



Weekly News Update

Wednesday July 22, 2026

Hey all,

We look forward to welcoming you at our networking event tomorrow - July 23 at Tanterton Village Centre!

If you look at the second article in today's newsletter, we also have a free Bid Writing Training session booked for our members, this will be on October 8. Please read the information provided and let me know if you wish to attend, I will create an official registration form ASAP.

Please see below for Today's Newsletter.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?



News

- PCN Networking Event - TOMORROW
- PCN Bid Writing Training Offer
- Local Government Reorganisation
- An Invitation from The Mayor - Guild Parade
- Cost of Living Support



Youth News

- Free Morrisons Summer Breakfast
- Catherine Beckett Centre - Summer HAF Programme



Funding

- Democratic Engagement Fund
- Community Grant Programme
- Matrix Causes Fund
- Youth Endowment Fund
- James Tudor Trust
- Wise Music Foundation



Survey

- RNIB - Cost of Living for Visually Impaired



Events

- One Community, Many Voices
- Careers Event at Pukar
- Considering Adopting a Toddler?
- DanceSyndrome Performance
- Weekly Round-Up

[Our Members](#)

[Venue Database](#)



PCN Networking Event - TOMORROW

Our next networking event takes place TOMORROW - July 23 at Tanterton Village Centre. The event is based around funding, and we have booked the following speakers:

- Ben Gaskell(Lancashire Funding Officer for the National Lottery Community Fund)
- Representatives from Sir Mark Hendrick MPs Office, who will explain how you can access the Grantfinder tool, and also answer other funding queries

The event runs at the usual time of 10am - 12:30pm and everyone is very welcome.

A calendar invite has already been sent out, but if you haven't received this, please let me know.

PCN Bid Writing Training Offer

We are pleased to announce thnat on October 8 we will be offering all of our members a free bid writing training session in collaboration with Lancashire Adult Learning. This session will be 10am - 1pm and will cover:

- Asset based community development
- Mission statements and statements of purpose
- Constitutions
- Your policies
- How the above link to bid writing
- Match funding
- Where to look for funding in your area
- Case studies and baseline evaluation
- Filling in your application

It would be great if participants could bring a mixture of delegates both paid (if appropriate) and volunteers so it is not just one person taking responsibility for applying for funding. The course will be a good introduction to get people started with an application or analysing what has gone wrong in the past.

If you are interested in attending this session, please e-mail me on g.mcdonnell@preston.gov.uk

Local Government Reorganisation

Last week, we were informed of the Government's decision on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Lancashire. Subject to Parliamentary approval, **four new unitary councils** will be created, replacing all 15 existing councils across Lancashire, including Preston City Council.



The areas PCC currently serve will be covered by a new unitary council. Preston will partner with Lancaster and Ribble Valley. Image of map attached.

The other unitary councils will be:

- Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre
- South Ribble, Chorley, West Lancashire
- Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Rossendale, Hyndburn and Pendle

There is a clear timetable in place:

May 2027 - elections for the new councils scheduled for. The district elections schedule to take place in May 2027 won't take place and member's terms of office will be extended until 31 March 2028.

1st April 2028 - new councils expected to become operational in (also known as Vesting Day)

Mayor's Guild Parade - Invitation from the Mayor

[We have received the attached invitation from the Mayor to circulate to our members.](#) They are welcoming organisations, community groups and individuals to take part in the walking procession with flags, lanterns, banners or other creative displays. A great opportunity to showcase your organisation; celebrate the work you do and be seen by the wider Preston community.

Cost of Living Support

Please let your service users know Preston City Council have updated their online Cost of Living Support page and you can access the page via the link below.

[Cost of Living help and Support - Preston City Council](#)

Youth News

Free Morrisons Café Breakfast All Summer...For Everyone

With many families facing increased financial pressure over the summer holidays, we'd like to highlight a nationwide initiative that could provide immediate support in your local community. We're delighted to let you know that throughout the summer holidays, families can access free Kellogg's breakfasts in all Morrisons Cafes everyday (press release attached and outlined below) - **please share with all schools in your region.**

- 'Breakfast Clubs' are back to help kids and grown-ups enjoy a free Kellogg's breakfast during the summer holidays at all Morrisons Cafés nationwide
- Initiative aims to ease money worries during school holidays
- New research reveals that parents will begin to feel the financial 'pinch' around week three of the summer break

Morrisons and Kellogg's have announced the return of their school holiday 'Breakfast Clubs', offering free meals to families across the UK to help ease the financial pressure over the summer holidays. As schools close for the summer holidays, many parents face a financial pinch, with new research from Morrisons showing that more than half (54%) of parents feel the strain during the long summer period. In fact, "week three" of the school holidays is the critical tipping point where the financial impact is most acutely felt by households.

Almost half (48%) of parents also confessed they have been forced to skip meals entirely just to make ends meet and ensure their child does not go without – with breakfast being the number one thing cut from the menu. **Families visiting their local Morrisons Café throughout the summer holidays can enjoy a free 'Kellogg's Breakfast', which includes a bowl of cereal and a portion of fruit. The best part, it's not just for kids, adults get to eat completely free too.** Both kids and adults can choose from much-loved favourites Corn Flakes or Rice Krispies, topped with their choice of dairy or non-dairy milk and a free apple or banana. The summer holiday offer will be available from 29th June to 6th September across all Morrisons Cafes nationwide.

Catherine Beckett Centre – Summer HAF Offer

Please see details below for the Catherine Beckett Centre's HAF offer and use the QR code in the poster to refer a young person.



Funding

Democratic Engagement Fund

A new £2.5 million Government grant programme has been launched with the aim of giving community and voluntary organisations funding for projects to help people understand and take part in democracy.

The Fund will support projects helping to ensure that when 16 and 17-year-olds head to the ballot box for the first time, they feel informed, included, and empowered to take part.

For more information, click [here](#) and you can start your application and review the complete guidance [here](#).

Closing date for applications is August 31.

Community Grant Programme

The new Lancashire Combined County Authority Community Grant funding programme is now live for formal Expression of Interests and Applications.

Follow this link

www.wea.org.uk/lancscommgrants which will take you to WEA's official Community Grant information and application portal.

Deadline is August 28.

Matrix Causes Fund

A new round of The Matrix Causes

Youth Endowment Fund

Fund is now open and applications are invited from small charities and non-profit organisations working to improve access to justice, create greater equality of opportunity or protect the environment.

Priority will be given to projects supporting vulnerable people, including disabled children and adults, women in refuges, refugees and asylum seekers, people experiencing mental ill health and those in the criminal justice system.

Deadline is September 30 and there are more details [here](#).

Funding for projects aimed at preventing violence against women and girls is available from the Youth Endowment Fund.

The programme will support projects that strengthen relationships, sex and health education.

Please hurry though as application deadline is July 27.

For more details, click [here](#).

James Tudor Trust

We support charities that help children and young people recovering from Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and parents affected by ACEs, mental illness, or addiction.

Deadline is August 31 and more details are [here](#).

Wise Music Foundation

Providing financial support for people experiencing hardship, distress and illness, with a focus on children, the homeless and people living in poverty.

Survey

Cost of Living for the Visually Impaired

Have you felt a rise in the cost of living?

Would you be prepared to share your thoughts and experiences through a survey?

In new research which RNIB are conducting around the rising cost of living, we are running a survey to gain the feedback of blind and partially sighted people to inform this work and allow us to speak to decision makers.

The survey covers important topics such as heating and energy, food and essentials and the additional costs of having sight loss. The survey should take around 20 minutes to complete, though you can take as long as you need, and answers are optional.

To take part in the survey, please visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XR558RL>

The survey closes on the 15 August 2026.

We thank you for your time.



One Community, Many Voices

What should be a really interesting and inspiring event takes place next Thursday, July 30 at Chew's Yard, 103-111 Market St W, PR1 2HB.

One Community, Many Voices, sponsored by University of Central Lancashire, will be a celebration of wonderful inclusive businesses in the Preston area.

The organising group, which is entirely made up of disabled volunteers, have filmed multiple locations in Preston and the surrounding areas which showcase what great accessibility looks like.

They want to share the evidence that businesses can make simple, and sometimes cost-free changes which can make a huge difference.

If you wish to attend, click the link [here](#) to reserve a ticket for the event, which runs from 3pm-5pm on the day.

Careers Event at Pukar

The Pukar Centre is organising a North West Ambulance Service careers event next Wednesday, July 29.

Full details on attached flyer.

Pukar Disability Centre
Enable | Educate | Empower

NHS
North West
Ambulance Service
NHS Trust



NWAS Careers Presentation

Are you interested in a career with the Ambulance Service?

Wednesday 29th July
11.00am - 1.00pm
Pukar Disability Centre
Oakham Court, 3-5 Oakham Court,
Preston, PR1 3XP

Come along and meet the NWAS Positive Action Team
Find out more about careers at NWAS including:

- ICC Call Handler
- Ambulance Care Assistant
- Emergency Medical Technician Apprenticeship

We will be there to provide friendly advice and guidance and to talk you through the career options available at NWAS.

 jobs.nwas.nhs.uk  inclusion.workforce@nwas.nhs.uk



Considering adopting a baby or toddler?

Join our free online **Exploring Baby and Toddler Adoption Event** on **Thursday 6 August, 6.30pm–7.30pm**.

Find out more about Baby and Toddler Adoption through Early Permanence, hear from an adopter about their family's journey, and chat with our experienced adoption team.

Whether you're just starting to explore adoption or thinking about taking the next step, this friendly and informal session is a great opportunity to ask questions and discover the support available from Caritas Care.

[Book your place here](#)

DanceSyndrome Performance

DanceSyndrome will be performing in the Quays Theatre (400 seats) at the Lowry, Salford Quays on **Thursday, 19th November at 7pm**, and tickets are already selling fast! I would be absolutely delighted if you can help to spread the word!

The Show, ***ORIGIN, A Mixed Bill*** is DanceSyndrome's biggest and most ambitious Show to date and is the culmination of a three-year project, iCreate, a groundbreaking, Arts Council England-funded programme that challenges perceptions of who can create, who can choreograph, redefining the future of dance.

Please join us to experience the premiere of six outstanding dance works created by dynamic choreographers from around the world. This pioneering programme brings together universal voices, international artists, respected creators, and diverse performers in a celebration of dance, artistry, and the many ways we move through the world.

Each piece offers a distinct perspective, showcasing innovative ideas, powerful performance, and world-class creativity developed through DanceSyndrome's iCreate project.

Tickets are on sale via the Lowry website - [Dance Syndrome Presents: Origin: A Mixed Bill | Lowry](#)

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](#).

As always, please check with the event provider to make sure that the event is still running.

Wednesday, July 22

7 – 8.30pm – Discover Fostering – Make a Difference

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 and learn how you can make a real impact on a child's life.

To book online click [here](#) or ring 01772 732313 or email recruitment@caritascare.org.uk

Thursday, July 23

10am - 12:30pm: PCN Networking Event

Location: Tanterton Village Centre (Kids Grove, Preston, England, PR2 7BX)

Thursday, July 23

Noon-3pm: Afternoon Tea at the MET Tent

Singer, food, bingo, raffle.

Ticket only event and tickets can be purchased from the following link,

<https://buytickets.at/stbernardslarchessavickcomm.../2293951>

Location: St Bernards, Larches and Savick Community Hub

Saturday, July 25

10-11am – Adoption Information Event

Are you considering adoption, or just exploring your options? Whether you're in the early stages or have been thinking about adoption for a while, our events will give you valuable information and a feel for what it's like to adopt with Caritas Care.

To book online click [here](#) or ring 01772 732313 or email recruitment@caritascare.org.uk

Wednesday, July 29

11am-1pm: Careers Event at Pukar

North West Ambulance Service careers event.

Location: Pukar Disability Centre, Oakham Court PR1 3XP.

Would like to contribute to our newsletter?

Let us know



Preston Community Network

Howick House, Penwortham
United Kingdom

You received this email because you signed up on our website or made a purchase from us.

[Unsubscribe](#)

