

Report to: Public Engagement Board

Date: 30/06/2021

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 **668** confirmed cases during the week of 17 June – 23 June, with the highest number of cases (116) on Friday 21st June.
- Following on from last week's increase in cases, we have seen a further rise in positive cases, as Trafford's case 7-day case rate is at **281.4/100k** (previously **235.5/100k** for the 7 days up to June 16th).
- Apart from Bury where rates are down slightly (-0.3%), rates are continuing to rise in each of the GM boroughs (as well as the majority of boroughs in the North West). Trafford currently has the 5th highest rate out of the 10 GM boroughs, our rates are 18th worst in England.
- We are starting to see a steady increase in the number of people going for testing, although Trafford's 7-day testing rate is now above **500/100k**. We continue to see an increase in Trafford's positivity rate, rising to above **8%**.
- Case rates remain highest in Trafford's 15-29 age group, increasing to a current rate of **657.1/100k** from **624.3/100k** in the previous week. Rates are increasing most for 17-24 year olds and increasing for young people aged 11-16 years. Rates for the 11-16 year olds are up from **303/100k** in the previous week to **517/100k** in the reported week.
- For the rest of the adult population (25-59 year olds), cases are also increasing at the same rate and remain at or below the Trafford average.
- Case rates remain lowest for residents 60 years and over (**40.8/100k**).
- Rates have increased in all but 7 wards compared with the previous week. All wards, with the exception of Ashton upon Mersey, have rates over **200/100k**.
- Over 78% of all Trafford residents aged 18 years and above have received their first vaccine dose. The percentage of Trafford residents 18 years and above receiving both doses has risen above 57%.

Along with the rest of Greater Manchester, we have seen a sharp increase in Trafford's case rate since the beginning of June. The dominant strain of Covid now circulating in Trafford is the Delta variant, which is more infectious than the previous strain. Our 7-day case rate is 281.4/100k as of June 23rd.

The vaccination programme is progressing well as over 78% of Trafford residents aged 18 years and over have now been vaccinated, and over 57% of residents aged 18 years and over have received both vaccination doses. All cohort groups 1-9 have been offered their first dose vaccination, and over 90% have 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 of vaccination 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.

From a Public Health perspective, the recently announced delay is welcomed as even though the vaccination gives good protection, we still have large numbers of people who are still not vaccinated and so are at significant risk from Covid and long Covid. This delay will allow the vaccination programme to make even more impact on transmission and illness.

The increase in prevalence amongst our younger population is resulting in outbreaks in schools, early years, hospitality and leisure venues. The Outbreak Management and Contact Tracing Hub is working hard to ensure that transmission is minimised. The team is also working closely with business including those sited at the Trafford Centre.

I 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. For contacts, it is incredibly important to isolate for the full 10 days, we are hearing of families who are allowing their children to play together when isolating, the risk of this is children incubating the infection at different times therefore introducing further spread into the community.

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-19 is generally not as serious in younger people, long Covid can have a very significant impact, and vaccination protects against this too.

Contact Officer:

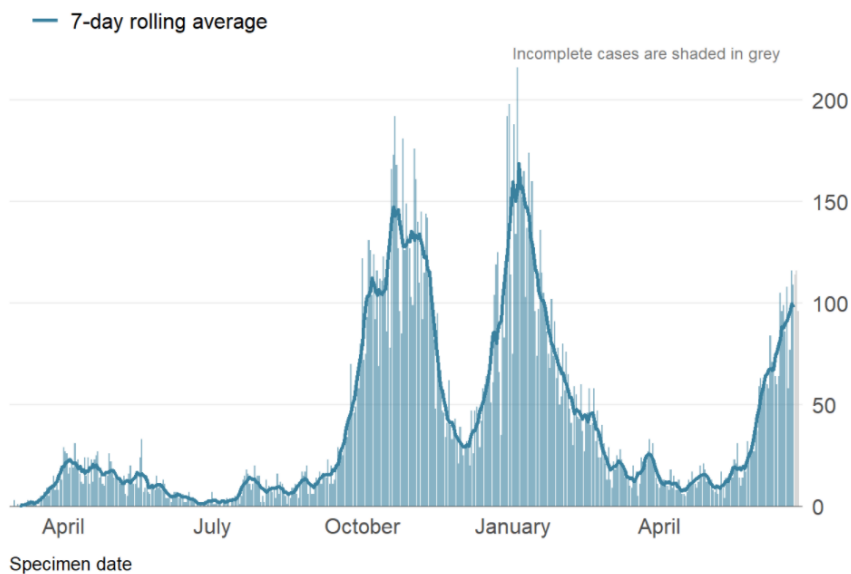
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1.0 Distribution of COVID-19 cases within Trafford

- 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 started to see volatility in our weekly rates in late April, going into May,, rates remained below a rate of 60/100k. Currently rates are 281.4k/100k.
- 1.6. We have seen a sharp increase in positive cases for Trafford residents since June 1st – we are now averaging over 95 cases per day.

Figure 1. Epidemic curve of daily confirmed new cases, Trafford, 02 March to 25 June 2021

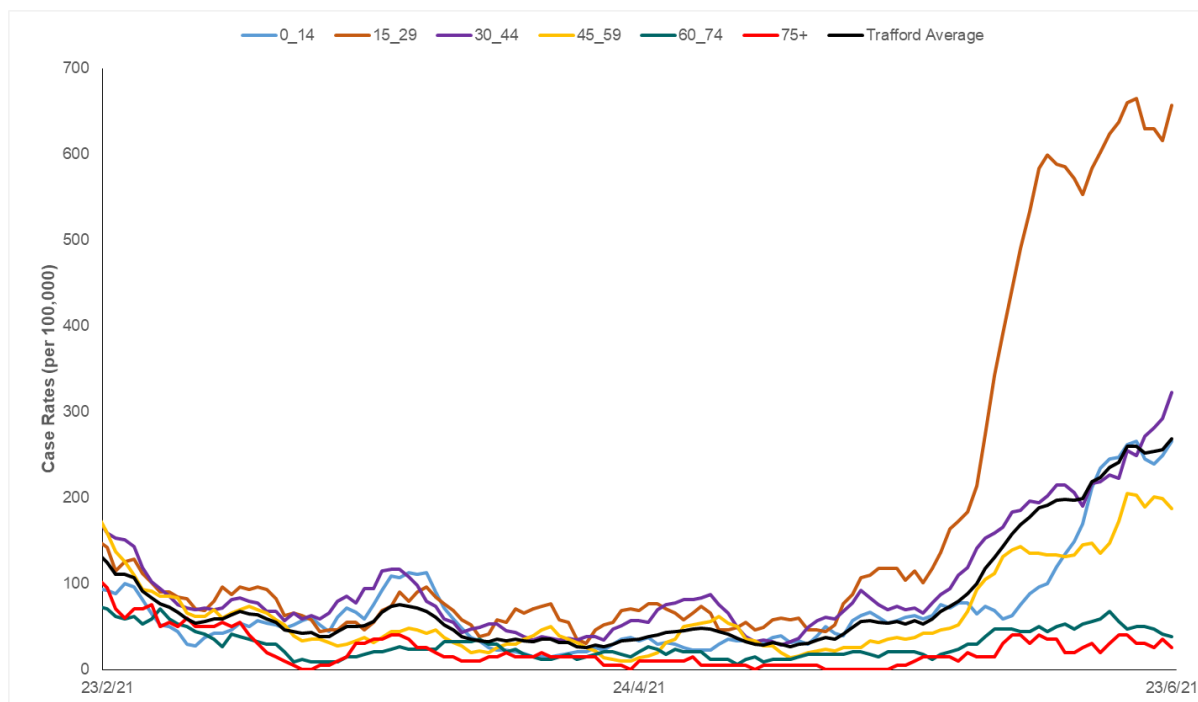


Source: PHE Covid-19 Situational Awareness explorer

- 1.7. Case rates have increased for each of our age groups over the past two weeks. Rates have risen most for Trafford's 15-29 age group, currently at 657.1/100k. We have also seen rates increase for residents aged 30-44 years (322.9/100k).
- 1.8. Among Trafford's 15-29 age group, rates are highest (and are continuing to rise) for residents aged 17-24 years.
- 1.9. Although rates have increased slightly for residents aged 60 years and above (40.8/100k), rates are more stable than the rest of the Trafford population, and are well below the Trafford average.

1.10. The most recent days are showing an increase in the number of positive cases for the school-age population, particularly young people aged 11-16 years. We have also started to experience more school outbreaks as pupils have started to return from the holiday period.

Figure 2. Age-specific case rates per 100,000 (February 9th – June 23rd 2021)



1.12. Trafford's 'White' ethnic group, as of week ending June 23, contribute to the highest number of cases (**308**), followed by the 'Asian / Asian British' ethnic group (**48**).

Table 1. Case count and incidence per 100,000 population by ethnicity Trafford, 17 June to 23 June 2021 (Source: PHE Daily COVID-19 Surveillance Reports)

| Cases in last 7 days | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-------------|
| Ethnic group | N | Per 100,000 |
| Other | 24 | 1,090.9 |
| Asian / Asian British | 44 | 244.8 |
| Mixed | 23 | 381.4 |
| Black / Black British | 30 | 458.7 |
| White | 465 | 239.9 |

2.0 Geographical spread of COVID-19 in Trafford

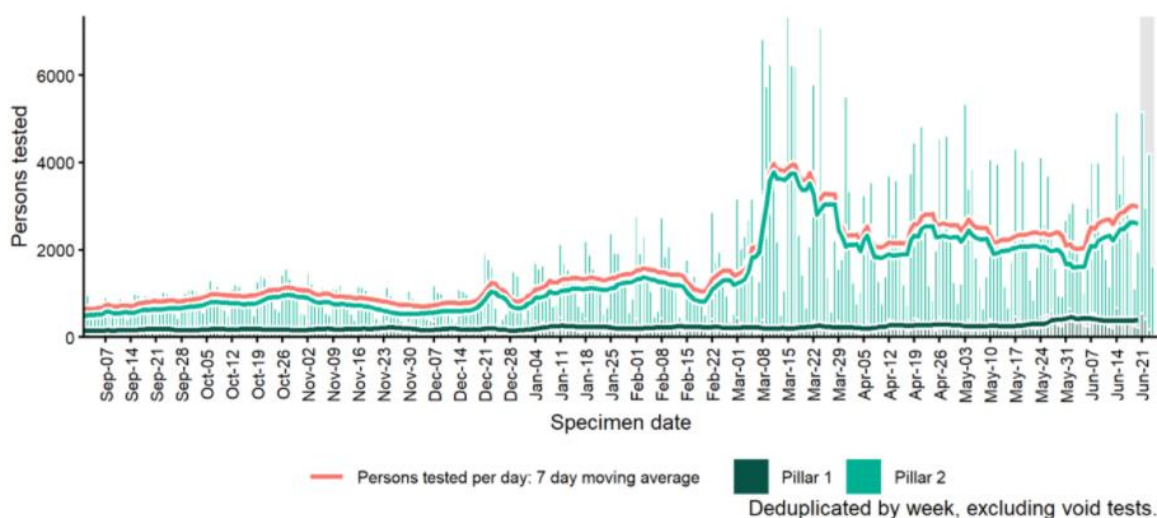
2.1. Rates have increased in all but 7 wards compared with the previous week. All wards, with the exception of Ashton upon Mersey, have rates over **200/100k**.

- 2.2. Rates have increased in all but 4 wards compared with the previous week. There are 8 wards with a case rate greater than 200/100k.
- 2.3. Case rates are highest in St Mary's **526.9/100k** (central of the borough) and in Davyhulme West with rate of **400/100k**. Localities with case rates over **300/100k** are: Clifford, Bucklow-St. Martins, Bowden, Sale Moor and the Village.

3.0 Testing in Trafford

- 3.1. Over a 7 day period, ending June 23, the majority (**96.6%**) of COVID tests were conducted in our pillar 2 sites, consisting of all out-of-hospital testing sites. 23 cases were reported from pillar 1 sites.
- 3.2. As of June 22nd, Trafford's 7-day positivity rate sits at **8.1%**, above the England average (**3.4%**).
- 3.3. Figure 3 shows that Trafford's testing rate has been increased over the past two weeks, (following a brief reduction in testing in late May). Trafford's 7-day testing rate is above 500/100k.

Figure 3: Number of individuals tested for COVID-19 (overall and by pillar) among residents of Trafford (September 01 2020 to June 21st 2021) 4 most recent days are provisional - indicated by a grey background.

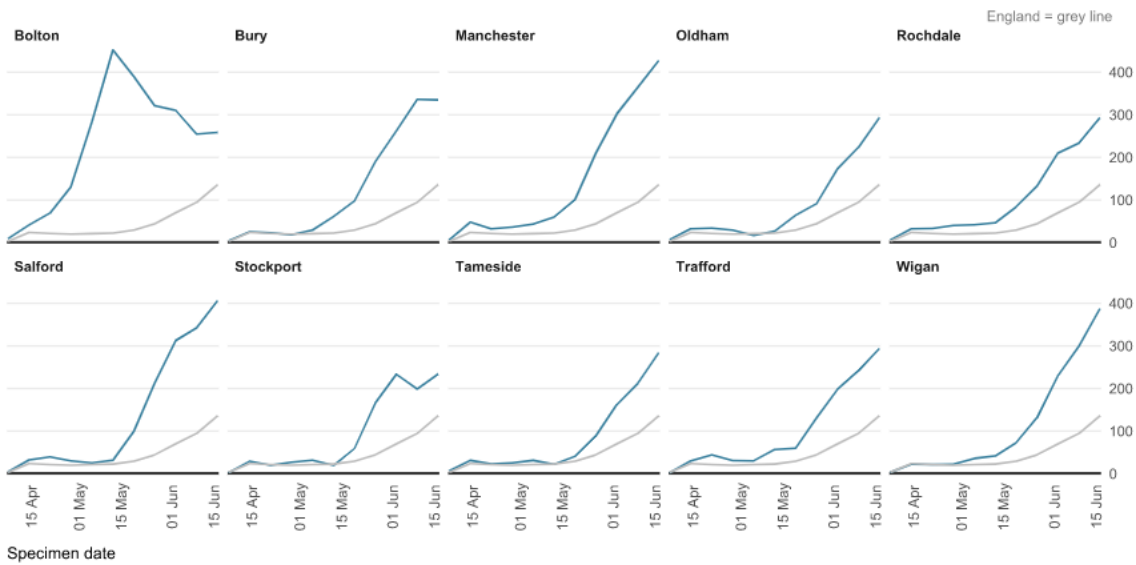


4.0. Comparative data of COVID-19 cases within the local authorities of Greater Manchester

- 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. However we did see a sharp increase in only Bolton's case rate in mid-April, with their rates increasing above 400/100k into May.

4.3. Figure 4 shows a continued rate increase for each of the Greater Manchester boroughs (apart from Bolton who had experienced a steady reduction and Bury who experienced a slight decrease in the last 7 days). As of June 24th, each borough has a rate above 230/100k, which is well above the England average (114.9/100k).

Figure 4. Weekly incidence per 100,000 population by local authority, Greater Manchester, 03 April to 24 June 2021



Source: PHE Coronavirus Dashboard