

Report to: Public Engagement Board

Date: 21/04/2021

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.

Overview of the current position

- There were 84 confirmed cases during the week of 08 April – April 14, with the highest number of cases (18 cases) on Thursday 08th April.
- Trafford's case rate has increased slightly to **35.4/100k** residents from **32/100k** in the previously reported week (April 01 – April 07).
- This is similar to England average of 27.9/100k. Both testing and positivity rates continue to fluctuate, with testing rates increasing and positivity rates decreasing during the reported week (08 April - April 14).
- Case rates remain below 50/100k for each of Trafford's age groups with the exception of 15-29 year age group. Case rate in this age group increased from 41.1/100k in the previous reported week to 76.7/100k in the current week. Very few people in this age group have been vaccinated yet, and they are also very likely to be affected by the reopening of hospitality (both as staff and customers)
- Rates remain low (below 15/100k) for residents aged 60+ with fewer than 10 cases in the reported week.
- Ward rates remain volatile due to small numbers, decreasing for 7 wards, increasing for 11 wards, and remaining unchanged for 3 wards. We have only one ward (Gorse Hill) with a rate greater than 100/100k, and 17 wards have rates below 50/100k.

- We continue to see new workplace outbreaks, although the size and frequency of the outbreaks are less than previous weeks. We would urge all businesses to increase their efforts to make their workplaces Covid secure and continue to encourage their staff to work from home, even as further lockdown restrictions are lifted over the coming weeks.
- We continue to see low case rates for the school age population (<30/100k) during the reported week. As children start to return back to school after the Easter holidays, it is possible that we may see an increase in cases due to increased testing linked to school attendance.
- Almost 50% of all Trafford residents (48%) have been given their first vaccine dose, with 16% being offered a second dose.
- All cohort groups 1-9 have been offered their first dose vaccination, with over 88% being administered their first dose vaccine. Rollout of the 2nd dose is progressing well within these priority groups, with over 30,000 2nd doses being administered.
- We are still seeing inequalities in vaccine uptake, although weekly improvements are being made to reduce these. However, we are seeing these gaps remain as the vaccine is rolled out to younger age groups within the priority groups 1-9 with lower uptake in some of our more deprived areas and in some minority ethnic groups.
- We need to ensure that more people are confident in the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine and vaccination sites are easily accessible (including to people who do not have private transport).
- The reopening of the retail and hospitality sector is very welcome but it comes with risks, so we urge everyone to continue to abide by the current restrictions, with the ongoing emphasis of being outdoors where possible and continuing to respect social distancing.

There has been little change in Trafford's case rate over the past 7-day period (April 08 – April 14). Case rates had increased to as high as 75.8/100k on March 28, but have since dropped to a rate of 35.4/100k. Despite the stable rates that we are currently experiencing, we would like to emphasise the need for residents to continue to limit their social contacts, maintain social distancing, and keep good hand and respiratory hygiene habits at all times. This is particularly important given the reopening of the retail and hospitality sector, with the concomitant risks from increased social mixing. It remains important that residents continue

to work from home wherever possible, not using the opening of schools as an opportunity to return to their place of work.

The vaccination programme is progressing well as almost 50% of Trafford residents have now been vaccinated. All cohort groups 1-9 have been offered their first dose vaccination, with over 88% being administered their first dose vaccine. We are still seeing inequalities in vaccine uptake. There is lower uptake in some of our more deprived areas and in some BAME groups. These population groups have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic, so addressing these inequalities are essential to limit further harm.

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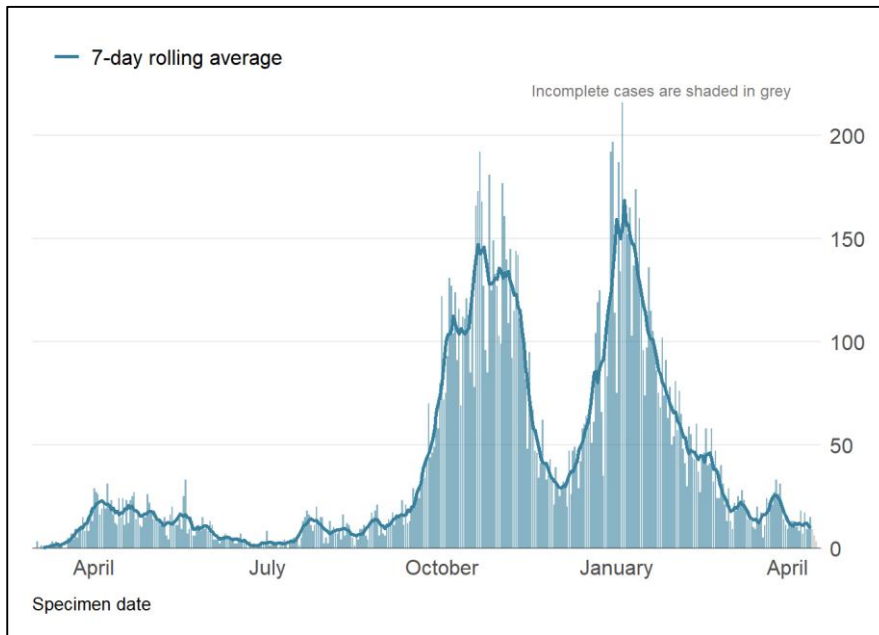
1.0 Distribution of COVID-19 cases within Trafford

1.1 Early December saw a gradual increase in cases, rising more sharply near the end of the month and going into early January.

1.2 Trafford's cases started to drop following the national lockdown. We then started to see case rates stall over a 14-day period in mid-late February.

1.3 A drop in the number of daily cases during early March was followed by a 10-day period (March 21st – March 31st) where daily cases increased, increasing our 7-day case rate to greater than 70/100k on March 31st.

1.4 We have since seen cases drop back down to previous levels, currently at a rate of 35.4/100k as of April 14th.



Source: PHE Covid-19 Situational Awareness explorer

Figure 1. Epidemic curve of daily confirmed new cases

Trafford, 02 March to 16 April 2021

1.5 As of week ending April 14th, each of Trafford's age groups has a rate below 100/100k, and only the 15-29 age group have a rate greater than 50/100k, currently at 83.0/100k.

1.6 The increase in the number of cases throughout the end of March coincided with an increase in positive cases for our school age population.

1.7 Case rates for our 10-14 age group increased to as high as 198.6/100k on March 31, but are currently at 24.1/100k.

1.8 Case rates remain low for our 60+ population, less than 20/100k, and recording less than 10 cases for the 7-day period up to April 14.

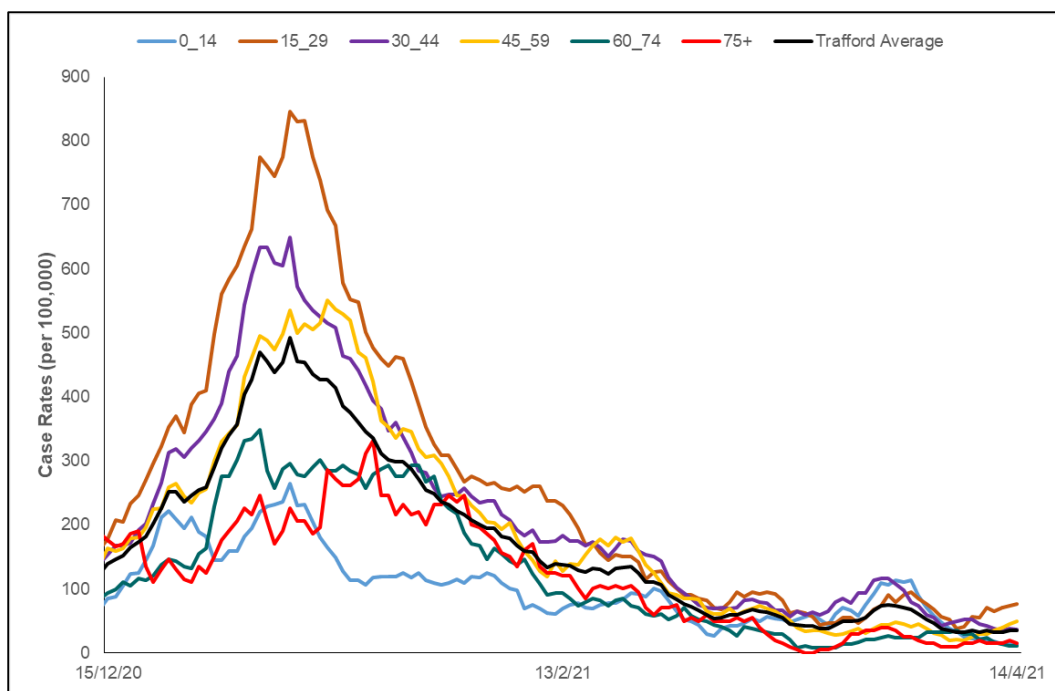


Figure 2. Age-specific case rates per 100,000

Trafford, 7-day moving average (December 15th 2020 – April 14th 2021)

1.9 Trafford's 'White' ethnic group, as of week ending April 14, contribute to the highest number of cases (**45**), followed by the 'Asian / Asian British' ethnic group (**15**).

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

Trafford, 08 April to 14 April 2021

Source: PHE Daily COVID-19 Surveillance Reports

Cases in last 7 days		
Ethnic group	n	Per 100,000
Other	<10	227.3
Asian / Asian British	15	83.5
Black / Black British	<10	30.6
White	45	23.2
Mixed	<10	16.6

2.0 Geographical spread of COVID-19 in Trafford

2.1 Ward rates remain volatile due to small numbers, however all but one ward (Gorse Hill) have a case rate below 100/100k, whilst the majority of wards (17/21) have a rate below 50/100k.

2.2 We are seeing ward rates lowest in the south of the borough, with each ward showing a rate less than 50/100k. Ward rates are currently highest in the north of the borough.

3.0 Testing in Trafford

3.1 Over a 7 day period, ending April 14, the majority (**79.8%**) of COVID tests were conducted in our pillar 2 sites, consisting of all out-of-hospital testing sites.

3.2 Figure 3 shows a sharp increase in the number of daily tests in early April, but has since reduced as of data up to April 14th.

3.3 As of April 13, Trafford's 7-day positivity rate sits at **2.0%**, above the England average (**1.2%**).

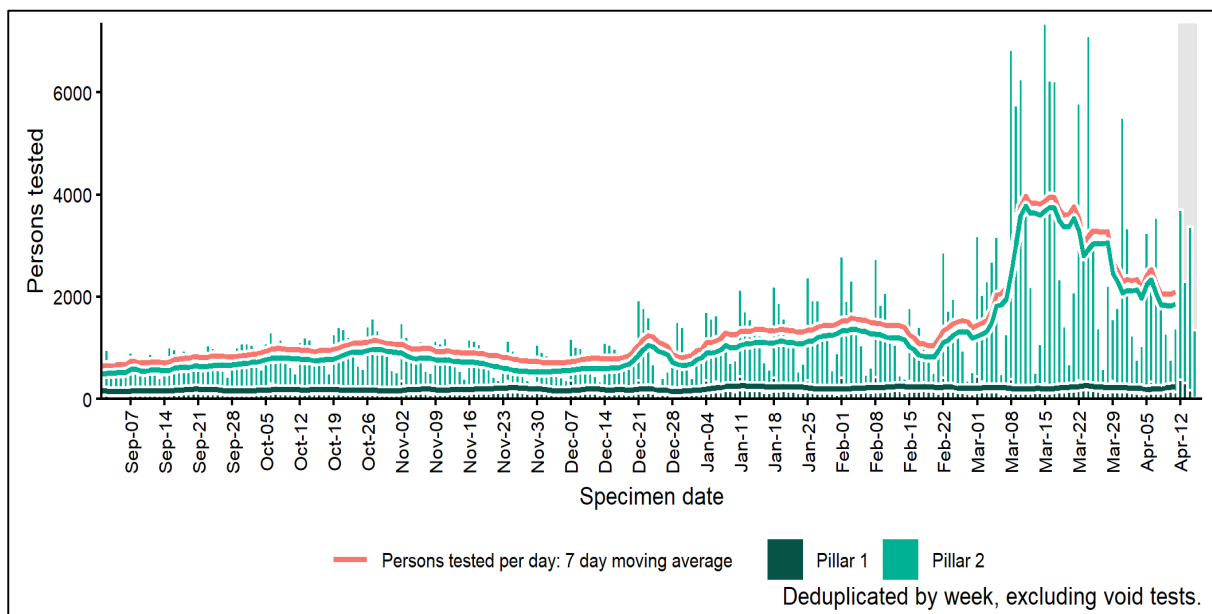


Figure 3. Number of individuals tested for COVID-19 (overall and by pillar) among residents of Trafford (September 01 2020 to April 14th 2021) 4 most recent days are provisional - indicated by a grey background.

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

4.1 As presented in figure 3, regional case rates dropped sharply in early February, continuing into March.

4.2 As of April 15, Trafford has the 3rd lowest case rate in GM, with 9/10 GM boroughs having rates below 50/100k.

4.3 The grey line in figure 3 indicates that the rate reduction is much slower for GM than it is for the England average. Although case rates for each of GMs boroughs are now similar to the England average.

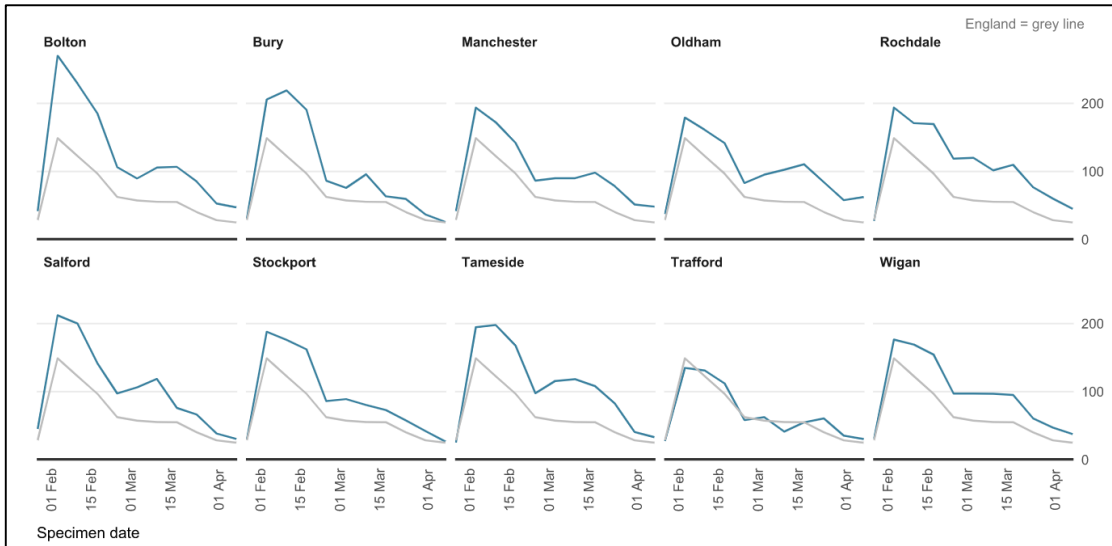


Figure 4. Weekly incidence per 100,000 population by local authority
Greater Manchester, 01 February to 15 April 2021