



Portfolio Holder Report

The portfolio holder will make a decision on this item after seven days have elapsed (including the date of publication).

Report of:	Portfolio Holder	Date of publication
Marianne Hesketh, Corporate Director Communities	Cllr Lynne Bowen Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder	7 July 2021

Wyre Holiday Activities and Food Programme

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To outline the government funded Holiday Activity and Food Programme and to seek permission for the work to be co-ordinated by the council, outlining the approach we are adopting.

2. Outcomes

- 2.1 Working with partners to improve the aspirations and resilience of our young people.
- 2.2 Delivery of a programme of work to promote healthy choices and healthier lifestyles to keep people well.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the 2021/22 Holiday Activity and Food Programme be coordinated by the council and we enter into Service Level Agreements with third parties to deliver the programme for Wyre.
- 3.2 That we introduce a £15 charge (inclusive of VAT where eligible) for children to attend the holiday and activities programme for children who do not qualify for a free place. This option will be dependent on places being available.

4. Background

- 4.1 On 8 November 2020, the government announced that the Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) was to be expanded across the

whole of England in 2021. The programme has provided healthy food and enriching activities to disadvantaged children since 2018.

- 4.2** School holidays can be particular pressure points for some families because of increased costs (such as food and childcare) and reduced incomes. For some children that can lead to a holiday experience gap, with children from disadvantaged families:
- less likely to access organised out-of-school activities
 - more likely to experience 'unhealthy holidays' in terms of nutrition and physical health, and;
 - more likely to experience social isolation
- 4.3** Free holiday clubs are a response to this issue and evidence suggests that they can have a positive impact on children and young people and that they work best when they:
- provide consistent and easily accessible enrichment activities, and;
 - cover more than just breakfast or lunch
- 4.4** LCC has received £4.2m of government funding for the Holiday Activities and Food Programme for 2021. This is the first year that Lancashire has received funding under this programme, and the County Council are keen that as many children and young people as possible benefit from it.
- 4.5** The programme covers the Easter, summer and Christmas holidays in 2021. Easter provision has already been provided online by Lancashire County Council.
- 4.6** The Lancashire Holiday and Food Activities Team, led by LCC (and supported by Active Lancashire and Street Games) has developed a framework for the development of the summer offer, consisting of a central county-wide offer and local district offers.
- 4.7** Funding is being devolved to Districts from LCC to enable the development of localised and bespoke offers over the summer and Christmas holidays.
- 4.8** District allocations are based on numbers of children on free school meals. There are 2826 free school meal recipients in Wyre, which equates to 7.8% of Lancashire's free school meal recipients in total. Wyre's funding allocation is £258,073.03.
- 4.9** In addition to the above funding allocation LCC has provided £9,600 for a 2.5 day per week co-ordinator role to support local planning and delivery of the activities. Agreement has been reached with Fylde Council to pool this element for a shared coordinator post to be recruited across both Wyre and Fylde. Fylde Council has agreed to be the employing authority for this role.
- 4.10** The programme will be available to children who receive free school meals and are aged 4yrs to 16yrs. The expectation is that there will be

four days of activity per week, providing a minimum of four hours daily, for four weeks during the school summer holidays and an additional week of activities during the Christmas holiday break. A meal (this can be hot or a packed lunch) that meets school meal nutritional standards must be provided with each activity.

- 4.11** 85% of places must be taken by children in receipt of free school meals. Currently there are 2826 children in Wyre in receipt of free school meals. The funding is based on expected take up of the scheme which is 30%, (848 places). 15% of the budget can be used to fund children who would benefit from this provision, such as those children and young people who live in deprived areas of the borough, looked after children etc. If there are places still available, then we will offer them at a cost of £15 (inclusive of VAT where eligible) per child per session.

Key issues and proposals

- 5.1** The council does not have the required capacity to deliver the programme in house and so, like many other Lancashire councils we are partnering with local organisations and trusts to deliver the scheme. Fylde Council have delivered similar schemes in the past and so we are working with them and sharing a coordinator post to oversee delivery.
- 5.2** Our proposals for the delivery of the scheme are to be agreed with the Lancashire Holiday Activity and Food Programme Group (LCC, Active Lancashire and Street Games). Currently we are working with Fylde Council and are using evidence and insight to prepare a recommended delivery model involving local community delivery partners (including Fylde Coast YMCA, Fleetwood Town Community Trust, Lancashire County Council Youth Services, AFC Fylde Community Foundation, local schools and their providers). Locations for delivery are being shortlisted but we anticipate running summer camps from Fleetwood YMCA and Thornton YMCA as part of the programme.
- 5.3** Owing to the fast pace and requirements to deliver a complex programme in a short space of time we have had to start the coordination of the programme to ensure the programme is as effective and far reaching as possible.
- 5.4** The council has entered into a grant funding agreement with LCC to deliver the programme for Wyre and this report seeks approval to implement the scheme including entering into Service Level Agreements with key delivery partners and the recruitment of the co-ordinator role.
- 5.5** This report also seeks approval for the option to introduce a £15 charge (inclusive of VAT where eligible) for children to attend the holiday and activities programme, if they do not qualify for a free place. This option will be dependent on places being available.

6. Delegated functions

- 6.1** The matters referred to in this report are considered under the following executive functions delegated to the Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder (as set out in Part 3 of the council's constitution): "To formulate and make recommendations on strategies and programmes to encourage the development of sport, leisure and cultural pursuits, including arts development and promotion" and "To determine charges or fees for any relevant services operated within the portfolio".

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	<p>A Wyre Holiday Activities Fund allocation of £258,073.03 will support delivery of free holiday activity provision over four weeks in the summer holidays and one week over Christmas. Wyre will also receive £9,600 for a co-ordinator role to be employed by Fylde Council and shared across both authorities.</p> <p>Any income generated from the proposed fee for those not on free school meals will be reinvested and used to deliver the scheme.</p> <p>We have the option to charge up to 10% for admin / management costs. Budget allowing, once provision has been paid for, we will make a charge not exceeding £25,807.30.</p>
Legal	If approved, Service Level Agreements will be entered into with third parties to deliver the programme for Wyre.

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.

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

List of appendices

None