

**Our Lancashire Newsletter 18th September 2020**

Welcome to my final newsletter! It is with mixed emotions that I can tell you as from next Friday (25th September), I will be moving on and working within another team within Lancashire Constabulary.

Our Lancashire has come a long way since I joined in January 2019. I remember the original four members of the team sat around a desk working on our vision, what we wanted to achieve, and how we might achieve it. Our core aim was clear, we wanted to help strengthen communities and to do that we needed to support community groups.

I feel privileged I was able to cover all of East Lancashire at the very beginning, an area where I have lived for over 13 years now. It is such a beautiful part of the world, and the people are just fantastic. I have visited the furthest corners of this area and everywhere in between, and have always been welcomed with smiles and the offer of a brew. I have seen issues affecting all districts, and been constantly humbled by the amazing work of people just like you, that strive to help others, often when facing personal challenges, funding concerns and more recently in the face of a global pandemic.

As the Our Lancashire Team grew, my area reduced to Blackburn with Darwen and Hyndburn. The opportunities to get involved with the Hyndburn Community Safety Partnership, Let’s Move Hyndburn, the Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Partnership and the Pennine Lancashire Hate Crime Board, enabled me to give groups a voice at these meetings, and to share with the groups the work underway to support their communities. I’ve been really proud to work with these partners, and I am sure I will continue to be involved with Let’s Move Hyndburn as I continue to try and build a £250k community bike park in Great Harwood in my spare time!

Before lockdown, Our Lancashire had embarked on a series of networking events, bringing together people from groups, councils, policing and the private sector to create connections, share ideas, resources and build relationships for the future. These were becoming very successful and I am sure they will be back when it is safe to do so. Like many of you due to the circumstances, some of our work and meetings has gone online as we try to operate as close to normal. There are pros and cons to this but it has been great to see you at times when it felt like I had just been staring at my children for 3 months! Gail our engagement officer for Pendle and Ribble Valley has been leading our online events and has been busy organising zoom conversations and training sessions on a range of subjects, so if you haven’t been involved in these it’s definitely worth dropping in.

Now I feel I am starting to ramble, so I will wrap it up! Thank you for welcoming me in to your groups and organisations, I am sure some of our paths may cross in the future. I will send out another email later next week advising you who to contact in our team in relation to any Our Lancashire queries.

Rob

**Sliding Doors**

Could you please promote the following activities for people with additional needs and those who are lonely & isolated.

Wednesday 1pm - 3pm Happy Songs & Music

Cherry Tree Cricket Club

£4 per person

Tuesday 6.00pm - 8.30pm

Social Evening

Cherry Tree Cricket Club

£2 plus £1 for bingo.

Both groups will follow strict social distancing rules with no more than 6 people attending in any group, face masks must be worn.

For more information contact Julie on 07495303224

Attachment - **‘Shining a light on new directions’**

The Covid-19 pandemic has seen a rise in unemployment across all industries, from young students just starting out their working life, to mature workers finding themselves at a crossway in their career. Because of this, the team at Community Solutions are raising awareness of the Building Better Opportunities programme, especially the Age of Opportunity scheme which has been designed to meet the needs of over 50’s who would like to work but are unable to without additional skills or support.

Building Better Opportunities (BBO) is a national programme from The National Lottery Community Fund and the European Social Fund (ESF). Matching funds from the European Social Fund (ESF) 2014-2020, they invest in local projects tackling the root causes of poverty, promoting social inclusion and driving local jobs and growth.

Image attached – Mark Roberts

Graphics attached for the #NoToRedundant Campaign

I hope you can make use of this material and help us reach out to as many people as possible.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to get in touch.

 Loredana Emmerson CSNW Phone: 01254 460080

**Free training delivered by colleagues from Beacon Counselling Trust.**

Please distribute among your networks, apologies if you receive this more than once.

<https://beaconcounsellingtrust.co.uk/problematic-gambling/>.

**Problematic Gambling**

**Book here** <https://www.blackpoolsafeguarding.org.uk/training-events/problem-gambling>

**Target audience**

This course is aimed at practitioners who work within the Children’s and Adults workforce, from universal to statutory intervention services.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Time** | **Registration** | **Venue** | **Course code** |
| 28/09/2020 | 13:30pm - 15:00pm | 13:15pm | Zoom | BSB1772 |
| 15/10/2020 | 13:30pm - 15:00pm | 13:15pm | Zoom | BSB1773 |
| 10/11/2020 | 10:00am - 11:30am | 9:45am | Zoom | BSB1774 |

**Aims**

Safeguarding issues such as smoking, drinking alcohol, illegal drug use, sexual health and mental health are frequently spoken about, but gambling is not. It may surprise you to know that the Gambling Commission estimates there are about 55,000 children and young people classed as problem gamblers. The Gambling Commission figures show 11% of 11 – 16 yr olds spent their own money on gambling in the last week. This is compared to 16% drinking alcohol, 7% using e-cigarette, 6% smoking tobacco and 5% taking illegal drugs. The aim of this session is to raise awareness to practitioners around the growing issue around gambling.

**Objectives**

By the end of the session the course participants will have been informed how:

* To identify the impacts, signs, and symptoms of a gambling problem.
* To interact with a young person about problem gambling and screen for it.
* To inform young people about where and how to get help.

**Please make a note of the course title, code and date - these are needed for the application form.**

Sarah Hargreaves  
Learning and Development Coordinator

Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire Children's Safeguarding Assurance Partnership; and Lancashire Safeguarding Adult Board

**Blackburn with Darwen Carers Service Latest Newsletter**

<https://mailchi.mp/269dd95ffa0b/september-newsletter-6045861>

**Isma Sajid**

**Blackburn with Darwen Carers Service**

Tel: 01254 688440