

## Report from Saltash Team for Youth

Saltash Team for Youth met shortly before lockdown began at which point The Core, Junkyard and Livewire were all operating and everything was going well. Then open access provision stopped again before lockdown but all three organisations were still operating and providing some service. Junkyard staff were continuing to be out and about particularly at Saltmill and The Core provided some online support for their members and Livewire also took the provision online and via telephone. However since lockdown began Junkyard were unable to partake in any outside delivery until recently when some restrictions have been lifted and they have returned to Saltmill socially distancing talking with the young people and they have also at the request of Safer Saltash gone online to promote social distancing amongst the skating community in Saltash. They are looking at the future and options for future delivery. The Core having lost the income from hiring out spaces within the building very sensibly took the option of furloughing their staff in order to protect their finances so that they are in a position to continue their good work in the future. Moving forward they have plans to look at ways of working with young people through online groups, 1 to 1 socially distanced sessions and by working closely with Saltash Community school, to look at how they can best support students with their transition back to school in September. The Trustees/management committee are in no doubt that life will not return to normal anytime soon, therefore they are looking at innovative ways of re-opening the centre safely for the community. Livewire have continued throughout lockdown to provide young people with support services, through online (virtual) sessions closed access for safeguarding reasons. During these sessions young people have had the opportunity to join in with online activities, talk with youth work staff, mental health worker, counsellors, wellbeing support workers and/or have online music lessons. There has also been counselling ongoing through telephone or skype etc. Livewire has continued to take referrals and there has also been a telephone service run throughout lockdown. Moving forward Livewire intends to open as soon as is safe (PPE in place) for daytime one to one socially distanced support sessions (risk assessments have been completed) and one of the team who has completed the Thrive and Tis training has booked onto online training to support children/young people returning to school. Once this daytime service is up and running there will be two days a week dedicated to children from year 6 going into year 7 this service as with the other support will be appointment only. One of the Livewire team has also at the request of Saltash Community School sent a video presentation to play in assemblies. All three projects are in no doubt that the future holds many challenges for all of us and that mental health and wellbeing will be a huge consideration for everyone moving forward post pandemic.