

Trowbridge Child Wellbeing Partnership

Background

The Partnership was initiated in December 2018 by the then Community Engagement Manager as a response to national data indicating a significant increase in the number of children living in poverty. It then lapsed and was revived in June 2019 by Trowbridge Future. For the Partnership, a child is defined as being from 0 to 18. The intention is that it should act as a strategic body bringing together Wiltshire Council, Trowbridge Town Council and the voluntary sector to develop strategies and projects to address child poverty in Trowbridge. The Partnership does not wish to become a formal working group of the Area board but would like to be a partner and report regularly to the Board.

Purposes of the Partnership

1. To bring together groups and organisations with a responsibility or interest in improving child wellbeing in Trowbridge with a particular initial focus on Studley Green, from the public, private and voluntary sectors.
2. To be aware of what the data shows about the nature of child wellbeing in Trowbridge and the current trends.
3. To share information on existing projects and activities related to child wellbeing in the town.
4. To engage local residents in developing a strategy for improving child wellbeing in Trowbridge identifying
 - a. geographical areas of need.
 - b. the aspects that are most acute and those where action can have the biggest impact on child wellbeing
 - c. current gaps in provision
 - d. potential actions and projects to address these issues
5. To identify a process to engage local residents fully in the strategy and its implementation.
6. To identify sources of funding to provide the capacity to implement the strategy.
7. To develop a process of evaluation to assess the strategy's impact.

Membership

Current membership includes the Community Engagement Manager, Local Area Coordinator, Town Clerk, Head of Active Trowbridge, a Town and Unitary Councillor, Selwood Housing, Trowbridge Schools Collaborative, Studley Green children's Centre, Wiltshire Council Family Learning, the Health Visitor Team, Trowbridge Future, Youth Action for Christ, Studley Green Primary School, Trowbridge Town Hall and it is continuing to expand its membership. It also has the support of Wiltshire Community foundation.

Relationship with the Local Youth network

After discussion with the Community Engagement Manager and to avoid duplication the LYN has merged with the partnership. The LYN has a tighter focus on the age range 11-18 and can discuss grants of public money.

Current Focus

Drawing on the work done in Leeds, Newcastle, Bristol and UNICEF the groups current focus is on creating a Child Friendly Trowbridge. It has created a short draft, vision statement for this which is attached. The next stage is to engage young people in the discussion of the vision. Once this has been done the partnership intends to bring the vision to the Area Board and the Town Council for endorsement.

Colin Kay
Chair of Trowbridge Child Wellbeing Partnership
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