

All About The Place – Health Inequalities Initiative

Place-Based Development Report – June 2026

Summary

This phase of the Programme demonstrates that place-based development is highly dependent on local starting conditions. Where strong, pre-existing community networks are in place, such as in Littleham and Wonford, progress into delivery and impact can be rapid. In contrast, areas such as Westexe and the A30 Villages require sustained investment in relationship-building and coordination before comparable outcomes can be realised.

Across all areas, the Programme is successfully establishing the conditions for longer-term, community-led approaches to addressing health inequalities, with clear evidence that locally rooted, relationship-based models can drive both engagement and measurable impact.

Current Position by Area

Area	Stage	Key Strength
Littleham	Emerging delivery	Strong community activation and youth-led work
Wonford	Mature	Established ecosystem with measurable impact
Westexe	Early	Community insight and engagement
A30 Villages	Early–mid	Strong alliance and clear strategic direction

Overview

This report summarises progress across four areas within the Health Inequalities Initiative:

- Littleham (Exmouth)
- Wonford (Exeter)
- Westexe (Tiverton)
- A30 Villages (North-East Dartmoor)

Across all areas, work has been structured around three core strands:

- Animated Communities – building relationships, trust, and local participation
- Asset-based Community Development (ABCD) – connecting and activating local assets
- Potential Funding Sources – enabling delivery and sustainability

Littleham (Exmouth)

The work in Littleham has been delivered through close collaboration with locally engaged VCSE organisations, schools and community connectors, particularly through the Littleham Together partnership. These organisations act as “animated community members” — trusted, active local actors who are already embedded within the community.

Their role has been critical in surfacing local insights, engaging residents, and amplifying the community's voice, particularly regarding youth needs, access to activities, and barriers to participation. This has enabled the programme to move quickly from engagement into delivery.

Ongoing Work

- Delivery through the Littleham Together partnership
- Youth Focus engagement and summer programme
- Community events and school activity
- Collaboration with NHS and local partners

Outcomes to Date

- Transition from engagement into delivery
- Youth Focus funded and implemented
- Strong partnership alignment
- Emerging impact through participation and trust

Emerging Impact and Social Value:

- Increased social connection and participation
- Early prevention through community-led activity

Health Inequalities Contribution:

- Addressing youth disengagement and access barriers
- Improving early identification of need

Opportunities / Support Required / Lessons Learned

- Opportunity to scale youth provision
- Need for sustained funding and coordination
- Informal engagement builds trust

Escalations and Barriers

- Agency needed to implement and coordinate plans
- Transport and access challenges
- Limited infrastructure

Gaps Identified

- Youth provision gaps
- Infrastructure needs
- Hard-to-reach engagement
- Long-term sustainability funding

Wonford (Exeter)

In Wonford, the presence of an established and highly active network of community organisations, coordinated through the Wonford Community Organisations Group (COG), has provided a strong foundation for working with animated community members.

Local VCSE organisations, community leaders, and volunteers play a central role in capturing lived experience, identifying emerging needs, and shaping on-the-ground activity. The depth of this engagement is reflected in both the scale of activity at the Wonford Community and Learning Centre (WCLC) and the richness of the community voice captured through the social value work.

This has enabled not only delivery, but also the articulation of impact grounded in real community experience.

Ongoing Work

- Coordination through Wonford COG
- Community activity via WCLC
- Health initiatives and youth partnership
- Social value measurement

Outcomes to Date

- Mature community ecosystem
- Strong community hub (WCLC)
- £165k–£215k estimated social value (£2.65–£3.47 return per £1 invested)

Demonstrated Impact and Social Value:

- Reduced isolation and improved wellbeing
- Increased physical activity
- Strong volunteer contribution

Health Inequalities Contribution:

- Preventive health support
- Addressing loneliness, inactivity and financial stress

Opportunities / Support Required / Lessons Learned

- Opportunity to scale proven model
- Need sustained agency investment and integration
- Community-led models drive impact

Escalations and Barriers

- Funding sustainability
- Capacity constraints

Gaps Identified

- Youth provision
- Long-term sustainability funding

Westexe (Tiverton)

In Westexe, the programme has begun identifying and engaging with emerging animated community members through the Tiverton Community Wellbeing Alliance.

This includes community builders, voluntary sector organisations, and frontline practitioners who have strong local knowledge. Their involvement is helping map the system, identify gaps, and highlight barriers residents experience, particularly in navigating support services.

While this work is at an earlier stage, it is beginning to build the relationships and trust required to bring forward an authentic community voice in future delivery.

Ongoing Work

- Scoping and mapping
- Engagement via Wellbeing Alliance
- System understanding

Outcomes to Date

- Established partnership forum
- Improved system insight

Emerging Impact and Social Value:

- Platform for collaboration
- Early system improvements

Health Inequalities Contribution:

- Identifying structural barriers
- Foundations for prevention

Opportunities / Support Required / Lessons Learned

- Opportunity to build coordination
- Need more agency capacity and facilitation
- Insight precedes delivery

Escalations and Barriers

- Fragmented services
- Digital exclusion

Gaps Identified

- Coordination structure
- Service mapping gaps
- Long-term sustainability funding

A30 Villages

Across the A30 Villages, the programme is working with distributed, animated community members in multiple rural settlements, including parish representatives, community organisations, and VCSE partners, coordinated through the North-East Dartmoor Health and Wellbeing Alliance.

These locally embedded actors are essential in bringing forward community insight across a dispersed geography, where knowledge is often highly localised.

Their involvement is enabling the Alliance to develop a shared understanding of need, identify practical barriers, and co-produce a collective response, particularly regarding access, connectivity, and awareness of support.

Ongoing Work

- Development of Alliance
- Mapping assets
- Planning pilot activity

Outcomes to Date

- Strong partner alignment
- Clear shared mission

Emerging Impact and Social Value:

- Strengthened connections
- Collective problem solving

Health Inequalities Contribution:

- Addressing rural access barriers
- Improving system navigation

Opportunities / Support Required / Lessons Learned

- Opportunity for rural coordination models
- Need funding and tools
- Connectivity is key

Escalations and Barriers

- Transport and digital barriers
- Limited workforce capacity

Gaps Identified

- Information coordination
- Cross-community connectivity
- Long-term sustainability funding

Appendix – Local Assets/Partner Summary By Area

Littleham (Exmouth)

- Littleham Together partnership
- Exmouth Youth CIC
- Reach Foundation
- DYS Space / The Hive Youth Centre
- Open Door Exmouth
- Exmouth Community College (Ted Wragg Trust)
- LED Leisure
- The Wave Littleham
- Exmouth Coastal Churches
- ECOE Advice
- Devon and Cornwall Police
- Devon Community Foundation
- Active Devon
- Family Support (Devon County Council)
- Local councillors and community groups (Littlehamsters)

Wonford (Exeter)

- Wonford Community Organisations Group (COG)
- Wonford Community and Learning Centre (WCLC)
- Wonford Health Matters
- DYS Space / The 100 Club
- Wynstream School
- Isca Academy (Ted Wragg Trust)
- Ludwell Life
- Wonford Green Surgery
- Wonford Methodist Church
- Devon and Cornwall Police
- Wonford Planters
- Exeter Community Initiatives
- Exeter City Community Trust
- Exeter City Council
- Devon County Council
- Community builders and workers

Westexex (Tiverton)

- Tiverton Community Wellbeing Alliance
- Involve (Community Builders, Volunteer Hub)
- Space Youth Services (Tiverton)
- Unite Carers
- ECOE Advice
- Tiverton Almshouse Trust
- Social Prescribing teams / PCN
- NHS partners
- Active Devon
- Learn Devon (Devon County Council)

A30 Villages (North-East Dartmoor)

- North-East Dartmoor Health and Wellbeing Alliance
- Wellmoor
- Local GP practices and primary care
- Chagford Parish Council
- Cheriton Bishop Practice / PPG
- Acorn Community Support
- Moorcare (community transport)
- Teignbridge CVS
- Active Devon
- Devon Carers
- Cheriton Bishop Parish Council