



## WEM PARTNERSHIP MEETING 10/02/25

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At The **Venue, Balmoral Rd**, Morecambe / Via Zoom / 6 PM

### Item 1. Welcomes/Apologies/Matters Arising/Minutes of the Last Meeting/Conflicts of Interest

**Present:** Yvon Appleby, Viv Brunsdon, Glen Duckett, Yak Patel, Chris Price (Chair).

Johnny Bean (Secretary), Joe Robinson (Development Worker).

**Guests:** Catherine Westwell & Julia (LDCVS).

**Welcome:** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introduced the guests.

**Apologies:** Apologies were received from Janette Edwards, Kat Jaxon, and Chris Greenwood.

**Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising not already on the agenda.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting:** The Minutes of the Last Meeting were reviewed, and approved.

**Action:** [The Secretary to publish the Minutes of the Last Meeting on the WEM website.](#)

**Conflicts of Interest:** No Conflicts of Interest were noted.

#### Papers circulated in advance:

- Agenda
- Draft minutes of last meeting (item 1)
- Outline on Solidarity Fund (item 3)
- Details of Youth Conference (item 4)
- Outline on Housing (item 6)
- Action Research Presentation for Big Local areas (item 8)

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### Item 2: Mental Health Youth Grants Round 2 update

**Discussion:** Catherine Westwell from Lancaster District CVS and youth grants panel member Julia gave an update of the project progress so far. Julia told us how she learned about the project via a visit to her school from Catherine. As part of the team she was involved and developed skills in video making and assessing ideas, decision making by consensus and

analysing costs etc. She attended meetings at the Town Hall, and it all made her very aware of all the organisations working in the area and how much is going on. She felt very much more involved. Talked about one of the recent activities funded by the project at the last hub meeting - making mental health emergency tool kits. Catherine talked about how great all the young people involved were and how much their confidence grew as a result of being involved. A discussion took place to learn more about what the young people had been involved with. Most projects are coming to an end in a few months. Current projects running include:

- **SAFE** - a pop up project running activities for young people with social anxiety in small number. Liaising with Stanley's.
- **Cancer Care** - working to support 2 young people in the West End.
- **Wise Up Workshops** - running life skills sessions for young people. Currently looking for volunteer tutors in driving, electrics, leadership skills, self defence.
- **More Music** - Running a session during the school holidays. Not yet started.
- **Stanley's** - Creating mind escape kits and mental health assessment tools with 16 young people.
- **Bee Adventures** - Looking at an outdoor adventure club pilot, with a view to creating a Lake District trip.
- **Out In The Bay** - Working with the LGBTQ+ youth group.

**Decision:** All of the young people involved have been invited by CVS to join the Youth Summit. Agreed we should look at producing a certificate of some sort to award that recognises the contribution made by the young people, that can go on their CV etc.

**Action:**

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### **Item 3: Solidarity Fund update**

**Discussion:** Yak presented the paper circulated in advance of the meeting. A member of Morecambe Town Council has been enlisted to act in an "independent oversight" role. The process is simple and all applications must come through groups not individuals.

**Decision:** The fund will launch with a meeting with all local groups to explain the process.

**Action:**

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### **Item 4: Youth Summit update**

**Discussion:** Catherine summarised the project review document shared in advance of the meeting. Set for Summer 2025, after exam season. Possibly at The Mazuma Stadium and focused on 12-18s. Hoping for around 100 young people to attend. We will evaluate using

qualitative and quantitative methods. The aim is for this to be a pilot which is repeated next year.

**Decision:**

**Action:** Any suggestions for local celebrities, performers or goody bag ideas, please send to Catherine.

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**Item 5: Local Trust update**

**Discussion:** It was reported that we had a more positive meeting with LT recently, and most hurdles for what we said we would do by Xmas were done, but we remain under close watch. LT are planning to make individual Big Local decisions in the summer re close out and legacy, and will likely be sending interviewers around in a couple of months. No details as yet.

**Decision:** We should aim to make the most of any PR opportunities in the next 18 months.

**Action:**

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**Item 6: Housing update**

**Discussion:** A ring-fenced advert for a Freelance Housing Support Officer/Worker has been agreed. The post will be for 1-2 days per week. Job description and outline were presented. Deadline is the end of February, for an appointment in March.

**Decision:**

**Action:**

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**Item 7: Mental Health Round 1 project update**

**Discussion:** Some sessions from the Yr1 project with Edwards project were still to run. It was agreed at the last meeting to honour the remainder of the Yr1 project. The project has resubmitted a plan for Yr2 with a schedule for completion. A discussion took place.

**Decision:** It was agreed to halve the full proposal for 16 sessions to 8. If the project can complete these 8 sessions with the deadline, we will look at the remaining 8 sessions. The partnership will review in May. LDCCVS may help.

**Action:**

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### Item 8: AOB.

**Discussion:** Glen had circulated an email regarding Local Trust and some Action Research with Big Local partnerships on Mental Health work. Clarified that, as per our future WEM discussion, we are not aiming to take up major new projects and have no capacity to do this currently.

**Decision:** Agreed, if our LTO feels this is of value and has capacity to deliver it we would lend WEM's name to it.

**Action:** Glen to follow up with LDCVS.

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### DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

- ~~Monday 10/03/25 at The Venue, Balmoral Road, at 6pm/Zoom (cancelled)~~
- April 14th, 2025 at The Venue, Sandylands School, Balmoral Road, at 6pm/Zoom