**NEWS**

**PCN Networking Event**We would love to invite you to our next networking event, taking place on November 13th at 10am in Room A, Preston Town Hall.  
Details of speakers are below:

* 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.
* Rob Larcombe (Preston City Council) & Paul Blythin (Preston Place Partnership Health & Sport Initiative) will be discussing the Preston Place Partnership and Place Expansion.

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)

**Third Sector Trends in England and Wales 2025**

The Third Sector Trends project has been surveying the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector every three years since 2010.

In 2025, 8,680 responses were received across England and Wales.

The first report from the 2025 survey has just been published, and focuses in particular on such live issues as:

Are charities walking away from government contracts to deliver public services?

Support from business is currently in decline, can that be fixed?

In addition, the following conclusions were reached.

The collaborative culture of the voluntary sector has become more selective but remains strong

The voluntary sector has not been deterred from Influencing social and public policy.

If you would like a copy of the full report, please email PCN.

**Educate Preston**

Spearheaded by the University of Lancashire, Educate Preston is a project focused on highlighting the range of learning opportunities available to people across the city and the opportunities that exist regardless of age, experience or previous education.

The project is being run in partnership with Cardinal Newman College and Preston College and is funded by the Towns Fund and Preston City Council,

It is hoped new possibilities will be opened up to those seeking to learn new skills, move into work or change careers.

Together, the three education providers in Preston are visible across the city through staffing ‘pop-up’ exhibitions at various locations and events.

Staffed by friendly, approachable colleagues from the University and the two colleges, they can answer any questions and support people with finding the course for them.

Through this accessible approach, Educate Preston will highlight the opportunities that exist to those who may not feel confident in approaching providers directly.

The accessibility of learning opportunities is further enhanced through the initiative’s website [www.educatepreston.ac.uk](http://www.educatepreston.ac.uk)

This site provides a route for prospective students to learn more about the educational opportunities available via submitting a simple set of questions, after which a member of the team will make contact to better understand their needs.

This focus is designed to breakdown any barriers to accessing education.

Over the course of the project, it is hoped Educate Preston will support 2,500 learners and facilitate the enrolment of 500 learners in new education and training courses.

For contact details and more information, see the website and please share this information with any service users who may be interested.

**Briefing Paper**

As we have previously mentioned, we are now putting together a ‘briefing paper’ which Tony can refer to when he attends the various meetings of committees and other groups on behalf of the sector.

This will be updated on an ongoing basis from you with information received from you our members.

After further discussions, we have decided to also produce a related document which will include projects and initiatives which our members are engaged with.

We hope that by publicising and circulating this information, fellow members can pick out projects of interest, contact each other and hopefully collaborate with work and not only save time and money but avoid duplication.

We would like to ask all members engaged in any project, large or small, to let us know and we will compile the document accordingly.

For all contributions and also any issues you would like including in the briefing paper, or if you would like more details of the forums and groups we can access, please drop us a quick email on [tonyd@prestoncn.org](mailto:tonyd@prestoncn.org).

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Preston Domestic Violence Services – a New Name ?**

For more than 30 years, Preston Domestic Violence Service (PDVS) have proudly supported individuals and families across Preston to find safety, rebuild confidence and move forward from abuse.

PDVS have now decided on an exciting new re-brand to reflect who they are today and the future they are building, and they’d love your help to come up with a new name that represents their service, mission and Preston roots.

Please leave any suggestions in the thread you will see on PDVS’s Facebook page or email us and we’ll pass the suggestion on.

**YOUTH NEWS**

**Vault Youth Zone – Huge Recruitment Drive**

With the building in the final stages of development, Vault Youth Zone in Preston is recruiting to build a team to work with the young people of Preston to empower futures and unlock their potential.

This major recruitment drive will see the creation of up to 50 part-time jobs. Following the recruitment of a full-time youth work coordinator team this summer to manage and oversee the charity's activities and provide support and inspiration for young people in Preston, Vault is now seeking up to 50 part-time youth work staff to deliver a host of activities when it opens later this year, including sport, performing arts and enterprise.

Applicants don't need to have previous experience of youth work, just the drive and passion to make a difference. All positions are between 8 - 24 hours per week.

Roles available to apply for are:

* Arts Youth Worker - Arts and Crafts
* Arts Youth Worker - Film and Multimedia
* Arts Youth Worker - Music and Podcasting
* Arts Youth Worker - Performing Arts and/or Drama
* Sports Youth Worker - Boxing and Martial Arts
* Sports Youth Worker - Indoor Climbing Wall
* Sports Youth Worker - Sports Hall and Multi-Use Games Area (3G Pitch)
* Youth Worker - Health & Wellbeing
* Youth Worker - Inclusion
* Youth Worker - Recreational/Youth Engagement/Projects
* Youth Worker - Training Kitchen

In addition to these youth work roles, part-time positions are also available for cleaning operatives, reception team members, and catering assistants.

Anyone interested in these positions can apply by visiting [Vault Youth Zone - Get Involved](https://www.vaultyouthzone.org/get-involved/vacancies/)

**Her Space Project – Kirkham Community Centre**

**‘Her Space’** is a 12-week group project for girls aged 12–17 who have experienced, or are at risk of, unhealthy relationships. The group provides a safe and supportive space where participants can explore topics such as healthy relationships, personal safety, emotional wellbeing, and self-esteem.

Through peer support, positive role models, and input from specialist services, the project aims to empower girls with the knowledge and confidence to make informed decisions and build resilience. Referrals are welcomed from professionals working with young people who may benefit from this intervention.

The project will be held at *Kirkham Community Centre from 16:00-18:00.*

In order to attend, a referral form must be completed and sent back to [daisy.sheridan@afcfylde.co.uk](mailto:daisy.sheridan@afcfylde.co.uk) .The participant should have experience of VAWG (Violence against women and girls) or at risk or experiencing VAWG.

**Free Performance Workshop for young people 24-26th November**

Avital Raz is teaming up with Soundskills to deliver a FREE 3 day performance workshop for young people aged 16-25. **To get a place you must email** [**avitalraz@gmail.com**](mailto:avitalraz@gmail.com). Free lunch is included, more info and how to get involved is in the [flyer attached.](https://mcusercontent.com/8f80d5c0d69f3e179cf8a467a/images/6c2bdfbd-8e75-ea8a-a23d-ba6a70e96ef8.png)

**Warehousing Routeway Training Course**

Please see detail on [flyer attached](https://mcusercontent.com/8f80d5c0d69f3e179cf8a467a/images/811018f1-6239-fbfc-4cff-90805420cd6f.png) about a new Warehousing training course starting in Preston on the 6th November for any young people aged 19+

**Where’s The Harm? Knives – Event Tuesday 11th November**

Where’s the Harm? Knives event, delivered in collaboration with the Lancashire Trading Standards. The event will take place at Inspire Chorley, Youth Zone on Tuesday 11th November 1:00–3:00 pm.

The event will:

* Introduce the Knife - Responsible Retailer Scheme.
* Explore how the scheme supports local businesses.
* Discuss its impact on young people.
* Highlight the wider partnership work happening across Lancashire to reduce knife related harm in our communities.

After the presentation light refreshments will be served, and you’ll have the opportunity to visit a marketplace and network with partners who will be sharing information and resources.

Please confirm your attendance by Friday 7th November at  [Where's the harm? Partnership Event Tickets, Tue, Nov 11, 2025 at 1:00 PM | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/wheres-the-harm-partnership-event-tickets-1870046211559?aff=oddtdtcreator&_gl=1*1mkv9pu*_up*MQ..*_ga*MTA1ODI3NzYxMC4xNzYxMzAzMjA0*_ga_TQVES5V6SH*czE3NjEzMDMyMDQkbzEkZzAkdDE3NjEzMDMyMDQkajYwJGwwJGgw)

If you have any questions or need further information, please don’t hesitate to get in touch. We’d also appreciate it if you could share the event details with colleagues and partner organisations who may find it valuable to attend.

**SURVEYS**

**TRAINING**

**FUNDING**

**Spring North Awards**

A reminder that Spring North have launched their awards scheme for this year.

The organisation have simplified the application process and it involves just three questions for your chance to secure a £2,500 grant to help you develop your work, reach more people, and continue making a difference.

All applications across three categories will be considered for the special Not-for-Profit Award, with the winner receiving a £2,500 grant to support their community work.

Click the link [**here**](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fspringnorth.org.uk%2Fnews%2Fspring-north-2026-awards%2F%3Ffbclid%3DIwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAYnJpZBEwWWVvVkNGSk1MSkpFSkpKcAEegyu7vZrsplFtN8wjl4r_hXzaLs91sH9e6Hf2jIA2m66KHDJh1wATRKmCwUM_aem_f2v2hYXP5HJVfeJha7kAww&h=AT0f5bExWyhCQ7yflC66fnmoS63GlYOlZXWDPerGjDlYTvvIRzl-5cfYYM6hg_zfZayHD6dCUPAYoi1jxM1izvlGTL5IaEEpF-pBEP_B6cyGgPbhNT64PHZ91jheT8CLqvZIFEUYL2tHlvqz&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT0Skp5qTm65w2cKvuRb4PNJXY8qfMIsZv-hG35Wg0lGMxb2zXeYbNA6abUcqgKf7vUlkHVva3gk3BrDXifIr28ytDViZQotIPGuRxJlDDsIGpXvxkbMqJGviBnyu7Kg8MUbvCHKuuTW612TuECkuWNRB1OVGw6sfqpufSgcTdU9zhkc2sk4sr40etKBqw) for more information and to apply.

**Naturesave Trust Biodiversity Grants**   
The theme for Naturesave’s third round of funding for 2025 is biodiversity.

Grants of up to £5,000 are available for charities and community groups for projects that support biodiversity through planting, creating gardens, wildlife surveys, habitat restoration and a range of other activities.

Apply by November 27 by clicking [here.](https://www.naturesave.co.uk/naturesave-trust/apply-to-the-naturesave-trust/)

**Help the Homeless**

Applications are invited by Help the Homeless for capital grants for projects supporting people moving beyond homelessness through recovery, stability and reintegration.

Funding is aimed at practical projects such as training initiatives and residential facilities providing long-term support but will not cover core running costs.

The next application deadline is December 15. More details [here.](https://www.help-the-homeless.org.uk/applying-for-funding)

**The Clothworkers’ Foundation**

Grants to groups for work supporting disadvantaged and marginalised people are available from the Clothworkers’ Foundation on a rolling basis*.*

For application details, click [**here.**](https://communitycvs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3754f6a136f6d39f017b95235&id=055d09d22f&e=f105be099a)

**James Tudor Foundation**

Applications are invited by the James Tudor Foundation for grants to groups for relief of human sickness.

Deadline is Wednesday, November 5 and for full details, click [here.](https://communitycvs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3754f6a136f6d39f017b95235&id=f8640088d2&e=f105be099a)

**Social Investment Business**

Youth organisations can apply to the Social Investment Business group for equipment to enhance facilities.

Deadline is Thursday, November 6 and for more information and application details, click [here.](https://communitycvs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3754f6a136f6d39f017b95235&id=d9629c5a62&e=f105be099a)

**EVENTS**

**Living Wage Breakfast**

A reminder of the upcoming breakfast event organised by Preston City Council to celebrate the city’s Living Wage employers.

[Living Wage Foundation](https://www.livingwage.org.uk/) accreditation is great way to make your organisation stand out as an ethical and values-led enterprise, while showing your employees how much you value them.

Accreditation is a simple process, and it often takes no more than an hour to get accredited.

And as we have previously advised, Preston City Council has now launched a small grants scheme to cover the fee associated with accreditation.

To find out more, or if you are already accredited, come along to The Harris on November 12, 8.30am-10.30am and join the celebration of Preston’s achievements as a Living Wage City.

As well as including breakfast, this free event will see a panel of local business leaders and also provide a great networking opportunity.

To sign up to the event, click [here.](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1716246201589?aff=oddtdtcreator)

**Cups of Comfort**

Any ladies who have experienced a bereavement are very welcome at a friendly meeting organised by support group Cups of Comfort on November 11.

More details on attached flyer and to book, click [here.](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1865422913149?aff=oddtdtcreator)

**DENW Wellbeing Walk and AGM**

Our friends at DENW are jointly hosting their monthly wellbeing walk with The Foxton on Monday, November 10, starting at The Foxton at 2pm.

[Details on attached flyer.](https://mcusercontent.com/8f80d5c0d69f3e179cf8a467a/images/19ed3c9f-757c-a52a-7ba5-ef2a17d651de.jpg)

And a reminder the DENW AGM will be held at the group’s Community Hub on Sedgwick Street on Thursday, November 27, 1-4pm.

To book a place and also advise if you have any access needs, please email [heather@disability-equality.org.uk](mailto:heather@disability-equality.org.uk)

The event will also see the presentation of the Lesley Finley Community Award.

**Vinted Workshop**

Our good friends at Beanstalk CIC have arranged a workshop on using the Vinted site to buy and sell goods, aimed especially at individuals or small VCFSE groups.

To book, click [here,](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/vinted-selling-made-simple-preston-tickets-1869769102719?aff=oddtdtcreator)

**Children’s Participation e-learning Launch**

An event to launch an exciting new children’s participation training scheme based on the acclaimed Lundy model is to take place on November 4.

The new e-learning package will soon be available for staff, students and anyone across the VCFSE sector who work with or on behalf of children and young people.

This launch is the celebration of a project lasting almost 18 months, working with children and young people to devise, write, film and create a collaborative course outlining the importance of children's rights, participation and explaining the Lundy Model.

The project has been a collaboration between Lancashire County Council, the NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board, and the University of Lancashire and is funded by the Children's Safeguarding Assurance Partnership and Youth Focus North West.

To book a place on the day, please click [here](https://clickdelegate.lancashire.gov.uk/conferencedetails.asp?cid=65585). This will give you details of the venue, accessibility and programme updates will be provided through a calendar invitation.

Contact Dr Deborah Crook [djcrook2@lancashire.ac.uk](mailto:djcrook2@lancashire.ac.uk) for further information.

**Central Methodist Church – Carols from the Coffee Shop**

Wednesday 3rd December 2025

Carols from the Coffee Shop with the Illumination Community Choir

12:30pm - 1:30pm, Central Methodist Church, Lune Street, PR1 2NL

A thirty minute service, giving an alternative countdown to Christmas.

Afterwards there will be FREE hot drinks and mince pies for everyone.

[Poster attached.](https://mcusercontent.com/8f80d5c0d69f3e179cf8a467a/files/ad3947bd-27a4-c2f0-10eb-37fe838baedc/Carols_from_the_Coffee_Shop_031225.pdf)

**Weekly Employability and CV Clinic**

[Please see attached](https://mcusercontent.com/8f80d5c0d69f3e179cf8a467a/images/710e7ee1-59cc-eefd-b3f9-8033bdf7187d.png) for an Employability and CV clinic being held every Wednesday at the Intact Centre.

**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.