

What its like to live in Swindon

Now I can do
watercolours too

I am Maggie do you like my artwork?



- I enjoy living in Swindon it's a good place
- I enjoy and feel secure in my job
- I am confident that when I need support it will be there
- I have good relationships with my friends and family
- I feel safe
- I feel part of my community
- I know where to go if I need information and advice and I am confident that it is up to date and accurate
- I am happy in my home and feel secure
- I can walk easily to a pleasant green space
- I have almost no rubbish! I recycle everything every week at my kerbside
- I care about my local natural environment and want to protect it
- My voice is heard
- I am a valued person
- I feel society is on my side
- I'm sure this bus will come on time
- I feel I contribute to my town
- I now have a reason to get up in the morning
- I get on well with my neighbours
- If I do feel ill, I know I have such a wonderful hospital on my doorstep
- I want to feel in control of my life and future
- I am not alone
- I enjoy making new friends

Bob



I live with my wife of 50 years who has dementia. I enjoy coming to my club to meet my friends while a volunteer sits with my wife.

I am worried about the cost of living. I can manage now but I don't want to lose my bus pass, and the winter fuel allowance. I want to feel safe in my community and be able to walk to the bus-stop. I am worried about my grandson who hasn't got a job. I want him to be able to get a job in Swindon

One Swindon

I am making a contribution by mentoring a young person. I organise a monthly event at the club. My wife has a care co-ordinator who helps with her everyday needs and monitors her care plan. The young person I mentor comes over once a week to sit with my wife. When I see my Doctor he understands – I know there is a plan for my wife's care if I am poorly. I am part of the community watch. I use the internet which has made my life easier – I don't wear cardigans!

Fred



Groups – lunch clubs

- I know more people and more people know me *
- I have started volunteering – passing on my skills /mentor *
- I am more active and have lost weight **
- Skype – I have learnt it and Skype my family *
- I feel more positive
- ProActive school and community *

2010

I am retired due ill health

I am alone – family emigrated (Australia)

I am a widower

I live in social housing (warden)

I am lonely – few friends

I have heart problems

I struggle to get about

I make fiends (new friend)

Naveen



- Self organised
- Use of green spaces
- Swindon provides me with the opportunity to use areas for community sports
- Socialising, together, team
- Multi-cultural
- Clean open spaces
- Dog poo free grass
- Clean/clear open space
- Space available for leisure, sports and recreation
- Swindon is a place where I can enjoy myself with friends without fear of being singled out as different
- Everyone round here uses this space for what they want and leave it good for others
- Well maintained green area
- Variety of green spaces
- I'm ok, you're ok, in it
- What's red tape?
- Sport for all?
- Swindon is good ere in it!! Respec
- Using/enjoying open space
- Open space with facilities for sport
- I'm glad they got rid of the things that stopped me using this area
- Friends
- Space for community activities
- Relocation!
- Hope this field does not get sold off for development
- Keeping healthy
- Tolerance of play
- Areas where all can mingle confidently
- Safe play
- I take responsibility
- This is ours now!

The Swindons



- I am part of my community
- I am healthy
- We can love and support each other
- I have aspirations and I want help to fulfil them
- I have choices

Understanding

Smith Family



We have everything we need and want, right here, right now

- We've both got a job close to our home that we enjoy
- We can easily and quickly get out to the countryside and open green spaces near our home
- Being green is made easy for us
- We think Swindon town centre is a great place to spend time – shopping and leisure
- There are lots of different things for us to try (as a family) across the Borough
- We're confident that our children have a bright future
- We live healthy lifestyles and have access to good quality health services when we need them
- I live in a friendly neighbourhood
- We feel safe wherever we are in Swindon
- We enjoy the richness and diversity of Swindon's culture
- We've got nice safe places to play near our house
- Proud to live in Swindon
- Swindon's a great place to live
- We love going to school
- We look after each other and can play an active role in our community if we want to

Ted



- I have opportunities
- I feel encouraged
- Education needs broadening
- (her) I want to feel safe
- How do I get included
- I'm excluded from my community
- Employment Risk – H&S – Legislation
- Can communities create 'work' opportunities in return for benefits – work /education

Joe & Jamie

My name is Jamie



My name is Joe

Jamie

- Guest what! I am 5 and I've got Autism.
- My mum's in hospital.
- Where's my mum?
- My dad is sad
- School is scary!

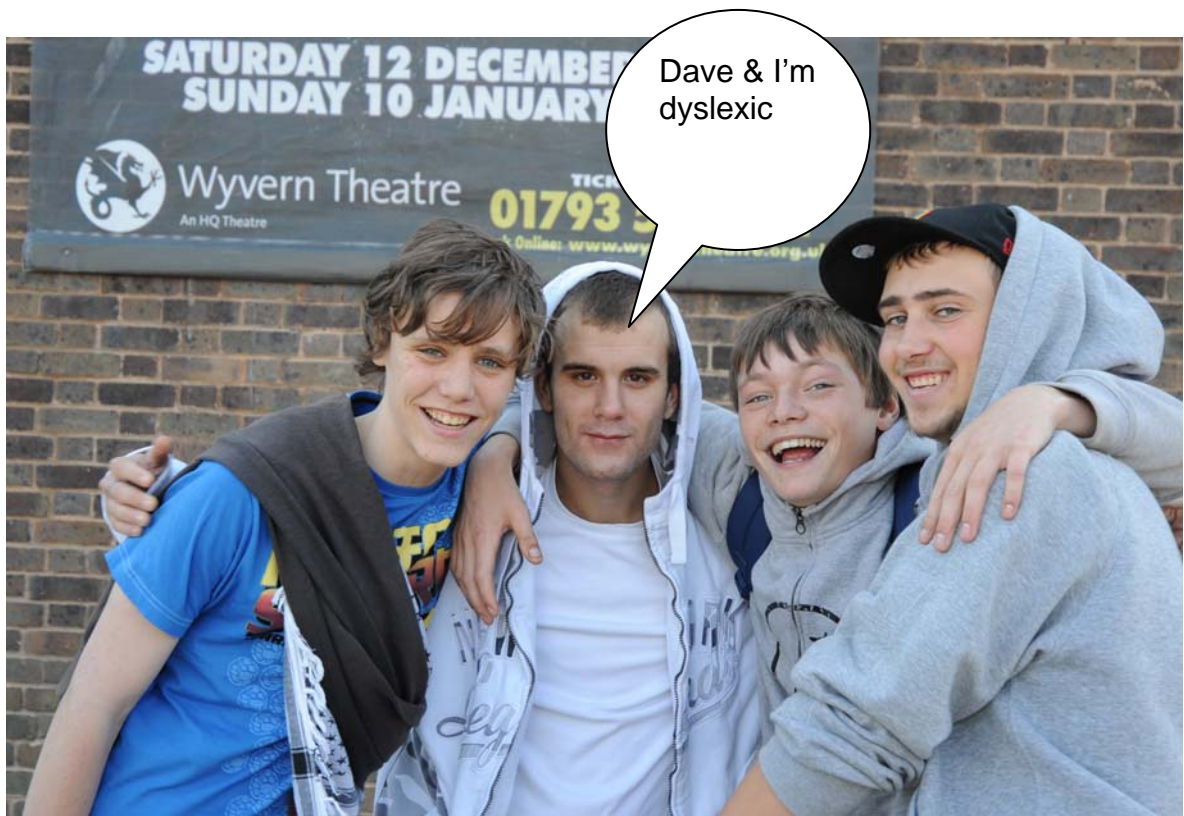
Joe

- I'm Joe, I can't work because I care for my son
- I'm on my own there's no one to help
- I'm anxious, worried, frustrated
- Money is tight
- How do I pay the rent, buy the food

Five years later:....

- Joe is part of a social enterprise and a school network
- Community Champions have helped me so much that I am now training to be a Community Champion
- I still have concerns but I feel a lot better about available help for both of us!!

Dave



- I know where I can get help easily (seemless)
- There are places where I can go and feel safe – everyday/night
- Would like to get involved in 2012 – volunteering
- I have aspirations – to participate in sport – I know how I can join a sports club
- Develop my skills in technology
- I don't think I am going to get many GCSE's but want to get involved in ICT
- My dad runs a great firm – I would like to work with him
- I can see there are avenues of learning that will benefit me

2010

Darren



My futures look bleak

I don't know what went wrong

What we want is to change our future

Class of 2020



10 Years on:

- We are still happy living in Swindon
- We had aspirations and our parents teachers helped us to achieve them
- We live in great neighbourhoods where we are safe, can play, and socialise
- We are working in jobs we enjoy, where we have prospects to progress in our careers
- We are fit and healthy and so are our families
- We care about Swindon because Swindon cares about us

Lucy



- I am Lucy – I am 17 years old
- I am at college, I have just started this term
- DV teams
- Schools – ECM officer schools
- SWADS
- CRISIS team
- We are using these services
- Social services
- Courts & Justice system
- GPs, Sexual Health services
- Youth Centres, Youth Groups
- Personal tutor or college ECM Officer
- Housing Benefit
- Homeless charities x 5
- Foyer support worker
- Living in the Foyer
- I was kicked out of Mums house
- Leisure services
- Police, PCSO
- Living at home, west Swindon cover for mother
- Hospital consultant
- I am Jess – 18 years old, at work
- I'd like One Guide / advice/ help not so many different people
- Internet and social networking site
- One door to all the services
- I don't want to keep telling my story
- Have a young people overboard on the different areas that are available
- People not talking to each other about my problem, so I have to keep telling my story.
- I don't understand why I can't find all the help I need through one access point
- Choice
- Accessible
- Informed

Amir



- Less discrimination
- Valued – community / work / private (family) *
- I know more about my local area – that's going on, offer
- I want to grow my own food for my family
- Actively be involved in local community – decision making participation *
- Quality of life of family and children
- I feel my community, friendly safe, clean and green *
- Join/choice of varied community groups (hobbies/interests)
 - Street parties for all
 - Volunteer work, walking
- I feel like I belong *
- I feel that my involvement in my youth club keeps me and my friends out of crime, healthier and enjoying my open spaces *
- I enjoy my green open spaces *
- My family, share food/time together in parks/open areas *
- I want to get around my town (affordably)
- Help all parts of community (Intergeneration activities) – helping gardening/hanging baskets, greening of area, more trees in street, nesting boxes
- I want to keep healthy mentally and physically

Bebe

My name is Bebe, I am 18 and I come from Brazil, I have been in Swindon for 10 years.



- I can get about easily using public transport & my bike
- I will have my own home with a garden
- I have a good quality of life
- I will be been to university and have a job with prospects
- There is a central information point where we can share and find out bout what's going on
- I will feel safe and part of the Swindon community and integrated
- I help run a youth football team for kids who can't afford to pay to join a club
- I got my CRB easily
- Me and my family and friends fundraise for the money to hire the pitches and run a club. We are raising money now for a minibus so we can take the youngsters to games and involve those who can't get there.
- When I hurt my knee playing football I got seen quickly and treated so I got back playing quickly

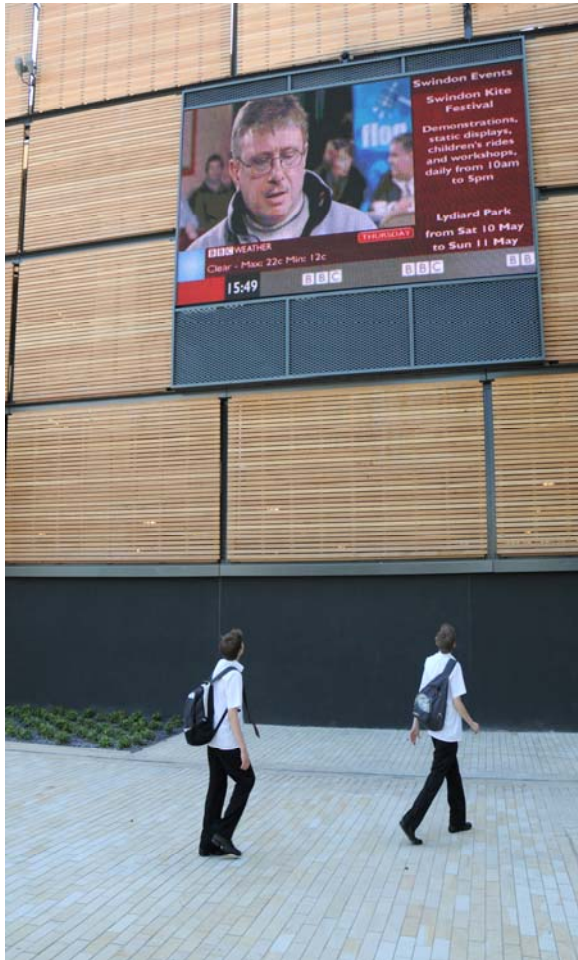
Mrs Khan



- Not born in Britain
- Grandma with children & grandchildren
- One child with disability
- Feels isolated outside her own community
- Language barriers
- Centre Swindon
- Isolated, close to home,
- Feels part of her ethnic community
- Untapped skills within her family

- I feel confident my community is not stereotyped
- I have more choice
- I feel more confident about my grandchildren's future
- I have hope for the future
- I feel confident that my grandchild will have good care when I've gone
- I feel confident that my community is not stigmatized by wider community
- People are learning more about my culture
- I have been helped to learn more English
- I feel more part of my community
- Communication e.g. appropriate method of giving information e.g. if anyone here deaf
- I have more freedom
- I can access and understand the information about services
- I know how to access services when I need them
- My family and I feel we can contribute to our wider community
- I feel comfortable walking through the streets of Swindon
- My family and I will have good education
- Cultural understanding in service provision

Janet & John – School children



- My family have their own business - Janet
- My dad works really hard – John
- My dad fell ill a few years ago, but he was supported back to health in our own home
- I love the new Oasis, its got loads to do
- Swindon offers loads of concerts – I saw George Michael last week
- We love swimming at the Oasis
- I want to go to Uni – I wish there was one in Swindon – John
- Our family business has really grown, we now employ more local people and people that find it harder to get jobs
- My dads girlfriend is from Poland
- I want to be a PE teacher – Janet
- (John) I am in a long term relationship with Simon and feel accepted

- We are best friends with Mohammad and we have learnt a lot about their culture
- There were lots of opportunities for me to be educated, trained and get employment in Swindon
- We go to Churchfields school
- We support Swindon FC
- It's great that Swindon are now top of the Premier League and have a fab new stadium
- I have just got married to Mohammed and am buying my first house, we are using the shared ownership scheme (Janet)
- I coach children to play football
- I'm a Governor at Churchfields
- We are very anti-drink and drugs but some of our friends aren't.
- We feel safer when we go out in town on a Friday night.
- I live in Lawn (Janet) I'm from a big family
- I live in Park North (John)
- I am from a single parent family
- I'm a community link for our local neighbourhood