Tidworth Area Board End of Year Report May 2021 - March 2023



GARRISON

Tidworth Area Board

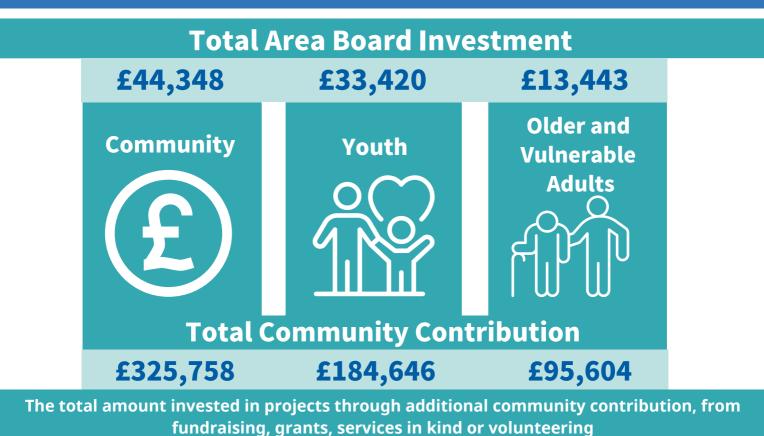
Tidworth Community Area is made up of the towns of Tidworth and Ludgershall, along with the villages of Chute, Chute Forest, Collingbourne Ducis, Collingbourne Kingston, and Everleigh.

The Area Board is the local cabinet for Wiltshire Council for these areas, bringing local decision making into the heart of the community area. The Area Board is made up of 3 unitary councillors. The Councillors are the voting members of the board, and all those who engage in the board's work are equal members, able to influence decisions, shape and deliver on local priorities. The community has a large military population with the Tidworth garrison with its boundaries and has a wide range of resources, including vibrant and active community, cultural and sporting hubs, a range of voluntary and community sector support organisations and a collaborative town and parish councils.



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.



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Local Priorities

The Tidworth 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:

Developing a sustainable and inclusive youth provision



Tidworth Area Board has continued to support several projects which are providing positive activities for young people.

The rural youth outreach project continues to provide youth activities for young people isolated due to living in rural areas, and the Armed Forces Equine Charity has recently been supported to increase its provision for young people.

Reducing our carbon footprint and protect the environment

Tidworth Area Board has recently re-established an Environment Working Group in the area. This group will support and facilitate project which improve our environment and encourages local action to combat climate change.



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The group are initially beginning by conducting a biodiversity audit of the area, the results of which will inform the strategy for the group moving forward.

Improving the health and wellbeing of our communities



The health and wellbeing group has focused on supporting older and vulnerable adults through the increases in the cost of living by forming a Warm Spaces sub-group which was successful in supporting a large number of people through the winter.

As we move into warmer months the focus will return to other aspects of Health and Wellbeing and will include a large Health and Wellbeing focused event at the Armed Forces Equine Charity hub in July.

Community-led projects



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

A shining example of the type of support and change that area boards can drive forward through community-led action is the development of the Warm Spaces Sub Group. This group set itself a target of establishing a warm and welcoming space within the community on every day of the week. This was achieved within a few weeks of this target being set.

Some of the warm places have been well attended. Where this has been the case they have been a vital support network for local people, providing warmth and the opportunity for social contact. This has helped combat social isolation and loneliness, as well as saving money on energy bills for those attending not having to heat their own homes at these times. While the focus of the Health and Wellbeing Group will move towards other aspects of support for older and vulnerable adults, this group remains ready to re-establish itself should the need arise, particularly in the autumn and as we move into next winter.

A key mission of Wiltshire Council's Business Plan is to help Wiltshire be a place where 'We live well together', and it aims to help support communities to be more resilient in the face of challenging times and setbacks.



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
- <u>Census 2021 results</u>: results from the 2021 census are being released in a phased manner, which started in June 2022
- <u>VCSE research Wessex Community Action</u>: state of the Wiltshire voluntary and community sector 2022
- <u>Annual report Wiltshire Citizens Advice</u>: 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:

- Developing a sustainable and inclusive youth provision
- Improving the health and wellbeing of our communities
- Reducing our carbon footprint and protect the environment

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.

