

Development Worker's Report January 28th, 2026

Community Support & Grant Management –

- Digital & Memorial Project for Bill Williams: Initial setup of the page is complete. This includes a dedicated "Tributes" section. I'm continuing to gather/upload photographs, messages and stories to honour Bill's memory/legacy within the community.

Grant Applications/Due Diligence

OMVCS (WRCF) 3-Year Grant: Currently updating/preparing due diligence documents required for the application, ensuring all policies meet required criteria. Almost complete.

The priority for the rest of the week is finalising the OMVCS due diligence information to ensure submission before the deadline on Friday.

- **Workshop Proposal:** Submitted a successful application for our local project—creating age-friendly waterproof bench folders. These will provide vital resource information for residents using the Whalley Range benches. We are enriching the benches/improving local knowledge with weather-proof document folders made with natural/recycled materials attached to each bench. We will run community workshops to design the folders: we have engaged with a few groups initially from a NIF grant - but need to make folders for each bench as part of our planned Celebration.

We are planning an Age-friendly bench walk on May 12th as a celebration to mark the installation of the benches and attach the folders - and to celebrate the life of our dear community member Bill Williams - who was one of the driving forces behind the age-friendly benches installation. Our age-friendly walk and celebration will be for everyone and will also be part of GM Walking Festival.

- **Budget reconciliation of the Cost of Living and Leg Up Club** Working on Spreadsheets/accounts/expenses to ensure all grant balances are accurate and funds are allocated according to the original project
- **MCC NIF Grant Monitoring:** Provided monitoring of completion of budgeting/cost of living project, outcomes and spend for this Neighbourhood Investment Fund (NIF) grant, specifically focused on the impact of cost-of-living support for residents.
- **JNR8 Sessions: Confirmed Schedule**
Cooking on a Budget 3-week course: dates confirmed as 9th, 16th and 23rd of February at 10-12 noon at JNR8 (Funded via an MCC Food Insecurity grant)
Creative Conversations Bench Folder Workshops: dates confirmed as 2nd and 23rd of February and 16th and 30th March. (covered by the grant)
We would hope to do a workshop at Celebrate to get lots of people involved.