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NORTH STRATEGIC NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

Day: Tuesday
Date: 30 January 2024
Time: 6.30 pm
Place: Zoom

Item No.	AGENDA	Page No
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE To receive any apologies for absence from Members of the Forum.	
2.	MINUTES To receive the Minutes of the meeting of the North Strategic Neighbourhood Forum held on 17 October 2023.	1 - 6
3.	BUDGET CONSULTATION To receive a presentation from the Director of Resources / Interim Assistant Director of Finance.	7 - 14
4.	CARERS STRATEGY To receive a presentation from the Assistant Director of Adult Social Care.	15 - 24
5.	HOW TO BECOME A FOSTER CARER To receive a presentation from the Assistant Director of Children’s Social Care.	25 - 40
6.	LOCAL PLAN To receive a presentation from the Director of Place.	41 - 58
7.	SERIOUS VIOLENCE STRATEGY To receive a presentation from the Director of Public Health.	59 - 84
8.	FLU UPTAKE & IMPACT OF DOCTORS STRIKE To receive a presentation from the Director of Public Health.	85 - 90
9.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING To note that the next meeting of the North Strategic Neighbourhood Forum is scheduled to take place on 26 March 2024.	

From: Democratic Services Unit – any further information may be obtained from the reporting officer or from Charlotte Forrest, Senior Democratic Services Officer, charlotte.forrest@tameside.gov.uk or 0161 342 2346, to whom any apologies for absence should be notified.

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NORTH STRATEGIC NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

17 October 2023

Commenced: 6.30 pm

Terminated: 7.55 pm

Present: Councillors Bowerman (Chair), Glover (Deputy Chair), Bray, Choksi, Costello, Drennan, Fairfoull, Karim, McLaren and McNally

In Attendance:

Mike Robinson	Regulatory Services Manager (Licensing and Waste Enforcement)
Emma Varnam	Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods
Anne Whittington	Consultant in Public Health

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Howarth and Patel

7. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the North Strategic Neighbourhood Forum held on 27 June 2023 were approved as a correct record.

8. VACCINATIONS

The Chair welcomed the Consultant in Public Health, who attended the Forum to deliver a presentation in relation to Flu and Covid-19 Vaccinations for Autumn-Winter 2023/24.

Members were informed that vaccination was a safe and effective way to help protect people from getting seriously ill with a disease, as well as providing individual protection, it also made it harder for viruses to spread between people, including vulnerable people and/or those unable to be vaccinated. A different flu vaccination was offered every Autumn-Winter to protect against the different types of flu virus likely to be circulating and Covid-19 booster vaccinations were being offered to eligible people to coincide with the flu vaccination programme.

The Forum was advised that NHS England set out the criteria for those who were eligible to be vaccinated and how the programme would work. The Population Health team at the Council then worked together to deliver the vaccines according to this.

A table detailing the seasonal flu vaccination uptake in 2022/23 was shared with the data broken down by individual towns within Tameside and varying age categories. It was highlighted that uptake had been low, and lower than the Greater Manchester average, in the under 65 age group, pregnant women and toddlers. It was explained that this was related to issues around access and a perception that the risk from flu was not as great among these groups.

A table detailing the uptake of Covid-19 booster vaccinations for Autumn-Winter 2022/23 was highlighted with numbers higher than the Greater Manchester average across all cohorts with especially high uptake in Care Homes in the borough.

The plans for Autumn-Winter 2023/24 were outlined and it was emphasised that vaccines would be available in all four neighbourhoods with Primary Care Networks leading on the delivery of the Covid-19 vaccine and the flu vaccine could be obtained from practices and community pharmacies. Co-delivery of both vaccines was available for eligible groups. Other initiatives included:

- GP Surgeries sending text messages to all those eligible inviting them to receive vaccination.

- Special sessions for 2-3 year olds including free soft play vouchers in some areas;
- Maternity services offering flu vaccinations in an antenatal clinic and providing flyers on Covid-19 vaccine availability.
- A schools programme was underway and a programme for TMBC staff programme was available.
- A Winter illnesses leaflet had been sent to parents via schools and early years settings, with translated versions available in Urdu and Polish.
- Communication campaigns were on social media and in local publications, with posters and banners up in key locations.

In response to questions, it was confirmed that children received their flu vaccination in school via the form of a nasal spray as part of the school vaccination programme and the majority of the eligible population had been offered a minimum three Covid-19 vaccination boosters.

The Consultant in Public Health was thanked for an informative presentation and Members were pleased to hear about the different campaigns and were especially keen that GPs communicated the availability of vaccines to their patients.

RESOLVED

That the content of the presentation be noted.

9. JOINT HEALTH & WELLBEING STRATEGY AND LOCALITY PLAN

The Consultant in Public Health presented the Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy and Locality Plan 2023-28, which set out how the Health and Wellbeing Board would support improving the health of the borough’s residents and tackle inequalities that some communities in the borough faced. It was highlighted that a combined document had been produced to reflect the integrated work in Tameside and the collective efforts to strive towards improving health across all communities.

An infographic was displayed demonstrating the Strategy alongside the overall shared vision of “Building Back Fairer, Stronger, Together”. Six areas of focus, as detailed below, had been identified for Tameside to strive towards achieving the ambitions – three focussed on the life course and three focussed on the wider determinants of health and were the broad areas the Health and Wellbeing Board were working to deliver on.

Life Course	Wider Determinants of Health
1. Give Tameside children the best start in life	4. Help people get into, and stay, in good work
2. Help people stay well across the life course and detect illness earlier	5. Strengthen our communities
3. Enable all Tameside residents to grow old with dignity and independence	6. Deliver healthy places with accessible and inclusive services

It was explained that a number of existing challenges in Tameside had provided the rationale to choosing the six areas of focus. These included a low healthy life expectancy compared to other areas; a high proportion of overweight children; high levels of air pollution; lower wages and high levels of poverty in Tameside. In addition, engagement with communities and insight from residents through direct conversations had helped to capture the Voice of Tameside Residents, which had been incorporated into the Strategy, and the six areas of focus reflected the issues and priorities that affected the population and were areas that they said were important to them.

It was emphasised that under each of the six areas of focus, the Strategy outlined where work was already happening and there was a link to other key strategies such as the Poverty Strategy, Inclusive Growth Strategy, the Children & Young People’s Plan and the Housing Strategy. There

were also specific objectives and actions that had been set under each area of focus to describe what it was that the Health and Care system and the Health and Wellbeing Board would deliver over the coming years to improve health in Tameside.

Members were told that there were two cross-cutting themes throughout the Strategy, which were all-age mental health and wellbeing and tackling inequalities in work; both of these were embedded in all of the approaches that would be taken and all of the objectives set across the six areas of focus.

It was explained that the Locality Plan would deliver health and care services across Tameside and would report to the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board. The Plan aligned to the priorities in the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership Strategy and Joint Forward Plan.

It was reported that a delivery plan would be developed to make sure actions were kept on track, with regular updates provided. The list of measures and outcomes contained in the Plan would be monitored via the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Strategic Partnership Board for the ICP in Tameside.

The Chair thanked the Consultant in Public Health for attending the Forum and delivering the presentation.

RESOLVED

That the content of the presentation be noted.

10. ENFORCEMENT PANEL ACTIVITY

The Chair welcomed the Regulatory Services Manager (Licensing and Waste Enforcement) who attended the Forum to provide an update on enforcement activity across Tameside.

The functions undertaken by the Public Protection team were outlined and included:

- Food Safety and Food Standards
- Trading Standards
- Animal Health and Welfare
- Housing Enforcement
- Environment/Waste Enforcement
- Health and Safety
- Public Health
- Environmental Protection
- Licensing
- Parking Services

The Forum were notified that the Council was required to have a Corporate Enforcement Policy and a draft of this policy was currently being updated. The Policy outlined how the Council enforced a range of legislation in a fair, equitable and consistent manner. It was intended to protect the public, the environment, consumers, and workers within the borough to meet their legal obligations, and take firm action against those who flouted the law or acted irresponsibly.

It was highlighted that the Policy applied to all services with enforcement duties, although some services had specific legislative guidance and regulations that set out the enforcement requirements so therefore had specific service area policies in addition to the corporate one.

Members were advised that the Enforcement Panel met on a quarterly basis and the purpose of the Panel was to:

- Provide overview, assurance and scrutiny of the wide range of enforcement activity undertaken across the Council by receiving reports from service areas in scope.

- Promote the enforcement activities of the Council's enforcement services throughout the borough.
- Provide cohesion for the Council's enforcement bodies.
- Provide integrated service provision and joined up planning across a range of enforcement activities with wider service providers, such as Greater Manchester Police.
- Deliver on strategic priorities, including increasing enforcement across Tameside.

The enforcement activity undertaken during the quarter March to September 2023 was detailed across all enforcement areas and key investigations were highlighted, such as the environmental health prosecution at the Bake 'n' Butty Café, where the owner had illegally installed a petrol generator in the basement of the premises and Tameside Magistrates Court had imposed 100 hours of unpaid work, 20 rehabilitation days, £130 victim surcharge, £5,000 costs and an 18-week custodial sentence. There had also been a Trading Standards operation and an underage sales test purchase operation.

A number of Waste Enforcement Days of Action had been undertaken resulting in several Fixed Penalty Notices being issued including 25 across Ashton Wards. There had been two successful waste prosecutions, following incidents in Droylsden and Ashton-under-Lyne, with fines and costs being imposed on both perpetrators.

Members were informed that the Council's Licensing Panel had refused two applications for a taxi licence, as the applicants did not meet the standards of the Council's fit and proper person test. In relation to anti-social behaviour, it was reported that in-between January and August 2023, the Council had received 178 reports; 21 Public Space Protection Order tickets were issued, as well as four Community Protection Warnings and three Community Protection Notices.

Members asked for their thanks to be extended to the team for the important enforcement work that was carried out across the borough and stressed the ongoing issue of fly-tipping at several hotspots. The Regulatory Services Manager (Licensing and Waste Enforcement) advised that the Council had a strong, robust team to deal with incidents and the numbers of Fixed Penalty Notices that had been issued, demonstrated the hard work that was undertaken by the team in addition to the targeted Days of Action, which were held in hotspot areas. He encouraged both Members and residents to report any issues they encountered, which could be done anonymously, and emphasised the facilities across the borough to dispose of waste effectively, including the service where certain waste could be collected from addresses across Tameside.

Members commended the Days of Action carried out, which some had participated in, and they asked to be invited to future days of enforcement activity. Clarification was sought and provided on the course of action taken and any costs imposed on perpetrators of fly tipping. Members suggested there be more publicity around successful prosecutions and stressed the importance of education to prevent incidents from initially occurring.

Members voiced their concern around vermin levels following an increase in complaints from residents and requested that data be provided on pest control.

The Regulatory Services Manager (Licensing and Waste Enforcement) was thanked for attending the Forum and providing an update on enforcement activity.

RESOLVED

That the content of the presentation be noted.

11. HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE

The Chair welcomed the Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods who attended the Forum to deliver a presentation in relation to highways maintenance in Tameside.

Members were informed that the Council was responsible for a variety of infrastructure on Tameside's highway network, which included 73km of principal roads, 70km of classified roads, 615km of unclassified roads and 1,155km of footways. In addition, the Council was responsible for 48,126 gullies, 25,341 street lighting columns, 4,000 signs, 159 bridges and 304 retaining walls/structures.

A map detailing Tameside's highway hierarchy was shown and it was explained that the hierarchy was important in terms of maintenance as it helped to establish where demand was and where resources could be best deployed.

It was highlighted that the highway network was the Council's largest single asset and a valuation of the network was conducted each year. This valuation determined whether the network had improved or deteriorated and where money should be spent. Members were advised that the Council's highway network was currently valued at £1.4 billion due to depreciation of assets. The importance of the efficient use of resources used on asset maintenance was emphasised, especially in light of the significant funding gap, which the Forum were notified of.

The Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods outlined the different highway asset groups, the investment in highway maintenance on an annual basis and explained how the Council determined the condition of the network around the borough through visual inspections, a scanner vehicle and a scrim survey. The condition of highway structures was regularly monitored and was rated by using a traffic light 'RAG' system with over 60% of structures rated as being in a fair/good/very good condition.

In relation to street lighting, it was explained that the Council held an inventory of all assets with an electrical supply. Members were informed that the age profile on columns dictated the strategy for maintenance and structural testing was undertaken on a percentage of columns. Visual inspections and electrical testing were also regularly carried out, which assisted with the efficient use of resources within Highways.

The winter maintenance plans were outlined and the Forum were advised that the winter programme had commenced. The Highway's team regularly monitored weather forecasts between October and April and there were two dedicated weather stations within Tameside, which provided real time weather information that the team used to determine the measures required. The team regularly carried out a gritting pre-treatment prior to the onset of inclement weather during the winter months on 350 kilometres of the network. This was based on a risk assessment that looked at the areas requiring treatment and it was emphasised that it was essential to keep major routes open to ensure that the infrastructure was operating smoothly.

In terms of risk management, it was explained that regular inspections of the network were carried out, the frequency of which was determined on a risk based approach. Members were advised that, 7,516 footway inspections and 7,118 carriageway inspections were undertaken last year.

An update was provided on potholes and the Forum were advised that over 7000 inspections were undertaken last year. It was imperative that accidents and injuries were mitigated and risk management was vital to ensure the borough's roads were as safe to use as possible.

A discussion ensued on road design and accident prevention and it was confirmed that collaborative work was undertaken with GMP to try, as far as possible, to prevent and mitigate serious accidents on the road and joint inspections were carried out in specific areas.

Members thanked the team for the work undertaken and commended them for the results of a pothole annual survey where Tameside was classed as the most effective service. They praised the reactivity of the service and reported a decrease in the number of potholes reported to them.

RESOLVED

That the content of the presentation be noted.

12. ROCHDALE OLDHAM ASHTON BUS CORRIDOR

The Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods delivered a presentation, which updated the Forum on the progression and timings of the Rochdale/Oldham/Ashton Quality Bus Transit.

It was reported that there would be an introduction of franchised bus services and the existing network would transition to the new system as it currently stood with no significant changes to routes or timetables on day one.

The three phases of the project were outlined as follows:

1. 24 September 2023 – covering Bolton, Wigan, and parts of Salford and Bury.
2. 24 March 2024 – covering Oldham, Rochdale including the 409 service, and parts of Bury, Salford and north Manchester.
3. 5 January 2025 – covering Stockport, Tameside, Trafford, and the remaining parts of Manchester and Salford.

Members were informed that in order to grow passenger numbers, focus needed to be in the right area, targeting specific customer needs and delivering credible improvements in the ‘moments that matter’, as set out in the Bus Strategy. Reliability, frequency, safety, information and fares and ticketing were driving the customer experience and a range of improvements across these customer themes from September 23 onwards, provided opportunity to promote improvements and monitor impact.

The bus infrastructure programme and benefits of bus improvements were highlighted with focused investment, alongside bold decision-making, being essential and would allow demonstration of value in the longer term. In addition, investment would support the active travel programme, delivering walking and cycling infrastructure where possible, and seeking to align funding opportunities.

In relation to Tameside, it was reported that the orbital corridor would see improvements to existing bus priority, give buses running late priority at junctions, which would see shorter and more reliable journeys, improved cycling facilities into Ashton town centre, improved pedestrian facilities and streetscape to include planting and accessibility of bus stops and improved passenger facilities.

The Forum were notified that in order to align investment to deliver the Bee Network in Ashton, there would be two phases of the delivery programme.

The next steps were outlined and included further design development, presentation of findings to elected Members at each relevant Local Authority, engagement, results analysis by Transport for Greater Manchester, a statutory consultation with the proposed delivery of the programme commencing later in 2024 with an expected end date of 2026.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods for attending the Forum and delivering an interesting presentation.

RESOLVED

That the content of the presentation be noted.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED

That the date of the next meeting of the North Strategic Neighbourhood Forum, scheduled for 30 January 2024, be noted.

CHAIR

BUDGET 2024/25 & MTFS 2024/29

Neighbourhood Forum
January 2024



National Landscape and Challenges

- Nationally, Local Government is facing significant challenge, with a number of local authorities reporting acute difficulty in balancing their budgets with others being subject to Government intervention.
- For context, Local Government funding declined by almost one third between 2010 and 2021. A report to the Public Accounts Committee in February 2022 ([Local Government Finance system: Overview and challenges \(parliament.uk\)](https://www.parliament.uk/publications/2022/02/local-government-finance-system-overview-and-challenges)) found that Local Authorities' income was £8.4bn less in real terms than in the previous decade.
- Whilst recent settlements have been more reasonable, much of the funding was meant for the Adult Social Care reforms and an expectation Councils would raise more locally through Council Tax.
- In November 2023, the Chancellor of the Exchequer delivered the Autumn Statement. The Government described the Statement as one for growth, prioritising tax cuts for individuals and businesses. The announcements reducing Employees' National Insurance contributions from 12% to 10% and the reset of Local Housing Allowances to the 30th percentile in April 2024 are welcome for residents of Tameside given the cost-of-living increases since the COVID-19 pandemic. However, there was very little announced for public services.
- Following the Autumn Statement, the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) has revised its economic forecasts and updated its analysis for Local Government finance. The OBR is now forecasting that, nationally:
 - Locally financed expenditure, i.e. that raised through Council Tax and Business Rates will rise 21% over the 3 years to 2025/26 - £62.2bn to £75.3bn.
 - Councils will have to use reserves of up to £2.3bn to deliver balanced budgets to 2025/26. Before the Autumn Statement, the OBR did not forecast the use of reserves at all.
 - Local Government spending will fall from 5.0% of GDP today to 4.6% of GDP in 2028/29. In 2010/11, it was 7.4% of GDP.
- In the 18 years from 2000 – 2018, only 2 Councils issued a Section 114 notice. Since 2018 there have been 12 issued and many other Councils have stated that there is only so much resource left in the system.

Whilst the funding increases in the 2024/25 Local Government Finance Settlement are welcomed it still **does not replace the funding lost through austerity.**



↓ **£700**

Reduction per dwelling (real-terms) in Tameside since 2010-11



18.9%

Average reduction in English local authorities real-terms spending since 2010-11



22.4%

Reduction in Tameside's real-terms spending since 2010-11



£318

Reduction per head (real-terms) in Tameside since 2010-11



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The average cut per dwelling in England in real-terms since 2010-11 was £581. If Tameside had received the average cut it would be **£12.5m better off.**

This has put an over reliance on locally raised taxes which passes the financial burden onto the local taxpayer.

Additional demand for services across the front line

Fragile markets for social care and housing supply

Increases in complexity of care needs in Social Care

Increasing numbers of young people with Education, Health and Care Plans

Increased contacts due to the economic environment

Digital Transformation

Budget Reductions

Budget reductions proposals by Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	Total £m
Executive Member (Adult Social Care, Homelessness & Inclusivity)	(3.350)	(2.820)	(0.300)	(6.470)
Deputy Executive Leader (Children and Families)	(3.562)	(6.150)	(6.000)	(15.712)
Executive Member (Education, Achievement and Equalities)	(0.500)	(0.200)	0.000	(0.700)
Executive Member (Towns and Communities)	(0.102)	(0.020)	0.000	(0.122)
Executive Member (Planning, Transport and Connectivity)	(0.424)	(0.271)	0.000	(0.695)
Executive Member (Climate Emergency & Environmental Services)	(0.808)	(0.798)	0.000	(1.606)
First Deputy (Finance, Resources & Transformation)	(3.799)	1.368	0.822	(1.609)
Executive Member (Population Health & Well-being)	(0.144)	0.000	0.000	(0.144)
Total	(12.689)	(8.891)	(5.478)	(27.058)

Revised Budget Gap

December 2023 MTFs:

	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	2028/29 £m
Net Expenditure Requirement	234.247	248.487	259.341	274.197	287.941
Resources	(234.247)	(236.107)	(240.122)	(243.952)	(248.124)
Budget reductions to find - cumulative	(0.000)	(12.379)	(19.219)	(30.245)	(39.817)
Budget reductions to find - incremental	(0.000)	(12.379)	(6.839)	(11.026)	(9.572)

This was the budget gap prior to the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement (LGFS): 2024 to 2025 published on the 18th December 2023.

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Resident Engagement and Consultation

- Budget consultation went live on 19th December 2023.
- 193 responses as at 23 January 2024.
- The consultation will close on the 2nd February 2024.
- Consultation will help shape the priorities for the 2024/25 budget.

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Budget Consultation

[Tameside Council seeks your view on £39.82m budget challenge](#)

Next steps 2024:

- **2 February 2023 – Big Conversation Closes**
- **14 February 2023 – Executive Cabinet**
- **27 February 2023 – Budget Council**

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Next steps 2024/29:

- **Rolling consultation with Cabinet Updates**
- **Greater use of Neighbourhood Forums**
- **Increased Member Engagement**



“Supporting you, while you support your loved ones”

[Click here to view our strategy](#)

Who is a Carer?

A Carer is a person who provides informal and/or unpaid support to a partner, family member, friend or neighbour who is ill, struggling or disabled and could not manage without this help.

This is distinct from a Care Worker, who is paid to support people. For this strategy, we will use 'Carer'.

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The Voice of Carers

Throughout 2022 – 2023, we consulted with Carers across Tameside to understand what is most important to them.

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In your assessment we asked you about your caring and role and how our service can support you.

We asked for feedback about our service and how we can improve what we do.

In January we started **Carers Coffee Mornings**, this has been a great way for us to consult with a wide range of Carers by using feedback forms, flip charts, group and 1-1 conversations. This gives us the chance to hear about your experiences and how our service can meet your needs.

The **Carers Forum** is a chance to come together and have a voice in the service development, priorities, and impact. We look at everything from Carers experiences to the leaflets we provide.

We worked with an **independent research consultancy** firm. They developed 1-1 and group interviews with Carers to talk about being a Carer in Tameside. The research talked about the priorities and the vision that Carers felt were most important to them.

Feedback forms in the Carers Centre and in Carers Packs ask you about what would help you the most and what you know about the service.

The Big Conversation is an online survey that enabled you to look at our proposed visions and priorities of the strategy. This gave you the chance to look back on the consultation work and confirm if this work was meeting the right priorities.



Our Vision for adults...

We all want to live in the place we call home with the people and things that we love, in communities where we look out for one another, doing **things that matter to us.**



What matters to Carers?

1. Identifying and Recognising Carers

'I didn't realise as I was a Carer, I was just doing what I had to do to take care of my loved ones'.

2. Carers as real and expert partners

'It's important that Carers are listened to, we know the person we are caring for inside out and often know when there are changes in their health'.

3. Supporting Carers to stay health and well

'Helping Carers to have a social life access opportunities for training and education and getting them the right support and information at the right time. Helping Carers to network with each other if they wish to'.

4. Getting the right help at the right time

'I didn't know about Carers support, when I started Caring and I wish that I had have done as it would have really helped at the beginning'.

5. Younger Carers

'Supporting young carers in their educational settings. School settings to be more aware of situations that young carers face on a day-to-day basis. Reasons they could be late for school. Reasons why they might be disengaged in their learning. Taking Young Carers feelings into consideration and looking to support them to reduce their worries'.

6. Carers in/into employment and training


'Often Carers find it difficult to be employed due to the number of appointments and inflexibility of employer's or hospitals'.

Tameside Carers Centre

- Offers emotional support, advocacy, advice, guidance, advocacy and signposting
- A daily Carers drop-in service 10am – 2pm at the Carers Centre
- Local Hubs
- 1-1 Support / Welfare Calls
- Monthly Coffee Morning, Carers Activities
- Carers Forum
- Events Carers Rights Day / Carers Week
- Carers Courses

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SUPPORT FOR CARERS 

Who is a Carer?
A Carer is someone who looks after a loved one who cannot manage at home without the Carers help. Many people are employed to provide paid formal care, but when we talk about Carers here, we mean those who provide unpaid and informal care for a loved one.

Tameside Carers Centre offers a safe environment for Adult Carers to access practical and emotional support.

- Help with Carers Assessments to see how we can help you and the person you care for.
- Advice on benefit entitlements such as Carers Allowance.
- Signposting to support services, advice, and advocacy.
- Staying connected by giving you regular updates with events, via our newsletters and Facebook page.
- Help to access Radar Keys, Message in a Bottle and Tameside Emergency Cards (TEC).


Drop-in Support
Monday - Tuesday 10am - 2pm
Thursday - Friday 10am - 2pm

There's no need to book but please contact us if you would prefer to schedule a time.

Professionals can also refer by directly contacting the Carers Centre.

Monthly Coffee Mornings take place 10am to 12 noon on the last Tuesday of every month. Come along to chat with our Wellbeing Advisors and other Carers over a brew and access support.

Shape our Service!
We are always looking for ways to include you in improving our service. If you have any feedback for us, please let us know in person, email us or give us a call.

• The Carers Centre in The People Place at Tameside One, Ashton-under-Lyne OL8 9SH
• 0161 342 3544
• www.tameside.gov.uk/carerscentre
• CarersCentre@tameside.gov.uk
• Tameside Carers Centre 



Carers Offer

- Carers can ask for a Carers needs Assessment in their own right or a joint assessment with the person they care for
- Carers respite
- Tameside Emergency Card (TEC) for Carers Contingency planning

[Community Response Service \(CRS\)](#)

[Tameside and Glossop Talking Therapies](#)

[Be Well Tameside](#)

- Tameside Voluntary Sector – Age UK, MIND, Anthony Seddon, Together Centre etc.



CRS at Carers Right Day Information Fair



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Tameside Emergency Carers (TEC) Card

Peace of mind for Carers in an Emergency

By carrying a Tameside Emergency Carers (TEC) card in your purse or wallet, you can have peace of mind that if anything unexpected was to happen to you, such as an accident or being taken ill, help can be arranged for the person you care for as well.

The card has the 24 hour emergency contact number for Tameside Control (our 24 hour call centre) and a unique serial number to identify you as a Carer.

When is the TEC Card used?

The card is ONLY used in an Emergency. The scheme does not cover situations where a Carer can use a telephone and make alternative arrangements themselves.



How can our Carers get support?

Carers can be referred by partner agencies, services within Tameside Council or carers can self-refer.

Find the Tameside Carers Centre at:

The People Place @ Tameside One
Market Place
Ashton-Under-Lyne
OL6 6BH.

0161 342 3344

CarersCentre@tameside.gov.uk

[Carers Centre Facebook](#)



The Carers Centre can be accessed via Warrington Street or Ashton Library

Next Steps

- Develop a delivery plan for implementation of the Strategy
- We plan to work with our partners across Social Care, Health and VCSF to do this
- We will continue to check back with Carers and ask them to have a voice in our work.
- We will feedback to Carers annually on our progress to deliver this strategy.
- LAUNCH – MARCH 2024!

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Any Questions ?

Thank you



Foster for Tameside



Agenda Item 5



FOSTER FOR TAMESIDE
CHANGE A LOCAL CHILD'S LIFE



What is fostering?

Fostering for Tameside Council means you are helping children in your local area. We are not-for-profit and our locally based carers help keep children close to their existing schools and support systems. Fostering is a fun, flexible, challenging and rewarding role where you as a carer can make a real difference to Children's lives. The reasons children come into care vary widely, including a parent's short-term illness or another temporary problem within the family. Some children may have witnessed domestic violence or a parent's depression or drug or alcohol abuse. Others may have been abused or neglected. Each child's circumstances and needs are unique.

Could you foster?

Every year, tens of thousands of children across the UK need foster carers while they can't live with their own families. That means thousands of new foster carers are needed every year. Could you be one of them?

What is the role of a foster carer?

- By becoming a foster carer you will be providing a nurturing and welcoming environment where children and young people will be safe and have a place to call home.
- You will be giving them the opportunity to grow and develop to reach their full potential, by helping to ensure that their emotional, health and educational needs are met.
- The challenging backgrounds that many cared for children and young people have experienced means they may find it hard to build relationships. With support, patience and reassurance, you can help a child or young person to build their self-esteem and confidence.
- Fostering today involves working closely with others involved in the welfare of the children you are caring for.
- Foster carers work closely as a team, not only with professionals but also form a strong support network with each other.
- All cared for children and young people have a care plan and as a foster carer, you will be asked to attend meetings and reviews to talk about their wellbeing.
- Our children come from diverse backgrounds with different life experiences. Your role will be to help a child understand and feel positive about themselves.
- We try to provide placement choice for children and foster carers so that children can be matched with a loving and nurturing family and achieve their potential.

Who can foster?

Children and young people need foster carers from all backgrounds with a wide range of life, work and care experiences. All foster carers are given ongoing training and support to develop the skills they need to help children thrive.

Just as no two children are the same, foster carers need to come from a variety of backgrounds and have different life experiences, skills and qualities to help meet the needs of children and young people in foster care. You can be a foster carer without having any specific qualifications, and you don't need to have children of your own. What's important is that you can support, nurture and care for children who cannot live with their own families. There is no typical foster carer, and we welcome applicants from all backgrounds, nationalities, religions, genders and ages. The most important thing is that you care about the welfare of children and young people and want to help them achieve stability in unsettling times. You will have the skills to work as part of a team and can relate well to children and young people, making them feel like part of the family.

"It's the whole family that fosters, not just the foster carer. It is so important to make the child feel like a part of your family from the start, no matter how long they are with you for"

- Jo, Tameside Foster Carer

What are the different types of fostering?

- **Short-term fostering-**

Short-term emphasises that the child will one day move on, either back to parents/relatives or on to a long-term foster/adoptive placement. It is a very special and important role which may involve working closely with parents to improve their relationship with the child, working with children's behaviours and needs, or preparing a child for a move to a permanent home. These types of arrangements range from looking after children from one night to a number of months, and sometimes longer. They can sometimes be adapted to long term foster care if the match between child and carer is deemed to be good.



- **Long-term fostering –**

We talk about long term foster care when the plan for the child is that they cannot live with a family member. Therefore we need a foster placement that can care for them for the duration of their childhood and into adulthood. Placements of this nature often involve teaching the children selfcare skills so that they can move onto independence in a positive way.

- **Respite fostering –**

Sometimes parents and carers need regular breaks, maybe because they have health problems, or because their child has complex needs and it takes a lot of energy to care for them. Respite means that a child is placed with a foster carer for a short period of time and this may occur on a regular basis. Within Tameside there is a Family Link Scheme for the families of children with a disability. This means that we link the child with a specific carer who will look after that child for a series of short breaks (maybe one weekend a month). Often this service will be provided on a regular basis for some years and the respite carer becomes a vital part of the support network for that child and their family.

- **Supported lodgings scheme –**

Tameside also runs a supported lodgings scheme for young people aged 16 and over.

The journey to becoming a foster carer:

- **Step 1- Initial Enquiry**

Complete our online enquiry form at www.tameside.gov.uk/fostering or call 0161 342 2342 or you can also make an enquiry via council's social media platforms. Once the enquiry is received, our Recruitment Officer will give you a call to find out a little about you and chat through any questions you may have, take some details, and send you an information pack.

- **Step 2 - Registration of Interest**

If you are keen to progress your enquiry, you can ask to be assessed to foster by the service. Our Recruitment duty officer will have arranged a follow-up call with you, where you will have the chance to ask any further questions and if you are happy, they will conduct a telephone screening which takes around 30 minutes to find out more about you, your family & home life and your motivations to foster.

- **Step 3 – Initial Home Visit**

Once you have registered your interest with us then a fostering social worker will arrange a convenient time to visit to your home, to meet you and your family, discuss your plans to foster and to explore your lifestyle. The Social Worker will also view your accommodation and the proposed room for fostering. They can also answer any questions you may have about the children and the fostering process. You can then take some time to decide whether fostering is right for you.

Cont.

- **Step 4 – Pre-Approval Training**

You will have had some time to think and hopefully will decide that fostering is right for you. If you need any more information, we are here to support you every step of the way. We will then invite you to attend our Skills To Foster training course. This aims to prepare you for the fostering role, and you will have the chance to meet other applicants too.

- **Step 5 - Application Form**

On completing Skills to Foster, you will then complete a fostering application form which details yours and your family's information, details about your home, any employment and references. There will also be some other forms such as consent so we can complete mandatory statutory checks e.g. police and medical checks.

- **Step 6 – Fostering Assessment**

This stage involves an allocated assessing social worker visiting you at your house for about 6-8 times to get to know you, your family and any frequent visitors to understand whether you can offer a child a secure, safe and stable home atmosphere and meet the child's overall needs. The fostering assessing social worker then writes a detailed report based on the information gathered and observations, outlining your skills and attributes and recommending as to whether you are suitable, and for which type of fostering. You will have the opportunity to read the assessment report and add your own comments too.

- **Step 7 - The Fostering Panel**

Your detailed report will then be presented to the fostering panel who will consider your suitability to foster. You will attend the panel with your assessing social worker. The panel is made up of members with relevant qualifications, those who have experience working in fostering and adoption, and some members may have spent time in foster care themselves. The panel will ask you and the service any questions they may have, and then the fostering panel will make a recommendation about your approval to the fostering service i.e to the Agency Decision Maker, who considers their recommendation to reach a decision. You will then receive a letter to confirm your approval. If you haven't been approved, your assessing social worker will explain why, and there may be a chance to reapply in the future.

On average, the journey to approval can take around eight months from your first enquiry. This can seem like a long time, but Tameside fostering service need to make sure you are suitable, and prepare you as best as possible, to foster a child or young person in your local community.

- **Step 8 - Matching and Placement**

After you have been approved as a foster carer, the fostering team will contact you to discuss your first placement. We will work closely with you and your family to ensure the placement is the right match for you and for the foster child. We offer ongoing training and development, so you can continue to grow your skills as a foster carer. You will also receive ongoing support and guidance from your supervising social worker.

What sort of support will I receive?

- **Supervising Social Worker –**

After you are approved, you will be assigned a supervising social worker who will make frequent visits to your house. They will provide ongoing support and guidance to you and your family throughout your time as a foster carer and will be in hand to give advice and help with any concerns or worries you may have. Every child who is cared for by Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council will also have their own social worker who works closely with the child and their family. They will make frequent visits to check on the child's progress and will be able to offer advice and guidance to you too. You will be expected as a foster carer to keep records about a child's placement and attend meetings where you will discuss the child's plans and expected to advocate and actively work as part of a team around the child.

- **Support Groups –**

Fostering service will run regular support groups for you to attend, where you can discuss any concerns, issues or worries with other foster carers, who will share their experiences and offer reassurance and advice when you need it. There are also specific support groups for babies and children with additional needs so you can attend the groups that best fit yours and the child's needs. You can attend more than one support group; Everyone is welcome, and the emphasis is on teamwork and supporting you and the children in your care as best we can.

What sort of support will I receive?



- **Training & Development –**

When you become a foster carer, you are required to complete the Training, Support & Development Standards (TSDs) within the first 12 months of becoming approved, or 18 months for Connected Carers. At Tameside, we offer an extensive programme of training, developed with the help of foster carers and professionals which is formed of both online training and in person sessions. There are courses for all foster carers, and more tailored courses to enable carers to develop specific skills, for instance with teenagers, babies, or children with additional needs and disabilities. Courses are run by our Fostering Managers with social workers, external professionals on specialist subjects and existing foster carers to give you the most informed and interactive sessions from experienced professionals and carers. Courses are held during the day with some in the evening to ensure all foster cares have the opportunity to attend.

- **Buddy System –**

After you are approved, you will be paired up with an experienced carer who will provide you with support, advice and guidance in your new role. You can contact your buddy, your social worker, or the out of hours team should you need to, so you are never on your own.

- **Fostering Network-** Once you become a foster carer with Tameside, you will receive an automatic membership with Fostering Network, where you can avail further training, guidance, advice and support.

Fostering Allowances

- **Weekly Payments** - All foster carers receive a weekly allowance which is paid every fortnight, and is made up of two elements:
 - An allowance based on the age of the child
 - An allowance based on your skills level as a foster carer

Foster Carers can work toward moving up the skills levels, with more experience fostering, by supporting with fostering recruitment activities and also by attending our training courses to further develop their skills.

- **Other Allowances** – Foster Carers will also receive an annual allowance to cover the cost of birthday, holiday and festivities.

In some cases, for instance when a child has additional needs, further allowances may be available to foster carers. This will be considered on a case-by-case basis to ensure carers are provided with the right level of support to meet the child's needs.

Carers are advised to register as self-employed with HMRC and allowances are tax-free. Any income support will not be affected as allowances received from fostering are not taken into account, although jobseekers allowance may be affected so we advice to check this if it applies to individuals or not.

Fostering Myths:

I am too old/young to foster-

If you are over 21 you can enquire about fostering, and there is no upper age limit. As long as you are fit and healthy enough to care for a child, that is the most important thing. We have carers in their 60s and 70s who bring some great experience to their foster care roles, so don't count yourself out.



I am single so I can't foster -

It makes no difference whether you are single, in a relationship or married, you can still foster. Many children benefit from the 1-1 support that a single foster carer can offer, so please don't be put off if you are single and want to enquire.

I have pets so I can't foster -

You can still foster if you have pets. Many children benefit from having an animal to look after. Pets can be a real source of comfort for children and can also teach responsibility. Don't see this as a barrier to fostering, we actively welcome applicants who have pets.

I am gay so I can't foster -

It does not matter whether you are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBTQ+) single, in a relationship, civil partnership, married, divorced or widowed, There are no barriers to fostering based on sexuality, gender or relationship status.

Fostering Myths:



I work so I can't foster –

While we encourage the main carer to take on fostering fulltime, there may be chance for you to work part-time or in a flexible role, it would depend on your individual situation. Carers each have individual circumstances that we would be happy to discuss with you, if you feel you have the time to care for a child or young person and have a caring, nurturing and safe home, then please come and talk with us.

I don't have my own children so I can't foster –

When anyone becomes a parent for the first time, there is a big adjustment period, with every child having individual needs that require different types of care. This is the case for both birth parents and foster parents, and both take time to adjust to their new role. It may be that you have valuable experience caring for friends' and family's children, or through work e.g. if you have been a nursery nurse or a midwife. This should not stop you to enquire and have a chat with a member of Tameside Fostering Team.

Get in touch: contact our friendly team for an initial chat today:

"fostering has changed my life in every possible way.... to anyone considering fostering, go for it! - I did and haven't looked back" Tameside foster carer

Foster carers can make a real difference to children's lives - and that's a hugely rewarding job!

Tameside is actively recruiting foster carers and have a referral bonus scheme, where we provide £300 upon first placement.

Contact us:

- facebook.com/tamesidecouncil
- twitter.com/tamesidecouncil
- instagram.com/tamesidecouncil
- fosteringenquiries@tameside.gov.uk
- 0161 342 2342
- tameside.gov.uk/fostering

Local Plan Making

January 2024



HOMES SPACES PLACES

Page 42

- Background & Context
- Local Development Scheme
- Places for Everyone
- Homes, Spaces, Places
- Scoping
- Risks
- Questions

BACKGROUND & CONTEXT TO PLAN MAKING

Legal requirement

Plan Led System

Up-to-Date
Evidence

Sound

LOCAL PLAN



LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Published July 2023

Existing planning policy

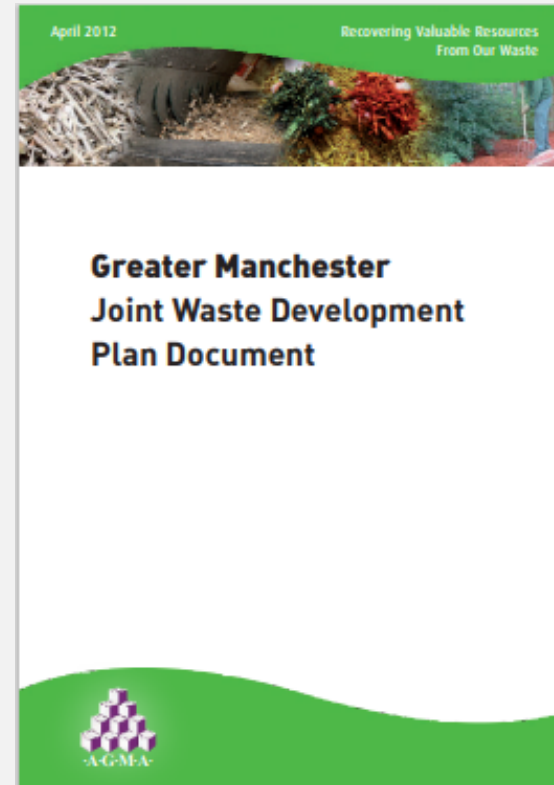
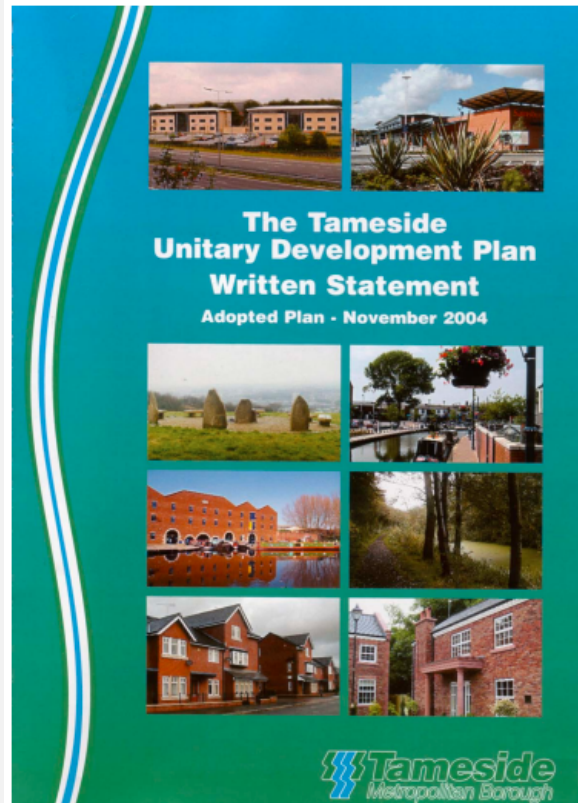
Timescale for new policy

Local Development Scheme
July 2023



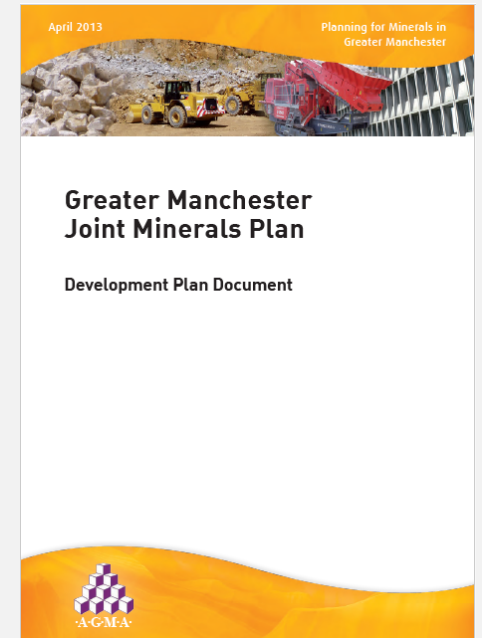
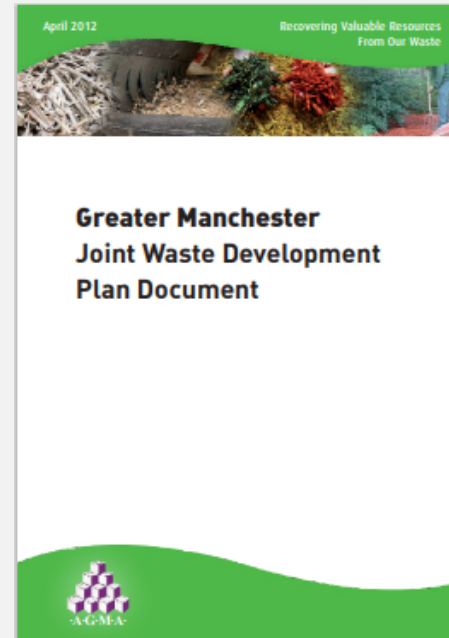
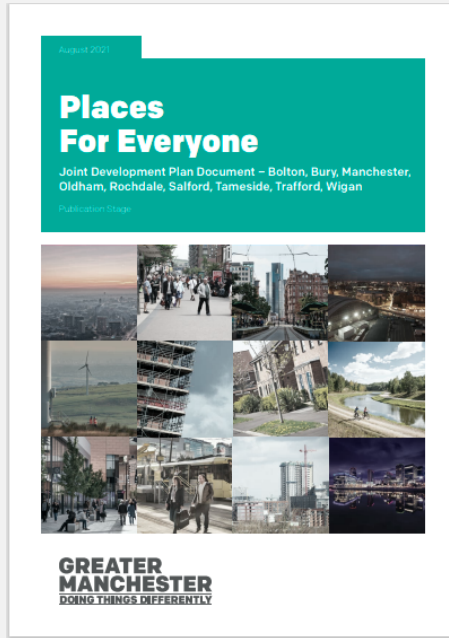
ADOPTED PLAN

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PROPOSED PLAN

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PLACES FOR EVERYONE

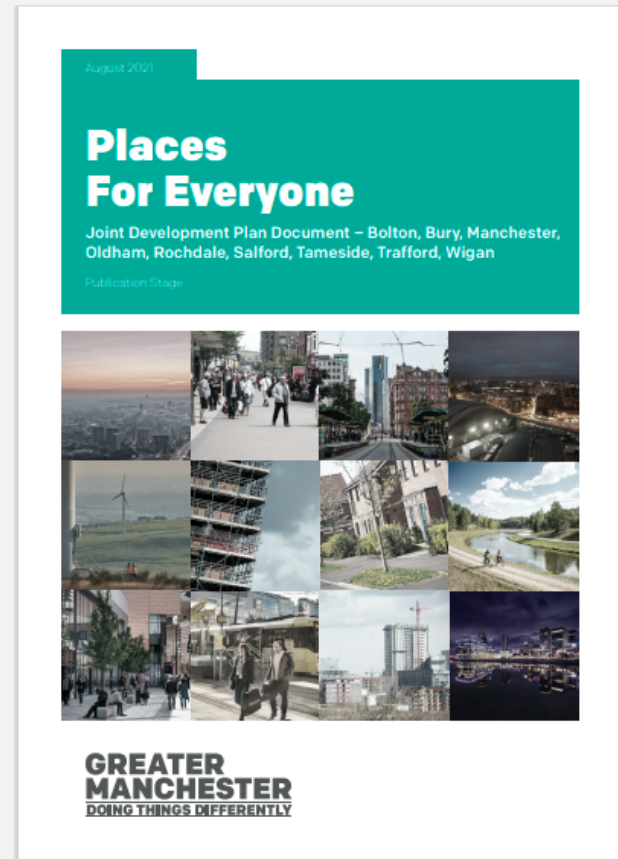
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Examination

Main
Modifications

Final Report

Adoption



PLACES FOR EVERYONE

177 consultation responses

Allocated between CA and 9 districts

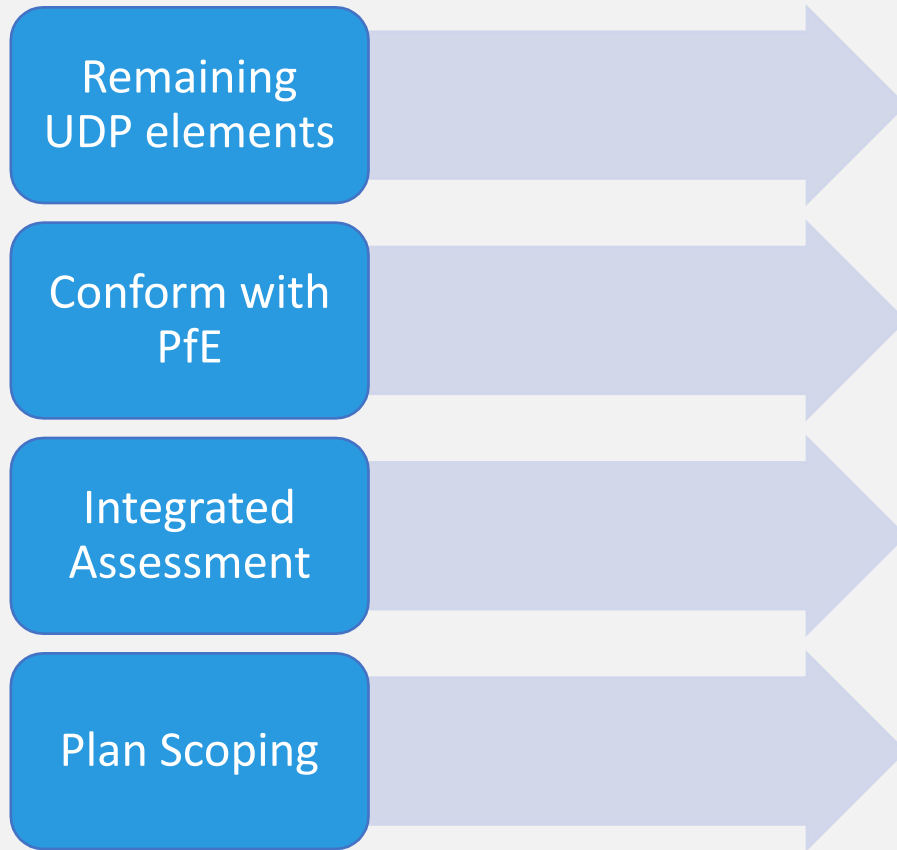
Inspectors report

Adoption early 2024



HOMES SPACES PLACES

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SCOPING

Integrated
Assessment

PEN Network

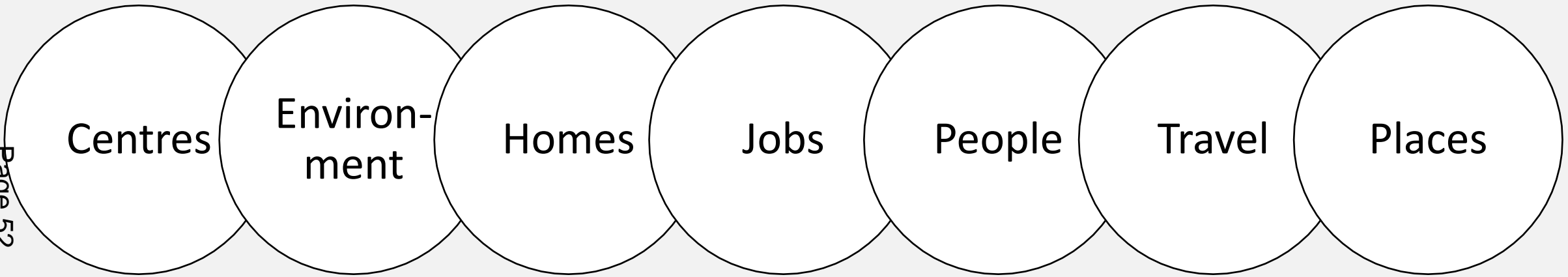
Member
Engagement

Scrutiny



SCOPING

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SCOPING

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Plans need
to...

The
context
is...

Places for
Everyone...

What we
know...

How
should the
plan...

SCOPING



SHAPING TAMESIDE FOR TOMORROW

NATIONAL TRENDS

- ONLINE SHOPPING** has increased exponentially
3.4% of all retail sales (2007) to 27.9% (2020)
- CLOSURE OF LARGE MULTIPLE STORES**
NW had the highest concentration of retail and leisure vacancies UK at 5.1% (2017)
- In 2023 **footfall in town centres** nationally remains on average **10% below pre-pandemic levels**

TAMESIDE

- 7 DESIGNATED TOWN CENTRES**
Ashton
Denton
Hyde
Droylsden
Stalybridge
Mossley
Hattersley
- TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION SUPPORT**
£40m for Ashton
£20m for Stalybridge
Elm Br. and fields homes fund
- FAST TRACK PLANS**
Hyde, Droylsden, Stalybridge, St Petersfield, Ashton
- 130 takeaways per 100,000 residents in Tameside**
- 2 centres currently have Primary Shopping Areas**

CENTRES

PLANS NEED TO:

- Support the role of town centres as the heart of the community;
- Plan for positive growth and long-term vitality and viability;
- Allow diversification in a way that responds to market changes; but that respects their distinct character;
- Allocate a range of sites for town centre development where growth is anticipated;
- Recognise the role of new homes, and people in town centres alongside the role which smaller scale local shops and services play as part of local communities away from town centres.



Schedule of Proposed Local Development Documents

Document	Status	Coverage	Preparing the draft plan	Publication	Submission	Examination ²	Adoption
Places for Everyone ³	Joint Development Plan Document	Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan	Consultation on first Draft GMSF October 2016 – January 2017 Consultation on Second Draft GMSF January – March 2019	Summer/ Autumn 2021	Early 2022	Commenced Summer 2022 (ongoing)	Early 2024
Homes, Spaces, Places - Shaping Tameside for Tomorrow	Development Plan Document	Tameside	Integrated Assessment Scoping Summer 2023 Plan scoping Autumn 2023 Issues and Options Draft Plan Summer 2024 Preferred Options Draft Plan Summer 2025	Winter 2025/26	Spring 2026	Summer 2026	Autumn 2026
Policies Map	Development Plan Document	Tameside	The Policies Map will be developed in line with the timescales of other DPD. It will be amended and incorporate relevant polices as necessary upon adoption of DPD.				



RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES

Change of
Government
Policy

Change in
Government

Lack of Control

Intervention



QUESTIONS FEEDBACK

Community Involvement

[https://www.tameside.gov.uk/Planning/Statement-of-Community-Involvement-\(SCI\)](https://www.tameside.gov.uk/Planning/Statement-of-Community-Involvement-(SCI))

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Homes, Spaces, Places

<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/planning/tamesidelocalplan>

Places for Everyone

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



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Tameside Serious Violence Strategy 2024-2029

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Agenda Item 7.

The Serious Violence Duty

The Duty requires 'Specified Authorities' for a local government area to work together and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence.

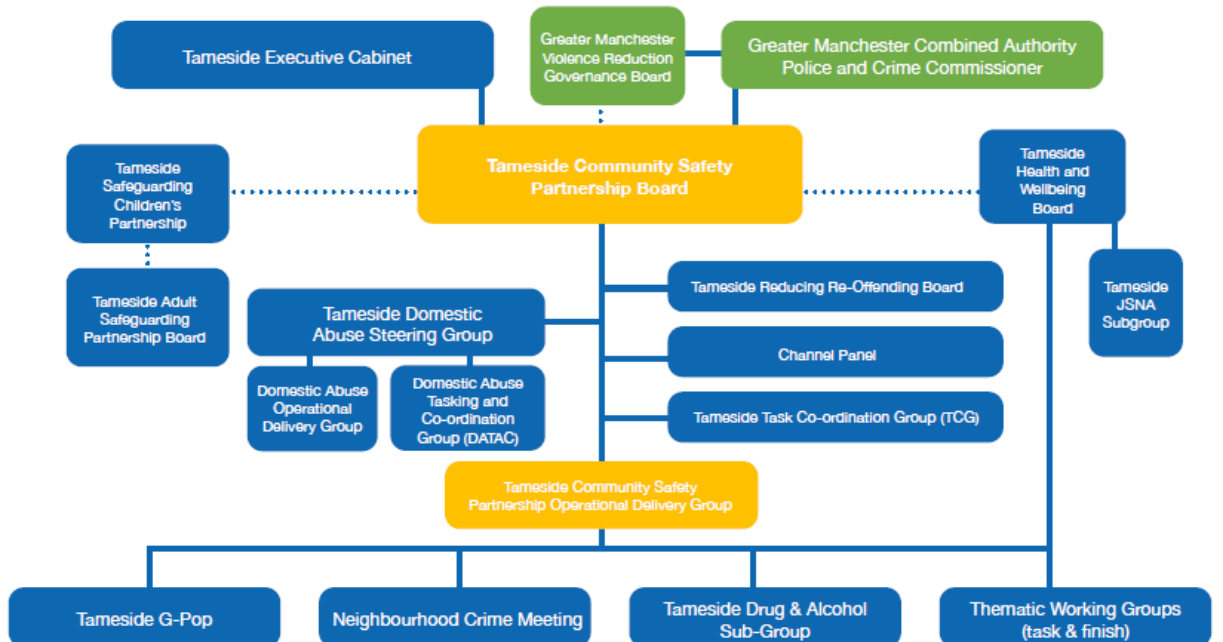
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- Tameside Council
- Greater Manchester Police (GMP)
- Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service (GMFRS)
- Probation Services
- Youth Offending Services
- NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board (NHS GM ICB)



Home Office

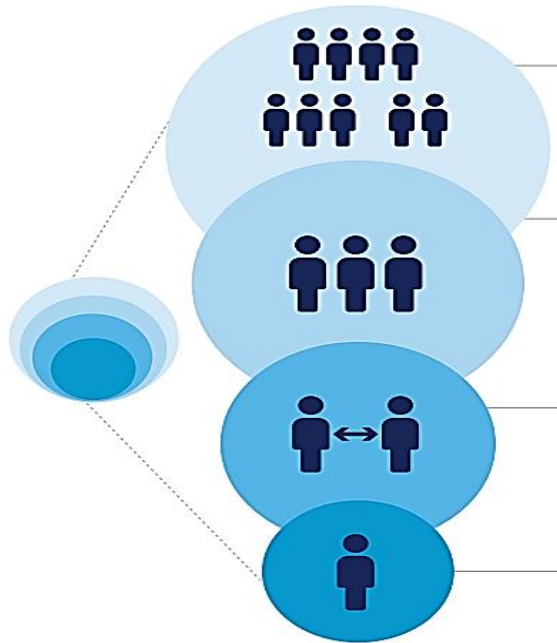
Serious Violence Duty
Preventing and reducing serious violence



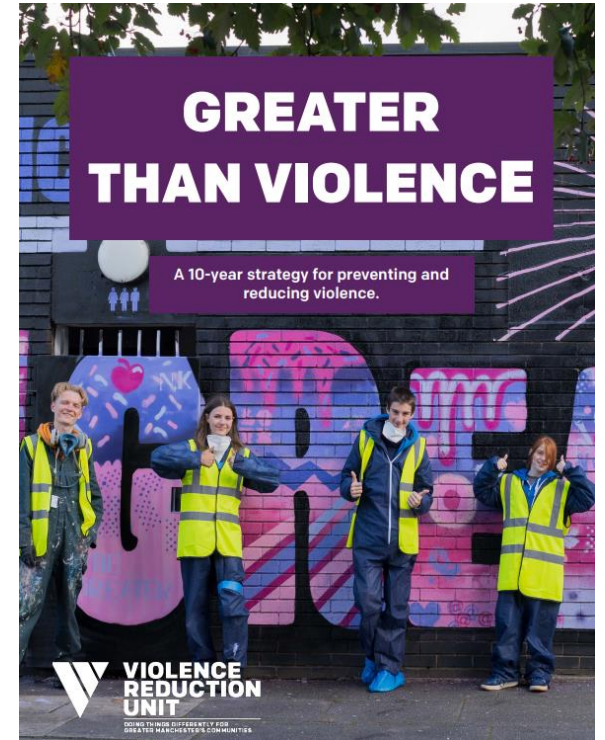
Working Across Greater Manchester

Tameside partners work closely with the GM Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) who have produced a Serious Violence Strategy for Greater Manchester.

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The Duty encourages a 'public health approach' which has been done for GM and Tameside



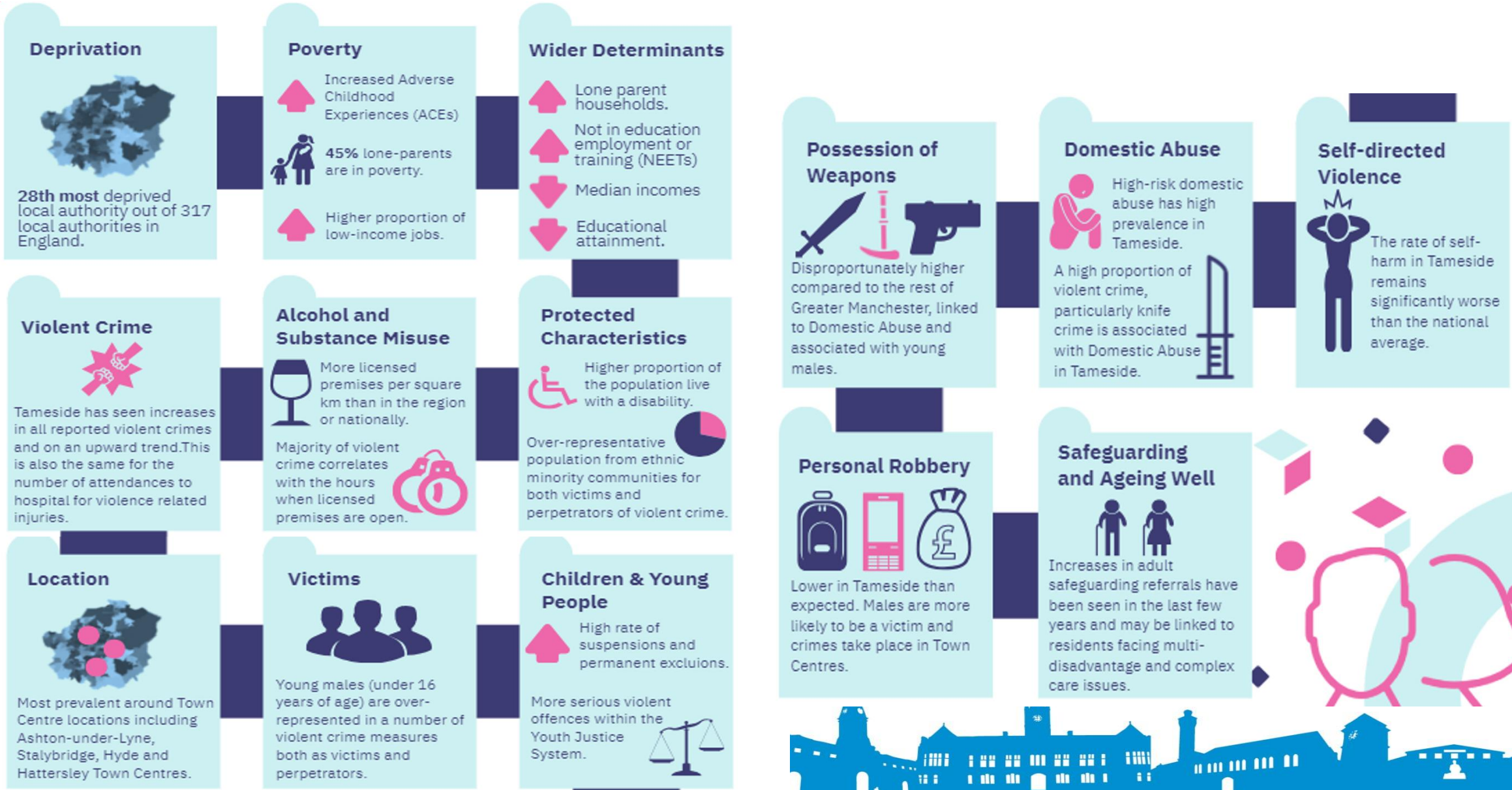
Defining Serious Violence in Tameside

Serious violence is the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation.

World Health Organisation



Serious Violence in Tameside



Priorities for Tackling Serious Violence in Tameside

(under each of these are between 3 and 7 'We will...' statements and objectives)

Priority 1: COMMUNITY-LED APPROACH

Priority 2: EARLY AND TIMELY INTERVENTION

Priority 3: PARTNERSHIPS FOR CHANGE

Priority 4: EQUALITY, EQUITY AND JUSTICE

Priority 5: TRAUMA RESPONSIVE SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITIES IN TAMESIDE



Next Steps

- The strategy for Tameside will be led by the Community Safety Partnership.
- Developing an action plan to deliver the Tameside Serious Violence Strategy 2024-2029.
- Changes to the services we provide and the work we do (from the evidence in the needs assessment; making sure we meet the priorities and commitments in the Strategy).
- Ongoing conversations and involvement with people living in Tameside, especially those affected by violence.



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Tameside Serious Violence Strategy 2024-2029

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Foreword

Welcome to Tameside's Serious Violence Strategy, which describes the work that will take place in the coming years to reduce and prevent serious violence across the borough.

This document describes some of the key issues around serious violence in Tameside, including who is at greater risk. It also sets out the priority areas of work across partner agencies to tackle these issues.

Tameside's Serious Violence Strategy makes commitments across all of the specified authorities, to take long term approaches to tackle the root causes and risk factors of serious violence. Preventative and early-intervention approaches will be central to this, alongside ensuring ongoing conversations with communities across Tameside to inform the approaches being taken.

This strategy outlines some of the key issues around the extent of serious violence in Tameside and the priority interventions and steps needed, working with communities, to both prevent and respond to incidents of serious violence in Tameside to meet the Serious Violence Duty.

My thanks to all partners responsible for delivering this strategy and meeting the Serious Violence Duty across Tameside. I look forward to working with you all over the next few years to prevent many of the serious violent offences we see today, and their consequences, by intervening early and taking preventative approaches.



Councillor Vimal Choksi MBE
Executive Member (Towns and Communities)

The Serious Violence Duty requires the following specified authorities within a local government area to collaborate and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence

Police

- Chief Officers of police for police areas in England and Wales

Justice

- Probation Services
- Youth Offending Teams

Fire and Rescue

All fire and rescue authorities operating in England and Wales

Health

- Integrated Care Boards in England

Local authorities

- A district council
- A county council in England.

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Introduction

This Serious Violence Strategy for Tameside explains the steps that will be taken across the borough to reduce and prevent serious violence over the next five years.

There are a group of ‘specified authorities’ which are responsible in every area for developing and delivering this strategy. In Tameside, these are:

- Tameside Council
- Greater Manchester Police (GMP)
- Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS)
- Probation Services
- Youth Offending Services
- NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board (NHS GM ICB)

In January 2023, the Government introduced a statutory duty, known as The Serious Violence Duty. This requires “specified authorities for a local government area to work together and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence, including identifying the kinds of serious violence that occur in the area, the causes of that violence, and to prepare and implement a strategy for preventing, and reducing serious violence in the area”.

This new duty for local areas is part of the government’s Serious Violence Strategy, which was published in April 2018 in response to increases in knife crime, gun crime and homicide across England. The strategy calls for local partners to work together across different sectors including the police, local authorities, health services and the voluntary sector to adopt a multi-agency approach to reduce serious violence in their area, which is further reinforced by the new Serious Violence Duty.

The Serious Violence Strategy for Tameside uses a public health approach to tackling serious violence by treating this as a preventable health issue and identifying and addressing the root causes and risk factors. This approach shifts the focus from solely law enforcement and criminal justice responses to a broader range of issues including social, economic, and environmental factors. Tameside’s Serious Violence Strategy has been developed in partnership with Greater Manchester’s Violence Reduction Unit and is designed to complement the Greater Manchester Greater Than Violence strategy. The priorities and approaches that have been put forward are also evidence based, drawing on the findings and recommendations in the 2023 Serious Violence Strategic Needs Assessment for Tameside.

Nationally, serious violent offences make up around 1% of all crime recorded by the police. However, these offences cause some of the most serious harms to individuals, communities and societies. Violence and fear of violence can affect every member of Tameside’s communities and occurs in multiple scenarios, contexts and situations.

Defining Serious Violence in Tameside

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Serious violence is the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation.

World Health Organisation



Tameside's Definition and Scope

Adopting the same definition as the World Health Organisation; in Tameside the agreed definition of serious violence is, "...the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation." (WHO, 2002). It has been agreed that the following crime types should be included in the definition of serious violence within Tameside: self-harm and suicide, all homicide types, violence with injury, weapon-related crime, personal robbery, modern-slavery, domestic abuse, sexual violence and violence against women and girls.

Whilst this strategy and the Tameside Serious Violence Needs Assessment encompass the above crime types, it should be noted that, given the broad scope of issues within this strategy, there are links to the following Tameside strategies throughout both documents, which focus on related topic areas in more detail:

- [Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy and Locality Plan 2023-2028](#)
- [Domestic Abuse Strategy 2021 - 2026](#)
- [Community Safety Strategy 2021 - 2025](#)
- [Tameside Suicide Prevention Strategy 2019 - 2023](#)
- [Building Resilience Tackling Poverty in Tameside 2023-2027](#)

This strategy aligns to the ambitions of the above strategies and the ongoing monitoring, progress and governance which sits around these.

Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit

The Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) has taken a lead role across the Greater Manchester region in work to reduce violence and tackle serious violence. In 2020 the VRU published an action plan for tackling serious violence in GM, however in light of the new Serious Violence Duty, the VRU has recently undertaken a strategic needs assessment of serious violence and has published a new serious violence strategy for Greater Manchester - Greater Than Violence: A ten-year strategy for preventing and reducing violence. This strategy sets out five key principles and a series of commitments under each, to harness opportunities to prevent and reduce serious violence across the wider Greater Manchester system.

The partnerships in Tameside and the specified authorities within the borough work closely with the GM VRU, and this strategy aligns closely to the GM strategy, while also highlighting the specific areas of focus for Tameside.

Governance for the Partnership Approach to Serious Violence in Tameside

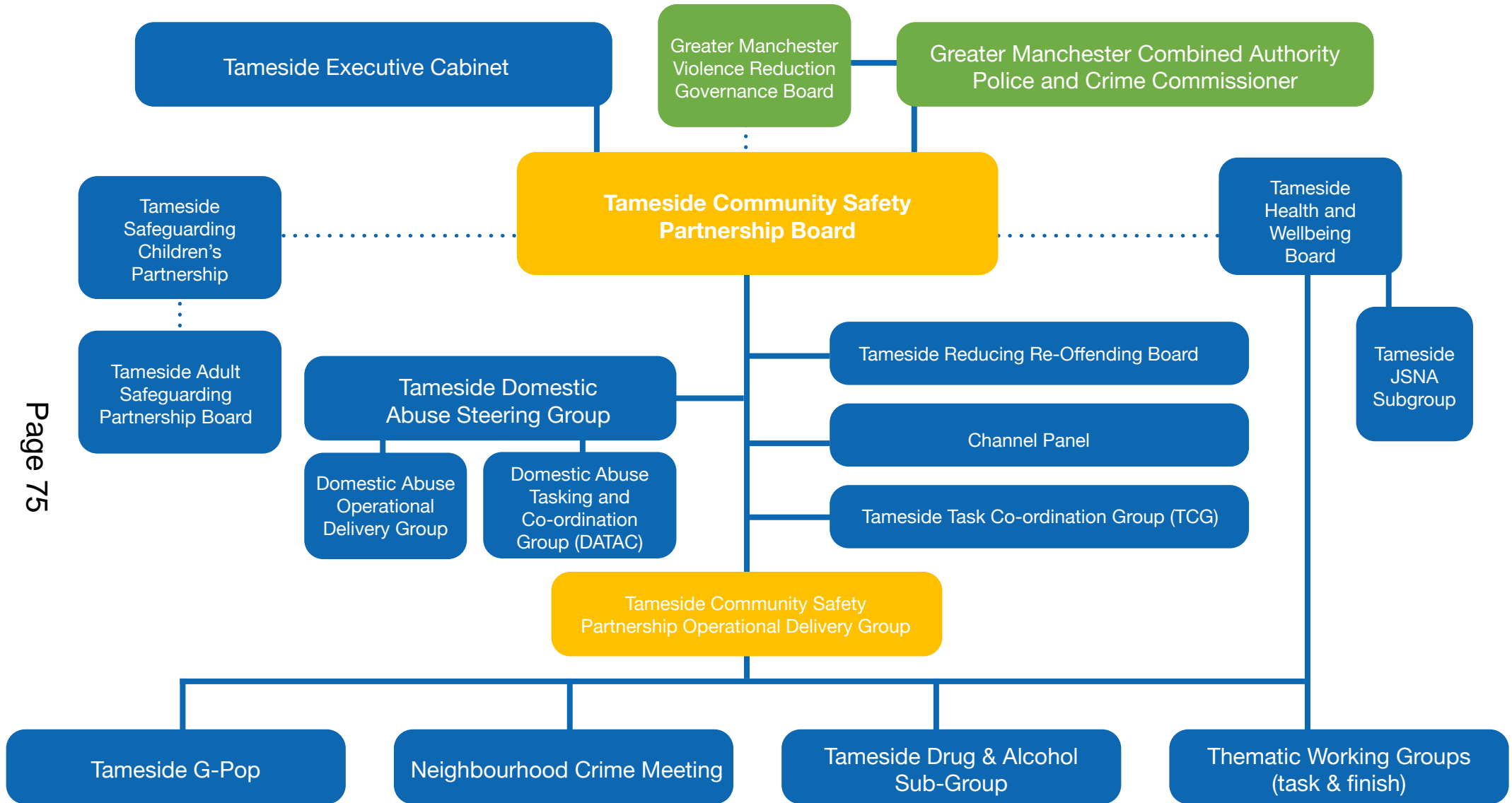
The Tameside Serious Violence Strategy will be delivered in partnership by the specified authorities who sit on the Community Safety Partnership Board for Tameside. Ongoing delivery and monitoring of progress against the strategy will sit with the Community Safety Partnership Board, where regular updates will be provided and work progressed. This oversight will ensure that the requirements of the legislation are fulfilled, including those under the Crime and Disorder Act. This will also foster a partnership approach to achieving the ambitions set out in this strategy.

These governance arrangements will oversee the implementation of a public health approach and drive to support partnership working to ensure visibility for overlapping areas such as safeguarding, equality, trauma-responsive service and domestic abuse. All arrangements for delivery of the duty in Tameside will sit with the Community Safety Partnership Board and, while there is not a named coordinator for serious violence in Tameside, capacity and resource will be drawn from across the membership of this group, which includes all the specified authorities for Tameside.

Data will be monitored via an outcomes framework which sits with the Tameside Community Safety Partnership Board and is reviewed on a regular basis.



Figure 1 – Tameside Serious Violence Governance



Key Drivers of Serious Violence in Tameside

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Serious Violence in Tameside 2023

Deprivation

28th most deprived local authority out of 317 local authorities in England.

Poverty

- Increased Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
- 45% lone-parents are in poverty.
- Higher proportion of low-income jobs.

Wider Determinants

- Lone parent households.
- Not in education employment or training (NEETs)
- Median incomes
- Educational attainment.

Violent Crime

Tameside has seen increases in all reported violent crimes and on an upward trend. This is also the same for the number of attendances to hospital for violence related injuries.

Alcohol and Substance Misuse

- More licensed premises per square km than in the region or nationally.
- Majority of violent crime correlates with the hours when licensed premises are open.

Protected Characteristics

- Higher proportion of the population live with a disability.
- Over-representative population from ethnic minority communities for both victims and perpetrators of violent crime.

Location

Most prevalent around Town Centre locations including Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge, Hyde and Hattersley Town Centres.

Victims

Young males (under 16 years of age) are over-represented in a number of violent crime measures both as victims and perpetrators.

Children & Young People

- High rate of suspensions and permanent exclusions.
- More serious violent offences within the Youth Justice System.

Possession of Weapons

Disproportionately higher compared to the rest of Greater Manchester, linked to Domestic Abuse and associated with young males.

Domestic Abuse

- High-risk domestic abuse has high prevalence in Tameside.
- A high proportion of violent crime, particularly knife crime is associated with Domestic Abuse in Tameside.

Self-directed Violence

The rate of self-harm in Tameside remains significantly worse than the national average.

Personal Robbery

Lower in Tameside than expected. Males are more likely to be a victim and crimes take place in Town Centres.

Safeguarding and Ageing Well

Increases in adult safeguarding referrals have been seen in the last few years and may be linked to residents facing multi-disadvantage and complex care issues.



Tameside Priorities: Tackling Serious Violence

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Five priority areas are outlined below for the actions that will be taken as part of the strategy to prevent and reduce serious violence in Tameside over the next five years. These five priorities align to the priorities set in the Greater Manchester Greater Than Violence Strategy, however the actions under each priority area are specific to Tameside, based on the evidence and findings from the Serious Violence Strategic Needs Assessment.

For the actions committed to below, 'we' refers to the specified authorities for Tameside, all of which are represented at the Tameside Community Safety Partnership Board, which is the oversight group where this work will sit and be delivered and monitored.

Priority 1: Community-Led Approach

- We will develop an approach to having ongoing conversations with people across Tameside with lived experience of both serious violence and the main risk factors for violence. This will explore what serious violence means to local people and how people can be empowered to co-design solutions to prevent and reduce violence.

- We will produce an engagement plan including detail on how specified authorities will speak to the community to help inform local service delivery. This will include engagement with education settings and prisons.
- We will prioritise speaking to groups who are at greatest risk, including young people and young males, who are more likely to be both victims and perpetrators of violent crime.

Priority 2: Early and Timely Intervention

- We will continue to prioritise support for children and young people and their families, as young people are at greatest risk of being victims of violence. This will include prioritising those who are at greatest risk of being targeted by adults, older peers and others within their own communities.
- We will develop targeted support for younger pregnant women and mothers, who may be at increased risk of domestic abuse and wider forms of violence.
- We will develop targeted support for lone parents on lower incomes, particularly young women. This will be across the prevention spectrum, from contraception through to parenting, welfare and employment support.
- We will embed early approaches to tackle problematic behaviours which can escalate into violence with a focus on behavioural interventions for young people; supporting education in schools around respectful relationships; and tackling misogyny and violence against women & girls (VAWG).

- We will join up delivery of Family Hubs with the Building Resilience, Tackling Poverty Strategy for Tameside to improve access to support to alleviate poverty for families across Tameside.
- We will tackle alcohol availability as a risk factor for serious violence across Tameside including a full review of evidence to support cumulative impact policies for alcohol licensing; and a review of the Public Health representations made to the alcohol licensing panel in Tameside.
- We will continue to strive for good attendance and engagement with education settings from young people across Tameside, via the Tameside Attendance Strategy. This will include reducing the proportion falling out of education, employment or training post-16 (NEET), reducing suspensions and permanent exclusions, and tackling the early signs of violent behaviour.

Priority 3: Partnerships for Change

- We will continue to support and engage with the work of the GM Violence Reduction Unit, particularly engaging with the community-led aspects of work.
- We will hold joint sessions with other system Boards and groups with shared goals around work to tackle serious violence including the Health & Wellbeing Board; Mental Health, Learning Disabilities & Autism Partnership Group; Inequalities Reference Group; Children’s Safeguarding Partnership; and Adults Safeguarding Partnership Board.

- We will foster a culture of sharing best practice relating to the programmes that are in place in Tameside to tackle serious violence, which show evidence that they are working. This will include collaboration across the Tameside Community Safety Partnership, and with neighbouring GM boroughs, including the GM VRU.
- We will work across all local partners to develop an outcomes dashboard to monitor key metrics and outcomes relating to serious violence. This will include improving the collection and analysis of relevant data to better inform the situation with high risk issues in Tameside including sexual violence and weapons offences.
- We will do further work to understand the impact of the implementation of the Greater Manchester Adolescent Safeguarding Framework in Tameside (as one of the three pilot areas across GM alongside Trafford and Stockport) and support wider delivery across GM.



Priority 4: Equality, Equity and Justice

- We will provide and promote targeted services and interventions for individuals who need extra help.
- We will work with the Tameside Adults Safeguarding Partnership Board to better understand the situation and needs of people who live with multiple-disadvantage. The goal will be to have better, trauma-responsive partnership approaches in place to support individuals.
- We will target specific support for those in contact with probation services who have committed violent crimes to reduce re-offending. Particular needs in this group include substance misuse issues, which will be a focus for local drug and alcohol treatment services.
- We will raise aspirations of young people by working across public, private, business and voluntary sectors to create accessible opportunities for volunteering, internships, apprenticeships and work across the borough.
- We will strengthen relationships between and with faith groups to increase visibility and accountability regarding their role in reducing violence, particularly in relation to young people from ethnic minority communities.
- Greater Manchester Police will conduct stop and search, removing knives and weapons off the streets in an intelligence-led and proportionate manner, including a focus on young people and considering domestic abuse perpetrators, based on the insight in Tameside.

Priority 5: Trauma Responsive Support for Communities in Tameside

- We will continue to develop promotional awareness raising campaigns which sensitively communicate the dangers of carrying weapons.
- We will continue to provide supportive, trauma-responsive services to tackle drug and alcohol harms across Tameside, given the high levels of alcohol harm in the borough and the high rate of violent crime with drugs and alcohol as a risk factor.
- We will continue to prioritise work to tackle all forms of domestic abuse across Tameside, with a particular focus on addressing the risks of domestic abuse of older victims, based on increasing trends of abuse in this age group.
- We will put in place a range of trauma-responsive interventions and awareness raising to support groups who are at greater risk of being victims of serious violence including young males; people living with physical and learning disabilities; drug users; ethnic minority communities; and people in other minority groups including LGBTQ+.
- We will put in place a programme of work involving awareness raising, engagement and enforcement around the main town centres in Tameside, particularly Ashton-under-Lyne town centre, Stalybridge town centre, Hyde town centre and Hattersley town centre, in response to the high proportion of violent crime reported in these locations.

- We will foster a greater understanding across all partners regarding the relationship between violence and neurodiversity, special education needs and/or disability so that collaborative solutions can be put in place.
- We will support the embedding of trauma informed approaches across voluntary services and community organisations across Tameside, particularly those that work with children & young people.



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Flu Vaccination Update Autumn- Winter 2023/24

January Neighbourhood Forum
Population Health Team

Seasonal Flu Vaccination Uptake as at Dec 2023

PCN	Over 65s	Under 65 (at risk)	Pregnant	Carers	All aged 2yrs	All aged 3yrs
Ashton	64.6%	34.2%	24.9%	50.0%	25.9%	31.2%
Denton	77.0%	39.5%	26.0%	23.8%	28.6%	24.6%
Hyde	69.0%	31.8%	19.6%	18.2%	28.2%	27.1%
Stalybridge	76.4%	42.0%	31.4%	32.3%	43.6%	41.6%
TOTAL	71.3%	36.0%	24.4%	30.0%	30.4%	30.3%
<i>GM</i>	<i>75.2%</i>	<i>38.4%</i>	<i>29.0%</i>	<i>36.3%</i>	<i>36.3%</i>	<i>37.4%</i>



Seasonal Flu Vaccination Dec 2023 vs December 2022

	LAST YEAR Dec-22	THIS YEAR Dec-23	% Change year on year	Direction of Change
65 & Over - Target 85%	74.1%	71.3%	-2.8%	↓
Under 65 (at-risk only) - Target 75%	42.2%	36.0%	-6.2%	↓
All Pregnant Women - Target 75%	22.5%	24.4%	1.9%	↑
Carers - Target NONE	38.4%	30.0%	-8.4%	↓
All Aged 2 - Target 70%	30.1%	30.4%	0.3%	↑
All aged 3 – Target 70%	38.3%	30.3%	-8.0%	↓

Impact of Doctors Strikes

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10 January 2024

Industrial action summary

The latest junior doctors' industrial action took place between Wednesday 3 January (7am) and Tuesday 9 January (7am).

The strike coincided with a typically busy period for NHS services post-Christmas and early into the New Year. However, all urgent and emergency care services were fully covered, with consultant and specialist doctors filling gaps of junior doctors who took industrial action.

Some routine elective activity had to be cancelled and our teams are working to have these rearranged as soon as practically possible. All cancer services continued as planned.

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