



March 2021

Our regular updates enable us to keep you informed of upcoming activity including PEN events and engagement or consultation work across Tameside and Glossop which may be of interest to you.

We want to invite as many people as possible from across Tameside & Glossop to join the PEN family. If you know others who would be interested in hearing about upcoming activity including PEN events and engagement or consultation work across Tameside and Glossop please encourage them to register here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/penandbigconversation>

### **COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update**

The following are some critical sources of information from the government which are updated regularly:

- Updated figures on the number of Coronavirus cases and risk in the UK here: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>
- How to protect yourself or check if you need medical help: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- Guidance on social distancing (including for vulnerable people) here <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-restriction-tiers-what-you-need-to-know>
- Information on self-isolation here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>
- Covid-19 advice for employees, employers and businesses here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

There is also guidance available on our own local websites as detailed below:

Tameside Council - [www.tameside.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/coronavirus) - includes links to service change information, how to volunteer, support for businesses, council tax recovery, mental health support, wellbeing, how to contact the Council for support and more.

NHS Tameside & Glossop CCG - [www.tamesideandglossopccg.org/](http://www.tamesideandglossopccg.org/) link on homepage

Tameside & Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust - [www.tamesidehospital.nhs.uk/](http://www.tamesidehospital.nhs.uk/) information on homepage

Derbyshire Council - <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/social-health/health-and-wellbeing/health-protection/disease-control/coronavirus/coronavirus-covid-19.aspx>

Other things to be aware of include:

- **Partnership Engagement Network Virtual Conference** – We would like to say a big thank you to those who attended our most recent PEN Conference on Tuesday 9 March. Ensuring that public voice and opinion is at the heart of the public sector is key to designing approaches and strategies that meet the needs of our communities. Almost 90 people attended, listened and had their say on the following topics:
  - Presentations from key speakers on the Census, Equalities in Greater Manchester and our Covid-19 vaccination programme in Tameside & Glossop
  - Workshops on specific local programmes and developments, including: Active Tameside, Health Improvement Service, Spiritual Care Strategy consultation, Community Cohesion, Digital Inclusion, Future of Fundraising at ICFT and Census 2021.

A report detailing the discussions and feedback on the event is currently being developed and will be shared with you soon.

- **Ready, Steady, Census** - The decennial census is almost here. This **Sunday 21 March**, Households across Tameside and Glossop will soon be asked to take part in the nationwide survey of housing and the population. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

Information from the digital-first census will help decide how services are planned and funded in your local area. This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, housing or new bus routes.

Households are now receiving letter with a unique access code in the post, allowing them to complete their questionnaire online. Paper questionnaires will be available on request.

If you are able to help promote the census through any local social media platforms, newsletters etc., please let us know and we can provide you with the tools to do this.

For more information, visit [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk)

- **Godley Green Consultation Sessions:** Tameside Council are seeking resident feedback on the Godley Green Garden Village proposals. The Godley Green Garden Village is due to come forward as a planning application later in Spring 2021. The plans for the development include:
  - A wide range of energy-efficient homes
  - A school, shops and health facilities
  - Jobs and apprenticeships from the construction phase
  - Pedestrian, cycle and equestrian networks
  - Enhanced green networks with 10% increase in biodiversity
  - Improved infrastructure and broadband
  - A co-ordinated plan and code process

The planning application will be submitted to establish the principle of residential development on the site, so that the site can provide new homes and services for the area, as well as funds to help the Council protect the services we offer. The development has been promoted and discussed in two cycles of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework. Online consultation took place in February, with more sessions taking place in March (more details below) and then again when a hybrid planning application is submitted.

The online consultation sessions will take place during March as follows:

- **Wednesday 24 March, 2pm-3.30pm**
- **Thursday 25 March, 6pm-7.30pm**

You can book onto these sessions at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/godley-green-garden-village-masterplan-update-tickets-146320431349>

Further information and an opportunity to comment on the scheme can be found online at [www.godleygreen.com](http://www.godleygreen.com) the deadline to comment on the proposals is **6 April 2021**.

### **Grant Funding for VCSE organisations**

There are a number of ways VCSE organisations in Greater Manchester and Derbyshire can apply for funding during the Covid-19 outbreak. 10GM, a partnership of local support and development agencies in Greater Manchester, have come together to produce a bulletin providing all the information on funding opportunities available for VCF organisations in Greater Manchester, including how to apply. You can find the latest bulletin here: <https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/news/gm-funding-ebulletin-march-2021>.

For Glossop, Derbyshire County Council offer a range of grants to assist in the delivery of social, economic, health, environmental, and cultural services. (<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/community/lottery-funding/funding-and-grants.aspx>) High Peak Borough Council also offer grants to VCSE organisations, including through the Councillors' Initiative Fund for residents, local groups, and businesses which can be found here: <https://www.highpeak.gov.uk/article/576/Councillors-Initiative-Fund>. Whilst Foundation Derbyshire offers a wide variety of funding programmes available to community & voluntary groups working across Derbyshire, with information and guidance on available grants and how to apply available here: <https://foundationderbyshire.org/apply-for-a-grant/>.

Update on various funding pots available

- <https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/gmsocinvest/emergencyinvestmentfund>
- **GM BAME Network** have launched the second round of [Emergency Grants for GM BAME Communities](#) small grants.

Grants of £1000-£5000 are available to GM BAME-led VCSE organisations, with an income of £50,000 or less, to respond to the needs of their communities during the Covid-19 pandemic. Applications for this round close on Friday 26th February 2021

at 4pm. These grants are funded by Comic Relief and the National Emergency Fund in response to Covid-19. You can view the news story with the published list of recipients of the first round of micro grants (£50-£1000) via this link:

<https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/news/emergency-grants-gm-bame-communities-round-1-micro-grants-awarded>

- GMCVO has access to a range of social investment funds to support social enterprises, charities and community businesses. They can work with organisations whether they have been negatively impacted by the Covid-19 crisis, looking to take advantage of opportunities as the economy starts to recover, or a mixture of both:
  - **Access to Growth** fund, offering a blended investment mix of grant and loan <https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/gmsocinvest>
  - Additionally, for organisations impacted by Covid-19, they are able to support applications for Social Investment Businesses' **Resilience and Recovery Loan Fund** and the **Bounce Back Loan Scheme** offered by Growth Company. Applications close on 31 March 2021. <https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/civicrm/ mailing/ url?u=85905&qid=3827416>
  - For communities looking to develop their own housing schemes or sports facilities GMCVO is also the local partner for the **Resonance Community Developers Fund** <https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/civicrm/ mailing/ url?u=85907&qid=3827416>

### **Covid-19 opinion and behaviour insight:**

The following are some key statistics taken from different pieces of national and regional research indicating what the impact of covid-19 has been for people including businesses. Understanding the impact of Covid-19 will be crucial to our recovery locally and how we plan to build back better.

- 79% think that everyone should be subject to the same restrictions until most people have been vaccinated. 12% think those that have been vaccinated should not be subject to Covid-19 restrictions
- 58% think it's unlikely that all limits on social contact will be removed by the end of June, compared to 31% who think it's likely
- 70% support the introduction of vaccine passports once the vaccination programme ends and 20% oppose - younger people are less supportive of vaccine passports being introduced during the rollout, but a majority still support the use of them when the scheme is over
- 77% of BAME people would definitely or probably have the vaccine or have already had it or have their appointment booked - this is an increase from 70% in mid-December

## Local engagement and consultations

There are a number of consultations taking place which you may wish to take part in. For further information and to have your say please follow the relevant links below:

- **Godley Green Garden Village** – please see ‘Other things to be aware of’ section for more information
- **Active Tameside Consultation** – Active Tameside is a charitable trust that manages leisure services of behalf of Tameside Council. Like many local authorities, Tameside Council is having to make difficult decisions in light of the extremely challenging economic climate brought on in part by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Active Tameside is required to make efficiency savings alongside other Council services so that the Council can produce a balanced budget for 2021/22 and future years. A Sport and Leisure Review has been undertaken across leisure estate which proposes initial cost-saving measures aimed at achieving financial sustainability. The Council has developed these cost-saving proposals in partnership with Active Tameside.

We want to hear your views on how these proposals might affect you and how we could continue to deliver health and wellbeing services to the local population. The deadline for responses is **26 March 2021**.

<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/activetamesidesurvey>

- **Health Improvement Service Consultation** – The Health Improvement contract is due to end next year. We are planning to recommission services to replace Be Well, and want to make sure that we focus on the right things for Tameside. In November 2020, the Health Improvement Service was one of a number of services identified by the council’s spending review for savings.

We are asking for your views to help us design what the new services will look like. The deadline for responses is **20 May 2021**.

<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/tbc/healthimprovementconsultation2021>

- **Healthwatch Test and Trace Survey** – Healthwatch Tameside want to know what you think about Test and Trace.

Have you been contacted by Test and Trace?

How did it go?

Have you downloaded the COVID app?

There's also a chance to tell them about your experience of using (or trying to use) any health and care services recently.

*If you would prefer to complete the survey over the phone or you would like to*

receive a paper copy of the survey with a FREEPOST envelope, please call Healthwatch Tameside on 0161 667 2526. The deadline for responses is **2 April 2021**.  
<https://www.healthwatchtameside.co.uk/share-your-views>

- **Tameside Ward Boundaries Consultation** – the Local Government Boundary Commission for England is consulting on proposals for new wards and ward boundaries for Tameside Council. LGBCE are inviting individuals and organisations from across Tameside to have their say on how they think the new ward boundaries should be drawn. This closes on **5 April 2021**.  
<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/tbc/LocalGovernmentBoundaryCommission2021>

### Regional engagement and consultations

- **Greater Manchester's Fire Plan** – The Fire Plan is the overarching strategy for Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) for the next four years. The Plan looks at how the Service:
  - plans to provide a timely, safe and effective response, reduce risks of fires and other emergencies and protect the built environment
  - plans to use resources sustainably and provide the best value to the people of Greater Manchester
  - commits to building on and developing a culture of excellence, equality and inclusivity

GMFRS have been working with partners and stakeholders across Greater Manchester to develop five key strategic priorities, each with a set of commitments. Embedded within each of these five key areas is an overarching priority to integrate the planning and delivery of services with partners.

Now, they want to know what you think. Your feedback will help shape the strategic priorities for GMFRS and its commitments to the people of Greater Manchester. The closing date for this is **26 March 2021**

<https://www.gmconsult.org/gmfrs/fire-plan/>

- **Dementia Call for Evidence – Black African and Caribbean People In Greater Manchester** – The African Caribbean Care Group (ACCG) want to understand the dementia support and information provision to Black African and Caribbean people in Greater Manchester. Questions can be answered by either carers or people living with dementia. The Dementia Call for Evidence Survey covers 4 areas of a person's Dementia journey: Diagnosing well, living well, supporting well and end of life. This consultation is **ongoing**.  
<https://www.accg.org.uk/dementia-surveys/>

## National engagement and consultations

- **UK Statistics Authority Inclusive Data Consultation** – ONS is undertaking a review of how inclusive data and evidence are across the UK. This is in keeping with ONS' new strategy, Statistics for the Public Good, and will help to support the work of the [Inclusive Data Taskforce](#). In this review, they would like your views on where data and evidence are currently lacking or partial. This may be in terms of the quality of what is available, topics covered, geographical coverage or areas where data and evidence are missing completely. They would also welcome your suggestions about where to make improvements and what is currently working well. Deadline: **26 March 2021**. <https://consultations.ons.gov.uk/external-affairs/uk-statistics-authority-inclusive-data-taskforce-c/>
- **Mental Health Act reform consultation** – The Department of Health and Social Care are seeking views on changes to the Mental Health Act to help put patients at the centre of decisions about their own care. The deadline for responses is **21 April 2021**. [www.gov.uk/government/consultations/reforming-the-mental-health-act](http://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/reforming-the-mental-health-act)