

Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor Roger Berry, Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder	Council	25 January 2024

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. Community Safety

- 2.1** The Police and Crime Commissioner's office have set up a Lancashire Serious Violence and Community Safety Board as part of their statutory duty to oversee the role of Community safety partnerships in reducing violence.

- 2.2** Within Lancashire there are a number of Community Safety partnerships with four being located within West Division. The Board builds on the fantastic work that is undertaken through the Violence Reduction Network, which has produced a Pan Lancashire strategy and needs assessment a key requirement of the Statutory Duty, which can be viewed using the link below.

<https://lancsvrn.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/LVRN-Strategy-Revised-May-23.pdf>

- 2.3** In future each Community Safety Partnership will be required to report to the board, on how they are contributing towards violence reduction. Wyre Community Safety Partnership (WCSP) includes the Fire and Rescue service, Probation service, Health teams, Police and Local Authorities which in this area includes both Wyre Council and Lancashire County Council. Wyre Council have taken on the role of co-ordinator and it has been agreed that the WCSP will focus on making sure that partners work collaboratively to ensure that pan Lancashire programs are delivered within Wyre.

- 2.4** In my October Report to Council I mentioned that as part of Operation Centurion the Police were targeting ASB hot spots in Fleetwood with visible patrols. I observed one of the patrols which included making contact with vulnerable persons, checking out local businesses that had

experienced ASB issues, visiting known hot spot areas and finally discussing with neighbourhood policing officers the work they put into diverting young people from ASB and crime. This includes the Commando Intervention Scheme run by former Royal Marine Commandos. This scheme offers a wide range of outdoor activities and education over a five week period to build up young person's confidence resilience and respect in the hope that it will increase their chances of success and prevent them from falling into ASB and criminality.

- 2.5** There is still time until the end of the month to nominate a young person aged 19 or under who has helped either their local neighbourhood, an individual, a family member or local organisation in the last 12 months for the High Sheriff of Lancashire Young Citizen Award. To nominate a candidate, please use the online form using the link below.

www.lanpac.co.uk

- 2.6** Lancashire Partnership Against Crime (LANPAC) are also sponsoring a Business Crime Conference on Wednesday 28th February 2024 at Blackpool Winter Gardens. The Conference aims to bring together businesses, law enforcement agencies and industry experts to address the challenges and concerns relating to business crime and will deal with crime prevention strategies, cyber security, artificial intelligence and collaboration between businesses and law enforcement. Complimentary tickets to the event can be obtained online on the Eventbrite link.

3. Housing

3.1 Affordable Warmth Fund Interventions

Once again this winter our Care and Repair and housing teams have been working hard to improve the warmth and energy efficiency of the homes of vulnerable and low income residents. Supported by funding provided by Lancashire County Council boilers have been repaired and serviced, homes have been fitted with insulation and many residents have been supported to claim Attendance Allowance and Personal Independence Payments to help with the affordability of heating bills. If members are aware of residents vulnerable to the cold due to health conditions or disability and they are on a low income please refer them to Wyre Care and Repair and the team will do what they can to help.

3.2 Homes For Ukraine

Households and residents across Wyre continue to support Ukrainian families and individuals who have fled the conflict in Ukraine. Under the Homes For Ukraine scheme we have 39 Ukrainian guests being supported in 25 sponsor homes. The Council continues to support the guests with practical assistance and advice and we make monthly thank you payments on behalf of the Government to the sponsors. The housing team continue to inspect the homes of any new sponsors coming forwards.

4. Wyre Beach Management Scheme

- 4.1 I am pleased to report that the recently completed Phase 1 of the Wyre Beach Management Scheme has received two National awards. The first being the Considerate Constructors scheme site award for community engagement for social value initiatives and the second being the Scape Framework is the People's Choice Award.
- 4.2 Delivery of Phase 2 of the works is continuing on target. Rock installation will continue to focus on the tank traps area adjacent to Rossall School. Stockpiles of Rock will continue to be built up across Cleveleys and Rossall South as required. Concrete works are focusing on the Cleveleys crossover ramps. Navigation markers to the southern area are now fully installed.
- 4.3 In order to satisfy the MMO an outline plan was produced by consultants Jacobs prior to Christmas to ensure there is no delay to work in the Northern areas.
- 4.4 Site welfare offices, removal of invasive vegetation and widening of accesses have been completed to the Northern Area compound. The access track and storage works are also nearing completion.

5. Working with Nature to Reduce Flooding and Improve Community Resilience

- 5.1 We are continuing to lead the regional innovation project Our Future Coast which aims to build resilience against flooding and coastal erosion, by working with coastal communities and utilising nature based solutions. Wyre currently has three schemes within the programme at Stanah, Fleetwood and Fluke Hall Marshes.
- 5.2 The Wyre Natural Flood Management scheme is supported by Wyre as a contributor to the services. The scheme is led by Wyre Rivers Trust who have reported that the contract at Far Barn near Abbeystead has been approved by the national trustees of the Grosvenor Estate. This is a big step in agreeing the contracts for all in principle and means the delivery of all the year two interventions is now agreed.

6. Bathing Water Results

- 6.1 Both of Wyre's bathing beaches at Cleveleys and Fleetwood have retained their Good water quality status. This is despite an overall national and local deterioration. We are continuing to work with Turning Tides to encourage investment, improve understanding and enhance communication on water quality issues.

7. Winter Preparedness

- 7.1 Wyre operates an out of hours emergency service which has been called upon on a regular basis in recent years. The team were on call over the Christmas period providing services such as emergency response to severe weather including flooding and ice. We work with our partners and encourage our residents to be prepared for the winter. More details can be found at this link:
<https://www.wyre.gov.uk/emergency-planning/prepare-winter/1>.

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.