System Leadership update: August 2025

The Lancashire Healthier Places Programme was initially commissioned as a two year programme to *promote healthy weight and create healthier environments across Lancashire***.** The programme supports the delivery of a wider Healthy Hearts Strategy, and the commitment to reduce the prevalence of cardio-vascular disease within communities across the county. The original programme focused delivery on 3 key workstreams; to work with districts to create healthy places through adoption of a district healthy weight declaration, to engage the out of home food sector to consider responsible retailing and provision of healthy food and drink and to engage communities to drive demand for grass roots change through social movement campaigns. March 2025 saw the culmination of a number of outputs from the programme workstreams; see summary infographics here. Delivery of the programme has been sustained for a further year, with a particular focus on system leadership and a placed-based approach to creating healthier weight environments.

To strengthen collaboration and partnership working across the Lancashire 12, a Community of Practice (CoP) will be established as a forum for ongoing collaboration between districts and the county. By bringing together diverse partnerships to foster shared learning, the community of practice aims to co-ordinate action and consider policy levers that can be adopted in taking a systems approach to promoting healthy weight at place. The CoP will also consider how the Healthy Weight Declaration (HWD) can contribute to this approach.

The first scoping session for the Community of Practice took place on 1st July 2025 and will meet quarterly. Outputs from the Community of Practice will be shared with the Healthy Hearts Steering Board.

Further information about the programme outputs and the learning generated through the Lancashire Healthier Places Programme is available here.