



Area Board Local Priorities report – Sep 2024

The Pewsey Area Board in May 2024 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 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 Engagement and Partnership Lead, the Pewsey Area Board will positively address. Some of the recent progress made includes:

1. To help provide positive activities for young people

- Just before the school summer holidays, two events were run at Oxenwood for young people from the Grafton, Bedwyn and Burbage areas. Working with the parish councils, the purpose was to explore whether there was a demand for more sustainable youth work in these areas. Although attendance was not as good as hoped, those who did go had a great time. It has been agreed that the demand for a permanent youth group is not there, but the area board will continue to support events and activities when required. The Blue bus continues to operate in Upavon and Burbage
- 1 year after the Pewsey Youth café started, it continues to grow with additional sports coaching taking place on the MUGA next door. The area board, Pewsey Parish Council, Campus and volunteers are working closely together and have made some slight changes following the yearly review. We are also working together to offer free swimming lessons in the school holidays to those young people who can't swim. Speak to Richard Rogers for more information.
- Community First Youth project workers have now stopped working in the Pewsey area but will continue to offer support where they can. Their involvement made a great difference over the last few years and we thank them for the work they have done.



2. To help protect the environment and reduce carbon footprint

- Kate from Pewsey Green is gearing up for the home efficiency surveys this Winter using the thermal camera. And demonstrating what and who are involved in the home energy efficiency surveys and how the thermal imaging camera works in the Bouverie Hall Thursday 10th of October. Using the camera over the summer Kate conducted a heat Stress survey which showed 26°C inside which is considered unsafe for our elders and small children. This has led to the formation of a 'coalition' of Pewsey and Great Bedwyn to address the issue of cold homes, flooding, biodiversity and heat stress.

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

- Following conversations with staff and GP's from Pewsey Surgery, there is agreement that supporting older and isolated adults, including in very rural areas, is a local priority. Ideas around the need for a form of luncheon club, providing support for older people who are known to the surgery and taking services out to the villages have all been discussed. Please get in contact with Richard Rogers if you as an organisation or individual can help or want to get involved.
- As part of taking this forward, we welcomed representatives from Pewsey Surgery to the area board meeting