**NEWS**

**PCN Networking Event – Tomorrow**

There is still just a few places left for tomorrow’s PCN Networking Event which takes place at 10am in Room A, Preston Town Hall. If you are attending, please arrive promptly as the programme is quite busy.  
Details of speakers are below:

* Rob Larcombe (Preston City Council) & Paul Blythin (Preston Place Partnership Health & Sport Initiative) will be discussing the Preston Place Partnership and Place Expansion.
* Kayleigh Robinson (Lancashire County Council) will update on the social prescribing strategy which will affect many members.
* Jennifer Hanley (Preston City Council) will speak on PCC's community wealth building strategy.
* Rachel Coupe (Green Rose CIC) will speak on Green Rose’s free council-backed home energy advice, keeping warm and saving money.

If you wish to attend, please fill in the following registration form, we would love to see as many of our members there as possible:  
[PCN Networking Event - November 13th – Fill in form](https://forms.office.com/e/8Ln546CYp6)

**PCN Benefit & Poverty Group Meeting**We have another meeting of our Benefit & Poverty Group next Thursday (November 20th), at 10am in Preston Town Hall. At this meeting, we are delighted to advise that Adam Kenny from the Policy in Practice Group will give a short presentation detailing the LIFT (Low Income Family Tracker).

It is a great opportunity to meet and collaborate with some of our other member groups who deal with the subject.  
If you wish to attend, even if you have not attended any previous meetings, please let me know via email - [glennm@prestoncn.org](mailto:glennm@prestoncn.org?subject=Benefits%20%26%20Poverty%20Group).

**Help with Accounts**

We have received a number of recent inquiries from members in respect of assistance with accounts matters.

Community CVS which is based in Blackburn but covers most of the Preston area are launching a great new scheme specifically designed to offer a helping hand to small charity or community organisations who may be struggling with such issues.

The group are planning to offer affordable, tailored bookkeeping services designed specifically for those who may be struggling to keep up with issues such as year end accounts reporting, regular bookkeeping issues or simply need someone to take the pressure off.

The scheme is set to launch in January and the group have stressed that it will aim to provide direct help rather than training in accounts matters.

If you think your group may be interested in this service, drop an email to Tony at [tonyd@prestoncn.org](mailto:tonyd@prestoncn.org) and we will contact you when we have more information.

**Preston Markets Disabled Parking**

Preston City Council have advised us that for those visiting Preston Markets, there is no longer any disabled parking available on Earl Street due to the ongoing works at Amounderness House.

Alternative disabled parking is available on Birley Street.

**Preston Residents Card**

GLL, a charitable social enterprise and worker-owned co-op operating under the 'Better' brand, has announced the introduction of a new Resident Discount Card offering savings on swimming, gym, fitness classes and hot drinks at Fulwood and West View Leisure Centres.

This new initiative started on November 1 as a collaboration between [GLL](https://www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/preston) and Preston City Council, and is supported by the [UK Government's Shared Prosperity Fund](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus) as well as match funding from GLL.

For full details, click [here.](https://www.preston.gov.uk/article/11617/Better-Leisure-Centre-in-Preston-launch-resident-discount-card)

**PNE Disabled Supporters’ Association**

We have been contacted by avid PNE fan Daniel Duckworth who with the backing of the club is setting up a fan led Preston North End disabled supporters’ association.

The group aims to bring together disabled PNE fans and improve the match day experience for everyone.

Whether you’re a supporter with a disability, a carer or just someone who cares about accessibility, you are very welcome to get involved.

To find out more or to express your interest, please email [dlo@pne.com](mailto:dlo@pne.com)

*Join The New Facebook Group!*

Connect with fellow fans, share your thoughts, and help us make a difference.

👉 Join here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1175696923889554/?ref=share>

​*First Meeting - Everyone Welcome!*

We'd love for you to join our first Zoom meeting to discuss our ideas moving forward.

* ​**Date:** Wednesday, 26th November
* ​**Time:** 7:00 PM (GMT)
* ​**Zoom Link:** Will be shared in due course.

**Resettler Support**

Renewed Horizons CIC have launched an employment support and advocacy programme aimed at Hong Kong BN(O), Ukrainian and Afghan resettlers.

If anyone wishes to refer an individual for support please contact Renewed Horizons, contact details are on the attached leaflet.

**Income Maximisation in Action**

Lancashire Anti-Poverty Network, led by Resolve Poverty and the LACVS LOCAL project held an Income Maximisation in Action event recently and you can download the accompanying slideshow [here](chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https:/mcusercontent.com/3754f6a136f6d39f017b95235/files/ee4e0746-cee2-c08a-4c3c-a7bceef89dfe/Income_Maximisation_in_Action_slides.pdf).

**YOUTH NEWS**

**Your Future, Your Choice – Apprenticeships and Careers Fair**

There is an Apprenticeship and Careers Fair taking place at Runshaw College in Leyland on Wednesday 19th November, 4.30pm to 7.00pm.  Over 40 employers will be attending on the evening. [Please see more information on the flyer attached.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/397cf6f5-932e-63f6-71f3-2e53e05dc14e.png)

**Lancashire Positive Minds Parent Carer Support Group**

[Please see details on the flyer attached](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/d924e551-0de0-7a22-6d22-cdd264b66e1c.png) about a new support group starting at Ribbleton Family Hub for parents and carers of young people with SEND and mental health difficulties.

**SPEAR – Taking new Referrals**

Just dropping you a line to let you know that referrals for our next Spear Programme beginning on the 18th November are open!

At Spear, our goal is to ensure 75% of our trainees get in into work or education and are still there a year later. It’s an ambitious target, but one that we’re committed to delivering on because we know that getting into work or training has such a significant impact on young people’s overall sense of purpose, wellbeing and long-term life outcomes.

How do we get these remarkable outcomes? Through ensuring that our young people have the **resources, skills and, crucially*, the mindsets***they need to **secure and sustain employment.**

Mindset coaching, alongside working on communication skills and interview/application technique, is really the bedrock of what we do, and it’s one of the reasons why our programme is so effective! If you know a **16–24-year-old who is NEET,** and would benefit from an employability coaching programme to **equip and empower them** to take positive steps forward, we'd love to hear from you! All you need to do to refer is email [harriet.donovan@prestonminster.org](mailto:harriet.donovan@prestonminster.org) their**full name and contact number** and we'll follow up with them directly. \*Please note that priority places are given to those who do not have a university degree.

**Intact Centre – Employability and CV Clinic**

The Intact Centre in Ingol and now offering 121 appointments for young people who need tailored employability support, it is bookings by appointment only, [please see more details on flyer attached.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/88fcde2d-c348-56d0-7173-ff351b6cd3f4.png)

**Girls 4 Girls Group – Foxton Centre**

Millbank and The Foxton are teaming up to deliver a Girls 4 Girls youth group for 11-19 year olds starting on the 12th November 2025. [See more info on the posters attached.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/23f5089a-e8a7-4f56-dd45-799160087740.png)

**SURVEY**

**A Vision for Volunteering**

The Lancashire Association of CVSs is operating the Volunteering for Health project and is currently putting together a vision for volunteering for Lancashire.

The group are looking for residents to fill out the survey, whether they are volunteers or not.

This is a great chance to have your say on the county’s volunteering strategy and the survey, which is open until the end of December, can be accessed by clicking [here.](https://forms.office.com/e/HsD5aDdds5?origin=lprLink)

**TRAINING**

**Mentoring Course**

Lancashire Adult Learning are running a level 1 mentoring course which is free for volunteers or anyone who can evidence they earning below 25k on active benefits looking for work.

And for those who don’t qualify, it costs just £47 for Lancashire residents.

The Mentoring course is a series of two three hour sessions or can be completed in one day.

For more details, email [Craig.pollard@eastlancslearning.ac.uk](mailto:Craig.pollard@eastlancslearning.ac.uk).

**FUNDING**

**Fight for Sight Digital Inclusion Fund**   
A new fund offering grants to organisations supporting blind and vision impaired people to prepare for work, apply for jobs, stay in employment, or develop digital and tech-based skills has been opened.

The Fight for Sight Digital Inclusion Fund encourages collaborative, lived-experience-led projects, applications are open until January 6 and there are more details [here.](https://www.fightforsight.org.uk/?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=20748743754&gclid=Cj0KCQiAiKzIBhCOARIsAKpKLAOFnU9acOlxnXIdeF8LVgcHVl6zITCzBKEufYCBrZhZ7vDWa4NkT2AaAmvgEALw_wcB)

**Mental Health Grant Round**   
The Kristina Martin Charitable Trust is inviting applications from charities working to improve mental health and wellbeing.

With grants of up to £50,000, this funding round focuses on four key themes: breaking the link between homelessness and poor mental health, reducing the impact of social media on mental health, tackling social isolation through community hubs, and improving mental health outcomes for children and young people.

Closing date is December 12 and there are more details [here.](https://kva.org.uk/news/kristina-martin-charitable-tru/)

**Reducing Reoffending Fund**

Applications open on December 1 for the Police and Crime Commissioner’s Reducing Reoffending Fund.

This thematic fund supports innovative, targeted, and collaborative projects that:

* Address key factors such as substance misuse, mental health, housing, and employment
* Provide mentoring, education, training, or rehabilitation-focused support
* Strengthen partnerships between criminal justice agencies, local organisations, and communities

Grants of up to £5,000 are available for eligible organisations, including charities, voluntary and community groups.

A launch event will be held on December 1, bringing together partners, applicants, and stakeholders. The session will introduce the fund, outline key details, and offer guidance on applying. Click [here](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/022dab82-6e4c-4d81-8886-5af23bd09598@9f683e26-d8b9-4609-9ec4-e1a36e4bb4d2) to register.

Further details and access to the application portal will be available via the OPCC’s grant funding page: [www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/grant-funding](http://www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/grant-funding)

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your project idea, please email [funding@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk](mailto:funding@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk). Early engagement is encouraged.

**EVENTS**

**Big Thank You Party**

Our friends at Let’s Grow Preston have reminded us they are hosting their *Our Big Thank You!* party this Friday, November 14 to celebrate their volunteers, work, and big plans for the future.

If you'd like to attend and haven't already RSVP'd, please fill out the form [here.](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeOhHvVec1vM_5ua1hEUPAJ8MeBuxaE-2AwbE48IDObUCeomw/viewform?usp=header)

[Flyer attached with more details.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/479c7b81-9b21-30aa-2178-127e021348ec.png)

And Lets Grow Preston have also launched a survey on their work, the results of which will be used to help steer and improve the charity and help current and potential funders to understand how LGP connect with the wider community.

You can access the survey [here.](https://forms.gle/PSLVrpubt6SRohoj7)

**St Catherines Hospice Awareness Event**

The Catherine Beckett Community Centre is the venue for a St Catherines Hospice Awareness Event on Tuesday, December 9.

Booking is essential and you can do so by calling 07772 111417.

[Full details on attached flyer.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/files/e58bcfbc-203c-697e-94c7-b2981d73ea8c/Girls4Girls_Activities_list.pdf)

**Family Nurture Group**

A new weekly ‘Family Nurture Group’ is now meeting at the Mill Bank Wellbeing Centre. [Details on attached flyer.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/40eb9295-3167-bf51-d73b-0d5d85dbd7f3.png)

**Disability Equality NW**

Our good friends at DENW have issued their latest round up of all their forthcoming events and activities which you can read by clicking [here.](https://disability-equality.org.uk/bulletin-41-november-2025/)

**Charity Christmas Concert**

A fundraiser concert (Company of Voyages) is taking place on December 12th for Preston Street Pastors at Central Methodist Church[. More Details are available on the attached poster](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/9be686ff-3964-73c7-3271-7687cf02136a.png) and you can get tickets by scanning the QR code.

**Preston Co-op Development Network**

A weekly business outreach service has been launched by Preston Co-op Development Network which will take place every Tuesday from next week at the Catherine Beckett Centre.

[More details on attached flyer](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/421f0682-a8a3-d02e-8e1a-5ee7ef587167.jpg) and to book an appointment, click [here.](https://forms.gle/fMLrxiGiFwEXrkfWA)

**Health Checks at St Bernards**

If you are aged 50-74, get down to St Bernards, Larches and Savick Community Hub next Thursday, November 20 for a free NHS health check. [More details on flyer.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/23835c34-9982-4c9c-8951-f46d982bf541.jpg)

**Weekly Round-up**

Below you will find a summary of events happening this week. Registration is not required unless stated. Please also keep an eye on the weekly events in Section Two of the Events section of our website [here.](https://prestoncn.org/events/)  
As always, please check with the event provider to make sure that the event is still running.

**Thursday, November 13**

10am-1pm: PCN Networking Event

Location: Room A, Preston Town Hall

**Thursday, November 13**

1pm-3pm: Community Lunch.

Hosted by Disability Equality NW in conjunction with Argento Lounge.

Location: DENW, Bannister House, Sedgwick St, Preston PR1 1TP

Free for disabled and carers. Booking essential. Email beth@disability-equality.org.uk

[**Poster here**](https://prestoncn.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/DENW-Community-Lunch.pdf)

**Friday, November 14**

11am-3pm: Let’s Grow Preston – Big Thank You Celebration.

Location: Ashton Walled Garden PR2 1HL

Free, all welcome. Come along and celebrate Let’s Grow Preston’s work and plans for the future.

To RSVP, please email [**sunflower@letsgrowpreston.org**](mailto:sunflower@letsgrowpreston.org) with your name and dietary requirements.