



**Southern Wiltshire Area Board**

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**End of Year Report**

**May 2021 - March 2023**

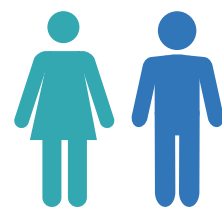
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# Southern Wiltshire Area Board

Southern Wiltshire Community Area sits in the south east corner of Wiltshire where the chalk of the Salisbury Plain dips down to form the Hampshire Basin. The chalk downland scenery extends from Coombe Bissett east to Pepperbox Hill. The northerly part of the New Forest reaches into the community area to the south, with parts of Landford, Redlynch and Whiteparish in the New Forest National Park Area. East Winterslow offers the highest point at 162 metres.

Major roads radiate from Salisbury, the A30 northeast to Andover, the A36 southeast to Southampton and A338 towards Bournemouth. The Hampshire towns of Fordingbridge, Ringwood and Romsey all add services for the rural population, with Salisbury remaining the main focus.

20 parish councils and nearly 150 village groups, community organisations, voluntary and charitable associations serve this part of Wiltshire, regularly joining together to work collectively on key local priorities, significantly influenced by dialogue and action facilitated by the Southern Wiltshire Area Board.



**Total  
Population  
24,148**

## 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. They take a long term view to invest in prevention and early intervention, focusing on tackling inequalities and improving social mobility.

### Total Area Board Investment

<b>£50,914</b>	<b>£21,571</b>	<b>£9,897</b>
<b>Community</b>	<b>Youth</b>	<b>Older and Vulnerable Adults</b>
<b>Total Community Contribution</b>		
<b>£188,616</b>	<b>£71,895</b>	<b>£80,701</b>

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

# Local Priorities

The Southern Wiltshire 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:

## Youth engagement and rural youth outreach



The area board led initiative to achieve most reach and impact since May 2021 is the Rural Youth Outreach Project. A £10k area board investment in this project, working in partnership with Youth Action Wiltshire, has helped to re-start Winterslow youth club, facilitated a range of holiday pop up activities in Laverstock and Ford, Downton, Alderbury, and the Bourne Valley, and begun to tackle issues of rural youth isolation, dis-engagement and anti-social behaviour.

Alongside this project, the area board has also been instrumental in helping 8 new schools achieve the Healthy School accreditation.

## Addressing environmental issues

To celebrate, thank and deepen relationships with the wide range of groups and partners daily working to address environmental issues locally, the area board held an event at Whiteparish Memorial Centre in April 2022, bringing together over 60 representatives.

This event also saw the launch of the area board's new 'directory of eco-friendly ideas and initiatives for families and communities' produced by a local volunteer in conjunction with the area board.



## Supporting older people and vulnerable adult's health and wellbeing



There are nearly 80 village groups supporting this priority in the southern wiltshire community area and a good number of facilitators who work with the area board to enrich how health and wellbeing is supported.

Over the last couple of years this has resulted in new silent disco events being organised in Downton, Redlynch and Winterbourne Earls, regular music and movement activities for people with dementia led by the local Music for Wellbeing CIC, and recently the start of the very popular Celebrating Age programme which exists to reach the most isolated older people and bring to their doorstep free top class cultural experiences.

# Community-led projects



The Southern Wiltshire Area Board has developed a strong, well established and highly functioning network of local partners, organisations and residents in the city. The Board recognises the talents, expertise and knowledge of the local community and empowers and facilitates community led action to co-deliver local services.

One of the outstanding features of this community area deserving a mention is the wildlife rich qualities shared across many of the 20 parishes. The area is home to 2 country parks, a community farm, a number of nature reserves and discovery areas, and a network of popular footpaths, woodlands and watercourses.

15% of the community area is classified either as sites of special scientific interest or as county wildlife sites. These rural assets are regularly facilitating a wide range of opportunities for residents and visitors, including educational, leisure and tourism, economic and of course environmental.

The area board is an active participant in this wildlife rich part of the county, providing funding, facilitating projects, partnerships and events.

# Engagements

The Southern Wiltshire Area Board works alongside other organisations to make things happen in the local community. These groups include 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.

**Area Board  
Business meetings**

**8**



**Attendances**

**261**

**Area Board  
working groups**

**28**



**Attendances**

**204**

**Engagements/  
events/ activities**

**18**



**Attendances**

**304**

**Area Board  
surveys**

**3**



**Responses**

**74**



# Local Highways and Footpath Infrastructure group

The LHFIG is a sub group of the Southern Wiltshire 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.

## LHFIG Projects

Contribution to the Green Lane Cycleway signing  
Nunton - Footway Improvements (Substantive BID)  
Ford Roman Road - Warning Signs  
Grimstead - Butterfurlong Road Signing and Lining  
Winterslow - Weston Lane Speed Limit Assessment  
Grimstead - Street Nameplates  
Longhedge - A345 Footway Feasibility & Design  
L&F - London Road, Salisbury - Pedestrian Crossing Assessment  
Whiteparish - The Green, HGV Signing  
Whiteparish - Hop Gardens, New Street Nameplate  
Landford - New Road NAL sockets  
East Grimstead Gateway Signing Improvements  
Whiteparish - Ashmore Close, New Street Nameplate  
Winterbourne - Down Barn Road Topographical Survey  
L&F - NAL Sockets  
L&F - St. Thomas' Way Bus Shelter Contribution  
Alderbury - NAL Socket  
L&F - Bus Shelter Installation  
Odstock - NAL Sockets  
Redlynch - 30mph Speed Limit Signing Improvements  
Whiteparish - Green Lane, New Street Nameplate  
Downton - Bollards  
Downton - Street Nameplates



**£46,625**  
**Investment**

**LHFIG meetings**

**8**

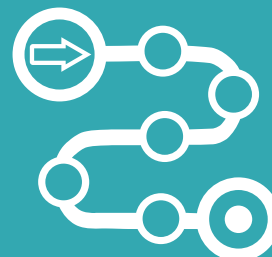


**Attendances**

**119**

**LHFIG projects  
completed**

**23**



# Agreeing and delivering priorities for 2023/24

By agreeing and delivering to local priorities, the Area Board is able to proactively address issues by focusing its resources and working in partnership with local organisations, volunteers and residents. To effectively select local priorities it is important that there is a regular review of the evidence available and the views of the residents are sought. To aid Councillors to agree their priorities, the list below provides some of new sources of data and evidence:

- **JSNA Wiltshire Intelligence**: The 2022 Wiltshire JSNA presents data on the current and future health and wellbeing needs of people in Wiltshire
- **Census 2021 results**: results from the 2021 census are being released in a phased manner, which started in June 2022
- **VCSE research - Wessex Community Action**: state of the Wiltshire voluntary and community sector 2022
- **Annual report - Wiltshire Citizens Advice**: Wiltshire Citizens Advice annual report 2022

As well as being evidence led, priorities should be selected where the Area Board believes it can realistically make a positive impact upon them. To aid the delivery of the chosen priorities, the Engagement and Partnerships team will support the Area Board councillors through the development of the Area Board local action plan.

Based on the work undertaken in 2022/23 and the new evidence available, some of the key priorities that the Board may wish to consider are as follows:

- **Addressing environmental issues**
- **Youth engagement and rural youth outreach**
- **Support older people and vulnerable adults' health and wellbeing**

It is recommended that for each priority selected, an area board councillor takes responsibility for overseeing its delivery and reporting back to the Area Board on progress. The Engagement and Partnerships team will support the Area Board councillors in undertaking this work.