Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board End of Year Report April 2023 - March 2024



Area Board Investment

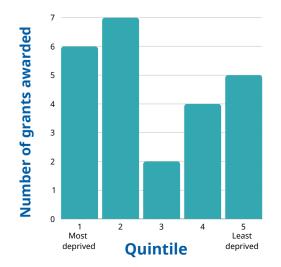
The Area Board invests in local community projects and initiatives that meet local priorities and deliver exceptional outcomes for residents. The Area Board aims to work in partnership to achieve maximum value for its investment.

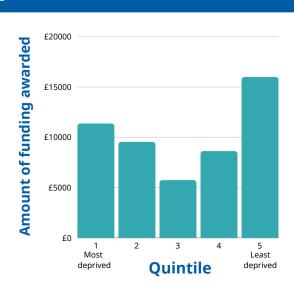
Total Area Board Investment



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

Investment by deprivation quintile





Local Priorities

The Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade 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:

Young people's Mental Health & Wellbeing and Positive Activities

The community area's Youth Forum met regularly and provided a network for local organisations. Plans formed for events that would showcase the sports, activities and services available for young people. The area board worked closely with the town councils and leisure centres in Cricklade and in Royal Wootton Bassett to develop these events to put on a whole day of activities, including free swimming and gym sessions for young people. We were able to call on local sports clubs, youth groups, uniform organisation and other support services to lead demonstrations, have-a-go sessions and provide information to over 500 young people across the two events. The area board continues to have good links with youth services such as Army Welfare Service at Lyneham and Rise Trust working in Cricklade, Purton and Royal Wootton Bassett.

Environment

The area board was part of a group of local organisations that worked to help create the new Vale View Garden within RWB. This turned a plot of unused land into an outdoor learning space, a sensory area and growing land. Groups such as the Infant School, Horizons College and the youth club now use the space. The area board has developed its relationship with Royal Wootton Bassett Environment Trust through its work on new active travel routes across the town. Working together with Wiltshire Council's Sustainable Transport team and the town council, designs for these routes will be created.

Older People: Isolation and access to services



The Community Care Group met regularly and membership of the group stays consistently strong. The area board and CCG maintains strong links to Celebrating Age and funded them to deliver performances and events for our older and isolated residents. The area board funded an additional mini project from CAW to deliver 4 x weekly sessions using literature, poetry, visual art and creative skills to stimulate new activity for the Shared Reading Library Group. Members of the CCG developed a new self-help group for carers and older people in the Bradenstoke and Lyneham area. This goes from strength to strength and has had support and presentations from the like of the Bobby Van, Rewind Mental Health and Wiltshire Council's Prevention and Wellbeing team.

The Economy

Councillors from the area board were instrumental in negotiating development of the new Banking Hub on Royal Wootton Bassett High Street. This facility hosts staff from a range of different high street banks on different days of the week and provides a venue for everyday banking business. This is the only opportunity for face-to-face banking within the town



Engagements

The Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board works alongside other organisations to make things happen in the local community. These groups include the town and parish councils, 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.







Local Highways and Footpath Infrastructure group

The LHFIG is a sub group of the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade 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.







