Overs 800 households responded to the questionnaire - thank you to everyone that responded! The survey highlighted that people wanted to have the opportunity to have their say on local issues but also be offered a choice of ways to provide their views including, for example, through regular meetings in the community, newsletters, new technology and questionnaires.

Ways that people would like to provide their views to the council

The top 3 issues that respondents wanted the opportunity to provide their views on were crime and community safety, refuse and street cleansing and traffic issues including the problems caused by speeding and parking. This information will also be used by Councillors who are currently undertaking a review of how the council engages with local people through its existing Area Forums and further updates on the progress of the review will be included in future editions of The Prestonian.

The survey also highlighted that people were not aware of the variety of opportunities that already exist to enable them to have their say on local issues and some of these are now detailed opposite.

The top local issues that people would like the opportunity to provide their views

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traffic e.g. speeding/parking</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refuse and street cleansing</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public transport</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning issues</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and open spaces</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime and community safety</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities for young people</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ways to get involved...

Get in touch with your local councillor

Councillors can help you with difficulties that you are experiencing with local services. Details of the Ward Councillor who represents you and their contact details can be found on the Preston City Council website (www.preston.gov.uk) by following the links to Council and Democracy or by telephoning 01772 906465.

Area forums

Preston City Council has five Area Forums - Central, Eastern, Western, Rural, and Northern. Each Area Forum covers a particular area of the city and meets regularly throughout the year.

Area Forums bring you together with city councillors, county councillors, parish councillors and representatives of other agencies, such as the police and health service and local community groups that attend the Area Forum.

By attending an Area Forum you can find out what’s happening in your area, have your say and influence the decisions that you know best about and which most affect you. The forums are lively and popular, with attendances for 2008/9 averaging over 30 per meeting.

To find out more information about your Forum contact the Area Forum Team, Community Engagement, Town Hall, Lancaster Rd. Tel 01772 906372 or log onto www.preston.gov.uk and follow links to Community and Living.

Police and Communities Together (PACT)

PACT stands for ‘Police and Communities Together’. Every month all across Preston local communities are invited to come and join local police and talk to the police about any community safety concerns they may have in their neighbourhoods. The PACT process gives you the chance to meet your neighbourhood policing team every month, have a say on how your neighbourhood is policed and help shape police performance.

PACT meetings are usually held on the same night each month in a local community venue. At the PACT meeting you can tell your neighbourhood policing team what issues concern you. After discussion, a smaller group called a PACT panel decides on the top three policing priorities for the month.

The neighbourhood policing team will report back to the next meeting the progress on solving the issues.

Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch is based on the idea of communities coming together to reduce crime and increase community cohesion.

Neighbourhood Watch is not just about reducing burglary figures - it’s about creating communities who care, that brings local people together and can make a real contribution to improving their lives. The activity of Watch members can foster a new community spirit and help prevent the community's ability to tackle problems.

Preston already has many successful Neighbourhood Watch Schemes that operate throughout the city. To find out whether your area already has an existing Neighbourhood Watch Scheme or how to go about setting up a new scheme in your area, you can contact your local Neighbourhood Policing Team by calling Preston Police on 01772 203203.

To contact Preston Neighbourhood Watch Association send an email to contact.pnwall@gmail.com.

Neighbourhood management

Neighbourhood Management is a way of involving you in issues affecting your neighbourhood and helping you to influence your local services.

Neighbourhood Management has successfully operated for some time in Ribbleton and Brookfield (One Voice), St Matthews and Fishwick (Unity FM), Town Centre and St George’s (P1-Time Focus). Neighbourhood Management encourages local residents to work together with mainstream service providers, the local authority, businesses and the voluntary and community sectors, to make local services more responsive to the needs of their area.

Neighbourhood Management has recently been expanded to cover all remaining wards of Preston through three new Community Involvement Workers who will be working in these new areas to support residents and help address issues that are important to local people.

If you want to find out more please contact 01772 901215.

Ask questions at meetings of the full council

As part of the council's drive to modernise and improve consultation with local people, a 30 minute Question Time period for members of the public has been included as part of the meetings of the council.

You may ask questions of members of the Cabinet and Chairs of Committees, but the questions must be received in writing no later than midday 3 days before the date of the meeting.

For more information on Question Time you should log onto www.preston.gov.uk and follow links to Council and Democracy or contact Member Services, tel 01772 906475.
Launch of Preston Ward Profiles

Preston is made up of small areas called wards, of which there are 22 in total. The city is divided into these wards for the purposes of administration and elections.

To give a better understanding of the characteristics of each of Preston’s wards, the Council, with support from many of its partner organisations including Lancashire Constabulary, Lancashire County Council, JoBaCentre Plus and the NHS, has developed profiles for each of Preston’s wards with information that is often requested by local residents, businesses, public service providers and voluntary & community groups.

Each ward profile draws together a large amount of data from a wide variety of sources, providing a record of the features of every local area in Preston. Each of the profiles shows individual ward data compared against average Preston figures.

The ward profiles have a section on each of the following topics:
- Population/Demographics
- Benefit Claimant Rate Levels
- Neighbourhood data is especially helpful in gaining better understanding of local communities, and can support the work of service providers by identifying problem areas and appropriate solutions to help tackle them.
- Education and Qualifications
- Health
- Deprivation Analysis
- Employment
- Community Safety
- Housing
- Income
- Local residents may also find it interesting to refer to the data contained in their own ward profile to find out more about the place where they live.

The figures in the ward profiles will soon become out of date, so it is intended that the information contained in the documents will be refreshed and re-published on a regular basis.

Each of the ward profile documents can be viewed on the Preston City Council website at: www.preston.gov.uk/community-and-living/area-forums/information-about-preston-wards

If you have any queries on the ward profile project or any information that the ward profiles contain, please contact Don Ingham, Data Analyst at Preston City Council, on 01772 510797 or email him at d.ingham@preston.gov.uk

Ribbleton Denning Club

which is in the One Voice Neighbourhood Management Partnership area, and den to get it ready e are great e, including raised beds thus allowing anyone with a disability to also get

I have been going to Ribbleton Library for several years now and it is a pleasant surprise when I heard from Moor Nook.

I am disabled and a senior citizen and thought what can I do? But I went along with others and discussed what could be done. I could not dig plants suitable den and the time of year. ‘Britain in Bloom’ was very exciting and I am looking forward to it all going well. It is a great day for all of us to come together and enjoy the garden.

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The Big Deepdale Lunch

Members of the newly formed group "Community, Residents and Business" (CRaB) held their first "Big Deepdale Lunch", as a spin off from the Big Street Lunch that was launched nationally to promote street parties. The event held at Catharine Beckett’s Community Centre, was a big success.

The idea had been raised by the Street Guardian, PC Tony Cobbian, to build on the achievements of the residents and businesses in the area and to celebrate recent improvements in security in the area.

Tony said “the day was great. The CRaB community group are really helping to boost community spirit and we have seen the area really improve. It’s been a really good example of how business and communities can work together”.

The event was well supported by business in the area, with various donations of food and raffle prizes. There was a mixed age group from young children to people in their later years of retirement. The tables and chairs were set out in a way that no-one was on their own and new friendships have been started.

Robin Maudsley, Chair of CRaB, said “to see all the community working together and all smiling was well worth the amount of effort people had put in. The best of the day’s fun was the egg and spoon race for both the kids and the adults. We managed to get our local police to join in”.

CRaB are receiving support from Prtime Focus Neighbourhood Management team and are now planning many more events in the future.

If anyone wants to know more about CRaB or how to set up a group, then contact Marie Ellis-Gibson on 01772 516422.

New Residents Association for Shareoe Green

Do you live in Shareoe Green or Sherwood?

Shareoe Green and Sherwood Residents Association was launched at a packed public meeting held on 28th April 2009 at St Peter’s School.

The association wants to involve local people, so why not get involved? The group are keen to tackle key issues, including environmental concerns such as litter and fly-tipping, as well as issues around speeding traffic. They also want to improve local services and involve people in saying what they want to see in the area.

The association has originated from PACT (Police and Community Together) meetings held in the area. Nigel Parker, the current Chair of Shareoe Green PACT, says “it has been a long held objective and the credit goes to dedicated local residents who first cemented the idea at PACT meetings”.

He also acknowledged the help provided by the members of Longsands Residents Association, who have been established successfully for a number of years.

If you live in Shareoe Green and are interested in getting involved, please contact Nigel Parker on 01772 774948.
Preston has been exercising its green fingers as gardeners young and old have once again been working hard to improve environmental quality and add splashes of colour across the city. The only difference this year is that even more people got involved!

From Moor Nook in Ribbleton to Waverly Gardens in St Matthews, and from Ashworth Court in Avenham to Hornsea Close in Ingol, residents of all ages have been taking hold of their trowels and doing what they can to make where they live that bit brighter and more colourful. Everyone has been working hard to help make Preston ‘Bloomin Brilliant’ in this year’s Britain in Bloom awards, and to ensure that Preston is well represented at this year’s awards ceremony to be held later this year.

Residents from across Preston have been supported by Lancashire Wildlife Trust, who received funding from the Communities Fund, part of the Big Lottery fund, to develop Britain In Bloom within Preston. Communities across Preston have also been supported by Neighbourhood Management, Community Gateway Housing Association and Eaves Brook Housing Association. This has resulted in there being 27 entries within the neighbourhood category of Britain in Bloom.

For the city’s first bid to gain a North West in Bloom award, Preston City Council has put forward a number of reasons why we should all be proud of our city:

- Preston has five parks that meet the Green Flag Award standard, and a dedicated team of gardeners and rangers that maintain them.
- The floral displays across the city are sustainably grown in the council’s in-house nursery.
- Four recent Royal Horticultural Society Gold medals were won at the Tatton show.
- We have been awarded Fair Trade City status.
- The city has extensive and effective recycling and waste management schemes.
- An amazing programme of diverse events and activities across the city see everything from the Caribbean Carnival and the Mela, to conservation action days and community clean ups.
- A multi million pound investment in Avenham and Miller Parks includes the creation of an award winning Pavilion.
- There is excellent community participation across the city from the many “friends of” groups, allotment societies, schools, and many voluntary, community and business partners in Preston.

Over the last few years involvement in North West in Bloom has gone from strength to strength in Preston and a number of top awards have been scooped. This year is the biggest entry from Preston yet, so fingers crossed (green fingers that is) that the whole city does even better!
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Back Street Campaign

Preston City Council, Unity FM and Pr1me Focus are continuing to press ahead with the Back Street campaign which is destined to cover all streets in Preston that have rear access alleys, particularly those with security gates.

The first alleys to feature in the campaign were in the Fishwick area. This has just come up to its 12 month anniversary, and the area has seen a considerable improvement in terms of cleanliness. The success of the campaign is largely due to the change of attitude of local residents, who have now taken charge of their alleys.

The Prestonian is the second to feature in the campaign and is also showing signs of improvement. The area is set to be targeted for community led clean up operations aimed at solving small problems with waste issues.

The Preston City Council once again extends thanks to those residents who have assisted in this campaign, to be making great improvements in the general appearance of the area. The council can also report that the campaign is being rolled out in other areas in forthcoming months, and the partnership’s work appears to other areas. Residents are leafleted and encouraged to try not to cross Longridge Road safely. The residents cross a very busy road.

Wiping out Grot: A new scheme to improve street cleaning

Two parts of Deepdale, known locally as the “Canaries” and “Saints”, are involved in the liveability project - a pioneering scheme to try new ways of working to keep our streets cleaner and greener.

The scheme is supported by Keep Britain Tidy, Preston City Council, Prime Focus Neighbourhood Management, Community Gateway Association and the University of Central Lancashire, and is looking at reducing litter, dog fouling, fly-tipping and graffiti.

Keep Britain Tidy have carried out an independent survey of the area, called a Local Environmental Quality Survey. Being part of this scheme will give the council access to expert knowledge about what works best and ways in which we can work with the local community to monitor street cleaning.

At the end of the project, Keep Britain Tidy will help the council assess if the new ways of working are producing cleaner streets. If successful, the scheme will be rolled out to other areas. Residents are leafleted and encouraged to feedback and help in the up-keep of their area.

If you want to know more, or you are a local resident who wants to get involved, please contact Stan Mitchell from Pr1me Focus on 01772 516423, or email s.mitchell@preston.gov.uk.

New crossing makes area safer for local residents

A long awaited pedestrian crossing at Longridge Road in Ribbleton is helping local residents cross a very busy road safely. The residents cross a very busy road. The residents are leafleted and encouraged to try not to cross Longridge Road safely. The residents cross a very busy road.

Tackling the Digital Divide

Monday 21 September
10.00am - 4.00 pm
@ CitizenZone vehicle St Augustine’s Presbytery
Come along and try out the IT facilities on board the CitizenZone. All levels are catered for and our friendly staff will be delighted to see you.

Wheels for All

Tuesday 22 September
3.00 - 4.00 pm
@ Moor Park
A range of cycles, suitable for wheelchair users and/or people with disabilities will be available to try out. If you would like to come along please give Yvonne Ashcroft a call on 01772 906182.

Healthy Lifestyles Event

Thursday 24 September
10.00am - 3.00 pm
@ Preston Flag Market
Healthcare professionals will be on hand to talk to you about how you can make the most of opportunities to maintain or improve your health.

Open day at West View Leisure Centre

Monday 21 September
10.00 - 3.00 pm
@ West View Leisure Centre
A series of FREE taster sessions are on offer including swimming and exercise classes.

Preston Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Forum

Sunday 27 September
10.00 - 3.00 pm
@ Preston Flag Market
Come along and meet members of the BME Forum who are hosting this event. They will be able to tell you about the forum and you may even wish to join - it's open to everyone!

STOP PRESS

For more information on any of the events listed contact Lesley Pritchard, Community Engagement, Cohesion & Inclusion Officer, Preston City Council:
Tel: 01772 906670
Web: www.preston.gov.uk/equalitydiversity
**Local residents form friends group to revitalise local village green**

Residents of Gosnargh and Whittingham Parishes have come together to look at ways to improve play and leisure facilities in their local community. Year 6 pupils from Gosnargh Oliversons Primary School presented a report to the Rural Area Forum on the condition of their local play area. These newspaper style reports included photographs of unwelcoming sites, inadequate play equipment and drainage issues, as well as written reports on how the park made them feel unsafe.

The feelings of the local residents and partners was only spurred on by the recent arson attack on the play area causing over £8,000 worth of damage and causing a major piece of play equipment to be permanently removed for safety reasons.

Since then a Friends group has been formed with support from the Women’s Institute, local City Councillors, Gosnargh Oliversons Primary School, Whitechapel Primary School, Preston City Council’s Neighbourhood Engagement Team, Lancaster Constabulary and Preston City Council Parks & Horticulture department.

Over 25 residents attended the initial meeting and agreed a constitution, which will be confirmed at the group’s first Annual General Meeting, when executive officers will also be elected.

The group is looking to see what can be involved as possible to be involved as although the play area development is the top priority the group has agreed that facilities on the green as a whole need to be looked at.

Back in September 2004 a group of motivated and passionate residents got together to strive for a sustainable and resilient community for Whitechapel and Inglewhite. WICE, the Whitechapel and Inglewhite Community Enterprise, came together to identify and address a number of local community needs. After extensive consultation with local residents and community organisations the WICE vision was born.

Part of this vision is to respond to the absence of sports facilities within the community. By constructing a Multi-Use Games Area adjacent to the Whitechapel Primary School. This facility will be available to the whole community including youths in the area, schools, individuals and the numerous different clubs in the area.

Whitechapel and Inglewhite villagers get closer to their dream!

The next step for Ingol Community Association is to work with their elected representatives and services to look at a variety of issues in their community.

**The Redevelopment of Ingol Dip**

Ingol Community Association, Impact Neighbourhood Management and Lancashire County Council have been working together to bring about major improvements to the area known as Ingol Dip.

**Community Street Audits - what are they?**

Street audits are a great way for local residents to work together with their elected representatives and services to look at a variety of issues in their community.

**The Street Representatives Scheme**

The Street Representatives Scheme has quickly become an additional and highly valued resource for Neighbourhood Management in Preston.

**Community News**

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