

Report To:	OVERVIEW PANEL
Date:	26 July 2021
Reporting Officer:	Sandra Stewart, Director – Governance and Pensions Sarah Dobson, Assistant Director – Policy, Performance and Communications
Subject:	SCRUTINY UPDATE
Report Summary:	To receive for information, a summary of the work undertaken by the Council’s two Scrutiny Panels for March to July 2021.
Recommendations:	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.
Links to Corporate Plan:	Scrutiny work programmes are linked to the Council’s corporate priorities. Scrutiny activity seeks to support effective decision making and priorities across Tameside.
Policy Implications:	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.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)	There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report. Any costs incurred by the Scrutiny Panels must be met from existing budgets.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	<p>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.</p> <p>Effective scrutiny helps secure the efficient delivery of public services and drives improvements within the authority itself.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Overview and scrutiny committees can also play a valuable role in developing policy.</p> <p>Effective overview and scrutiny should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide constructive ‘critical friend’ challenge; • Amplify the voices and concerns of the public;

- Be led by those independent of the decision makers who 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:



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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 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

PLACE AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS	
9 March 2021	8 June 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Panel met Chief Superintendent Rachael Harrison; Superintendent Rob Cousen; Councillor Allison Gwynne, Executive Member, Neighbourhood Services; and Ian Saxon, Executive Director, Neighbourhood Services to receive an update on the response to the HMIC inspection of GMP.The Panel received the formal response submitted to the consultation on the Community Safety Strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Panel met Paul Smith, Assistant Director; Alison Lloyd-Walsh, Head of Facilities, Climate and Energy Management; and Graham Hall, Climate and Energy Manager, to receive an update and overview of the Council's future vision, strategic priorities and commitments to climate change and improving the local environment.The Panel discussed and agreed the annual work programme for 2021/22.

INTEGRATED CARE AND WELLBEING	
11 March 2021	10 June 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Panel met Councillor Eleanor Wills, Executive Member, Health, Social Care and Population Health; and Sarah Exall, Population Health Consultant, to receive an update on the re-commissioning of the health improvement service.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Panel met Jessica Williams, Director of Commissioning, Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission, to receive an update on proposals set within the White Paper - Integration and innovation: working together to improve health and social care for all.The Panel discussed and agreed the annual work programme for 2021/22.The Chair confirmed that the fixed Children's Working Group will remain in place for 2021/22.

Consultation and Engagement

- 2.2 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 submitted a formal response to the following local consultation.
- Health Improvement Service Consultation– 21 April 2021, **APPENDIX 1.**

Check and Challenge

- 2.3 An important part of the work undertaken by Scrutiny is 'check and challenge'. This includes the review key issues such as service changes or outcomes from inspection. Arrangements are made to ensure the appropriate Scrutiny Panel receives a timely update with the option to submit a formal response based on findings.
- 2.4 The HMIC inspection of Greater Manchester Police took place April to June 2020. The aim of the inspection was to review the overall service provided to victims of crime in Greater Manchester. The inspection report was published in December 2020, with findings highlighting a number of areas of concern with regard to non-emergency calls unanswered, crime recording and assessing the needs and vulnerability of victims.
- 2.5 The Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel requested an update from GMP at the meeting on 9 March 2021. The Panel submitted the following response:
- Greater Manchester Police HMICFRS Inspection – 24 March 2021, **APPENDIX 2.**

Keeping Scrutiny Members Informed

- 2.6 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.
- 2.7 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 updates were sent in March and July 2021, **APPENDIX 3 & 4.**

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

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



Councillor Eleanor Wills
Executive Member
Health, Social Care and Population Health

Jeanelle De Gruchy
Director of Population Health

**Chair of the Integrated Care and Wellbeing
Scrutiny Panel**

Councillor Teresa Smith

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Ashton-under-Lyne
OL6 6BH

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Ask for: Paul Radcliffe
Date: 21 April 2021

Dear Councillor Wills,

Health Improvement Service Consultation

I write on behalf of the Council's Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel. At a meeting on 11 March 2021, the Scrutiny Panel received an update on proposed changes to the Health Improvement Service. Members have continued to remain suitably informed of local challenges and the range of factors that contribute to poor health outcomes and inequalities.

The Scrutiny Panel seeks to submit a formal response to the Health Improvement Service consultation. This letter therefore aims to provide a summary of collective discussion points and to express any issues and concerns raised. Members are particularly aware that there is a significant need to raise general awareness and to support behaviour change.

In order to address the significant and far-reaching impacts of Covid-19, Scrutiny has adapted accordingly to consider appropriate matters with a keen eye on recovery and community resilience. With residents directly impacted by the pandemic, it will become increasingly important to assess vulnerability, access to support for individuals and potential barriers going forward.

The scale of local health needs are apparent when considering almost 20% of the adult population in Tameside are smokers; 71% of adults are overweight or obese; and growing concerns around childhood obesity. Smoking also remains the primary cause of ill health and early death in Tameside. It is hoped that available health and economic data can inform future strategy and ensure support is available in the right areas to help people make the necessary changes to improve their personal health and wellbeing.

The current contract, due to end in 2022, provides a range of support services aimed at some of the more prevalent health issues that result in poorer outcomes. This includes the impacts of smoking and obesity and associated conditions. It is also apparent that budget pressures and savings targets will be unavoidable for the service over coming years.

It was encouraging to hear that the service has continued to work with residents during Covid-19, with new digital methods introduced to ensure people can continue to gain access a range of services while staying safe.

The proposals detailed within the consultation show a plan to have three new services: Oral Health (which will remain largely the same), Smoking Cessation and Community Wellness, which will focus on healthy weight and community NHS Health Checks. The services will also help signpost additional provision such as any issues with sleep, stress and mental health problems.

I have listed points from the meeting below, which are to be viewed as individual responses from members, under the collective of the Council's Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel. I would be grateful if on receiving this letter you are able to take the appropriate action to ensure submission of the response prior to the consultation deadline of 13 May 2021. I do also hope the response can be referenced in future reports and may support wider governance requirements in terms of Scrutiny engagement and feedback used to inform decision making in this area.

- The Health Improvement Service provides a vital level of preventative support to a range of local health needs. Despite future budgetary pressures, there remains an ongoing need to support the general health improvement of our population and provision regarding health and lifestyle choices.
- It will be important to assess the impact of planned service changes and future pressures to monitor the ongoing benefit of support through data, case studies and the journey of individuals. This can help review the continued effectiveness of interventions set within the wider health economy and public service sustainability.
- Members are supportive of proposed changes with a greater separation between each aspect of the service. It is expected that the service will need to build on recent developments and adaptations to maintain the level of reach and impact within communities.
- With plans to improve community reach and reduce some of the more personalised aspects of support, there may be a future need to monitor how this will affect the number of residents accessing support and sustainable outcomes.
- It was explained that the Community Wellness Service would look different to the existing offer. This will require an appropriate level of community engagement to ensure the voice and opinions of residents are factored within any changes to improve equity of access and to remove any known barriers.
- That communication and signposting remain a key aspect. With regards to smoking cessation this may require a range of alternative methods being explored through existing or new partnerships, should direct community engagement reduce as detailed with proposals.
- To explore any existing gaps and barriers that may prevent individuals from accessing support. To establish a clear and consistent message on life choices, disproportionate impacts and equalities regarding protected characteristics groups. Work in this area may benefit from case studies or real life examples to make common concerns and health risks more relatable.
- Significant challenges going forward to address the healthy weight of our children and young people. Part of the new service will be based on community development and members are keen to ensure that where any multigenerational issues are identified within a single household that a targeted and tailored approach can remain available to families.
- With changes planned to generate greater reach, this will remove the one-to-one support currently offered for healthy eating. It will be of interest to monitor how sustainable the new

methods will become, with an expected need to tie into existing partnerships across the public sector, housing providers, local businesses, the community and voluntary sector and education.

- There will be an ongoing need to acknowledge and reflect on Covid-19 and external pressures, which may affect the service.
- That where appropriate, the Executive involve scrutiny in future development stages.

If further clarity is needed on any of the above points, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Teresa Smith
Chair – Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel



ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE · AUDENSHAW · DENTON · DROYLSDEN · DUKINFIELD · HYDE · LONGDENDALE · MOSSLEY · STALYBRIDGE

Rachael Harrison
Chief Superintendent
Greater Manchester Police

Rob Cousen
Superintendent
Greater Manchester Police

Chair of the Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel

Councillor Mike Glover

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Phone: 0161 342 2199
Ask for Paul Radcliffe
Date: 24 March 2021

Dear Chief Superintendent Harrison,

Greater Manchester Police HMICFRS Inspection

I write on behalf of Tameside Council's Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel. Thank you for attending the meeting on 9 March 2021 at which members received a comprehensive summary of the recent inspection and improvements required for Tameside and the wider region. You will recall that the subject generated significant interest from panel members, which highlighted both the complexity and range of issues faced within the borough and across ward boundaries.

With the inspection report published in December 2020, members have remained suitably informed of the outcomes and recommendations. As Chair, I am personally grateful for your open and honest appraisal, with the Panel's concerns very much focused on how GMP respond to all crime types and assess the immediate need and vulnerability of victims.

The Council's Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel holds a wide remit, part of this is a designated responsibility to consider all matters of the Council and community safety partners to address crime and disorder at a local level.

I have listed some of the main points from the meeting below. These are the individual response of members, under a collective of the Scrutiny Panel. I hope the feedback will help support your ongoing improvement journey and vigour to strengthen existing partnerships and community engagement in Tameside.

- The victim service assessment has clearly picked up on a range of issues associated with initial contacts, crime recording, investigations and outcomes. This highlighted a lack of focus on victims, the non-emergency calls unanswered and the well-publicised figure of 80,000 missed crimes across GM.

- GMP appear to have responded well to a number of recommendations both quickly and assertively. The development of an action and improvement plan monitored on a weekly basis is encouraging. A refreshed ethos to 'Think Victim' and the amount of staff training and development that has taken place during past few months is providing staff with a refreshed set of tools and confidence to do the job to the best of their ability.
- It is accepted that a number of telephone contacts may have been redirected to online reporting, however members raised concerns regarding the unknowns and level of uncertainty in this area. Despite the inspection focusing on only narrow area of Police business and crime types, it remains important to acknowledge the prevalence of behavioural crimes such as domestic abuse and anti-social behaviour in Tameside, and the knock on effect that a lack of reporting and investigation has to safeguard victims and evidence.
- GMP are appropriately managing and allocating resources. It also clear that the Police and partners continue to face significant pressures associated with Covid-19.
- Elected members can often experience first-hand a diminished level of resident confidence and trust in certain aspects of Police response and action. This does tie in with inspection findings to some extent and a clearer picture has now been drawn with regard to how GMP will look to improve and rebuild connections across communities in Tameside.
- The inspection does present a timely opportunity for the Police, Council and key stakeholders to build on existing partnerships, successful multi-agency working, engagement, shared intelligence and proposals to deliver a Tameside Neighbourhood Strategy and reintroduce periodic meetings with ward councillors.
- Members encourage GMP, in cooperation, to make best use of existing networks and channels for communication of neighbourhood priorities and key messages.
- That where appropriate and at suitable intervals, the Scrutiny Panel will seek to monitor performance and outcomes of GMP specific to the recommendations detailed within the HMICFRS report.

The Panel would like GMP to take points forward to rebuild confidence locally around service standards, engagement with communities and their representatives (i.e. elected members), crime types, stability of workforce, mental health awareness and expected pressures.

If further clarity is needed on any of the above points, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Mike Glover
Chair – Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel

March 2021

Welcome to the March 2021 Scrutiny Update. This is the final update e-mail of the 2020/21 municipal year.

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.

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

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

- Updated figures on the number of Coronavirus cases and risk in the UK here: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>
- How to protect yourself or check if you need medical help: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- Guidance on social distancing (including for vulnerable people) here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-restriction-tiers-what-you-need-to-know>
- Information on self-isolation here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>
- Covid-19 advice for employees, employers and businesses here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

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

Tameside Council 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 www.tamesideandglossopccg.org/ - link on homepage.

Tameside & Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust www.tamesidehospital.nhs.uk/ - information on homepage.

Other things to be aware of include:

Grant Funding for VCSE organisations

There are a number of ways VCSE organisations in Greater Manchester can apply for funding during Covid-19. 10GM, a partnership of local support and development agencies in Greater Manchester, have come together to produce a bulletin providing all the information on funding opportunities

available for VCF organisations in Greater Manchester, including how to apply. You can find the latest bulletin here: <https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/news/gm-funding-ebulletin-march-2021>

Update on various funding pots available

- <https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/gmsocinvest/emergencyinvestmentfund>
- GMCVO has access to a range of social investment funds to support social enterprises, charities and community businesses. They can work with organisations whether they have been negatively impacted by the Covid-19 crisis, looking to take advantage of opportunities as the economy starts to recover, or a mixture of both:
- **Access to Growth** fund, offering a blended investment mix of grant and loan <https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/gmsocinvest>
- For communities looking to develop their own housing schemes or sports facilities GMCVO is also the local partner for the **Resonance Community Developers Fund** <https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/civicrm/mailling/url?u=85907&qid=3827416>

Covid-19 opinion and behaviour insight

The following are some key statistics taken from different pieces of national and regional research indicating what the impact of covid-19 has been for people including businesses. Understanding the impact of Covid-19 will be crucial to our recovery locally and how we plan to build back better.

- 79% think that everyone should be subject to the same restrictions until most people have been vaccinated. 12% think those that have been vaccinated should not be subject to Covid-19 restrictions.
- 58% think it's unlikely that all limits on social contact will be removed by the end of June, compared to 31% who think it's likely
- 70% support the introduction of vaccine passports once the vaccination programme ends and 20% oppose - younger people are less supportive of vaccine passports being introduced during the rollout, but a majority still support the use of them when the scheme is over
- 77% of BAME people would definitely or probably have the vaccine or have already had it or have their appointment booked - this is an increase from 70% in mid-December

Scrutiny Activity 2020/21

With the municipal year drawing to a close the table below provides a summary of activity and oversight carried out during 2020/21. This includes updates to seek assurances on service provision and outcomes.

Scrutiny activity and oversight (March 2020 to March 2021)

Place and External Relations	Integrated Care and Wellbeing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Strategy • Corporate Plan Scorecard • Impact of Covid and lockdown on the local economy • Response to Inclusive Growth Strategy consultation • Feedback and learning from communities on Covid-19 • Walking and Cycling • Response to Safe Streets consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living Well at Home • Corporate Plan Scorecard • Tameside & Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust • Response to Healthwatch Tameside Covid-19 survey • Feedback and learning from communities on Covid-19 • Public Health response to Covid-19 • GP Patient Survey 2020

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LGSCO annual report for complaints monitoring • Community Safety • Response to Community Safety Strategy consultation • Strategic Transport • GMP Inspection and Action Plan • Follow up – Improving Quality and Standards in Private Rented Sector • Mid-year budget update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LGSCO annual report for complaints monitoring • Children’s Services • Domestic Abuse • Health Improvement service • Mid-year budget update <p><u>Children’s Working Group</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tameside’s Early Help Offer • Impacts of Covid-19 on Education in Tameside • Follow up - Recruitment and retention of foster carers
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Budget Consultation

All Scrutiny Panel members were provided with an opportunity to attend one of two budget briefing sessions held on 18 January 2021. This follows on from a mid-year budget position update received in September 2020. The independence of Scrutiny enables members to seek assurances on budget planning, process and priorities for 2021/22 and beyond. It is also appropriate for budget priorities to inform future Scrutiny activity and work programmes.

Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO)

Scrutiny Panels continue to review decisions and focus reports published by the Ombudsman. The aim is to ensure learning opportunities be shared with services in a timely manner and for a formal response and/or position statement to be returned to the appropriate Scrutiny Panel within agreed timescales.

It will remain important to ensure that the subject matter is appropriate, proportionate and can add value. Work in this area has progressed well, with the plan to ensure responses be reported to Overview Panel at the earliest opportunity. Activity informed by recent LGSCO focus reports listed below:

- Focus report – Home truths: how well are councils implementing the Homelessness Reduction Act? (published July 2020).
 - Focus report shared directly with the Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Employment. Shared for information and awareness, no request made for a formal response.
- Focus report – Careless: helping to improve council services to children in care (published December 2020).
 - Response of the Deputy Executive Leader (Children and Families) and Director of Children’s Services received in January 2021. The focus report and response tabled in a separate report to the joint meeting of Cabinet and Overview Panel on 10 February 2021.

Consultation and Engagement

Scrutiny will remain suitably informed of open consultations at a local, regional and national level. Past responses include:

- Safe Streets – July 2020
- Healthwatch Tameside Covid-19 Survey – July 2020
- Inclusive Growth Strategy – December 2020
- Community Safety Strategy – January 2021

Open Consultations

[Tameside Ward Boundaries Consultation](#) – the Local Government Boundary Commission for England is consulting on proposals for new wards and ward boundaries for Tameside Council. LGBCE are inviting individuals and organisations from across Tameside to have their say on how they think the new ward boundaries should be drawn. Closing date: **5 April 2021**

[Health Improvement Service Consultation](#) – The Health Improvement contract is due to end next year. We are planning to recommission services to replace Be Well, and want to make sure that we focus on the right things for Tameside. In November 2020, the Health Improvement Service was one of a number of services identified by the council's spending review for savings. We are asking for your views to help us design what the new services will look like. Closing date: **20 May 2021**.

[Urgent Care Survey 2021](#) - Healthwatch Tameside work on behalf of the community to make sure health and care services are working as best they can for you, influenced by what patients say. **Have you used urgent care recently?**

- Did you understand all the options?
- What assistance was provided?
- What went well and what could be improved?

Closing date: **3 May 2021**

[GM Gender Based Abuse Strategy](#) - Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) have published a draft copy of the Gender Based Abuse Strategy: The Greater Manchester Strategy to Tackle Violence Against Women & Girls. GMCA are gathering views on the proposals ahead of a full public consultation on the revised strategy in May 2021. Closing date: **18 April 2021**.

[Dementia Call for Evidence – Black African and Caribbean People In Greater Manchester](#) – The African Caribbean Care Group (ACCG) want to understand the dementia support and information provision to Black African and Caribbean people in Greater Manchester. Questions can be answered by either carers or people living with dementia. The Dementia Call for Evidence Survey covers 4 areas of a person's Dementia journey: Diagnosing well, living well, supporting well and end of life. This consultation is **ongoing**.

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:

[UK Disability Survey](#) - The Disability Unit at the Cabinet Office is developing a National Strategy for Disabled People. Publication is planned for Spring 2021.

To help the government with understanding the barriers that disabled people face and what it may need to focus upon to improve the lives of disabled people, we need to hear about your views and know more about your experiences. This survey will ask about your life experiences either as a disabled person, a carer or parent or as someone who has an interest in disability issues. Closing date: **23 April 2021**.

[Mental Health Act reform consultation](#) – The Department of Health and Social Care are seeking views on changes to the Mental Health Act to help put patients at the centre of decisions about their own care. Closing date: **21 April 2021**.

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

Regional Scrutiny

The links below provide you with access to the most recent meeting papers for each of the GMCA Scrutiny Panels.

[Corporate Issues & Reform Overview & Scrutiny](#)
[Economy, Business Growth & Skills Overview & Scrutiny](#)
[Housing, Planning & Environment Overview & Scrutiny](#)

Scrutiny Resources

I will look to share any available material to support you in your role during the course of the year.

Publications:

- [Governance Risk and Resilience Framework: Summary](#)
- [Public Health Annual Report: Rising to the Challenges of Covid-19](#)
- [Covid-19 Public Opinion Research](#)
- [Future of Public Transport and Role for Local Government](#)

July 2021

Welcome to the July 2021 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.

(Please note, the Covid-19 information section is now at the end of this update)

Things to be aware of:

Financial support for self-isolation – You could get a £500 Test & Trace Support Payment to support you & your family if you meet the eligibility criteria & can provide:

- ✓ An NHS Test & Trace Account ID
- ✓ Confirmation that you receive a means-tested benefit or are on a low income
- ✓ Proof of work & a bank statement

For more information, visit <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/coronavirus/tatspaymentscheme>

The Greater Manchester (GM) Effective Use Of Resources (EUR) Website – The Greater Manchester (GM) Effective Use Of Resources (EUR) Team are pleased to announce the introduction of their new website. This can be accessed at <https://gmeurnhs.co.uk/>. The site contains information for patients who can view GM EUR treatment policies; any local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) treatment policies; and information about the process.

Open Consultations

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

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

<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/tbc/customerservicesreviewconsultation>

Tameside Community Cohesion Questionnaire – A cohesive community is a diverse society where people from all backgrounds feel that they belong and are valued, enjoy similar life opportunities, and interact with other groups. A cohesive community is one that has moved beyond an “us” and “them” narrative to one where there is trust and interaction between different groups.

Tameside Council would like to hear about your thoughts and experiences of community cohesion in the borough. This will help us to better understand the topic in Tameside. Closing date: **Ongoing**.
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TMBCCommunityCohesionsurvey>

What Matters to You 2021 – ‘What Matters To You?’ aims to encourage and support more meaningful conversations between people who provide health and social care and the people, families and carers who receive health and social care. We want to ask what matters to you, so we can listen to what matters, and do what matters. Closing date: **7 July 2021**.
<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/wmty2021>

Self-isolation survey – Tameside Council are conducting a survey to better understand the barriers and challenges that people may face when asked to self-isolate due to coronavirus. Self-isolation is when you do not leave your home because you have or might have coronavirus (COVID-19). You are typically asked to self-isolate for at least 10 days. This helps stop the virus spreading to other people. The reasons people are asked to self-isolate are because they have tested positive for coronavirus and been asked to self-isolate, a member of your household has tested positive for coronavirus, or you have been identified by the NHS Track and Trace as a contact of someone who tested positive. A better understanding of the barriers and challenges people face to self-isolation can help us to better support local people to self-isolate.
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/tmbcselfisolation>

Portage Service Consultation – The Portage Service is part of the Early Years Offer in Tameside. The Portage Team have links with the Integrated Service for Children with Additional Needs (known as ISCAN).

Portage offers tailored sessions which are designed to help children from 0-5 years who have additional needs to develop through play with support from various services and their parents/carers. Families are visited on a regular basis, weekly, fortnightly or monthly usually at home by a Portage worker.

The portage offer has remained successful throughout this period with positive feedback from families, therefore we would like to maintain elements of this offer moving forward. What is proposed is an offer that will be more virtual, take place more predominantly through inclusive groups within our children’s centres, meanwhile reducing the offer of support by 1:1 home visits. The service would like to hear your views on the proposal to continue this way of delivering the Portage Service, how we progress this and continue to meet varying needs. Closing date: **7 July 2021**.
<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/tbc/portageserviceconsultation>

Infant Feeding Peer Support Service Engagement – Tameside Council is tendering its Breastfeeding Peer Support Service, before this take place, we would value the input for local families to help shape the retendered Service. The Tameside Breastfeeding Peer Support Service is a 7-day service, which supports parents in Tameside in breastfeeding their babies, offering support such as antenatal classes, postnatal support either at maternity wards, at home or by telephone, and information for new parents.

The Tameside Breastfeeding Peer Support Service contract is due to end next year. We are planning to recommission the service and therefore asking for your views to help us design what the new service will look like. Your thoughts on the current service and how you have used this previously will help us to ensure we continue to support those who use the service in the most effective way. Closing date: **9 July 2021**.
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/InfantFeedingEngagement>

Urgent Care Survey 2021 – Healthwatch Tameside work on behalf of the community to make sure health and care services are working as best they can for you, influenced by what patients say. Have you used urgent care recently?

- Did you understand all the options?
- What assistance was provided?
- What went well and what could be improved?

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HWTurgentcare>

Have your say in shaping the future of assisted conception and fertility treatment services across Greater Manchester – People in Greater Manchester are being asked to share their experiences and views about assisted conception and fertility treatment services to help shape the future of the service. Commissioners across Greater Manchester want to hear your views: what works well now and what needs to be improved?

What is meant by assisted conception and fertility treatment?

Assisted conception is a collective name for treatments designed to lead to conception by means other than sexual intercourse. If you or a family member have experienced fertility problems or are currently undergoing treatment or may need to access a fertility treatment service in the future, we want to hear from you. Closing date: **27 July 2021**. <https://www.gmhsc.org.uk/get-involved/surveys-consultations/>

Let's talk about wildfires – Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service would like to find out what the public think about wildfire. They would like to find out what people think is the cause of wildfires, what should be the consequence of negative actions around wildfires, your concerns and what should be done to prevent them from happening. Closing date: **31 August 2021**. <https://www.gmconsult.org/strategy-team/public-perception-of-wildfire/>

Dementia Call for Evidence – Black African and Caribbean People In Greater Manchester – The African Caribbean Care Group (ACCG) want to understand the dementia support and information provision to Black African and Caribbean people in Greater Manchester. Questions can be answered by either carers or people living with dementia. The Dementia Call for Evidence Survey covers 4 areas of a person's Dementia journey: Diagnosing well, living well, supporting well and end of life. This consultation is **ongoing**. <https://www.accg.org.uk/dementia-surveys/>

Gender-based Violence Strategy Consultation - Greater Manchester is home to over 1.4 million women and girls and we continue to lead the way in striving for gender equality. However, there are a number of issues that disproportionately affect women and girls. Gender-based violence is one of the most pervasive violations of human rights in the world, with far reaching consequences for communities and society, as well as individuals and their families.

GMCA are developing a gender-based violence strategy which contains a series of commitments to end gender-based violence, and they would like to hear your views on it. So far a range of people have been engaged to develop it, including police, offender services, health, education and safeguarding experts. More importantly they have spoken to women with personal experience of abuse. Now they would like to understand your views on how we can – together – deliver a strategy that will significantly reduce the risks and harms caused as a result of gender-based violence.

There is also an easy-read version of the consultation available here: <https://www.gmconsult.org/police-and-crime-team/gbv-easy-read/>. Closing date: **1 August 2021**. <https://www.gmconsult.org/police-and-crime-team/gender-based-violence/>

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:

Introducing national standards for unregulated accommodation – The DfE is seeking views from care experienced young people on proposed standards for unregulated accommodation for looked after children and care leavers aged 16 and 17. They would like to know your views on:

- how to tell the difference between children’s homes and independent and semi-independent accommodation
- what this type of accommodation should be called
- what should be included in the new standards
- how Ofsted should make sure the accommodation is following the new standards

Closing date: **19 July 2021**.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/introducing-national-standards-for-unregulated-accommodation>

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

Regional Scrutiny

The links below provide you with access to the most recent meeting papers for each of the GMCA Scrutiny Panels.

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

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

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

Scrutiny Resources

I will look to share any available material to support you in your role during the course of the year.

Publications:

- [A Councillor’s workbook on equality, diversity and inclusion](#)
- [Re-thinking Local](#)
- [Learning from employment and skills responses to Covid-19](#)

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

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

- Updated figures on the number of Coronavirus cases and numbers vaccinated here: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>
- Guidance on restrictions and how to protect yourself or check if you need medical help: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- Information on self-isolation [here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection)
- Covid-19 advice for employees, employers and businesses here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

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

Tameside Council - 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 - www.tamesideandglossopccg.org/ link on homepage

Tameside & Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust - www.tamesidehospital.nhs.uk/ information on homepage

Covid-19 opinion and behaviour insight:

The following are some key statistics taken from different pieces of national and regional research indicating what the impact of covid-19 has been for people including businesses. Understanding the impact of Covid-19 will be crucial to our recovery locally and how we plan to build back better.

- The proportion of adults who met indoors with someone not in their household, childcare or support bubble in the last seven days increased to 39% this week, almost double the proportion last week (20%)
- Younger people are more likely to say the government messaging on which activities you should and shouldn't do is unclear
- 98% of people said they will definitely have their second dose of Pfizer, compared to 94% who said they will definitely have their second dose of Astra Zeneca
- 72% of White Britons have had the vaccine or have an appointment booked, compared to 50% of Ethnic Minority Britons
- 94% of those aged 30 to 49 years reported positive vaccine sentiment (92% last week); this proportion was 74% at the start of the vaccination programme in December 2020

Grant Funding for VCSE organisations

There are a number of ways VCSE organisations in Greater Manchester and Derbyshire can apply for funding during the Covid-19 outbreak. 10GM, a partnership of local support and development agencies in Greater Manchester, have come together to produce a bulletin providing all the information on funding opportunities available for VCF organisations in Greater Manchester, including how to apply. You can find the latest bulletin here: <https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/news/gm-funding-ebulletin-june-2021> .

Action Together Funding Bulletin – Action Together have a wealth of experience that could help you find and secure funding. The latest funding bulletin, which is produced monthly with 10GM colleagues can be found here:

https://www.actiontogether.org.uk/sites/actiontogether.org.uk/files/10GM%20Funding%20Bulletin%20June%202021_0.pdf