



October 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>

(Please note, the Covid-19 information section can now be found in the second half of this PEN update)

Things to be aware of this month include:

- **PEN Conference** – Just to say thank you to those who attended our most recent PEN Conference on Monday 11 October.

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. Over 50 of you attended, listened and had their say on the following topics:

- A presentation on the Community Champions group
- Workshops on the following topics: Community Champions; Heart Failure Care Plan; Understanding Cancer; Waste Policy Consultation and; Preventing Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy

A report detailing the discussions in the workshops, discussion on the future of PEN engagement and feedback on the event is currently being developed and will be shared with you soon. In the meantime, if you did manage to attend, please leave your feedback here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/OctoberPENFeedback>

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:

- **Stamford Drive & Currier Lane Active Neighbourhood Trials Questionnaire** – Acting on advice from central government, Tameside Council rolled out a series of schemes to ensure that people feel safe enough to walk and cycle whilst socially distancing. Creating quieter residential streets and making neighbourhoods nicer, healthier and safer places to live, travel and play was also a key part of this work. This saw the delivery of two Active Neighbourhood trial schemes, on Stamford Drive in Stalybridge and Currier Lane in Ashton-under-Lyne.

The two trial schemes have been operational on an experimental basis since September 2020. Tameside Council are now gathering comments to determine the future of the scheme(s) and want to hear your views and thoughts. The closing date for this is **12 November 2021**.

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

- **Tameside Community Cohesion questionnaire** – A cohesive community is a diverse society where people from all backgrounds feel that they belong and are valued, enjoy similar life opportunities, and interact with other groups. A cohesive community is one that has moved beyond an “us” and “them” narrative to one where there is trust and interaction between different groups.

Tameside Council would like to hear about your thoughts and experiences of community cohesion in the borough. This will help us to better understand the topic in Tameside. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TMBCCommunityCohesionsurvey>

- **General feedback about health and care services** – This new survey is about general use of health and care services. Please help Healthwatch Tameside by telling them about any services you have used recently, that you haven't included in a survey response before. What went well? What could be improved?

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HWTgeneral21>

- **Barriers to accessing information and services** – Diversity Matters North West are conducting a survey on the “Barriers to Accessing Information” that people face across Tameside and Glossop. This is particularly in relation to language barriers, and in the context of Covid-19, but barriers could also include digital access, gate-keeping, “red-tape”, difficulties identifying the correct service, slow response times by services etc.

The Tameside and Glossop Inequalities Reference Group have invited Diversity Matters North West to conduct this survey as part of a wider research and engagement process into these barriers across the locality. The responses, analysis and recommendations will inform an action report for decision makers to consider and make improvements based on the results.

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=NWSF4YGBkE2b_yKaOPPjCt05wS4ucD5Bgxs4OF0NjnlUQkxIUU5aVUtSWFIRQzVYVIRREkzMUHVV4u

- **Self-isolation survey** – Tameside Council are conducting a survey to better understand the barriers and challenges that people may face when asked to self-isolate due to coronavirus. Self-isolation is when you do not leave your home because you have or might have coronavirus (COVID-19). You are typically asked to self-isolate for at least 10 days. This helps stop the virus spreading to other people. The reasons people are asked to self-isolate are because they have tested positive for coronavirus and been asked to self-isolate, a member of your household has tested positive for coronavirus, or you have been identified by the NHS Track and Trace as a contact of someone who tested positive. A better understanding of the

barriers and challenges people face to self-isolation can help us to better support local people to self-isolate. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/tmbcselfisolation>

Regional engagement and consultations

- **Destination: Bee Network Conversation** – The Bee Network is a vision for an integrated transport system which will join together buses, trams, cycling and walking by 2024, with rail incorporated by 2030, to transform how people travel in Greater Manchester.
Through Destination: Bee Network, Transport for Greater Manchester will be talking to you the people of Greater Manchester, to ask your opinions, show you the direction in which we are heading and help build the network based on your wants and needs.
By getting involved in the Destination: Bee Network Conversation, you can help bring the vision to life based on what's most important to you. Topics include what you'd expect the Bee Network values and standards to be, how safe you feel travelling on the network, the GM bus of the future, and whether you'd like to see dogs and bikes on trams. The deadline for this is **12 November 2021**.
<https://www.gmconsult.org/strategy-team/destination-bee-network-conversation/>
- **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/>

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 numbers vaccinated here: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>
- Guidance on restrictions and how to protect yourself or check if you need medical help: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- 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 - 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/ link on homepage

Tameside & Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust -
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>

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.

- If COVID-19 hospitalisations increase over the coming months, most of the public would support face masks being required indoors again (80%)
- Most adults would support the return of a 'working from home' rule and use of vaccine passports if COVID-19 hospitalisations become high over the coming months (78% and 72% respectively)
- The majority of UK adults would accept a vaccine booster if it was offered to them (82%)
- Most adults think vaccinations should be compulsory for care home staff (73%)
- Feelings of safety amongst transport users remains stable on buses, but has dropped on trains: 88% of trains users feel safe (2% decrease), 19% did not feel safe (9% increase)

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-september-2021>

Action Together Funding Bulletin – Action Together have a wealth of experience that could help you find and secure funding. The latest funding bulletin, which is produced monthly

with 10GM colleagues can be found here:

<https://www.actiontogether.org.uk/sites/actiontogether.org.uk/files/10GM%20Funding%20Bulletin%20October%202021v2%20%28002%29.pdf>

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/>.

Various funding pots available:

GM Mental Wellbeing Grants – GMCVO are delivering a grants programme to support people from communities of identity or experience, based in Greater Manchester, that may struggle to achieve higher levels of mental wellbeing. Funded by Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership, a total of £90,000 will be awarded in year 2 between August and November 2021.

The grants will be awarded, in two stages, to small, grassroots VCSE organisations that will support people to develop high levels of mental wellbeing.

The first stage, a rolling micro grants round of £100 - £750, launched on Monday 2nd August 2021. We aim to communicate decisions to applicants within three weeks of submission. This grants round will close on Friday 29th October 2021 at 16:00.

The second stage, a small grants round of £750 - £3,000, launched on Wednesday 6th October 2021. Deadline for applications is Wednesday 17th November 2021 at 17:00, we will communicate decisions on Friday 10th December 2021.

<https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/gm-mental-wellbeing-grants>

Skills for Growth - SME Support – Skills for Growth - SME Support is a fully funded, tailored service to help up-skill your employees and improve productivity. Available to any Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations in Greater Manchester with between 1-250 (FTE) employees, the service is designed to help your organisation grow through re-shaping, developing your talent and enhancing team performance.

The service is delivered by Growth Company (GC) Business Growth Hub in partnership with Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisation (GMCVO), funded through the European Social Fund and commissioned by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority. For more information and to access support, please email [Sittu Ahmed](mailto:sittu.ahmed@gmcvo.org.uk) (sittu.ahmed@gmcvo.org.uk) or visit <https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/SkillsforGrowth>