

**SOUTHERN WILTSHIRE AREA BOARD
(2 February 2012)**

Southern Wiltshire Area Board – Planning for 2012/13

Purpose of the Report

1. Begin a discussion on 2012/13 projects and priorities
2. Provide information about the important Community Planning event being held on 6 March 2012 at Downton's Trafalgar School at 7pm.
3. To sign up to attend this event answer 3 quick questions here:
www.surveymonkey.com/s/FTSGSQB

Introduction:

In 2011/12 the Area Board consulted residents on its theme for the year. Local employment emerged as our main theme and projects have emerged as a result of this theme. The Board set aside 10% of its funding to develop these projects. So far, 2 Job Clubs have been set up in the Community Area at Downton and Old Sarum. 3 Jobs Boards will be installed at Downton, Old Sarum and Whaddon business parks, as each site is in close proximity to local communities. We also held a small business focus group to investigate the needs of small and home based business and to see how the Board could help.

Having a theme for the year has had some real benefits. It has allowed us to focus on something that residents identified as a priority. It has meant we can direct our efforts to bringing in local volunteers for specific roles in the community and it has given us an initiative that has meant we can build better relationships with key stakeholders.

We have demonstrated that our Area Board is not merely a 'talking shop'. We actually work with our communities to achieve tangible outcomes.

Between now and April, the Area Board wants to explore potential projects that it can look to champion in 2012/13. This paper will set out how we propose to work with communities to identify these projects and will start to highlight some of the ideas emerging already.

1. Identifying new projects for 2012/13:

1. Discussion at 2 February 2012 Area Board. Present some ideas and also call for new ideas from the communities.
2. Community Planning Event – 6 March 2012. Here we will look at our current [Community Plan 2010 -15](#) in the context of the newly published [JSA for Southern Wiltshire](#) to identify what projects we should prioritize for the coming

year.

3. At our Area Board on 5 April 2012 we will consolidate all the information gleaned from these sessions and discuss how we take them forward.

Ideas emerging:

A Focus on Footpaths

Footpaths link our community and straddle parish boundaries. They offer a wide range of opportunities for local projects offering potential economic, health and social benefits.

- Coordinating between different communities who manage the paths
- Protecting and maintaining footpaths with volunteers
- Publicising footpaths for recreational and healthy activities for local residents.
- Linking them up local businesses such as pubs to promote a “Southern Wiltshire Walks” recreational guide.

A Focus on Community Safety

The Area Board would like to see a better working relationship between all the people involved in making us safe. Neighbourhood Watch schemes should be more active and more closely linked with other “watch” schemes locally. They also need closer links with the Parish Councils who should nominate a lead member for Community Safety who would oversee local coordination of the community safety initiatives in their parish and liaise with the Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

To achieve this the Area Board could:

- Work with the NPT/PC to host a local event in the parish that brings together all those interested in community safety.
- Ask PCs to nominate a lead member who would champion community safety issues.

2. Community Planning Event – 6 March 2012

Southern Wiltshire Area Board are hosting this special evening to bring together the key people in the Southern Wiltshire area for discussion and debate. Recently published community statistics will be presented along with the current version of Southern Wiltshire Community Plan 2010 - 15. The community plan, adopted last year, is the result of some hard work by a collection of Southern Wiltshire community volunteers.

On 6 March, local people will have the opportunity to discuss and debate these statistics alongside the Community Plan for the area. Topics including health and well-being, community safety, housing and transport will be discussed. A wide range of stakeholders will be invited from the local community and residents will have a chance to sign up to attend.

The event should prove to be lively and insightful and contribute to the discussion of priorities for the Community Area. The top priorities developed at this meeting will go on to form part of the debate at the April Area Board where themes for the year will be set.

Following this evening the community plan will be updated, and we hope people will want to take on the task of trying to tackle some of the issues raised. It is hoped that this event will catalyse support from the public, voluntary and private sector and identify projects that improve local quality of life in Southern Wiltshire.

If you are interested in getting involved in the debate sign up below. Or if you know someone who might be interested forward this link on to them.

To sign up to attend this event go to:

www.surveymonkey.com/s/FTSGSQB

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