

Report to Saltash Town Council from Livewire youth project for July, August and September 2023

- 1. Number of open access sessions run:** 25 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 and on Wednesday evenings our junior members can take part in Art workshops and older young people can volunteer. This will be another category in the next report because the Wednesday sessions are no longer open access as we had to cap the numbers and in fact just before we stopped for our summer break we capped at 100 juniors. When we re-opened in September we had to stop young people joining after 2 weeks, which hasn't happened before in all the years I have worked here at junior club so future entries on Junior club won't be coming under open access sessions but they remain an important part of what we do at Livewire so I will continue to report to the Town Council on them. In addition to our open access sessions we also run a young women's music session on Tuesday evenings 12 in total and during these sessions young women are encouraged to come along and make music with 2 musicians, we are currently looking for another female all round musician to help support this and ensure the young women attending get the very best. 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 14 in all for bands and individual young people with music to record.
- 2. Number of detached/outreach youth work sessions run:** only 8 during this period mainly due to Livewire shutting down for 2 weeks and schools returning in September meant there weren't so many young people that of course and the weather with lots of rain there have been just a few young people outside jumping off the pier, we have continued to concentrate on the waterside area because in the summer months there are a lot of young people on the waterside and the issues of previous years has led to the requirement to have a youth worker presents in the waterside area. However yet again we have experienced nothing but lovely young people with excellent manners. The piano on the waterside was moved to outside Livewire and has continued to attract interest from passersby but again nothing

untoward and it has continued to be a joy to see young people of varying abilities playing whilst their friends sing along. I'm sorry to sound like a broken record but again it has been lovely to connect with these young people some local and some from further afield.

3. There have been 3 single issue programmes during this period. They have been environmental issues as they have remained close to young people's hearts and minds. Mental health and wellbeing as it seems that more and more young people present needing additional support in this area. And this time we have had people from Plymouth university coming along for group sessions as part of their research into violence against women so we made a single issue programme of this topic and we have been amazed by the contributions of young people into this topic. The lecturers from Plymouth university came once before at the beginning of their research but wanted to come back towards the end of the research so we are awaiting the results from the research and will share it with the Town Council and the safer Cornwall group.
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 2 young people have been supported in getting into or back into training during this period.
7. This period 123 young people have measurable distance travelled.
8. This period we have had 52 young people referred to livewire from other agencies, 13 from schools, 4 from targeted youth support, 0 through social care, 3 from CAMHS, 5 from youth offending team, 0 from the Police, 14 from GP's, and 13 from the zone. These young people have been referred for Counselling, daytime sessions, youth support sessions and for the open access sessions.
9. 426 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 the young family for youth work. We have since had more funding come into Livewire for example £15,000 from P. Townsend and £10,000 anonymous gift for the new PA which is actually worth £60,000 meaning Livewire probably has the best sound system in the area. We have also had a grant from Garfield trust for £30,000 for youth work.

Livewire remains busy and the mental health and wellbeing of young people remains a priority. We have had lots of referrals for counselling and youth work support through parents and young people self referring as well as through organisations. We have until now managed to avoid any waiting lists. However due to the fact that some of our counsellors won't actually have completed our induction process until the New Year and everyone else's schedules are currently full I have been informed that we could have a wait for young people to begin counselling until January but we have decided that young people waiting for counselling will get a qualified youth worker assigned to them until the counselling is available that way we can ensure that everyone is supported between now and the new year. Thankfully though not all the young people we work with have poor mental health and we are busy doing youth work that isn't centred on their mental health. Wellbeing is another thing as I believe that every session should be good for young people's wellbeing whether they are involved in decision making through the development group, volunteering, sewing in the recycled project, having music lessons, performing on stage, attending a workshop/ single issue programme or simply being and chatting to staff as part of the life of Livewire. All of which keeps us busy engaging young people. We also sent over 120 young people to Boardmasters this year and young people performed at Saltash regatta this year, young people have also performed at Callington honey fair and other local events.