

# Joint Strategic Assessment Summary

## Wiltshire

### 2012/13



A single version of the truth





Wiltshire Council



Wiltshire College



Wiltshire Police Authority



Ministry of Defence



Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon



Job Centre Plus



NHS Wiltshire



South West Regional Development Agency



Wiltshire Probation



Natural England



Wiltshire & Swindon Fire & Rescue



Government Office for the South West



Homes and Communities Agency

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## Introduction to the Joint Strategic Assessment summary

- One story of what Wiltshire is like
- One agreed description
- One set of agreed facts and figures
- One set of agreed priorities
- All in one easy to read document
- Accessible to all

The Joint Strategic Assessment (JSA) summarises the current and future needs of people in Wiltshire and this information is used to help shape our plans and services.

This summary provides a snapshot of how we have used the data to identify issues as wide-ranging as community safety to the economy and highlights work undertaken to address these issues to improve the lives of Wiltshire's residents by providing the services they need.

In this 2012/13 summary, the section on key areas, outlined below, is followed by highlights from the community areas.

**Data is collected in the following areas:**

**Health and wellbeing**

**Children and young people**

**Housing**

**Environment**

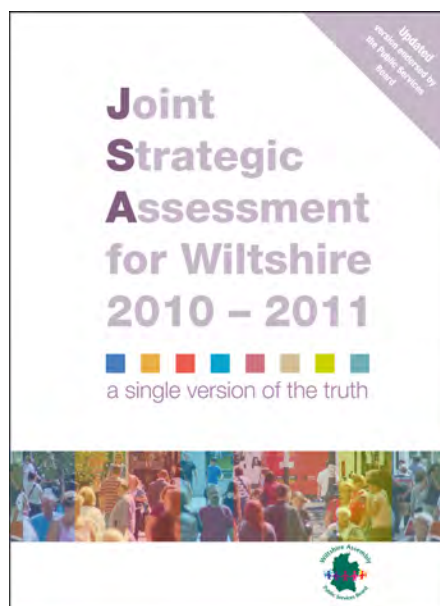
**Arts, leisure and culture is included in the community area section.**

**Economy, jobs and skills**

**Community safety**

**Transport**

**Resilient communities**



## Health and wellbeing

### Children and young people – teenage pregnancy

The official statistics for 2010 show the teenage conception rate in Wiltshire is now 26.4 per 1,000 girls aged 15-17. This is down from 30.9 per 1,000 in 2008 and reflects the on-going work of the Wiltshire Teenage Pregnancy Commissioning Board.

### Children and young people – looked-after children

In 2011/12, 98% of children in care who were eligible for an annual health assessment had this undertaken. This is up from 87% in 2010/11, largely due to an exceptional reporting system set up by the health provider to ensure reasons are fully understood as to why children are failing to undergo assessment. The national standard is 80%.

### Children and young people – Healthy weight

A Breastfeeding Strategy for Wiltshire is in place. Breastfeeding peer support training has run in areas where it is known that there is a low prevalence of breastfeeding.

The National Childhood Measurement Programme (NCMP) data for 2010/11 show levels of obesity in Wiltshire at 8% for Reception pupils (age 4/5) and 16.4% for Year 6 pupils (age 10/11). These levels have remained largely unchanged over the past three years and continue to be below the national values (9.4% obesity in England for Reception and 19% obesity in Year 6).

Healthy cooking classes have been commissioned for the nine children's centres with the highest level of obesity in Wiltshire, according to NCMP 2008-2011. Delivery of these classes started in June 2012.

The Mind Education Nutrition and Do it (MEND) programme has been commissioned in Wiltshire. MEND will initially take place in areas with highest levels of child obesity. The 10 week programme accepts parents/carers with an overweight child age 7-13.

Free swimming for under 16s during the school holidays was launched in April 2012 and saw a 100% increase in attendances during the first holiday period. This programme is being expanded to target obese/overweight children and their families from September 2012.



As of June 2012, 'Bike It Plus' had engaged 13 selected primary schools in Trowbridge, Chippenham and Calne. The three year project (which started in September 2011) encourages children (and parents) to walk, cycle and scoot more. Bike It Plus will expand to other towns in Wiltshire, as it progresses.

A Slimming-on-Referral scheme has been established in Wiltshire, enabling GPs to make a direct referral for patients to Weight Watchers or Slimming World.

### **Cancer and CVD – Improving access to local cancer services**

Providing services at community level where possible is an important objective of the cancer strategy. This has been achieved in respect of chemotherapy services with the support of the Help for Tomorrow charity which has provided a mobile chemotherapy unit for the people of Wiltshire. The unit was launched in May 2012 and is operated jointly by Salisbury Foundation Trust (three days a week) and Great Western Hospital in Swindon (two days a week). Referrals to the unit will be made by the hospital staff and will be focused on those most likely to benefit from reduced travelling times.

### **Cancer and CVD – Bowel cancer screening**

The national bowel cancer screening programme has been operational in Wiltshire since 2009. The most recent figures, for 2011, indicate that 27,000 patients (aged 60-69) from Wiltshire were invited for screening with a take-up rate of 61% (surpassing the national standard of 60%) and positivity of 2.1%

### **Cancer and CVD – NHS Health Check**

The NHS Health Check programme is a preventative programme sponsored by Public Health. It is intended to help people stay healthy for longer by providing an assessment of CVD risk to all aged 40-74. The NHS Health Check assesses an individual's risk of developing heart disease, stroke, type-2 diabetes and kidney disease, and provides simple, practical and realistic steps to help reduce that risk and stay healthy. In Wiltshire, this service is provided by all GP practices.

### **Cancer and CVD – Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm screening (AAA)**

In 2005 there were almost 5,000 deaths in England and Wales due to AAA, over 95% of which occurred in people aged 65 and over. As part of the national AAA screening programme, and in accordance with the wishes of Wiltshire GPs, Public Health has worked with NHS Dorset to provide an AAA screening service for Wiltshire. This service will start screening male patients aged 65 in 2013.

### **Cancer and CVD – Cardiac rehabilitation**

Wiltshire Public Health has continued to build on the success of the community-based cardiac rehabilitation programme provided in Westbury. This nurse-led programme is now also offered on a regular basis in Chippenham, again provided by the Royal United Hospital.

### **Lifestyle choices**

Health Profile 2012 showed 30.9% of adults were found to be eating healthily according to 2006-2008 data. 14.8% of adults were classed as physically active in data from October 2009 to October 2011. This is significantly higher than England, as it was in 2008/09 in the 2010 profile.

### Health inequalities – Health trainers

Working in partnership with Wiltshire and Swindon Probation Trust a successful health trainer service was launched in August 2011 employing two part time health trainers.

HMP Erlestoke - A fourth cohort of offenders has qualified at the prison, by passing the Level 3 City and Guilds Health Trainer Certificate. For many this is the highest level of qualification they have ever achieved.

### Health inequalities – Healthy eating projects

Public Health has commissioned 'Any Body Can Cook' courses, each lasting six weeks, to run in nine children's centres during 2012/13. The children's centres are located in: Warminster, Trowbridge, Melksham, Salisbury, Westbury, Calne and Chippenham. These areas showed higher than average levels of obesity in data from the National Child Measurement Programme (2008 to 2011). The courses for parents and children under five will focus on healthy living including how to buy and prepare healthy food. In a similar vein, two HEY! courses, in partnership with Danone, are being run in two children's centres in Trowbridge.

### Health inequalities – smoking

In Wiltshire during 2011/12 there were 5,412 people (2,690 males and 2,722 females) who were supported by the NHS Wiltshire Stop Smoking Service to set a quit date. Of the overall number of quit dates set, 33% were in the routine and manual group – highlighting that services have been well targeted at this hard-to-reach group. The successful quit rate for routine and manual smokers was 55%, which was higher than the national average quit rate of 52% for 2010/11 for this group.

### Health inequalities – breastfeeding

The Wiltshire Breastfeeding Strategy aims to close the gap between the rates of breastfeeding in the most deprived areas of Wiltshire and the Wiltshire average. In addition to maternity and health visiting services working towards the UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative, more targeted initiatives include the implementation of a breastfeeding peer support programme where women with experience of breastfeeding are trained to support new mothers in areas where breastfeeding rates are lowest.



### Health inequalities – falls

To ensure older people have access to evidence-based treatments, Public Health has worked with Wiltshire Council so that older people across Wiltshire can access strength and balance classes. There are now 24 strength and balance classes in 20 locations across Wiltshire designed to reduce falls and falls-related injuries.

## Economy

### Broadening the economic base

In 2011/12 the Wiltshire Investment Service supported 768 businesses, resulting in the creation of 766 jobs and safeguarding 2,813 jobs. Wiltshire Council funded the Wiltshire Business Support Service which is delivered by Wessex Chambers of Commerce.

### Business infrastructure provision

- Work on the Wiltshire Core Strategy has progressed to set out the housing and employment land development through to 2026.
- The Wiltshire Online project has successfully secured Wiltshire Council, national and European funding to deliver superfast broadband to at least 85% of business premises in the county by 2015 and for a minimum service level of 2mbps to be provided in the remaining area. In addition, advice will be available for businesses looking to make the most of this provision.
- A Sustainable Transport Fund (STF) bid was approved by the Department for Transport in June 2012. The project focuses on the improvement of Wiltshire's rail offer through a package of complementary measures that improve rail services between Salisbury/Westbury to Swindon and enhance sustainable access to Wiltshire's railway stations.

### Polarised skill base

Enterprise Wiltshire is now operational and has forged ahead in mapping its policy response to the challenges that lie ahead, especially in terms of addressing unemployment and worklessness, particularly amongst young people, as well as the continued need to up-skill the workforce. Locally this work is being progressed by the Wiltshire Employment and Skills Board through the delivery of its Work and Skills Plan and Apprenticeship Action Plan.





Wiltshire Council is working with Employment and Skills Board partners to create 1,000 new apprenticeship opportunities by the end of July 2013, especially encouraging small and medium sized businesses which have not had an apprentice in the last three years to take up the Apprenticeship Grants for Employers.

The Project Inspire initiative, delivered by Youth Action Wiltshire and Community First, has been extended to support a further 62 Employment, Education and Training (EET) outcomes for 13-17 year olds at risk of offending or becoming Not in Employment, Education and Training (NEET).



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Wiltshire Council has worked with Wiltshire College to support 350 Wiltshire residents with basic skills development with a particular focus on the most deprived areas.

Jobcentre Plus has sourced high quality, structured work experience opportunities lasting between two and eight week, 12 weeks if associated with an apprenticeship opportunity, with Wiltshire-based employers for unemployed young people. The scheme has been successful in Wiltshire with around 51% of young people participating gaining paid employment within 12 weeks and 20% being retained by the organisation where they did their work experience.

Jobcentre Plus is supporting people on active benefits to spend up to six weeks undertaking sector-relevant training and work experience, followed by a guaranteed job interview. The training is flexible and focused on employers' needs, leading towards a unit of qualification when training is funded by the Skills Funding Agency. This approach is very well suited to young people and other new labour market entrants.

Jobcentre Plus and Wiltshire Council have encouraged the establishment of community-led Work Clubs across Wiltshire to provide people with a place to meet and share experiences, find opportunities, make contacts and access support to help them in their return to work.

Wiltshire Council delivered a programme of 'Have a Go' activities during 2011/12 which brought together 1,000 young people with local employers and training providers through a range of workplace skills activities.

### Resource efficiency

This is an on-going issue locally, nationally and internationally. The primary focus locally to date has been on improving the resource efficiency of Wiltshire Council offices and buildings as well as the schools network. From 2012 onwards, this work will be extended to individuals and business premises through the government's flagship energy efficiency policy, the Green Deal, which will completely change the way in which energy efficiency measures are funded.



### Children and young people

#### Promoting resilience

Universal programmes to promote resilience and overcome adversity, such as SEAL and the FRIENDS programme in schools, have been implemented. We have re-organised social care services to strengthen responses; improved placement choice for children in care; and ensured that child protection cases are reviewed on time. Parent Support Advisors (PSAs) based in schools in Wiltshire are working with parents/carers to help them support their children.



#### Supporting mental wellbeing

We have re-commissioned the specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS). This has reduced waiting times with nearly 90% of young people seen within four weeks of a referral being accepted and a county-wide out-of-hours response is now in place.

The Family and Parenting Support Commissioning Strategy is in place and key actions are now being implemented including the provision of a new family support service working with families with significant needs but who do not meet the social care threshold. The majority of Wiltshire schools involved with Healthy Schools Plus since 2010 have chosen to focus on making measurable improvements to the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people. Healthy Schools Plus is a long-term whole school approach.

#### Improving achievement

Key Stage 2 results for primary school children have improved. This is partly due to the use of the 'Every Child Matters' one-to-one programmes providing targeted support. Key Stage 4 results have also improved.

A virtual school headteacher is in place for children in care to help focus on their progress. The gap between the attainment of children in receipt of free school meals and their peers has narrowed, but there is still work to do to improve attainment of vulnerable groups in general.

### Things to do for young people

Community Area Young People's Issues Groups (CAYPIGs) are in place in each community area contributing to area boards and bidding for resources for youth projects. Visits and contributions to Sparksite and listeners to SPARK radio have increased. Sparksite comprises a website and radio station for young people to find out what is going on in and around their area, as well as a base for information and advice. Links on the website have been improved to include access to more opportunities. New play spaces have been developed covering a range of areas from urban to rural locations, both council owned and within parish and town councils.



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### Disabled children and young people

Wiltshire Parent Carer Council has been established and now has approximately 400 members. They co-produced Wiltshire's Local Offer on Short Breaks to improve and extend short break opportunities. This work has been nationally recognised. The number of 'Bridging Projects' to allow young people with a disability to take part in youth activities has increased. There is now a multi-agency protocol and transition handbook for parents/carers to help the move from children's to adult's services.

### Reducing Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

We have organised positive engagement programmes targeted at vulnerable groups. Young people from vulnerable groups such as children in care and young offenders now have dedicated personal advisor time.

### Tackling domestic abuse

Positive relationships programmes for young men and young women (13-16 year olds) have been delivered. The Paloma project, delivered by Splitz, supports victims and their families. A 'preferred provider' for school-based interventions was identified and a Theatre in Education programme was delivered in 10 secondary schools. A number of multi-agency training events have taken place to raise awareness about domestic violence and referral routes.

### Reducing alcohol and substance misuse

An Alcohol Strategy and a Children and Young People's Substance Misuse Strategy are now in place and being implemented.

A 'proof of age scheme' and the Offence of Persistently Possessing Alcohol in a Public Place (OOPPAPP) are being rolled out and there is a programme of Substance Use Screening Tool (SUST) training for front-line professionals.

Drinking alcohol in public places can be intimidating for other people and can lead to Anti-Social Behaviour and crime

Alcohol is a drug and if misused can lead to serious health conditions

**Under 18 years old?**  
Did you know...

**You can now be arrested for being in possession of alcohol in a public place?**

You don't even need to be drinking ...  
...just carrying the alcohol is an offence!

**Wiltshire Assembly**  
County Safety Partners

**If you would like more information or help you can contact:**

**Motiv** the young people's drug and alcohol service on:  
Single point of entry telephone number: 0800 169 6136  
Email: [motiv@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:motiv@wiltshire.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.sparksite.co.uk](http://www.sparksite.co.uk)

Additional information:

A Hidden Harm course has been developed and successfully run for 90 health visitors to support working with parents/ carers who drink or use drugs, in order to reduce the impact on children. There has been a significant amount of work done in schools to improve drug education including 'Healthy Schools Plus' focusing on alcohol and other drugs as a local priority. New Wiltshire Education and Drug Education schemes of work have been developed and distributed.

### Improving sexual health

The 'No Worries' service has been enhanced and extended. A 'Long Acting Reversible Contraception' pathway and Chlamydia screening are in place. Health and wellbeing drop ins, staffed by school nurses, are available in 20 secondary schools and each college site has a full sexual health and contraceptive service. A continual programme of 'Sexual Health and Delay Training' is available to front-line professionals. Public health is forging a multi-agency link on sexual health issues and direct support to young people through the introduction of a young people's sexual health outreach nurse in NHS Wiltshire.

### Working together

Thirty children's centres have been established and will continue to operate in the most deprived areas with close working between health visitors, midwifery and children's centre staff. This has been commended in many Ofsted Inspection reports.



The Speech and Language Therapy service has been jointly re-commissioned by the PCT and the local authority. There is now a single point of access and waiting times have been reduced.

### **'National Healthy Child' programme**

Health visitors and school nurses are now delivering the 'National Healthy Child' programme. As a result of this there is closer working with midwifery colleagues, children's centres, GPs and school teams.

A full caseload review was undertaken of families with children aged 0-4 years. Additional resources, to enable recruitment of additional health visitors, have been deployed in areas demonstrated to have a higher percentage of vulnerable families.

The multi-agency thresholds document has been reviewed and updated, and there is a rolling programme of CAF/lead professional training. There is a multi-agency strategy and delivery plan to address the impact of child poverty.

Multi-Agency Forums (MAFs) have now been developed in nearly all community areas in Wiltshire. There are 16 MAFs covering 16 community areas. The impetus for their development has been the need, particularly from primary schools, to address Level 2 concerns through face-to-face contact with agencies and services. MAFs promote better information-sharing; facilitate advice and signposting; achieve a more immediate response from agencies to support individual children and families and identify and respond to gaps in local provision for vulnerable children and families.



## Community safety

### Violence in the community

In Wiltshire there was a 22% reduction in violent crime in the period 2010 to 2011 which means that Wiltshire ranks 9th best out of 39 police force areas for the rate of violent crime. Some of the success in this area has been associated with the establishment of the Licensing Tasking Group. The group which was set up in June 2010 consists of the responsible authorities including Wiltshire Police, Wiltshire Fire & Rescue and several departments within Wiltshire Council. Using a monthly tactical assessment, the group aims to target and co-ordinate resources to address problem licensed premises across Wiltshire with an ultimate aim to reduce levels of alcohol-related disorder and violent crime.

From July 2011 to June 2012, Wiltshire participated in the Domestic Violence Protection Notice/Order pilot. The new legislation aims to provide further protection to victims of domestic abuse. The conclusions of the pilot will form part of a wider Home Office report which is due to be published in spring 2013. Wiltshire has decided to continue to pilot the legislation until the publication of the full report. In addition, Wiltshire is one of four forces in the country involved in the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme pilot which was launched in July 2012. The scheme entails disclosing information about an individual to protect a potential victim of domestic abuse.

### Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), criminal damage and deliberate fires

Levels of ASB in the county continued to fall; from April to August 2012 there was a reduction of 22% in comparison to the same time period in 2011. During the summer of 2011, a review of the Anti-Social Behaviour Panel found the panel to have a greater victim focus. In October 2011 the new holistic model was launched at the Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference (ASBRAC). This focuses on both the victim and offender, adopting a case conference approach with the aim of the meeting being to ensure the best possible outcome for both parties. In the first six month period of ASBRAC being established, 117 cases were dealt with, using a range of both enforcement and support tools.



Work began to produce a joint ASB strategy between Swindon and Wiltshire, to ensure, where appropriate both Swindon and Wiltshire Community Safety Partnerships maximise the effective use of resources and promote consistent good practice. The strategy went out for public consultation to be published later in 2012.

A number of partnership-funded projects have taken place to reduce incidents of ASB in specific locations including increased provision of street-based youth work, youth shelter provision in Trowbridge, refreshed Designated Public Place Order signs and awareness in Chippenham and targeted activities in ASB hotspot areas.

### Integrated offender management

In 2011, a more intensive approach to dealing with repeat offenders was established called SWITCH. This stands for 'Swindon & Wiltshire Integrated Targets for Change' and is one of a series of Integrated Offender Management programmes across the country. SWITCH brings together and co-ordinates all the different agencies that deal with repeat offenders. So instead of an offender having to explain his or her problems over and over again, first to the police officer, then the probation officer etc, with SWITCH there is one action plan, one case worker co-ordinating the efforts of other agencies and one journey of change tailored to the needs of the offender.

A two-day workshop was held in April 2012 to give partners a chance to learn about the history of Restorative Justice and understand the evidence of the effectiveness of this approach in reducing reoffending. A working group made up of relevant partners was established to ensure a joined-up approach to Restorative Justice in a way that best supports victims, whilst working towards a reduction in offending at all levels across the local community.

### Drugs and alcohol

There continues to be significant work in the county to help and support drug and alcohol service users and develop the services available. Some of the key pieces of work that have taken place in the last few years are included below:

- A move to recovery for all service users, including a shift in culture, resulted in a leap in successful completions of treatment.
- A new case management system has been implemented to assist with reporting and managing individual cases.
- The community and prison substance misuse services are being re-commissioned.

The Wiltshire Hidden Harm Strategy 2011 to 2014 is in place; a conference was held in October 2012. The strategy aims to improve the outcomes for children and young people affected by parental drug and alcohol misuse and the associated conflict in the home.





### Road safety

The 13th joint annual report for road casualties in Wiltshire and Swindon published in December 2011 reflected the success of the Road Safety Partnership over the last few years. The report highlighted that the partnership had managed to achieve the targets set by government as outlined below:

- A 40% reduction in the number of people killed and seriously injured in road collisions
- A 46% reduction in the number of children killed and seriously injured in road collisions
- A 10% reduction in the slight casualty rate, expressed as the number of people slightly injured per 100 million vehicle kilometres

The Road Safety Partnership conducts a large variety and number of education and training sessions throughout the year. The sessions are aimed at groups that are seen as a priority ranging from a 'Walk Safe' scheme run at primary school level right through to Safe Driving with Age (SAGE) assessments and advice to help older drivers drive safely.



## Housing

### Delivery of affordable housing

Although we have seen a significant reduction nationally in the funding available for the delivery of affordable housing, and a recession across the country, Wiltshire continues to deliver a high number of affordable houses, including 31 new council homes in Salisbury and Trowbridge. Our success is down to a number of factors, including close working with:

- 16 developers registered in Wiltshire to enable successful delivery of sites owned
- partners to deliver affordable housing through planning gain
- spatial planners to develop and interpret robust affordable housing policies to maximise delivery without the need for grant funding
- the strategy team to ensure we have robust understanding of housing need e.g. through rural surveys

We have aimed to maximise financial opportunities, such as the 'firstbuy' and 'homebuy' government initiatives and worked closely with the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) to access significant levels of grant funding through the 2008-2011 Affordable Housing Programme. This resulted in significant delivery of sites requiring grants in 2011/12, including Kingston Mills in Bradford on Avon, Pound Mead in Corsham and supported housing units at Emmaus House in Salisbury.

A stakeholder away-day was held with our partners to discuss ways to make Wiltshire the place to build and actions agreed at this event are being implemented.



We have also secured government funding to increase the number of Gypsy and Traveller pitches we have in Wiltshire, as well as commencing delivery of Wiltshire's Private Finance Initiative (PFI) scheme for 350 new affordable homes. We will deliver 715 extra care units within 16 communities around Wiltshire within the next 10 years in accordance with the Older People's Accommodation Strategy to ensure fit for purpose accommodation for older people. We will continue to work in partnership with developers and landowners to deliver extra care and preventative services within these schemes.



### Prevention of homelessness

The total number of homeless acceptances for Wiltshire is far higher than for any of our neighbouring local authorities. Wiltshire had 1.9 homelessness acceptances per 1,000 households, which is higher than Swindon, South Gloucestershire, BANES and Cotswold, but lower than South Somerset and Mendip. The three main causes of homelessness remain:

- being asked to leave by parents
- termination of assured short-hold tenancies
- relationship breakdown.

Although the three main causes of homelessness remain the same locally, regionally and nationally, the termination of assured short-hold tenancies in Wiltshire is more often the reason for homelessness than it is nationally and in the South West (see table 3 on page 90). In Wiltshire we seem to have around 50% more terminations of assured short-hold tenancies. This will need to be researched to understand the reasons better. In 2010/11 we managed to prevent a total of 1,452 households from becoming homeless, which is one of the highest prevention figures across the South West. Although we have been working really hard to prevent households from becoming homeless, there has been a significant increase in the number of homelessness acceptances, but a continued reduction in the number of households in temporary accommodation.

## Rural housing

Rural areas face specific local challenges such as affordable housing, an ageing population, rural isolation, and reduced accessibility. Rural communities make up 50% of Wiltshire's population, living in 95% of the geographic area. Due to having insufficient rural needs data to help identify housing need in our rural villages, we have set up a rural investment programme which will focus on understanding the needs of our rural communities and maximising our opportunities to deliver rural housing. We have been able to:

- set up a rural investment programme
- jointly fund and develop a five-year rolling programme of rural needs surveys
- complete a total of 15 rural needs surveys with approximately three being completed each month.

The surveys provide up-to-date information on the housing situation of local residents, their aspirations and needs. They enable the identification of different needs and priorities in different local communities, and the measurement of housing affordability at the parish level. The surveys help us to understand the size, type and tenure of accommodation that is required locally. We use the information to inform both our housing and planning policies and to identify local needs for affordable housing.

## Making best use of existing stock

Due to the increasing demand for affordable housing, a key priority for the housing partnership is making best use of existing stock. We have:

- brought up to standard a total of 395 properties across Wiltshire
- brought up to standard an extra 46 properties through enforcement and improved an extra 56 properties by providing a loan or grant
- reviewed all sheltered housing stock across Wiltshire and are now developing an options appraisal on how we can make best use of this stock to meet future need
- recruited a dedicated full-time empty homes officer, with a focus on bringing back into use long-term empty homes through appropriate advice and assistance
- commenced mapping all stock across Wiltshire onto the GIS system to identify better what we have against what is needed at a very local level.



### Fuel poverty

The Affordable Warmth Partnership is leading on Wiltshire's approach to affordable warmth. The role of the partnership is to develop a robust and efficient action plan with the overall aim of eradicating fuel poverty in Wiltshire. Partnership activities include:

- an Affordable Warmth Summit – more than 50 delegates from across the county attended to find out about the implications of fuel poverty and how they can work together and feed into the action plan
- reviewing the draft Affordable Warmth in Wiltshire Action Plan
- identifying and developing joint projects – currently a targeted GP mail-out to vulnerable groups to promote the Warm and Well scheme.

### The Warm and Well scheme

The Warm and Well scheme provides heavily subsidised and, in many cases, free home insulation. Wiltshire Council is also providing funds in the form of a top-up. The top-up is available to vulnerable groups so that they can, in most cases, benefit from free insulation. Warm and Well has installed more than 1,000 measures (loft or cavity wall insulation) in approximately 900 homes.

Pilot projects have begun to establish a way forward with regards to Wiltshire's response to the 'Green Deal' and energy company obligation. The Green Deal will be the new way to fund energy efficient measures.

One project is ACHIEVE. Project ACHIEVE will implement a programme of home visits which focus on helping householders to find out more about how they use energy and how they can reduce energy bills. The assessors, previously unemployed, will be specially trained and employed to undertake the role.



## Military accommodation

We have been working with the armed forces in a number of ways over the last year. We have set up an Armed Forces Housing Forum to co-ordinate the advice and support given to households in the armed forces to ensure the advice given is consistent and that gaps are identified and addressed. In addition, we are working together to assess and plan for meeting the housing needs of those leaving the armed forces through planned redundancies or retirement and also when personnel are discharged due to injury and potentially have specialist needs.

Alongside this we are working with the Homes and Communities Agency and the MOD to identify military land in Wiltshire and to explore the potential of this land, particularly in rural communities, to provide new homes for people in need of affordable housing with the potential to give priority to ex-military households. The council is also in discussion with the military to explore how it can help to enable the delivery of more service family accommodation to meet both current and future needs. By working more closely together we will be better able to meet the housing needs of current and past members of the armed forces now and in the future.

## Military sites in Wiltshire



## Transport

### Transport network and economic growth

- Average journey times during the weekday morning peak (7am- 10am) on Wiltshire's 'A' roads fell by 3.9% between February 2011 to February 2012.
- The proportion of Wiltshire's principal classified roads where maintenance should be considered remained steady at 6% in 2010/11.
- In line with the development of the Wiltshire Core Strategy, the council is developing transport strategies for Chippenham, Devizes, Salisbury and Trowbridge to support future development growth.
- Wiltshire Council invested more than £14,599,000 in the road and bridge maintenance programme in 2010/11.

### Transport emissions and climate change

- A total of 71 walking schemes and 12 cycling schemes were implemented by the council during the two year period April 2010 to March 2012.
- Over the last two years, the council has worked with 37 schools to update their travel plans and with three schools to develop new plans.
- Although per capita CO2 emissions from road transport in Wiltshire have fallen since 2005, they still remain above the average in the South West and England.
- Transport features as one of the strategy themes in the council's 'Energy Change and Opportunity Strategy 2011-2020'.

### Deaths and serious injuries on the transport network

- While the number of people reported Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) in road traffic accidents in Wiltshire fluctuates from year-to-year (276 in 2008, 235 in 2009, 229 in 2010 and 254 in 2011), the overall rate of reduction is comparable to the national trend.
- Progress towards the 2010 casualty reduction targets and examples of road safety interventions can be found in the 'Road Casualties in Wiltshire and Swindon – 13th Joint Report – 2011'.



## Inequality in access to services, facilities and employment due to transport links

- Around a half of Wiltshire bus services run without council funding and the council is working with operators to encourage further commercial operation where this is possible.
- As in other parts of the country, however, bus services have suffered as a result of reductions in public spending. Reviews of less well-used bus services are being carried out by the council with local communities being consulted to make sure that as far as possible the impact on users is minimized.
- The council has also been working with Community First to provide funding and advice to local groups wishing to set up new community transport services: the 'Accelerate' scheme and Community Transport Development Fund were launched in Devizes in June 2012.

## Effect of traffic on the natural and built environment

- Motor vehicle traffic in Wiltshire totalled 3,378 million vehicle miles in 2011 which is little changed from 2010 and below the peak of 3,509 million vehicle miles in 2007.
- The 'Air Quality Strategy for Wiltshire 2011-2015' was adopted by the council in December 2011.
- The 'Wiltshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2026' was subject to both a Strategic Environmental Assessment and a Habitats Regulation Assessment.





## Environment

### Environmental evidence base

- The first ever state-of-the-environment report for Wiltshire and Swindon and a new environment section on the Wiltshire Intelligence Network were published in May 2012. These resources highlight key data and provide analysis across a range of issues, including land use, farming, historic environment, air quality, water resources, climate change, waste and pollution.
- There is a need to quantify and place a financial value on the natural environment, through an ecosystem assessment for Wiltshire, following the example of the UK National Ecosystem Assessment 2011. There is also a need for an audit of people' access to natural green space in Wiltshire to inform the Green Infrastructure Strategy.

### Biodiversity and the natural environment

- The Wiltshire and Swindon Local Nature Partnership is being developed, working closely with the Local Enterprise Partnership and Health and Wellbeing Board to drive positive change in the local natural environment. The Marlborough Downs has been chosen as one of 12 Nature Improvement Areas (NIA) in England to receive government funding. In addition, the Wiltshire Biodiversity Action Plan has been realigned to focus on landscape scale conservation, rather than individual habitats and species.
- The new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the Implementation Review of the European Habitats and Birds Directives will have an impact on the protection afforded to biodiversity and the natural environment through the planning system. This will be largely managed through the implementation of the emerging Core Strategy in delivering new infrastructure, homes and employment sites. Both the NPPF and the Core Strategy are committed to ensuring net gains in biodiversity from development where possible.



### Waste

- In 2011/12 the roll-out of service changes began to reduce residual waste sent to landfill and increase recycling rates. They included the new kerbside collections of plastic bottles and cardboard, which began in November 2011. Other changes, including non-chargeable garden waste collections, will take effect in 2012/13.
- By 2014, the council aims to reduce the proportion of municipal waste sent to landfill to 25% and to increase the percentage of household waste recycled or composted to 50%. The recycling rate has already hit 50%, which is well ahead of target.
- A new waste treatment facility has been developed in Westbury that will process an additional 60,000 tonnes of residual waste each year from 2013/14. Waste taken to the Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) plant on Northacre Industrial Estate will be shredded and dried to make a fuel that will be used in energy from waste facilities in Germany.
- Much greater quantities of non-municipal waste are produced from commercial, industrial, construction, mining and quarrying sources, but there is little data available on these at a local level as they are managed by private contractors.
- The first anaerobic digestion plant in Wiltshire, at Bore Hill Farm in Warminster, began to collect food waste from local businesses in 2012, generating electricity and preventing greenhouse gas emissions from landfill.



### Air quality

Wiltshire Council has published its 'Air Quality Strategy for Wiltshire 2011- 2015' which is a high level guiding document to inform policy and direction across a range of council services, including a 17 point plan which focuses on strategic actions.

- It provides a focus and mechanism to promote communication and co-operation between the council, external organisations and the community to address localised areas of poor air quality. Detailed actions for individual AQMAs will be included in a Wiltshire Air Quality Action Plan currently being updated.
- Air quality has now been included as a policy within the Wiltshire Core Strategy, to contribute to addressing this issue through a multifaceted approach. This includes locating new development where there is a viable range of transport choices, seeking to boost the self-containment of settlements to reduce commuter flows and seeking to take the opportunities from managed development and growth to help address the areas where particular air quality problems occur. This latter solution will be delivered through developer contributions. The council is now preparing a supplementary planning document for air quality.

### Weather and climate change

- There has been a series of unusual weather events, largely consistent with predictions of more frequent and extreme weather events due to climate change.
- In 2011, England had the warmest April and spring on record. It was also the second warmest autumn on record, with wildlife demonstrating spring-like behaviour in November due to the mild conditions.
- The winters of 2010/11 and 2011/12 were exceptionally dry, with rainfall below average in 16 out of 25 months up to April 2012.
- The Environment Agency declared a drought in parts of north and eastern Wiltshire in March 2012 and the remaining areas of Wiltshire in April 2012.
- Following the wettest April to June period on record in the UK, the drought order was lifted in June 2012.



Wiltshire Council has published its Energy, Change and Opportunity (ECO) strategy for reducing the council's carbon emissions as an organisation and preparing for unavoidable climate change. It will be supplemented by detailed action plans to set out more specifically how the council will deliver its climate change ambitions, including:

- Carbon Management Plan for the council's emissions
  - Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Wiltshire
  - Low Carbon Transition Plan for Wiltshire
  - Renewable Energy Action Plan for Wiltshire.
- The council has also undertaken a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment and is preparing a Surface Water Management Plan.

### Resilient communities

The Resilient Communities Partnership (RCP) reviewed its 2009 – 2012 strategy and action plan in early 2012 and agreed that it would maintain a focus on the same key issues that featured in the last edition of this document namely a:

- strong and vibrant voluntary and community sector (VCS)
- equalities and inclusion
- local involvement in decision making
- participation in arts and culture.

The global and national economic situation with its associated reductions in funding was also a consideration for the RCP when it reviewed its key issues. It is clear that focusing on building resilient communities in the context of the challenges we now face continues to be important. Associated to this is the coalition government's implementation of 'welfare reform' which will have an impact on individuals and communities. The RCP believes that all organisations and particularly those in the VCS have an important role to play in supporting people through their changes and challenges so that they do not face social and financial exclusion.

The military presence is one of the defining characteristics of Wiltshire, with around 30,000 military personnel and their dependants estimated to be living in the county. Given this, Wiltshire launched its Armed Forces Community Covenant in 2011. The covenant is a voluntary statement, the aim of which is to encourage local communities to support the Service community in their area and to nurture understanding and awareness amongst the public of issues affecting the armed forces community



Courtesy of HQ 43 Wessex Brigade

## The Joint Strategic Assessment by community area 2012/13

### Amesbury Community Area

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#### Community safety

Amesbury Crime and Community Safety Group agreed at their first meeting local measures to improve alcohol awareness, including publicity for encouraging people to have at least two alcohol free days a week.

#### Transport

With speeding registering as the number one priority in the area, the area board has set up a special working group dedicated to tackling this issue. The group was set up in mid 2012 and has seen strong backing from many local people, parishes and the local police. This group is a great example of how local people can get engaged in shaping and changing service provision in this area.



## Bradford on Avon Community Area

### Economy

'Made in Bradford on Avon' opened its doors to the public in May 2012. They have more than 120 paid up members exhibiting and selling within the shop, with enquiries from a further 75 waiting to join. All members are local and everything is handcrafted. Products are carefully chosen for quality, competitive pricing and careful consideration is given to prevent direct competition to local independent shops. Visitors to the shop are mostly local residents who want to support local creators and artists as well as supporting the town by shopping locally.

Repeat customers are growing due to the continuous restocking of products and uniqueness of stock. Commissions of goods are frequently sought by customers who can request individual alternations, styles and dimensions. The branded Made in Bradford on Avon merchandise showcases not only the shop, but the town itself. More than 50 local volunteers with local knowledge successfully run the shop seven days a week. In addition to this, a farmers and artisan market has been trialled successfully with 12,000 extra visitors to the town over four events. A wide range of other associated events in Lambs Yard are being supported.



### Community safety

The Historic Core Zone (Phase 1) project centres on a pedestrian priority area featuring new pavements, courtesy crossing areas and a de-cluttering of street furniture at the junction of Market Street and Church Street to reduce traffic intimidation, slow traffic speeds and improve pedestrian safety.

Following consultation with vulnerable groups, the plans were amended to take into account some of the comments received. In January 2013, further consultation with the wider public was undertaken and three public exhibitions were held.

Bradford on Avon (BoA) Town Council has now recommended approval of a modified scheme and the area board will shortly decide whether to proceed to the final detailed design and construction phase. Key Partners are BoA Town Council, BoA Preservation Trust, disability groups and town centre traders.

### Transport

Lorry Watch: volunteers continue to help with the enforcement of the 18 tonne weight limit on the Town Bridge, a restriction which was being regularly flouted by lorries from the UK and overseas. To date eight prosecutions by Trading Standards of repeat offenders have been successful and more are in the pipeline. The vast majority of warned drivers do not re-offend. Over the past year the visibility of the initiative of led to a marked reduction in offences.

### Health and wellbeing

Air Quality is a major initiative to combat real and perceived pollution and traffic issues in the town. The BoA Air Quality Alliance was launched in February 2013 and a new air quality analyser installed on Masons Lane.

The AQ analyser will record carbon dioxide and particulate emissions in real time. A survey of traffic and a survey of public health has been undertaken and new HGV signage has been put up all around the approaches to the town combined with local promotion of electric vehicles.

Key Partners are NHS Wiltshire (now Wiltshire Council Public Health), Climate Friendly BoA, BoA Preservation Trust, Bradford on Avon Town Council



### Calne Community Area

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#### Transport

Love Calne – Love Clean Air is an area board campaign to engage local people in the identification of an Air Quality Management Area. This was confirmed at the area board in Feb 2013 and the working group will now carry on the campaign working with public health officers and the community to develop an action plan.

#### Children and young people

Push it Wheel Good is a campaign arising from the Calne Bowl Project to raise the profile of young people's positive activity. This includes the group's participation in local events such as a lantern festival, clean-up days, area board meetings and linking to the Community Area Partnership.

#### Children and young people

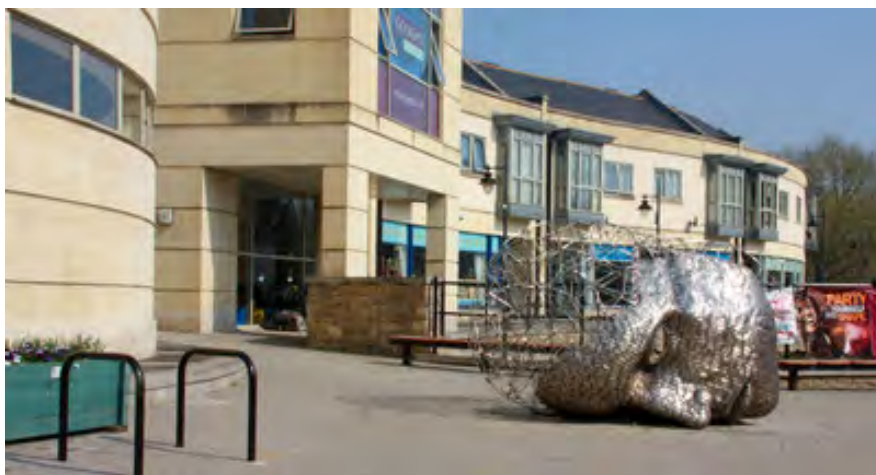
FAB Mosaic, funded by the area board and supported the Friends of Abberd Brook is project that linked local people, the local primary school and the local artists group in producing and installing a piece of public art in an underpass that had previously been a graffiti hot spot. Since completion there has been no further graffiti.

#### Transport

Sandpit Road: The area board working group was set up, including local residents, town and Wiltshire Council and Highways Officers, to develop safer route and road safety initiatives and schemes linked to the Sandpit Road development s106 agreement.

#### Health and wellbeing

The area board has promoted physical and mental health through its Community Area Grants, which have been awarded to a wide range of projects that deliver traditional and alternative sports and activities, including tennis courts, kite boarding, skateboard/ bmxing, new age curling for older people and school Olympic Games.



#### Environment

Calne Environment Network supported the first major and successful 'community fair' style event that promoted positive and practical responses to environmental issues. Calne Community Cycle Ride has also had support for their annual event, initially founded by the area board as part of the Safer Routes campaign.



### Chippenham Community Area

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#### Environment

New Social Enterprise 'The Nature of It' has been set up to promote outdoor gardening and sustainability education.

#### Children and Young People

The area board awarded funding for a Job Fair for NEETs in 2013.

#### Health and Wellbeing

A series of informative events and activities:

- How to recognise drugs
- The effects of drugs
- Where to get help and support for individuals
- Where to get help and support for partners and families
- How the new Adult Substance Misuse Service will operate in Wiltshire
- An opportunity to express concerns or raise any issues

### Corsham Community Area

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#### Transport

A transport strategy for the community area and in relation to the new campus is being developed to improve access to existing and planned facilities.

#### Arts, culture and leisure

The Pound Arts Centre is thriving; other centres are also developing programmes and the campus is being developed by the community.

#### Environment

Community orchards and renewable energy schemes are being developed.



### Devizes Community Area

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#### Community safety

20mph speed limits have been trialled in areas such as Great Cheverell.

#### Arts, culture and leisure

Agreement set up between Devizes Outdoor Celebratory Arts and the area board to ensure Devizes festivals continue to thrive.

#### Health and wellbeing

A local health forum has been set up to work with the health authority to ensure services have been provided and delivered and are what is needed. Close working with NHS is important to hold them to account publicly for the changes that are being made including a commitment to retaining vital facilities.

#### Housing

A visit was arranged by area board members including the Community Area Partnership and local MP to see the Housing Minister to discuss the Devizes area and housing need. As a result, some changes have been made to the approach to protect the area against unwanted development and there has been very active input into the Wiltshire Core Strategy.

#### Transport

The Devizes traffic model and the Devizes transport strategy have been finalised to support the core strategy. An air quality group has been put together to oversee delivery that particularly focuses on actions that are not always picked up through the high level strategic work that the council is doing, such as setting up and agreeing a new air quality management area in Devizes. Different scenarios are now being modelled to tackle air quality. Alongside this Cycle Devizes has been set up and is working to get more people cycling. Two events have been funded recently. New cycle routes have been set up and ongoing work agreed to review bus services and to lobby for a link for Devizes to the rail services.



### Malmesbury Community Area

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#### Community safety

Farmwatch and Horsewatch have been publicised. These schemes can deter crime, give land users timely warnings when criminals are active in their area, and provide a significant source of intelligence to help Wiltshire Police catch and prosecute offenders.

#### Environment

Local representatives and Sustrans are creating a walking and cycle path between Malmesbury Town Centre and the new development at Cowbridge. Whitewalls Way project is developing circular walks between the parishes. Signs and information boards will be located on the trail and a guide book will be published. The 'Bridges walk' project takes in all the bridges of Malmesbury where they cross the Sherston and Tetbury Avon rivers and it was launched in summer 2012 with a community walk.

#### Health and wellbeing

To reduce social isolation it was suggested schools invite older people in for a hot meal. A pilot was undertaken by Dauntsey Primary School with the good neighbour co-ordinator which is working very well.

In an initiative led by the NHS, a nurse attended the school throughout 2012 to provide confidential advice, including sexual health.



## Marlborough Community Area

### Environment

Thames Water has agreed to reduce abstraction from the Kennet Valley, following campaigning from Action for the River Kennet.

### Transport

Transition Marlborough and Bedwyn Train Passengers Group is working to improve public transport links to the town, especially to help young people to get to college and employment without needing a car. The Parish Forum has developed 10 village traffic plans covering 17 villages in the area to address local traffic, speeding and parking problems.

### Economy

A tourism strategy has been developed for the town and an arts and culture forum has been established to co-ordinate events and promote arts in the area.



### Melksham Community Area

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#### Economy

A wide range of projects are underway, including the installation and regular updating of a local jobs and volunteering board; an online diary of events and CV workshops. Events in the town such as the Melksham Food Festival and Christmas Lights have assisted in promoting the town. In addition, a local hotel featured on prime time TV helped to raise the profile of Melksham. The blogsite is helping with co-ordination of publicity and information.

#### Transport

Projects include a walking / cycling map for Melksham audit and negotiation on bus routes and information on cycle safety. Atkins has been contracted to develop all stations in the area including Melksham. Suggestions have been made to improve the access to Melksham Station by bike and bus or on foot.



### Pewsey Community Area

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#### Transport

Pedestrian access to Pewsey Station: The area board committed £5,000 towards the station project, which was matched with money from the Wiltshire Local Transport Funding that they have for access to rail transport. So £10,000 has been provided for a feasibility study to ascertain in more detail what works would be required and how much it would cost. The feasibility study has been commissioned and the report is awaited.

#### Arts, culture and leisure

A volunteer has collated information about clubs, organisations and potential venues for sports activities across the community area with a view to staging a two week period when sessions could be offered to people.

#### Children and young people

Pewsey Carnival, in partnership with the Shack and the Youth Council, has developed a project called 'Have a go at Carnival' which was developed because it was noted that the carnival didn't provide events aimed at teenagers between 13 and 17 years of age.

During carnival fortnight 2013 they want to provide these teenagers with opportunities to 'have a go' at something they've never tried before. This could be taking part in a football training session; being coached at tennis; water polo; clay pigeon shooting; a class on how lighting and sound works in a theatre; an art class; how to bake a cake; how to make a curry; how to knit; how to fish... the potential list is endless.



## Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Community Area

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### Transport

The provision of rural bus services is being looked at alongside investigating other possibilities such as a free bus service to ASDA in West Swindon.

HGV routes and increasing traffic leading to rat runs from the A419 are also being evaluated and will form the basis of future action.

### Housing

An area board initiative is examining how affordable housing can be made more suitable for modern living, through building in the right place, ensuring the right tenure and adoption of the right design. A councillor from the area board is examining a range of ways in which this work could be supported.

Members of the area board are working closely with Swindon Borough Council to combat urban sprawl. The creation of a neighbourhood plan has been identified as a priority.



### Salisbury Community Area

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#### Transport

An Air Quality Community Action Group has now been set up to encourage cycling/walking within the city: A walking map has been produced and a 'Walkers are Welcome' scheme is seeking accreditation. New cycle signs have been erected.

#### Transport

A successful highways bid to Local Sustainable Transport Fund worth circa £5million will allow improvement of integrated bus connections at the railway station and potential walking and cycle links to the city. Work has also been undertaken with Community Transport to develop a Hopper Bus scheme similar to the Amesbury scheme running from the city centre to the new Campus development at 5 Rivers. This is currently with design consultants.

#### Community safety

Salisbury City now has Purple Flag accreditation recognising the safety, quality and diversity of its city centre evening economy. This has broad support from all agencies, businesses, the voluntary sector, City Council and Wiltshire Council. Also, city centre fingerposts have been repaired and brown signs installed on arterial roads to encourage tourism.

#### Children and young people

The potential for a sixth form is being discussed for the city centre.



### **Southern Wiltshire Community Area**

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#### **Community safety**

Every parish council has nominated a lead councillor for community safety. All parish council meeting dates have been collated and the community beat managers are now communicating directly with each lead councillor prior to meetings; giving them key local information that they would like the parish council to know.

#### **Environment**

The footpath project has been a massive hit; it has engaged lots of new people and is environmental and health related – see [www.southernwiltshirewalks.weebly.com](http://www.southernwiltshirewalks.weebly.com)

The idea is for the area board to bring together the people interested in walking and maintaining our footpaths so that resources can be shared, funding identified to buy new gates and materials, and then people encouraged to get involved and train up volunteers to install the gates. This involves working closely with Rights of Way, ramblers and parish councils.



### **South West Wiltshire Community Area**

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#### **Economy**

A series of economic development projects have been agreed with local chambers of commerce using area board funding. This includes, for example, close working with the AONB and their sustainable rural tourism initiative. Tisbury campus site will also benefit from successful European funding bid for business incubation units. Plans to provide educational training at Tisbury Community Campus are also part of the proposal agreed by Wiltshire Council.

#### **Environment**

The Wessex Water grid project is in progress, aiming to improve supply and deal with water quality issues. There is planned reduction of some abstraction licenses. Wessex Water is working with the Mere Rivers Group to undertake a trial which will show the effect of water abstraction on the river. Plans to start the trial are scheduled for spring 2013. Promotion of environmental measures is continuing together with community orchard initiatives.

#### **Health and wellbeing**

The reasons for the area's surprisingly high asthma rate are being investigated.



### **Tidworth Community Area**

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#### **Community safety, health and wellbeing**

Tidworth Mums have been supported to set up a website with community information. The site has been used to disseminate information to the community of army wives including information on health related issues such as vaccination, keeping appointments at GP and dentist surgeries and dealing with domestic violence. The facebook group has more than 500 members.

#### **Children and young people**

The children's centre has set up a special group to support families when troops have been deployed. This includes counselling, parenting support and a range of other services.

Counselling has been secured by extended services in all schools in the community area and Tidworth Mums are setting up a Saturday support groups to help families over the weekends when other services are unavailable. Tidworth Mums are also running two cross regimental parent and toddler groups, offering more structured play than was previously available and attracting a high number of parents.

### **Trowbridge Community Area**

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#### **Arts, leisure and culture**

The Trowbridge Area Board approved the first stage of community asset transfer of Trowbridge Town Hall for an arts centre; this has included funding for the feasibility work. Funding was also given for a new Trowbridge Arts festival last year and support for a two-year outreach programme of professional arts and cultural activities in the community area which has drawn in substantial lottery funding.

The shadow campus board has been established and is developing plans for the Trowbridge Campus which will include leisure facilities for the community area and beyond.

#### **Transport and the environment**

The Trowbridge Area Board is working on the Trowbridge Master Plan including addressing ease of routes for pedestrians and cyclist around the town. Work on the Master Plan includes a green corridor along the River Biss to make the town more attractive.

#### **Health and wellbeing**

Community services have been identified as a priority so the area board are challenging the decision by Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust (AWP) to temporarily close Charter House. Area board funding was allocated to Alzheimer's Support, Trowbridge, to support the provision of the new dementia hub in Trowbridge Park.

### Warminster Community Area

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#### Health and Wellbeing

Support has continued for the Warminster Wobble, a week of cycling, organised by local people.

#### Economy

Warminster Area Board has funded Warminster Community Radio which provides training for local people in all aspects of radio broadcasting, helping a number of trainees to find work.



The Warminster & Villages Development Trust runs the Warminster Information Centre providing services for tourists and residents alike, with the aim of an increasing number of initiatives to capture the huge potential for attracting visitors to the area.

#### Children and young people

The area board has funded a 'Job Club' to help get people into work. Support is offered at bi-weekly meetings and includes one-to-one help with searching and applying for posts. The club specifically targets young people, NEETs and those who most need assistance. The board also funded a transport scheme to support young people to attend the club and other youth clubs and activities.

The Community Area Partnership has had funding from the area board to provide an Independence Trip for young people, including disabled young people to encourage them to take part in as many mainstream activities as possible and to promote independent living.

The Warminster Area Board has also been working closely with local schools to set up and run a computer course for children and parents to learn together.

#### Environment

A local nature group has been supported to improve the important nature reserve in Smallbrook Meadows, including making it wheelchair and pushchair accessible.

The Warminster & Villages Development Trust is examining the setting up of an education centre for sustainability at Bore Hill Farm, above the ground-breaking food waste to energy plant.

### Westbury Community Area

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#### Environment

Westbury Area Board designed and funded a poster and publicity awareness scheme – launched February 2013 – aimed at making owners aware of the legal obligations around dog ownership and encouraging them to clean up after their dogs. This involved liaison with town and parish councils, voluntary groups, shops, schools and media, free micro chipping sessions with council dog wardens were hosted and were well attended.

The area board worked with the town council and Wiltshire Council officers to identify land that will provide up to 20 allotments in Westbury (there were only seven). Work is currently ongoing on legal issues and boundaries of land. There are plans to transfer ownership of council land to the Town Council under the Community Asset Transfer scheme and for the area board to help with promotions and setting up the fund. The area board has also funded allotments and fencing and water connections in Bratton and Coulston.

Westbury Area Board funded £2,000 worth of kissing gates and horse stiles to make Rights of Way safer for pedestrians and horse riders after concerns about quad-bikers disturbing routes. The area board funded remedial drainage work to improve access to an area of walks and lakes off the Mead in Westbury. They also funded a series of interpretation boards to raise awareness of local heritage and nature.



#### Economy

The Westbury Area Board provided £5,000 in match funding for a community clean-up of the famous White Horse. The horse is now clean and funds are in hand for future renovation. The area board was involved in the creation of a Blue Plaque trail around Westbury historic buildings – working with local heritage groups and the town council. The area board produced four displays of local history to help raise awareness of heritage – these have been used in local schools and at the library and town council.

In response to a higher than average number of young people not in employment education or training the area board worked with Crosspoint Welcome Centre to pilot a weekly Job Club.

### Health and wellbeing

The community area manager is working with the health centre manager on plans for a men's health awareness campaign. The area board worked with the children's centre to fund a dental health awareness campaign visiting schools and pre schools and also funded a range of healthy eating events aimed at schoolchildren and parents. The area board worked with the town council to match fund the purchase and installation of a range of outdoor keep fit equipment for older children and adults.

### Children and young people

The area board worked with children's centre, extended schools and Westbury Area Forum to fund a series of parenting workshops and specialist counselling. This was followed by the well attended Growing Up in Westbury community event in December 2012 with information stalls and presentations on a range of specialist subjects and input from local young people. Participants included Matravers School, the Children's Centre, the teenage pregnancy team, local voluntary groups.

### Transport

The local area board has hosted a range of meetings to address concerns about access to new out of town health centre. This has involved Link, Community First, the health centre, passenger transport officers, patient groups and the town council. The area board has funded a publicity campaign to raise awareness of the current service – this includes posters, new timetables, free taster routes and a leaflet to all homes.

Through the Community Area Transport Group, the area board has funded improvements to walking and cycling routes, including new crossing points, dropped kerbs and extra bus stops.

### Community safety

A series of residents groups have been supported to address specific issues around Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB). Extensive funding has been provided by the area board for upgraded and new CCTV cameras. Close working with local police means ASB is currently at a very low level

### Conclusion

Area boards and community area partnerships undertake a very wide range of activities, contributing to improved outcomes in a number of themes. The purpose of this document is to highlight examples of where discussion on the JSA community area information has informed community-led planning and, in turn, action that is making a difference. For examples of other activity by area boards or community area partnerships please visit: <http://areaboards.wordpress.com/> or <http://wfcap.org>

