



Local news and events from

Tameside Council

Here for you

#AGreatPlaceForAll

Celebrating our **towns**

and communities

A great place for all

Christmas and New Year Recycling Arrangements

There will be no brown bin collections from 25 December until 7 January inclusive

Monday 21 December - Collections as normal

Tuesday 22 December - Collections as normal

Wednesday 23 December - Collections as normal

Thursday 24 December - Collections as normal

Friday 25 December - No collections

If you are due a green (general waste) bin collection, it will be collected on Tuesday 29 December

If you are due a black (comingled recycling waste) or a blue (paper recycling waste) bin collection, it will be collected on Wednesday 30 December

Monday 28 December - No collections

If you are due a green (general waste) bin collection, it will be collected on Thursday 31 December

If you are due a black (comingled recycling waste) or a blue (paper recycling waste) bin collection, it will be collected on Monday 4 January

Tuesday 29 December - Tuesday collections as normal except no brown bin collection

Wednesday 30 December - Wednesday collections as normal except no brown bin collection

Thursday 31 December - Thursday collections as normal except no brown bin collection

Friday 1 January 2027 - No collections

If you are due a green (general waste) bin collection, it will be collected on Tuesday 5 January. If you are due a black (comingled recycling waste) or a blue (paper recycling waste) bin collection, it will be collected on Wednesday 6 January

Monday 4 January - Monday collections as normal except no brown bin collection

Tuesday 5 January - Tuesday collections as normal except no brown bin collection

Wednesday 6 January - Wednesday collections as normal except no brown bin collection

Thursday 7 January - Thursday collections as normal except no brown bin collection

Friday 8 January - Collections as normal

Helpful hints!

- Download our bin app for 2027 collection dates and for updates and alerts for your Christmas waste and recycling collection arrangements
- Christmas trees can be left out with your brown bin for recycling **from Friday 8 January**
- We will collect any additional recyclable waste which is left out with your black or blue recycling bin in a clear or labelled bag
- Please park considerably so that waste collection vehicles have unimpeded access to all areas and roads where bins are kept.



Keeping in touch over Christmas

The council website is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for people to access council services and information.

[tameside.gov.uk](https://www.tameside.gov.uk)



Libraries

Libraries will be open during their usual hours until Christmas Eve, with the following arrangements:

Ashton Library: Closes at 5.00pm on Thursday 24 December.

Droylsden Library: Staffed service closes at 1.00pm on Thursday 24 December. Open+ access remains available until 5.00pm.

Denton, Dukinfield and Hattersley Libraries: Staffed services close at 5.00pm on Thursday 24 December.

Hyde Library: Staffed service closes at 5.00pm on Wednesday 23 December. Open+ access remains available until 5.00pm on Thursday 24 December.

Mossley Library: Staffed service closes at 1.00pm on Wednesday 23 December. Open+ access remains available until 5.00pm on Thursday 24 December.

Stalybridge Temporary Library (Victoria Market Hall): Please refer to advertised opening hours.

All libraries will reopen at their usual staffed and Open+ hours on Monday 4 January 2027.



Call Centre and Customer Services

Will close at 4.30pm on Thursday 24 December 2026 and re-open at **8.30am on Monday 4 January 2027.**



Crisis Payment Helpline

will be open on 29th, 30th and 31st December 2026. For more information on opening hours see www.tameside.gov.uk/crisis-payments



Local Studies and Archives Centre

Will close at 5pm on Thursday 24 December 2026 and reopen at **10am on Tuesday 5 January 2027.**



Portland Basin Museum

Will close at 4pm on Thursday 24 December 2026 and reopen at **10am on Tuesday 5 January 2027.**

Download our free app

from [Apple Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#) where you can check the date of your collections, set reminders and report missed/lost bins. For more information please visit [tameside.gov.uk/recycling](https://www.tameside.gov.uk/recycling)

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Welcome to the winter edition of Here For You

As Christmas comes closer, we have some fantastic events in store to bring people together and spread festive cheer. Events have been organised across Tameside to enable everyone to gather with family and friends and celebrate. You can find all the details on pages 4 and 5.

At this time of year, as people join together, it feels fitting to be able to share details of the launch of our Borough Strategy 2026-30, which has seen organisations across Tameside unite in partnership work to help make the borough a better place to live, work and visit. You can find out how the strategy is driving forward improvements on page 11.

Other examples of the great work that's taking place across Tameside include our £45 million investment to improve and protect the borough's roads, pavements and other essential highway infrastructure, details are on page 16.

There's also our new Crisis and Resilience Fund to ensure residents benefit from a stronger, more stable

system of support, with all the information on page 19, and our plan for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), which is creating a significant expansion of specialist educational provision, details on page 14. And our regeneration schemes to rejuvenate our town centres continue to progress well with all the information on pages 8 to 10. There are also some inspiring stories on pages 12 and 13 of residents overcoming adversity and the support available that helped them and is assisting others.

I wish everyone a very happy Christmas. As the cold and dark nights set in, please keep an eye out for each other and support your community where you can.



Cllr Eleanor Wills

Tameside Council Executive Leader



P7 Over 50's Stalybridge and Dukinfield residents have their say



P13 Shared Lives

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Magical Lantern Parade

to light up Ashton Town Centre

The much-loved Northern Lights Lantern Parade returns on Saturday 14 November, kicking off the Christmas season with a celebration of community, creativity and festive spirit. This year, the event will take place in Ashton Town Centre, creating a spectacular setting for an evening filled with light, colour and festive fun. We are working with Global Grooves, Cabasa Carnival Arts and No Eyed Theatre, who have been commissioned as joint artistic directors of the parade.

Ashton Town Centre
Saturday 14 November
Christmas Lantern Parade 5pm-7pm

Bringing together residents, schools, community groups and volunteers, the parade offers people of all ages the chance to be part of something special. Lantern-making workshops will give local people the

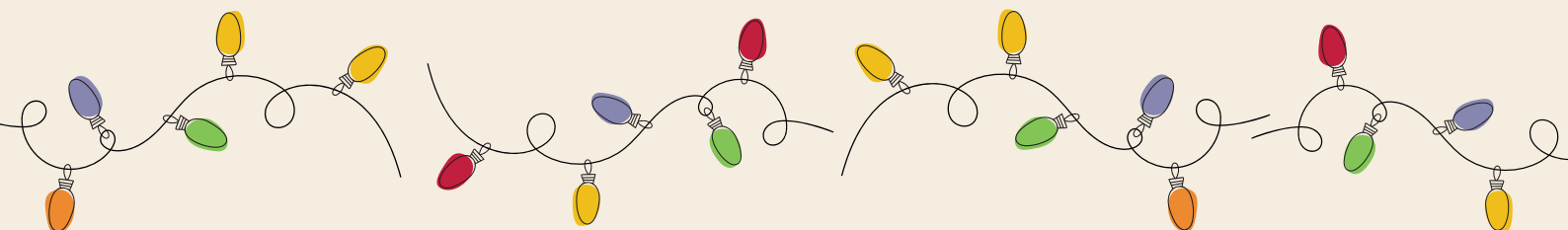
opportunity to create their own handmade lanterns, which can then either line the parade route or be carried by participants as they join local performers, dancers and artists in the parade.

Everyone is invited to join the celebrations, whether by taking part in the parade, cheering from the sidelines or enjoying the festive atmosphere with family and friends. The evening will culminate in the switching on of Ashton's Christmas lights, marking the start of the festive season across the borough.

Celebrating across Tameside

The festive spirit doesn't stop in Ashton. Throughout November and early December, all nine Tameside towns will host community Christmas celebrations featuring live entertainment, festive markets, food, crafts and Christmas light switch-ons. These cherished events bring people together, celebrate local pride and help support our independent businesses and town centres.





Town Centre Celebrations

Christmas Celebrations will be taking place with events being held across the borough throughout November and the beginning of December.

Each of Tameside's nine towns will host a festive event with music, food, and crafts, as they each turn on their Christmas tree lights. As always, they are fantastic community events and bring our towns to life with Christmas spirit. They also support the local economy and local businesses.

Stalybridge

Friday 20 November

Denton

Saturday 21 November

Dukinfield

Thursday 19 November

Audenshaw – Ryecroft Hall

Friday 27 November

Droylsden

Saturday 28 November

Mossley – Central

Friday 4 December

Hattersley

Friday 4 December

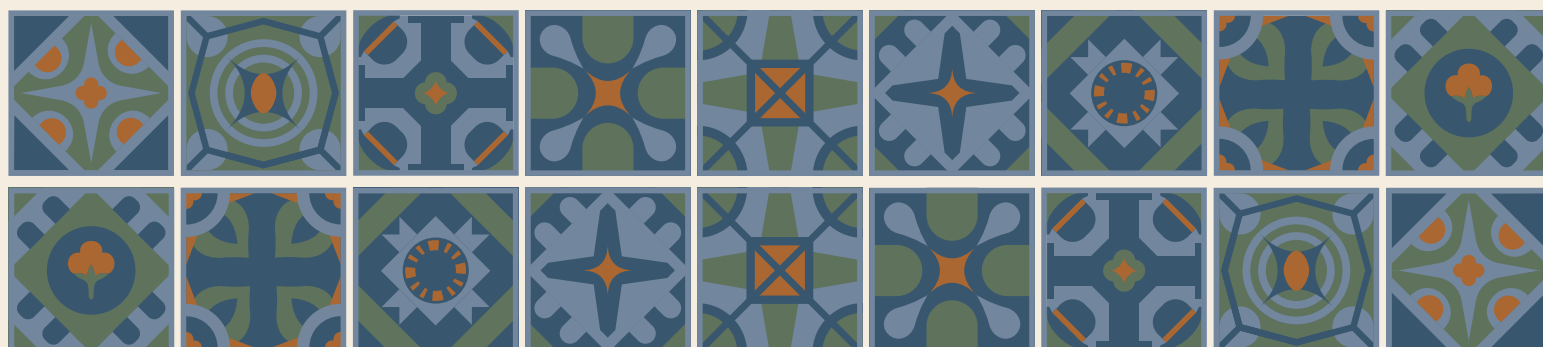
Mossley – Micklehurst

Saturday 5 December

Hyde

Saturday 5 December

More information can be found at: intameside.co.uk/whats-on



Savvy Seasonal shopping

Don't forget our amazing friendly and great value local markets will be open for all your festive essentials and gifts in December.

With great produce and all sorts of items at hand you'll always be able to find the perfect gift for anyone or simply enjoy catching up with some of our fantastic traders or grab a tasty treat.

To find out more about when the markets are open over the festive season visit our websites:

Hyde Market hyde-market.co.uk

Ashton Market ashton-market.co.uk

Ashton Market
since 1413

Hyde Market since 1848

	Ashton	Hyde
Thursday 24 December	8.30am -4pm	9am-4pm
Friday 25 December	Closed	Closed
Saturday 26 December	Closed	Closed
Sunday 27 December	Closed	Closed
Monday 28 December	Closed	Closed
Tuesday 29 December	9am-5pm	9am-5pm
Wednesday 30 December	9am-5pm	9am-5pm
Thursday 31 January 2027	8.30am -4pm	9am-4pm
Friday 1 January 2027	Closed	Closed
Saturday 2 January 2027	9am-5pm	9am-5pm
Sunday 3 January 2027	Closed	Closed
Monday 4 January 2027	normal opening times resume	normal opening times resume

Staying safe in winter

Our teams work hard to monitor the weather and road temperatures and are on standby and ready to grit the roads so residents can get around in cold weather. Roads are gritted on a priority basis.

What can you do to prepare?

Keeping the pavement outside your property clear of snow and ice is a great way to help as long as you aren't making areas more dangerous or slippery. Stocking up on your own gritting supplies from supermarkets, garden centres and DIY outlets means you can be ready to clear your own paths and driveway and helps to keep your family or neighbours safe.

If you would like to find out more about ways you can prepare for winter and the action the council is taking to clear roads, please go to www.tameside.gov.uk/winterweather.



tameside.gov.uk/winterweather



Self-care

Choosing to eat healthily, to self-treat common ailments and to be active are all positive self-care actions.

Adopting positive lifestyle choices, having good nutrition and regular exercise to support general wellbeing helps to maximise people's immunity.

It's also important to understand how to manage minor and long-term health conditions. Remember, it isn't just the GP practice that can help. Your local pharmacist is a health expert and can help with all sorts of minor ailments and they can signpost people to the right place for additional health advice or treatment.

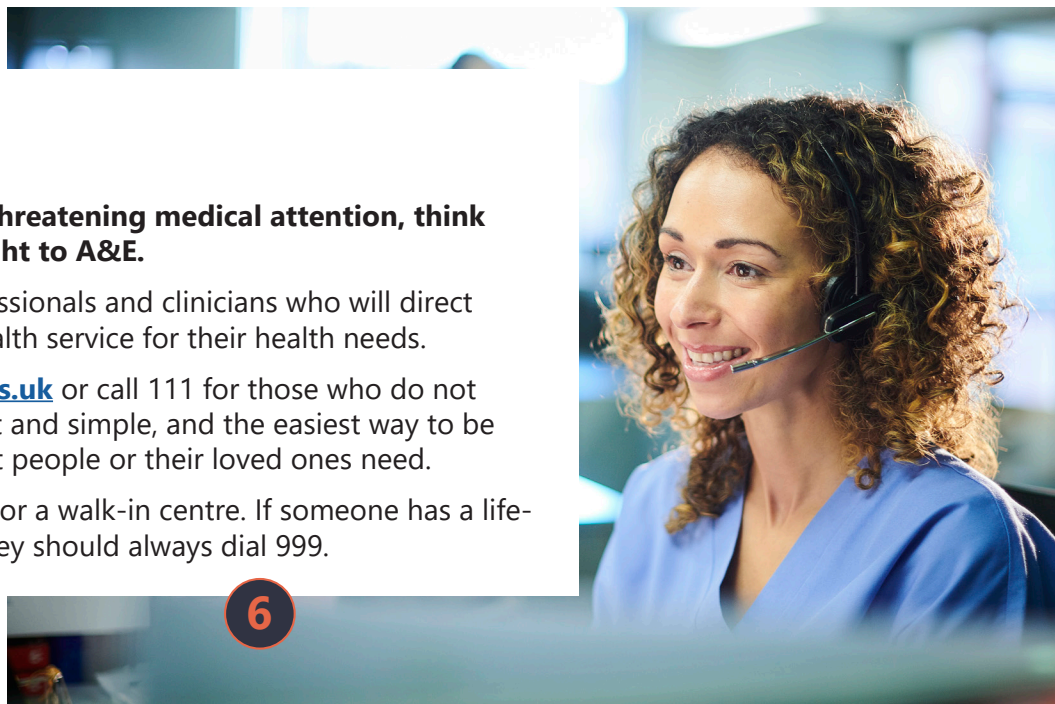
NHS 111

If in need of urgent but not life-threatening medical attention, think NHS 111 rather than going straight to A&E.

NHS 111 is staffed by trained professionals and clinicians who will direct people to the most appropriate health service for their health needs.

Contact them online first at 111.nhs.uk or call 111 for those who do not have access to the internet. It is fast and simple, and the easiest way to be sign posted to the right service that people or their loved ones need.

This could be a local pharmacy, GP or a walk-in centre. If someone has a life-threatening illness or injury then they should always dial 999.



Dukinfield and Stalybridge residents aged 50+ invited to **have their say** about living well later in life



The launch of LWILL at the Together Centre

Residents in Stalybridge and Dukinfield who are over 50 are being asked what would make their area a better place to live and grow older.

Centred on working in partnership with local communities, Live Well in Later Life (LWILL) is encouraging people to help shape local support services for older people.

People in Dukinfield and Stalybridge over 50 are being asked to answer three questions:

- 1. What's it like to live in Dukinfield/Stalybridge?**
- 2. How could we make it better?**
- 3. How can we work together?**

The questions will help LWILL understand what matters to them in their area, working together to create age-friendly spaces where everyone can thrive in later life.

An online form is available for people to complete. If people would like to feedback verbally or find out more, they can contact Jigsaw Support's Community Engagement worker Philip Brooke, at philip.brooke@jigsawhomes.org.uk or call **07599657994**.

Each of Greater Manchester's ten local authorities will receive a share of the funding to deliver LWILL locally, working with housing providers, health services and voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise organisations. In Tameside, LWILL is supported by Tameside Council and delivered by Jigsaw Support.

The programme is part of Greater Manchester's wider Live Well ambition to ensure everyone has access to great everyday support in their neighbourhood and supports the commitment to being an age-friendly city region, recognised by the World Health Organisation.

Find out more about LWILL at support.jigsawhomes.org.uk/information-article/live-well-in-later-life



Scan the QR code for online form



BE WELL TAMESIDE

Being well is important to us all. We all want to feel good, healthy and happy.

Are you wanting to:

- BE SMOKEFREE**
- MOVE MORE**
- DRINK LESS**
- EAT WELL**
- MANAGE WEIGHT**
- GET AN NHS HEALTH CHECK**

The Be Well service can support **YOU** to make those small changes that can have big benefits to your health and wellbeing.

Be Well Tameside can help **YOU** achieve this by offering:

- One-to-one appointments
- Help to develop a personalised plan
- Regular contact and support to achieve your goals
- Practical tips
- Information about local groups in your area
- Help to access services locally, e.g. mental health, debt, housing, volunteering etc.

If you need support with anything else, we can assist you to access other services.

Call us to make an appointment or for more information: Tel: **0161 342 5050** or email: bewelltameside@tameside.gov.uk

f Be Well Tameside **X** @BeWellTameside

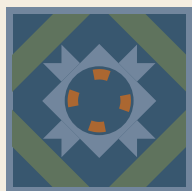
Appointments are available at a number of venues across Tameside.



Scan here to self-refer to our service

Tameside Together

A great place for all



Next chapter for Concord Suite

Plans for the future of the Concord Suite have taken an important step forward, with the council submitting a planning application for partial demolition works.

Residents and businesses have consistently said they wanted to see progress on the site and a clear plan for its future. The proposed works would remove the upper parts of the building while retaining and securing the lower levels, helping to prepare the site for future redevelopment.

The application is part of the wider regeneration of Droylsden town centre, which could bring new homes, shops and leisure opportunities. It marks another milestone in delivering a town centre that meets the needs of the local community.

Find out more about the plans at tameside.gov.uk/droylsdentowncentre



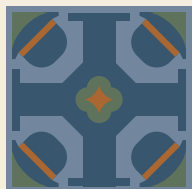
Regeneration gathers pace in Stalybridge

Big improvements are happening across Stalybridge to make the town a better place for residents, businesses and visitors. Plans are moving forward for a new multi-storey car park, making it easier for people to visit the town centre and support local shops.

Work is also taking place at Astley Cheetham Art Gallery to improve the building and protect this much-loved community space for future generations.

Investment is helping to improve local amenities, public spaces and walking routes, making the town centre safer, more attractive and easier to get around. These improvements will give residents better places to spend time, support local businesses and help improve the town centre as a place everyone can enjoy.

Find out the latest on road improvements and work updates at tameside.gov.uk/towns/stalybridge-menu/regenerating-stalybridge



Residents' priorities are shaping Denton's future

Residents are already seeing improvements taking shape across Denton, with new paths installed at Memorial Gardens and work completed to brighten and improve visibility and signage at Victoria Park. These are the first steps in a wider programme of investment shaped by feedback from local people.

Looking ahead, contractors have been appointed to begin improvements at Denton Town Hall, while plans are being developed for key town centre spaces, including Victoria Street and Market Street. Future improvements will focus on creating greener public spaces, better walking and cycling routes, improved accessibility and a more attractive, welcoming town centre for residents and visitors. Backed by £16.8 million of funding, the programme will continue to deliver the changes residents said matter most.

Find out the latest at tameside.gov.uk/destinationdenton



New traders set to open in the newly transformed Ashton Market Square

An exciting line up of independent traders are set to open their doors in Ashton's newly transformed Market Square. The square, due to reopen this November, has undergone a huge redevelopment to turn it into a welcoming community space and visitor destination.

It will include ten permanent trading kiosks while also enabling more flexible use of the market ground for a bustling blend of traditional and specialist markets – including the return of the general Ashton Outdoor Market – as well as cultural events. This includes the popular new monthly Ashton Artisan Market, Super Saturday events with free family activities and seasonal showcases such as the Christmas lantern parade.

Traders confirmed for the new vibrant and contemporary kiosks in the square include Oppa Kitchen, Royal Bagel by Danish Bakes, Mamma Julie's, Its.2.say, Market Grounds Coffee, Naanwich, Wilson's Fruit and Veg Ltd, and Alf's Key and Shoe Repairs.



Memuna, owner of Royal Bagel by Danish Bakes

The fine line-up brings together a mix of familiar faces from Ashton Market alongside new independent businesses, offering everything from street food and fresh produce to everyday services.

As well as offering new trading space, the square has been redesigned to be more welcoming and easier to get around, with more seating, enhanced lighting, artwork, greenery, hand-rails, bins, more open space and increased capacity for events throughout the year. The aim is to create a destination where people want to spend time – not just shop – helping to support a busier and more vibrant town centre throughout the day and evening.

Memuna, owner of Royal Bagel by Danish Bakes, said: "There is a real sense of change happening in Ashton. It's great to be part of it and we're looking forward to welcoming customers when we open."



Residents helping shape Hattersley's future

Hattersley's Pride in Place journey is continuing to gather momentum. A local Neighbourhood Board has now been appointed, bringing together community representatives and partners to help shape a long-term vision for the area.

Over recent months, residents have shared their views through surveys and community events, highlighting what they value most about Hattersley and where improvements could be made. This feedback is now helping to inform plans and priorities for the future.

The Board will use these ideas to guide future projects and investment opportunities, ensuring local people remain at the heart of decision-making.

There is still time to get involved and share your views. Together, let's build on Hattersley's strengths and create a brighter future for our community.

tameside.gov.uk/hattersleyprideinplace



A H N
S Y B
M D C

Next steps for Ashton and Stalybridge MDC

Exciting plans to help improve Ashton town centre, Stalybridge town centre, Ashton Moss and Guide Bridge have taken another step forward. Tameside Council has approved proposals for the Ashton and Stalybridge Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC).

The MDC aims to bring investment into these areas, helping to deliver more than 3,000 new homes, create thousands of jobs and improve transport connections. This could make it easier for people to travel by train, tram, bus, walking and cycling, while also supporting improvements to town centres, public spaces and local businesses.

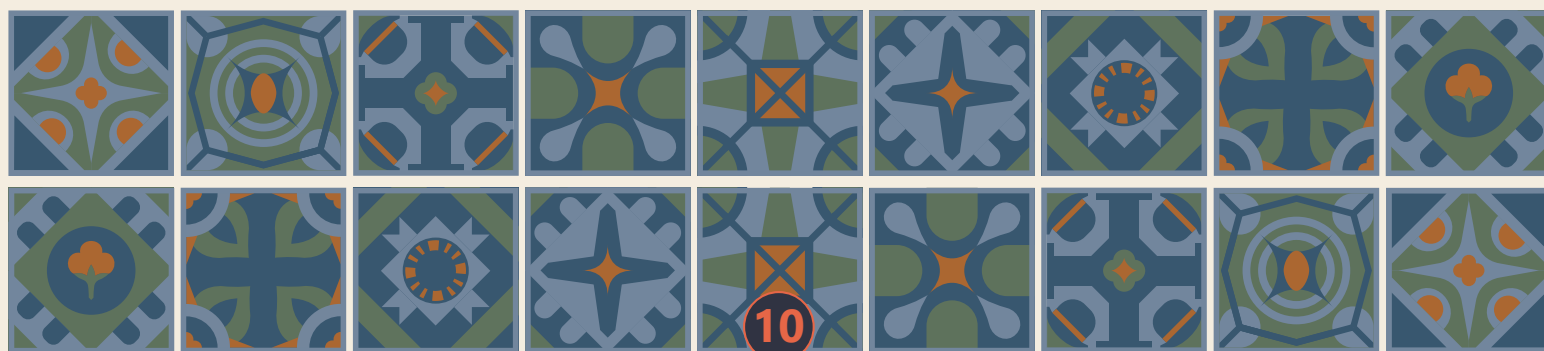
Thank you to everyone who took part in the public consultation and shared their views. Sixty-one per cent of respondents supported the creation of the MDC, and the feedback received has helped shape the proposals and will continue to inform the next stages of planning.

If approved by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and the Government, the MDC could be officially created in 2027, helping to bring new opportunities and improvements for local communities.

Celebrating the best of Tameside's businesses

The Pride of Tameside Awards took place on 9 October, bringing together residents, businesses and community leaders for a fantastic evening of celebration. The event recognised the outstanding businesses across all sectors that help make Tameside a great place to live, work and visit. From independent traders and family-run firms to larger employers, the awards shone a spotlight on the hard work, innovation and dedication of businesses across the borough. It was a chance to celebrate the people and organisations that support local communities, create jobs and contribute to Tameside's success.

Congratulations to all the winners and finalists for their achievements and for showcasing the very best of our borough. See more on the winners at www.prideoftamesideawards.com





Tameside teams together to launch Borough Strategy 2026-30

Tameside Together

A great place for all



Organisations across Tameside came together to launch a strategy to help make the borough a better place to live, work, and visit – delivering a shared vision of making Tameside a great place for all. Partnership work, including feedback from residents, has developed the Borough Strategy 2026-30 to drive forward innovation, investment, and collaboration to deliver improved outcomes for Tameside.

A launch event was held at Stalybridge's Victoria Market Hall with attendees from organisations across Tameside attending to discuss turning the ambitions into action and the positive impact it will have across the borough. Attendees at the launch event included health services, education providers, housing providers, the VCFSE sector and businesses.

The Tameside Together Partnership will oversee the strategy's implementation. Bringing together key stakeholders and agencies, the partnership will drive delivery and support impactful developments to achieve the strategy's vision.

The Borough Strategy sets the shared vision of Tameside Together: A great place for all. Set to deliver the core priorities of People, Place and Prosperity, it will support joint working to tackle deprivation and inequality, improve public health, protect the environment, and deliver targeted and sustainable investment and regeneration.

The strategy reflects the challenges Tameside faces but also sets out the opportunities to work together to create a fairer, healthier and more prosperous Tameside.

Lee's journey to independence



Lee Thornton is regaining independence with support.

A man who lost his sight after meningitis is rebuilding his independence with support from Tameside Council's Visual Impairment Team and assistive technology.

Lee Thornton, from Denton, has been supported by the service for nine years, including more than five years working closely with Vision Rehabilitation Specialist Jane Keitany. After losing his sight due to a rare condition affecting around one in 15 million people, Lee faced significant challenges adjusting to daily life. Previously, he lived an active lifestyle, spending seven years playing semi-professional rugby and working with children with severe illnesses at Bupa.

Determined to regain his independence, Lee has embraced support and technologies designed to help him navigate daily life. Most recently, he began using Meta smart glasses, funded through a grant from the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB). The glasses can describe surroundings, read letters aloud, identify objects and support navigation through voice-guided directions.

Lee said: "It blew me away. It's making everything so much easier. I can go shopping on my own, it's like having a personal assistant with you all the time and it really helps."

He is also on the waiting list for long cane training, which will improve his confidence and mobility when travelling independently. Alongside professional support, Lee's two sons play an important role in encouraging him every day.

Reflecting on his journey, Lee said to Jane: "Jane, you saved me. It's really nice to have that caring person around."

Jane said: "I feel so proud. It's great to see how far people come with our support."

For support with sight or hearing loss, Tameside's Adult Sensory Service offers advice and assistance. Find out more about adult social care support in Tameside at www.tameside.gov.uk/adults or call Tameside's Early Support and Advice Hub (ESAH) at 0161 342 5656

Local carers share impact of support



Pam and her husband John have been supported by Tameside Carers Centre

Two local carers have shared how finding support has made a huge difference while caring for their loved ones.

Pam, from Ashton, and David Cartwright, from Droylsden, both access Tameside Carers Centre and say the service has provided practical help, emotional support and connection during challenging times.

Pam cares for her husband John and regularly attends the centre's monthly coffee mornings.

Pam said: "I can't praise the Carers Centre enough. I was a bit nervous at first, but I'm so pleased I went." She explained how meeting other carers has helped her feel less alone: "At the coffee mornings I just feel people understand, it's like getting a load off your mind."

Pam has also received one-to-one support from a wellbeing advisor, who helped her and John successfully apply for Personal Independence Payment (PIP).

David, who cares for his husband alongside their support dog Rosie, has also found reassurance through the centre following his husband's Alzheimer's diagnosis.

David said: "It's helped me a lot. It's sort of an outlet."

The Carers Centre provides a welcoming space where people can access advice, build connections and look after their own health and happiness while caring for others.

The centre offers one-to-one advice, welfare support, social activities, drop-in sessions and signposting to health and community services.

A carer is someone who provides unpaid support to a partner, family member, friend or neighbour who could not manage without their help. Find out more at tameside.gov.uk/carerscentre or call 0161 342 3344.

**Tameside
Carers
-Centre-**

Tameside resident inspires others to think about becoming a Shared Lives Carer

Hyde resident Cath Tynan says that being a Shared Lives Carer has allowed her to fulfil her dreams and make a difference to people's lives.

Cath supports Linda Shaw and Rita Walker through Tameside's Shared Lives, a scheme matching adults who need support with carers who share similar interests and lifestyles.

The trio share daily life together, from cooking and cleaning to learning life skills such as using appliances and reading the news.

Linda said: "I couldn't ask for a better life, it's like being on holiday!"

"I lost my mum and dad and never thought I'd find somebody as good as them, but I have done in Cath."

Tameside Council match and support people to become Shared Lives Carers - no formal qualifications are expected.



Tameside



Rita, Cath and Linda in their home.

Find out more at tameside.gov.uk/sharedlives or call 0161 342 5151.

Curious about what their day could look like?

**Scan the QR code to
watch the video.**



Tameside sets out ambitious plan to support children with SEND

Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) will be supported earlier and more effectively thanks to an ambitious plan set out by Tameside Council.

In response to the Department for Education's (DfE) white paper 'Every child achieving and thriving' and the national SEND consultation, the council's Executive Cabinet has agreed a new SEND Reform Plan to improve support for children and young people while managing the rising demand for Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) across the borough.

A key part of the plan, which has been developed working closely with schools, health partners, parents and carers, is to strengthen early intervention so that children receive timely support from the right professional. The aim is to create a stronger, more inclusive school system where all children are welcomed in every school, and where mainstream settings have the tools and confidence to meet a wider range of needs.

The council has been allocated a further £5 million to increase the number of specialist places in local schools. These new SEND resource bases in local schools are already helping more children learn closer to home, and early feedback from families and schools has been positive. The plan commits to 630 places in specialist bases in mainstream settings by 2029, alongside a further increase in access to spaces in support bases within mainstream schools for learners with SEND.

The new SEND Reform Plan builds on the progress Tameside Council is making and aims to develop a more inclusive and proactive approach through funding for the national "Experts at Hand" programme. This will give mainstream schools structured access to specialists such as educational psychologists, speech and language therapists and occupational therapists, helping them to support children earlier and more effectively. For more information on SEND support visit www.tamesidelocaloffer.co.uk

Children taking part in table-based learning activities in a specialist SEND educational setting



Tameside Baby Showers to help families prepare for parenthood



The first Baby Shower event at the West Family Hub.

A new series of Baby Showers has been launched across Tameside to help expectant parents and growing families prepare for the arrival of a new baby.

Tameside's Family Hubs are hosting Baby Showers to bring families and professionals together and celebrate pregnancies, build connections and access expert advice for the exciting journey into parenthood.

Mums and dads can learn more about early bonding, breastfeeding, skin-to-skin contact and perinatal mental wellbeing. Families can also meet local services and community organisations including midwives, health visitors, Dad Matters and Be Well.

The first event took place on 9 September at the West Family Hub on Greenside Lane, Droylsden.

Parents can drop-in to future sessions between 4.30pm-7pm and meet professionals from support services including healthcare, parenting, early years, and breastfeeding.

Families will be able to build confidence and learn practical skills through interactive activities and baby care demonstrations, including bathing, changing and settling a baby doll. There will also be giveaways and all attendees will be entered into a prize draw to win a £50 Boots voucher.

Tameside Council's family hubs are located around the borough, with four main centres in Ashton, Droylsden, Stalybridge and Hyde, and spokes providing services in other towns.

To find out more about your local family hub, visit www.tameside.gov.uk/family-hubs



The dates and locations of upcoming Baby Showers are:

- 19 November - North Family Hub, Trafalgar Square, Ashton
- 21 January - East Family Hub, School Crescent, Ridge Hill, Stalybridge
- 17 March - South Family Hub, Old Road, Flowery Field, Hyde



£45m investment agreed to improve roads and pavements across Tameside



Cllr Laura Boyle, Tameside Council Executive Member for Environmental Services and Neighbourhoods, launches the highways investment with highways staff.

Tameside Council has approved a £45 million investment over five years to improve and protect the borough's roads, pavements and other essential highway infrastructure.

This will mainly be used for proactive maintenance and improvement works, helping to reduce the need for emergency repairs such as potholes and making more efficient use of public money.

Tameside's highway network includes 707km of roads, 1,53km of footways, almost 49,000 highway gullies and more than 25,600 streetlights, making it the council's most valuable asset.

In recent years, worsening road conditions have increased the need for reactive repairs, with pothole repairs in Tameside rising by more than 15% since 2021.

By investing in maintenance, the council aims to reduce future disruption, improve safety and extend the life of local highways. Modelling has shown that this £45m investment could help avoid around £130m in future repair costs over the next ten years, by dealing with problems earlier.

The plan also supports walking, cycling and public transport by improving the condition of the network, while providing greater transparency about how funding decisions are made.

Work programmes will be developed using condition data and local knowledge, with a focus on coordinating works where possible to minimise disruption to communities.

Under the plan, the council will focus on maintaining and improving:

- Roads and pavements
- Bridges and retaining walls
- Highway drainage, including gullies and culverts
- Street lighting

Driving ahead with highway safety improvement works

Work to make Tameside's streets safer for all users has been taking place across the borough.

The latest saw highway safety improvements carried out on Darnton Road, Ashton, and Ridge Hill Lane, Stalybridge, and at the junction of Springs Lane and St George's Street in Stalybridge.

It's part of the council's ongoing Highway Safety Programme, which supports Greater Manchester's Vision Zero ambition to eliminate deaths and life-changing injuries on the road network by 2040.

The improvements are designed to make our roads safer for everyone who uses them, whether they're walking, cycling or driving.





Arrests made and illegal goods seized in crime crackdown

More than 50 arrests were made, over £60,000 in cash seized and thousands of illegal products removed from the streets during a day of action targeting crime and anti-social behaviour across Tameside.

Operation AVRO, led by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) and supported by Tameside Council and partner organisations, took place on Thursday 13 August. The operation focused on tackling issues that matter most to residents, including drug supply, dangerous driving, neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour.

Acting on information provided by local communities, officers carried out early morning warrants in Hyde, Droylsden, Stalybridge and Denton. Ten people were arrested for offences including possession with intent to supply drugs, fraud and money laundering.

Across the day, GMP made 54 arrests, seized large quantities of suspected Class A and Class B drugs,

recovered seven vehicles and confiscated more than £60,000 in cash.

Council officers worked alongside police, Trading Standards, Immigration Enforcement and safeguarding teams to visit businesses across the borough. During inspections, officers seized 6,842 packs of illicit cigarettes and 21.65kg of illegal hand-rolling tobacco, with an estimated street value of more than £38,500. Thousands of illegal vapes, illicit tobacco products, unlawful medications and THC products were also recovered, along with non-compliant toys and vaping products.

Road safety enforcement was another key part of the operation. Officers issued 44 traffic offence reports for offences including mobile phone use while driving, failing to wear a seatbelt, driving without insurance and displaying illegal number plates.

Operation Avro highlights work that takes place every day to address issues of concern to the local community.

Pubs serve up mental health support

Pubs have something new on the table to support people who may be struggling with their mental health.

Tameside Council and partners from Tameside Suicide Prevention Action Group have got together with Tameside Pubwatch to develop and distribute unique 'menus' for display in local bars.

The 'Are you okay mate?' menu-style resource, which supports the Greater Manchester's Shine a light on Suicide campaign, lists 'Starters', such as conversation starters, 'Mains', such as the main pressures people may be feeling, and 'Desserts', which signpost to local support. There is also a list of 'Specials' highlighting where people can get help in a crisis.

For further information on local mental health support see www.tameside.gov.uk/helpinghand

Everyone is also encouraged to take part in Zero Suicide Alliance's free online training to help save someone who may be thinking of taking their own life at www.shiningalightonsuicide.org.uk/learn-to-save-a-life.



The launch of the 'Are you okay mate?' menu-style resource

Introducing Tameside's Live Well Community Navigation Service

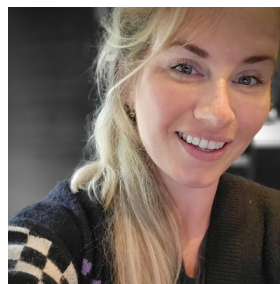
New Community Navigators are set to connect residents in Tameside with tailored support in their local communities.

The service, led by Action Together and funded by Tameside Council, supports adults aged 18 and over to access the support, opportunities and connections they need to live well.

Community Navigators work alongside residents, using their knowledge of local services, community groups and activities to help people find personalised support that reflects their goals, interests and circumstances.

Whether someone wants to improve their wellbeing, build confidence, access practical help, reduce isolation, or become more involved in their community, the service helps people navigate the options available.

Alongside direct support, the service is committed to strengthening community networks, identifying gaps in provision and ensuring residents can access the right support at the right time.



**Abby Turner,
Community Navigation
Service Manager**



Abby Turner, Community Navigation Service Manager, said: "As a Tameside resident myself, I know the strength of our communities and the incredible range of local groups, activities, and support available across the borough. That's why I am delighted to be leading this new service.

"We're currently growing the team, with recruitment underway and testing our referral pathways ahead of our full launch in 2027."

For more information and updates, please visit www.actiontogether.org.uk/whats-happening



Join Tameside's growing refill network

With 40 refill stations already available across the borough, Tameside's Refill network is helping residents and visitors stay hydrated while reducing single-use plastic waste.

The free Refill Scheme offers businesses and community organisations the chance to support healthier lifestyles, contribute to greener communities, and welcome more people through their doors.

Participating venues simply provide free tap water refills, helping customers stay hydrated while on the go. Many refill stations choose to display an official Refill window sticker so customers know they can top up their bottles.

Joining the network is free, easy to set up and demonstrates a commitment to environmental sustainability.

To find out more about becoming a refill station, email refill@tameside.gov.uk



Bridge View Café, one of our Refill locations

New three year Crisis and Resilience Fund to strengthen support for residents

Tameside residents are benefitting from a stronger, more stable system of support after the council launched a new three year Crisis and Resilience Fund.

Innovative projects including Community Groceries, food skills workshops and Green Doctors will be on offer to help residents, as well as support to secure the best energy deals and manage fuel debt.

Tameside Council's long-term funding commitment has been developed to help households build resilience for the future. The new approach ensures that residents can rely on consistent, well planned support that reflects the needs of communities.

The fund replaces previous cost of living focused schemes. This means help is available when residents need it most, while also supporting people to feel more secure and confident in managing future challenges.

Under new national guidance, councils are no longer permitted to provide blanket free school meal holiday vouchers. To support families through this transition, the council continued to provide vouchers for May half-term and for summer 2026. Alongside this, a wider range of family focused support options has been expanded to ensure children and young people

continue to receive help in ways that promote dignity, choice, and long-term wellbeing.

A major new feature of the fund is the development of Community Groceries across Tameside, beginning with the first site in Hattersley. Community Groceries bridge the gap between food banks and supermarkets, offering affordable weekly shops from just £5 per visit, with savings of up to £20 per shop. These groceries will operate alongside existing provision, including 12 foodbank centres, three food pantries, and The Bread and Butter Thing, which visits six areas weekly. Details of current provision can be found at www.tameside.gov.uk/foodbanks.

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme will continue to provide healthy meals, enriching activities, and free childcare places during school holidays for children eligible for benefits related free school meals.

Other support includes the Tameside Community Food Skills Project offering cooking sessions and libraries across Tameside delivering a programme of events aimed at improving financial resilience.

And the Tameside in Work programme will continue to help residents avoid unemployment, increase household income, and move into better paid or more suitable roles.

Have your say at the next Community Forums

Tameside's Community Forums resume in November with residents encouraged to pop along and have their say.

They provide stronger opportunities for town-level engagement between residents and the council, and take place on the following dates:

- **Denton:** Wednesday 18 November, Yew Tree Community Centre, 6pm to 8.30pm
- **Droylsden and Audenshaw:** Thursday 19 November, Rycroft Hall, Audenshaw, 6pm to 8.30pm
- **Ashton and Mossley:** Monday 23 November, Micklehurst Cricket Club, Mossley, 6pm to 8.30pm

- **Dukinfield and Stalybridge:** Tuesday 24 November, George Hatton, Dukinfield Town Hall, 6pm to 8.30pm

- **Hyde and Longdendale:** Wednesday 25 November, St Barnabas Church, Hattersley, 6pm to 8.30pm

Meetings are held in-person, three times a year, with locations rotating to ensure a presence in every town. Each forum consists of elected ward councillors, partner organisations and local people.

Agendas are available for each forum and can be found, alongside more details and future meeting dates, at www.tameside.gov.uk/CommunityForums



The first meeting of Dukinfield and Stalybridge Community Forum.



Hyde and Longdendale Community Forum's first meeting.

Celebrating 50 years of Greenspace volunteers

A well-deserved celebration event was held to mark 50 years of dedicated Greenspace Volunteers in Tameside. The Greenspace Team arranged a celebration event for the volunteers at Portland Basin on, 11 June, to celebrate the milestone.

Over the past five decades, they have played a valuable role, working alongside Tameside Council's Greenspace team to help maintain, preserve, and enhance greenspaces and biodiversity across the borough. Between 2025 and 2026, they contributed over 2000 days of their time.

The afternoon included appreciation speeches and long service awards, recognising volunteers who have contributed for 10, 20 and even 30 years.

For more information on volunteering in your community, visit

www.tameside.gov.uk/LibrariesandLeisure/Countryside/Volunteering-in-your-Community



Greenspace volunteers are celebrated for their service.



Volunteers recognised for decades of dedication to Tameside Talking News

Volunteers from Tameside Talking News were invited to the Mayor's Parlour in recognition of their invaluable contribution to producing the audio newspaper for residents.

Tameside Talking News is a recorded newspaper, sharing current local news and events. Recording on cassettes started 48 years ago at Clyde House in Ashton-under-Lyne and various other sites before moving to Dukinfield Town Hall and eventually moving onto USB's which were posted to listeners. Volunteers shared fond memories and one volunteer remarked: "It was a pleasure and a privilege to have been part of."

A USB was kindly gifted to the Civic Mayor of Tameside, Cllr Helen Bowden, with recordings of the very first edition in 1978 and the first digital edition on USBs in 2011.

Volunteers, Civic Mayor of Tameside Cllr Helen Bowden and Director of Adult Services Joe Kelly



Royal invitations for Tameside foster carers

Local long-serving foster carers, Dave Atkins and Sue and Pete Williams, were invited to attend the King's Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in recognition of their service and commitment to fostering children and young people with a total of 82 years fostering.

Dave, 79, from Audenshaw, is a single male, who for over 30 years ran his own joinery business whilst fostering full-time.

Sue and Pete Williams, aged 73 and 82, from Hyde, first started fostering in 1980, making them Tameside Council's longest-serving foster carers. To celebrate their dedication and contribution to their community, Sue, Pete and Dave attended the King's Garden Party.

Dave said: "I had to think why am I here and really, I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the wonderful young people I've cared for over the years, and what they've managed to achieve. "My favourite moment was seeing the King and Queen appear on the balcony and walk down the steps."

Sue said: "Our proudest moments are when the children we've cared for come back to us and we see everything they've achieved in life."

Sue, Pete and Dave have come to the end of their fostering journey.

Dave said: "Please do enquire about fostering, there's so many young people there just waiting for an opportunity.

"You're bringing someone into your life who can benefit from being in your home, I cannot see how anyone would regret it.

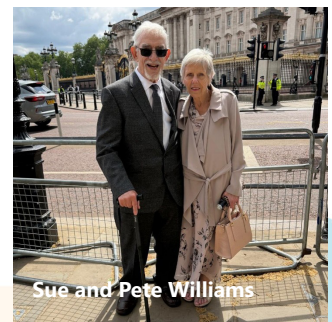
"You're never on your own with any problem so please go for it because these children need you."

Anyone can foster as long as applicants are 21 years or older, have a spare room (unless you're fostering a child under the age of two), and can offer a safe and loving home. The council provides full training, including online opportunities to increase flexibility, support, and an allowance.

Anyone who has been inspired by Sue, Pete and Dave can get in touch by calling 0300 303 0321, emailing enquire@fosterform.com or visiting www.fosterform.com/tameside



Dave Atkins



Sue and Pete Williams

Adoption journey shows how families come in all shapes and sizes

A businesswoman who always wanted to start her own family has shared her adoption journey to highlight the difference it can make to a child's life.

Adoptive parent Jessica, whose real name has been changed to protect her identity, has given an insight into what to expect when going through the adoption process.

In 2023, Jessica started the process with Adoption Now as a single adopter, following an unsuccessful IVF journey.

Tameside Council works in partnership with Adoption Now, alongside Bolton, Bury, Oldham and Rochdale councils, to find local children and young people a permanent place to call home.

Jessica said: "My only worry was being a single person, but families come in all shapes and sizes.

They are just looking for people that can give a child a good life."

Find out more about adopting in Tameside by visiting www.adoptionnow.org.uk or calling 01204 336096.



Being single isn't a barrier to adoption.

What's On **IN TAMESIDE**

There's always something going on in Tameside, whether you're keen on exploring our fabulous countryside spaces or learning more about our heritage, history or culture in indoor places.

Look out for the return of Stalybridge Street Fest and Mossley Farmers Market, as well as half-term activities. For all the latest events, visit www.intameside.co.uk

Discover what's on at Stalybridge Victoria Market Hall

There is so much to explore **IN TAMESIDE**
www.intameside.co.uk/news/stalybridge



Funded by
UK Government



A Night at the Musicals Sunday 1 November 2026

A truly sensational evening of musical theatre is coming to Stalybridge this November. 6:45pm doors, 7:15pm start, approx 9:30pm finish. Ticket prices: £15 full price, £12 concessions.

Best of Christmas Brass Saturday 12 December 2026

Excellent Best of Christmas Brass selection, combined with warm festive feelings, lots of laughs, and topped off with mince pies and mulled wine. 7pm doors, 7:30pm start, approx 9:30pm finish. Ticket prices: £10 full price, £7 concessions.



What's on in our libraries There is so much on offer in Tameside libraries, keep an eye on their social media to see everything going on.

Time for a Rhyme

Join the fun at rhyme time! Come along and join the library staff for singing, rhymes and stories. Sessions are suitable for children up to 4 years old.

Mondays:

Hattersley Library, 2:15pm,
Mossley Library, 2:15pm,
Denton Library, 2:15pm

Tuesdays:

Stalybridge Library, 10am,
Hyde Library, 10:30am

Wednesdays:

Ashton Library, 10am

Thursdays:

Dukinfield Library, 2:15pm,
Droylsden Library, 9:30am and
10:30am

Lego Clubs

Join us and build fantastic Lego creations. Lego Club is aimed at children aged 7+ and their parents and carers. No need to book, just drop in.

Ashton Library

4th Tuesday of the month 4-5pm

Stalybridge Library

1st Wednesday of the month
3:30-4:30pm

Denton Library

3rd Thursday of the month 3:30-4:30pm

Droylsden Library- 2nd Friday of the month 3:30-4:30pm

Teen Meet Up

Ashton Library

2nd Tuesday of the month
5-6:30pm

Tea & Tales

Adults are welcome to join us to chat, share stories, listen to poetry & prose and have fun

Hattersley Library

1st Thursday of the month
1:30-2:30pm

Tel: 0161 342 4000, option 5

What's On **IN TAMESIDE**

Stalybridge Library

3rd Wednesday of the month
10:30–11:30am.

Tel: 0161 342 4000, option 8

Library Club's

Droylsden Library Club

1st Wednesday of the month
10–11:30am

Dukinfield Library Club

2nd Wednesday of the month
10:30–11:30am

Business workshops:

Get Started With Learn My Way
Learn My Way are simple courses for beginners. Come along to our free workshop to help you get started using your device and getting online.

Ashton Library,

every Tuesday 11am–12noon

Hyde Library,

1st Friday of the month
11am–12noon

Mossley Library,

2nd Wednesday of the month,
11am–12noon

Droylsden Library,

3rd Monday of the month,
11am–12noon

Get Started With Online Job Searching

Come along to our free workshop to help you get started using online tools for job searching, for help on CV writing and managing the search and application process. This session will help you build skills and confidence.

Every Wednesday 11am–12noon

Ashton Library.

Tel: 0161 342 4000, option 1.

Get Started With iDEA

iDEA offers free online courses to improve your digital skills; collect badges as you complete an award. iDEA is a scheme for the digital age similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

Every Thursday 3:30–4:30pm - Ashton Library.

Tel: 0161 342 4000, option 1.

Knitting and Stitching Group

Come along to knit, crochet, chat, be inspired, and share knowledge and ideas. Every Friday 1:30–3:30pm - Droylsden Library. Tel: 0161 342 5700.

Exhibitions

Ashton Market Hall Gallery

Regular exhibitions by artists from the Tameside area.

Portland Basin Museum

Fantastic displays showcasing Tameside's incredible history, culture, and heritage. Open Tuesday to Sunday 10am–4pm, free entry.

STALYBRIDGE
**STREET
FEST**

**2nd Friday
of the month**



**MOSSLEY
Farmers
MARKET**

**Last Sunday
of the month**





Helping Hand support in Tameside



Support services in Tameside to help you manage the cost of living

If you're struggling with the cost of living, Tameside Council's Helping Hand service connects you to local support. Whether you need help managing money, improving mental health, finding housing support, or accessing food banks, we're here for you.

Get advice on energy savings, financial support, and employment opportunities - all in one place. Everyone needs a helping hand sometimes, and support is available when you need it.

Visit our Helping Hand webpage to find local services ready to support you.

tameside.gov.uk/helpinghand

