

Report to: Public Engagement Board

Date: 19/05/2021

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 70 confirmed cases during the week of 06 May– 12 May, with the highest number of cases (17 cases) on Sunday 09th May.
- Trafford's case rate has decreased to **29.5/100k** residents from **36.7/100k** in the previously reported week (April 29 – May 05). However, the more recent (incomplete) data from 13th is showing a rising number of cases.
- Case rates remain mostly stable for all GM boroughs apart from the borough of Bolton, who have seen a sharp increase in their rates over the past 4 weeks.
- We continue to see little change in Trafford's testing rate over the past 21 days, fluctuating between a 7-day testing rate of 250/100k & 300/100k. Trafford's positivity rate remains below 2%, but is still much higher than the England average (0.8%).
- We are seeing case rates below 50/100k for each of our age groups apart from 15-29 years age group. However, case rate in this age group for the current week (**60.2/100k**) is only slightly higher compared to the previous week (**49.3/100k**).
- Case rates are lowest for our residents aged 60 years and over, with fewer than 7 cases during the reported week (06 May – 12 May).
- Ward rates remain volatile due to small numbers, increasing for 7 wards, decreasing for 11 wards, and remaining unchanged for 2 wards.
- We continue to see new workplace outbreaks. 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.

- Over 51% of all Trafford residents have been given their first vaccine dose. The percentage of Trafford residents receiving both doses has risen above 30%.

There has been little change in Trafford's case rate over the past 5 weeks, remaining below a rate of 50/100k. With case rates rising sharply in Bolton over the past 4 weeks, and the impact there of the variant VOC Apr21-02, we are keeping a very close eye on our rates, and are carrying out enhanced contact tracing.

The vaccination programme is progressing well as over 50% of Trafford residents have now been vaccinated, and over 30% of residents have received both vaccination doses. All cohort groups 1-9 have been offered their first dose vaccination, with over 89% having received their first dose vaccine. This still leaves a substantial number of people unvaccinated and we are striving to reach at least 95% in this group. Despite steady improvements, we are still seeing inequalities in vaccine uptake, with lower uptake in some of our more deprived areas and in some minority groups. We have seen rates increase in the Asian/Asian British population in the North of the borough (with uptake now greater than in the White population); rates remain lower in our black/Black British population. We anticipate that inequalities in uptake will widen as the vaccine is rolled out to younger age groups and we are taking steps to reduce this risk.

The North of the borough remains our major area of concern both for endemic covid and for serious illness following Covid. We are working with local community groups to increase uptake of vaccination.

As more lockdown restrictions are eased this week, we would like to emphasise the need for residents to continue to limit their social contacts, maintain social distancing, work from home wherever possible, stay outdoors, and keep good hand and respiratory hygiene habits at all times. We would strongly encourage all residents to take up the offer of vaccination as soon as they are eligible, and to remember the importance of the second dose in protecting themselves and others. While covid is generally not as serious in younger people, long covid can have a very significant impact, and vaccination protects against this too.

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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.

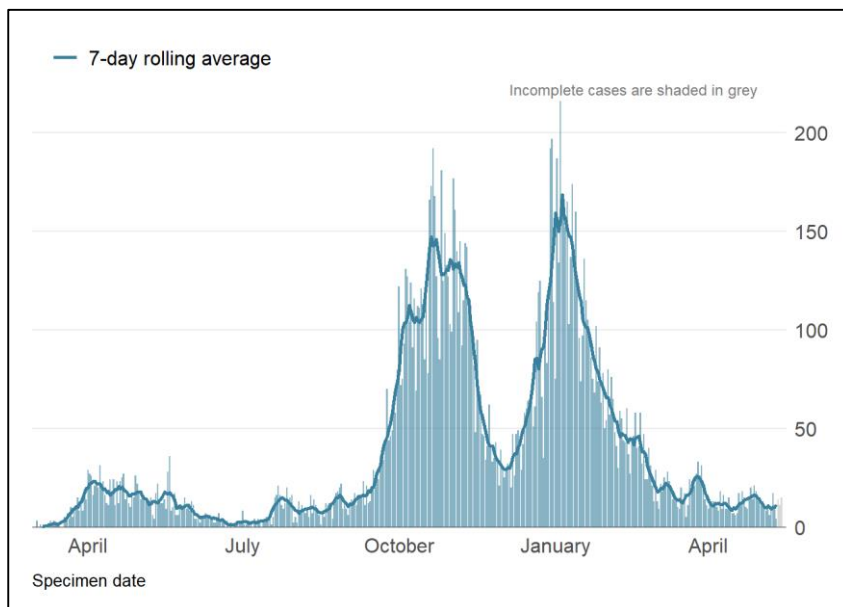
1.2 Trafford's cases started to drop following the national lockdown. We then started to see case rates stall over a 14-day period in mid-late February.

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 April saw a steady flow of cases, reporting, on average, between 15-20 cases per day.

1.5 We did see a slight rate increase during a 8-day period from April 25th, however we have since seen our case rates drop back down, currently at 29.5/100k as of the 7-days up to May 12th.

1.6 We may continue to see weekly volatility in our rates, especially rates by ward, as a result of the low case numbers that are currently being reported.



Source: PHE Covid-19 Situational Awareness explorer

Figure 1. Epidemic curve of daily confirmed new cases

Trafford, 02 March to 14 May 2021

1.7 We have seen case rates remain below a rate of 100/100k for each of our 15-year age groups over the past 6 weeks.

1.8 As of week ending May 12th, each of Trafford's age groups are showing a rate below 50/100k apart from our 15-29 group. Case rates for our 15-29 year olds have only shown a slight increase from the previous week (49.3/100k) to our current week (60.2/100k).

1.9 Case rates have remained lowest for our 75+ population, maintaining below a rate of 50/100k since early March. Rates are also low for our 60+ residents, again, maintaining below a rate of 50/100k since early March.

1.10 We have reported less than 7 cases among residents 60+ during the reported week (06 May – 12 May).

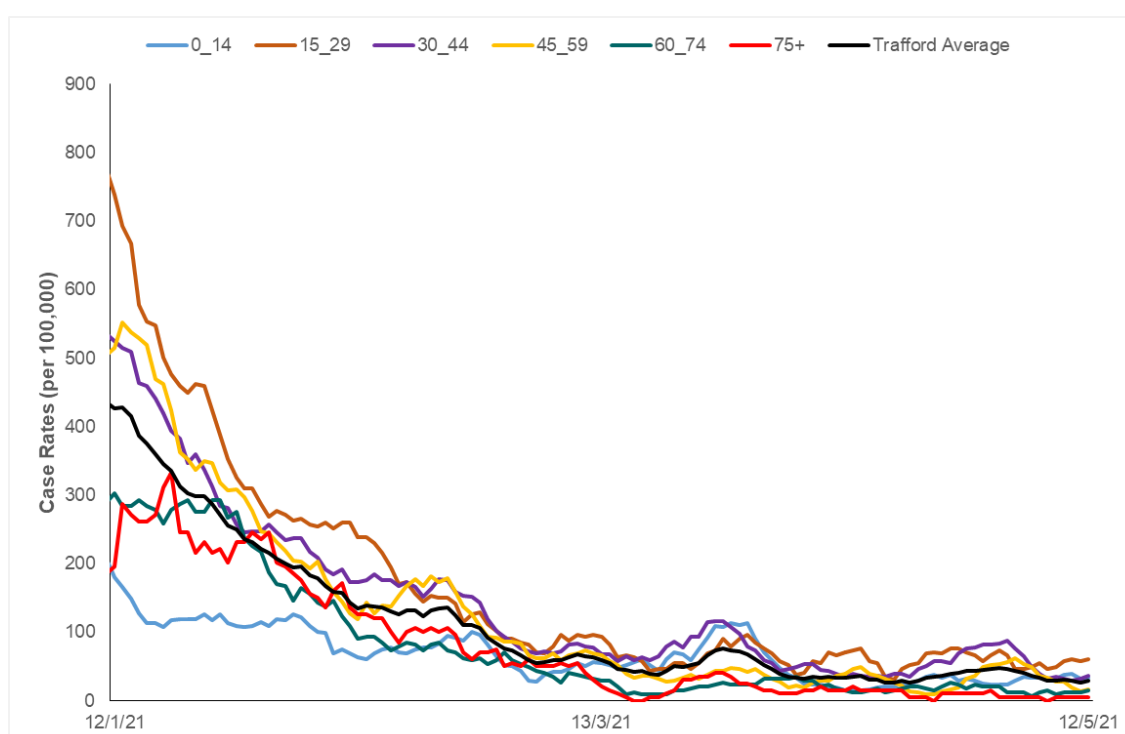


Figure 2. Age-specific case rates per 100,000 (January 12th – May 12th 2021)

1.11 Case rates among Trafford's school age population have remained mostly stable over the past 4 weeks, although we are seeing slightly higher rates for 10-19 year olds.

1.12 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, 06 May to 12 May 2021

Source: PHE Daily COVID-19 Surveillance Reports

Cases in last 7 days		
Ethnic group	n	Per 100,000

Other	<10	181.8
Asian / Asian British	<10	50.1
Mixed	<10	33.2
White	50	25.8
Mixed	<10	15.3

2.0 Geographical spread of COVID-19 in Trafford

2.1 Ward rates remain volatile due to small numbers, increasing for 7 wards, decreasing for 11 wards, and remaining unchanged for 2 wards during the reported week (06 May – 12 May).

2.2 Each of Trafford's wards have a rate below 100/100k. We have seen rates dropped most for wards in the south of the borough, but have remained mostly unchanged for wards in our north, west, and south localities during the reported week (06/05 – 12/05).

3.0 Testing in Trafford

3.1 Over a 7 day period, ending May 15, the majority (**97.1%**) of COVID tests were conducted in our pillar 2 sites, consisting of all out-of-hospital testing sites. Less than 5 cases were reported from pillar 1 sites.

3.2 As of May 15, Trafford's 7-day positivity rate sits at **1.7%**, above the England average (**0.8%**).

3.3 Figure 3 shows mostly stable testing rates over the past 3 weeks; although most recent data indicates a slight reduction in the number of daily tests being conducted. We are seeing more volatility in our testing rates when compared to periods prior to March 2021 due to increased availability of testing from community and educational settings.

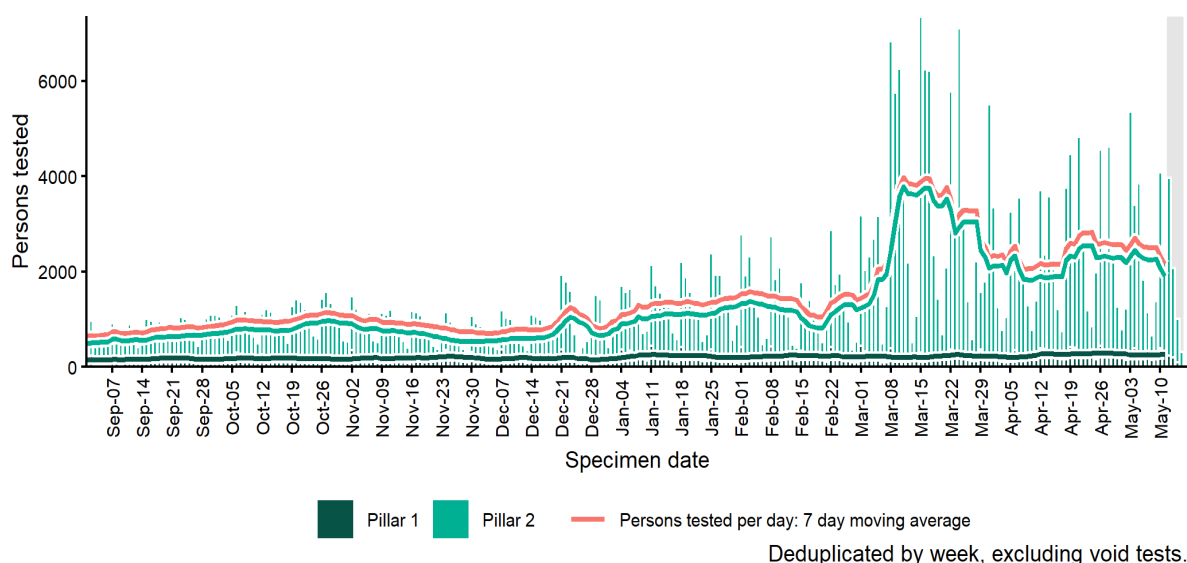


Figure 3. Number of individuals tested for COVID-19 (overall and by pillar) among residents of Trafford (September 01 2020 to May 15th 2021) 4 most recent days are provisional - indicated by a grey background.

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 Due to the low number of positive cases that were being reported throughout April, we started to see volatility in borough rates.

4.3 As of May 12th, Trafford's 7-day case rate (29.5/100k) is similar when compared to all other boroughs apart from the borough of Bolton. Bolton has experienced a sharp growth in its case rate since mid-April, currently greater than 250/100k.

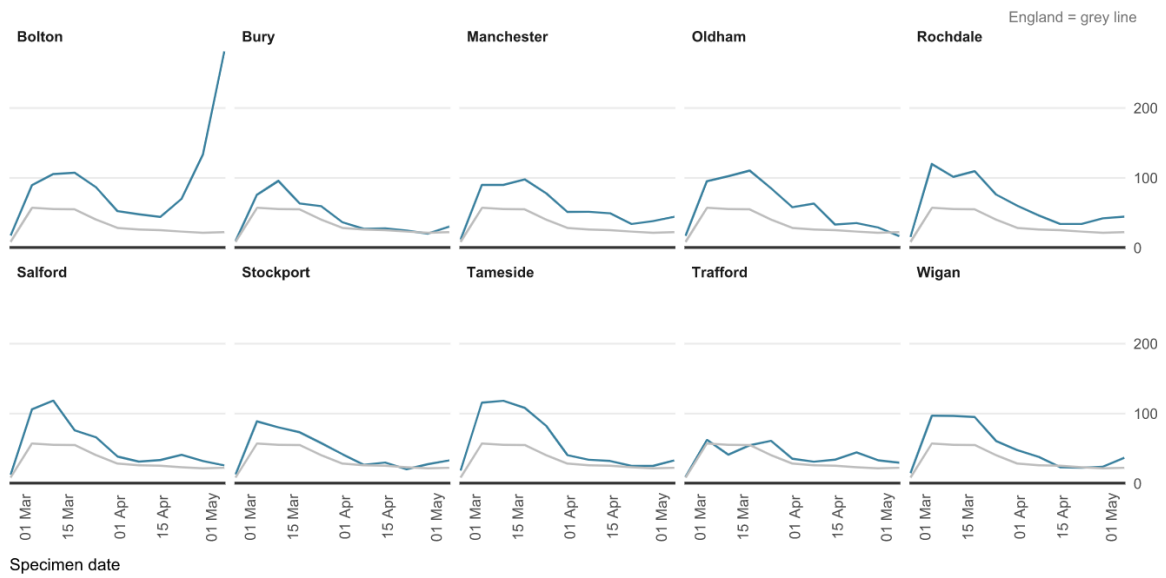


Figure 4. Weekly incidence per 100,000 population by local authority
Greater Manchester, 06 March to 13 May 2021