

Report to Saltash Town Council from Livewire youth project for June, July and August 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 11 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, 12 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 11 in all for bands and individual young people with music to record.

2. Number of detached/outreach youth work sessions run: 19

Again we have concentrated on the waterside area and found that the young people are lovely both the local young people and those from further afield we signposted a few to the core who expressed an interest in boxing and climbing and a couple have started to attend Livewire that were into music making.

3. There have been 2 single issue programmes during this period. Mental health and wellbeing has remained a priority of the young people attending Livewire as has body image so these two have taken our time and become the single issue programmes over the summer.

4. Approximately 360 individual young people have been engaged with through open access sessions, detached/outreach 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. 2 young people have been supported in getting into employment in this period and 1 young person has been supported in going back to school and 1 young person has been supported in getting into or back into training during this period.

7. 130 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 36 young people referred to livewire from other agencies, 10 from schools, 2 through social care, 2 from CAMHS, 3 from youth offending team, 0 from the Police, 10 from GP's, and 9 from the zone. These young people have been referred for Counselling, daytime sessions, youth support sessions and for the open access sessions.
9. 415 volunteer support worker hours have taken place in this period.
10. We have currently got a group of 10 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.

We have had a busy summer, mental health and wellbeing of young people are still priorities of ours, tragically losing one of our members to epilepsy has had a lasting impact on some of her friends who we have been supporting.

We are still getting referrals coming in for counselling and youth work support sessions.

Community events in this period have included Saltash Regatta where 20 young people performed and Boardmasters where 119 young people from all over Cornwall performed, both events were brilliant and well attended and most importantly the young people had a wonderful time.

With support from PL12 Community Kitchen we are still feeding a great many young people each week.

Our recycled fashion project is going really well although it has also become an opportunity for young people who are experiencing financial issues to get free clothes or adapt existing ones. We are also planning our first fashion show which is to take place just before Christmas this year.

We have just returned to work after our summer shut down (the last two weeks of August) and look forward to supporting more young people in their transition into adulthood.