

Saltash Team For Youth

Report for Policy & Finance Committee meeting on 11 March 2025

The Saltash Team For Youth working group last met on Monday 3 February at Livewire. Below are the notes from the meeting.

1. Welcome and apologies

Attended by Matt, Rachel, Julia from Saltash Town Council, Charlotte from The Core and Julie from Livewire. Apologies from Lisa from Saltash Town Council. Thanks to Julie for hosting us.

2. Updates from Saltash Town Council, Livewire and The Core

2.1 Saltash Town Council (STC)

Matt outlined the timeline for the tendering process for professional youth work in 2025/26, as follows:

- 7th March Advertise tender for a period of four weeks
- 4th April Deadline for tender applications
- 11th April Tender applications assessed by Councillors
- 10th June Recommendations ratified at Policy & Finance Committee

The budget for 2025/26 is £59,069, a 3% CPI increase from 2024/25.

The gap between submission of applications and final decision is longer this year due to the pre-election period before the council elections on 1st May. It was therefore agreed that Matt will notify applicants of the 'in principle' decision following the assessment panel on 11th April to assist with planning for the 2025/26 financial year.

Other STC developments were discussed including the implementation of new play parks, the forthcoming Saltash Markets starting in March, STC's new fundraising strategy, Saltash Youth Network and the new Saltash Studios on Fore Street.

It was noted that Saltash Community School is now more engaged with youth work activity because of leadership changes and being more outward facing. Both Livewire and The Core are providing regular 1to1 mental health and wellbeing support for students at the school. This is much needed and good to see.

2.2 Livewire

Livewire's counselling service continues to experience high demand. So much so that the building has been reconfigured to incorporate four, new spaces upstairs for 1to1s. This is helping to clear the waiting list.

Two Marjon students and a PhD student are working at Livewire on placement.

The cost-of-living crisis combined with funding cuts and increased fundraising competition continues to be challenging in terms of securing annual income of £200k, £110k of which is for staffing and administration costs.

2.3 The Core

The Core is also experiencing similar challenges in terms of meeting demand and keeping the show on the road. Their fixed outgoings are now £1200 per month.

The partnership project with Groundwork finishes at the end of March but The Core will continue the tutoring side of the project, which caters for 10 young people for 4hrs per week in 6-week blocks. This service is proving particularly popular for home educated young people, for which their parents / carers pay £250 per young person.

The Arts Lab initiative is also proving popular, in collaboration with Burraton Memory Café. 6 older people meet and participate with young people aged 12-16 in an after-school club on Thursday evenings.

The Core is holding its 10th Anniversary Garden Party on Saturday 12th July.

3. Date of next meeting

Monday 12th May 2025, 10am at Livewire

Cllr Matt Griffiths

01/03/25