid the delivery of the chosen priorities, the Engagement and Partnerships team will support the Area Board councillors through the development of the Area Board local action plan.

Based on the work undertaken in 2022/23 and the new evidence available, some of the key priorities that the Board may wish to consider are as follows:

- **Youth engagement, employment and positive activity opportunities**
- **Addressing climate change and reversing biodiversity loss**
- **Supporting positive mental health and wellbeing and reducing social isolation**
- **Supporting under represented groups**
- **Improving transport and access**

It is recommended that for each priority selected, an area board councillor takes responsibility for overseeing its delivery and reporting back to the Area Board on progress. The Engagement and Partnerships team will support the Area Board councillors in undertaking this work.