



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	Councillor Michael Vincent, Resources Portfolio Holder and Councillor Lynne Bowen Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder	6 August 2021

Business Health Matters Programme

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To outline the Business Health Matters Programme, funded by the European Structural and Innovation Fund and to seek permission to accept the grant and agree the approach outlined below in conjunction with Active Lancashire in delivering the programme to the Wyre business community.

2. Outcomes

- 2.1 Provision of support to businesses to help them grow, prosper and recover.
- 2.2 Collaboration with residents and local stakeholders to support and maximise opportunities for improving health and wellbeing across our communities.
- 2.3 The exploration of opportunities for communities and partners to deliver initiatives that build resilience and sustainability.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the Business Health Matters programme is supported by the council and that we enter into a Service Level Agreement and Collaboration Agreement with Active Lancashire to deliver the project, with the council acting as accountable body.

- 3.2** That approval is given to proceed with the engagement of lifestyle service providers under the exemption to Contract Procedures contained within the Financial Regulations and Financial Procedure Rules on the grounds that exceptions may apply where: “The services are of a specialised nature carried out by only one or a limited number of organisations which have local experience with no reasonably satisfactory alternatives available.”
- 3.3** That we recruit to a new post of Healthy Workplaces Co-ordinator for the duration of the project (Summer 2021 to December 2023), funded from the European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF).
- 3.4** In order to attract a grant of £188,630 from ESIF that we agree to provide match funding (over the three years of the project) by way of an in-kind contribution from staff currently employed within the Active Lives and Community Engagement Team and Economic Development Team to a value of £125,750 (this excludes the new post).

4. Background

- 4.1** Business Health Matters is a portfolio of projects and programmes linked to Workplace Health and Wellbeing. The projects and programmes delivered aim to improve the wellbeing of employees in the workplace and address both physical and mental health. The benefits to the employers are increased productivity, reduced absences and lower staff turnover rates whilst employees gain more skills and have longer, healthier and happier working lives. The programme includes health screening, wellbeing planning and Workplace Health Champion training.
- 4.2** In Lancashire the programme is led by Active Lancashire and supported by a range of partners including the Lancashire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), Chambers of Commerce, Sport England and Lancashire County Council. Active Lancashire have successfully applied for funding from ESIF and now want to mobilise partners across local authorities, leisure service providers, colleges and registered housing providers to deliver against the proposals.
- 4.3** The ESIF 2.1 programme that forms part of the portfolio of projects is focussed on skills development and in particular the training of Workplace Health Champions in small and medium sized enterprises (SME's) across Lancashire. The programme will see accredited Level 2 and Level 3 Workplace Health Champion qualifications delivered to workplaces, so that up to 64 employees in Wyre could become Workplace Health Champions. The Champions will gain a Level 2 or Level 3 accredited qualification and act as a champion for workplace health within their organisation.

- 4.4** In addition to delivering level 2 and 3 qualifications, the project will also deliver basic skills qualifications to at least 22 people and look to improve the labour market status of over 33 employed females – both of these targets are being delivered by Lancashire Colleges who have an agreement in place with Active Lancashire to deliver this aspect of the programme across Lancashire.
- 4.5** The budget for the programme is £276,657 over the 2.8 years of the programme. The staffing budget is £224,559, (including the matched posts) and the delivery budget is £52,098 over the period. The training will be provided by the Workplace Health Co-ordinator, with support from Active Lancashire. Local lifestyle services (such as the Wyre Weight Management service) and other professionals will provide support either as part of existing contracts or as variations to those contracts.

5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1** The council will recruit to a new post of Healthy Workplaces Co-ordinator for the duration of the project. The post will sit within the Active Lives and Community Engagement Team but will also work closely with the Economic Development Team.
- 5.2** The post holder will engage with Wyre SME's and encourage their involvement in the programme. Health screening will take place in participating organisations together with work to motivate and encourage employees to train up as workplace co-ordinators as well as linking up business with local health and wellbeing providers.
- 5.3** The total project cost is £314,380. This comprises of ESIF funding of £188,630 and match funding from Wyre Council of £125,750. This match funding is made up of time allocated to the programme over the 2.8 years from members of staff within the Active Lives and Community Engagement Team and the Economic Development Team.
- 5.4** Many of the health and wellbeing programmes that the Active Lives Team are already providing such as the Wyre Weight Management programme and the already established partnerships with lifestyle services such as the NHS Quit Squad will be linked in to the programme.
- 5.5** The Economic Development Team have excellent links with local businesses through the Wyred Up network, our Town Centre Partnership Boards and via other regular communications to businesses.

6. Delegated functions

- 6.1** The matters referred to in this report are considered under the following executive function 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"

- 6.2** The matters referred to in this report are also considered under the following executive function delegated to the Resources Portfolio Holder (as set out in Part 3 of the council's constitution): "To consider departures from Rules relating to financial and contractual matters".

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	<p>The total project cost is £314,380 This comprises of ESIF funding of £188,630 and match funding from Wyre Council of £125,750.</p> <p>The ESIF grant that Wyre will receive over the period will be £150,904 as the central project costs £37,726 (10%) will be taken by Active Lancashire to cover management and central services support for the programme.</p> <p>This match funding is made up of an in-kind contribution from existing staff time to the programme over the three years from members of staff within the Active Lives and Community Engagement Team and the Economic Development Team.</p> <p>Revenue budgets to be updated accordingly in line with the following spend profile:</p> <p>2021/22 - £37,726 (ESIF) element 2021/22 - £31,438 (match) element 2022/23 - £64,673 (ESIF) element 2022/23 - £53,893 (match) element 2023/24 - £48,505 (ESIF) element 2023/24 - £40,420 (match) element</p>
Legal	<p>If approved a Service Level Agreement and Collaboration Agreement will be entered into with Active Lancashire to deliver the programme for Wyre.</p>

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

dem/ph/re/le/cr/21/0008mb2