

<b>Report To:</b>	<b>OVERVIEW PANEL</b>
<b>Date:</b>	7 September 2020
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Sandra Stewart, Director – Governance and Pensions Sarah Dobson, Assistant Director – Policy, Performance and Communications
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>SCRUTINY UPDATE</b>
<b>Report Summary:</b>	To receive for information, a summary of the work undertaken by the Council’s two Scrutiny Panels for July to September 2020.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	That Overview Panel is asked to note the content of the report and summary of scrutiny activity. All related documents can be viewed within the appendices.
<b>Links to Corporate Plan:</b>	Scrutiny work programmes are linked to the Council’s corporate priorities. Scrutiny activity seeks to support effective decision making and priorities across Tameside.
<b>Policy Implications:</b>	The work programmes comprise activity that seeks to check the effective implementation of the Strategic Commission’s policies and if appropriate make recommendations to the Executive with regards to development, performance monitoring, outcomes and value for money.
<b>Financial Implications:</b>	There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.
<b>(Authorised by the Section 151 Officer)</b>	
<b>Legal Implications:</b>	The role that overview and scrutiny can play in holding an authority’s decision-makers to account makes it fundamentally important to the successful functioning of local democracy. Effective scrutiny helps secure the efficient delivery of public services and drives improvements within the authority itself.
<b>(Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Committees were introduced in 2000 as part of new executive governance arrangements to ensure that members of an authority who were not part of the executive could hold the executive to account for the decisions and actions that affect their communities.
	Overview and scrutiny committees have statutory powers (Section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000; paragraph 1 of Schedule 5A to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009) to scrutinise decisions the executive is planning to take, those it plans to implement, and those that have already been taken/implemented. Recommendations following scrutiny enable improvements to be made to policies and how they are implemented. Overview and scrutiny committees can also play a valuable role in developing policy. Effective overview and scrutiny should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide constructive ‘critical friend’ challenge;</li> <li>• Amplify the voices and concerns of the public;</li> <li>• Be led by those independent of the decision makers who</li> </ul>

take responsibility for their role; and  
Drive improvement in public services.

**Risk Management:**

Regular updates to Overview Panel provide assurance that scrutiny is progressing with an effective work programme, supporting good decision making and service improvement.

**Access to Information:**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Paul Radcliffe, Policy and Strategy Lead by:



Telephone:0161 342 2199



e-mail: [paul.radcliffe@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:paul.radcliffe@tameside.gov.uk)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Scrutiny Update provides a platform for appropriate insight, activity, outcomes and proposals to be relayed. This method of reporting supports the improved responsiveness of scrutiny work and also prevents any delay in the communication of key messages.
- 1.2 The report, by nature, aims to provide members with a general summary of scrutiny activity and proposals. It remains that all reports produced by scrutiny panels as a result of in-depth review will be tabled separately at the earliest opportunity.

## 2. SCRUTINY ACTIVITY

- 2.1 Scrutiny in practice remains mindful of the suitability and appropriateness of timings with regards to the impact and value of planned activity. This includes the selection and order of topics and updates to be received during the year. The annual work programmes and priorities were agreed at the June meetings and this coincides with consultation activity for which a valued response and input can be achieved. The tables below provide a summary and chronology of scrutiny activity.

**Figure 1: Breakdown of activity at the formal Scrutiny Panel meetings**

<b>PLACE AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS</b>	
<b>28 July 2020</b>	<b>15 September 2020</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The panel met Cllr Oliver Ryan, Executive Member, Finance and Economic Growth; Cllr Ged Cooney, Executive Member, Housing, Planning and Employment; and Jayne Traverse, Director of Growth, to receive an overview of the impact of Covid-19 and lockdown on the economy, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Business and employment support</li> <li>- Safety measures including work places</li> <li>- Impact and challenges going forward</li> <li>- Best steps for medium and long-term</li> </ul> </li> <li>Received the panel's formal response to the Council's Safe Streets consultation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The panel to meet with representatives of Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM), to receive information specific to current measures, challenges and future plans for public transport and the transition from crisis management to recovery (living with Covid-19).</li> </ul>
<b>INTEGRATED CARE AND WELLBEING</b>	
<b>30 July 2020</b>	<b>10 September 2020</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The panel met Karen James, Chief Executive, Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care and NHS Foundation Trust, to receive an overview of the hospital's response to Covid-19 and plans to bring routine back on stream, including:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The panel to meet with Population Health to receive an update on responding to Covid-19, with particular interest in the implementation, management and effectiveness of Test and Trace in Tameside.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Urgent response to Covid-19</li> <li>- A&amp;E attendances, cancer referrals, routine appointments and surgery, links with primary care</li> <li>- Supporting NHS staff (mental and physical wellbeing)</li> <li>- Impact on BAME communities</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Received the panel's formal response to the Healthwatch Covid-19 survey.</li> </ul>	
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### **Children's Working Group**

- 2.2 A meeting of the fixed working group will take place 17 September 2020. Arrangements are in place for the group to receive an update and overview on the impacts of Covid-19 on education at a local level, the challenges going forward (living with Covid-19), the work and partnerships needed to support educational attainment and to address issues related to the gap in education for pupils of all ages.

### **Mid-year Budget Update**

- 2.3 Scrutiny panel members are to attend one of two sessions held on 22 September 2020, as the mid-year budget update. The independence of scrutiny enables members to seek assurances on financial position in 2020/21 and looking forward to budget planning, process and priorities for 2021/22.
- 2.4 Additional attention will be placed on budget impacts and recovery related to Covid-19. Where appropriate, priorities will continue to inform future scrutiny activity and work programmes.

### **Consultation and Engagement**

- 2.5 Scrutiny will remain suitably informed of engagement activity and open consultations at a local, regional and national level. The Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel has recently requested a service response to:
- NHS GP Patient Survey
- 2.6 Once received, the response will be circulated to panel members for comment and form part of the next Scrutiny Update report tabled at Overview Panel on 23 November 2020.

### **Keeping Scrutiny Members Informed**

- 2.7 All Scrutiny Panel members receive a monthly update email, with the purpose of raising awareness to a variety of materials to support their role, provide access to scrutiny resources and the ongoing opportunity for councillors to contribute and share any open consultations and engagement exercises. This will continue to include a wide variety of topic areas for consideration.
- 2.8 The update email also includes links to Greater Manchester Priorities and the work of the Combined Authority Scrutiny Panels. This email provides a further opportunity to inform members how the work of scrutiny is shared and reported within the Council. The most recent update was sent in June 2020, **APPENDIX 1**.

## **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 As set out on the front of the report.

### July 2020

Welcome to the July 2020 Scrutiny Update.

The regular updates aim to keep you informed of upcoming activity, including engagement and consultation with regards to local, regional and national decision making. All of the open consultations listed below are available for you to access and complete, with the opportunity to raise greater community awareness and participation where possible. For further information and to have your say please follow the relevant links below.

I hope this is something you will continue to find useful and please let me know if you require any further information.

### Scrutiny Reports

For the interest of all scrutiny members, please see **reports attached**, presented at a meeting of the Council's Overview Panel on 27 July 2020. They include:

- Annual work Programmes
- Feedback and Learning from Communities on Covid-19
- Scrutiny Update

### Guidance and Resources on COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

- [Covid-19 advice on working safely for employees, employers and businesses](#)
- [Updated figures on the number of Coronavirus cases and risk in the UK](#)
- [How to protect yourself or check if you need medical help](#)
- Guidance on [staying alert and safe \(social distancing\)](#) and for [self-isolation](#)

There is also guidance available on local websites as detailed below:

Tameside Council at <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/coronavirus> - includes links to service change information, how to volunteer, support for businesses, council tax recovery, mental health support, wellbeing, how to contact the Council for support and more.

NHS Tameside & Glossop CCG at <https://www.tamesideandglossopccg.org/> link on homepage.

Tameside & Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust at <https://www.tamesidehospital.nhs.uk/> information on homepage

Other things to be aware of include:

- **Greater Manchester Women & Girls Panel** – applications are open for women or organisations who are able to advise on key matters related to policy and activities aimed at accelerating gender equality across Greater Manchester. It will establish a clear vision for women and girls across the city region to understand inequalities affecting the lives of women and girls' particular experience of the Covid-19 pandemic. To apply you will need to complete an application form by **Sunday 16 August 2020**. Click [here](#) for more information. Any queries about the panel can be emailed to [Hannah.hatton@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:Hannah.hatton@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

- A new dedicated webpage on useful contacts for people who find themselves in need of advice or support in light of the Covid-19 outbreak has been set up on the Tameside & Glossop CCG website [here](#), and the Council website [here](#).

**Grants for LGBTQ organisations** – LGBTQ+ organisations and groups across the UK will soon be able to apply for grants of up to £15,000 to support their vital role in supporting LGBTQ+ communities through the coronavirus pandemic and beyond. METRO Charity will be cascading the £585k fund from Comic Relief. The partners will be convening grants panels in each nation - Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales and England to ensure the maximum reach to grassroots community-led LGBTQ+ organisations across the UK. Organisations and groups with income under £100,000 will be able to apply for over 100 grants ranging from £500 to £15,000. For more information, click [here](#).

### **Open Consultations**

**COVID-19 survey** – Due to the outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19), we have all been asked to ‘Stay at Home, Protect the NHS, and Save Lives’. This short survey from Healthwatch Tameside will help them to understand and gather information about what you think could make the situation easier to live with. They want you to say what is working well, as well as what could be improved. Paper copies of this consultation will be made available in due course, and questions can be talked through over the phone to support as many responses as possible. Deadline: **ongoing**.

**Healthwatch Tameside General Survey 2020** – Healthwatch Tameside is asking local people about their experiences of health and care services. The questionnaire will ask what services respondents have used in the past year, as well as what was good and what could be improved about these services. They will then combine the results from this survey with other information on how well local services are performing to produce a report on the subject. Deadline: **Ongoing**.

**Healthwatch Tameside young people's health & care survey 2020** - Healthwatch Tameside want to find out what young people think about health and care services they have used during the past 12 months. The questionnaire will ask about which services respondents used in the past year, their views on service quality, and what changes could be made. They will then combine the results from this survey with other information on how well local services are performing to produce a report on the subject. Deadline: **Ongoing**

**Greater Moments COVID-19** – Greater Moments are conducting a short survey in order to help them to assess how people with dementia are feeling and responding at this challenging time during Covid-19. The responses gathered will help to inform Greater Moments of what is working well and any possible areas of support Greater Manchester services can improve on. Deadline: **ongoing**.

**Greater Manchester State of the VCSE Sector Evaluation 2020** - The survey is a partnership piece of research commissioned and led by 10GM, a joint venture to support the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector in the 10 boroughs of Greater Manchester. The research will not just enable the partnership to gain a picture into every local area but also Greater Manchester as a whole. The questions focus on issues such as the number of volunteers and employees in your organisation, income, and sources of funding and partnerships. This is for VCSE organisations to complete so if you are a member of a voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisation in Tameside or Glossop this is your opportunity to give your views on the sector. Deadline: **25 September 2020**.

**Developing a Race Equality Panel for Greater Manchester** - The Greater Manchester Combined Authority are asking for your views on developing a Race Equality Panel for Greater Manchester. Learning engagement was used to inform proposals for the Race Equality Panel, which were due to be submitted to Greater Manchester's lead for equalities when COVID-19 put a number of important pieces of work on hold. Covid-19 has had a significant impact upon sections

of the community and has highlighted the deep-seated inequalities that still exist, and therefore the GMCA are looking to finalise plans to establish the Race Equality Panel. They want to hear your views on: whether the issues that have already been identified are still relevant and whether there are others that have now come to the fore following recent events; whether the draft proposals for how the panel would operate are fit for purpose; and who should be on the panel. **Deadline: 16 August 2020.**

### **National Engagement and Consultations**

There are currently a number of pieces of work being led by government departments and agencies that you may wish to take part in. For further information and to have your say please follow the relevant links below:

[Changes to the adoption and children regulations: Coronavirus \(Covid-19\)](#) - The Department for Education are seeking views on proposed changes to the Adoption and Children (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020. These were introduced to provide local authorities and children's social care providers with temporary flexibilities during coronavirus (COVID-19). The amendments are temporary and will expire on 25 September 2020, and as such the Department for Education would like to extend a small number of these to manage future challenges. The consultation sets out the regulations they would like to lapse on 25 September and details on the regulations they propose to extend. **Deadline: 5 August 2020.**

[Regulating CO2 emission standards for new cars and vans after transition](#) - There are plans for a CO2 emissions regulatory scheme for new cars and vans registered in the UK after the EU transition period ends. The scheme will be implemented after the transition period ends on 31 December 2020. It aims to ensure continuity to the regulation of CO2 emissions from new cars and vans when they are first registered in the UK. The Department of Transport is therefore seeking views on this scheme, especially in regard to the implementation plans and the operational procedures. **Deadline: 21 August 2020.**

[National Health Data Consent Survey](#) – The CLIMB Project is a Cambridge-based team funded by the UK Medical Research Council working to improve mental and physical care and research using health data. They are conducting a national survey in order to gather patient and public opinion on sharing NHS and HSC (Northern Ireland) health data across the UK. They are seeking your views on issues such as who you would be willing to share your data with, ideas on what a health data consent form might look like, and your current understanding of health data sharing, amongst other issues. **Deadline: 30 September 2020.**

[LGBT Sport & Physical Activity Group Coronavirus Impact Survey](#) – With this survey Pride Sports would like to get an idea of how the coronavirus lockdown has affected LGBT+ sports clubs, not just in terms of providing sports and physical activity, but also other aspects such as social events and the governance of clubs. **Deadline: ongoing.**

[Integrating Care for Trans Adults](#) – This survey is being undertaken by researchers from the Open University, the LGBT Foundation and Yorkshire MESMAC as part of a larger study. In this study we are looking at how different services can work together to support trans people better. These services include gender identity services but could also include GP services, other health services, mental health services and support provided by the voluntary sector. You can participate if you are over 18, if your gender does not correspond with the gender you were assigned at birth and if you currently live in the UK. To find out more, you can visit this link. **Deadline: ongoing.**

All live and past consultations are available for viewing at the [Big Conversation](#) pages on the Council's website.

### **Regional Scrutiny**

The Council appoints representatives to each of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) Scrutiny Panels and also scrutiny arrangements for Pennine Care. The links below provide you with access to the most recent meeting papers for each of the panels.

[Corporate Issues & Reform Overview & Scrutiny](#)

[Economy, Business Growth & Skills Overview & Scrutiny](#)

[Housing, Planning & Environment Overview & Scrutiny](#)

### **Scrutiny Resources**

In addition to the past training events, I will look to share any available material with you. This will include any material to support you in your role during the course of the year.

Recent publications:

- [Centre for Public Scrutiny \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [CFPS – Research and Publications](#)
- [LGA – Coronavirus: Information for Councils](#)
- [LGA- The impact of Covid-19 on culture, leisure, tourism and sport](#)