

Chairman's Announcements

Subject:	Devizes Safe Places
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Summary of announcement:

This is an urgent request for volunteers to be on the Devizes Safe Places steering group.

Safe Places offers immediate low level support to anyone who needs it when they are out and about in their community.

It requires businesses to sign up to the scheme and place a highly visible window sticker in their window.

Devizes was the pilot for the scheme and was deemed a success however due to various reasons it no longer has a steering group and may not be able to continue in the long term.

Safe Places has been really successful and continues to roll out across Wiltshire. We anticipate that the whole of Wiltshire will be part of this national initiative by the end of 2015.

To allay any concerns it is not expected that Safe places will need to support high numbers of people it just offers:

- REASSURANCE
- VALUABLE NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY FOR PRIVATE/PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY SECTORS
- GREATER AWARENESS OF THE HEALTH ISSUES PEOPLE FACE. (Sometimes making it difficult for them to be part of the community)

Another positive outcome of the scheme has been the number of enquiries from parents and support organisations who have asked for details about where the Safe Places are so they can be more confident about sending those they care for out and about in their communities. This is also applies to victims of bullying. Knowing where these safe places are allows them to carry on with normal activities, reassured that they can go into one of these places if they feel intimidated.

For more info please contact the Wiltshire Implementation Team on the above emails.