

Report to Saltash Town Council from Livewire youth project for October, November and December 2023

1. Number of open access sessions run: 29

During these sessions young people have been able to have music lessons [guitar, bass, drums, keyboard, vocals, live sound and music technology], lessons in stage lighting, rehearsal space, perform on stage, take part in single issue programmes, have youth work support or counselling, volunteer, socialise and take part in our development group or our recycling project and on Wednesday evenings our junior members can take part in Art workshops and older young people can volunteer.

In addition to our open access sessions we have also had a young women's music session on Tuesday evenings 10 in total and during these sessions young women are encouraged to come along and make music with 2 musicians these sessions are also run by a JNC qualified youth worker, so young women can also access youth work support.

We have also continued to run our wellbeing sessions on Friday evenings, 11 in total, these sessions are designed to cater to young people that might be too anxious for open access sessions as they are quieter and young people attending these sessions can access the art workshops or support with a counsellor or JNC qualified youth worker who runs the session or they can make music with a musician, we also have a wellbeing volunteer at these sessions as well as a therapy dog.

On Saturday we also run a recording session 10 in all for bands and individual young people with music to record.

2. Number of detached/outreach youth work sessions run: 0

We haven't run any outreach detached youth work sessions during this period because the weather turned and the return to school/college meant there weren't the young people about to make it necessary.

3. There have been 3 single issue programmes during this period. Violence against women has been one topic mainly due to Plymouth University making it a topic for research and coming in to meet and discuss the topic with young people, who have raised some very interesting points and contributed brilliantly we are going to get the outcomes from this research so will make sure we send a copy to STC as well as the safer Cornwall group. Recycling has remained a topic as part of the young people's concerns for the environment, and we have also looked at healthy relationships.

4. Approximately 340 individual young people have been engaged with through open access sessions, young women's music making sessions, well being group sessions, counselling, daytime referral sessions and Saturday recording sessions.

5. All young people engaged with have received or are currently receiving individual or group support.

6. 0 young people have been supported in getting into employment in this period and 2 young people have been supported in going back to school and 3 young people have been supported in starting college during this period.

7. 115 young people have measurable distance travelled. By this we mean that they have progressed positively over the period and shown real change.
8. This period we have had 35 young people referred to livewire from other agencies, 11 from schools, 1 through social care, 3 from CAMHS, 1 from youth offending team, 0 from the Police, 12 from GP's, and 7 from the zone. These young people have been referred for Counselling, daytime sessions, youth support sessions and for the open access sessions.
9. 303.5 volunteer support worker hours have taken place in this period.
10. We have currently got a group of 8 young people making up our development group who meet regularly to discuss issues and young people's desires for development at Livewire.
11. This year we have been very fortunate to receive £29,938 from Saltash Town Council for youth work. The match funding secured to date includes the Big Lottery funding of £219,000 over 5 years of which £15,000 per year is towards youth work (we are currently in year 2). Plus £11,000 per year gift from AC/DC for youth work and we have had a £10,000 anonymous gift plus £15,000 from P.T. to secure the purchase of the Line array system for the venue making our venue the best sounding venue in the area according to the installer. The system is valued at £60,000 so the cost to us of £25,000 gave us a hefty discount (actually cost to us of £0 as the £25,000 was given to us)

Mental health and wellbeing remain priorities for the work here at Livewire and I believe we are just beginning to see the results of the pandemic on our young people's mental health. We continue to get referrals for counselling and youth work support sessions. In fact we almost found ourselves in a position of having a waiting list except the youth work team have managed to plug the gap.

We are holding show cases of talent we have at Livewire for the final week before Christmas (except the Friday well being session which will run as usual) the young people are very excited because apart from when they were much younger this will be the first time for many of them that their parents' actually get to see then perform.

One of the young people who attends Livewire and often performs on the stage during open mic session, showcases and community events was on the TV in the voice recently he didn't win but it was good to see the confidence (& talent) that he had.

Our relationship with the Community Kitchen goes from strength to strength as we continue in the partnership with them feeding young people and we also met there for our Christmas celebrations for a donation from Livewire which actually meant so many more people were able to go. It was a great evening and the community Kitchen done itself proud. In fact did the town proud as it's wonderful that we have such a brilliant place here in Saltash.

Our recycled fashion project is going well although we haven't got the momentum going to be quite ready for a fashion show yet so maybe a bit later in the New Year.

