

Wiltshire Council

Warminster Area Board

Warminster Community Area is made up of Warminster town which is the service centre for a large rural catchment of villages and a major military garrison, which uses Salisbury Plain as a training area.

The Area Board is made up of 5 unitary councillors, 2 of whom are also members of Warminster Town Council. 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 area has a rich range of physical and human resources, including vibrant and active community, military, cultural and sporting hubs, and a range of voluntary, community and military sector support organisations.



24,926

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.

Total Area Board Investment



The total amount invested in projects through additional community contribution, from fundraising, grants, services in kind or volunteering

Local Priorities

The Area Board reviewed available local data and evidence and integrated this with local knowledge and community conversation to agree local priority themes. The Area Board has undertaken a series of more specific local actions to positively address them, including the key achievements below:

Youth engagement, employment and positive activity opportunities



A grant was provided to Kingsdown School to provide additional in-school counselling for students suffering with mental health issues as the counselling team were in danger of having to turn students away due to lack of capacity. Typically, more children can now receive a six-week intervention.

Housing and employment

The Army Welfare Service Community Support group was granted money for film making equipment. The equipment gives young people the opportunity to develop new or existing skills that will enhance career prospects and give them showcasing material for university applications. As a first project a promotional video was created using the computer to celebrate the work of AWS with young people.



Reducing isolation and loneliness



An Area Board grant was used by Opendoor to invest in a website and phone which have been invaluable and have broadened the diversity of channels Opendoor uses to work with their clients. Many of their clients really value speaking to a real person in real time which the phone provides. The website can help those who support friends and relatives in Warminster but don't live in the area. Opendoor were contacted by a daughter, who had seen the website and was anxious to support her mum. A date was arranged for Mum to come in to the cafe, safe in the knowledge that she was expected and would be personally welcomed. The website can also promote service providers who visit the chat cafe, such as Look Good Feel Better and citizens advice, encouraging people to come for practical as well as emotional support.

Supporting the local economy

The Warminster Chamber of Commerce relaunched in March 23, under the name Warminster Business Network, was attended by over 50 businesses and the Town Council. Currently over 40 business have joined, with another 20 showing strong interest. The first breakfast network event is on 20th July and the network hope to set a routine drumbeat of network events. A real spark of business discussions have been taking place since the launch with business looking to work together. The Network have a variety training events planned between Aug and Dec. such as Social media training, Digital marketing, Green policies, Accounting and finance and Coaching to upskill local businesses.

Community-led projects



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

The Area Board supports Warminster Health and Wellbeing forum which brings together many local organisations to improve the wellbeing of the Warminster Community Area. Recently the group organised a successful wellbeing event which bought together 40 local organisations and was attended by around 325 residents. The organisations covered a variety of health and wellbeing activities from socialising, sharing hobbies, health support to keeping fit. An information booklet was put together alongside the event and then and distributed throughout the wider Warminster Community Area so that local information on health and wellbeing groups can be accessed by as many residents as possible.

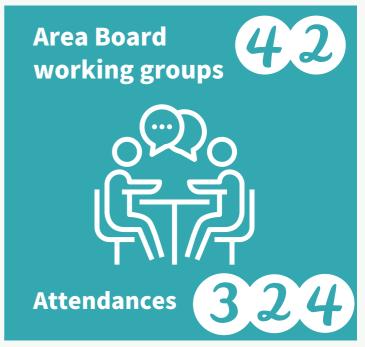
This group embodies at least two key mission's of Wiltshire Council's Business Plan; 'We live well together', and 'We stay active'. This makes Warminster a place where communities are supported to be more resilient in the face of challenging times and setbacks and where communities are kept physically, socially and mentally active. This has direct and positive impacts including reducing disease, and increasing residents ability to enjoy life.

Engagements

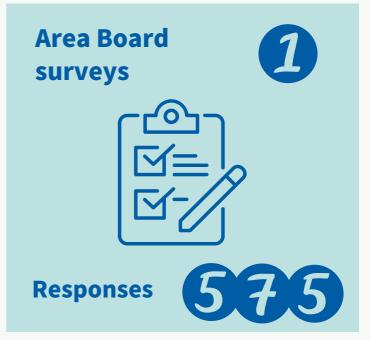
The Warminster Area Board works alongside other organisations to make things happen in the local community. These groups include the town council, military, voluntary and community groups, youth organisations, sports clubs and local charities.

The Area Board wouldn't be able to achieve what they do without these partners working on the ground with them. The Area Board hosts regular business meetings, engagement activities, events, surveys and working groups to stimulate and support local community action.











Local Highways and Footpath Infrastructure group

The Local Highways and Footpath Infrastructure group (LHFIG) is a sub group of the Warminster Area Board, which deals specifically with highway issues. They aim to find solutions for local transport issues, such as road repairs, traffic problems, road layouts and parking.

The amount allocated is dependent on the geographical size and population for the community area and the funding allocation is for capital expenditure and can be used to provide new and improved highway infrastructure.

LHFIG Projects 2022/23

- Maiden Bradley 20mph speed limit implementation.
- Knook & Heytesbury Lining
- A350 Crockerton Dropped Kerbs
- Codford Cherry Orchard and Heytesbury Signing
- Warminster Factory Lane ,Corsley Sturford Lane and Horningsham Heavens Gate – Signing and Lining
- Horningsham Village Virtual Footway
- A362 Corlsey Village Gates
- Corsley and Bishopstrow SID posts
- Warminster Bread Street/Chapel Street HGV signing.
- Longbridge Deverill Street nameplate.



Projects competed in 21/22

Warminster Portway – Bollards and footway resurfacing.

A362 Corsley Heath - Speed Limit Assessment.

Longbridge Deverill ,Warminster High Street and Pound Street- Bollards

Maiden Bradley - Village gates.

Corsley - Signing improvements





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:

- Youth engagement, employment and positive activity opportunities
- Addressing climate change and reversing biodiversity loss
- Supporting positive mental health and wellbeing and reducing social isolation
- Supporting under represented groups
- Improving transport and access

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.

