



Wyre Borough Council
Date of Publication: 29 June 2022
Please ask for : Peter Foulsham
Democratic Services and Scrutiny
Manager
Tel: 01253 887606

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Wyre Borough Council to be held at the Civic Centre, Breck Road, Poulton-le-Fylde on **Thursday, 7 July 2022** commencing at 7.00 pm.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Garry Payne".

Garry Payne
Chief Executive

The Mayor will invite the Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend John Squires, to say prayers.

COUNCIL AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Confirmation of minutes** (Pages 5 - 16)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 14 April 2022 and 12 May 2022 respectively.
3. **Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of interest from any Member on any item on this agenda.
4. **Announcements**

To receive any announcements from the Mayor, Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader of the Council, Members of the Cabinet, a Chairman of a Committee or the Chief Executive.
5. **Public questions or statements**

To receive any questions or statements from members of the public under Procedure Rule 9.1.

6. Questions "On Notice" from councillors

To receive any questions from Members of the Council to the Mayor, a member of the Cabinet or the Chairman of a Committee under Council Procedure Rule 12.

7. Executive reports

To receive reports from Cabinet Members. (In accordance with Procedure Rule 11.3 Councillors will be able to ask questions or make comments).

- (a) Leader of the Council (Councillor Henderson) (Pages 17 - 20)
- (b) Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor Michael Vincent) (Pages 21 - 24)
- (c) Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder (Councillor Bridge) (Pages 25 - 28)
- (d) Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio Holder (Councillor Collinson) (Pages 29 - 30)
- (e) Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder (Councillor Berry) (Pages 31 - 34)
- (f) Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder (Councillor Bowen) (Pages 35 - 38)

8. Treasury management activity 2021/22 (Pages 39 - 48)

Report of Councillor Michael Vincent, Resources Portfolio Holder and Clare James, Corporate Director Resources and S151 Officer.

9. Appointment of Independent Person (Pages 49 - 52)

Report of Councillor David Henderson, Leader of the Council and Clare James, Corporate Director Resources.

10. Periodic Report - Lead Member for Older People (Pages 53 - 60)

Report of Councillor Lynn Walmsley, Lead Member for Older People.

11. Notices of Motion

None.

If you have any enquiries on this agenda, please contact Peter Foulsham, tel: 01253 887606, email: peter.foulsham@wyre.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank



Council Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting of Wyre Borough Council held on Thursday, 14 April 2022 at the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Council members present:

Councillors Kay, Ballard, I Amos, Lady D Atkins, Sir R Atkins, Baxter, Beavers, Berry, B Birch, C Birch, Bowen, Cartridge, Catterall, Collinson, E Ellison, P Ellison, Fail, Fairbanks, Gerrard, George, Henderson, Ibison, Ingham, Le Marinel, Leech, Longton, McKay, Minto, Moon, Orme, O'Neill, Raynor, Robinson, Smith, Swales, A Turner, S Turner, M Vincent, D Walmsley, L Walmsley, Webster and Williams

Apologies for absence:

Councillors Armstrong, Bridge, Cropper, Holden, Stirzaker, A Vincent and Matthew Vincent

Others present:

Honorary Alderman Hodgkinson

Officers present:

Garry Payne, Chief Executive
Mark Billington, Corporate Director Environment
Marianne Hesketh, Corporate Director Communities
Clare James, Corporate Director Resources
Peter Foulsham, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer
Duncan Jowitt, Democratic Services Officer
Mary Grimshaw, Legal Services Manager and Monitoring Officer
Steve Smith, Planning Policy and Economic Development Manager
Emily Wareing, Communications Officer
Stephanie McAuley, Graphic Designer

No members of the public or press attended the meeting.

1 Confirmation of minutes

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Henderson, proposed and the Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Michael Vincent, seconded that the minutes of the meeting of the full Council held on 10 March 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

It was agreed, by 26 votes to 0, with 6 abstentions, that the minutes of the full

Council meeting held on 10 March 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

2 Declarations of Interest

The Monitoring Officer had granted a dispensation to all Members to enable participation in the debate and vote on item 11, the Members' Allowances Scheme.

Councillor Baxter disclosed a significant interest in agenda item 9, Wyre Local Plan Partial Review (2011-20310).

3 Announcements

The Mayor announced that the total amount raised at the full Council meeting held on 10 March 2022 in aid of the Ukraine appeal was £492.20.

A number of other events were planned over the next month, for which tickets were available, including a Golf Day (22 April), Musical Showcase (24 April), a clay pigeon shoot (30 April) and a concert by the Blackpool Male Voice Choir (7 May).

The Mayor announced the three winners of the Mayor's Easter Raffle.

4 Public questions or statements

None.

5 Questions "On Notice" from councillors

None.

6 Executive reports

(a) Leader of the Council (Councillor Henderson)

The Leader of the Council, Councillor David Henderson, submitted a report.

Councillor Henderson informed councillors that the Lancashire Leaders' Group meetings would recommence after the forthcoming elections.

Councillor Henderson responded to questions from Councillor Beavers, about the Poulton to Fleetwood link, and from Councillor Fail, about the County Deal, Theme 4, with regard to fracking. Councillor Minto also made a comment about fracking.

The report was noted.

(b) Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor M Vincent)

The Resources Portfolio Holder, Councillor Michael Vincent, submitted a report.

Councillor Vincent responded to a question from Councillor Sir Robert Atkins about the way in which the council supported Wyre residents who were on low incomes and struggling with rising household costs.

The report was noted.

(c) Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder (Councillor Bridge)

The Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder, Councillor Simon Bridge, submitted a report. In the absence of Councillor Bridge, Councillor Henderson responded to questions and comments.

Councillor Henderson responded to a question from Councillor Swales regarding the numbers of Fixed Penalty Notices issued for littering, dog-related offences and fly tipping, to which Cllr Henderson said he would provide a written response.

Councillor Baxter asked about the progress and likely timescale for the insurance claim in relation to the fire at the duck pond in Cleveleys. Councillor Henderson confirmed that the insurance claim had been submitted and once settled, the work would go out to tender to replace like for like.

Councillor Minto asked about the continued lack of a replacement seat at the junction of Raikes Road and Underbank Road. Councillor Henderson agreed to refer the matter to the appropriate officer.

The Mayor thanked Sandra Byrne for her work on the Great British Spring Clean.

The report was noted.

(d) Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio Holder (Councillor Collinson)

The Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio Holder, Councillor Alice Collinson, submitted a report.

Councillor Fail asked about breaches of planning control and whether the council had the correct staffing levels to deal with the number of cases. The Chief Executive intervened to confirm that it was he who had responsibility for staffing, not the Portfolio Holder.

The report was noted.

- (e) Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder
(Councillor Berry)

The Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder, Councillor Roger Berry, submitted a report.

Councillor Berry responded to questions and comments from

- Councillor Lady Atkins, regarding the number of Ukrainian refugees being housed on the borough,
- Councillor Sir Robert Atkins, regarding housing and benefits for Ukrainian refugees,
- Councillor Cartridge, about the Multi-Agency Support Panel,
- Councillor Longton, about Ukrainian refugees who had not come through the official sponsor scheme
- Councillor S Turner, who complimented the successful way in which the Council distributed Disabled Facilities Grants.

The report was noted.

- (f) Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder
(Councillor Bowen)

The Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder, Councillor Lynne Bowen, submitted a report.

Councillor Bowen, in response to a question from Councillor Gerrard, confirmed that a meeting with the YMCA at the end of April would consider such issues as the availability of a Government grant to assist with the additional cost of heating swimming pools, and the introduction of LED lighting in Leisure Centres.

Cllr Robinson commented on the recent hosting of the North West Stages Rally which brought many people to the borough and also provided significant support for local charities.

Cllr Fairbanks asked a question about access to Kids Clubs.

The report was noted.

7 **Treasury Management Policy and Annual Investment Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Capital Strategy 2022/23**

Councillor Michael Vincent, Resources Portfolio Holder and Clare James, Corporate Director Resources, submitted a report.

Councillor Vincent thanked Clare James and her team for their thorough and comprehensive work.

It was agreed, unanimously, to approve the Treasury Management Policy and Annual Investment Strategy, MRP Policy Statement and Capital Strategy

for 2022/23 as considered by Cabinet at their meeting 23 March 2022.

8 Wyre Local Plan Partial Review (2011-2031)

Councillor Baxter left the Council Chamber for this item.

Councillor Alice Collinson, Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio Holder and Marianne Hesketh, Corporate Director Communities, submitted a report.

Councillor Collinson responded to questions and comments from Councillors Sir Robert Atkins, Fail, S Turner and Ballard.

It was agreed (by 33 votes to 0, with 6 abstentions),

1. That the 'Publication' draft Wyre Local Plan Partial Review (2011-2031) Schedule of Revisions, labelled as Appendix 1 to this report; the 'Submission' draft Wyre Local Plan Partial Review (2011-2031) Schedule of Additional Minor Modifications, labelled as Appendix 2 to this report; and the Statement of Consultation, labelled as Appendix 3 to this report be approved for submission to the Secretary of State for examination.
2. That powers be delegated to the Head of Planning Services to make amendments to the 'Submission' draft Wyre Local Plan Partial Review (2011-2031) in consultation with the Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder, before it is submitted for examination. Such amendments could include (but are not limited to) improvements to the clarity of the document, factual and typing errors and necessary updates to reflect final recommendations from technical assessments.
3. That the 'Submission' draft Wyre Local Plan Partial Review (2011-2031) be approved for appropriate Development Management purposes.

9 Constitution (Scheme of Delegation) Amendments

Councillor Baxter returned to the Council Chamber.

Councillor David Henderson, Leader of the Council, and Garry Payne, Chief Executive submitted a report.

It was agreed, unanimously, that Part 7.02 (Scheme of Delegation) of the Council's Constitution be amended to reflect several changes to the current Executive and Non-Executive officer delegations.

10 Members' Allowances Scheme

Clare James, Corporate Director Resources, submitted a report, which was presented by Councillor David Henderson, Leader of the Council.

Councillor Henderson thanked the members of the Independent Remuneration Panel for their sterling work.

It was agreed, unanimously:

- (i) That, in line with the formula applied since 2012, the Basic Allowance paid to each councillor be increased by 1.75%, from £4,467 per annum to £4,545 per annum, with effect from 12 May 2022.
- (ii) That, with the exception of the Chairman of the Audit Committee (see below), the method in which Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) for members of the Executive, Group Leaders or Chairmen of Committees are calculated continue to be based on the various current multipliers of the Basic Allowance for each of the posts as set out in Part 6.01 Appendix A of the Constitution.
- (iii) That the SRA paid to the Chairman of the Audit Committee be increased from 0.8x to 1x basic allowance.
- (iv) That the SRAs paid to the Lead Member for Children and Young People and the Lead Member for Older People remain unchanged.
- (v) That no changes be made to the SRAs paid to the Mayor or the Deputy Mayor.
- (vi) That the levels of allowances to be paid in 2022/23 as set out in Appendix 2, be noted.
- (vii) That all other elements of the Council's Members' Allowances Scheme remain unchanged.
- (viii) That the members of the IRP be thanked for their work on this review.

11 Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Annual Report

Councillor John Ibison, Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, presented the Committee's Annual Report.

The report was noted.

12 Periodic report - Audit Committee

Councillor Lesley Mc Kay, Chairman of the Audit Committee, presented a report.

Councillor Moon commended the Chairman and officers for helping the committee to deal with complex information so effectively.

The Chief Executive, Garry Payne, confirmed that there had been external

issues which had resulted in a delay in signing off the annual accounts; it had not been as a result of any internal matters.

The report was noted.

13 Notices of Motion

None.

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and finished at 8.09 pm.

Date of Publication: 26 April 2022

This page is intentionally left blank



Council Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting of Wyre Borough Council held on Thursday 12 May 2022 in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Council members present:

Councillors Kay, Ballard, I Amos, Lady D Atkins, Beavers, Berry, B Birch, C Birch, Bowen, Bridge, Cartridge, Catterall, Collinson, E Ellison, P Ellison, Fairbanks, Gerrard, Henderson, Holden, Ibison, Ingham, Le Marinel, Leech, Longton, McKay, Minto, Moon, Orme, O'Neill, Robinson, Smith, Stirzaker, Swales, A Turner, S Turner, Matthew Vincent, M Vincent, D Walmsley, L Walmsley, Webster and Williams

Apologies for absence:

Councillors Sir R Atkins, Baxter, Cropper, Fail, George, Raynor and A Vincent

Failed to attend or tender their apologies for absence:

Councillor Armstrong

Officers present:

Garry Payne, Chief Executive
Mark Billington, Corporate Director Environment
Clare James, Corporate Director Resources
Joanne Billington, Head of Governance and Business Support
Peter Foulsham, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager
Joanne Porter, Electoral Services & Information Governance Manager
Jane Collier, Human Resources Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer
Daphne Courtenage, Assistant Democratic Services Manager
Katharine McDonnell, Senior Electoral Services Officer
Hayley McGuffie, Web and Digital Officer
Marianne Unwin, Democratic Services Officer

Also present:

Honorary Aldermen Roger Brooks and John Hodgkinson; County Councillors Alf Clempson and Matthew Salter, the Mayor's Chaplain for 2022/23, Reverend John Squires and guests of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the retiring Mayor.

1 Declarations of Interest

None.

2 Mayor's charities 2020/22

The Mayor for 2020/22, Councillor Kay, referred briefly to the highlights of her year in office as Mayor, and thanked all who had supported her.

She announced that she had raised money for her chosen charities as follows: Doherty's Destiny (£10,066), Men's Shed, Cleveleys (£1,500) and the Veterans' Breakfast Club (£1,500). Representatives of the three charities thanked the Mayor and all those who had contributed donations.

3 Presentation of the HMS Sheraton Trophy

The Mayor for 2020/22, Councillor Kay, presented the HMS Sheraton Trophy to Rose Brewin, a rising star who had brought pride to the borough as a result of her achievements. She had raised nearly £2,000 over the last two years for her church and Brian House. During lockdown she organised food collections, and made up 10-15 bags of food each week for her local food bank. She also undertook a wide range of other activities that were of assistance to other members of the community.

4 Election of Mayor for 2022/23 Municipal Year

The Mayor for 2020/22, Councillor Andrea Kay, invited nominations for the office of Mayor for the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

It was proposed by Councillor Alice Collinson, seconded by Councillor Lynne Bowen and agreed unanimously that Councillor Julie Robinson be elected to the office of Mayor of the Borough of Wyre for the Municipal Year 2022/23.

The outgoing Mayor for 2020/22, Councillor Andrea Kay, retired from the Chair which was then taken by Councillor Julie Robinson, who signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

Councillor Robinson thanked the Council for electing her as Mayor. She said it would be an honour to serve the Borough in that role. She announced that the Mayor's Charities for 2022/23 would be SANDS, a stillbirth and neonatal death charity, Blood Bikes, a voluntary service that provided the transportation of urgent and emergency items, and Men's Shed (Over Wyre).

Mr Richard Robinson was invested as the Mayor's Consort for 2022/23.

5 Retiring Mayor

Councillor Phil Orme made a brief speech thanking the retiring Mayor. Councillor Paul Moon then formally proposed and Councillor Henderson seconded a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor. It was agreed unanimously that the thanks of the Council be tendered to Councillor Andrea Kay for the valuable services which she had rendered to the Borough during her term of office as Mayor.

The Mayor, Councillor Robinson, presented Past Mayor's Badges to Councillors Ann Turner and Andrea Kay, Badges of Office of Past Mayoress

to Councillors Andrea Kay and Ann Turner and Past Consort Badge to Councillor Phil Orme.

6 Election of Deputy Mayor for 2022/23 Municipal Year

The Mayor, Councillor Julie Robinson, invited nominations for the office of Deputy Mayor for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.

It was proposed by Councillor Paul Moon, seconded by Councillor Peter Le Marinel and agreed unanimously that Councillor Sue Catterall be elected to the office of Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Wyre for the Municipal Year 2022/23. Councillor Catterall signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

The Deputy Consort for 2022/23, Mr Steve Mothersdale, was invested with his Chain of Office.

The Mayor presented Past Deputy Mayor's and Mayoress Badges to Councillors Howard Ballard, Barry Birch and Colette Birch.

7 Mayor's Communications

The Chief Executive, Garry Payne, said that a number of emails and cards had been received from well-wishers congratulating Councillor Robinson on her appointment and he read out several of the messages.

The Mayor, Councillor Robinson, announced that the Youth Mayor for 2022/23 was Hannah Mullin, who was invested with her Badge of Office.

8 Appointments to Committees, Panels and Groups 2022/23

Councillor David Henderson, leader of the Council and Garry Payne, Chief Executive submitted a report.

Agreed, unanimously:

- 1 That all the current Committees, Panels and Groups be reappointed for 2022/23, with the same number of places on each and with the same membership as in 2021/22 except:
 - (a) That Councillor Paul Ellison be appointed to the Licensing Committee in place of Councillor Robinson;
 - (b) That Councillor Andrea Kay be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in place of the late Councillor Rita Amos;
 - (c) That Councillor Andrea Kay be appointed to the Planning Committee in place of the late Councillor Rita Amos;
 - (d) That Councillor Ibison be appointed to the Audit Committee in place of the late Councillor Rita Amos;

- (e) That Councillor Smith be appointed to the Employment and Appeals Committee in place of Councillor Swales;
 - (f) That Councillor Beavers be appointed to the Licensing Committee in place of Councillor Armstrong;
 - (g) That Councillor Swales be appointed to the Councillor Development Group in place of Councillor Beavers;
 - (h) That Councillor Raynor be appointed to the Planning Policy Group in place of Councillor Beavers.
- 2 That Councillor Berry be re-appointed as the Wyre Council representative on the Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire for 2022/23.
 - 3 That, in the event of Wyre being asked to nominate a second representative to the Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire for 2022/23, Councillor Peter Le Marinel be appointed.
 - 4 That Mike Nuttall be appointed as an Independent Person, in line with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011.

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and finished at 7.59 pm.

Date of Publication: 13 May 2022



Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor David Henderson, Leader of the Council	Council	7 July 2022

Executive Report: Leader of the Council

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To inform Council of progress on key objectives and the current position on a number of issues, as set out below.

2. Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill

2.1 The District Councils Network have produced a paper which provides an initial briefing on the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill with web links to the Bill, guidance and supporting documentation from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). This will be sent out with the Members' Newsletter and I would encourage all Members to familiarise themselves with the contents of the Bill.

2.2 The Bill is a very wide-ranging piece of legislation, almost every chapter and clause is relevant to district councils and wider local government. However, key components are devolution, finance and planning.

2.3 Devolution:
This is the most concerning part of the Bill as it would give effect to the devolution framework outlined in the Levelling Up White Paper – which explicitly denies district councils the right to be full members of a Combined County Authority and relegates districts to non-constituent members without voting rights. This fundamentally impacts on the current work of Lancashire Leaders on a County Deal and I will update Members as and when this matter progresses.

2.4 Finance:
The creation of additional powers to charge a council tax premium on second homes and long-term empty homes will be fully evaluated and be the subject of a future report should it be considered appropriate to bring forward related proposals.

2.5 Planning:
The new reform package is a vast improvement on the 2020 Planning White Paper. Previous proposals for zoning and automatic permissions have been dropped. The Government is reasserting and enhancing the status of local plans at the heart of the planning system and the fact that we have an up to date local plan will stand us in good stead for the future.

- 2.6** There are plenty of measures which appear positive on paper. These include: Enhanced status for local plans and a more streamlined plan-making process; simpler neighbourhood planning statements; stronger compulsory purchase powers for regeneration; stronger powers to drive developers to build out e.g. through commencement and completion notices and stronger enforcement powers.

3. Lancashire Leaders

- 3.1** Lancashire Leaders met on 16 June 2022 and at that meeting we discussed a number of issues including Lancashire 2050 (L2050). I have reported previously that on 6 April 2022 Lancashire Leaders and CEOs met to explore and capture what is important in developing a shared vision and ambition for L2050 and agree the set of priority areas.

- 3.2** At the meeting of 16 June Leaders agreed to:

Note the collated findings from the Leader/CEO workshop;
Approve the revised characteristics of L2050 including the updated priority areas (of which there are 8) and note the proposed timeline for developing L2050;
Note how feedback is shaping the L2050 Plan.

- 3.3** Leaders have previously agreed to play an active role in the development of the L2050 Priority Areas and at the meeting it was agreed that a Leader/Local Authority Senior Member will be appointed for each priority area and the appointed Lead Member will be supported by a Lead CEO and Lead officers and when concluded I will update Members.

4. Queen's Jubilee

- 4.1** In early June numerous events took place to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee from beacon lighting to street parties and I would like to take this opportunity to thank officers at Wyre, Parish and Town Councils, Voluntary Groups and Residents for organising and holding such a superb variety of celebratory events.

5. Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Economic Prosperity Board

- 5.1** The Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Economic Prosperity Board met on 9 June 2022. The Annual report of the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) was well received and the report covered a number of areas as follows.

- 5.2** **Laying foundations for future growth:** To help drive our post-Covid recovery, the LEP has over the last year developed a series of initiatives and funding strategies to stimulate growth.

- 5.3** **Supporting Lancashire's businesses:** Supporting our businesses at a grass roots level has continued to be a key priority. Lancashire's Boost Business Growth Hub service - which typically helps around 1,000 businesses each year - delivered a full range of services despite the lockdown.

- 5.4 Investing in skills and training:** Skills and training has remained a core priority for the LEP this year. Following consultation with employers, training provider and stakeholders, a refresh of the Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework was published. This responded to the impacts of the pandemic in addition to progress made since its first publication in 2016.
- 5.5 A partnership approach:** The LEP works in partnership with many local stakeholders including all of Lancashire’s local authorities, Chambers of Commerce and business networks. Lancashire’s MPs, our universities and colleges and many other agencies, Institutions and organisations, are also all valued partners.
- 5.6** The Board received the report “Addressing Emissions Across the Fylde Coast” on 9 September 2021, as a result of which they agreed to act as an influencer and enabler regarding the green agenda across the Fylde Coast on issues relating to the economy.
- 5.7** This role requires a focus on two related concepts:
- **Climate Change Mitigation** - measures to avoid and reduce carbon-based emissions, for example through generating “clean” energy (i.e. where the production of energy minimises or eliminates emissions with an adverse impact on climate change). The Fylde Coast has numerous businesses operating in this field, which present an economic opportunity alongside the environmental imperative, and;
 - **Climate Change Adaptation** - an acceptance that changing weather and environmental conditions (such as rising sea levels and temperatures, more intense rain, stronger winds and so on) mean that society has to put in place measures to address this. This could include improved sea defences and designing buildings differently. These are measures which are essential for our economy to continue to operate efficiently.
- 5.8** The Board requested that green local projects and businesses across the Fylde Coast that need funding be identified, in order to match up opportunities and ensure resilience. As a result, a group of officers from Fylde, Wyre and Blackpool Councils covering climate change and economic development has been convened to discuss ideas and potential projects. The group presented an update on progress at the meeting and it was agreed that officers should prepare a prioritised list of projects addressing these issues across the Fylde Coast.

Local Full Fibre Network Update

- 5.9** At a previous meeting the board was informed of the development of a Full Fibre network that was funded by a £3million grant by DCMS to create a fibre backbone along the Fylde Coast using a ducting asset in the Tramway. The grant was also used to extend the Fibre backbone into the two Enterprise Zones on the Fylde Coast and was further supplemented by retained business rates to ensure the Fibre network reached the Hill House Enterprise Zone. The Board received a progress update on the rollout of digital infrastructure on the Fylde Coast. Several co-operative members are active in offering services to businesses in

Wyre. Recent contact has also been made with the co-op by a consultant working on the Cleveleys town centre regeneration.

Hillhouse Enterprise Zone (EZ)

- 5.10** NPL (site owners) have secured funding from the Getting Building Fund toward the costs of essential infrastructure upgrades to enable new speculative development to progress. The project tackles a requirement for some urgent upgrading and repair to ageing enabling infrastructure, including site access road, utilities, and an extension and repair to the water ring main and electricity supply mains. It will also incorporate the extension of the Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) super-fast broadband in a ring around the site, linking to the recently completed LFFN extension of the Fibre from the Tramway to the Hillhouse gatehouse.
- 5.11** Hillhouse EZ was also represented under the Blackpool Makes it Work campaign banner at UK REiiF (Real Estate Investment and Infrastructure Forum) in Leeds, May 2022, where there were opportunities to promote investment across the two active Fylde Coast EZs.

6. Comments and Questions

- 6.1** In accordance with procedure rule 11.3 any member of Council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with Procedure Rule 11.5.



Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor Michael Vincent, Resources Portfolio Holder	Council	7 July 2022

Executive Report: Resources Portfolio Holder

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To inform Council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Resources Portfolio, as set out below.

2. Finance

2.1 The pre-audit final accounts for 2021/22 are on schedule to be signed off by the Audit Committee at their meeting on 26 July. Post-audit sign off is expected to be before the end of the financial year. It should be noted that the 2020/21 post-audit accounts are not yet signed off (expected in late 2022) owing to a lack of resources at our External Auditors (Deloitte) and a national issue affecting the valuation of infrastructure assets. Many local authorities across Lancashire and the country as a whole are in the same situation. This means that we are in the unprecedented position of preparing our 2021/22 accounts without knowing our audited opening balances. We are not expecting any significant changes to the 2020/21 draft accounts but it all adds to the uncertainty in our forecasts.

2.2 Despite the pandemic an underspend for 2021/22 is expected to be reported again at outturn. However, the emerging cost of living crisis is having an impact on the council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and the next update to Cabinet in October is likely to show a worsening position owing to the inflationary increases on key contracts and advice that councils should be budgeting for at least a 4% pay award in 2022/23 whereas our MTFP currently assumes 3% in 2022/23 and ongoing.

2.3 Whilst the Covid-19 business grants have now ceased, the assurance stage continues for the various schemes and finance continue to play a key role in the developing central government response to the conflict in the Ukraine and the cost of living crisis.

3. Human Resources

- 3.1** As yet the 2022/23 pay award has not been agreed. The Unions have submitted a pay claim to the National Employers looking for a substantial increase with a minimum of £2,000 or the current rate of RPI, whichever is the greater, on all spinal column points. Other requests are also being considered and the consultation with local authorities commenced on 13 June, following which a response will be submitted to the Unions, which is not expected before the end of July.
- 3.2** Work has commenced on reviewing the council's strategic narrative and values. Corporate Management Team and Heads of Service will work with North West Employers in the first instance with the aim of aligning any changes with the review of the Business Plan in 2023.
- 3.3** Following the successful recruitment of two corporate apprentices in September 2021, a further recruitment exercise has taken place and another three apprentices will commence employment with the council from August 2022. The apprentices will undertake a Business Management Degree through Lancaster University and will rotate around the council's core services.
- 3.4** Similar to other councils, recruitment and retention continues to be problematic. Work is on-going to improve our approach to recruitment which has involved reviewing the application process and the online portal used for advertising positions. Proactive work is also being carried out by HR to 'talent spot' using LinkedIn to encourage more quality applications.

4. Democratic Services

- 4.1** Councillors are currently testing the new councillor portal which went live on 16 May 2022. The portal is primarily a landing page which aims to pull together all the necessary information required to assist councillors in their roles. Feedback over a 12 month period will be collated through the Councillor Development Group regarding its usage and its usefulness with a view to rolling it out fully following the election in May 2023.

5. Contact Centre

- 5.1** In excess of 39,000 of our residents with homes in council tax bands A – D have now received their £150 energy rebate payment. This leaves just over 4,000 council tax payers who still need to make contact with us to provide their bank details before we can pay them. Reminder letters have been sent to these payers advising them that if they do not contact us by 10 June 2022, we will credit the £150 payment to their council tax account. Before we take that course of action however, we will make further enquiries to ensure that the person registered as the council tax payer is still living at the address concerned.

- 5.2** We have been allocated an additional £430,000 from the Government (via LCC) for a second round of Household Support Funding. This money is to be used to provide financial assistance to those on the lowest incomes and most badly affected by the cost of living increases. The money from this fund is to be pooled with some of the £266,000 also provided by the Government, to fund a discretionary energy rebate scheme to help those on low incomes struggling to pay their household fuel bills. The pooled funding will be distributed over the coming weeks to approximately 9,000 households who claim localised council tax support from the council.
- 5.3** Almost 25,000 residents have now signed-up for a “myWyre” account. The account allows residents to see their council tax, benefits and waste management records and to make an application, request a service or report an issue online at a time that suits them without the assistance of a council officer.

6. Comments and questions

- 6.1** In accordance with procedure rule 10.3 any member of Council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with Procedure Rule 10.5.

This page is intentionally left blank



Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor Simon Bridge, Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder	Council	7 July 2022

Executive Report: Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio as set out below.

2. Parks and open spaces

- 2.1 This spring volunteers from Wyre Council and the Wyre Rivers Trust have been making brush bundles by recycling the arising's from our winter woodland management programme. The bundles are used to help with habitat management and natural flood management in the upper catchment of the river Wyre.
- 2.2 The Wyre volunteer rangers have completed the construction of a section of boardwalk on the sand dunes at Fleetwood near to Rossall Point Tower. This is part of the Lancashire Living Seas Trail which is being developed from the Boating Lake to Larkholme Grasslands. Also installed are wooden carved monoliths which depict marine wildlife to be found in Morecambe Bay and the Irish sea around Fleetwood.
- 2.3 The Wyre Great Outdoors programme of activities within our parks and open spaces have included the weekly Wellbeing walks from Garstang and Fleetwood, weekly gardening clubs at The Mount and Memorial Park, Big Beach cleans, Sow and Grow your own sweetcorn workshop at the Mount, Social cycling from Fleetwood, Wyre Estuary Country Park and Hambleton and Marine Life Sand Sculptures on the beach.
- 2.4 A Dune Monitoring conservation day took place led by the Dynamic Dunescapes engagement officer at Fleetwood beach. They successfully trained up local volunteers, rangers and partners to use digital technology, practice observation skills and identify the key features of sand dune habitats to undertake citizen science which will help monitor the changing morphology and wildlife of the dunes.

3. Street Scene

- 3.1** The seasonal “dog ban” on our bathing beaches at Fleetwood and Cleveleys has been reintroduced on 1 May 2022 and remains in-place until 30 September 2022.
- 3.2** Prior to the commencement of enforcement activity, for a period of two weeks, dog walkers using the beaches were issued with leaflets to remind them of the ban and the wider dog related PSPO’s (Public Space Protection Orders).
- 3.3** The tables below relate to the amount of time officers have spent patrolling the various wards to combat environmental crime and the total number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) issued during Quarter 4 (January – March 2022). Patrol time is determined by a mixture of “hot spots”, which are collated as a direct result of the number of individual complaints the council receives, and local intelligence provided by council officers and general public.

3.4

Patrol Hours by Ward	Hours Count	Percentage
Breck	9:43	0.98%
Carleton	40:04	4.04%
Cleveleys Park	3:53	0.39%
Garstang	13:32	1.36%
Great Eccleston	53:46	5.40%
Hambleton & Stalmine	1:48	0.18%
Jubilee	173:37	17.43%
Marsh Mill	24:08	2.42%
Mount	17:17	1.73%
Park	8:40	0.87%
Pharos Ward	145:20	14.59%
Pheasants wood	5:12	0.52%
Pilling	0:00	0.00%
Preesall	0:00	0.00%
Rossall	10:10	1.03%
Stanah	16:05	1.61%
Tithebarn	151:19	15.19%
Victoria & Norcross	127:43	12.82%
Warren Ward	22:51	2.29%
Wyresdale	112:56	11.34%

3.5

FPN's for Littering & Dog Related PSPO Offences January - March 2022	FPN's
Littering Offence	348
Littering - Bag containing Dog Faeces	0
PSPO-Dog Fouling	0
PSPO-Dogs Exclusion Zones	1
PSPO-Dogs on Lead by Direction (refused)	0
PSPO-Dogs on Leads (off lead in on-lead area)	2
PSPO-Maximum Number of Dogs (exceeded)	0
PSPO-Dog Bags (not carrying)	0

3.6 Currently the number of dog related FPN's remain low and this will be closely monitored over the next quarter.

3.7 Over recent months our in-house Environmental Enforcement Team have investigated and taken action against four individuals for flytipping offences in various locations across the Borough.

4. Public Conveniences

4.1 We were successful with our Changing Places bid and have been allocated a grant of £128,000 from the DLUHC Changing Places fund. This will contribute towards the cost of two schemes, providing two disability changing and showering facilities, which are due to be delivered over the next two years with the support of a £10,000 grant from Fleetwood Town Council.

5. Comments and questions

5.1 In accordance with procedure rule 11.3 any member of council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with procedure rule 11.5.

This page is intentionally left blank



Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor Alice Collinson Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio Holder	Council	7 July 2022

Executive Report: Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio Holder

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform Council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio, as set out below.

2. Local Plan

- 2.1 Following consideration by Full Council, the Submission draft Local Plan Partial Review was submitted to Government for examination on 25 April 2022. A Planning Inspector has been appointed to conduct the examination. The public hearings are expected to take place between 27-29 September 2022. Initial correspondence between officers and the Inspector is underway.
- 2.2 On the Full Review, officers are continuing to consider the details of the scoping consultation and call for sites information submitted. Further reports and summaries will be prepared in due course. Officers are currently scoping the evidence base required to support the Full Review and will be seeking to commission consultants shortly. A schedule of meetings and matters/topics has been arranged for the Planning Policy Working Group to support this work.

3. Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill

- 3.1 The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill was introduced to Parliament on 11 May 2022 to put in place the foundations to deliver the Government's wider programme to level up the country. The Bill is at an early parliamentary stage and unlikely to achieve Royal Assent and become law until 2024.
- 3.2 The Bill contains a number of reforms to the planning system that may have implications for the Local Plan Full Review. The Planning Policy Working Group and Planning Committee will receive briefings from officers in due course.

4. Heritage Action Zone

- 4.1** The deadline for applications from property owners is early summer and it is anticipated that funding will be awarded to five key projects.
- 4.2** Opposite Fleetwood Market the construction of 'Custom House Square' has been delayed and completion has been rescheduled for July.

5. Wyred Up and The Wyre Business Awards

- 5.1** The relaunched Wyred Up service will focus on creating a network to help local businesses access grants, identify training and networking opportunities at preferential rates and take advantage of business support services.
- 5.2** The group will focus on one key subject area each quarter. The first campaign will be focused on carbon reduction and the relaunch event will feature advice from Lancashire University for SMEs on becoming net zero carbon, case studies from local businesses, advice on carbon literacy from Wyre Council and much more. The event will be held on Tuesday 19 July from 3:30pm – 6pm at Myerscough College.
- 5.3** Applications for The Wyre Business Awards will open in July and the awards evening will be held on Thursday 24 November at Marine Hall.

6. Comments and questions

- 6.1** In accordance with procedure rule 11.3 any member of Council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with Procedure Rule 11.5.



Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor Roger Berry, Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder	Council	7 July 2022

Executive Report: Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To inform council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio as set out below.

2. Housing

2.1 Homes for Ukraine – We are continuing to support the Homes for Ukraine Scheme with the Housing Team having now inspected 33 local homes where sponsors have come forward to support Ukrainian guests. The standard of homes inspected and the support provided by Wyre sponsors has been very good. In all 44 Ukrainian guests are being supported so far in the Borough, with more guests on their way. We are supporting a number of local support groups including the Rossall School Ukraine Support Hub and the Garstang Ukrainian Support Group.

2.2 Changing Futures – Our partnership work with the Fylde Coast Changing Futures project continues. This multi-agency partnership works to support those with multiple disadvantages and a lived experience is working to support clients with three or more of the following disadvantages: homelessness, substance misuse, mental health issues, domestic abuse and contact with the criminal justice system.

2.3 The team is now working from a base at the old Fleetwood Hospital site. Housing and Community Safety teams are linking in with the project and have recently met with the Changing Futures team to see how they can help ensure health, police, substance misuse and criminal justice colleagues make referrals into the project whenever appropriate.

2.4 Regenda Homes – I recently chaired our Partnership meeting with Regenda Homes and we received a comprehensive and very positive update on the tremendous housing and regeneration work Regenda have completed and have planned.

- 2.5** Regenda are our largest social housing provider and they are investing over £50m into Fleetwood as part of their 10 Year Regeneration plan. This includes new homes, energy efficiency improvements, environmental improvements, raising aspirations in schools and employment skills and training to support residents into work.
- 2.6** The Lighthouse View Extra Care development is now providing 72 apartments for rent to support people to live independently and Marine View Apartments on the Esplanade, Fleetwood provides 16 new homes for social rent which were prioritised for local people. Their latest development is adjacent to West View and will provide 102 homes with a mix of properties for affordable rent, shared ownership and rent to buy (a Government scheme that helps people to save a deposit to buy the home following a period of rental).
- 2.7** With the support of Wyre Council officers, Regenda have secured £1.4m from the Government's National Decarbonisation programme to carry out further home improvements this year to improve efficiency ratings and reduce fuel poverty through external wall insulation, new roofing, windows and doors. To date, they have upgraded around 400 homes.
- 2.8** To support the Regeneration of the old Fleetwood Hospital, Regenda have now moved into new premises at the site to work alongside other community support services. The facility also includes a training centre for their training company, The Learning Foundry. This will provide training, apprenticeships and adult learning courses. Their vacated offices on Lord Street will be developed into three additional apartments for social rent.
- 2.9** Regenda Homes' careers company, Positive Footprints are now delivering their children's Raising Aspirations programme in 19 primary schools across Fleetwood and other areas of Wyre. They ultimately aim to offer the service to every primary school across Wyre, subject to funding. If members wish to find out more about Regenda Homes services or visit any of the developments above, please contact their Wyre Director - steve.newsham@regenda.org.uk

3. Flooding

- 3.1** Wyre is preparing to meet the challenges of sea level rise by leading the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) refresh in the North West. The refresh includes addressing the impacts of climate change on long term policy for the coast as well as improving the link between the technical advice and policy within the SMP and planning.
- 3.2** I have also previously advised members of the Ecological Community Owned Coastal Buffer Strips Innovative Resilience bid for the northwest coast, including working across 14 different coastal communities to increase resilience and understanding of coastal processes and change. The scheme also promotes the processes allowing coastal adaptation and multiple benefits including carbon capture and bio-diversity benefits. The Outline Business case is currently being considered by the Environment Agency.

- 3.3** We are also working with the Wyre Rivers Trust to promote an innovative funding scheme through the Wyre Natural Flood Management scheme. The scheme was launched on 31 May. The scheme is the first of its kind, a £1.5m nature restoration project to reduce flood risk.
- 3.4** Interventions in the Wyre catchment will include wetland creation and temporarily storing water by putting in place leaky barriers, sloped embankments and hedgerows alongside peatland restoration and river restoration. Other measures include slowing overland water flow through changes in grassland management and tree planting to allow water to seep into the ground. Emma Howard Boyd, Environment Agency chair, praised the scheme as the future of flood risk management funding and working with nature.
- 3.5** Along with Councillor Ibison and Hon Alderman Roger Brooks I saw some of these on a recent trip to Abbeystead organised by the River Wyre Trust and the Grosvenor Estates. Of particular interest was the valuable work being carried out by them to restore and maintain peat and boggy moorland on top of the fells in the area where the Tarnbrook section of the River Wyre rises. Although this area is outside of Wyre's boundary it is vital to holding rainwater and slowing the flow downstream and protecting our communities from flooding.
- 3.6** Wyre's Flood Action Groups continue to raise the bar at a National level. The Churchtown FLAG was awarded the Community Partnership Award at the Flood and Coast Excellence Awards at Telford last month.

4. Community Safety

4.1 Community Alcohol Partnership

In 2021 a strategic assessment of crime was undertaken which highlighted that Alcohol related hospital stays in Wyre are increasing and are significantly worse than the England average but similar to the regional average. Anti-social behaviour (ASB) features as one of the primary concerns for the people of Wyre in the Lancashire Talking Survey.

- 4.2** The wards with the highest volume of ASB reported were Pharos, Mount, Jubilee and Rossall. 22% of all ASB in Wyre is youth related, which involves groups congregating, being rowdy and abusive, and causing other issues including criminal damage.

- 4.3** The strategic needs assessment for Wyre indicates that there is a higher rate of admission episodes for alcohol-specific conditions in under 18's than Lancashire average. Pharos Ward is the most deprived area in Wyre, scoring within the most deprived in England (2019).

- 4.4** In response over the last six months Wyre Council's Community Safety team have started to work with Community Alcohol Partnerships (CAP) which is a Community Interest Company (CiC) which brings together and supports local partnerships of councils, police, retailers, schools, health providers and community groups across the UK to reduce alcohol

harm among young people, improve their health and wellbeing and enhance their communities.

4.5 In June 2022 we launched our own Community Alcohol Partnership focusing on Fleetwood, initially with partner agencies with a view to engaging with the community to try and reduce the impact of alcohol induced crime. I will be reporting on the activities of the Alcohol Community Partnership in future reports.

4.6 Lancashire Victim services (LVS) update

The Police and Crime Commissioner office with partners including Wyre Council, commission Lancashire Victim services to provide support to victims of domestic abuse across Lancashire. The following figures provide a breakdown of the support provided over the last financial year. Unfortunately, domestic abuse is a very complicated and emotional crime where the victim may have feelings for the perpetrator. As a consequence, not all victims have reached the stage, where they want the support from the team, hence the difference in number of victims eligible for support and the number accepting support.

LVS Domestic Abuse Figures April 2021 – March 2022	Wyre	Lancashire
No. of DA referrals into LVS	1,114	13,119
No. of referrals suitable for support	885	9,948
No. of rejected cases (cases are rejected for a variety of reasons e.g. no consent, victim already receiving support, not sufficient contact information)	229	3,171
Risk breakdown of referrals	High – 152 Medium – 545 Standard - 188	High – 2,071 Medium – 5,734 Standard – 2,143
No. of victims successfully contacted by LVS	603	7,002
No. of victims accepted support	337	3,677
No. of victims receiving long term support	200	2,053
No. of victims received a brief intervention (safety planning, information and advice.) (Client didn't require / or accept longer term support.)	137	1,624

5. Comments and questions

5.1 In accordance with procedure rule 11.3 any member of council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with procedure rule 11.5.



Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor Lynne Bowen, Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder	Council	7 July 2022

Executive Report: Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder
--

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform Council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio, as set out below.

2. Food Safety Update

- 2.1 During the pandemic many food businesses continued to operate or were temporarily re-purposed as take away food businesses and many new food businesses opened. The food safety team continued to work throughout the pandemic supporting these food businesses and are in a very good position to complete the Food Standard Agency recovery plan by April 2023.
- 2.2 In the last financial year, Wyre reported that all their highest risk businesses (category A) received an intervention. Although there was no requirement to complete all the interventions (category B) until the end of June 2022, 92% had been achieved by 31 March 2022. The Authority also undertook 157 Category C interventions, 160 Category D interventions and 3 Category E interventions. Of the 118 new businesses set up in the last 12 months only 10 required an intervention as of 31 March 2022.

3. Active Lives and Community Engagement Update

- 3.1 **YMCA/Leisure Centres** - Leisure Centre attendances for the last complete quarter (January to end of March 2022) were good with 188,953 visits across all centres. Over 81,000 visits were made to our pools over this period. Whilst Memberships continue to build towards the levels they were at pre-pandemic promoted by re-invigorated and targeted marketing offers there is a concern about rising energy prices and the cost of living which will no doubt have an impact on memberships and the operational performance of the centres. Officers continue to work closely with the YMCA to monitor performance.

- 3.2 Splash Pad** - Marine Splash at Fleetwood YMCA has re-opened for the summer. The facility will be open at weekends and during the school holidays from 10.30 until 5.30pm (weather permitting!). Opening hours are split into sessions and booking in advance is recommended.
- 3.3 Fleetwood Trails** – Between 13 and 24 June, we worked with 'This Great Adventure' to deliver a new two-week programme of skills and trail development at Blackpool Sixth Form College. This involved a group of 18 students from various course disciplines. The students enjoyed a tour and visits to Fleetwood where they met and interviewed the 'living library' i.e. groups of people that work and/or live in Fleetwood about heritage and life in the town. This engagement project was designed to give the students project management control with guidance and development support from experts, focusing on the assets and leadership of the young people involved. Other than the course content regarding building trails and research, the design was not prescribed, so the young people were in full control of what the trail theme and material would be. A presentation event is due to be arranged for early Autumn to showcase the work and launch all the other trails created.
- 3.4 Dementia Awareness Week** - We took part in many events and activities as part of dementia awareness week, between 16 and 22 May, to highlight the support available in Wyre and the health and wellbeing offer for people living with, or caring for, someone with dementia. Events included:
- Six reminiscence sessions at a number of venues including: Trinity Hospice Garden Party, Cleveleys Library, Affinity and a Time for Tea event at Emmanuel Church;
 - A creative wellbeing session at The Front Room (Over Wyre Medical Centre);
 - Fun Arts at Knott End Library (these sessions will now be held weekly every Monday at 1pm);
 - The creation of a decades exhibition for the Platinum Jubilee marquee.
- 3.5 Beach Patrol Service** - The Beach Patrol Service is once more operating on key sections of our bathing beaches at Cleveleys and Fleetwood. Over the summer the service will be provided at weekends up to Sunday 24 July and daily over the school summer holidays, between Monday 25 July to Sunday 4 September. The specific times of the service will vary according to tide times but will be centred around 10:30 – 17:00 at both Fleetwood and Cleveleys.

4. Tourism / Visitor Economy

- 4.1 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee events** - Over the bank holiday weekend, the council ran a series of events to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. These included free shows of Alice in Wonderland for families, an official beacon lighting, a giant picnic and a tea party for local care home residents, isolated people in our borough and community champions who helped out during the pandemic. Each event was a great success.

4.2 The theatre shows and picnic brought hundreds of people into the towns on each day and were thoroughly enjoyed by the families who came. The beacon lighting was attended by around 300 people despite the rain and was a historic occasion that we were proud to mark. The tea party was enjoyed by over 120 people. There was entertainment, singing, reminiscing and dancing and we've had some great feedback from the people who came. It meant a lot to be able to give those who were the most isolated throughout the pandemic the chance to be together and celebrate. The council also acknowledged over 50 street party applications across the borough and promoted other events organised by local community groups.

5. Holiday Activity Programme

5.1 Bookings are now open for the popular Summer Holiday Activity and Food Clubs - a programme of free activities for children on benefits-related free school meals. The local holiday clubs are part of the Government's Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF), set up to provide children and young people with fun activities to enjoy with friends, the chance to develop new skills and enjoy a healthy lunch in the holidays. A range of clubs is being hosted throughout the summer holidays by providers across the borough and includes a variety of fun activities alongside a nutritious meal each day. There's plenty to enjoy including yoga, slime making, dodgeball, football, archery, arts and crafts, cooking and more. We ran holiday clubs last summer and at Christmas and Easter and so far 1,210 children have taken part. Paid for places are available on some sessions for those that are not eligible for free places.

6. Countryside

6.1 In May we celebrated the coast, parks and countryside of Wyre in springtime with the Garstang Walking Festival. Walks took place in a wide variety of locations. The Friends of Garstang Walking Festival, Wyre volunteer walk leaders, rangers and partners lead family activities, easy accessible walks, moderate walks all the way up to challenging long distance and upland walks. The feedback from the customers was excellent with over 400 attendances on the walks. Customers travelled in from the Garstang, Wyre and Lancashire areas as well as further afield from Greater Manchester, Bradford, Croydon and Edinburgh. The Friends of Garstang Walking Festival volunteers supported by the coast and countryside team have already started planning for the 2023 festival.

7. Marine Hall and Thornton Little Theatre

7.1 Over 3,000 people attended the Picnic Celebrations held in Marine Gardens for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The event was organised by Fleetwood Rotary and Fleetwood Festive Lights Committee with support from Wyre Theatres and was funded by Fleetwood Town Council. The special Jubilee Tea Dance was also well attended with a great atmosphere and special prizes for the best red, white and blue, Jubilee themed outfit.

7.2 Three wedding ceremonies were held at The Mount Pavilion in April/May with another four taking place in June/July. Enquiries for future wedding bookings are now coming in on a daily basis. The Civic Society held two Open Days in The Mount Pavilion in May and June, which have also generated a lot of interest.

7.3 Many more of our annual events have returned to both Theatres this summer. Most of these have not taken place since 2019. This includes Fleetwood Carnival which returned to Marine Hall in June 2022 and The Nautical College Graduation Ceremonies in July 2022. At the same time, we have been pleased to welcome a number of new hirers and events to Thornton Little Theatre, including several local dance and drama schools for young performers.

7.4 The main ballroom at Marine Hall has been closed for essential maintenance to the floor between 20 June and 5 July. This is the first time that the floor has been completely refurbished.

8. Comments and questions

8.1 In accordance with procedure rule 11.3 any member of Council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with Procedure Rule 11.5.



Report of:	Meeting	Date
Councillor Michael Vincent, Resources Portfolio Holder and Clare James, Corporate Director Resources and S.151 Officer	Council	7 July 2022

Treasury management activity 2021/22

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To report on the overall position and activities in respect of Treasury Management for the financial year 2021/22.

2. Outcomes

2.1 An informed Council who have an understanding of Treasury Management activity, in line with the approved Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Statements and Treasury Management Practices.

3. Recommendation

3.1 That the Annual report on Treasury Management Activity for the 2021/22 financial year be approved.

4. Background

4.1 This Council is required by regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 to produce an annual treasury management review of activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2021/22. This report meets the requirements of both the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accounting (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).

4.2 During 2021/22 the minimum reporting requirements were that the full Council should receive the following reports:

- An annual treasury strategy in advance of the year (reviewed by Cabinet 24/03/2021) and recommended to Council.

- A mid-year (minimum) treasury update report (Council 28/10/2021).
- An annual review following the end of the year describing the activity compared to the strategy (this report).

4.3 The regulatory environment places responsibility on members for the review and scrutiny of treasury management policy and activities. This report, is, therefore, important in that respect, as it provides details of the outturn position for treasury activities and highlights compliance with the Council’s policies previously approved by members. On 24 February 2022 all members were offered Treasury Management Training from Link Asset Services; this included members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Prior to this, training was given on 18 January 2021 to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

5. Key issues and proposals

5.1 The Council’s Capital Expenditure and Financing

5.1.1 The council undertakes capital expenditure on long-term assets. These activities may either be:

- Financed immediately through the application of capital or revenue resources (capital receipts, capital grants, revenue contributions etc.) which has no resultant impact on the council’s borrowing need; or
- If insufficient financing is available, or a decision is taken not to apply resources, the capital expenditure will give rise to a borrowing need.

5.1.2 The actual capital expenditure forms one of the required prudential indicators. The table below shows the actual capital expenditure and how this was financed.

Description	2020/21 Actual* (£000)	2021/22 Budget** (£000)	2021/22 Actual*** (£000)
Capital expenditure	6,789	15,043	4,537
Financed in year	6,789	15,043	4,537
Unfinanced capital expenditure	0	0	0

All capital expenditure undertaken during 2021/22 has been fully financed in the year. *2020/21 Actual is as per the draft Statement of Accounts. **2021/22 Budget figures are as per the report to Cabinet on 12 January 2022. ***2021/22 Actual are draft pending completion of the Statement of Accounts for 2021/22. These caveats apply to all figures in the report.

5.2 Overall Treasury Position as at 31 March 2022

5.2.1 The council's treasury position, at the beginning and end of the 2021/22 financial year, was as follows:

	31/03/21 Principal (£000)	Rate/ Return (%)	Avg Life (Yrs)	31/03/22 Principal (£000)	Rate/ Return (%)	Avg Life (Yrs)
Total Debt	1,563	4.43	26	1,563	4.43	25
Total Investments	(33,124)	0.16	0	(51,784)	0.15	0
Net debt / (investment)	(31,561)	-	-	(50,221)	-	-
Total Debt	1,563	4.43	26	1,563	4.43	25
Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)	(11,166)	-	-	(11,068)	-	-
Over / (under) borrowing	(9,603)	-	-	(9,505)	-	-

5.3 The Treasury Management Strategy for 2021/22

5.3.1 Investment returns remained close to zero for much of 2021/22. Most local authority lending managed to avoid negative rates and one feature of the year was the continued growth of inter local authority lending. The expectation for interest rates within the treasury management strategy for 2021/22 was that Bank Rate would remain at 0.1% until it was clear to the Bank of England that the emergency level of rates introduced at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic were no longer necessitated.

5.3.2 The Bank of England and the Government also maintained various monetary and fiscal measures, supplying the banking system and the economy with massive amounts of cheap credit so that banks could help cash-starved businesses to survive the various lockdowns/negative impact on their cashflow. The Government also supplied huge amounts of finance to local authorities to pass on to businesses. This meant that for most of the year there was much more liquidity in financial markets than there was demand to borrow, with the consequent effect that investment earnings rates remained low until towards the turn of the year when inflation concerns indicated that central banks, not just the Bank of England, would need to lift interest rates to combat the second-round effects of growing levels of inflation (CPI was 6.2% in February 2022).

5.3.3 Whilst the council has taken a cautious approach to investing, it is also fully appreciative of changes to regulatory requirements for financial institutions in terms of additional capital and liquidity that came about in the aftermath of the financial crisis. These requirements have provided a far stronger basis for financial institutions, with annual stress tests by regulators evidencing how institutions are now far more able to cope with extreme stressed market and economic conditions.

5.4 The Borrowing Requirement and Debt

5.4.1 The Council's underlying need to borrow to finance capital expenditure is termed the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). The underlying need to borrow for capital purposes is measured by the CFR, while usable reserves and working capital are the underlying resources available for investment. The table below compares the estimated CFR to the debt which exists at 31 March. This gives an indication of the borrowing required. It also shows the estimated resources available for investment. An option is to use these balances to finance the expenditure rather than investing, often referred to as internal borrowing, so the table gives an indication of the minimum borrowing requirement through this method.

	31/03/21 Actual (£000)	31/03/22 Budget (£000)	31/03/22 Actual (£000)
CFR	11,165	11,068	11,068
Less external borrowing	1,552	1,552	1,552
Borrowing requirement	9,613	9,516	9,516
Reserves and Balances	34,161	27,320	27,320*
Borrowing / (investment) need	(24,548)	(17,804)	(17,804)

*Please note the outturn position in both years is still an estimate prior to the sign off of the accounts expected by November 2022.

5.5 Borrowing Rates and Borrowing Outturn in 2021/22

5.5.1 PWLB rates are based on gilt (UK Government bonds) yields through H.M. Treasury determining a specified margin to add to gilt yields. The main influences on gilt yields are Bank Rate, inflation expectations and movements in US treasury yields. Inflation targeting by the major central banks has been successful over the last 30 years in lowering inflation and the real equilibrium rate for central rates has fallen considerably owing to the high level of borrowing by consumers: this means that central banks do not need to raise rates as much now to have a major impact on consumer spending, inflation, etc. This has pulled down the overall level of interest rates and bond yields in financial markets over the last 30 years. We have seen, over the last two years, many bond yields up to 10 years in the Eurozone turn negative on expectations that the EU would

struggle to get growth rates and inflation up from low levels. In addition, there has, at times, been an inversion of bond yields in the US whereby 10 year yields have fallen below shorter term yields. In the past, this has been a precursor of a recession. Recently, yields have risen since the turn of the year on the back of global inflation concerns.

5.5.2 Gilt yields fell sharply from the spring of 2021 through to September and then spiked back up before falling again through December. However, by January sentiment had well and truly changed, as markets became focussed on the embedded nature of inflation, spurred on by a broader opening of economies post the pandemic, and rising commodity and food prices resulting from the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

5.5.3 There is likely to be a further rise in short dated gilt yields and PWLB rates over the next three years as Bank Rate is forecast to rise from 0.75% in March 2022 to 1.25% later this year, with upside risk likely if the economy proves resilient in light of the cost-of-living squeeze. Medium to long dated yields are driven primarily by inflation concerns but the Bank of England is also embarking on a process of Quantitative Tightening when Bank Rate hits 1%, whereby the Bank's £895bn stock of gilt and corporate bonds will be sold back into the market over several years. The impact this policy will have on the market pricing of gilts, while issuance is markedly increasing, is an unknown at the time of writing.

5.5.4 No new borrowing was undertaken during the 2021/22 year. Capital schemes budgeted for in 2021/22 were funded by grants and contributions, capital receipts and the Capital Investment Reserve. No rescheduling was done during the year as the average 1% differential between PWLB new borrowing rates and premature repayment rates made rescheduling unviable. There were no short-term borrowing transactions (i.e. less than 365 days) during 2021/22.

The council has external borrowing with the Public Works Loan Board. The maturity structure of the debt is as follows:

	31/03/21 Actual (£000)	31/03/22 Actual (£000)
Under 12 months	-	-
12 months and over and within 20 years	552	552
20 years and over and within 30 years	-	-
30 years and over and within 50 years	1,000	1,000

5.5.5 Interest payments in respect of long-term borrowing for the 2021/22 financial year totalled £68,830, which was in line with the full year budget of £68,830. The actual interest payments, including miscellaneous payments for the year to 31 March is £68,830 compared to the full year budget of £69,850.

5.5.6 The council incurs charges at 4% over the current base rate for net overdrawn balances with no annual arrangement fee. The council's net bank account position was not overdrawn during the financial year 2021/22.

5.6 Investments

5.6.1 Investment Policy – the council's investment policy is governed by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) investment guidance, which has been implemented in the annual investment strategy approved by the Council on 22 April 2021. This policy sets out the approach for choosing investment counterparties, and is based on credit ratings provided by the three main credit rating agencies, (Standard and Poor's (S&P), Moody's and Fitch Ratings), supplemented by additional market data, (such as ratings outlooks, credit default swaps, bank share prices etc.).

5.6.2 The investment activity during the year conformed to the approved strategy, and the council had no liquidity difficulties.

5.6.3 Investments held by the council – internally managed funds earned an average of 0.15%. The comparable performance indicator is the average 7 day LIBID (London Interbank Bid Rate) which was -0.07%. The equated investments are analysed in the table below:

	Equated Investment Principal (£)	Interest Due (£)	Rate of Return (%)	Benchmark Return (%)
Santander 35 Day Corp Notice	7,106,850	22,578	0.32	-0.07
Qatar 3 month	2,821,918	7,821	0.28	-0.07
Qatar 6 month	4,602,740	22,342	0.49	-0.07
Handelsbanken I.A Account	6,456,165	321	0.00	-0.07
Bank of Scotland (Call Acc)	3,119,589	310	0.01	-0.07
Nat West - Liquid Select	4,073,484	403	0.01	-0.07
LGIM	5,626,576	4,495	0.08	-0.07
Insight	5,897,261	4,625	0.08	-0.07
Deutsche	186,302	345	0.19	-0.07
Prime Rate	6,249,316	4,434	0.07	-0.07
Total	46,140,201	67,676	0.15	-0.07

5.6.4 Interest receivable from investments for the 2021/22 financial year totals £67,676 compared to the full year budget of £50,000. Interest overall including miscellaneous items, received in the year totalled £68,001 compared to a budgeted figure of £50,320.

5.6.5 There have been no occasions of funds over £100,000 remaining in the council's overnight general account since February 2018 when the NatWest roll up facility and control account was activated.

5.6.6 On one occasion during the year council breached its counterparty investment limits, which are in place to manage interest rate exposure risk. This was addressed and reported to the Director of Resources (s.151 Officer).

5.7 Other Issues / Updates

5.7.1 Following the consultation undertaken by MHCLG (now known as DLUHC) on IFRS9, the Government has introduced a mandatory statutory override for local authorities to reverse out all unrealised fair value movements resulting from pooled investment funds. This was effective from 1 April 2018. The statutory override applies for five years from this date. Local authorities are required to disclose the net impact of the unrealised fair value movements in a separate unusable reserve throughout the duration of the override in order for the Government to keep the override under review and to maintain a form of transparency. To date Wyre Council have not been required to make any adjustments/disclosures in relation to this.

5.7.2 The implementation of IFRS16, bringing currently off balance sheet leased assets onto the balance sheet, has been delayed again until 1 April 2024.

5.7.3 This report has been prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code and the Prudential Code. Both of these Codes were updated late in December 2021 and although they took effect immediately, the new guidance allowed for a period of transition towards achieving full compliance and the council is currently working towards this with our treasury management consultants.

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	Considered in detail in the report above.
Legal	The approval of the recommendation will ensure that the statutory requirements have been complied with.

Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
sustainability	x
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	x
climate change	x
ICT	x
data protection	x

Processing Personal Data

In addition to considering data protection along with the other risks/ implications, the report author will need to decide if a 'privacy impact assessment (PIA)' is also required. If the decision(s) recommended in this report will result in the collection and processing of personal data for the first time (i.e. purchase of a new system, a new working arrangement with a third party) a PIA will need to have been completed and signed off by Data Protection Officer before the decision is taken in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

report author	telephone no.	email	date
Ben Ralphs	01253 887309	ben.ralphs@wyre.gov.uk	17/06/2022

List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection
None		

List of appendices

Appendix 1 – Prudential and Treasury Indicators

Appendix 1 – Prudential and Treasury Indicators

1. Prudential Indicators	2020/21 Actual (£000)	2021/22 Estimate (£000)	2021/22 Actual (£000)	2022/23 Estimate (£000)
Capital Expenditure	6,789	15,043	4,537	10,095
Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%
Gross Borrowing requirement General Fund	1,559	1,602	1,563	1,602
Gross debt	1,559	1,602	1,563	1,602
CFR	11,261	11,165	11,069	10,973
Annual change in CFR	-96	-96	-96	-96
2. Treasury Management Indicators	2020/21 Actual (£000)	2021/22 Estimate (£000)	2021/22 Actual (£000)	2022/23 Estimate (£000)
Authorised Limit for external debt borrowing	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Other long term liabilities	0	100	100	100
Total	20,000	20,100	20,100	20,100
Operational Boundary for external debt borrowing	13,452	13,452	13,452	13,452
Other long term liabilities	7	50	11	50
Total	13,459	13,502	13,463	13,502
Actual external debt	1,559	1,602	1,563	1,602

Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing during 2021/22	upper limit	lower limit
Under 12 month	100%	0%
12 months and within 24 months	45%	0%
24 months and within 5 year	75%	0%
5 years and within 10 years	75%	0%
10 years and above	100%	0%

These gross limits are set to avoid large concentrations of fixed rate debt that has the same maturity structure and would therefore need to be replaced at the same time.

This page is intentionally left blank



Report of:	Meeting	Date
Councillor David Henderson, Leader of the Council and Clare James, Corporate Director Resources	Council	7 July 2022

Appointment of an Independent Person

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To enable an additional Independent Person to be appointed to be involved in dealing with Councillors' Code of Conduct complaints and any disciplinary procedures for statutory officers.

2. Outcomes

- 2.1 Effective ethical standards arrangements and robust disciplinary procedure.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 That David Gregson be appointed as an Independent Person, in line with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Localism Act 2011 requires the Council, as part of the Code of Conduct for Councillors, to appoint an Independent Person to be consulted by the Monitoring Officer and the Standards Committee on ethical standards issues and on the consideration of any alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct by individual Borough, Town or Parish Councillors in Wyre. Under the Council's Constitution they would also form part of any disciplining process for the statutory officers of the Council.
- 4.2 On 25 June 2015 Barry Parsonage was appointed by the Council as an Independent Person. He advised the Monitoring Officer of his intention to resign at the end of June 2022.
- 4.3 A minimum of two Independent Persons is required to ensure that there is sufficient cover for the role. Following Barry Parsonage's decision to

resign from the role, a recruitment process was commenced and Mike Nuttall was appointed as a second Independent Person at the Annual Meeting of the Council on 12 May 2022, Helen Kay having been appointed previously.

5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1** As part of the same recruitment process a further expression of interest in the role has been received from David Gregson. Mr Gregson works at Lancaster University and is Deputy Chair of the University's Board of Discipline, which deals with more serious breaches of student discipline. He has a range of other relevant experience and, following an interview with the Monitoring Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer, would be an appropriate person for the role. It is therefore recommended that Mr Gregson also be appointed as an Independent Member to provide greater resilience for this key role.

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	There are no additional financial implications associated with this report.
Legal	The proposals in this report are in accordance with legal requirements, as referred to in section 4 of this report.

Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
sustainability	x
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	x
climate change	x
ICT	x
data protection	x

Processing Personal Data

In addition to considering data protection along with the other risks/ implications, the report author will need to decide if a 'privacy impact assessment (PIA)' is also required. If the decision(s) recommended in this report will result in the collection and processing of personal data for the first time (i.e. purchase of a new system, a new working arrangement with a third party) a PIA will need to have been completed and signed off by Data Protection Officer before the decision is taken in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

report author	telephone no.	email	date
Peter Foulsham	01253 887606	peter.foulsham@wyre.gov.uk	23/05/2022

List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection
None		

Appendices

None

This page is intentionally left blank



Report of:	Meeting	Date
Councillor Lynn Walmsley, Lead Member for Older People	Council	7 July 2022

Periodic report - Lead Member for Older People

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To update the Council on some of the activities I have been involved in over the last year as Lead Member for Older People.

2. Summary of Activity

2.1 A summary of activity is included relating to the following issues:

- Review of services that Wyre Council provide to older people, and;
- Creating a winter checklist for older people.

3. Questions and Comments

3.1 I will respond to any questions or comments on the contents of my report or on any other issues relating to older people in Wyre.

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	None arising directly from this report
Legal	None arising directly from this report

Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
sustainability	x
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	x
climate change	x
ICT	x
data protection	x

Processing Personal Data

In addition to considering data protection along with the other risks/ implications, the report author will need to decide if a 'privacy impact assessment (PIA)' is also required. If the decision(s) recommended in this report will result in the collection and processing of personal data for the first time (i.e. purchase of a new system, a new working arrangement with a third party) a PIA will need to have been completed and signed off by Data Protection Officer before the decision is taken in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

report author	telephone no.	email	date
Neil Greenwood	01253 887410	Neil.Greenwood@wyre.gov.uk	17/06/2022

List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection
None		

List of appendices

Appendix 1 – Periodic Update Summary

Periodic Update Summary

Lead Member for Older People: Progress Update – June 2022

As Lead member for older people I have started to review services provided by Wyre Council which impact on older people in order to fully understand what Wyre Council can offer. It is important to point out that owing to the Covid-19 pandemic and the government restrictions it has been difficult to engage with older people, because they are classed as vulnerable.

As we start to recover from Covid-19 many of the services provided by the council are all aimed at improving the well-being of older people and encouraging the following behaviours.

Be active - Regular physical activity is proven to improve your physical and mental health. With a range of guided walks and cycles, our activities offer lots of opportunities to get active! Even those with busy schedules can take advantage of our beautiful open spaces by heading out on a walk, jog or cycle.

Take notice - Heightened awareness, sometimes known as mindfulness, can enhance your self-understanding and change the way you feel about life. Visit our stunning countryside or sprawling coastline and take some time to simply enjoy the moment and the environment around you.

Learn - Continued learning enhances self-esteem. From gardening clubs and conservation days, to art sessions and craft days, there are so many opportunities to learn something new and develop new skills.

Give - Research has shown that committing an act of kindness once a week is associated with an increase in wellbeing.

The following provides a summary of all the work currently being undertaken by Wyre Council to assist older people.

Community Engagement Team - Covid Recovery Projects

Covid-19 has had a significant impact on our older residents.

Therefore following our Covid-19 community hub work during 2020 and 2021 and from working closely with our local communities, groups and residents, the Active Lives and Community Engagement Team have identified a number of projects that would be beneficial to residents in Wyre including older people.

These projects will help to tackle key issues such as social isolation, support for people with long term conditions (including long-Covid) and will help improve motivation and self-confidence. All of these areas have been identified as key issues/support areas for people post Covid-19.

The projects proposed will include gentle mobility/physical activity classes for people with long-term medical conditions (including long-Covid). The outcomes of the sessions would be an increase in physical activity levels of people who are currently inactive, improved health and wellbeing of the participants, better social connection and improved quality of life.

Other projects proposed include accessible arts projects and community dance classes for people with disabilities and those with long term conditions such as Parkinson's disease, MS and stroke. Referrals into the projects would come from NHS social prescribers, GP and other health professionals and by self-referral. These activities are planned for delivery over the coming months.

Housing for Older People

Adapting older peoples' homes

The housing team administer the Disabled Facilities Grant scheme which makes homes more suitable for living in and enables older people to live more independently. The care and repair and handyperson team works with clients to keep them safe by avoiding slips and trips as far as possible and they undertake minor repairs to properties for which there is a small cost.

Assisted collection – Waste bin collection

Older people may qualify for an assisted collection service if they have mobility or health problems and there is no one else in the home who can put the bins out.

An application form must be completed and if the application is successful your address will be added to our assisted collections list and shared with contractors. A home visit may be required to confirm your circumstances.

On your normal collection day the crew will collect the bin or sack, empty it and return it to where they found it.

Cosy Homes in Lancashire (CHiL)

CHiL is a partnership of the 15 Local Authorities in Lancashire, offering residents in the region access to free first time central heating, gas connections, affordable heating solutions, energy advice and support on a range of money saving energy measures to help you keep warm and save money.

Rhea Energy manage the CHiL scheme and the Administration Hub on behalf of the Lancashire Local Authorities.

The Lancashire Authorities have recently secured Green Homes Grant (Home Upgrade Grant) from Central Government which is available to owner-occupiers and tenants and will cover the cost of larger insulation measures and renewable heating technologies. It is only available to properties which do not have gas central heating at the present time.

View the full range of energy measures available via the following link
<https://www.chil.uk.com/>

Planning for sufficient suitable homes for older people

The Council are also encouraging the building of suitable homes for older people as part of the planning process.

Policy HP2 of the Local Plan adopted in 2019 requires that:

1. New housing development will be required to widen the choice of housing types available in Wyre.
2. Proposed developments should provide an appropriate mix in terms of size, type, tenure of housing, to meet identified housing need and local market demand that accords with the most up-to-date Strategic Housing Market Assessment and Rural Affordable Housing Needs Survey.
3. In order to help meet the needs of an ageing population and people with restricted mobility, at least 20% of dwellings within developments of 20 dwellings and above should be of a design suitable or adaptable for older people and people with restricted mobility. Where housing for older people and people with restricted mobility is provided as part of a Wyre Local Plan (2011 – 2031) larger scheme, this should, where appropriate, be located within the scheme in the most accessible location for services and facilities.

Communication with Older People

Wyre Council's website advises residents of the services available, there is not a specific section on the website for older people, however there are a number of service area pages containing activities for all ages and they include some activities that are ideal for older people to participate in. The website can be accessed via the following link. <https://www.wyre.gov.uk/>

FYi Directory -Within the Community, Leisure and Health section of the Council's website, you can access the FYi directory, this directory provides contact details for a raft of services available in the Wyre area. <https://www.fyidirectory.co.uk/>

This directory is overseen by NHS Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde CCG and a review of the information is currently being undertaken to ensure it is up to date supported by the council's Active Lives and Community Engagement Team.

Wellbeing Activities Currently Offered

The following activities are aimed at encouraging socialisation as isolation was a known risk factor before the Covid Pandemic for older people, which has increased over the last two years, and these activities form part of the recovery plan.

Reminiscing - Just Reminiscing is an example of a range of activities supported by the Active Lives and Community Engagement Team to support and engage older people in Wyre. A table full of curious objects from days gone by are used to engage and bring back memories. Objects include replica tickets from pop concerts of the

1970s, knitting patterns of the 50s, scrapbooks of the decades to thumb through, the odd flat iron and old industrial

Tea Dances at Marine Hall - These are another example of very popular and well attended activities coordinated by the council and attended by older residents.

Older people are invited to attend Marine Hall's beautiful ballroom for the regular tea dance. It's a great way to try something new, or you can just sit and enjoy the music and watch the dancing, no previous dance experience is necessary.

Harmony and Health Singing Groups

Singing is a great way to connect with others and have fun, so older people are invited to meet some new friends and sing songs they love at singing groups across Wyre. There's no experience necessary and everyone is welcome, There are groups accessible at Marine Hall, Thornton Little Theatre, Garstang United Reformed Church and Hambleton Village Hall.

Fun arts – is another activity ideal for older people which is a dementia friendly activity led by an experienced instructor and is suitable for those living with dementia and their carers. There are sessions held at Garstang and Knott End Libraries on a Thursday and Monday respectively.

Wyre Council has a Great Outdoors Programme

A key part of staying healthy as you age is keeping active and there is a full programme outdoor activities that can be accessed via the following link.

www.wyre.gov.uk/greatoutdoors

Many of the well-being walks, cycling and activities promoted would be suitable for 'older people' to start on their fitness journey, the activities below are eminently suitable for older people

Tramper Service

Unfortunately some older people have restricted mobility but they can still explore the countryside by hiring a Tramper for free - the all-terrain electric vehicle. Designed for people with differing abilities to access the countryside, the Tramper can handle stones, mud, wet grass and rough ground, offering you exploration without boundaries.

Gardening club at Fleetwood Memorial Park

Take part in a range of gardening activities with our volunteers who have a shared interest in growing plants, flowers and vegetables. No experience is necessary. Just turn up!

Cottam Hall Community Garden

This has previously been used by Blackpool and Fylde Community College. However Poulton in Bloom have recently taken it on and are in the process of setting up a community gardening club. Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are welcome. This particular garden makes use of a number of raised beds which lend itself to older people volunteering.

Wyre Wheels

Wyre Wheels is a fun accessible cycle project for older people, those with disabilities or needing confidence to cycle. This cycling programme offers participants the opportunity to ride adapted bicycles including trikes, side-by-sides, hand bikes, quad and wheelchair bikes.

Volunteering

Volunteering is a great way for older people to keep physically and mentally active, make friendships and feel a sense of achievement. You can volunteer for as little or as much time as you want, it's that simple.

You can apply to become a volunteer using the following link

<https://www.wyre.gov.uk/homepage/84/volunteering>.

Many of the volunteering roles offered are suitable for an older person.

Volunteer role - Befriending and Mentoring

Isolation is a particular concern for older people and therefore this role can benefit both the volunteer and the person they are supporting.

Lancashire County Council are always looking for volunteers to support vulnerable adults who are socially isolated and living within local communities.

Volunteering opportunities may include:

- experience towards a career in health and social care
- experience to supplement your education/training
- the opportunity to meet new people
- the prospect to make a positive impact to the lives of others
- the chance to make a difference in your community

An older person could be supporting other older people, an adult with a learning disability or physical disability, people with sensory loss (sight, hearing or both), people with mental health conditions and unpaid carers.

They can choose to be a friendly face by visiting them at home for a chat, taking them out for a walk or drive, assisting them to attend local activities or supporting them to achieve goals.

Their actions could have a significant and positive impact on someone's life and at the same time increase their own self-worth.

Apply today

- email: lccvolunteering@lancashire.gov.uk
- telephone: 01772 531323

Future Work

I intend to develop a winter checklist and monitor the review of the FYi Directory currently being undertaken.