

WEST STRATEGIC NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

Day: Thursday
Date: 24 March 2022
Time: 6.30 pm
Place: Zoom

Item No.	AGENDA	Page No
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE To receive any apologies for absence.	
2.	MINUTES To receive the Minutes of the meeting of the West Strategic Neighbourhood Forum held on 20 January 2022.	1 - 4
3.	UPDATE FROM GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE To receive a presentation from Greater Manchester Police.	
4.	UPDATE FROM THE YOUTH SERVICE To receive a presentation from the Integrated Youth Manager.	5 - 14
5.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING To note that the next meeting of the West Strategic Neighbourhood Forum is provisionally scheduled to take place on Thursday 23 June 2022.	

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WEST STRATEGIC NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

20 January 2022

Commenced: 6.30pm

Terminated: 7.15 pm

Present: Councillors Ward (Chair), Boyle, Cooney, A Holland (Vice-Chair), Jones, Mills, Naylor, Newton, Quinn, Reid, Ricci, M Smith, T Smith and Warrington

Apologies for absence: Councillors Gwynne, B Holland, Martin and Ryan

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED

The Minutes of the meeting of the West Strategic Neighbourhood Forum held on 28 October 2021 be approved as a correct record.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING UPDATE – SAFER TAMESIDE

Chief Inspector Galt, Greater Manchester Police began by providing information in respect of two new Teams; the Serious Aquisitive Crime (SAC) Team and the Domestic Abuse Team (DAT).

The Chief Inspector explained that the SAC Team dealt exclusively with volume crime: burglary/robbery/vehicle crime and she was very pleased to report that the district team currently had the best detection rate for burglary in the Greater Manchester area, with 10.2%.

She further explained that the DAT Team, a Unit dedicated to dealing with Domestic Abuse offenders was still in its infancy and therefore, there were no statistics available.

Inspector Knight, Greater Manchester Police, then delivered a presentation updating the Forum in respect of recent initiatives and current priorities in the area.

Inspector Knight began by giving details of Operation AVRO, a force-wide initiative that delivered a surge of extra resources and specialist officers to a different district within Greater Manchester each month. The operation targeted crimes that members of the public in the district had reported as giving them the most concern.

Members of the press and key partners, including local representatives, were invited to attend Operation AVRO deployments to see results first-hand and conduct important multi-agency work, such as welfare visits.

Further information was provided in respect of Operation Safer Tameside, which had taken place on 16 December 2021. Details were given of a number of actions from the day, including:

- 1 Vehicle seized due to driver having no insurance and MOT;
- 4 Drivers breathalysed;
- 6 Stopped for faulty lighting;
- 2 Stopped for illegal tinted windows;
- 1 Stopped for illegal number plates;
- 9 Stopped for exceeding the speed limit;
- 4 Delivery vehicles stopped for failing to wear a seatbelt;
- 2 Stopped for driving whilst using mobile device;
- 3 Warnings for anti-social driving;

- 1 Obstruction on public highway; and
- 1 Driver contravening stop sign.

Intelligence was also gathered with regard to a number of issues, which the Neighbourhood Policing Team would be looking into. It was reported that the next Operation Safer Tameside was scheduled to take place on 25 January 2022 focusing on violent crime towards women and girls.

Current priorities for the area were also outlined, including:

- Anti-social behaviour at the Snipe Retail Park and Ryecroft Hall, Audenshaw;
- Drug dealing, anti-social behaviour and off-road bikes in Droylsden West,
- Anti-social behaviour in Victoria Park and shop lifting at Crown Point North, Denton North East and burglary across the ward in general;
- Burglary, theft from motor vehicle and shoplifting in Denton West;
- Anti-social behaviour and drug cultivating/dealing in Denton South; and
- Shoplifting and anti-social behaviour and drug dealing in Droylsden East.

With regard to burglary, Inspector Knight advised that two priority offenders had been arrested and remanded and one was on bail. As a result of the arrests, burglary figures had dropped significantly in the area. He added that four individuals had been arrested in connection with a burglary at Greswell Primary School.

Officers had also distributed Christmas hampers to vulnerable people in Tameside West during the festive period.

Members thanked the Police for their hard work across the West neighbourhood and for their attendance at neighbourhood watch meetings, which was much appreciated. Members further highlighted the importance of neighbourhood watch in assisting with crime prevention.

Reference was made to the work of the Tameside Youth Service with regard to anti-social behaviour and it was agreed that an update be provided to a future meeting of the Forum

Information was sought in respect of Newsletters from GMP, which had included in the past, useful statistics on reporting of crime in the area, but had not been in circulation recently. Members further requested that they be emailed to them, if possible. Inspector Knight confirmed that the Newsletters were still being produced and that he would pass on Members comments/requests regarding these to Inspector Hussain, who was the Inspector for the West area, however, was unable to attend the meeting that evening.

The Chair thanked Chief Inspector Galt and Inspector Knight for their attendance and for a very interesting presentation.

RESOLVED

That the content of the presentation be noted.

7. COVID UPDATE

The Forum received a presentation from the Assistant Interim Director of Population Health, who gave an update in respect of the current position with regard to Covid-19.

Trends in new cases of the virus in Tameside as of 14 January 2022 were displayed and it was reported that the current rate of new cases in the last seven days per 100,000 people was 1,122.3/100,000 (2,549 cases). The rate had increased rapidly in recent weeks, however this was now declining again. The highest numbers of new cases were in younger working age adults (20-40), but still increasing in children. The number of people in hospital with Covid-19 in GM and Tameside had increased in recent weeks, however overall, increases in intensive care usage for Covid patients in GM or Tameside had not been seen, but this continued to be monitored.

Members were advised that:

- Tameside had a similar rate of Covid to the rest of GM;
- The rate of new cases had started to reduce but this should be treated with caution due to testing patterns and access;
- The positivity rate was extremely high with almost 1 in 2 tests coming back positive (45%);
- Numbers in children were still increasing and this may continue;
- Guidance changes around testing;
- Seeing high numbers of outbreaks and some large outbreaks – Care Homes;
- Hospital activity had increased and there were indirect impacts in the health system and other public services due to staff absences and disruption to routine activity; and
- Ongoing pressure on all Council front line services and on direct Covid response within Public Health; Adult Social Care; Public Protection; Education; Communications.

Current drivers of the current situation in Tameside were outlined, including:

- The new Omicron variant of Covid-19 was discovered in late November and had spread rapidly across the globe since then, driving a huge spike in infections;
- The Omicron variant was extremely infectious and was spreading more quickly and more easily than previous variants, such as Alpha and Delta;
- Omicron was now completely dominant across the country and in Tameside last week 100% of cases were Omicron;
- This had come at a time heading into winter when seasonal viruses spread easily and there were relatively few measures and restrictions in place to limit transmission;
- Outbreaks were widespread across settings in the borough, some of which were particularly high risk such as care homes. The further spread added to the overall numbers of infections; and
- Spread of infection linked to confined, crowded indoor spaces with inadequate ventilation.

Basic measures to prevent transmission were emphasised:

- Regular, thorough handwashing with soap and running water;
- Wear a face mask/covering when in certain places;
- Social distancing from others of at least 2 metres;
- Following the current relevant guidance/advice; and
- Vaccination.

Details were given of the current rules in respect of PCR testing, regular testing and contact tracing. Information was also provided in respect of testing sites in the Borough and their opening times.

Recent changes to testing and isolation advice was highlighted, including the importance of registering test results online for data collection and in order that they could be followed up.

The presentation summarised how people were being encouraged and supported to 'Tackle Covid in Tameside', as follows:

- Ongoing messaging – testing / vaccination;
- Engaging with communities to provide information and listen to concerns;
- Community Champions programme;
- Supporting people and services to follow guidelines and reduce spread;
- The vaccination programme was vital and was tackling inequalities and supporting access;
- Support to isolate – there were still support payments available for those needing to isolate and help via the council call centre (0161 342 8355).

The Chair thanked the Interim Assistant Director for a very informative presentation.

CHAIR

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Tameside Youth Service

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Staff Team

8 Full Time Staff
12 Part Time Staff
(3FTE)
Total is 11FTE

Who are we?
What do we do?

Seven Buildings

Copley Youth Base
Bennett Street Youth Club
Blocksages Youth Club
Mossley Youth Base
Cyclops Adventure
Cedar Park Youth Club
Denton Festival Hall

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Targeted Youth Work



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Targeted Youth Work



Why?

- Youth Council gives young people a voice, to help improve and shape services, for young people.
- Bike project has been delivering for many years, we believe everyone should have access to a safe bike. This empowers autonomy and is a fun way to help with our health.
- Music is known to help with mental health, playing an instrument, lyric writing, digital music.



Targeted Youth Work

Why?

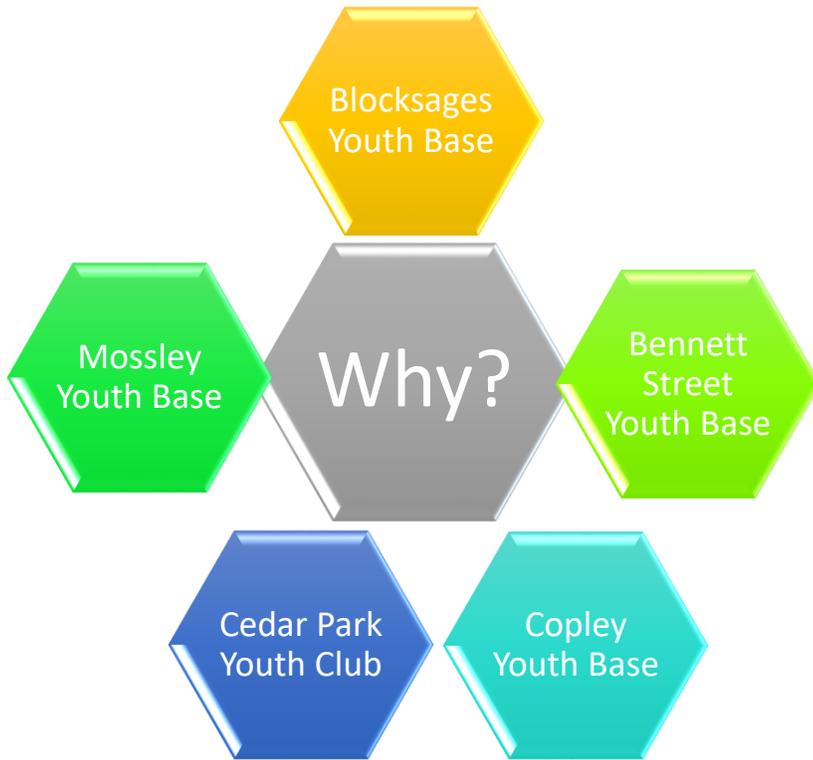
- Disability work empowers young people to make their own informed decisions, also experiencing our accessible bikes.
- Pre Covid we identified a growing trend of young women involved in ASB, this work is about challenging that and supporting better choices.
- Our LGBT+ young people have support and a safe space to seek support for issues that they encounter.



Open Access Youth Work



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Open Access Youth Work

Why?

- Giving Young people a safe space.
- Building trusted relationships with youth workers.
- Sitting in communities, encouraging young people to be a positive influence in their communities.
- Offering positive activities for young people to be involved in.
- Tea Time clubs providing a meal for all those who want to eat.
- Supporting children & young people through key transitions through to adulthood.
- Empowering informed decisions, building resilience & learning transferable life skills.



Community Support



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Why?

- Detached Youth Work, is working on the streets and spaces where young people choose to be.
- Community work is where we start with a low level issue and negotiate a solution.
- Pop up events with bikes & ramp kit, taking activity out and about.
- We offer support to primary, secondary schools, as well as colleges. From Restorative Approaches training to Fresher's stalls or problem solving in our countryside.
- We support one foodbank and one food pantry.
- We deliver Solihul parental training, supporting our colleagues in Children's Services.



Past 12 months – Covid Delivery

Throughout the Covid Pandemic, we have continued to deliver, we have followed the guidance from our governing body, National Youth Agency. Youth Workers were allocated Essential Service status by the Government. Our delivery has remained Covid Compliant, with **NO** Covid outbreaks.

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In the last 12 months we have delivered **1751** sessions.

In the last 12 months we have had **20334** contacts.





The West Strategic Neighbourhood Forum

The West Strategic Neighbourhood Forum includes the Wards of Audenshaw, Denton North East, Denton South, Denton West, Droylsden East and Droylsden West

- Detached work:
We have done several pieces of detached work in and around Droylsden, Audenshaw & Denton.
- Music & multi media:
We have delivered sessions throughout the pandemic. Splitting the sessions into Junior & Senior sessions. The project is well attended, with young people learning to play instruments, Lyric writing, poetry, digital music and animation.
- Haughton Green Centre:
We have continued to support volunteers over the last ten years. Last summer we supported the holiday activity sessions. We are currently working with the senior volunteers to bring in new volunteers.
- WAC:
We have supported WAC to co deliver activities & events. As well as supporting strategic decisions during the pandemic.



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