**Updates for Sector 3 bulletin – 30th November**

**Funding available for mental health support services**

Stockport Council is making grant funding available for community and voluntary organisations in Stockport to help people who may be struggling with mental health issues or low mental wellbeing. Two levels of funding are now available through the Stockport Local Fund.

The money is intended to help organisations to grow and to provide early help and support to people to prevent problems getting worse, and to help them to cope with challenging times, especially in the communities most affected.

Two levels of funding will be available: up to £1,000 through a simpler application process, and up to £10,000 for larger projects. Proposals that will involve two or more organisations working together to support and complement each other will be given preference, especially for larger bids.

Find out more and apply via the [online form](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nvZeoElhuk-kDN8ziBD2RD5ZiHBlB29Hrjm6etrMPNdURE40QU1HQUo5MFRVT01HVkpTOVZSQTBSMC4u).

**Cost of Living Crisis GM Grants Programme**

Are you a voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE) organisation with an annual income between £50,000 and £250,000 based and working in one of the ten localities of Greater Manchester? If your answer is YES then you may be eligible for one of thirty-six £5000 grants allocated across the ten localities. Provided by the Eric Wright Charitable Trust, this funding will support the existing activities of medium-sized VCSE organisations in Greater Manchester. In these difficult times, the Trust want to help sustain organisations that support vulnerable communities of people that are struggling to cope with the worst of the cost of living crisis.

The grant application deadline is 12 noon on Friday 13 January 2023. For more information please visit ‘[Cost of Living Crisis Greater Manchester Funding Programme’](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmanchestercommunitycentral.org%2Fcost-living-crisis-greater-manchester-funding-programme&data=05%7C01%7Cjudith.strobl%40stockport.gov.uk%7C7ea54402517e495e836908dace36dba8%7Ca05ef69e61494fbaa40cdf338810f644%7C0%7C0%7C638049035185517740%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=p%2BJewUMT7v4qLsZ6MYkE%2BRvsVN63BIaXDR5QUregTeY%3D&reserved=0)

**Cost of living newsletter**

As part of Stockport Council’s drive to support residents and organisations with the cost of living, the council has launched a cost of living and warm spaces newsletter. This details lots of the activities going on across the borough to help residents feel supported during this challenging time.

If you’ve not signed up to the newsletter, you can do so by visiting the [Stockport Council website](https://www.stockport.gov.uk/), scrolling to the bottom to add your email address, clicking ‘Subscribe’ and selecting ‘Cost of Living and Warm Spaces newsletter’.

**Winter support vouchers**

Winter support vouchers are now being distributed to eligible families by Stockport Council. Eligible families include those on income-based free school meals (or equivalent in early years or post-16), and those in receipt of local council tax support and/or housing benefit as paid by Stockport Council.

Please advise residents to check their email junk folder. Vouchers could be via post or email, and residents with more than one child should be advised that their vouchers may arrive at different times and in different formats.

For more information visit the [council website](https://www.stockport.gov.uk/wsv).

**Library help to get online**

Being online can save families £286 a month with online prices and deals. All Stockport libraries have free-to-use public computers and Wi-Fi, and staff can signpost support with getting online for the first time. Five libraries are also running special sessions to help people get online. Hazel Grove, Edgeley and Great Moor libraries hold sessions on Mondays, Cheadle library on Tuesdays, and Bredbury library on Wednesdays and Fridays. For full details, see Stockport Council’s [Events calendar](https://www.stockport.gov.uk/events?category=digital-skills).

**Have your say on the council’s budget proposals**

The council is seeking views on its budget proposals for the financial year 2023/24. Like everyone, the cost of living crisis is impacting council funding, and there is a need to make savings in order to balance the books.

Residents can give their views via the [consultation portal](https://consultation.stockport.gov.uk/) or through the physical forms available at warm spaces and libraries across the borough.

**Stockport Council and Stockport Economic Alliance to launch new Economic Plan**

Stockport Council and Stockport Economic Alliance will officially launch the borough’s ambitious Economic Plan at an event to be held on Wednesday, 7 December.

In 2021, the council and Stockport Economic Alliance jointly committed to developing a new Economic Plan for Stockport. Over the last 12 months they have worked together with both residents and businesses across the borough, who were consulted on their aspirations for the local economy. This valuable insight from the community has contributed to the plan, which sets out the shared ambitions and vision for the Stockport economy. The delivery of the Plan will be overseen by the Economic Alliance working in partnership with organisations across Stockport.

The Economic Plan will be available to view online after the launch event, with more information to follow.

**GM Winterwise**

Greater Manchester Ageing Hub has partnered with national older person’s charity Independent to produce Winterwise – a printed guide to keeping well this winter for older people. If you’d like copies of the Winterwise guide (in multiples of 88 per box), please email jo.garsden@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk. To access an online version of the booklet or for more information about the campaign visit GM’s [‘Winterwise guide’](https://greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/ageing/winterwise-guide/) web-page.

**World AIDS Day Events in Manchester**

The PaSH Partnership will be in Sackville Gardens, Manchester on Thursday 1st December at 6pm for a special World AIDS Day Vigil. The vigil will remember people lost to HIV, show solidarity with people living with HIV around the world and commit to ending HIV stigma and discrimination. Earlier in the day from 11am-1pm LGBT Foundation’s Archive Volunteers are holding a drop in on the Ground Floor of Manchester Central Library. Call in to see a selection of items from the LGBT Foundation Archive at Archives+ which tell the story of HIV and AIDS awareness and activism in Manchester. LGBT Foundation’s Sexual Health Team will also be there, who will be on hand to discuss HIV testing and support through the years and what is accessible in Greater Manchester today! The drop in is FREE, and there’s no need to book. Please attend/share.For more information on the vigil visit: [World AIDS Day Vigil (ght.org.uk)](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fght.org.uk%2Fvigil%23%3A~%3Atext%3DThe%2520PaSH%2520Partnership%2520World%2520AIDS%2C6pm%2520in%2520Sackville%2520Gardens%252C%2520Manchester.&data=05%7C01%7Cjudith.strobl%40stockport.gov.uk%7C7ea54402517e495e836908dace36dba8%7Ca05ef69e61494fbaa40cdf338810f644%7C0%7C0%7C638049035185517740%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9zsne2Ap6JmegmAWJZNswGsWzQ78bJH0olbusjiveGc%3D&reserved=0). For more information on the Archives+ drop in visit: [LGBT Foundation - Events](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flgbt.foundation%2Fevents%2Fsingle%2F12002&data=05%7C01%7Cjudith.strobl%40stockport.gov.uk%7C7ea54402517e495e836908dace36dba8%7Ca05ef69e61494fbaa40cdf338810f644%7C0%7C0%7C638049035185517740%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4iNCJLH9%2B%2FgqvHvxj8cLmX3foFh4BibryYJxmRePlbg%3D&reserved=0).

**Developing Climate Resilient Age-Friendly Cities and Communities** Wed 7 December, Online – 10:00-12:00

Climate-related weather events (e.g., extreme heat, storms, and flooding) pose challenges for older people and where they live. We need to understand how best to support older adults to age-in-place within the context of a changing climate. This will require interventions to build climate resilient age-friendly cities and communities while recognising the positive contribution older adults can make to their community. The aim of this workshop is to discuss the opportunities and challenges for policy and practice to achieve climate resilient age-friendly cities and communities. The workshop will bring together key actors to explore how cities and communities should respond to the climate emergency, while ensuring they meet the needs of an ageing population. [Booking for event](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.co.uk%2Fe%2Fdeveloping-climate-resilient-age-friendly-cities-and-communities-tickets-462197363757&data=05%7C01%7Cjudith.strobl%40stockport.gov.uk%7C7ea54402517e495e836908dace36dba8%7Ca05ef69e61494fbaa40cdf338810f644%7C0%7C0%7C638049035185673980%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=p8tWg%2Bri7slLhTzYQwuP8NsPA4USFaEm5q3qkTciQP0%3D&reserved=0)

**Greater Manchester Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy**

GM is consulting people from across the mental health landscape and refreshing its Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Through this consultation we want to inform, steer and challenge our thinking on what the refresh should look like. It's a 'refresh' of our 2016 plan. Many of our aspirations and objectives may not have changed since 2016, but the world in which we exist has changed significantly.

As an Integrated Care System we have a responsibility to deliver the clear targets of NHS England’s 10-year plan for mental health. At the same, we know that simply doing this would not change the way people experience and understand their mental health and wellbeing. We work as part of a partnership of organisations providing services for the public across Greater Manchester and ultimately, we have a responsibility to the people of Greater Manchester.

[Please complete this survey](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.office.com%2FPages%2FResponsePage.aspx%3Fid%3Dkp4VA8ZyI0umSq9Q55CtvyV9l2C412JDkD3sg8zSUMdUMjJSMEE0UE9GVjkwRkJMVjZVVDA2RzIzVi4u&data=05%7C01%7Csimon.armour%40stockport.gov.uk%7C08dfed21725a43fc476d08daceddbaee%7Ca05ef69e61494fbaa40cdf338810f644%7C0%7C0%7C638049748976893476%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C2000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=VEARVHIJgAxVMuUYs9syvxOez2jo1PSzuRkOtVFZA3c%3D&reserved=0) which is open until 13th December. More information on the [Greater Manchester Integrated Care website.](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fhub.gmintegratedcare.org.uk%2Fmental-health%2Fwhats-new%2Fgreater-manchester-is-refreshing-its-mental-health-and-wellbeing-strategy%2F&data=05%7C01%7Csimon.armour%40stockport.gov.uk%7C08dfed21725a43fc476d08daceddbaee%7Ca05ef69e61494fbaa40cdf338810f644%7C0%7C0%7C638049748976893476%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C2000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3EC89REZeijdAGx7nh9kEW9fHuTqnyqmAvycPjN9Hb8%3D&reserved=0)