



December 2021

Our regular updates enable us to keep you informed of upcoming activity including PEN events and engagement or consultation work across Tameside and Glossop which may be of interest to you.

We want to invite as many people as possible from across Tameside & Glossop to join the PEN family. If you know others who would be interested in hearing about upcoming activity including PEN events and engagement or consultation work across Tameside and Glossop please encourage them to register here:

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

Things to be aware of this month include:

Local engagement and consultations

There are a number of consultations taking place which you may wish to take part in. For further information and to have your say please follow the relevant links below:

- **Gambling Policy Consultation** – Tameside Council are consulting on its Gambling Policy. The Gambling Policy provides guidance on the approach the Council, as the Licensing Authority, takes on gambling licensing matters. The Council is required to review its policy at least every three years.
The policy also sets out the council's approaches to ensuring such businesses remain compliant with their licences and the action it will take – in partnership with other organisations and responsible authorities – when licensing and other legislation is

breached.

The existing statement is due to expire in January 2022. Before it can be adopted, we would like to hear views on the revised policy. Comments are welcomed from anyone who may have an interest in the area. Closing date: **11 January 2022. [Link Removed]**

- **Licensing Policy Consultation** – Tameside Council are consulting on its Licensing Policy. The Licensing Policy sets out the council's ambitions, strategies and policies relating to licensing for the next five years.

The previous statement of licensing policy set out the procedures in which the council would consider applications for licences. This new statement of licensing policy also covers applications for licences, but in addition, sets out the council's requirements and expectations for existing licence holders and licensed businesses and the actions it expects such businesses to take in order to promote the licensing objectives.

The existing statement is due to expire in January 2022. Before it can be adopted, we would like to hear views on the revised policy. Comments are welcomed from anyone who may have an interest in licensed premises in the area. The deadline for comments is **11 January 2022. [Link Removed]**

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- **Adult Social Care Non-Residential Charging Policy Consultation** – Tameside Council is seeking views on proposed changes to the Council's Adult Social Care Non-Residential Charging Policy. This consultation is open to all but we are particularly interested to hear the views of residents who receive adult social care and support services.

The consultation sets out the key changes proposed to the way the Council charge for care and support services, such as care received at home or Shared Lives scheme and support to manage finances provided by the Council.

We would like to hear your views on proposals that relate to:

- The Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG)
- The elements of Disability Living Allowance (DLA)/ Personal Independence Payment (PIP) care component that may be disregarded and;
- The introduction of an arrangement fee and an annual fee for setting up care for self-funders.

The closing date for this consultation is **23 December 2021**.

[\[Link Removed\]](#)

- **Changes to the way people access health and care services** – During the pandemic, new ways to access care were introduced very quickly. These involved using technology, whilst we were locked down. Services are looking at how they can build on these changes for the future.
What do you think about using different ways to get help for your health and care? This includes using technology.
What are your thoughts on data sharing between different organisations involved in health and care?
Your survey responses will be used anonymously in the reports Healthwatch Tameside produce. The content of these reports will be considered when services are being planned, so it is really important to hear as many views from members of the public as possible. The deadline is **28 February 2022**. [\[Link Removed\]](#)
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- **Delays in non-urgent care** – Have you delayed asking for help with your health because of the COVID-19 pandemic?
Have you experienced delays in getting the care you need (after a GP has referred you)?
How have any delays affected your life?
Your survey responses will be used anonymously in the reports Healthwatch Tameside produce. The content of these reports will be considered when services are being planned, so it is really important to hear as many views from members of the public as possible. The deadline is **28 February 2022**. [\[Link Removed\]](#)
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- **Tameside Community Cohesion questionnaire** – A cohesive community is a diverse society where people from all backgrounds feel that they belong and are valued, enjoy similar life opportunities, and interact with other groups. A cohesive community is one that has moved beyond an “us” and “them” narrative to one where there is trust and interaction between different groups.

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

- **General feedback about health and care services** – This new survey is about general use of health and care services. Please help Healthwatch Tameside by telling them about any services you have used recently, that you haven't included in a survey response before. What went well? What could be improved? [\[Link Removed\]](#)
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- **Barriers to accessing information and services** – Diversity Matters North West are conducting a survey on the “Barriers to Accessing Information” that people face across Tameside and Glossop. This is particularly in relation to language barriers, and

in the context of Covid-19, but barriers could also include digital access, gate-keeping, “red-tape”, difficulties identifying the correct service, slow response times by services etc.

The Tameside and Glossop Inequalities Reference Group have invited Diversity Matters North West to conduct this survey as part of a wider research and engagement process into these barriers across the locality. The responses, analysis and recommendations will inform an action report for decision makers to consider and make improvements based on the results. [Link Removed]

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: [\[Link Removed\]](#)
 - ✓ Covid-19 advice for employees, employers and businesses here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19>
 - ✓ Information on Winter 2021 ‘Plan B’ rules here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/proposal-for-mandatory-covid-certification-in-a-plan-b-scenario/proposal-for-mandatory-covid-certification-in-a-plan-b-scenario>
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There is also guidance available on our own local websites as detailed below:

Tameside Council - [\[Link Removed\]](#) - includes links to service change information, how to volunteer, support for businesses, council tax recovery, mental health support, wellbeing, how to contact the Council for support and more.

NHS Tameside & Glossop CCG - [\[Link Removed\]](#) link on homepage

Derbyshire Council - <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/social-health/health-and-wellbeing/health-protection/disease-control/coronavirus/coronavirus-covid-19.aspx>

Covid-19 opinion and behaviour insight:

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

- In October the economy was equal to the pandemic as the biggest worry for Britain (13%) and Brexit has surpassed it as the most important issue (28% vs 27%) – and in November the climate took the top spot (40% vs 27%)
- Nearly one in five reported they had not been able to buy essential food because it was not available (18%)
- Over a quarter of adults who had tried to buy medicine or get a prescription reported experiencing some differences compared with the usual (27%)
- Face coverings are still perceived to be an important way in slowing the spread of COVID-19 (84%) and a similar proportion support them being re-introduced in indoor settings if Covid-19-related hospitalisations became high in the coming months (79%); however, just one in five say they are currently wearing a face mask when out and about indoors (40%)

Grant Funding for VCSE organisations

For Glossop, Derbyshire County Council offer a range of grants to assist in the delivery of social, economic, health, environmental, and cultural services. (<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/community/lottery-funding/funding-and-grants.aspx>) High Peak Borough Council also offer grants to VCSE organisations, including through the Councillors' Initiative Fund for residents, local groups, and businesses which can be found here: <https://www.highpeak.gov.uk/article/576/Councillors-Initiative-Fund>. Whilst Foundation Derbyshire offers a wide variety of funding programmes available to community & voluntary groups working across Derbyshire, with information and guidance on available grants and how to apply available here: <https://foundationderbyshire.org/apply-for-a-grant/>.