Wiltshire Council has developed a new community-led model for positive activities with young people. This model sees the implementation of new Community Youth Officer, the development of a Local Youth Network and an annual budget available for activities with young people accessible through your Area Board.

Your Community Youth Officer is **Ollie Phipps**, he is the 'go to guy' for youth issues and to signpost young people to local services and activities.

As part of his role he will be focusing on community working, growing and enhancing voluntary and community sector positive activity provision. Also facilitating engagement with young people and champion their voice and influence in local decision making. Ollie will be supporting the participation and involvement of young people in the design, development, delivery and review of youth activities. Furthermore, Ollie will initiate and support local youth and community projects. Ollie will be instrumental in establishing and supporting the Local Youth Network, providing professional advice, maintaining communications and helping facilitate its local activities.

The Local Youth Networks will identify local needs, priorities and outcomes and make recommendations to the Area Board on how funding for positive activities for young people should be deployed.

LYNs will facilitate partnership working at a local level, particularly between voluntary and community providers of youth activities. The aspiration is that this approach will develop a more joined-up and consistent positive activities offer for young people and improve safeguarding and child protection.

Ollie would like to meet all groups working with young people and include them in the development of the Local Youth Network. Furthermore, your Community Youth Officer is a resource for advice, guidance, support and information regarding young people, so do not hesitate to get in touch.

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