



September 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 – 11 October!** The next Partnership Engagement Network Conference will take place on **Monday 11 October at 10am**. Details on the workshops will be confirmed in due course. In the meantime, please do reserve your spot by signing up to the following Eventbrite link here:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/partnership-engagement-network-conference-october-2021-tickets-168234406639>
- **Turtle Song: singing and songwriting for people living with dementia and their carers/companions** – the project is free and takes place once a week for 9 weeks, starting on 7 October from 2.15pm-4pm at Chetham's School of Music. The venue is fully accessible and residents from Tameside and Glossop are invited. For further information, please call 020 8964 5060 or email charlotte@turtlekeyarts.org.uk

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:

- **Customer Services Review Consultation** – Tameside Council is seeking views on proposed changes to its face-to-face Customer Services. The way that customers access services has changed over recent years, due to changes in technological advancements and increasing access as well as the Covid-19 pandemic. Since March 2020, due to the Covid-19 pandemic no face-to-face Customer Service function has been offered. Residents wishing to contact the Council have had to make contact via other channels, including telephone, email or Webchat via the Council website.

These circumstances of accelerated change combined with decreasing budgets have

presented an opportunity to review the way we deliver services. Changes to the way that face-to-face Customer Service is provided are being proposed. The proposed service model for the future would be based on providing the most appropriate access channel according to customers' requirements. It would be very similar to the current offer but with the addition of face-to-face contact where necessary and only for those where other channels would not be suitable. The Council is seeking your views on these proposals. Deadline: **19 September 2021**. **[Link Removed]**

- **Foster Care Offer Consultation** – Tameside Council is proposing a new Foster Care Offer. The main aim of this is to support and retain existing foster carers and attract more foster carers so that Tameside can build its proportion of in-house local placements for cared for children.

Following a review of the offer in 2020, it found possible improvements that could be made to help Tameside's ambition to deliver a good fostering offer, including bringing fees in line with competitive rates, improving the level of support to foster carers and improving the training and development model. We would like to hear your views on the new offer. Closing date: **27 September 2021**.

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- **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/TMBCCCommunityCohesionsurvey>

- **Digital Skills Survey** – Tameside Council want to understand the level of digital skills and access in Tameside. This means finding out who can access the internet and how confident they are using computers or digital devices, such as tablets or smartphones.

The information will help ensure that the support available to help anyone improve their skills or gain access online is provided in the right way. To find out more about the support currently available please visit this webpage: <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries>

The deadline for responses is **15 October 2021**.

- **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? [Link Removed]
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- **Survey for people who are mental health service users and their carers** – This new survey is for people who are using (or trying to use) mental health services and their carers. Healthwatch Tameside want to hear about your experiences of mental health services at the moment. This anonymous feedback will be used to influence the care provided by local services in the future. Closing date **24 September 2021**. [Link Removed]
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- **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. [Link Removed]

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Regional engagement and consultations

- **Places for Everyone** – Places for Everyone is the long-term plan of nine Greater Manchester districts for jobs, new homes and sustainable growth. The plan sets out a strategic policy framework for the nine boroughs and helps these areas to meet their local housing and employment needs by identifying land and infrastructure to support growth.

This plan is even more important than ever right now. Covid-19 has had a major impact on the way people live and work over the shorter term with a high degree of uncertainty over its impact in the long term.

Local people are the driving force behind the area's success. It's important that you have your say on the future of the place you call home, and help shape its transition into a world-leading city region. This consultation phase is to see if you think this joint plan meets the 'test of soundness'. The deadline for comments is **3 October 2021**.

<https://www.gmconsult.org/communications-and-engagement-team/pfe/>

- **Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan - A575/A580 at Worsley and motorhomes/campervans** – Greater Manchester must take action to improve air quality, now and for future generations. Pollution from road traffic is linked to a wide range of serious illnesses and conditions. It contributes to the equivalent of around 1,200 deaths a year in GM alone.

Following an eight-week statutory consultation on the GM CAP proposals in 2020, the 10 GM local authorities have finalised their plan, with funding for non-compliant vehicles to upgrade available for residents and businesses in GM to apply for from November 2021 and a 'Category C' GM-wide Clean Air Zone anticipated to launch on 30 May 2022. The consultation findings and final plan report can be found

here: cleanairgm.com/technical-documents/

Whilst the final plan has been agreed, there are two issues that were raised in the feedback to the original consultation that now require a further consultation:

- Including M1/ M1 Special Purpose vehicles with a body type of 'motorcaravan' within the charging scheme
- Including the sections of the A575 and A580 at Worsley within the GM Clean Air Zone

The deadline for comments is **13 October 2021**.

<https://www.gmconsult.org/strategy-team/furthergmcapconsultation/>

- **Engaging women who may be sex working in Greater Manchester** – MASH (Manchester Action on Street Health) is a charity that provides free and confidential support for women who are sex working in Greater Manchester. At MASH we have been empowering women and changing lives for 30 years. As part of the research, MASH would like to obtain the views and lived experiences of women who are or may be sex working in Greater Manchester. They are conducting this via a short, easy self-completion survey (available in paper and online format) and also by undertaking some face-to-face work (group discussions and individual or paired interviews) via MASH and other stakeholder organisations. It will help build a picture of support across Greater Manchester for women who are sex working. All your comments are confidential. The privacy statement at the end gives more information about this. The deadline for this is **30 September 21**.

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- **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:

- **Census 2021 outputs: content design and release phase proposals** – The census is a survey that happens every 10 years and gives a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales. All kinds of organisations, from local authorities to charities, use the information to help provide the services we all need, including transport, education, and healthcare.

The census has always changed with the times to better meet users' needs, make better use of technology, introduce new questions, and change or replace existing questions. To enable us at the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to meet these changing needs, we engage with data users throughout the development cycle of the census.

This consultation is part of that engagement process. The UK Statistics Authority would like to hear your feedback on the proposals outlined throughout the questionnaire.

These proposals cover the release of census data and a proposed programme of analysis, to draw insights from that data. They welcome contributions from all census users, from those who are experienced users of census data to those who are looking to use census data for the first time. Deadline: **5 October 2021**.

<https://consultations.ons.gov.uk/external-affairs/census-2021-outputs-consultation/>

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

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

✓ 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 - [Link Removed] - 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 - [Link Removed] link on homepage

Tameside & Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust - [Link Removed] 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.

- The public's top Covid-19 related concerns are about the spread of a new variant of the Coronavirus which is resistant to vaccines (80%), another wave of coronavirus cases (79%), and the economy going into recession (76%)
- Most people think that new Covid-19 restrictions will be needed during the autumn (63%)
- The vast majority of adults would accept a booster vaccine, if offered (94%); this ranges from 96% of over 70-year olds to 78% of 16-29 year olds
- Half wouldn't mind if their booster was a different vaccine from the one they had previously (50%), although a third would prefer the same one (32%)
- Four in five support extending the vaccination programme to 16- and 17-year olds (80%), and three-quarters think they shouldn't require their parents' permission (64%)

Grant Funding for VCSE organisations

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:[Link Removed]

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:

GSK Grow Programme – The GSK Grow Programme is open to registered charities that are at least a year old, working in a health-related field in the UK, with a total annual income of between £20,000 and £120,000. Up to 10 charities will receive £10,000 in unrestricted funding plus training and development valued at £3,200. Up to five runner-up charities will receive £1,000. To find out more information, visit <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/projects/gsk-grow-programme>

GMCVO offering support for Community Ownership Fund bids – The first bidding round for the £150m Community Ownership Fund is currently open for communities across the UK. It has been set up to help communities take ownership of assets and amenities at risk. Funding may support the purchase and/or renovation costs of community assets and amenities. Proposals will need to prove the value of the asset to local people and that the asset can run sustainably for the long-term benefit of the community. [Link

GM 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. 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. [Link Removed]
