



What does Whalley Range Community Forum do...?

As a charity and umbrella group, we hold bi-monthly meetings to bring community groups and local services together to report on activities and share news and information

We source funding for the JNR8 centre activities, looking at and addressing priorities of people living in Whalley Range particularly around food poverty, healthy eating, groups supporting good mental and physical health - and bringing people together to socialise and learn new skills

We hold funds on behalf of new and emerging groups, neighbours for one-off celebrations and alley cleaning – and established groups who are in the process of setting up their bank account/MCC account etc.

We co-run the Celebrate Festival with Whalley Range Youth Opportunities Association

We work with a WRCF sub-group: Age-friendly Whalley Range & Chorlton – to ensure older people's voices are heard and to reduce isolation and provide health & wellbeing events

A lot of our work since the pandemic has focused on supporting people through the cost-of-living crisis and our Supporting Communities funding from MCC reflects this.

WRCF has:

- Provided toilet rolls, hand towels, washing up liquid and hand soap for everyone in the building since the pandemic
- Distributed over £10,000 worth of household essentials and personal hygiene products to residents since the beginning of the pandemic
- Produced a cost-of-living leaflet with energy and financial advice and useful contact details - delivered door to door in Whalley Range - and partnered with Whalley Range Climate Action Group to deliver their own energy advice leaflets - alongside our cost-of-living delivery
- Entered into a partnership funding application to help Whalley Range Let's talk clean air and Walk Ride Whalley Range to secure £10,000 to fund some of their initiatives
- Supported/held funds and produced invoices for the purchase of the snowdrops lectern in Alexandra Park, setting up and linking the QR code
- Holding of funds for WR Climate Action Group for banners, puppet workshops and for Ashville surgery for gardening and health events, Whalley Range Women's Group for day trips
- Promoting Whalley Range Women's group and finding a regular space for them to meet during YoSG work
- Hosting and working in partnership with Chorlton and Whalley Range Dementia Action Group to hold an event, involvement in the production of a booklet that came from the findings of the event: 10 ideas - and 3 Dementia leaflets, supporting the delivery via Chorlton Bike Deliveries

- Invited service providers to events at JNR8 including access to Flu and COVID jabs, blood pressure checks, Answer Cancer, Falls Team, Care and Repair, Real Food Real Health diabetes support, Glaucoma UK local screening, unpaid carer's support, Be Well, Care Navigator and district nurses to address local health priorities
- Facilitated and hosted NHS MLCO partnership weekly Leg Up club
- Circulated and promoted local news and initiatives from MCC, local GMP meetings,
- Supported alley projects, reported flytipping, antisocial behaviour, reported and worked with people to address local issues e.g. tree felling and neighbour disputes
- Supported residents with issues related to benefits, GP and hospital appointments, travel and transport, food insecurity, low income and no income
- Provided basic cookery courses, community meals, a Warm Space community hub
- Initiated/hosted health discussions with GP'S to discuss health barriers, particularly for women
- Provided weekly exercise/fitness sessions for women and chair-based exercise for people with low mobility
- Written articles for local free newspaper, WRCF meeting reports, Annual Reports for Forum and Age-friendly network
- Promoted and shared our own and other groups local and relevant news and information on Facebook and website
- Attended and contributed to Ward meetings
- Shared ward wide information via mutual aid groups - and WRCF set up a partners WhatsApp: WRC Connect
- Facilitation of Health and Age-friendly marquee at Celebrate and support to coordinators
- Age without Limits: hosted cultural elders theatre group performances at JNR8
- Age-friendly benches: planned/identified locations for new benches with neighbourhood officer
- Older people's music group: connected musicians and new learners together to play, learn new songs and perform at our events
- Recognise raise awareness and celebrated annual celebrations: International Day of Older People, International Women's Day, International Men's Day - using these themed days to raise awareness of inequality and mental health stigma and celebrating achievements
- Secured funding for all the above
- Liaised with church and building contactors

And much more!