

Report of:	To:	Date	Item No.
Cllr. Vivien Taylor, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder	Council	8 September 2016	8(g)

**Executive Report: 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 Health and Community Engagement Portfolio, as set out below.

**2. Community Engagement**

- 2.1** The Engagement team have been busy working on the Autumn edition of Wyre Voice, our community magazine. During the latter part of September, copies will be distributed to homes in Wyre, so watch out for your copy. Highlights of this edition include information on our new Discover Wyre website, food safety ratings, preparing for flooding and a focus on each area.
- 2.2** I have been proactively supporting the Love my Beach campaign to discourage people from feeding seagulls. Activity has included a sustained social media campaign, a new advisory section on the council's website which can be viewed at [www.wyre.gov.uk/seagulls](http://www.wyre.gov.uk/seagulls) and local signage. These have concentrated on how to avoid attacks and discouraging feeding. During September, we will be offering advice on seagull proofing buildings to prevent nesting.
- 2.3** Over the summer months, we have been heavily involved with 'Wyre In Bloom', 12 areas and over 20 neighbourhoods entered this year. Almost 30 schools took part in 'Young Wyre in Bloom' ranging from food growing projects to floral displays. Judging took place over two weeks and the results will be announced at a regional awards ceremony in October. A short film <https://youtu.be/SVB9ID26lhq> which captures the essence of the extraordinary efforts of volunteers across Wyre has been produced. This was created free of charge for us by 'Fleetwood TV', a community based film company that has previously been a beneficiary of a Shaping Your Neighbourhood grant.

### **3. Health and Wellbeing**

- 3.1** On 6 July 2016 our Food Safety Officers took a prosecution case to Blackpool Magistrates Court against the owners of Catterall House Residential Care Home, Catterall. When visiting the home our officers found mouse droppings in food storage and preparation areas, dirty and damaged structure and equipment, inadequately trained staff, inadequate pest control and inadequate record keeping. The operator admitted to thirteen Food Hygiene offences and was fined £14,000 and ordered to pay court costs of £2,285 and a £130 victim surcharge when he appeared before Blackpool Magistrates' Court. An application to prohibit him from running a food business was rejected by Magistrates because steps had been taken to improve the home. The Residential Care home, which was also being investigated by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) for poor standards and was in special measures, caters for 24 elderly and vulnerable people.
- 3.2** During the school year 2015/16 280 children took part in what was our final 'Mission Possible' food hygiene project. Coordinated by the Food Safety Section, with the help of a volunteer, we provided resources for schools to participate in the project. The project used secret agent briefcases, thermometers, torches, rulers, a UV light hand washing kit, magnetic display fridge and foods to help teach the children the importance of preventing food poisoning at home. The project was very well received by the children and any remaining training resources have now been donated to St Thomas's School, Garstang who were delighted as it will allow them to continue with the project for future years.
- 3.3** Since the start of the new Integrated Home Improvement Service contract with Lancashire County Council in June 2015, Care and Repair has installed 709 minor adaptations for clients. This work includes items such as internal banister rails, external handrails, step adaptations and ramps, for which people are assessed by occupational therapists. The aim of this work is to minimise the risk of falls, prevent admission to hospital, to facilitate hospital discharge and enable people to remain living safely in their own home for as long as they wish to. Some of the work is carried out by our own handyperson team, other work is done by our trusted contractors. All the work is managed through Care and Repair. Care and Repair is also able to make arrangements for this work to be carried out for people who choose to pay themselves, rather than wait for an occupational therapist assessment.
- 3.4** The biennial resident survey, Life In Wyre, is due for public release the week commencing 3 October 2016. The survey will be available to all residents online via [www.wyre.gov.uk/lifeinwyre](http://www.wyre.gov.uk/lifeinwyre) and posted to a random sample of 3,000 households. We are currently working with Fylde and Wyre Clinical Commissioning Group to generate questions to capture the awareness of residents' and their behaviour when it comes to using local health services. There will also be a section on opportunities and access to health services online. The CCG have contributed financially to the cost of the survey.

#### **4. Comments and Questions**

- 4.1** 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.

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