

Report to: Public Engagement Board

Date: 13/01/2021

Report of: COVID-19 Programme Team

CLT Lead: Eleanor Roaf, Director Public Health Trafford

Report Title: Data surveillance update paper to Public Engagement Board

Report Summary:

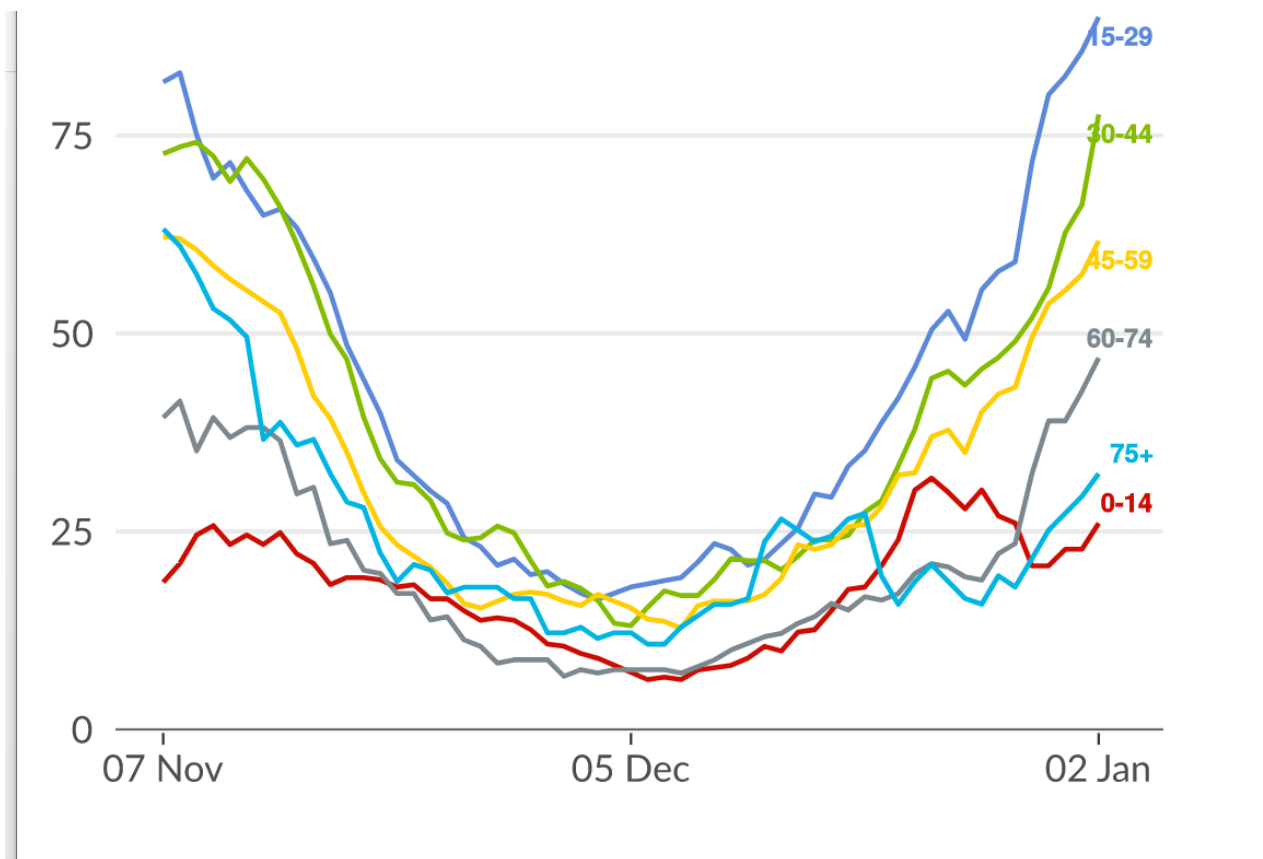
This paper provides an update on the current data position for COVID-19 within Trafford and provides comparative information with other GM localities. Data insights into any potential trends are provided based on best available public health information and intelligence available.

Overall position

In the week 27th December – 2nd January there were 952 confirmed cases of Covid 19 in Trafford, giving a weekly incidence of 401.1/100,000 population. There has been a sharp increase in cases since the end of the November lockdown, in line with the national trends and while Trafford's weekly incidence is still below the England average (579.8/100,000), we have recently had the highest infection rates in Greater Manchester. Every day we are now seeing over 100 more cases a day than in early December.

Our testing rates had fallen in December, they then increased over the Christmas holiday period, but have since gone back to the previous level. We have seen a sharp increase in Trafford's positivity rate since the turn of the New Year. Throughout the week leading up to December 31, 7-day positivity rates were between 7-8%, whereas they are now almost double that figure. Transmission continues to be widespread throughout the borough, and each of the four localities in Trafford, has a ward with a weekly incidence greater than 400/100,000. The majority of wards with the highest incidence rates are situated in the North and South localities.

We estimate that around 30% of our cases are the new variant; this variant is similar in symptoms and severity of illness, but is much more infectious than the other circulating Covid-19. The impact on our population and on our hospitals is therefore likely to be greater as more people will become ill as it is easier for people to be infected.



Rates by age group

As can be seen in the graph above, our rates in our 0-9 year olds have dropped since the school holidays started but we have seen a large increase in rates for the remaining age groups. We are seeing particularly high rates in the young adult population (20-29), as weekly rates exceed 700/100,000 in both males and females. Prior to the Christmas holiday period, rates were increasing in Trafford's primary and secondary school ages, however we have seen these start to decline, whilst rates in our adult population are rapidly increasing. We are seeing worryingly high increases in our older population, with rates exceeding 200/100,000 in residents 65 years and over. Rates in our older population groups were stable before Christmas, (indeed, we were seeing decreasing rates in people aged 75+) but the rates in this group are now climbing, with the timing of this indicating increased infection due to increased social mixing at Christmas.

Key messages

Our key messages are still to limiting social contacts, and preventing household mixing, and maintaining hand and respiratory hygiene at all times. We would strongly encourage people only to meet others outdoors, and to maintain social distancing. As the new strain is more infectious, it is even more important to follow these measures.

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1.0 Distribution of COVID-19 cases within Trafford

1.1 During the week 27 December 2020 – 02 January 2021, there were a total of **952** confirmed cases in Trafford, equivalent to a rate of **401.1** per 100,000 residents.

1.2 Below (figure 1) is the epidemic curve for Trafford, indicating the total number of confirmed cases and 7-day rolling average since March 2nd.

1.3 The rise in daily cases since the end of August is represented by the sharp rise in the 7-day rolling average; indicating that total cases per day consistently stayed high throughout the month of September, going into October.

1.4 Throughout the first two weeks of October, daily cases started to level out, however since week beginning October 19, Trafford experienced a sharp rise in daily cases, mostly greater than 150 confirmed cases per day. The October rise in cases was followed by a sharp drop throughout November, largely influenced by the national lockdown.

1.5 We have seen another sharp increase in cases throughout the month of December, with daily confirmed cases exceeding 100. There were an average of 136 cases each day in the week ending 2nd January.

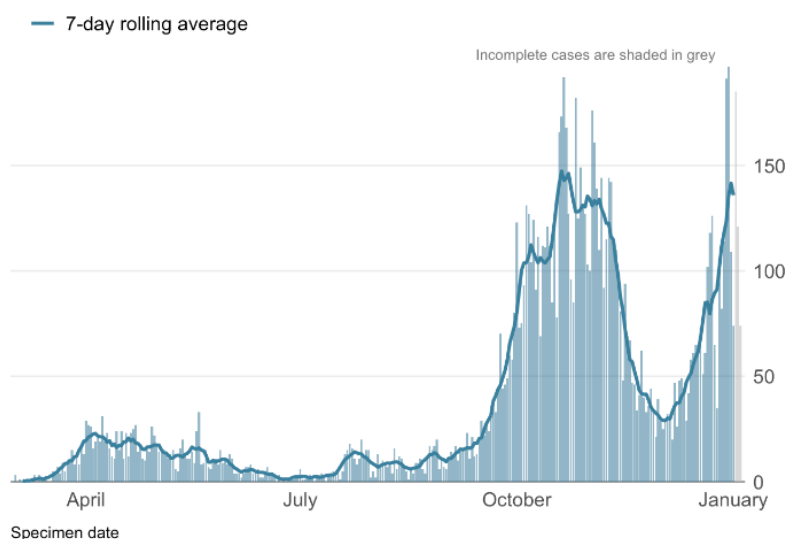


Figure 1. Epidemic curve of daily confirmed new cases

Trafford, 02 March to 04 January

1.6 Incidence rates have increased in the majority of Trafford’s age groups throughout December, as each age group has a weekly incidence greater than 100/100,000 population.

1.7 The working age group, but particularly the younger adult population (20-29), have seen the greatest increases in rates. As of week ending January 02, weekly rates exceed 700/100,000 in both males and females.

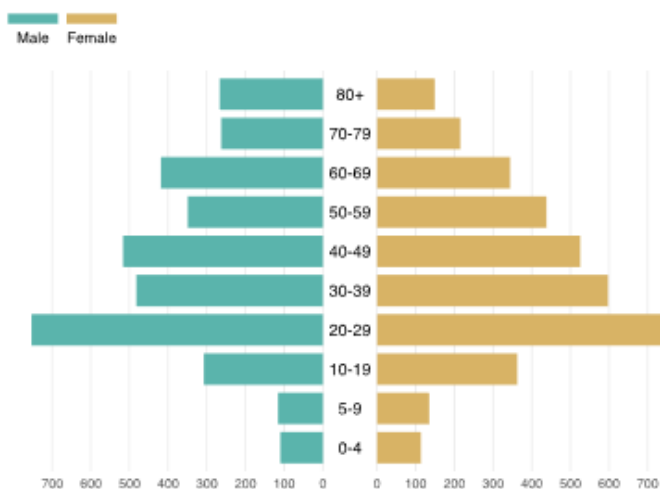


Figure 2. Incidence per 100,000 population by age and gender

Trafford, 27 December 2020 – 02 January 2021

1.8 Case increases within Trafford’s 65+ population have been steadier, however, have increased to a worrying level, as rates currently exceeding 200/100,000.

1.9 Trafford’s ‘White’ ethnic group, as of week ending January 02, contribute to the highest number of cases (**617**), followed by the ‘Asian / Asian British’ ethnic group (**150**).

1.10 The distribution of cases among the 5 ethnics groups has not altered as we’ve seen cases rise over the last month.

Table 1. Case count and incidence per 100,000 population by ethnicity

Trafford, 27 December 2020 – 02 January 2021

Source: PHE Daily COVID-19 Surveillance Reports

Cases in last 7 days		
Ethnic group	n	Per 100,000
Other	29	1318.2
Asian / Asian British	150	834.6

Black / Black British	27	412
Mixed	23	381.4
White	617	318.3

2.0 Geographical spread of COVID-19 in Trafford

2.1 Cases are widespread throughout the borough, with only one ward having a weekly incidence less than 200/100,000, and 8 wards exceeding 400/100,000.

2.2 We are seeing rates highest in wards situated in the North and South of the borough, following a similar pattern to where we have seen the highest number of cases located throughout the pandemic.

3.0 Testing in Trafford

3.1 Over a 14 day period, ending January 05, the majority (**94.5%**) of COVID tests were conducted in our pillar 2 sites, consisting of all out-of-hospital testing sites.

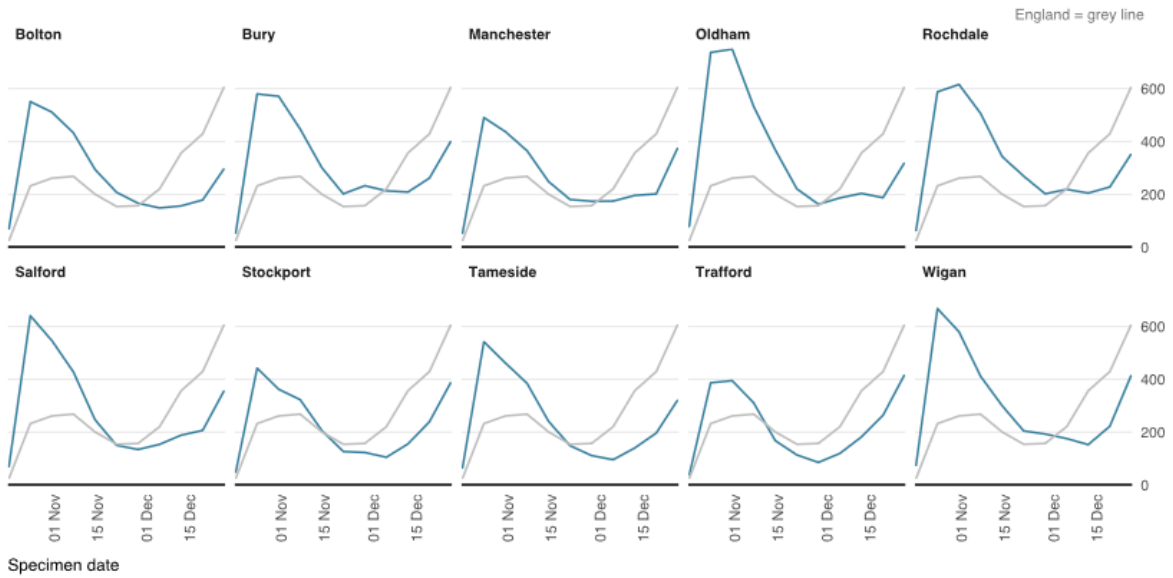
3.2 Total positivity rate (7-day) amongst both testing sites sits at **15.8%**. Overall positivity is below the England average (18.2%).

4.0 Comparative data of COVID-19 cases within the local authorities of Greater Manchester

4.1 As presented in figure 3, each of GMs boroughs have experienced a sharp rise in incidence rates throughout December.

4.2 Trafford has experienced a sharper rise in its incidence rate when compared to the other boroughs; partially due to the low rates that we were experiencing at the start of December, and with any substantially increases in community transmission likely to have a big impact on volatility.

4.3 As of week ending January 03, Trafford has the highest weekly incidence rate



throughout the whole of GM.

Figure 3. Weekly incidence per 100,000 population by local authority
Greater Manchester, 27 October 2020 to 03 January 2021