



# Community Engagement Report – Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Community Area

## Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board

29<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Action Plan for

Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade (RWB&C) Community Area Board

### 1. Purpose of the Report

- To agree an area board action plan and confirm priorities for the RWB&C Area Board to focus its time and resources upon during 2021/22 (appendix 1).
- To agree initial priority actions:

#### **Young People:**

- Develop the Local Youth Forum (Practitioners group).
- Establish a Community Area Young Peoples Voice group.

#### **Older and Vulnerable People**

- To set up an Older and Vulnerable People and their Carers Group.
- Re-establish the Health and Wellbeing Group.

#### **Environment**

- Promote the Wiltshire Council Climate Strategy and COP26.
- Establish an Area Board wide Environment Group

#### **Economy**

- Establish current issues affecting local business and promote regeneration of the high street.
- Raise awareness of organisations working locally to eliminate poverty (fuel, IT, financial, food)

#### **Community Resilience**

- Develop a Community Area Parish Forum.



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### 2. Background

Every 3 to 4 years, Wiltshire Council's public health department, working with key partners and organisations, undertakes a thorough analysis of data available to provide a summary of the current and future needs of people in Wiltshire. This information is called the "Community Area Joint Strategic Needs Assessment" (JSNA) is broken down to Wiltshire's 20 community areas and is intended to help local communities in their prioritisation and decision making.

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and associated lockdowns, it was agreed that each area board would lead on the creation of a "Community Area Status Report" to capture and reflect messages from local data and community discussions. The intention was also to show some of the impact of the pandemic on the community.

This was adopted by the RWB&C Area Board in June 2021. The next step was to use the data to help select priorities upon which to focus Area Board resources.

All local organisations, groups, clubs and individuals have a desire and a joint responsibility to address local issues. The area board wanted to identify how it can best use what time, influence and resources it has in order to help make a difference. Area Boards in Wiltshire were 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 to select them included:

- Is there evidence to suggest that this is a local issue that needs to be addressed?
- Is the Area Board best placed to take one or more actions that will help?
- Is there support for this from the wider community?
- 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 future meetings. The action plan can be changed as and when the board thinks it appropriate and when new issues arise. Each Area Board councillor has also been asked to champion the area board's chosen priorities.

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Having looked at the evidence to select the most important issues arising and considering them against the criteria the Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board agreed that its priorities broadly fell into 2 themes and 6 streams, as listed below, with 3 Wiltshire Councillors working as Champions for each theme:

**PEOPLE** Champions: Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr David Bowler, Cllr Mary Champion.

Young people - Mental Health & Wellbeing and Positive Activities

Older People - Isolation and access to services

Vulnerable individuals and families – including the economically vulnerable

Community Resilience – cross community area communication and co-operation.

**PLACE** Champions: Cllr Bob Jones, Cllr Steve Bucknell, Cllr Jacqui Lay.

The Local Economy - Promote local business and address IT, Food & Fuel Poverty.

The Environment – Addressing climate change targets.

### 3. Creating an action plan:

Since the last meeting, in June, Board Members have met with the Community Engagement Manager and other groups / individuals in the community to discuss the identification and development of actions and encouraging wider community engagement/ownership of the status report and actions. To date actions, listed below and displayed in **appendix 1**, have been identified and these can be categorised as short (a), mid (b) and longer term (c+) in their urgency/anticipated achievement:

#### Young people

- (a) Reconvene the Community Area Youth Forum (Practitioners group) to confirm priority issues outlined in the Status Report and identify priority actions/activities that can be undertaken with and without the Area Board.

This group originally began to meet during lockdown and was made up of people working with young people from across the community area in a wide variety of spheres (paid and voluntary) from Teachers and Youth workers to sports coaches and uniformed group leaders. They previously focussed upon taking the opportunity to share information and discuss issues affecting young people. (Cllr Allison Bucknell has volunteered to Chair this group).

- (a) Develop a young people voices group to develop appropriate ways to engage and consult with local young people

- (b) Develop Local Youth provision, street based and café style in the towns and assess provision in the villages.



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### Older and Vulnerable People

- (a) To set up an Older and Vulnerable People and their Carers Group (OVPC).  
This would have a primary focus on engaging, in an informal manner, with people from the community who are involved with running activities and events for older people, vulnerable adults and carers. In the hope that they are best able to provide anecdotal evidence of local experiences and gaps in support. (Cllr David Bowler has volunteered to Chair this group).
- (a) To Re-establish the Health and Wellbeing Group (H&W).  
This would concentrate upon information sharing and discussion of the issues and experiences raised by the OVPC group.
- (b) Undertake an audit of the activities and events for Older and Vulnerable People and Carers to establish current status and identify what support may be required/possible to support development of new and existing groups
- (c) Support the ongoing development of the Celebrating Age project in the Area.

### The Environment

- (a) Promote the Wiltshire Council Climate Strategy and COP26.
- (a) Establish an Area Board wide Environment Group (Steve Bucknell has volunteered to Chair this group).

### Economy

- (a) Establish current issues affecting local business and promote regeneration of the high street.
- (a) Raise awareness of organisations working locally to eliminate poverty (fuel, IT, financial, food)

### Community Resilience

- (a) Work with Town and Parish Councils to re-establish and develop a Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Parish Forum.

## 4. Conclusion

If approved, the Action Plan will be used to update future meetings to help keep track of activities and projects taking place to address the locally defined priorities.

This plan should not be a static document, but a dynamic framework, to be revised, adapted and updated as matters change, needs arise, and projects are completed.

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It is hoped the plan will be drawn upon by partners and the wider community, to provide a useful resource for their own activity in the Calne Community Area.

As actions are completed and or issues are resolved, they will be removed from the Action Plan and other issues raised in the Status report may move onto the plan.

Equally all issues and actions may be progressed outside of the action plan as and when possible.

Other issues awaiting prioritisation in the Status report can be viewed at **appendix 2**.

### 5. Recommendations

- To agree an area board action plan and confirm that priorities will form the focus of resources for the Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board during 2021/22 (**appendix 1**).
- To agree initial priority actions:

#### Young People:

- Develop the Local Youth Forum (Practitioners group).
- Establish a Community Area Young Peoples Voice group.

#### Older and Vulnerable People

- To set up an Older and Vulnerable People and their Carers Group.
- Re-establish the Health and Wellbeing Group.

#### Environment

- Promote the Wiltshire Council Climate Strategy and COP26.
- Establish an Area Board wide Environment Group

#### Economy

- Establish current issues affecting local business and promote regeneration of the high street.
- Raise awareness of organisations working locally to eliminate poverty (fuel, IT, financial, food)

#### Community Resilience

- Develop a Community Area Parish Forum.

## Appendix 1. Proposed Action Plan to be considered by Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board

Priority	Action	Leads	Partners Engaged	Funding Required	Comments	Status
Young people Mental Health & Wellbeing and Positive Activities	Reconvene the Community Area Youth Forum (Practitioners group) to confirm priority issues outlined in the Status Report and identify priority actions/ activities that can be undertaken with and without the Area Board. This group originally began to meet during lockdown and was made up of people working with young people from across the community area in a wide variety of spheres (paid and voluntary) from Teachers and Youth workers to sports coaches and uniformed group leaders. They previously focussed upon taking the opportunity to share information and discuss issues affecting young people.	Cllr Allison Bucknell	RWB Town Council, Cricklade Town Council Royal Wootton Bassett Academy, Bradon Forest School, Rise Trust (Youth), Purton Parish Council, Cricklade Local Youth Network, RWB Local Youth Network, RWB Hockey Club, Launch to Learning, Army Welfare Service Lyneham; Police Youth /Early Intervention team, RWB Netball.		Top priority	
	Develop a young people voices group to develop appropriate ways to engage and consult with local young people		Rise Trust (Youth), Army Welfare Service Lyneham, Cricklade Local Youth Network, RWB Local Youth Network		Top priority	
	Develop Local Youth provision, street based and café style in the towns and assess provision in the villages.		Rise Trust (Youth), Army Welfare Service Lyneham, Cricklade Town Council, Purton Parish Council, RWB Town Council.	Yes, under investigation		

<b>Older People</b> Isolation and access to services	To set up an Older and Vulnerable People and their Carers Group (OVPC). This would have a primary focus on engaging, in an informal manner, with people from the community who are involved with running activities and events for older people, vulnerable adults and carers. In the hope that they are best able to provide anecdotal evidence of local experiences and gaps in support.	<b>Cllr David Bowler</b>			<b>Top priority</b>	
	To Re-establish the Health and Wellbeing Group (H&W). This would concentrate upon information sharing and discussion of the issues and experiences raised by the OVPC group.	<b>Cllr Mary Champion</b>	Community Together, Link 6 & RWB; RWB Walking Group, Thursday Memory Group; Zoe Millington, Wiltshire Centre for Independent Living; Pips Community Café; Cricklade Open Door; RWB Shed; Cricklade Link Celebrating Age Wiltshire; Wiltshire Council Health Trainer; Local Area Coordinator; RWB, Purton and Cricklade Libraries; RWB Children's Centre;		<b>Top priority</b>	
	Undertake an audit of the activities and events for Older and Vulnerable People and Carers to establish current status and identify what support may be required/possible to support development of new and existing groups	<b>Cllr David Bowler</b>				

	Support the ongoing development of the Celebrating Age project in the Area. This project has successfully provided activities for older people and carers across the community area pre and during the pandemic. It is now working towards its third phase, which plans to return to more face-to-face events and activities.	<b>Cllr Mary Champion</b>	Wiltshire Music Centre; Local volunteers, Health & Wellbeing Group.		Links directly to action suggested in Status Report: Encourage, support and promote positive/accessible activities.	
<b>Environment</b>	Promote the Wiltshire Council Climate Strategy and COP26.	<b>Cllr Steve Bucknell</b>	RWB Environmental Group		<b>Top priority</b>	
	Establish an Area Board wide Environment Group					
<b>Economy</b>	Establish current issues affecting local business and retail (promote regeneration of the high streets and villages).	<b>Cllr Bob Jones</b>			<b>Top priority</b>	
	Raise awareness of organisations working locally to eliminate poverty (fuel, IT, financial, food)	<b>Cllr Jacqui Lay</b>				
<b>Community Resilience</b>	Develop a Community Area Parish Forum.	<b>Cllr Allison Bucknell</b>	All Town and Parish Council Chairs and Clerks		<b>Top priority</b>	



**Appendix 2:** Issues identified in the status report for further consideration (those already escalated to the action plan are marked accordingly)

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Possible actions (where identified)</b>	<b>Key supporting evidence source</b>	<b>Area Board priority streams – where relevant</b>	<b>Escalation to priority stream or other organisation leading</b>
Social Isolation and access to activities for Older and Vulnerable people	Encourage, support and promote positive/accessible activities.	JSNA data/RWB&C Health and Wellbeing group/RWB&C Covid-19 volunteer support group forum.	PEOPLE	Older and Vulnerable People
Mental Health and Wellbeing	Encourage, support and promote self-help activities with signposting to	RWB&C Health and Wellbeing group/RWB&C Covid-19 volunteer support group forum.	PEOPLE	Older and Vulnerable People
Hospital admissions through self-harm notably higher than Wiltshire rate.		JSNA data	PEOPLE	
Access to Medical services	Partnership working and communication with local surgeries	Discussions with partners	PEOPLE	
Academic achievement.	Identify, support and promote initiatives being developed locally regionally and nationally to support young people and families who are likely to be negatively impacted by a widening	JSNA data / RWB&C Area Youth Forum	PEOPLE	Young People

	<p>academic achievement gap.</p> <p>Explore opportunities to improve access to IT equipment and broadband for young people and especially those living in economically vulnerable households.</p> <p>Maintain regular communication with schools and encourage/ support their recovery curriculum and transition schemes.</p>			
Provision of joined up, relevant youth support, guidance and activities.	Develop new opportunities to provide a combination of ongoing street based/café style youth work providing support, signposting, mentoring.	RWB&C Area Youth Forum	PEOPLE	Young People

	<p>Confirm the current offer for youth activities in the community area. Ensure that robust safeguarding policies and procedures are present and that opportunities are accessible..</p> <p>Encourage and support relevant activities for young people, especially during school holidays and at times of locally recognised anxiety.</p> <p>Develop links between local youth providers and encourage their ongoing conversations, training and development especially relating to new approaches to youth work,</p>			
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	safeguarding and funding opportunities.			
Listening to young people.	Discuss and develop a new, locally relevant way to link with the views of local young people using technology, existing channels and street-based youth workers to better understand issues they are facing. Identify new ways to capture the issues and views of young people (traditional style surveys are unhelpful).	RWB&C Area Youth Forum	PEOPLE	Young People
Cross community area communication and co-operation/	Encourage and promote more cross area working/information sharing and communication between town and parishes	RWB&C Town and Parish Forum/conversation and Community Safety Forum.	PEOPLE	Community Resilience

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Anti-Social Behaviour and perceptions of ASB in some parts of the community	Develop and promote ongoing conversations between parish reps and Wiltshire Police, link with detached youth provision.	RWB&C Community Safety Forum.	PLACE	
There is a higher than the Wiltshire average level of road collisions and deaths		JSNA data and Fire and Rescue Service.	PLACE	
Lack of affordable housing	access to good quality / carbon neutral housing esp in villages	JSNA data	PLACE	
Personal debt and financial challenges are increasing rapidly		Office of National Statistics, JSNA data	PEOPLE	
Transport is very difficult for non-car owners.		All partner discussions	PLACE	
Link schemes do not have enough drivers		Link Schemes	PEOPLE	
Alcohol related hospital admissions higher than Wiltshire rate.		JSNA data	PEOPLE	
Need to develop safer cycle routes across the community area.		RWB&C Eco Fest and Environmental groups	PLACE	
Support for Local Sustainable shops and businesses		Local Businesses and Environmental groups.	PLACE	Economy
Need for more environmental housing with reduced carbon levels.		JSNA data and environmental groups	PLACE	Environment

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Challenge to achieve energy performance targets and climate change targets in an affordable way		JSNA data and environmental groups	PLACE	Environment
Waste and Recycling			PLACE	Environment
Support and promotion of businesses affected by COVID-19 .		Local Businesses and community discussions	PLACE	Economy
Promotion of High Streets and Local Businesses		Local Businesses and community discussions	PLACE	Economy
Only 13.4% of adult carers felt they had the social contact they'd like.		JSNA data	PEOPLE	
8% of 0-19yr olds thought to be living in poverty			PEOPLE	Economy
Addressing Food Poverty			PEOPLE	Economy
Fuel Poverty			PLACE	Economy
Highways infrastructure and maintenance			PLACE	
Support for people living with dementia			PEOPLE	
Development of appropriate digital literacy in older/vulnerable people who are currently not able to access appropriate equipment or learning opportunities.			PEOPLE	
adults living with SEND in the community and the pressures faced by carers, especially those carers who are also			People	



parents with their own vulnerabilities.				
Working / learning from home – access to equipment / internet			PLACE	
YP -Worries over future opportunities – achieving recognised qualifications, access to further education, work experience, apprenticeships, work etc.			PEOPLE	
Road Safety – reduce collisions			PLACE	
Community Safety – County Lines			PLACE	
Environment – meet carbon neutral			PLACE	Environment
Environment - rewilding			PLACE	Environment
Environment – improve EPC ratings			PLACE	Environment
Environment – sustainable businesses			PLACE	Environment
Environment – Active Travel			PLACE	Environment
Environment – walking routes			PLACE	Environment
Economy - debt management			PLACE	Economy
Economy – private rental market			PLACE	
Economy – rural transport			PLACE	
Economy – local business support			PLACE	Economy
Economy – employment opportunities			PLACE	Economy