

**The Core**  
**Quarterly report to Saltash Town Council – Sept 2023**

**What the money has been spent on and what has been delivered.**

The money that Saltash Town Council awarded The Core Youth Project continues to employ our Youth Work Coordinator who manages and develops the youth provision at the centre. We have a staff team of 1 full time youth worker, 2 part time youth support workers and 4 sessional youth support worker, which has enabled us to continue to offer various youth work sessions. The following projects are funded by STC plus the match funding we have secured from other grants.

The following sessions are offered weekly at The Core for young people;

**Open Access Youth Sessions**

Senior club for 13-18 year olds every Monday evening 7-9pm

Junior club for 11-13 year olds every Thursday evening 6.30-8.30pm

**Grub Club**

Cooking workshop every Monday 3.15-5pm (Years 7-13)

**Craft Club**

Arts and crafts workshop every Thursday 3.15-4.30pm (Years 7-13)

**Just be You**

LGBT+ support and social group every Monday 3.15-4.30pm

**Home Education Group**

First Monday of the month 10.30-12.30pm for parents and children who are home educated.

**Climbing Club**

Wednesdays - 3.45-6pm for young people to learn climbing skills on our climbing and traversing walls.

**Saltash Amateur Boxing Club and Climbing Club** – Both of these clubs also run out of the centre and offer activities to young people 4 times per week.

**Starting this term** – Tabletop Gaming Club on Mondays 3-6.30pm

**Match funding**

IWill Social Action fund - £5120

Police & Crime Commissioners Fund – £4,997

Coop Local Causes Fund - £3990

Howton Solar Farm - £2416

**Total = £16,523**

**Plus - In house funding to include;**

- Weekly subscriptions for youth club
- Revenue from room hire at the centre – Approx. £25,000 per year. Whilst this money is essentially raised to pay for the general running costs and other staffing costs, it does show that we are bringing in revenue to help keep the centre open for both the community and the young people.
- Fundraising and donations – Family Fun Days and Craft fairs.

**Outcomes and outputs achieved**

Total current number of members at The Core = 250

Number of open access sessions delivered this quarter = 51

Number of young people receiving individual support = 12

Number of young people helped back in to employment, training or work = 8

Number of youth volunteer hours worked = 60

**Young volunteers**

We offer a variety of opportunities for young people to volunteer and enable them to gain skills for their CV's and a deeper understanding of youth and community work. They can help out at our Junior Youth Club, in the tuck shop, helping organise sport or craft activities, they can use this as their placement for D of E or become a member of our Youth Committee.

Our Youth Committee has helped with our summer activities programme, volunteering at our Family Fun Days and offering crafts for children, helping with climbing and in the café. They are an invaluable part of our team and are learning essential life skills. In addition to being part of the committee they are also members of our youth club and have enjoyed participating in our summer trips and activities this summer.

We have also set up an opportunity where young people who have shown significant commitment to volunteering in the youth sessions have been offered a trainee youth support worker post, this has proved to be very successful and we are on our second trainee, the first person we had is now over 18 and has been given a permanent position as a Youth Support Worker. This shows the progression we are able to offer the young people who are keen to volunteer and has a significant impact on them.

**Youth Sessions**

Our regular youth sessions continue to be well attended which is evidence that young people need places to go and socialise and take part in activities. It is essential that youth centre's continue to open their doors and provide professional youth work, a safe and

non-judgmental space, advice and information and most importantly...fun!

This quarter we have completed our very popular summer programme, where we offer low cost activities during the summer holidays. This year we were fortunate enough to obtain grant funding to enable us to offer three in house 'Food and Fun' afternoons where we provided a free lunch and a fun activity such as tag archery, inflatables and VR gaming. These sessions ran for 4 hours where young people could drop in, have something healthy to eat and take part in an activity.

The sessions proved very successful and it was felt that we had more young people who had additional needs or whose families were struggling financially this year than in the past.

We also offered three trips, all of which were only £10 to keep the cost manageable for families and where we felt even this cost was a stretch we were able to cover the cost to enable it to be fully inclusive and accessible. The trips are always a great way of building relationships and having the opportunity to get to know the young people better and enjoy fun activities. We took 45 young people by coach on each trip and they had a fantastic time!

It is so important that we can continue to offer young people not only a safe space to meet and socialise but also a range of support and activities to keep them healthy and happy and ensure that we make our programme diverse and interesting. Our programme offers; Cooking courses, Craft club, a range of sporting activities, LGBT+ support group, 1:1 advice and guidance, Sexual health advice, training and volunteering opportunities.

We have great plans for some new projects this Autumn to include a Community Workshop where we can share skills and have people within our community teaching young people practical skills, offering bike maintenance and repairs, plus the new addition of a new table top gaming club which will start soon.

Our new term will begin on August 31<sup>st</sup> with a transition evening for our new Year 7 member, offering them a taster session so they can see what we do at youth club and ask any questions they need to about starting school.

We would like to thank STC for their continued support in funding our youth work and hope that you can see by this report how valuable it is.