

Press Release

For immediate release

New Survey for Young People to Talk about Swindon

A new survey is being launched to ask Swindon's young people how they feel. The 6 simple questions ask young people how much they feel listened to and involved, as well as for ideas to help improve things.

The survey marks the launch of Swindon Youth Voice, a new project to help young people grow in confidence and be able to make a difference to the world around them.

Project Manager Lisa Gibbons says it's important to know how young people feel about life in the town.

"We would love to know how involved Swindon's children and young people feel in their communities at the moment" she said. "We are hoping as many 11 to 25-year-olds as possible in Swindon will complete the survey."

The survey can be found at www.vas-swindon.org/survey - everyone completing the survey will be entered to win a £30 voucher, as a thank you for taking part. Printed versions can be ordered by calling 07354 848965.

The results from the survey will help the project decide what is most important for young people in Swindon – and it's also a chance for young people to make contact and find out more about getting involved.

The Youth Voice project is funded by the National Lottery and aims to help bring together youth services from across Swindon to make sure that young people can access the help and support they need.

The project will run workshops, discussions, creative activities and a programme of visits and guest speakers, all designed to help young people have their voice heard.

"This project will be an important step in getting young people's voices heard in Swindon" says Andy Malcolm from SMASH youth project. "We want to make sure that people from every background and every community can get involved."

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For more information contact:

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Notes to editors

Swindon Youth Voice Project

The project is a partnership between four organisations. Voluntary Action Swindon is the lead organisation, responsible for the grant, and will oversee the project. Three local organisations will deliver the activities for the young people: SMASH, Swindon & Gloucester Mind, and Prime Theatre. Mike Reed Associates will lead on evaluating the project and making sure that successes are recorded and the project learns as it goes.

Voluntary Action Swindon (VAS) is the local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS), providing help, support and advice for charities and voluntary groups across the borough. This year VAS celebrated its 90th birthday and a long history supporting communities and voluntary activity across Swindon.

www.vas-swindon.org

About The National Lottery Community Fund

The National Lottery is the largest funder of community activity in the UK, supporting people and communities to prosper and thrive.

National Lottery players raise over £30 million each week for good causes throughout the UK. Since The National Lottery began in 1994, £43 billion has been raised for good causes. National Lottery funding has been used to support over 635,000 projects - 255 projects per postcode area.