**NEWS**

**PCN Networking Event**

We would like to announce our next Networking Event, taking place on January 29th at Preston Masonic Hall. The event will start from 10am with a couple of speakers (yet to be announced) and then plenty of time for relaxed networking afterwards. The event will end at around 12:30pm.

You can register for the networking event here: [PCN Networking Event - January 29th – Fill in form](https://forms.office.com/e/qYACKKn49w)

**Pukar Disability Resource Centre**

We were delighted to hear that our longstanding member group Pukar Disability Resource Centre has been awarded funding from The National Lottery Community Fund’s Reaching Communities Programme, securing the future of its vital services for the next five years.

Based at Avenham Court, close to Preston city centre, Pukar supports people who are disadvantaged and socially isolated due to disability and limited English language skills.

For more than 26 years, the organisation has been a lifeline for disabled adults and their family carers from diverse communities.

**Money Information Session**

We get a lot of requests from our members re financial advice and information re setting up bank accounts.

There’s a chance to obtain this advice from a series of forthcoming money advice sessions being held at Mill Bank.

[See flyer for more details.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/f15bb154-6cdc-c248-f2ff-23b452cc098d.png)

**Support Programme for Home Based Cleaner**

Preston City Council and Preston Community Development Network are working with our member group Kind Communities to provide a targeted business support programme for home-based cleaners from Preston's minoritised communities, who are seeking to start or expand their cleaning business.

Owners of such enterprises will receive specialised 1:1 and small group help to incorporate and flourish as a business, as well as expert advice on certification, DBS checks, insurance and tax rules.

If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please register here- <https://forms.gle/PSyTHpsn54c5XerE7>

**The Clean Collective**

Preston City Council and Preston Community Development Network (PCDN) are working with Kind Communities to provide a targeted business support programme for home-based cleaners from Preston's minoritised communities, who are seeking to start or expand their cleaning business.

Owners of such enterprises will receive specialised 1:1 and small group help to incorporate and flourish as a business, as well as expert advice on certification, DBS checks, insurance and tax rules.

If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please register here- <https://forms.gle/PSyTHpsn54c5XerE7>

**YOUTH NEWS**

**Pol-Ed Support for Young People**

Pol-Ed is now available to partners across those within Lancashire County Council districts, extending beyond schools to include community organisations, youth justice services and other professionals working with children and young people.

Pol-Ed is an interactive, police-led education programme designed to support young people to make informed, positive choices and to better understand the consequences of certain behaviours. The programme covers a range of topics including knife crime, exploitation, online safety, and vaping/smoking.

If you know of a community organisation that wishes to have access to Pol-Ed, they can be advised to do the following:

* Visit [www.pol-ed.co.uk](http://www.pol-ed.co.uk/)
* Click on “For your Community” along the top row
* Click on “Register Now” in the top right hand corner
* Select appropriate Local Authority from drop down - Lancashire County Council
* Enter details as requested

Please be advised that partners located in Blackpool and Blackburn with Darwen will gain access to Pol-Ed in early 2026.

Should you require any further information, please contact the project lead: Inspector Oli Tattersley [Oliver.Tattersley@lancashire.police.uk](mailto:Oliver.Tattersley@lancashire.police.uk)

**Youth Employment Hub – West View Leisure Centre**

I hope you’re well. I wanted to reach out and share details about our **Youth Hub**, which we’ve been running from **Westview Leisure Centre** since June. The Hub was created to bring a range of support services together under one roof in a relaxed, informal setting—making it easier for young people to access help outside the traditional Jobcentre environment.

We started with one day a week and one Youth Work Coach and have now expanded to three days a week with two coaches. Our aim is to grow to five days as demand increases. Feedback so far has been very positive, and we already have several services supporting us on an ad hoc or regular basis.

We’d love to explore how your service could get involved and help enhance the support available to young people (18-24). Many of those attending face one or two barriers before moving into training or employment, and your expertise could make a real difference.

If this sounds like something you’d be interested in, please get in touch—I’d be happy to provide more information and discuss how we can work together. Thank you for considering this opportunity to support local young people

Helen Smith – Partnership Manager – DWP - [HELEN.SMITH18@DWP.GOV.UK](mailto:HELEN.SMITH18@DWP.GOV.UK)

**Youth Participation and Lundy Model E-Learning**

We are pleased to say the training is now ready to be accessed and completed and the file is ready to share with partners.

**For Lancashire County Council staff,** the course is available on Astute. This can easily be accessed through the intranet A-Z under A for Astute.

**For those working in Lancashire (but not for the County Council),** the course can be accessed through the CSAP website here: <https://lancashiresafeguardingpartnership.org.uk/events>. It is listed under 'e-learning' and you will need to create a Me Learning account if you don't have one already.

If you are a partner inside or outside of Lancashire, the training is also available to be shared with you for you to host within your own e-learning platform. To express interest in this, please email [participation@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:participation@lancashire.gov.uk) and we will be in touch about how we arrange that. If you have done so as a result of the launch, we have your details already and will be in touch.

We look forward to hearing your feedback and being able to share with the young co-authors the number of people who have completed it and what they have learnt.

Any questions email Clare from LCC - [Clare.Smith@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:Clare.Smith@lancashire.gov.uk)

**Lancashire Service Finder – Lancashire County Council**

We’re getting in touch on behalf of Lancashire County Council, who are currently developing the **Lancashire Service Finder** – a new online directory designed to help residents of all ages easily find and access support services. When it is launched in early 2026 this will be the main platform used by the county council to inform residents about services available to them across the county.

As a provider already listed in our directory, we’d encourage you to register your service in this broader county-wide resource. The Lancashire Service Finder will go live **early 2026** and aims to bring together a comprehensive range of services to better support individuals, families and professionals across Lancashire.

To ensure your organisation is included, please register by completing this short [registration form](https://forms.office.com/e/DBCEnUxeUT) or via [QR code attached](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/3aa299a7-f7b7-bb5d-d6f7-3a85de599bae.png)

If you have any questions or need support with the registration process, please contact [admin@servicefinder.lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:contactadmin@servicefinder.lancashire.gov.uk)

Thank you for the valuable work you do in our communities and we hope you’ll consider joining this important initiative.

**Youth Futures – Padlet for Support**

The Youth Futures team at LCC has a Padlet which is a really easy and informative way to understand their offer and access their support. They update it with their latest drop ins, booklets and resources for supporting NEET 16-18 year olds in Lancashire.

Access it here - <https://padlet.com/youthfutures/resources>

**TRAINING**

**C.A.R.E**

A Communities Against Racism and Extremism (C.A.R.E} training course, run in association with Preston City Council and the Small Steps group, is taking place at Preston Town Hall. [More details on attached flyer.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/files/afcc42fc-08fd-265e-2a47-f6b5cb364ed8/C.A.R.E._Training_Flyer_Preston.pdf)

**BSL Courses**

Deafway have two BSL & Deaf Awareness Courses starting over January in Preston. These are taking place at their base in Brockholes Brow outline below:

* Intro to BSL Course – six week course starting 21/1/26 - £60
* Level 1 BSL – 32 week course starting 28/1/26 - £460

For more information, or to book on, please e-mail [events@deafway.org.uk](mailto:events@deafway.org.uk)

**VACANCY/SURVEY**

**Lancashire Women**

Our member group Lancashire Women are currently recruiting for a Handy woman and a Resettlement worker.

Details of the roles are available through these links – [Handy Woman Recruitment Pack](https://lancashirewomen.org/wp-content/uploads/Handy-Woman-Recruitment-Pack-2.pdf) and [Resettlement Worker Recruitment Pack](https://lancashirewomen.org/wp-content/uploads/Resettlement-Worker-Recruitment-Pack-3.pdf)

**The Impact of Social Media on Young People**

Healthwatch Lancashire have just launched a new project examining the impact of social media on young people.

The aim will be to identify how social media has affected people’s health choices, decision making processes and outcomes and also identify people’s behaviour when using social media to inform their health choices.

A key part of the project is a young person and parent survey which the group would be grateful if as many of you as possible could complete.

You can access the survey by clicking [here.](https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/0AY3VV/)

**FUNDING**

**Lancashire Changing Lives Fund.**

Delivered through the Lancashire Health Visiting and School Nursing Service, the Lancashire Changing Lives Fund is now accepting online applications.

Charities and voluntary organisations can now access the Terms of Reference and application form and begin applying for grants of up to £3,000 to support projects that improve the health and wellbeing of children, young people and families.

You can find full details and apply via this [link.](https://lancschildandfamily.co.uk/lancashire-social-value-grants/)

**Macmillan CARE**

Grants to community-led projects tackling barriers to cancer care are being offered by Macmilllan Cancer Support.

Deadline is January 23 and there are more details [here.](https://communitycvs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3754f6a136f6d39f017b95235&id=c40238315d&e=f105be099a)

**Matthew Good Foundation**

Applications are now open for grants to groups for projects with significant community impact from the Matthew Good Foundation.

Deadline is Sunday, March 15 and there are more details [here.](https://communitycvs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3754f6a136f6d39f017b95235&id=40054e4724&e=f105be099a)

**EVENTS**

**Autism Connect**

Starting next Monday, January 12, Autism Connect welcomes people with autism, ADHD and adults with disabilities to their fortnightly social group.

The group will meet at the Harris Museum, Preston PR1 2PP and for more information please contact Emma on 07792 960899.

[Details in attached flyer.](https://mcusercontent.com/ba0ae121ad89db52c97b1a711/images/bb70e34e-8786-f1fc-d41b-413576c48f3c.jpg)

**Deafway**

The above group are holding bi-weekly Lego workshops for people aged 16+ in conjunction with NW Brick Community. The purpose of these sessions is to promote wellbeing, relaxation and mindfulness.

**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.

**Monday, January 12**

***6.30pm:******Adoption Information Event.***

Location: Online.

Are you considering adoption, or just exploring your options?  This event will give you valuable information and a feel for what it’s like to adopt with Caritas Care.

To book online click [here](https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/100552?) or ring 01772 732313 or email [recruitment@caritascare.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@caritascare.org.uk)

**Tuesday, January 13**

***10am-1pm****:****Health Screening Pop Up***

Location: Fatima Health Centre, Garstang Road, PR2 9QB

[Event Poster](https://mcusercontent.com/8f80d5c0d69f3e179cf8a467a/images/af366421-1b62-b66a-dc85-f7a0bce9f22b.png)

**Tuesday, January 13**

***6.30 to 8pm – Discover Fostering – Make a Difference***

Location: online.

Are you curious about fostering but unsure where to start? Join Caritas Care for “Discover Fostering – Make a Difference”, an information session designed to help you explore the joys and challenges of fostering.

To book online click [here](https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/95873?) or ring 01772 732313 or email [recruitment@caritascare.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@caritascare.org.uk)