

White Cross Business Park Newsletter

| October 2026

Tel: 01524 585 360 • Email: whitecross@lancashire.gov.uk

White Cross
Business Park Lancaster



Business Park Manager Update

As we move into autumn, I wanted to take the opportunity to provide an update on some of the improvement works completed across White Cross Business Park over recent months, together with a number of projects that are currently progressing or planned across the estate.

Warm regards,
Dean Barlow

INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS ACROSS THE WHITE CROSS BUSINESS PARK

We have continued to invest across the estate throughout the year, with a particular focus on improving the condition, operation and security of the business park. Our CCTV system has been improved, strengthening coverage and monitoring across the estate.

We have also recently completed a programme of road repairs to sections of the business park. The associated line marking is still to follow. Before this is completed, we are reviewing the available areas carefully to see whether we can maximise the number of usable parking spaces wherever reasonably possible.

CAMERON HOUSE WINDOW REPLACEMENT

The next phase of our window replacement programme is now progressing at Cameron House. Scaffolding will shortly be erected around parts of the building to allow a number of the remaining timber-framed windows to be replaced.

This forms part of our wider ongoing investment in the condition and performance of the estate's buildings. We will continue to liaise directly with occupiers affected by the works and work with our contractors to minimise disruption while the project is underway.

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FURTHER WORKS AND INVESTMENT

There are also several other projects progressing across the estate. We are currently undertaking a major electrical rewiring scheme to the second floor of Alston House to bring the electrical installation up to the required specification.

Looking ahead, we are hoping to progress the installation of a lift serving the second floor of Alston House over the coming months. We are also looking at a programme of toilet refurbishments across a number of areas of the estate. As these projects develop and programmes are confirmed, we will provide further information, particularly to the occupiers who are most likely to be directly affected.

KEEPING WHITE CROSS MOVING FORWARD

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White Cross Business Park,
South Road, Lancaster, LA1 4XQ



Our Website: www.whitecrossbusinesspark.co.uk

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WET WEATHER AND ROOF LEAKS

Unfortunately, autumn also means a return to wetter and stormier weather.

With White Cross comprising a large collection of historic buildings, periods of particularly heavy or wind-driven rain can sometimes highlight issues that may not have been apparent during drier weather.

If you notice any new water ingress, or a recurrence of a previous leak, within your premises or one of the communal areas, please let the Estate Office know as soon as possible.

Early reporting allows us to record the precise location and provide our roofing contractors with as much information as possible to investigate the cause. If you are able to include photographs and a brief description of where the water is appearing, that is always particularly helpful.

CHANGES TO VISITOR PARKING REGISTRATION

Our parking provider has advised that they will be moving away from the existing visitor parking tablets and towards a QR code and NFC-based registration system. Under the new arrangement, visitors would use their own smartphone to scan a QR code or NFC point and register their vehicle, rather than using one of the existing tablets located around the estate.

Before this change is introduced, we would really welcome feedback from tenants. We recognise that businesses across White Cross use the visitor parking arrangements in different ways, and there may be practical considerations that are not immediately obvious to us.

In particular, we would like to understand whether the proposed change could create any difficulties for your

business, visitors or customers, as well as whether you see any benefits from moving to the new system. This will help us identify any potential issues in advance and consider what arrangements may need to be put in place to mitigate them.

If you think the change could positively or negatively affect you, please let us know by emailing whitecross@lancashire.gov.uk

Thank you in advance for your feedback.

THANK YOU FIRST DIGITAL MEDIA

We are pleased to announce that we have partnered with local digital marketing agency, First Digital Media, to produce our newsletters.

Based at Fraser House, they have worked with us for several years, supporting our website and other digital marketing services. We would like to say a huge thank you for their continued support and assistance!

LIGHT UP LANCASTER

Finally, something a little different.

Light Up Lancaster returns from 5th to 7th November, and this year's event will extend right down towards White Cross. Lancaster BID has confirmed that several installations will be positioned along Lancaster Canal between the White Cross area and the Water Witch.

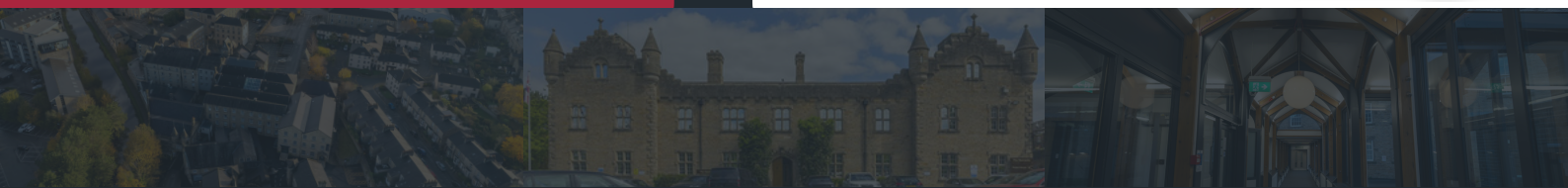
It is great to see such a significant Lancaster event reaching this end of the city, and we would encourage anybody interested to take the opportunity to enjoy it. There is likely to be additional pedestrian activity around the canal and the edge of the business park during the evenings of the event, so please just be mindful of this if you are accessing the estate during those times.

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THE OLIVE BRANCH (FAITH IN ACTION)

Over the first 6 months of this year, The Olive Branch has provided over 2,100 emergency food parcels to people in need. We've been so blessed by the efforts of our community to keep our shelves stocked throughout this year.

As winter approaches and living costs increase, we anticipate a rise in need for emergency food parcels. So, we would be really grateful for as much help as possible this Harvest season, to stock up for the colder months ahead.

If you feel able to donate any of the items on the poster or even hold a collection within your team or workplace, this would be hugely appreciated! Donations can be dropped into our centre in Unit 8-0-1 Harpers Mill, White Cross Business Park, or a collection point can also be found inside the Gatehouse Reception of White Cross Business Park. With many thanks from The Olive Branch team.

the Olive Branch
faith in action
HARVEST APPEAL

Can you help us replenish the following items, so we are ready to support people in need through the winter?

PASTA	BISCUITS	PASTA SAUCE
TINNED PASTA	TINNED FISH	TINNED PUDDINGS
BAKED BEANS	RICE	TINNED FRUIT
TINNED TOMATOES	TINNED MEAT MEALS	
TINNED SOUP	CEREAL	
TINNED VEG	TEA & COFFEE	

info@the-olivebranch.org.uk 01524 555 715 Harpers Mill, White Cross Business Park, LA1 4XQ

BEST ESTATE AGENCY OFFICE IN THE UK

On 16th October Houseclub were named best estate agency office in the UK at the 2026 ESTAs awards presented by Phil Spencer. It was at the Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, Mayfair.

It is the tenth time in succession they have won best in the North West and after finishing second in the whole of the UK last year, managed to go one better and secure the best in the UK title this time around.



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Start your
day with a
complimentary
breakfast
with us



Lancaster &
Morecambe
College

Celebrating 200 Years of Learning

Creative, Digital & IT Employer Advisory Board

We would like to invite you to join us for an **Employer Advisory Breakfast Meeting** with our Principal and Program Area Manager for Visual, Creative & Digital Studies to discuss key themes within your sector.

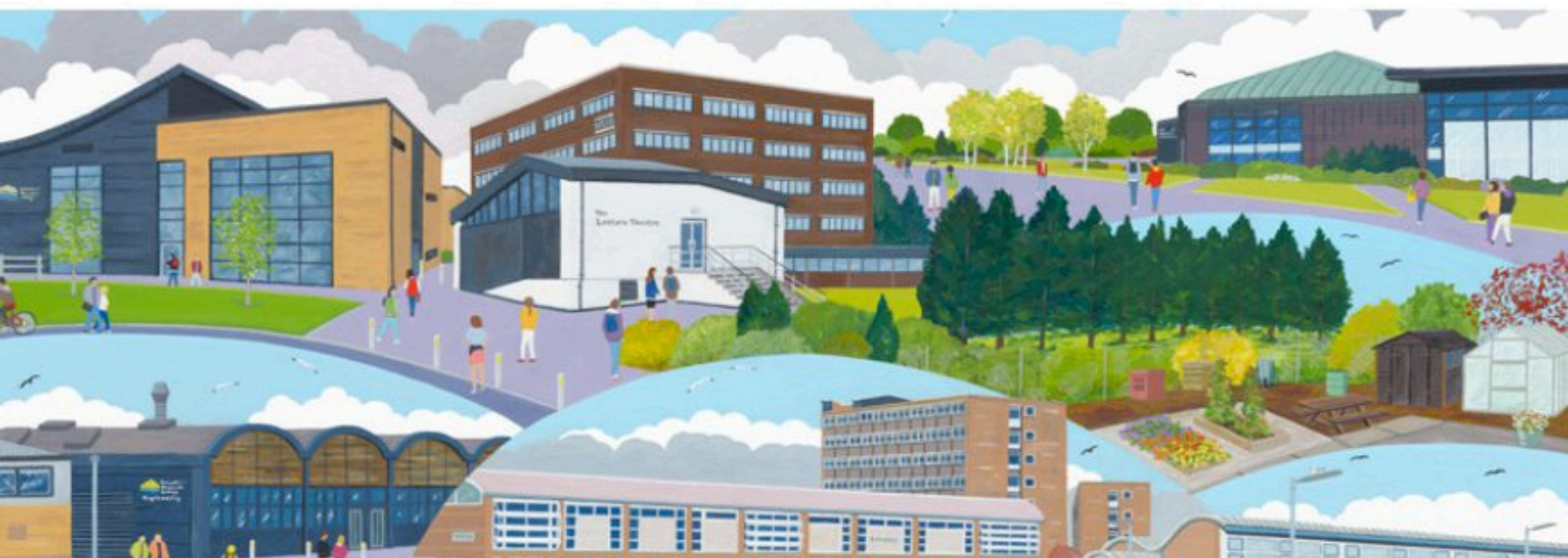
Your expertise and insight into the skills shortages in your industry are invaluable to help us shape our curriculum.

Tuesday 4 March • 9.30am-11am

Employer Hub, Lancaster & Morecambe College

Please register below to attend:

lmc.ac.uk/employers/employer-advisory-boards



Take your first steps to a smoke-free life



Support and activities in Lancaster and Morecambe to help you stop smoking, improve your lung health and benefit your wellbeing



Breathe easy, quit smoking

In partnership with Smokefree Lancashire, our friendly **smoke-free hubs** can provide you with one-to-one mentoring, resources and alternative tobacco products to help you to quit smoking.

You can join our free social activities to support you on your journey, including singing groups, Tai Chi, nature walks, health and wellbeing coaching and more



**“I saved
£422 in the
first month
when I
stopped
smoking”**



Morecambe

2

1

3

4

5

7

Lancaster

M6

Smoke-free Hubs Morecambe

- 1 **Bay Veterans Association**
The Arndale Centre, 23-25 Royalty Mall, Morecambe LA4 5DH
- 2 **Stanleys Community Centre**
79-83 Stanley Road, Morecambe LA3 1UT

Smoke-free Hubs Lancaster

- 3 **Skerton Community Centre**
Skerton, Lancaster, LA1 2JH
- 4 **St Chad's Church Hall**
Torrisholme Road, Lancaster, LA1 2SE
- 5 **Marsh Community Centre**
Willow Lane, Lancaster, LA1 5PP
- 6 **The Cornerstone**
Sulyard Street, Lancaster, LA1 1PX
- 7 **Positive Futures**
701 Cameron House, White Cross Industrial Estate, South Road, Lancaster, LA1 4XF

“Within the first few weeks of quitting, you’ll be able to breathe easier with better lung function and have improved blood circulation, helping you to live a healthier life”





MORECAMBE BAY
WILLS & ESTATES



LANCASTER WILLS



NORTH WALES WILLS



KENDAL WILLS

Here to support
our local communities

North Lancashire and South Cumbria Set to Benefit as Morecambe Bay Wills Doubles Community Fund to £15,000

The Morecambe Bay Wills Community Fund

www.morecambebaywills.co.uk

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

North Lancashire and South Cumbria Set to Benefit as Morecambe Bay Wills Doubles Community Fund to £15,000

Morecambe Bay Wills & Estates — which also operates as Lancaster Wills and Kendal Wills — has doubled its Community Fund for 2026 to £15,000, with grassroots organisations across North Lancashire and South Cumbria set to benefit alongside groups in North Wales.

The fund builds on six years of community giving by the firm, which has donated 5% of every Will and Lasting Power of Attorney invoice to local good causes since 2020 — a total that now stands at over £59,000. Cancer Care was the firm's sole nominated charity for a number of years and remains its largest supported cause, having received more than £24,000. Ongoing support also continues for partners including Unique Kidz & Co, Morecambe FC Community Foundation, Positive Futures, Disability Skiing Wales, based in Llandudno and the Morecambe Bay Pulmonary Fibrosis Support Group, among others.

The growth of the Community Fund also comes in a milestone year for the firm, which celebrated its seventh anniversary on 1st March 2026, having been founded by Nicola Combe in Lancaster in 2019.

Last year's inaugural Community Fund round saw thirty local groups across North Lancashire, South Cumbria and North Wales each receive a £250 grant, including Wyre Juniors Football Club, who used theirs towards their 50th anniversary celebrations, St John's Hospice, and Four Seasons Allotments Association, who put theirs towards safer access for disabled and single-parent families using their site. In South Cumbria, recipients included Age UK South Cumbria and Space2Create, a self-funded charity offering free art-based mental health support.

This year, the format is changing: rather than a single annual round, grants will be awarded quarterly throughout the year, with a mix of £250 and £500 awards depending on the scale of the project. The firm is also introducing additional support for people who use the services of the charities it backs.

Nominations open on 14th September 2026 and will be accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year, with the firm reviewing applications and distributing grants in October 2026, and again in January, April and July 2027.

Director Nicola Combe said:

"Every penny of this fund starts with a client trusting us with their Will or Power of Attorney, so it is really a thank you to them as much as it is a gift to these organisations. Seeing what £250 or £500 can genuinely do — new equipment for a school gardening club, safer play space for a football team, a bit of breathing room for a charity that is entirely self-funded — that's what makes this the part of the business we are most proud of."

How it will work

- Nominations open: from 14th September 2026, accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year

- Grants: a combination of £250 and £500 awards, reviewed and distributed quarterly
- Distribution dates: October 2026, January 2027, April 2027 and July 2027
- Visit www.morecambebaywills.co.uk and complete the nomination form
- Eligibility: local organisations in North Lancashire and South Cumbria with a bank account in their own name, nominations can be made by anyone, at any time
- Winners will be announced on Morecambe Bay Wills' social media channels each quarter, with the team visiting recipients in person to see their work and present the grant

Notes to Editors

- Total fund for 2026: £15,000 (doubled from £7,500 in 2025)
- Grant sizes: £250 and £500
- Nomination window: opens 14th September 2026, ongoing throughout the year
- Distribution dates: October 2026, January, April and July 2027
- Eligibility: local organisations in North Lancashire and South Cumbria with a bank account in their own name, nominations can be made by anyone, at any time
- Total charitable giving by Morecambe Bay Wills & Estates since 2020: over £59,000

About Morecambe Bay Wills & Estates:

Morecambe Bay Wills & Estates (incorporating Lancaster Wills, Kendal Wills and North Wales Wills) provides independent, fixed-fee estate planning services, including Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney and Trusts, delivered at home, at the office, or by video.

Media enquiries:

Email: nicola@morecambebaywills.co.uk

Tel: 01524 571032



BayShare.uk

Library of Things

bayshare.uk

lamm.space

LAMM launched the BayShare Library of Things at Harpers Mill, next door to Lancaster Community Makerspace, in May 2026.

Anyone can now join for free as a library member and borrow items at very affordable rates. We also run a monthly repair cafe.



A library of things is...

...a community-run space where members can borrow items we need only a few times a year instead of having to buy them. Reducing our consumption saves not just money and storage space, but also resources and energy, and so is much better for the planet.

Browse the catalogue
or join the library:
bayshare.uk



LANCASTER
Community
MAKERSPACE



BayShare.uk
A Library of Things Network

**LOVE
LANCASTER**



LANCASTER
BUSINESS
IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT

Your business.
Part of something bigger.

Exclusive benefits for White Cross businesses

White Cross Business Park is a Premium Associate Member of Lancaster BID. As a business based at White Cross, you can take advantage of opportunities to promote your business, make connections and get involved.



LANCASTER GUARDIAN

- **FREE half-page feature in the Lancaster Guardian**

Put your business in the spotlight with a free half-page feature to promote what you do.

- **FREE tickets to BID Breakfasts and other events**

Meet fellow businesses, hear about local developments and build connections.



- **FREE Love Lancaster marketing assets**

Access the Love Lancaster marketing assets and brand book to use in your own marketing.

- **Get your business shared on social media**

Share your business news and posts through Lancaster BID's social media channels.



Have your say

Get involved in Lancaster BID subgroups, contribute ideas and help shape its work

Access your benefits

Contact Tony to find out more and access your benefits on: bidmanager@lancasterbid.org

White Cross

LOVE LANCASTER

BID

LANCASTER
BUSINESS
IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT

Meet Lancaster BID

Working together for a thriving Lancaster

Lancaster BID (Business Improvement District) is a business-led, not-for-profit organisation working to make Lancaster city centre a better place to visit, work and do business. We bring businesses and partners together to promote the city, support local enterprise and create a welcoming environment.

Our three key goals



1 High quality events and festivals

We organise events including Dino Fest and the Christmas Lights Switch On, and support partner events such as Light Up Lancaster and Lancaster Pride, bringing people into the city and creating opportunities for local businesses.



2 Marketing Lancaster as a destination

Through Love Lancaster, we showcase the city's businesses, culture and character. Social media, engaging content, campaigns and local media partnerships help put Lancaster in front of residents and visitors.



Plus a brighter, better-connected city.



From Christmas lights, planting and public art to clean-up initiatives, we help Lancaster look its best. BID Breakfasts, business awards and regular updates bring the business community together.



3 Safe and secure city centre

Our BID Warden and partnerships with police, businesses and Pubwatch help tackle anti-social behaviour and make the city centre more welcoming for customers, visitors and staff.



FRASER HOUSE

DIGITAL & TECH HUB IN LANCASTER A FLEXIBLE COWORKING SPACE TO GROW, INNOVATE & COLLABORATE

Fraser House is a diverse and inclusive co-working space for Tech and Digital businesses. Our community fosters collaboration and encourages innovation.

Fraser House is a community-driven workspace located in the heart of Lancaster. Our mission is to create a welcoming and inclusive environment where Tech and Digital professionals from all backgrounds can come together to collaborate, innovate, and grow.

We believe that a diverse community is a stronger community, and we strive to create a space that is welcoming to everyone. Whether you are a solo entrepreneur, a small business owner, or a member of a larger team, Fraser House is the perfect place for you to thrive.

With a variety of membership plans from day passes to dedicated desks, our hub is equipped with state-of-the-art technology and resources, including full fibre internet, meeting rooms and more. We offer a range of networking and professional development events, including lunchtime talks, meetups, and socials, to help our members connect and grow.

White Cross Tenants Membership here at Fraser House £60 for every 4 members of staff for access to the space tea/coffee and 2 hours of free meeting room space each month.

We encourage our members to engage with one another and share their knowledge and expertise. Whether you're looking to bounce ideas off of your peers, work on a project together, or simply connect with like-minded professionals, Fraser House is the perfect place to do it.

Fraser House Hub is financed by Lancashire County Developments Limited and delivered by Lancashire County Council.

If you would like a tour or more information, please contact: hello@fraserhousehub.co.uk





10th September
Martin Peters

ARQ



24th September
Alice Ashcroft

JobFair



8th October
Iseabail Robbie

TCM Capital



22nd October
Patrick Lawton

KomBea
Corp



5th November
Jane Dalton

Groundswell
Innovation



19th November
**Lancaster & Morecambe
Chamber of Commerce**



3rd December
Dan Knowles

Northern
Reach

A space to grow. A space to innovate. A space to collaborate.

BUSINESS FUNDAMENTALS:
SKILLS FOR ENTERPRISE GROWTH

14 Session Business Skills Bootcamp for Start-ups & SMEs

- Limited Places Available
- Learn from Chartered Business Advisors
- For Pre-Starts, Early Stage Entrepreneurs & SMEs
- Fully Funded for Independent Learners
- Funded 90% - 100% for SME Organisations

**START
NOW**

01254 503043



Start & Grow Your Business



Tailored 14 Session Programme for Lancashire Business Start-ups

Develop your hands-on business skills including:

- *How to take your business from an idea to reality*
- *Market Research, Securing Contracts & Commissions*
- *Create a High Impact Social Media Marketing Strategy*
- *Building a Realistic Business Plan with SMART Goals*
- *Understand Financial Planning & Legal Structures*
- *How to Win & Retain Customers with USPs*
- *Getting Ahead with Artificial Intelligence*



Gain an optional Leadership and Management qualification.

Join a Community of Entrepreneurs & Experts:

Connect with Lancashire businesses and work directly with Chartered Business Advisors, who can't wait to help you launch your business.

Proven Excellence: Our tailor-made programmes have a 9.5/10 average learner feedback score.

Co-Created by Experienced Business Owners, Chartered Business Advisors & Fellows of CMI.

This engaging business startup programme will empower you to launch your business with confidence and support.



14 Session, 7 Week Bootcamp Starting January 2027

Tuesday & Thursday 9:30am - 3:00pm

at Community CVS, Boulevard Centre, Blackburn.

For an informal chat, and to get started, please contact the Community CVS, Business & Skills Team.

training@communitycvs.org.uk

01254 503043