

Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor Lynne Bowen, Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder	Council	6 February 2020

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. Wyre Community Lottery

- 2.1** I am pleased to report that we formally launched our new community lottery to local good causes on 22 January at an event at the Civic Centre. Over 80 people attended and there has been lots of interest from local charities and groups in signing up for the lottery. The Wyre Community Lottery has the potential to help local voluntary and community organisations by providing funding support. It is a weekly draw and will see 60% of proceeds being given to local good causes. Tickets for the lottery will be available from 18 February and will cost £1 each. Every ticket will have a 1 in 50 chance to win a prize, with a top prize of £25,000. The first draw will take place on Saturday 21 March.
- 2.2** Good causes that support the Wyre Community Lottery can get their own page on the Wyre Community Lottery website. They will keep 50% of all income from the tickets sold through their page, with 10% going to Wyre's Community Fund, which will support further good causes locally. Applications to join the lottery are all done online through the dedicated website www.wyrelottery.co.uk.

3. Arts and Events

- 3.1** A number of programmes and projects are continuing or are being developed. The Just Reminiscing work is branching out into residential settings in Fleetwood and the successful Fun Arts continues to be held at Garstang Library. Chatawayz (a thematic creative reminiscence project) will start in March in Over Wyre and Treasures, a project with children who have emotional and behavioural difficulties is being developed with an ambition to showcase some of the work at this year's Garstang Scarecrow Festival.

4. Volunteering

- 4.1** We are working in partnership with Lancashire Wildlife Trust's My Place project to deliver group based conservation led sessions at Cottam Hall Community Garden and Tower Wood. The weekly sessions started in January and are benefiting local residents by supporting them in discovering a natural way to wellbeing. People can be referred by organisations such as the NHS and the Job Centre but people can also self-refer into to the programme.
- 4.2** Following on from the re-development of Cottam Hall community garden in 2019 and the partnership between the council and Blackpool Sixth Form, "Lads and Sheds" will be starting from March 2020. These sessions will be every Wednesday 2-4pm and will support male students to use the garden as a space to improve their health and wellbeing.

5. Health and Wellbeing

- 5.1** We have supported the SASS group, a group of active Fleetwood ladies that celebrate and support positive mental health and wellbeing, in launching a 'Happy to Chat' bench on Lord Street next to St Peter's Church. The signed bench is a simple way to address social isolation and acknowledges that taking time to stop for a moment to say "Hello" and "How are you today?" to someone sat at the bench can have a massive impact on their wellbeing especially for people that may not have someone to talk with, or is feeling alone. This idea has originated from the Burnham-On-Sea Chat Bench which is now gaining global attention. It is hoped this proves to be something we can do more of across Wyre.
- 5.2** We have recently supported Lancashire County Council in the submission of a bid to the Shaping Places for Healthier Lives initiative. This grant programme aims to create conditions for better health by enabling local partners to work together to tackle the wider determinants of health. The Lancashire bid focusses on addressing infant/child mortality and children's health. I will keep you updated on whether this bid is successful.

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.