



March 2020

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](#).

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Outbreak

You will no doubt be aware of the fast-developing situation relating to the Coronavirus pandemic and its effects on usual business in the UK. The following are some critical sources of information from the government which are updated regularly:

- [Covid-19 advice 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 [social distancing \(including for vulnerable people\)](#) and for [self-isolation](#)

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 and how to contact the Council

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

Things to be aware of this month include:

- **PEN Housing Strategy Event:** due to the current situation regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, we have unfortunately had to postpone the upcoming event that was scheduled to take place on 26 March. We will inform those who had already registered and the wider PEN Family regarding any rearrangements once circumstances permit it.
- **PEN Conference on 7 February:** Thank you all to those attended our most recent PEN Conference. We had representation from across the board, including the VCSF

sector and members of the public. We were really encouraged to see so many new members attending as well. You can now find the conference report by following the link [here](#) (PEN Conference February 2020).

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:

- [Public Services in Tameside](#) – Action Together have been asked by Tameside Council and NHS Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group to find out people's priorities for the places they live and the people they care about. We also want to know how people feel about public services.
- [Public Services in Glossop](#) – The Bureau have been asked by Tameside Council and NHS Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group to find out people's priorities for the places they live and the people they care about. We also want to know how people feel about public services.
- [Future of Health and Care in Hattersley](#) – NHS Tameside & Glossop CCG want to make sure that health and care services in Hattersley are fit for the future – which may mean reviewing our current building and location. They want your views on the future of health and care services in Hattersley. The closing date for this is **27 March 2020**.
- [Council Off-Street Parking Review](#) – Tameside Council off-street parking is an important service provided by the council. It is appropriate to review the offer to ensure it is fit for purpose; is fair and equitable for all; and meets the needs of a range of users and interested parties. Alongside this a review should ensure the approach to council off-street parking supports wider plans for Tameside in areas such as the economy and environment; and is both viable and sustainable for the long term. Tameside Council is currently undertaking a review of council off-street parking, in which there is a need to balance a number of factors including (but not limited to) the views of the public. Nothing has been decided yet. We want to hear your thoughts on the current council off-street parking provision; when, why and where you use council off-street parking; your views on the future of council off-street parking in Tameside; and how that fits with our priorities around the economy and the environment. The deadline for this is **27 March 2020**.
- [Hyde Town Centre Consultation](#) – Tameside recently submitted a competitive bid into the inaugural One Public Estate/ British Property Federation bidding round. The authority was one of 30 local authorities who submitted bids and Tameside were successful in winning the £100K funding. The bid was designed around a vision that Hyde can be a thriving town centre with increased footfall that is a focal point for its community, serving the existing large residential catchment area whilst also capitalising on the substantial new residential properties being built around the town centre and the new jobs this will create. The bid has already raised the profile

of Hyde and the grant funding will provide an opportunity to kick start work to achieve the Hyde vision.

We value your views, ideas and suggestions on your town and what's important to you. [Help shape Hyde for the 21st century - have your say](#)

The consultation will be open from the 2nd March until 29 March 2020. [Further information can be found here.](#)

- [Appointee and Deputyship Consultation](#) – Tameside Council is seeking views on proposals to revised the Policy regarding the Appointee and Deputyship Service. This consultation asks for views on the way the service is charged, how capital is kept and the overall policy. The closing date is **16 April 2020**.

Regional engagement and consultations

- [Understanding the impact of Covid-19 on food banks, clubs, pantries and other food providers](#) – The Coronavirus is having a huge impact across Greater Manchester and in particular Greater Manchester's Poverty Action Network. The public and private sectors, and community, voluntary, social enterprise and faith organisations are thinking about how they maintain and adapt services to response to emerging needs. GMPA is gathering intelligence from across the city-region to understand the impact of Coronavirus on service delivery and responses to poverty. This survey is for those in charge of food banks, clubs, pantries and other providers of hot meals. It includes specific questions about the impact of the virus on stock and volunteer and client numbers, and will take less than 10 minutes to complete. Deadline: **30 April 2020**
- [Understanding the impact of the Coronavirus on voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations \(VCSE\)](#) – The Coronavirus (also known as the COVID-19) is having a huge impact across Greater Manchester, and in particular Greater Manchester Poverty Action's (GMPA) network. The public and private sectors, and community, voluntary, social enterprise and faith organisations are thinking about how they maintain and adapt services to response to emerging needs. GMPA is gathering intelligence from across the city-region to understand the impact of Coronavirus on service delivery and responses to poverty. This survey is for voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations whose work supports people in ways other than through food provision (there is a separate survey for food banks and other food providers), and will take less than 10 minutes to complete. Deadline: **30 April 2020**

National engagement and consultations

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

- [First Homes](#) – First Homes are flats and houses built on developments up and down the country, no different from other properties except they will be sold with a discount of at least 30%. They will be prioritised for first-time buyers, serving members of the armed forces and key workers such as nurses, police and teachers. The MHCLG is seeking views on first homes for local people, considering both the design of this policy and options for its implementation, including: what first homes are and who should be eligible for them, how the scheme should work and how to deliver more of these homes through developer contributions. The closing date for this is **3 April 2020**.
- [Unregulated provision for children in care and care leavers](#) – The DfE is seeking views on a number of proposals aimed at addressing the number of children aged 16-17 placed in unregulated settings. The proposals include banning the use of this provision for under-16s and new legal powers for Ofsted to take action against illegal providers. They are seeking views from young people with experience of care, local authorities, children's social care workforce & providers. The deadline for this consultation is **8 April 2020**.
- [Review of the ban on the use of combustible materials in and on the external walls of buildings](#) – This consultation seeks the views on the ban on the use of combustible materials in and on external walls of buildings, including buildings types covered, height threshold, list of exemptions and a proposal to specifically ban the use of metal composite panels in and on the external walls of all buildings. The deadline is **13 April 2020**.