

# AGENDA SUPPLEMENT (1)

Meeting: Devizes Area Board

Place: [Online Meeting](#)

Date: Monday 15 March 2021

Time: 6.30 pm

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The Agenda for the above meeting was published on 5 March 2021. Additional documents are now available and are attached to this Agenda Supplement.

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8 **Community Status Report (Pages 1 - 16)**

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| DATE OF PUBLICATION: 10 March 2021 |
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### Devizes Area Board

15 March 2021

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## Community Area Status Report for Devizes Community Area

### 1. Purpose of the Report

- I. To present to members a status report that summarises what the key issues are for the community area as a result of analysing local data and discussions with local stakeholders.
- II. To recommend that the Area Board endorses the report and commits itself to considering what part it can play in addressing the issues

### 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 in order to provide a summary of the current and future needs of people in Wiltshire. This information which is called the "Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment" (JSNA) is broken down to and presented around Wiltshire's 20 community areas.

Previously, the information has been used to help local communities in their prioritisation and decision making. A key feature of this has been a series of events to bring representatives of the local communities together so that they can be presented with a summary of the information and through discussion agree upon what should be the top local priorities to address.

In late 2019 and early 2020, the latest JSNA process was undertaken and a series of events were organised to take place from March 2020 onwards. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these had to be cancelled.

Although, the JSNA data was released in early summer 2020 and can be viewed on the <https://www.wiltshireintelligence.org.uk/> two questions remained. Firstly, how can the impact of COVID-19 upon our communities be captured and reflected in the key issues and priorities within our local area. Issues such as mental health, debt, employment, young people and many others have been adversely affected by the pandemic. Secondly, how can we enable the community to engage with this process and to feed in their own data, knowledge and experiences.

At the same time, the Wiltshire Community Resilience Group had been set up to oversee one of the 4 recovery strands. They were seeking to establish a better understanding of the impact of COVID-19 and looked to the Area Boards to help gather local information and concerns.

As a result, 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. A template was produced by the Community Engagement Team and agreed by both the resilience group and the Area Board Chairs.

### 3. **Process**

Whilst each community area is different, and each status report will reflect this, there are elements that all have in common. These are:

- I. A record of local data that has been obtained – This information has been mainly obtained from the JSA data but also includes other sources to reflect changes since the pandemic begun.
- II. A record of those meetings with organisations and stakeholders where consultation has taken place.
- III. A record of the key issues that have emerged

The community engagement manager has led on this process and tried to be as inclusive and as comprehensive as possible including trying to capture specific concerns affecting BAME or minority groups. Despite this, it is recognised that this report is not an exhaustive summary of all the issues and everything that is happening. It is a work in progress and as new information is obtained and changes occur, the report can be updated in response. Individual or very local issues such as road junctions or a play area are not included in this report. There are alternative procedures in place to address these.

The overarching aim of this document is for Devizes Area Board and its partners to add to our understanding of where improvement is required and see how with our communities, businesses and organisations we can start to address them. The report will also be link this to the work of Wiltshire Council, its partners and agencies, so that collaboratively we can tackle issues including those arising from Covid-19

### 4. **Next steps**

The status report has been produced by the area board but is intended as a resource for all those within the community area. No single organisation can or should be expected to do everything and sustained improvement will only be through all of us working together with the community taking the lead.

If the status report is adopted, the proposed next steps are:

- I. The area board to consider the report and produce for itself a work plan outlining which of the priorities it will focus upon and what it is able to do to help address them. Each action will have assigned to it clear outcomes and outputs. This decision will be influenced by factors including urgency, opportunity and resources.

This work plan to be brought back to the next Area Board meeting for agreement. It will subsequently be a standing item at future area board

meetings utilising a traffic light system to offer a simple visual indicator to monitor progress.

- II. As many other groups and organisations as possible are to be encouraged to also consider the report and ask themselves where they can make a difference and what they can do to support local action.
- III. Where issues are common across multiple community areas, the area board team will collate these and look to see if it is better to address these collectively across multiple community areas. Where there seems to be a Wiltshire wide concern, a more strategic approach will be considered.

It is proposed that the Area Board will use its strategic influence and delegated powers to shape the delivery of local services and actions. It will also direct its delegated resources to facilitate and support community-led projects and local initiatives that specifically address the identified priority issues.

It is recognised that some issues will be easier to tackle than others and it is important to target areas where tangible outcomes and progress can be delivered. Successes should be celebrated and the contribution from volunteers recognised and valued

## 5. Recommendations

- (1) That the Area Board approves and adopts the Community Status report
- (2) That the Area Board produces a rolling action plan including up to 5 priority actions at any one time to demonstrate where it will contribute to addressing the identified issues.
- (3) That the Area Board will prioritise its resources including funding upon those issues identified in the status report.
- (4) That the Area Board requests the Community Engagement Manager to work with key partners, agencies and community groups to encourage them to consider where they are best placed to take actions around the priorities identified.
- (5) That regular updates are submitted to the Area Board on progress made in relation to its own action plan.
- (6) That the Area Board expresses its thanks to those who gave their time to help bring this report together

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## Devizes Community Area Status Report

March 2021

### Background and context

The overarching aim of this document is for Devizes Area Board to understand how to support local responses from communities, businesses and organisations and link this to the work of Wiltshire Council, it's partners and agencies, so that collaboratively we can tackle issues including those arising from Covid-19.

The Devizes community area has seen an incredible response to the Covid-19 pandemic with volunteers leading the response and strategic partners working collaboratively to support our communities. Every person within the area has access to support from one of the many community groups that were set up, many of which have offered additional support right the way through three lockdowns and even in between these periods of tight restrictions.

As we now look ahead, this short document provides a summary of information that can be utilised to help inform the local community response. It brings together the differing data and information sources from across the community area that will help us to understand the local the state of our community and the impact of Covid-19. It also highlights communities that may have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic and it considers how the actions, projects and plans that are emerging will be collated and supported.

Over time this document will be regularly updated in response to changes, new information and actions undertaken.

The Devizes Area Board has kept strong working links through councillors and officers and collaborated closely with Devizes Town Council, parish councils and the many community-based groups that came into being due to the pandemic. The area board has supported key local partners, business and community stakeholders working together to rebuild our local community. Whilst the impact of Covid-19 is considerable, it is recognised that some local issues already existed and that these will need to be tackled as well.

The Devizes community area consists of the town of Devizes as well as the parishes of All Cannings, Bishops Cannings, Bromham, Cheverell Magna, Cheverell Parva, Easterton, Erlestoke, Etchilhampton, Market Lavington, Marston, Potterne, Roundway, Rowde, Stert, Urchfont, West Lavington and Worton. A key requirement is to ensure that all within the community area have the same opportunity to engage with this work.

Whilst it is natural to focus on the negative impacts of Covid-19, it is important to recognise and build on any positives that have occurred. These include the closer working between organisations, increased community cohesion, good neighbourliness, new volunteers and the wider use of the internet / social media. There has also been a reduction in car journeys, that has led to an improvement in air quality. This is good news for Devizes, one of Wiltshire's Air Quality Management Areas.

## Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS)

There are around 2000 charities registered in Wiltshire, though c.2,700 registered charities deliver services in Wiltshire with many more unregistered local groups and community organisations. Many of these VCS organisations are based in and around Devizes and have offices, day centres, etc. here.

Wiltshire's VCS provides vital services, core to our communities' resilience and sustainability, our health, wellbeing and economy.

Predicting the long-term impact on the sector is challenging: *latest national research by ProBono Economics (Aug.2020)*:

- 85% of charities expect a negative financial impact
- 70% think it will take over a year for pre-covid income levels to be restored
- 68% expect demand for services to increase
- 58% expect to scale back their provision

### **Current local picture: (as of December 2020 Wiltshire VCS Impact Survey – Part 2)**

- 32% of those VCS who continued to offer a service saw a 32% increase in demand with the biggest demand being around Befriending support / supporting peoples mental health and wellbeing.
- 45 % of services remained partially open; 31% fully open and 20% still temporarily closed and 4% permanently closed
- 75% have stated they have changed the way they are delivering their core services
- 73% stated they are operating at a reduced level of service delivery
- 44% of the VCS said they will need more volunteers to meet the increased demands for their services

### **Positive local grant-making:**

- Wiltshire Community Foundation c.£514,000 to 144 groups (*March to August*) and TNLCF: c.£370,000 (*April to June*) a 'drop in the ocean' when considering £150M - £200M sector income and estimated reductions in income.
- 55% of organisations had been successful in securing funding in the last 6 months (*Wiltshire VCS Impact Survey Part 2 2020*)

## Community data and information

Local data is being collected from a range of sources to provide an overview of the current situation within our community. This is being combined with the outcomes of discussions on the impact of Covid-19 to inform the key issues emerging and where resources should be focussed.

- JSNA local data sets – (collected in winter 2019)  
<https://www.wiltshireintelligence.org.uk/community-area/Devizes/>
- Covid-19 support group survey – (June 2020)
- Wiltshire CAJSNA 2020 Community Survey Results (Devizes)



- Wiltshire Council Housing Team Universal Credit Data – December 2020
- Wiltshire Citizen Advice – Universal Credit Data – December 2020
- Wiltshire’s Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Report - Prepared for Wiltshire Recovery Coordination Group (RCG) – 9th September 2020
- Devizes Air Quality & Sustainable Transport Group meeting – February 2021

### Understanding the emerging themes and the impact of Covid-19

The impact of Covid-19 has affected some groups in the area more than others and exasperated some pre-existing issues. Further investigation will be required in some cases to ascertain who needs what support. Possible groups may include:

1. *Young people* – They face challenges such as finding employment, poor mental health, lack of support or positive activities, as well as disruption to education. 11.3% of 0-19 year olds in Devizes Community Area are thought to be living in poverty. This is higher than across Wiltshire (9.4%) (JSNA data pack). There are two areas within Devizes town that rank in the 30% most deprived areas of England and one further area within the 40% most deprived (IMD, 2019).
2. *Older and vulnerable people* – The need to self-isolate more has had a negative impact on mental health, and an increase in loneliness and depression. Many of the volunteer-led support groups offered telephone support calls to those most at risk of loneliness. Those living with dementia have been one of the most vulnerable groups. Life expectancy amongst both males and females is lower in Devizes area, by one year each, than the Wiltshire average. (JSNA data pack)
3. *Families on low income* – We have seen an increase in debt and consequently the demand for supporting services. This is linked to employment, housing, mental health, loan sharks and other issues. In Devizes Community Area, 8.9% of homes are considered to be in fuel poverty, compared with 9.3% in Wiltshire.
4. *Minority and BAME groups* – The BAME population of Devizes is very similar to the make-up of Wiltshire overall, with a slightly smaller Black community than average. However, better awareness, understanding and collaboration with BAME groups who reside in Devizes area needs to be explored and built. There is a known Polish community which is supported by its own cultural groups.

Analysis of the data so far suggests the following issues are emerging. This list may increase and change after further consultation and as new data arises

| Possible Emerging Issue  | Impact of Covid-19   | Supporting evidence source                             |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Community Safety</b>  |  |  |
| Anti-social behaviour rate in Devizes is 17 reports per 1,000 compared to Wiltshire average of 14 per 1,000. “Anti-social behaviour & crime” was ranked second highest | No significant impact, although young people not engaging with school are known to local police. | JSNA 2020 data<br>CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results |

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| priority for Devizes community area  |  |                |
| The rate of alcohol related hospital admissions in Devizes is 1,846 per 100,000 persons. This is higher than the rate for Wiltshire of 1,827 per 100,000.  | Possible increase due to increased pressure on mental health due to Covid-19 impacts   | JSNA 2020 data |
| 21 violent offences were recorded per 1,000 persons in Devizes Community Area, compared with 18 per 1,000 in Wiltshire   | Possible decrease of violent offences as a result of Covid-19 lockdown.  | JSNA 2020 data |
| Devizes Community Area has a rate of reported domestic abuse offences of 9 per 1,000 persons. This is slightly higher than that across Wiltshire   | Possible increase of domestic violence due to Covid-19 lockdown.   | JSNA 2020 data |
| Between 2016 - 2018, almost 3,000 road traffic collisions causing injury were recorded on Wiltshire roads. In Devizes Community Area, the rate of these collisions is 175 per 100,000 persons, lower than the rate of 196 per 100,000 persons across Wiltshire | Certainly a decrease will be seen in the Devizes area due to marked decrease in the volume of road traffic during lockdown. However some drivers have increased speeds due to empty roads. | JSNA 2020 data |
| <b>Housing</b>   |  |                |
| In Devizes Community Area, 8.9% of homes are considered to be in fuel poverty, compared with 9.3% in Wiltshire   | Possible increase due to increased financial pressures as a result of job losses and furlough  | JSNA 2020 data |
| In November 2019, there was demand in Devizes Community Area for 141 affordable one bedroom homes, 91 affordable two bedroom homes, and 45 affordable three or more bedroom homes  | Possible increase due to increased financial pressures as a result of job losses and furlough  | JSNA 2020 data |
| Between 2016/17 and 2018/19, 425 new homes were completed in Devizes Community Area, of which 147 new affordable<br>There are 2,500 new homes planned in Devizes Community Area in the current plan period of 2006-2026  | Possible increase in the need for more affordable homes due to the economic impact of Covid-19   | JSNA 2020 data |
| <b>Environment</b>   |  |                |
| 63% of Energy Performance Certificates issued to homes in Devizes Community Area have a rating of D-G (low   | No significant impact  | JSNA 2020 data |

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| efficiency), this is worse than the average of 56% across Wiltshire   |   |   |
| “Climate change & renewable energies” and “Waste and recycling” were ranked first and fourth choices from the CAJSNA 2020 Community survey  | No significant impact   | CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results            |
| Less than 16% of Wiltshire's waste went to landfill in 2018/19<br>89% of Wiltshire's recycled, composted and reused waste is now being handled in the UK<br>In 2018/19, there were 120 reported incidences of fly tipping in Devizes Community Area | Possible reduction on the amounts being recycled and increases in the number of fly-tips due to reduced hours of Household Recycling Centres and need to pre-book visits.   | JSNA 2020 data                                  |
| 18% of Devizes Community Area is classified as either a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSI) or a County Wildlife Site (CWS)<br>2,965 individual species have so far been recorded in Devizes Community Area                                   | Possible impact as focus move from environment to other factors as a result of Covid-19   | JSNA 2020 data                                  |
| Devizes is an Air Quality Management Area   | Reduced volumes of traffic due to lockdown have meant that air quality at monitoring sites in town has increased during the last 12months. These sites now comply with levels.<br>Work will need to be done to keeps these levels down. | Wiltshire Council Public Protection team, 2021. |
| <b>Highways and Transport</b>   |   |   |
| Devizes Community Area has a total road network of 260kms.<br>The committed spend for road resurfacing in Devizes Community Area in 2019/20 was £587,580. This is 5% of the total committed spend for Wiltshire                                     | Possible impact due to pressures on Wiltshire Council budgets.  | JSNA 2020 data                                  |
| “Highway infrastructure and maintenance” was ranked third most important priority in Devizes area.  | No significant impact bar some backlog  | CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results            |

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| Between 2012-2017, there was an estimated 6.0% increase in traffic flow on roads in Devizes Community Area.   | This is likely to have reduced due to Covid-19 lockdowns. Work needs to happen to encourage alternative means of transport, when safe to do so. | JSNA 2020 data                         |
| Out of 25 speed surveys that were conducted in Devizes Community Area between 2017-2019, only 7 surveys met the criteria for further action. All other surveys required no further action | No significant impact. Devizes CATG has begun to meet remotely to work on highways and safety schemes.  | JSNA 2020 data                         |
| The rate of killed or seriously injured casualties on roads in Devizes Community Area is 34 per 100,000 persons. This is lower than the rate for Wiltshire (46 per 100,000)               | No significant impact. Devizes CATG has begun to meet remotely to work on highways and safety schemes.  | JSNA 2020 data                         |
| Between September 2019 and February 2020, 271 children in Devizes Community Area completed Walk Safe training   | With schools not open and children under lockdown, this training will have stopped during the pandemic.   | JSNA 2020 data                         |
| <b>Employment and Economy</b>   |   |  |
| The percentage of working age population in Devizes Community Area is 59%, compared with 60% in Wiltshire   | Probably impact on numbers of unemployed due to the effects of Covid-19   | JSNA 2020 data                         |
| 6% of the working age population in Devizes Community Area are on out of work benefits, which is higher than the Wiltshire average (5%)   | Probably impact on numbers of unemployed due to the effects of Covid-19   | JSNA 2020 data                         |
| According to a 2018 survey of local businesses, the biggest two employment sectors in Devizes Community Area are wholesale and retail and manufacturing                                   | Probably impact on numbers of unemployed due to the effects of Covid-19   | JSNA 2020 data                         |
| Devizes Community Area has a rate of 78 apprenticeships per 10,000 people aged 16+. This is significantly lower than the Wiltshire rate of 139 per 10,000                                 | Probably impact on numbers of unemployed and opportunities for employment and training due to the effects of Covid-19                           | JSNA 2020 data                         |
| The average estimated personal loan amount per person for those in Devizes Community Area is £685.64,   | Loans and debt are anticipated to increase significantly as furlough ends and as further  | JSNA 2020 data<br>Wiltshire Money data |

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| which is lower than the Wiltshire average of £796.23   | restrictions are placed on the public due to Covid-19  |  |
| The transition across to Universal Credit has ongoing challenges that affect housing association tenants. E.g. The minimum 5 week wait for first payments, the way it is paid monthly in a lump sum, which in some cases causes budgeting issues etc | Probable increase due to furlough and reduction in hours due to Covid-19   | JSNA 2020 data<br>Wiltshire Money data |
| Increase in poverty  | Devizes and District Foodbank saw an increase in demand in March – June '20 and then again in November coinciding with lockdowns   | Devizes and District Foodbank.         |
| Footfall for businesses within the town is reduced on 2019 levels  | With lockdowns and only essential retail staying open customer numbers have been lower. Devizes Indie has sprung up supporting local businesses. They held a successful 'Indie Day' in September '20 | Devizes Indie                          |
| <b>Arts, Culture and Leisure</b>   |  |  |
| 40% of residents in Devizes Community Area are currently members of the local libraries compared with 34% across Wiltshire   | Devizes Hub opened for limited browsing during autumn but closed in November to offer an order & collect service. Market Lavington library has remained closed during the pandemic.                  | JSNA 2020 data                         |
| 2.1% of working people in Devizes Community Area are employed in the arts, entertainment and recreation sector, compared with 2.5% across Wiltshire  | With arts venues unable to open, many are struggling. With slightly less people employed in this sector that average, Devizes is slightly less exposed to unemployment.                              | JSNA 2020 data                         |
| In Devizes Community Area, there are 34 venues hosting Cultural Activities. There are 414 in total across Wiltshire  | Possible reduction in the number of venues in future as grants and furlough schemes run out.   | JSNA 2020 data                         |

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| In 2018/19, there were 201,323 visits to Wiltshire Council owned leisure centres, swimming pools, or health and wellbeing centres in Devizes Community Area.   | Significant restrictions on leisure use due to Covid-19. Devizes leisure centre re-opened in autumn for limited, pre-booked classes but closed in November as restrictions tightened. Lack of income now might mean less investment in facilities in future                    | Discussions with partners and leisure services        |
| <b>Community</b>   |  |   |
| Life expectancy for both men (80 years) and women 83 years) in Devizes is slightly lower than that of the Wiltshire average (81 men & 84 women)  | Direct impact from Covid-19 on physical and mental health, loneliness and isolation  | JSNA 2020 data  |
| The ethnicity in Devizes is predominantly White British 94.4%, with White other making up 2.9% and BAME making up 2.7%   | Possible disproportionate Covid-19 effect on BAME communities.   | Census 2011   |
| Building back better requires a strategy for harnessing the skills and enthusiasm of the new volunteers who have come forward - this means getting a Volunteer Bureau infrastructure into place to both harness and support volunteers | Increased volunteers but little infrastructure in place to harness and support the good will going forward. New Love Devizes organisation aiming to harness will to volunteer and act as hub for VCS and those in need of volunteer help and those looking to give their time. | Conversations with DCS19, Love Devizes and local VCS. |
| <b>Health and Wellbeing</b>  |  |   |
| 29% of 10-11 year olds in Devizes Community Area are obese or overweight. This is similar to the Wiltshire average (28%) but still equates to almost 1 in 3 children in Year 6   | Possible increase due to more time spent at home. More activities and ways to exercise are now online  | JSNA 2020 data  |
| The rate of hospital admissions as a result of accidental injury in Devizes Community Area is 139 per 10,000 persons, compared to 140 per 10,000 persons in Wiltshire  | Possible fall in numbers of those attending medical help as a result of Covid-19. Not wanting to access medical services out of fear of contracting virus  | JSNA 2020 data  |

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|  | or not wanting to put strain on services.   |  |
| In 2018/19, 51% of people at particular risk from the impact of flu in Devizes Community Area received the flu vaccination   | Possible indicator to number of people who may be susceptible to symptoms of Covid-19. Uptake in future may be higher as people more likely to protect themselves against flu.                            | JSNA 2020 data                                     |
| The rate of hospital admissions as a result of self-harm in Devizes Community Area equates to 34 per 10,000 persons, higher than the Wiltshire rate of 27 per 10,000   | Possible increase in numbers due negative mental health impact of Covid-19.   | JSNA 2020 data                                     |
| Before the pandemic Sport England's <i>Active Lives</i> survey (May 2019/20), which presents information on three levels of activity for adults aged 16+, showed Wiltshire's participation figures at <b>64.3% Active</b> (at least 150 minutes a week); <b>14% Fairly active</b> (an average of 30-149 minutes a week) and <b>21.7% Inactive</b> (less than 30 minutes a week). | Possible increase due to Covid-19, lockdowns and spending more time at home. Reports that some older people are no longer physically fit enough to leave their home due to inactivity and muscle wastage. | Wiltshire Council Sports Development.              |
| <b>Children and Young People</b>   |   |  |
| 57% of children in Devizes Community Area achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at the end of primary school. This is lower than the Wiltshire average of 64%  | Disruption in education due to closures, for many from March to July and again January to March. Isolation as year group "bubbles" need to self-isolate.  | JSNA 2020 data                                     |
| 14% of pupils in Devizes Community Area have either an Education, Health and Care Plan or Special Educational Needs. This is similar to the Wiltshire average of 13%   | Possible disproportionate, detrimental impact on SEND pupils as needs during Covid-19 lock downs not being met. People with some learning disabilities seem more susceptible to Covid-19                  | JSNA 2020 data                                     |
| 60% of schools in Devizes Community Area are engaged with the Healthy Schools programme. This is higher than the Wiltshire average of 56%  | Possible drop-off of this number as schools re-evaluate their priorities, however most recognise need to support students'  | JSNA 2020 data<br>Conversations with local schools |

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|  | mental and physical health   |   |
| “Accessible, positive activities for all ages” was rated eighth most important priority by Devizes area.   | Fewer activities for young people available due to Covid-19 restrictions. Youth clubs have closed and many planned events have been cancelled. Detached youth work taking place in some areas.<br>Grassroots sport for young people restarted over the summer but has closed again in lockdowns. | CAJSNA 2020 Community survey results<br>Discussions with partners |
| <b>Older People</b>  |  |   |
| 74% of people aged 65+ received the flu vaccination in Devizes Community Area in 2018/19, compared with 75% for Wiltshire  | Possible indicator to number of people who may be susceptible to symptoms of Covid-19. Uptake in future may be higher as people more likely to protect themselves against flu.   | JSNA 2020 data  |
| In Devizes Community Area 55% of people aged 40-74 who were offered an NHS Health Check, also received one. This is higher than the Wiltshire average of 51%                   | Possible fall in numbers of those attending medical help as a result of Covid-19. Not wanting to access medical services out of fear of contracting virus or not wanting to put strain on services.  | JSNA 2020 data  |
| The rate of hospital admissions due to falls for people aged 65+ in Devizes Community Area is 2,073 per 100,000 persons, compared with 2,135 per 100,000 persons for Wiltshire | Possible fall in numbers of those attending medical help as a result of Covid-19. Not wanting to access medical services out of fear of contracting virus or not wanting to put strain on services.  | JSNA 2020 data  |
| In Devizes Community Area, the rate of carers aged 65+ known to Carers Support Wiltshire is 44 per 1,000 persons<br>Across Wiltshire, only 13.4% of adult carers aged 65+ feel | Lockdown and the effects of Covid-19, the closure of clubs and social opportunities is going to make the sense of isolation worse at this time.  | JSNA 2020 data  |



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| that they have as much social contact as they would like.  |   |   |
| The rate of people aged 65+ supported to live independently in Devizes Community Area is 49 per 1,000 persons. This is higher than Wiltshire's average of 45 per 1,000 | Possible decrease as the needs and dependencies of people increase due to Covid-19. Increased demand on Wiltshire Council's adult services.   | JSNA 2020 data                              |
| Use and access to technology, especially amongst older people  | Closure of shops and services has led to many of these now going online only. This has seen an increased use of the internet but not all people can access it. More awareness of the limited reach of technology. | Local knowledge from partners and charities |

It is important that this is an inclusive process as possible with special attention to ensure that the villages and minority groups have equal opportunity to feed in and partake in this recovery work. However, it is recognised that some may choose not to engage, and that work will take place that is not captured in this document.

### How local actions can be supported

The local response within the Devizes Community Area is one of co-production recognising that to rebuild our communities, it is important that we work together, sharing information and resources where appropriate.

**Devizes Area Board** covers the whole community area and is responsible for this document. It links local delivery to Wiltshire Council, Wiltshire Police, Public Health Wiltshire and other partners. It is an accountable body with influence and powers. It has its own funding to help support local initiatives that support the recovery and also encompass issues that existed prior to Covid-19

Wiltshire Council's thematic approach to the county's recovery is structured around the following 4 themes, and it will be helpful to use these as we progress our local recovery in the Devizes area:

- I. **Economy and employment**
- II. **Health, well-being and adult care**
- III. **Community Resilience**
- IV. **Young people, education and children**

Devizes Area Board working with existing (and where needed) new sub-groups, Devizes Town Council and local parish councils, community groups, the voluntary & community sector and other partner organisations, will carry out further investigation on the community

issues, themes and priorities, bringing together work currently happening and identifying areas for development.

### **Next Steps**

- I. Discuss this document and agree an approach at Devizes Area Board meeting (15<sup>th</sup> March)
- II. Engage and consult with partner organisations (Continually)
- III. Engage and consult with specific groups (Continually)
- IV. Produce a rolling action plan including **up to 5 priority actions** at any one time to demonstrate where it will contribute to addressing the identified issues. (21<sup>st</sup> June)
- V. Use the above information to inform the formation of a vision for what the community in the Devizes area to be like.
- VI. Review this document and priorities regularly in response to changes and select new priority work (at every area board meeting)