**Weekly News Update – October 8th, 2025**

**NEWS**

**Ongoing Briefing Paper**

A big thank you to all our groups and contacts who attended the second meeting of our Benefits Poverty Consultation Group last week.

One of the main issues we discussed was the problem of flagging up to public sector organisations such as councils, the NHS etc of the particular concerns and issues facing the VCFSE sector.

We agreed that it would be a good idea to compile a ‘briefing paper’ which Tony can refer to when he attends the various meetings of committees and other groups on behalf of the sector.

He can then bring up these issues and hopefully make some concrete progress on finding solutions.

We hope to put together the initial document by the end of the month so if you have any issues or points you wish to be raised, please drop us a quick email on [tonyd@prestoncn.org](mailto:tonyd@prestoncn.org).

For your information, there is a Health and Wellbeing Partnership meeting in early November and Tony is also meeting with David Carter of the Preston Digital Co-operative Project soon so any particular queries in these areas would be very relevant.

**Winter Support**

Preston City Council are currently developing a winter support resource for residents and looking to include as much localised support as possible.

If you are providing any sort of winter community support such as providing a safe and warm space, offering information or a service or any other community support that will ease winter stresses for individuals and families, please contact Bernie on [B.Smith@preston.gov.uk](mailto:B.Smith@preston.gov.uk) .

The information will be shared on the Help in Preston website as well as a printable document.

**Lung Cancer Screening**

The NHS Lung Cancer Screening programme is currently inviting eligible residents in Preston.

The eligibility criteria is:

* Aged 55-74,
* A current or former smoker, and
* Registered with a Preston GP.

The mobile CT van is located at Tesco, Blackpool Road until Spring 2026.

For more information about the programme, visit [Cancer Alliance :: Lung cancer screening](https://www.healthierlsc.co.uk/our-work/canceralliance/lungcancerscreening).

If your group would like resources or more information about the Preston rollout, please contact [abigail.greaves@nhs.net](mailto:abigail.greaves@nhs.net).

**Does someone you know deserve to be on the Honours List?**

Lancashire is under represented when Honours are awarded, so why not nominate an individual in our organisation or community who is doing wonderful voluntary work which should be recognised nationally?

Please click this [link](https://www.gov.uk/honours/nominate-someone-in-the-uk) to put forward an application for any individual you feel should be considered for the British Empire Medal or other national honour.

If an application is made, please inform Gulab Singh, liaison officer for Mrs Amanda Parker JP who is the Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, so he can advise her of the submission.

And as we mentioned last week, Mr Singh is also compiling his six monthly report of activities in the VCFSE sector in the Preston area and has asked if any key milestones have taken place or any new initiatives launched which he could include in the report.

Please send details to [gsb241955@gamil.com](mailto:gsb241955@gamil.com) by October 17.

**Flu Vaccinations**

The NHS's Mobile Health & Wellbeing Hub🚐 will be parked up at:

* Preston Bus Station on Thursday the 16th of October between 10am - 4pm.
* Deepdale Stadium next to the Minerva Centre on Friday the 10th and 24th of October between 10am - 4pm.
* The Intact Centre on Monday the 20th of October between 10am - 4pm.
* Preston Flag Market on Saturday 18th and Wednesday 29th between 10am - 4pm

Everyone who is eligible for a flu jab can stop by the van and get vaccinated by NHS staff - no appointments necessary.

For many people winter viruses are unpleasant, but for some they can be life-threatening.

Vaccines help stop the spread of illness, protecting not just you but your family, friends, and neighbours too.

The Mobile Health & Wellbeing Hub will be going around community venues and our town centres during October, offering winter vaccines.

**Preston City Strategy**

At the recent Health and Wellbeing Strategy meeting, Preston City Council representatives shared the newly drafted City Strategy, [a copy of which is attached](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/files/0c86769e-f35d-a262-539d-91ea83efdad5/City_Strategy_Council_Version.docx).

A Health and Wellbeing strategy is being drawn up to lie below this.

If you have any comments or suggestions on the strategy, please email us and we will pass on.

**YOUTH NEWS**

**Intact – Jobs Fair**

There is a jobs fair taking place at the Intact Centre in Ingol on Wednesday 22nd October 10am-2pm. [More info on the poster attached.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/c36ba63a-71b6-90d5-f737-0688c8e236a8.png)

**Preston Safer Streets Campaign**

On Saturday 1st November, the first of a series of Safer Streets events will be held in the City Centre. The focus will be on the hours of the evening and nighttime economy on Saturday nights in December until Christmas and then on New Year's Eve.

This is a partnership initiative to help to keep the city centre safe for everyone enjoying a night out. We are asking partners to join us where they feel that they can make a difference using their knowledge and skills to assist people who are vulnerable and in need of help.

Street Safety Officers, Kentdale First Aiders and Paramedics, and the members of the Council's Community Safety Team will be out and about on patrols , and  the camera operators will be linked in by radio.

On 1st November, Safer Streets will operate between 18.00 until 02.00 the following morning, but partners are encouraged to take part during hours which will suit their own working arrangements.

If you wish to get involved, email [a.hatton@preston.gov.uk](mailto:a.hatton@preston.gov.uk), please let me know at the earliest opportunity. The aim is to have a brief planning meeting ahead of the weekend and to arrange publicity which raises awareness of Safer Streets and the partners and services involved.

**The Youth Voice Census**

This year, over 8,000 young people across the UK opened up about their lives, opinions, and futures.

Using our national survey and in-person sessions, we’ve turned their collective voices into a powerful picture of what it's really like being a young person in the UK today.

This year’s [**Youth Voice Census report**](https://youthemployment.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=70caae848e89336192a28b0d0&id=5797967496&e=052e2a7326) shares one of contradiction. While many young people value their education and local communities and highlight growing support, wellbeing remains fragile, preparation for work is patchy, and opportunities to build skills and confidence are shrinking.

Read the full report here - [Youth Voice Census Results | 2025](https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/youth-voice-census/results/?utm_source=Youth+Employment+UK+News&utm_campaign=7856024188-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2024_04_30_09_45_COPY_02&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-a53b0ca703-149099407)

**Training Opportunities from WithYou**

Please see below for the current training offers from WithYou, the young people's substance use service commissioned by LCC Public Health, delivering in Lancashire.

The training is available as per below face-to-face or online.

* Thursday 23rd October: 11-12 - Let's Talk THC and Cannabis - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1145661407109?aff=oddtdtcreator>
* Friday 24th October: 2-3 - Let's Talk Ketamine - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/999161698537?aff=oddtdtcreator>
* Tuesday 28th October: 1-2 - Let's Talk Aerosols (Chroming) - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1128685321179?aff=oddtdtcreator>
* Thursday 30th October 1-2:30 - Drug and Alcohol Awareness - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1004365222417?aff=oddtdtcreator>

**FUNDING**

**Funding Newsletter**

[The final edition of the Quarterly Funding Newsletter produced by the Lancs and South Cumbria Foundation Trust’s Community Asset Development Team is attached.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/473a6935-772e-651f-a447-378f22d56ed5.png)

Please note the group will now be joining the *Community Roots* initiative and due to new arrangements will no longer be producing the resource.

Some of the opportunities included are also listed below.

**Cultural Bridge Fund**   
Applications are now being invited for grants from The Cultural Bridge Fund which supports two tiers of grants, ranging from £5,000 to £30,000.

This round prioritises smaller organisations, rural and under-represented communities, and those championing equity, diversity and inclusion.

Closing date is November 12 and you can find more information by clicking [here.](https://www.cultural-bridge.info/funding/)

**Skipton Building Society Charitable Foundation**   
Grants are available from the Skipton Building Society Charitable Foundation for charitable work that helps people experiencing hardship.

Awards of up to £10,000 are available and closing date is October 31.

For more information, click [here.](https://www.skiptoncharitablefoundation.co.uk/)

**Linnean Society Local Nature Grants**   
Small grants for community organisations are available from The Linnean Society for projects and activities that engage young people with local nature and natural spaces and improve their understanding of local biodiversity.

Apply by October 25 and click [here](https://www.linnean.org/the-society/medals-awards-prizes-grants/our-local-nature-grants) for more details.

**Schroder Trust**

Grants to charities for core or project costs are available from the Schroder Charity Trust.

Details [here](https://communitycvs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3754f6a136f6d39f017b95235&id=74b36ac8b1&e=f105be099a) and deadline is November 30.

**Albert Gubay Charitable Foundation**

Applications for grants to groups for projects benefitting disadvantaged people and communities are being taken by the Albert Gubay Foundation.

It’s a rolling programme and for details, click [here.](https://communitycvs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3754f6a136f6d39f017b95235&id=c58e989405&e=f105be099a)

**Chorley Building Society**

Applications for awards to groups for community work are now being taken by the Chorley Building Society ‘High Five’ fund.

Details [here](https://communitycvs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3754f6a136f6d39f017b95235&id=94d8042c86&e=f105be099a) and no deadline date advised.

**Progress Housing Community Investment**

Awards to groups for projects benefitting communities are being made via the Progress Housing Community Investment grant.

For details, click [here](https://communitycvs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3754f6a136f6d39f017b95235&id=cdeb996d5e&e=f105be099a) and no deadline date advised.

**TRAINING**

**Breaking Down Barriers**

DanceSyndrome are delighted to be co-delivering a 'Breaking Down Barriers' Workshop online on Monday, 10th November from 10am - 430pm. This is designed for Dance and Art Professionals who are looking to ensure their delivery and facilitation of sessions is inclusive.

This will be an interactive session, and provide experiential learning, and there will be plenty of screen breaks.

All the details and how to book on to this workshop are here:  [Breaking Down Barriers Online Course | DanceSyndrome](https://dancesyndrome.co.uk/breaking-down-barriers/)

**A free essential guide to workplace health & safety**

Want to ensure you’re managing risk effectively, staying compliant with UK law, and providing a safe workplace?  
[WorkNest](https://public-eur.mkt.dynamics.com/api/orgs/71c14ca0-6bc3-46f4-82cf-544488ab1ae7/r/inNZ3aH80UqEOHgi11ICAAYAAAA?msdynmkt_target=%7B%22TargetUrl%22%3A%22https%253A%252F%252Fwww.ncvo.org.uk%252Fabout-us%252Four-services%252Ftrusted-suppliers%252Fhr-recruitment%252Fworknest%252F%22%2C%22RedirectOptions%22%3A%7B%221%22%3Anull%2C%222%22%3A%7B%22utm_source%22%3A%22Dynamics%20365%20Customer%20Insights%20-%20Journeys%22%2C%22utm_medium%22%3A%22email%22%2C%22utm_term%22%3A%22N%2FA%22%2C%22utm_campaign%22%3A%22MKT%20%7C%20Trusted%20supplier%20bulletin%20%7C%20October%22%2C%22utm_content%22%3A%22MKT%20%7C%20Trusted%20supplier%20bulletin%20%7C%20October%202025%22%7D%7D%7D&msdynmkt_digest=sU%2FJdJxGWVkc6O2xb7rmPeA4Csp3B4s12RJOZ9MFlNs%3D&msdynmkt_secretVersion=7bb221762d0c46939816d3a5592b1359) has produced a free health and safety essentials checklist, specifically tailored to small organisations.

[Download the checklist.](https://public-eur.mkt.dynamics.com/api/orgs/71c14ca0-6bc3-46f4-82cf-544488ab1ae7/r/inNZ3aH80UqEOHgi11ICAAcAAAA?msdynmkt_target=%7B%22TargetUrl%22%3A%22https%253A%252F%252Fworknest.com%252Fapps%252Faccess-your-content-partner%252F%253Fdoc%253Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fwn.worknest.com%252Fl%252F398692%252F2025-08-08%252Fdk75xx%252F398692%252F1754668213HeYs5Q28%252FHealth_and_Safety_Essentials_Checklist_080825.pdf%253Fv%253DNCVO%22%2C%22RedirectOptions%22%3A%7B%225%22%3Anull%2C%221%22%3Anull%2C%222%22%3A%7B%22utm_source%22%3A%22Dynamics%20365%20Customer%20Insights%20-%20Journeys%22%2C%22utm_medium%22%3A%22email%22%2C%22utm_term%22%3A%22N%2FA%22%2C%22utm_campaign%22%3A%22MKT%20%7C%20Trusted%20supplier%20bulletin%20%7C%20October%22%2C%22utm_content%22%3A%22MKT%20%7C%20Trusted%20supplier%20bulletin%20%7C%20October%202025%22%7D%7D%7D&msdynmkt_digest=MI%2FVh1QmHRvGWfjHtF2gEE6138tzja1wVaYf4eIjsI4%3D&msdynmkt_secretVersion=7bb221762d0c46939816d3a5592b1359)

**Free Personalised Care Training Courses**

See below for upcoming dates for the Personalised Care Training offer with Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB. If you can click on the link/s below to access the booking form for the relevant course/s. It will also give you further information around what the course entails.

There are limited spaces for all the training, and it will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis. If you do book on and can no longer make it, please let us know as soon as possible so we can offer the space to someone on the waiting list. We also request that for any of the face-to-face courses please do let us know around any dietary and learning requirements.

* MECC Train the Trainer (Face to Face): [MECC Train the Trainer by Active Lancashire on cademy.io](https://activelancashire.cademy.io/mecc-train-the-trainer)
* MECC 90 Minutes (Online):  [MECC 90mins Online Familiarisation / Refresher by Active Lancashire on cademy.io](https://activelancashire.cademy.io/mecc-90mins-online-training-refresher)
* MECC for Physical Activity: [MECC for Physical Activity by Active Lancashire on cademy.io](https://activelancashire.cademy.io/mecc-for-physical-activity)
* MECC for Mental Health:  [MECC for Mental Health by Active Lancashire on cademy.io](https://activelancashire.cademy.io/mecc-for-mental-health)
* Self-Supported Management (formerly PAM training): [Self-Supported Management (formerly PAM training) by Active Lancashire on cademy.io](https://activelancashire.cademy.io/patient-activation-measure-pam)
* Health Coaching Day 1 and Day 2 (Core Skills): [Health Coaching - 2 day by Active Lancashire on cademy.io](https://activelancashire.cademy.io/health-coaching-2-day)

**EVENTS**

**Black History Month**

One of the most popular events of the year in the city is Preston Black History Month.

Once again in 2025, Clinton and his wonderful team at Preston Black History Group have arranged a fantastic programme of free events to which you are all invited.

[Please see attached flyer for details.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/files/69bb0cb6-58ab-786e-5241-5c1407a36f1c/Black_History_month_October_2025_1_.docx)

**Wheels for All**

There are a number of events for the city’s ever growing cycling community coming up with our member group Preston Pedals involved with the programme.

Preston City Council have teamed up with Wheels for All charity for an accessible riding event with the charity providing a range of adapted cycles for those with additional needs.

The events takes place on Wednesday, October 22 at the Let’s Grow Preston walled garden on Ashton Park where sessions will start at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm and 1.30pm.

To book your place or register your email for future sessions, just e-mail your name/s and which sessions you would like to attend to [stuart.lockton@wheelsforall.org.uk](mailto:stuart.lockton@wheelsforall.org.uk)

In addition. Preston Pedals are creating new cycling route maps in the city and as part of the projects they are meeting on Saturday, November 1 at The Hub on Grange Park, Ribbleton between 11am and 2pm.

Find out more about the event and book your place via this [link](https://eventbrite.pulse.ly/e8pj2bjtfw?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAYnJpZBEwdVp0ZFlXY1p3cmgyU1hGaQEecxVgzWF_OZv4vkDmeIlmOnPndlh0su7OnoXN6-sQI9oEISFUmyJMvJm8XmI_aem_U_TPOCuqrRYjivhDB3tHQA).

No experience needed– just bring your ideas and enthusiasm. Refreshments available.

**Active Lancashire**

Autumn is with us but Active Lancashire are as busy as ever and you can visit their October noticeboard [here.](https://activatenoticeboard.my.canva.site/activate-noticeboard)

**Living Wage Event**

Would your group like to become an Accredited Living Wage Employer?

Find out more at a special event organised by our friends at Preston City Council.

[Flyer attached.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/213e5b6a-8130-9008-6886-af103a7b14be.png)

**The Foxton**

The newly rebuilt Foxton Centre really is a fantastic community facility and there’s a busy programme of events coming up which appeal to all interests including a walking group and advice session on benefits.

See attached flyers for details. [(1)](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/10d6bddf-eb8b-dcc8-cbc7-59f96fae9c37.png) [(2)](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/96f3961a-1e39-c391-5992-8a6e73659ce0.png) [(3)](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/cbc39075-88c1-3826-29e0-ec232f66e10f.png) [(4)](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/50380dc7-8f78-9680-c630-8c022bb46a89.png)

**Lived Experience Careers Fair**

Lancashire Skills Hub and Changing Futures Lancashire are hosting a careers fair for people who have previous lived experience of difficult issues such as:

* Homelessness
* Addiction
* Domestic abuse
* Prison
* Mental Health problems

In the morning session attendees will explore the unique contribution people with lived experience can make for businesses and organisations and in the afternoon those with lived experience will have the opportunity to link up with a wide range of employers and training providers to find out about employment opportunities.

The event takes place at Preston North End FC’s Deepdale stadium from 10am -3pm on Tuesday, November 25.

If your organisation would like to host a stall at the event, or if you would like to nominate/invite some volunteers with lived experience to attend for free, please email [P.griffiths@preston.gov.uk](mailto:P.griffiths@preston.gov.uk)

[More details on attached flyer.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/473a6935-772e-651f-a447-378f22d56ed5.png)

**Preston Muslim Forum & PMGHS** **collaboration on MALE HEALTH EVENT**

Join us for Chai and a Chat. This session will be delivered by NHS professionals who will be talking about cancer awareness and screening. Free health checks will also be available on the day. We look forward to meeting you where we can have an open, safe and non-judgemental chat on Mens health.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/chat-and-chai-mens-health-event-tickets-1742829382599?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl>

**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.

**Wednesday, October 8**

*5.40pm:* Free Talk hosted by the University of Lancashire.‘Growing Up Human’ looks at why humans take longer than any other species to ‘grow up’ and will take place on  at 5.40pm at the Mitchell and Kenyon Cinema, Foster Building.

Please book for free [here](https://growinguphuman.eventbrite.co.uk/).

**Thursday, October 9**

*9.30am-11am: First* meeting of new womens’ group.

Come down and help design the group. Little ones welcome.

Location: The Foxton Centre, Knowsley St, PR1 3SA.

**Saturday, October 11**

*10:45am – 2pm:* MALE HEALTH EVENT

Location: Preston Muslim Girls High School, Deepdale Mill Street Preston PR1 5BY

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/chat-and-chai-mens-health-event-tickets-1742829382599?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl>

**Sunday, October 12**

*11.30am:* Bereavement Wellbeing Walk.

Location: Brockholes Nature Reserve, Preston.

Free, women only.

Please register beforehand by emailing [info@mbss.org.uk](mailto:info@mbss.org.uk)

**Monday, October 13**

*1:30pm:* Battle of Bamber Bridge History walk

In 1943 the residents of Bamber Bridge stood in solidarity with Black American GI’s who were stationed in the village against the wishes of the American military who were allowed to import Jim Crowe laws from America.

In June 1943 tensions boiled over and a five-hour gun battle took place between Black American GI’s and White Military Police, resulting in the death of one Black GI Private William Crossland. The walk takes back along the route taken by the GI’s in 1943.

Venue: Ye Olde Hob Inn 8-9 Church Road. Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 6EP. Walk begins at 13.30, duration approximately 90 minutes. This is a free event.

**Wednesday, October 15**

*6.30pm:* One Voice Community Choir Concert. All proceeds to  St Bernards Ashton’s Food Aid Group.

Location: St Bernards, Larches and Savick Community Hub.

Free. Admission by food donation.