

## **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS AND PREVENTION**

**COUNCILLOR  
ARSHID MAHMOOD**

**PORTFOLIO CO-ORDINATING  
DIRECTOR:  
SAYYED OSMAN  
DATE: April 2017**

### **Community Safety**

- Blackburn with Darwen as part of a Lancashire wide partnership successfully applied to the Home Office's Violence Against Women & Girls Fund, obtaining £1.4m, the largest award nationally, to support services for survivors with complex needs. Working with local providers the programme will begin in April 2017 and focus on those in greatest need.
- The community safety team are targeting drivers who drive anti-socially in partnership with residents, loaning in car dash-cams to volunteers who live in Blackburn with Darwen and drive across the local area regularly. The volunteers will be able to upload any concerning footage to the team who will review it and look at if there is a need to enforce or offer education to local road users and vehicle owners. Those vehicles being used repeatedly in an anti-social manner risk being seized by the council using our powers under the Anti-Social Behaviour Police and Crime Act.
- Blackburn with Darwen as the lead authority on the multi area Organised Crime Programme have developed and rolled out a data sharing platform able to combine both the intelligence and enforcement tools and powers of over 40 local, regional and national agencies. The system called PAM now has buy in from HMRC, the Department of Works and Pensions and the National Crime Agency amongst others who work collaboratively with us to target all levels of organised criminality.

### **Housing**

- Homelessness Trailblazer to Prevent Homelessness of young people. The Council in collaboration with Lancashire County Council and the Pennine Lancashire Districts are preparing a range of projects to start delivery from the Spring. It's all about taking an innovative and new approach to preventing young people aged between 14 and 25 from becoming homeless in the first place. The project is worth £734k over 2 years for Pennine Lancashire.

- The Central Heating Fund :- the first time central heating project is in its final phase and remaining jobs will be completed in March and April.
- The new Selective Landlord Licensing scheme for Darwen has been approved and designation is in process. Over the next few months we will be engaging with landlords to raise fees and start the process of licensing and service improvements.

### **Neighbourhoods**

- As part of the development of the integrated localities workstream a new role of Community connector will be implemented. In total we hope to have 19 Community Connector roles between the council, Partners and third sector. The role is essential to early intervention and prevention, will provide 1:1 support building confidence to promote behaviour change. The role uses the 5 ways to wellbeing as key objectives, helping link people and communities to local asset based activity. The role will continue to support Your Call, manage volunteers and manage step down referrals from integrated neighbourhood teams.
- The council's aim to bring better co-ordination and to develop volunteering is gathering pace. Working with the Lancashire Constabulary we will be launching the pilot for the Lancashire Volunteering Partnership (LVP). The LVP will provide a Web based platform for the council to recruit, task, monitor and communicate with volunteers.