

Youth Action Wiltshire – Service Update

The Youth Action Wiltshire team has delivered some amazing work over the last 12 months, working with young carers, young people facing challenges in their lives, young victims of crime and young people who are Not In Employment, Education or Training (NEET) or at risk of becoming NEET. We have prepared a detailed summary of outcomes from each of our Youth Action Wiltshire services between 2022-2023.

This also includes an update on delivery at our Oxenwood Outdoor Education Centre and Linkenholt Countryside Adventure Centre. Community First currently owns and operates Oxenwood and manages Linkenholt in partnership with The Blagrove Trust. These centres are key delivery locations for many of our Youth Action Wiltshire adventure and respite activities.

Wiltshire Young Carers Service

2023 is a special year for our Wiltshire Young Carers Service, as it marks the 25th year of our support for young carers in Wiltshire. We have had an unexpected reduction in funding for 2023/2024 and plan to work with between 120-150 young carers over the next 12 months. We have consulted with young carers to produce a 2023 to 2024 delivery plan that includes the support measures young carers deem most effective and we will be offering this to the counties most vulnerable young carers, those most adversely affected by their caring roles.

We are currently reaching out to new and existing supporters, donors and funders who would like to be involved in supporting this work. We have also prepared an infographic summary of our work with young carers in 2022-2023 which can be viewed here:

<https://www.communityfirst.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Young-Carers-Support-Infographic.pdf> - a copy of the infographic is also included with this briefing.

To view the service update, including a summary of our service offer for young carers in 2023-2024, please visit our website: <https://www.communityfirst.org.uk/news/youth-action-wiltshire-service-update/>

Oliver's Fundraiser for Youth Action Wiltshire

A young carer from Aldbourne, Marlborough has smashed his original fundraising target of £50 to raise an amazing £350 for Youth Action Wiltshire. 11-year-old Oliver and his sister Katie are currently supported by our Wiltshire Young Carers Service.

In 2022, Oliver received a Young Carers Achievement Award and wanted to give something back to the service which supports him and his family. With the help of his Mum Hannah, Oliver set up a Just Giving fundraising page in April 2023, with the original aim of raising £50 in support of Youth Action Wiltshire. Just two weeks later, Oliver had already smashed his original fundraising target and raised an amazing £350 by mowing lawns and helping with gardening tasks in his local community.

Find out more about Oliver's amazing fundraising achievement on our website:

<https://www.communityfirst.org.uk/news/young-carer-oliver-smashes-fundraising-target-in-support-of-youth-action-wiltshire/>

Oliver's fundraising donation page can be found here: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/hannah-buckland-1681939260135>

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Wiltshire Association of Local Councils (WALC) County Conference

The Wiltshire Association of Local Councils conference will take place on 9th June at West Lavington Village Hall (10am-4pm). Attendance at the conference is free to WALC member councils and £40.00 for non-members. The conference will focus on Planning, including the National Planning Policy Framework, CIL & s106 monies, commenting as a consultee on planning matters and preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. Speakers so far confirmed are Dr James Derounian and Dr Carlton Brand. Subject to timing, the conference may also include Public Rights of Way and climate change as it relates to Planning. For more information please visit: www.wiltshire-alc.org.uk

New Fitness and Friendship Club (Salisbury)

A new Fitness and Friendship Club for older people has opened in Salisbury. The new club is being delivered through the Get Out Get Active (GOGA) programme in partnership with Age UK Wiltshire and Wiltshire and Swindon Sport. Fitness and Friendship Clubs are social clubs for older people with an emphasis on keeping active. Club sessions include gentle exercise, games, quizzes and Tai Chi with plenty of time for a chat over refreshments.

The new Fitness and Friendship Club is open on alternate Thursdays (2.00pm-4.00pm) at Salisbury United Reformed Church, 30 Fisherton Street, Salisbury, SP2 7RG.

Club Dates:

- June 8th and 20th
- July 6th and 20th
- August 3rd, 17th and 31st
- September 14th and 28th
- October 12th and 26th
- November 9th and 23rd
- December 7th

The Fitness and Friendship Club costs £5 per session and new members are always welcome. Please contact Gaby (07752 799853) or email: fitnessandfriendship@ageukwiltshire.org.uk for more information.

Youth Clubs Affiliation

Community First offers support for local youth clubs and youth leaders. Whilst this support has previously been delivered through Youth Action Wiltshire, the service will now be led by our Community Development team. The team has a successful track-record in delivering youth engagement services and will be bringing this knowledge and experience into the development and support of youth clubs.

Clubs who would like to join our network and become UK Youth Affiliated can register using the clubs affiliation form on our website.

A copy of the form is also included with this briefing document.

<https://www.communityfirst.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Youth-Action-Wiltshire-Youth-Clubs-Affiliation-Form-2324.pdf>

Community Insurance

Community Insurance is a specialist insurance agent service from Community First. We offer comprehensive insurance for local councils, village halls, community building and playing field associations, with support from our friendly and professional team.

Our policies are underwritten by Zurich. Income generated from Community Insurance is reinvested back into communities including support for village halls, community buildings, local councils and other services provided by Community First.

For more information about Community Insurance, please visit: www.communityfirst.org.uk/insurance

Copies of our Community Insurance leaflet for local councils and village halls and community buildings are included with this briefing document.

For a free, no obligation quote:

Email: communityinsurance@communityfirst.org.uk or telephone 01380 732809.

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