

Pewsey Area Board

28th June 2021

Agreeing initial priorities for Pewsey Community Area Board

1. Purpose of the Report

- I. To agree which priorities the Pewsey Area Board will focus its time and resources upon during 2021/22
- II. To allocate Area Board councillors as champions for the agreed priorities.
- III. To communicate some of the initial actions proposed to tackle these issues if agreed.

2. Background

Every 3 to 4 years, Wiltshire Council's public health department working with key partners and organisations, undertakes a thorough analysis of the 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 in order to help local communities in their prioritisation and decision making.

As a result of the 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 what the main messages are from the local data and the 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 January 2021 and accepted.

The next step was to use this information to help inform and select priorities that the Area Board would focus its resources upon. It was agreed that this would take place at the first meeting following the elections in May 2021

3. Process

All local organisations, groups, clubs and individuals have a joint responsibility to address locally identified issues. This paper demonstrates where the area board can best use what time, influence and resources it has in order to help make a difference.

Area Boards in Wiltshire are being 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 in this report to select them includes:

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

A draft rolling work plan will record what actions are being proposed, their status and other information. This will be used to report back to the Area Board at its meeting. This plan can be changed as and when the board thinks it appropriate and when new issues arise

Each Area Board councillor is also being asked to champion one or more of the area board's chosen priorities.

4. What priorities are being proposed?

Having looked at the evidence to select the most important issues arising and considered them against the criteria, the following priorities are being proposed. As Pewsey is a small area board, it is suggested that no more than 3 or 4 priorities are selected to work on at any one time.

Priority	Suggested possible actions and engagements include	Proposed Champion
Positive Activities for Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up Network (LYN) of support to work together including other youth providers and PC's • Undertake Youth Survey • Run climbing wall and wheeled sports events • Establish Rural Youth Project • Re-establish Blue Bus in Burbage and Upavon 	Cllr Kunkler
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with partners to run climate change event or workshop • Establish a network for climate change building upon that already running • Establish local initiative to help address carbon emission 	Cllr Kunkler
Transport & Access with strong links to loneliness and isolation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take part as a pilot for rural areas in relation to additional funding received to improve transport links 	Cllr Oatway

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer support to establish where possible broadband to all community buildings in the area as well as to those looking for employment and specialist help. • Support campaign for more link drivers • Establish ICT club in library 	
Mental Health (Community approach)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at possibility of establishing a men's shed • Support clubs and organisations with advice and funding • Work with new library manager to maximise the library usage • Attend fetes and events to engage with Residents especially in the smaller villages and offer support 	Cllr Wheeler

The status report identified some other issues of concern. Some of the key ones are highlighted below with the Community Engagement Managers comments.

THEME	ISSUE	POSSIBLE WAY FORWARD
Children & Young people	Average 8 attainment score is low	To ask school to comment
	Some young people suffering from poor mental health	Mental health triage put in place at Pewsey Vale School
Housing		
	Lack of affordable housing and community involvement in development	Can be addressed through local plan. Also being looked at by Community Land trust
Health and wellbeing / older people	Cancer mortality rates high for over 75	Ask the local surgery for their view
	Partnership working and communication with Kennet and Avon Medical Partnership and local surgeries needs to be improved	This has been addressed and the situation improved
Community Safety	ASB in some parts of the community area were high before COVID-19	Need to monitor this as restrictions lifted. Police to take a lead and activities for young people being planned will also help
	Increase in rural theft of agricultural equipment	Parish Councils and Police leading on this

	Increase in hare coursing	Parish Councils and police leading on this
Economy	Support and manage tourism in the area	Pewsey Vale Tourism Partnership taking the lead. Offer support where required
	Increase in people with issues around personal debt and financial challenges	The Area Board is working with agencies such as the foodbank, CAB, etc.
	Promote and support for local businesses affected by COVID	Pewsey PC looking at possible business promotion event, Wiltshire Council continues to provide support. Area Board to contribute where it can
Community Resilience	Limited outreach to travellers	Continue close communication with Julian Trust and WC traveller officer to help if required
Transport / Access		
	High level of road collisions and some roads in poor repair	Lead locally through CATG
	Freight traffic on narrow roads	Lead locally through CATG and Freight strategy

5. Recommendations

- (1) That the Area Board approves and adopts the 4 initial priorities identified in section 4
- (2) That the Area Board agrees the proposed councillor champions in section 4.
- (3) That the Area Board will prioritise its resources including funding upon the agreed priorities.