



Date of Meeting	20 March 2024
Report Author	Pennines Township Committee Chair
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Report of the Pennines Township Committee Chair

Executive Summary

1. This report provides an update on the recent activity relating to the Pennines Township

Key Points for Consideration

2. Highways Service

Pennines Township contains some of the highest ground above sea level and during winter the team have been gritting key routes during the cold spells of weather.

The road resurfacing programme is currently being readied for delivery in Pennines with major works planned on Kiln Lane, Whalley Avenue plus an extensive micro-asphalt programme across the Township residential roads.

The Highways Service has recently been commissioned to undertake Traffic Regulation Orders by the Township, meeting priorities for Councillors and residents.

Community Safety

The Community Safety Officer for the Pennines Township attends the RBH Partnership Board and Township Committee meetings where they can address any Community Safety concerns raised.

The team have installed Section 59 signage regarding off road vehicles at the Wardle Recreational area following reports of off road vehicle usage, this will allow GMP to seize off road vehicles as part of Operation Dragster.

Work continues in partnership with Foundation 92's who offer 1-1 youth mentoring to address the behaviour of young people that are on the fringes of becoming involved in more serious ASB.

Community Safety have provided a presence on the Tram Network between Rochdale Town Centre and Newhey, and have taken part in the Travelsafe Operation at Milnrow Tram stop.

Library Service

Milnrow Library:

- Building works will begin end of March / beginning of April 2024 planning meetings will take place to discuss the work in more detail
- Garden works planned again for end of this year (after the building works to both inside and outside of the building has been completed).

- Open Plus will be postponed until the building work is complete and the scaffolding has been removed

Littleborough Library:

- Food parcel collection now live at Littleborough Library – Since the launch date of Mon 15th Jan 2024 19 food parcels have been distributed (feeding 31 adults and 25 children).
- Customer Service Advisers to offer drop in sessions to provide welfare advice to residents are planned once staffing levels allow

Smallbridge Library:

- The Library team have created a very positive atmosphere over the past few months to make the children using the library feel welcome and engaged and reward good behaviour. The focus is now to engage with more residents and encourage them to utilise the many services the library has to offer
- There was a very well attended Slow Cooking and Energy Saving event this evidences the dynamic offer of these community hubs

Smithy Bridge Library:

- Warm spaces continues to be offered for residents to have a drink and a chat and Uniform 4 All service is operating from the library too
- The library also benefitted from Slow Cooking and Energy Saving event which was really well attended and welcomed by the community

Wardle Library:

- There is a new Senior Library & information Assistant now in place, the focus for the library is to increase community usage and engagement and improve the offer to residents. Capital Funding was secured in 2023 and will be used to make improvements within the building

Youth Service

Across the past term 290 young people have engaged with the Youth Service across Milnrow, Wardle, Littleborough and Smallbridge. Over the past three months there have been 86 sessions and additional school supportive sessions have ran at Hollingworth and Wardle Academy.

A Year 6 youth club on Thursday evenings at Milnrow Youth Centre has been developed following an increase of year 6 young people wanting to attend, this will be supported by a Your Trust sports worker.

Young people from Smallbridge have participated in consultation sessions with the Reclaim Project, looking at changing and developing services in Rochdale, for young people. They have partnered with RBH and the Branches Fellowship Church to establish future partnership work in the Smallbridge area in the near future.

Township News

Pennines in Bloom received 26 awards this year at the North West in Bloom ceremony. The team of volunteers work tirelessly to create beautiful floral displays for everyone to enjoy. The plan next year for the group is to further improve links with schools to educate and increase engagement, they will also have a specific focus on recycling.

Township funding continues to support the communities needs and provides grant funding for a number of community initiatives and events.

Councillor Amna Mir Pennines Township Committee Chair

Thank you Mr. Mayor, I will be pleased to answer any questions from Members of the Council about these or any other matter relating to the Township