Lancashire's Vital Signs

Growing Stronger Communities Together

Community Foundation
For Lancashire
As a Community Foundation it is our role to connect philanthropists and communities together to improve local people’s lives and grow stronger communities together, and this is embedded in our belief that your community makes you and you make your community. As the North West region’s leading philanthropy hub we strive to support those who choose to work with us to be effective in their giving and to have the greatest impact, and we share our 2016 Lancashire’s Vital Signs giving guide with you to achieve just this.

The publication of our Vital Signs giving guides each October aims to keep you up-to-date with the most pressing issues that communities are identifying to guide your essential support of them whether it is by giving donations, grants or social finance, or lending your expertise or your time as a volunteer; all of it is considered philanthropic.

Vital Signs remains Lancashire’s first and only giving guide for charitably-minded people and businesses as well as philanthropists and charitable trusts of all kinds who have a common passion for communities. This year we have worked with 17 other community foundations in this country via UK Community Foundations and a large number in Canada to achieve mutual local aims.

Our 2015 Vital Signs giving guide focused on the priority charity donor interest of children and young people, highlighting three significant issue areas which continue to be safety and anti-social behaviour, health and wellbeing, and work and learning. The primary message was that mental health is a priority issue for young people, and those people and organisations who wish to give to local young people’s projects should prioritise mental health. Our findings in 2015 have informed the work of many of the donors we work with, especially to review their funding criteria.

Our 2016 Vital Signs giving guide provides for the second time since 2013 a full overview of the county’s community priorities. This guide is a combination of national and local data, social intelligence and the results of community consultations to provide a voice for local communities on their concerns and aspirations to guide giving at this very moment.

The Community Foundation operates in an ever changing economic and political landscape at this time, and due to this we work proactively to be fit for purpose and relevant to our communities as Lancashire’s local community foundation. We hope to continue to work with you or even begin working with you to grow stronger communities together.

Thank you for your involvement with the work of the Community Foundation.

Cathy Elliott
Chief Executive of Community Foundations for Lancashire & Merseyside
October 2016

---

**2016 VITAL SIGNS OVERVIEW**

Now in its fourth year, Lancashire’s Vital Signs reflects factual data and the voices of local community leaders, sharing lived experiences and what makes the area vibrant.

Following on from our last in-depth publication in 2013 and special reports in 2014 and 2015, Lancashire’s Vital Signs for 2016 reports across all 14 districts of Lancashire and across 10 key social themes. This unique giving guide for philanthropists and those who are charitably-minded contains vital information alongside the views of local people to help inform giving at this time.

*Read this guide, find out more, contact the Community Foundation, take action and spread the word!*
IF LANCASHIRE WAS A VILLAGE OF 100 PEOPLE THERE WOULD BE...

49 men

51 women

18 people aged 15 or younger.
17 people aged over 65.
65 people of working age (16-65).
7 people born outside of the UK.
10 people would suffer from depression and/or anxiety.
4 people would have diabetes.
13 people would rate their happiness 4/10 or worse.

OF THE 18 PEOPLE AGED 15 OR YOUNGER:

4 young people would be living in poverty.
4 young people will have experienced bullying.
1 young person would have a mental health condition.

OF THE 65 PEOPLE OF WORKING AGE:

3 people would be looking for work.
20 people would give unpaid help at least once a week.
7 people would have no qualifications.

HOW TO READ THIS REPORT

Issue Areas - This report covers the three key issues facing people in each district of Lancashire, as highlighted by them.

Factual Data - All the data provided in this report has been sourced via the data analytics website www.gt-placeanalytics.com or through local and national government sources.

Public Opinion - Hundreds of people offered us their thoughts; we have provided a sample of these comments in this report.

Case Study - We have shared just one example by district of the many great community groups we work with.
LANCASHIRE’S TOP THREE RESIDENTS’ CONCERNS

1. STRONG COMMUNITIES

- Instances of crime are above the national average in Lancashire with the area having the 16th worst crime rate per person in England.
- Estimates suggest that in 20 years time 9% of Lancashire’s population will be aged over 85 with many of these individuals living alone.
- According to the Indices of Multiple Deprivation, Lancashire is the tenth most deprived county in England.

2. EDUCATION

- In 2015, 57.1% of pupils in Lancashire attained 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C* (including Maths and English), above the England average of 53.8%.
- 10% of working age people in Lancashire have no qualifications, above the Great Britain average of 8.6%.
- 30.5% of people in Lancashire are qualified to NVQ Level 4 or higher, below the Great Britain average of 37%.

3. HEALTHY LIVING

- Lancashire has the tenth worst Cancer Mortality rate in England with 155 deaths per 100,000 people, compared to the England average of 144 deaths per 100,000 people.
- Lancashire has the fourth worst Circulatory Disease Mortality rate in England with 92 deaths per 100,000 people, compared to the national average of 78 deaths per 100,000 people.
- Lancashire has the sixth lowest average Life Expectancy in England at 79.9 years - 3.3 years behind Surrey – England’s best.

HOW DO YOU RATE COMMUNITY SPIRIT IN YOUR AREA?

- 15% Very Strong
- 31% Strong
- 41% Average
- 12% Poor
- 1% Very Poor
HOW COULD FOUNDATIONS AND PHILANTHROPISTS MOST HELP TO ADDRESS NEEDS WITHIN COMMUNITIES?

50% Invest in local charities and community groups to become more impactful.

13% Invest in areas that plug gaps where local authorities can no longer provide services.

11% Invest in people to build capacity in local communities by encouraging volunteering and providing training.

26% Invest in places to support assets such as community centres and events such as community festivals.

COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

“To empower people to progress in their aspirations and to improve mental and physical well being.”

“To give people a sense of community, belonging and a voice in their futures.”

“I would like my community to work together to provide the opportunities so individuals can improve their own health and wellbeing and those of the community at large.”
BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN

RESIDENTS’ PRIORITY CONCERNS

1 HEALTHY LIVING

- Average Life Expectancy in Blackburn with Darwen is 78.9 years, 2.4 years below the national average.
- Blackburn with Darwen has an above average rate of deaths from Cancer with 161 deaths per 100,000 people, compared to the England average of 144 deaths per 100,000 people.
- Blackburn with Darwen has the sixth worst Circulatory Disease Mortality Rate in England at 113 deaths per 100,000 people, compared to the England average of 78 deaths per 100,000 people.

2 SAFETY

- Blackburn with Darwen has levels of crime above the England average and has the fourth highest offence rate per person in Lancashire.

3 EDUCATION

- 14.6% of working age residents in Blackburn with Darwen hold no qualifications, this is the second highest percentage in Lancashire and compares poorly to the Great Britain average of 8.6%.

BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN CASE STUDY

VOICE

VOICE is a service-user led group run by and for people in recovery from substance and alcohol misuse. They provide a number of services to members, their families, and friends within the recovering community. This includes social activities, volunteer and training opportunities, and peer support and information on recovery services.

Following funding from the Community Foundation, VOICE were able to open a Sunday family club which enables families to access support from trained mentors, get signposted to agencies that are relevant to any issues they may need help with, and to have access to a healthy breakfast for all.

“...

I feel a strong environmental and social responsibility to my community and for using the arts as a means of social change.

Blackburn with Darwen Resident”
There should be a parity of esteem between Mental Health and Physical Health
Blackpool Resident
BURNLEY

RESIDENTS’ PRIORITY CONCERNS

1 EDUCATION

- 47.2% of students in Burnley attained 5 or more GCSEs at grades A* - C (including Maths and English). This compares poorly to the national average of 53.8% and the Lancashire average of 58.8%.
- 12.5% of working age residents in Burnley hold no qualifications; this is the fourth highest percentage in Lancashire and compares poorly to the Great Britain average of 8.6%.
- Only 22% of residents in Burnley are educated to NVQ level 4 or higher; below the Great Britain average of 37%.

2 HEALTHY LIVING

- Burnley has the tenth worst Circulatory Disease Mortality Rate of the 326 districts in England at 110 deaths per 100,000 people, compared to the England average of 78 deaths per 100,000 people.

3 STRONG COMMUNITIES

- The Index of Multiple Deprivation ranks Burnley as the 17th most deprived area of the 326 districts and unitary authorities in England.

BURNLEY CASE STUDY

Burnley Wood Community Centre

Burnley Wood is a non-profit organisation that works within the community bringing volunteers together to actively improve the local neighbourhood. They want to create and enhance the sense of community in the area which promotes personal involvement generating more social, cultural and educational activities ultimately making the area a better place to live for all within the community.

“If you educate by integrating young people on how older people think and older people on the ways of the young it helps to cut down the social isolation and therefore build stronger communities.”

Burnley Resident
CHORLEY

RESIDENTS’ PRIORITY CONCERNS

1 EDUCATION

- 65.5% of students in Chorley attained 5 or more GCSEs at grades A* - C (including Maths and English). This compares favourably to the national average of 53.8% and the Lancashire average of 58.8%.
- Only 4.8% of working age residents in Chorley hold no qualifications, this ranks Chorley within the best 10% of districts in England and compares favourably to the Great Britain average of 8.6%.
- 38% of residents in Chorley are educated to NVQ level 4 or higher. This makes Chorley one of only five districts in Lancashire that has a rate above the Great Britain average of 37%.

2 LOCAL ECONOMY

- Chorley’s share of Great Britain’s Gross Value Added (a measure of goods and services produced in an area) is 0.11%, ranking Chorley in the bottom 20% of districts in Great Britain in terms of productivity.

3 ENVIRONMENT

- CO2 Emissions Per Capita and Air Quality are both worse than the national average in Chorley, in part due to the close proximity to a number of busy motorways.

CHORLEY CASE STUDY

Freestyle Urban Soccer CIC

Freestyle Urban Soccer CIC is a provider of Mobile Street Sports Initiatives that are used as a catalyst for change across disadvantaged communities in and around Lancashire. They provide local communities with doorstep sporting and physical activities that engage socially disadvantaged young people and community members with an overarching aim of supporting and delivering against The Safer Lancashire Community Agreement’s key targets.

Their activities aim to reduce crime & re-offending, tackle anti-social behaviour and substance misuse with an additional focus on breaking down barriers and increasing participation from Ethnic Minorities and Diverse communities.

“Re-energise disused buildings for community use, creating activities for young people

Chorley Resident”
FYLDE

RESIDENTS’ PRIORITY CONCERNS

1 \hspace{1cm} EDUCATION

- 60.2% of students in Fylde attained 5 or more GCSEs at grades A* - C (including Maths and English). This compares favourably to the national average of 53.8% and the Lancashire average of 58.8%.
- Only 4.6% of working age residents in Fylde hold no qualifications, the lowest of any district in Lancashire.
- 39.3% of residents in Fylde are educated to NVQ level 4 or higher. This is the third highest rate in Lancashire and above the Great Britain average of 37%.

2 \hspace{1cm} STRONG COMMUNITIES

- On average, Fylde residents rated their Happiness as 7.83/10. This makes Fylde the happiest district in Lancashire and the tenth happiest in the U.K.

3 \hspace{1cm} SAFETY

- Fylde has the second lowest level of crime in Lancashire and ranks in the top 20% nationally.

FYLDE CASE STUDY

Fylde Civic Awareness Group

Fylde Civic Awareness Group aims to attract local people to learn more about how Local Government works, and how it affects their life. It also enables groups to come together and share information, ideas and form mutually beneficial alliances. They give people an opportunity to make a positive lasting impact in their local community also acting as a bridge by bringing people together and fostering friendly relations.

“Measures to lift the mind and spirit as well as the body are currently in short supply.
Fylde Resident”
HYNDBURN RESIDENTS’ PRIORITY CONCERNS

1. STRONG COMMUNITIES

- The Index of Multiple Deprivation ranks Hyndburn as the 28th most deprived area of the 326 districts and unitary authorities in England.
- Hyndburn has levels of crime above the national average and has the fifth highest rate in Lancashire for crimes per person.
- On average, residents of Hyndburn rated their happiness as 7.26 out of 10, below the England average of 7.37 out of 10.

2. EDUCATION

- 52.3% of students in Hyndburn attained 5 or more GCSEs at grades A* - C (incl. Maths and English). This compares poorly to the national average of 53.8% and the Lancashire average of 58.8%.

3. HEALTHY LIVING

- Hyndburn has the third worst Cancer Mortality Rate in Lancashire at 166 deaths per 100,000 people and ranks above the England average of 144 deaths per 100,000 people.

HYNDBURN CASE STUDY

Hyndburn Arts Trust

Hyndburn Arts Trust is a thriving and exciting community arts centre in the heart of Lancashire. It offers local residents activities, workshops, classes and shows to participate in or to simply watch. Following funding from the Community Foundation, the Centre was able to run a project called ‘Behind the Mask’ which allowed young people to create an in house theatre business at the Civic Arts Centre in Oswaldtwistle. The aim of this project was to create every aspect of a working professional theatre company whilst working towards a professional arts qualification. Each young person was given a specific role and structured in house and professional training to expand their knowledge and skills.

“...We need to support people struggling with substance misuse issues and mental health issues.

Hyndburn Resident”
LANCASTER

RESIDENTS’ PRIORITY CONCERNS

1 STRONG COMMUNITIES

• 70% of respondents to our Community Consultation in Lancaster rated the Community Spirit in their area as Average or worse.

• Lancaster has levels of crime above the national average and has the sixth highest rate in Lancashire for crimes per person.

• On average, residents of Lancaster rated their happiness as 7.48 out of 10, making them happier than the England average of 7.37 out of 10.

2 LOCAL ECONOMY

• Lancaster’s share of Great Britain’s Gross Value Added (a measure of goods and services produced in an area) is 0.17%. This ranks Lancaster as the second most productive district in Lancashire behind Preston.

3 ENVIRONMENT

• Lancaster’s Natural Environment Score is above the national average, indicating the area has a superior national environment.

LANCASTER CASE STUDY

Olive Branch

The Olive Branch began as a voluntary group in 2004 that served free food to the homeless. In 2008 they founded the open-access centre in Lancaster after recognising the need for a more structured support program. It provides open access for adults where they can seek help, share problems and receive support and advice. The service is tailored to the individual and help comes in many forms ranging from food to financial advice and budgeting. Care professionals are now referring those in difficult circumstances to the Olive Branch to receive emergency food packs.

“

There should be more support for the community from businesses and employers

Lancaster Resident

”
PENDLE CASE STUDY

Pennine Lancashire Community Farm

Pennine Lancashire Community Farm aims to tackle social isolation by building a sense of community in around Burnley and Pendle. They reach out to people of all ages and backgrounds, teaching children about nature and giving elderly people the opportunity to socialise through light exercise. The farm allows people to come together and improve the appearance of their surroundings by giving locals the opportunity to work on outdoor spaces including gardens, forests and farms. Funding has helped the community farm to expand including the development of March St Community Garden site with a workshop where equipment can be made and stored. This has been immensely beneficial to the members of the scheme with 97% saying they felt happier after involvement.

"Provide social inclusion not just for the elderly, but for children to access local community groups"

Pendle Resident
PRESTON

RESIDENTS’ PRIORITY CONCERNS

1 HEALTHY LIVING

- Average Life Expectancy in Preston is 79.3 years, 2 years below the England and Wales average of 81.3 years.
- Preston ranks within the bottom 10% of the 326 districts in England for deaths from cancer with 165 deaths per 100,000 people, compared to the England average of 144 deaths per 100,000 people.
- Preston also ranks in the bottom 10% of districts in England for deaths from Circulatory Disease with 101 deaths per 100,000 people, compared to the England average of 78 deaths per 100,000 people.

2 LOCAL ECONOMY

- Preston’s share of Great Britain’s Gross Value Added (a measure of goods and services produced in an area) is 0.25%, ranking Preston as the most productive district in Lancashire.

3 EDUCATION

- 59.4% of students in Preston attained 5 or more GCSEs at grades A* - C (including Maths and English). This compares favourably to the national average of 53.8% and the Lancashire average of 58.8%.

PRESTON CASE STUDY

Ingol and Tanterton Community Trust

Operating locally for 21 years, Ingol & Tanterton Community Trust (Intact) is a multi-faceted community based organisation operating in the heart of Ingol, a deprived ward in Preston. Intact provides a ‘hive of activity’ for its community in the form of the Intact Centre. The Centre is a focal point for local people and offers a two storey building with a community café, IT suite with resource room and a large multi-use room.

Following an award from the Community Foundation, Intact were able to pay for a tutor to deliver yoga, dance and keep fit sessions, particularly helping older service users keep active and healthy with activities such as arm chair aerobics.

“There should be more opportunities provided for Asylum Seekers and Refugees.

Preston Resident”
While in general our area is relatively well to do, this leaves the low income people possibly at more of a disadvantage. The perception is that everyone can manage so those who struggle feel inadequate. Hidden loneliness and isolation can also be a problem.

Ribble Valley Resident
Home Start Rossendale

Home start believes that children need a happy, secure and safe upbringing to fulfil their potential and have a good life, which is largely determined by their parents. Home Start offer volunteers - who have parenting experience - to support families that have young children with a tailored one to one service providing emotional and direct support for children. The help ranges from finding ways to manage parents problems, listening and playing with children or helping families budget and doing the shopping.

Although supported by a national organisation the emphasis here is local with schemes rooted in the community they serve with access to parenting advice and skills training readily available. Ultimately, Home Start wants to help parents grow in confidence, strengthen their relationship with their children and widen their links in the local community to benefit the child’s development and future path in life.

“I would like my community to work together to provide the opportunities so individuals can improve their own health and wellbeing”

Rosendale Resident
SOUTH RIBBLE

RESIDENTS’ PRIORITY CONCERNS

1 HEALTHY LIVING

- Average Life Expectancy in South Ribble is 81.8 years, above the England and Wales average of 81.3 years.
- South Ribble has a Cancer Mortality Rate below the England average with 134 deaths per 100,000 people, compared to the England average of 144 deaths per 100,000 people.
- South Ribble has the second lowest rate of deaths from Circulatory disease in Lancashire with only 69 deaths per 100,000 people, lower than the national average of 78 deaths per 100,000 people.

2 EDUCATION

- 61.5% of students in South Ribble attained 5 or more GCSEs at grades A* - C (Including Maths and English). This compares favourably to the national average of 53.8% and the Lancashire average of 58.8%.

3 STRONG COMMUNITIES

- On average, residents of South Ribble rated their happiness as 7.32 out of 10, below the England average of 7.37 out of 10.

SOUTH RIBBLE CASE STUDY

Saheliyaan Asian Womens Forum

Saheliyaan Asian Womens Forum works within Chorley and South Ribble with women from a minority/ethnic background. They work with vulnerable older people, women suffering from domestic violence and isolated carers from South Asian communities, all of whom need support with health and social care.

They offer inter generational and socialising activities by offering drop in sessions, one to one consultations, language support, IT skills, sewing classes and many more courses to rebuild the confidence of the people they work with.

“...

We need Community Hubs to help integrate diverse communities
South Ribble Resident..."
RESIDENTS’ PRIORITY CONCERNS

1 EDUCATION

- 61% of students in West Lancashire attained 5 or more GCSEs at grades A* - C (Including Maths and English). This compares favourably to the national average of 53.8% and the Lancashire average of 58.8%.
- 10.1% of working age residents in West Lancashire hold no qualifications, above the Great Britain average of 8.6%.
- 33% of residents in West Lancashire are educated to NVQ level 4 or higher. Below the Great Britain average of 37%.

2 HEALTHY LIVING

- West Lancashire has the third lowest rate of deaths from Circulatory disease in Lancashire with only 69 deaths per 100,000 people, lower than the England average of 78 deaths per 100,000 people.
- 21% of children live in poverty in West Lancashire after housing costs, just below the Lancashire average of 22%, however in certain areas such as Skelmersdale, there is a marked increase in deprivation.

3 EQUALITY

- Support the whole community and build capacity for the voluntary sector to run activities that everyone can engage with, and share information with voluntary and statutory agencies.
  
  West Lancashire Resident
There is a need for more community places and activities for local people.

Wyre Resident
GIVING TO COMMUNITIES RIGHT NOW

Our Vital Signs giving guide aims to provide the most up-to-date information on community priorities to enable people and organisations to give to the most pressing social issues and to support community aspirations at this very moment in time.

In 2016 the priority social themes for charitable giving across the county are:

- **Strong Communities** - people wish to belong and be part of a community and not feel isolated;
- **Education** - especially formal and informal ways to learn and gain qualifications for young people and unemployed adults to improve their lives and contribute to their community;
- **Health** - across all age groups, though especially young people’s mental health and wellbeing.

The Community Foundation’s role is to facilitate effective giving as the North West region’s philanthropy hub which we achieve with individuals, families, companies, trusts and funding partners to grow stronger communities together. Our track record since 2007 in achieving this has been phenomenal in supporting thousands of community projects to improve tens of thousands of local people’s lives in partnership with philanthropists and funders.

Below are some examples of the ways in which giving with the Community Foundation can truly have impact and make a difference to communities against the 2016 giving priorities.

### STRONG COMMUNITIES

Supporting communities to come together and connect in new ways via residents associations, community groups, charities, community businesses or social enterprises can have welcomed positive results. Social isolation for all age ranges is a priority issue in this area and local organisations and projects supported by grants, donations and social enterprise awards can have an impact. We work with organisations and charitable foundations such as Comic Relief, B&M Bargains, and Rossendale Borough Council in this area to achieve results.

### EDUCATION

Providing grants and donations to community centres and local charitable projects that work with young people who are not in education, education or training (NEET) for running costs, pilot projects or specific activities are proven ways to support young people to improve their life chances. The Community Foundation especially works with RWE Innogy, the Be Inspired Business Awards (BIBAs), and the Rumi and Rishi Foundation in this area to improve local lives.

### HEALTH

This social issues area for communities is broad as well as deep, and we work with philanthropists and funders to improve the general wellbeing of a community or dive down to tackle a specific health issue with them. Charitable funds administered by the Community Foundation on behalf of United Utilities and the Lancashire Community Investment Fund especially have worked in this area with positive results.

To explore working with the Community Foundation by giving via a personally named foundation, directed by you or your client, to achieve philanthropic aims, or by giving to our county wide Community Investment Fund, then please contact philanthropy@cflm.email
SPECIAL REPORT:

LANCASHIRE FLOOD APPEAL

Our Lancashire Flood Appeal which launched on 8 December 2015 as a reactive response to Storm Desmond, especially in Lancaster and Wyre, with £5,000 of the Community Foundations’ own funds and the public backing of our President Lord Shuttleworth, the Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, Lancaster City Council, Wyre Borough Council and the Lancashire Evening Post. The Flood Appeal soon grew in profile and funding with the backing of the national newspaper, the Daily Mail, including our Flood Appeal in their national Christmas campaign, and then being extended due to the Boxing Day flooding due to Storm Eva. Via a reactive match funding scheme from government’s DCLG we secured £100,000 in match for our Appeal fundraising work related to Storm Desmond and £340,000 for our general Appeal work, including related to Storm Eva. Within four months the Appeal reached £1 million in funds raised which was a phenomenal achievement.

Grant-making for the Flood Appeal operated in two stages in 2015/16, distributing emergency response grants in 24 hours on many occasions to households affected by flooding, especially in extreme hardship and those who were highly vulnerable; in the first four weeks of the Appeal we distributed £117,000 to nearly 100 households, including over Christmas and New Year. We worked closely with Lancashire County Council and the district councils in affected areas, especially in Lancaster, South Ribble and Wyre, to provide quick response and light touch grants of up to £5,000 to support emergency recovery. Our second stage grants supported clean-up work for households and some community groups. Around £490,000 had been distributed by the end of March 2016 to around 220 households and a selection of community groups in grants of £250 - £5,000.

As we move into 2016/17 we plan to launch a Strengthening Communities Fund as the third stage of our Flood Appeal to support community-led flood defence and resilience work, aiming to distribute the remaining government match funds by March 2017. Any remaining privately donated funds to the Flood Appeal will support households in extreme hardship and those who were highly vulnerable as well as future disaster relief in Lancashire as per our public Flood Appeal document.

Our thanks go to many people and organisations that supported and helped deliver our Flood Appeal in 2015/16 and including: BBC Radio Lancashire, Comic Relief, Daily Mail and its readers, DCLG, Greggs, Kenyon Fraser, Lancashire County Cricket Club, Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Telegraph, Lancaster City Council, Morrison, Rank Foundation, Westminster Foundation, United Utilities, Wyre Borough Council and W O Street Foundation.

“Wow, many thanks for the speedy response and for the award of the grant. I’m greatly touched. It felt like my world had fell to pieces on Boxing Day. I live on my own with my daughter, and have been lucky enough to have some friends help me with the clear out of the house with all the damaged items that the flood left me with. At least now I have funds to replace things and get the boiler and kitchen sorted. Many thanks once again.

Neil Mcgowen, Ribble Valley.
Flood Recovery Appeal Grant Recipient

For further information on the Flood Appeal, please visit our dedicated website at www.lancsfloodappeal.org.uk or our main Lancashire website at www.lancsfoundation.org.uk
Our 2015/16 year was a combination of business as usual and extraordinary events with the reactive launch of our Lancashire Flood Appeal. In administering 50 funds and foundations across Merseyside and Lancashire in 2015/16 we distributed around £1.83 million to communities via 647 grant recipients, an increase of around £200,000 in grants compared to 2014/15. Our joint endowment fund stood at £12 million by March 2016, having begun endowment building in 2007 with around £130,000. This joint investment is a significant contributor to our sustainability as well as to ensure community philanthropy in the region for current and future generations.

In Lancashire a total of £741,131 was distributed in 2015/16 via 317 awards to individuals, community groups, charities and social enterprises under the brand of the Community Foundation for Lancashire. Our average award size was £2,337 - a decrease of only 5% on 2014/15’s average grant size of £2,479 - demonstrating consistency in our small grants focus as a community foundation. The amount distributed in 2015/16 has increased compared to 2014/15, mainly due to the Lancashire Flood Appeal when nearly £500,000 was distributed between December 2015 and March 2016. The 54% success rate for applications in 2015/16 demonstrates primarily a continued demand for community funding in Lancashire, and we hope new supporters will come on board to work with us to meet this demand.

Our Lancashire Flood Appeal was a phenomenal community leadership project for us, working with a huge array of local, county-wide and national supporters. We were surprised and grateful to have raised £1 million by the four month anniversary of the Appeal to enable vulnerable people to rebuild their lives and communities to come together to recover their local areas. We thank everyone involved for helping us to deliver so quickly and professionally our first major disaster relief programme.

As we move into 2016/17 our aims include growing our endowment fund by at least £400,000 a year and ambitiously £2 million a year, improving our use of our digital and database tools and diversifying our community funding options to meet social sector needs. However, our primary aim is to be informed by our community knowledge, and therefore Vital Signs is increasing in its relevance and use to benefit local communities. We hope you find our Vital Signs work of help to you in growing stronger communities together with us. Thank you for your support.

Arthur Roberts,
Chairman
SIGNIFICANT LANCASHIRE EVENTS IN 2015/16

- We launched the Lancashire Flood Appeal on 8 December and within four months we had raised £1 million. We announced this achievement publicly on the four month anniversary of the Flood Appeal with the county’s media and at an event with Lord Shuttleworth at Whalley Village Hall, an area at the time which had received the most household grants. Around £490,000 had been distributed by the end of 2015/16 to around 220 households and a selection of community groups in grants of £250 - £5,000.

- We completed the UK administration of a five year Santander SEDA Scheme to grow social enterprises in the UK with a £1.4 million programme each year, working in collaboration with other community foundations. We have been pleased to be part of the development of the SEDA Scheme from pilot phase in 2010/11 to the completion of a five year programme as the UK co-ordinator, supporting hundreds of social enterprises in that time to contribute to their local communities, especially improving local training and employment opportunities.

- We held a private dinner with the then High Sheriff of Lancashire Amanda Parker in early 2016 to profile our work with local philanthropists and business leaders.

- We began new partnerships in 2015/16 with a number of new fund holders and donors to further our work in growing stronger communities together with partners, including the new B&M Communities Together Fund for the North West.

OUR IMPACT

Total Funding in Lancashire

£741,131

Average Award

£2,337

Number of Awards

317

In 2015/16 the Community Foundations funded 54% of applications received

GRANTS DISTRIBUTED BY DISTRICT

Blackburn

£15,482.00

Chorley

£72,616.00

Lancaster

£58,056.00

Ribble Valley

£230,771.61

West Lancashire

£39,726.00

Blackpool

£14,720.00

Hyndburn

£9,215.00

Pendle

£33,937.00

Rossendale

£54,324.00

Wyre

£50,420.00

Burnley

£110,511.00

Fylde

£2,000.00

Preston

£27,518.00

South Ribble

£21,835.00
METHODOLOGY

All data provided in this report has been sourced via the data analytics website www.gt-placeanalytics.com or through freely publicly available local and national government sources.

All information is considered accurate as of June 2016. The information included here should be considered a snapshot and only analyses a limited amount of the available data. If you have any queries or believe any information provided in this report to be incorrect, please contact vitalsigns@cflm.email and we will do our best to undertake corrections.

Any quotes or opinions from individuals have been obtained via an open community consultation conducted by the Community Foundation. The identity of any individual(s) quoted within this report has been obscured to protect their privacy.

Lancashire’s Vital Signs is Copyright of the Community Foundations for Lancashire and Merseyside 2016

Produced Under License from the Community Foundations for Canada

Vital Signs UK is the intellectual property of UK Community Foundations

Lead Author and Researcher: Adam Shaw

Contributing Author and Editor: Cathy Elliott

Branding and PR: James McMahon

For more information contact:
0151 232 2444
vitalsigns@cflm.email

Postal Address:
C/O Community Foundation for Lancashire
North and Western Lancashire Chamber of Commerce
Unit 9-10
Eastway Business Village
Olivers Place
Fulwood
Preston
Lancashire
PR2 9WT

Tel: 0151 232 2444

Email:
General queries at info@cflm.email

Website:
www.lancsfoundation.org.uk

With thanks to:
Community Foundations of Canada
Our President, Trustees and Staff
UK Community Foundations
UK Vital Signs Steering Group
Kenyons
Jake Turner

Registered Charity Number: 1068887