

Report of:	To:	Date	Item No.
Cllr. Roger Berry, Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder	Council	5 June 2014	9(e)

EXECUTIVE REPORT: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES PORTFOLIO HOLDER

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To inform Council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Neighbourhood Services Portfolio, as set out below.

2. Wyre Big Lottery Fulfilling Lives: Ageing Better Bid

- 2.1 On 30 April 2014 we submitted the Vision and Strategy for our bid to Big Lottery Fulfilling Lives: Ageing Better. Our project called WELL (Wyre Embraces Later Life) developed by a Core Partnership of older people, voluntary and community sector and statutory partners has developed a vision and strategy to tackle loneliness and isolation across high risk groups including carers, older people with dementia, older men and older people in rural communities.

3. Illustrative Good Practice – Local Authority Elected Member Older Peoples Champions Network North West of England - Care and Repair (Wyre and Fylde)

- 3.1 A case study presenting the work of Care and Repair (Wyre and Fylde), in particular their work delivering emergency winter interventions for vulnerable clients in cold homes, was presented to the Local Authority Elected Member Older Peoples Champions Network for the North West of England on 13 May 2014. The presentation was well received and the work of our Care and Repair Agency was commended.

4. Lancashire County Council consultation on the structure and delivery of Home Improvement Agencies

- 4.1 Lancashire County Council currently makes a contribution towards the work of Care and Repair (Wyre and Fylde) and other Home Improvement Agencies across Lancashire. With budgetary pressure the County Council is considering changes to the structure and delivery of the Agencies it supports. Changes could include changes in eligibility of clients that receive the service, the services offered and changes in procurement and service providers. The Council is concerned regarding some of the proposals and the risks to Care and Repair (Wyre and

Fylde) and the services that older people in Wyre receive. Officers are engaging fully in the consultation.

5. Environmental Health

5.1 The Food Standard Agency (FSA) has asked local authorities to encourage the use of the Food hygiene Rating scheme by members of the public. As a consequence Environmental Health and Wyre Council Communication teams, over the next 6 months will promote establishments achieving a food hygiene rating of 5 by:-

- Improving the Wyre Council Web page covering the scheme.
- Promote the 5 rated restaurants on visitwyre.co.uk by carrying a link to the FSA food hygiene rating website.
- Use celebration events, eg Mothers Day, Christmas parties, as a hook to carry links on social media to the web pages.
- Retweet appropriate Twitter posts and share Facebook posts from the FSA.
- Article for Wyred Up e-newsletter to businesses on the database explaining the benefits of a food hygiene rating of 5.
- Increased exposure during Food Safety Week (16 to 22 June) on social media, website and displaying of posters created by the FSA.
- Internal campaign using posters and Brian to encourage officers and members to use the food ratings when booking events.
- Article in Wyre Voice explaining the food hygiene scheme and a case study of a business that has gone from 0-2 rating to 3-5 rating.
- Most improved business category in the new Wyre business awards (to be discussed by Economic Development)

5.2 The team will also be exploring the possibility of running a fun, informal competition for five star businesses, most creative use of their hygiene certificate/sticker. It is hoped that all establishments will see the benefit of achieving a Rating of 5. However following promotion of the good establishments, it is the intention to focus on those establishments achieving a Food Hygiene Rating of 2 or less.

5.3 The Environmental Health Team has also completed air quality monitoring for a further year. The 2013/14 air quality progress report has been produced and submitted to DEFRA for approval. I am however pleased to report that initial findings indicate that EU targets for Nitrogen Dioxide has not been exceeded anywhere within the Borough. It is hoped this downward trend especially within the Air Quality Management area in Poulton will be assisted by the introduction of the new link road through Hardhorn car park, and the continued effort to promote sustainable travel in Poulton.

6. Licensing

6.1 Licensing hours are relaxed during any England matches that are scheduled to kick-off at or after 20:00. The relaxation will last for four hours to a latest time of 01:00. This will affect England's first game against Italy on the 14 June that will kick-off at 23:00 local time. The

remaining two other group games are scheduled to kick-off at 20:00 and 17:00 respectively.

- 6.2 Without this extension, the other option for any pub that wishes to stay open late would be to lodge a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) to authorise a temporary extension to their licensing hours at a cost of around £21.
- 6.3 For subsequent matches – should England progress through the World Cup tournament – will be covered by an extension of licensing laws where kick off is at 21:00, except the Final of the FIFA World Cup that will be broadcast at 20:00 local time.
- 6.4 Effectively this means that many matches should be within the licensed hours of the majority of licensed premises. **However, there are other games, particularly in the group stages, that will have late kick-offs and the extension of licensing hours only applies to games that England are or may be involved in, and only until 01:00.** If there are other games that will be shown outside of licensing hours or after 01:00 in the case of England matches that pubs want to show their customers then it will be necessary to lodge a TEN to cover this period.

7. Community Safety

- 7.1 The Wyre CCTV control room has been audited by Wyre Council Audit team and has achieved a fair rating. This means there are controls in place but some improvements should be introduced to improve data retention within the control room.

The team are working towards ensuring that the next audit will be rated good.

8. Comments and Questions

- 8.1 In accordance with procedure rule 11.3 any member of Council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with Procedure Rule 11.5.