

Public Engagement Board

COVID-19 Programme Team

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25 August 2021

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 **797** confirmed cases during the week ending Wednesday 18 August. The highest number of daily cases during the past week were reported on **Monday 16 August** with **175** cases.
- Our 7-day case rate decreased slightly to **335.8/100k** from **340/100k** in the previous week. Our rate had been increasing so this plateauing, while at a high level, is encouraging.
- We have seen an increase in Trafford's testing rate over the past week, increasing to **529.7/100k** from **493.1/100k** in the previous week. We are seeing similar testing rates to the North West average (**495/100k**) but lower rates than the England average (**533.4/100k**). Trafford's positivity rate has dropped slightly from the previous week (from **10.2%** to **9.6%**) but remains above the North West (**8.9%**) and England average (**8.6%**).
- There has been little change in rates by age group during the most recent week, increasing most for young persons aged 0-14 (to **245.3/100k** from **171.9/100k**) but decreasing most for residents aged 15-29 (to **640.7/100k** from **758.4/100k**). Overall, we are seeing less variation in rate by age than previously.
- Rates for Trafford's 60+ residents remain high, increasing to **190.8/100k** from **174.2/100k** in previous week. This is the age group where we have most concern about serious illness. More recent data show that the number of residents 75+ testing positive is dropping but will remain high for residents aged 60-74.
- Case rates remain high across the borough but are highest for wards in the north and west localities. Case rates have increased for 8 wards, dropped for 9 wards, and remain unchanged in 2 wards.
- Ward rates are highest and have increased most in Davyhulme East (**572.4/100k**) and Flixton (**493.4/100k**) during the most recent week. We are also

seeing ward rates over **400/100k** in Longford (**440.1/100k**), Urmston (**414/100k**), and Stretford (**404.7/100k**).

- Trafford's case rate is above the North West (**304.4/100k**) and England (**320.5/100k**) average. Case rates across most of the GM boroughs have started to stabilise over the past week - Trafford has the 3rd highest case rate across the 10 boroughs.
- Our vaccination roll out is continuing, with everyone aged 16 and over now eligible for vaccination. We are seeing lower uptake in our under 40s, and have a particular concern regarding low uptake in pregnant women. Covid in pregnancy can be very dangerous for the woman and her unborn child, and we would urge all pregnant women (as well as all people contemplating parenthood) to get vaccinated as soon as possible to protect themselves and their baby.
- There were **204** COVID-19 admissions during the week ending Sunday 15 August. There were **226** COVID-19 admissions during the previous week (Including Manchester University Foundation Trust, Salford Royal Foundation Trust, Stockport Foundation Trust, and Warrington & Halton Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust).

Along with the rest of Greater Manchester, Trafford was seeing a rise in its case rate throughout May and June, peaking in early July. We then started to see a sharp rate reduction across the region, also similar to the England average. Trafford's case rate started to stabilise (between **270-300/100k**) in early August, then increasing slightly (reaching **350/100k**), but has now started to plateau. The majority of Trafford's cases are now made up of the delta variant.

The percentage of Trafford residents (aged 18 and over) given at least 1 vaccine dose remains high, at **83%**. However, uptake has slowed down since July 1st, increasing by only **2.8%**. The percentage of residents receiving both doses is progressing well, greater than **75%**, which is an increase of **15.4%** since July 1st. Initially, we were seeing a sharp rise in vaccine uptake for our young adult population (below 40 years) but this has now started to slow down. The percentage of residents administered at least 1 vaccine dose is at **72.5%** (increasing by **4%** since July 1st) for 30-39 year olds, and **66.2%** (increasing by **11.1%** since July 1st) for 18-29 year olds. All cohort groups 1-9 have been offered their first dose vaccination, 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. While the overall percentage uptake of vaccination is lower in our Black/Black British populations, overall, the largest numbers of people still to be vaccinated are in our White ethnic groups. 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. As 16-17 year olds are now eligible for the vaccine, work is under way to increase vaccine availability for these residents. It is also important that we continue to increase uptake among young adults 18-39 (where we are currently seeing uptake well below **80%**).

As all lockdown restrictions have now been eased, we would like to emphasise the need for residents to continue to 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.

Self isolation of fully vaccinated close contacts of cases is no longer required, but we would urge anyone who in this situation to remain extremely cautious and limit their activities as much as possible. There is evidence that people can still be infectious, even if fully vaccinated so please do ensure that you do not expose others to unnecessary risk.

We anticipate that cases may rise in September as children return to school and more routine asymptomatic testing is undertaken.

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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, however rates remained below a rate of 60/100k.

1.6 We started to see a sharp rise in positive cases from late May, continuing into July as more than 180 daily cases were being recorded for every 7-day period.

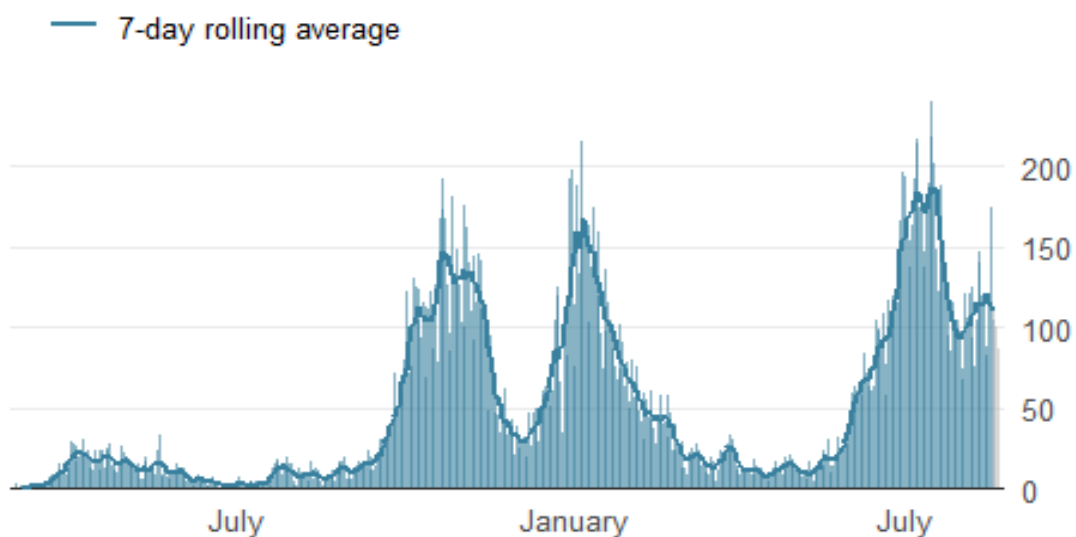
1.7 Mid-July saw a sharp reduction in Trafford's case rate, dropping below 300/100k, whilst less than 100 daily cases were being recorded for every 7-day period.

1.8 Following the sharp rate reduction in July, we started to see a slight increase in positive cases moving into August.

1.9 Trafford's case rate may now be stabilising as we have seen little change over the past 10 days.

Figure 1. Epidemic curve of daily confirmed new cases

Trafford, 02 March to 20 August 2021



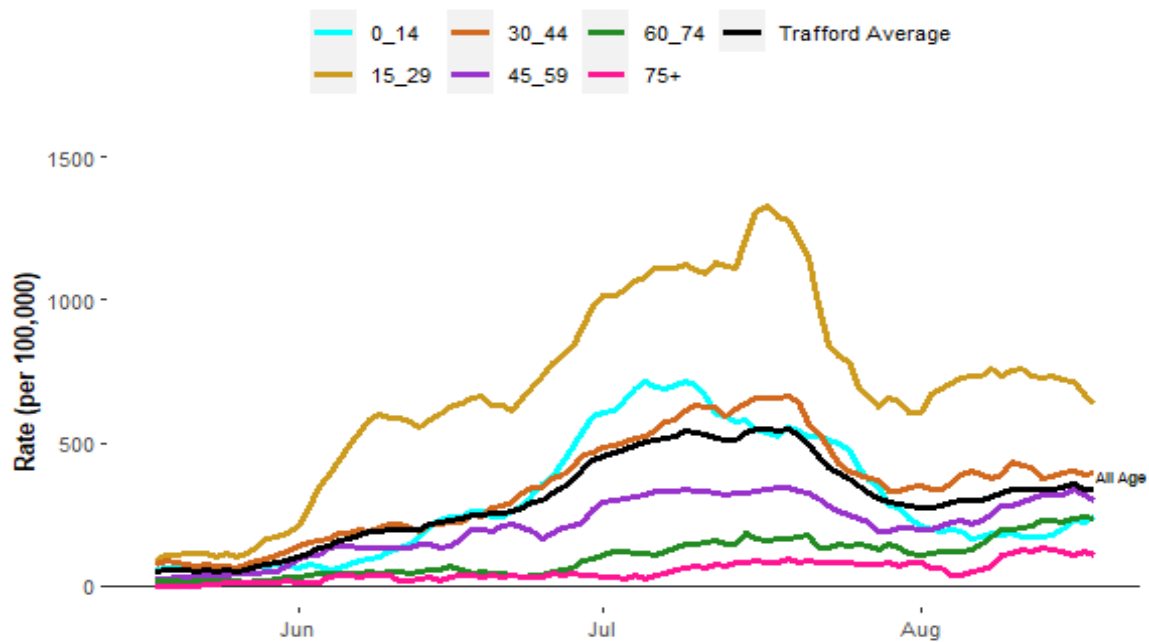
1.10 Case rates have increased for 3 of Trafford's age groups (0-14, 45-59, & 60-74 year olds) during the most recent week, increasing most for 0-14 year olds (from **171.9/100k** to **245.3/100k**).

1.11 We have seen a slight rate increase for young persons aged 5-10 during the most recent week. We are seeing high positivity rates for this age group, however it is most likely that this age group is only testing when symptomatic.

1.12 Rates remain highest for residents aged 15-29 but have dropped to a rate of **640.7/100k** from **758.4/100k** during the most recent week. We continue to see higher rates among 19-24 years olds (**greater than 900/100k**) within this age group.

1.13 Rates for Trafford’s 60+ residents remains high, increasing to **190.8/100k** from **174.2/100k** in previous week. More recent data shows that the number of residents 75+ testing positive is dropping but will continue for residents aged 60-74. This is the age group where we have most concern about serious illness.

Figure 2. Age-Specific case rate per 100,000 residents (7-day moving)
Trafford, 20 May to 18 August 2021



1.14 Trafford’s ‘White’ ethnic group, as of week ending August 18, contribute to the highest number of cases (**566**), followed by the ‘Asian / Asian British’ ethnic group (**57**).

Table 1. Case count and incidence per 100,000 population by ethnicity
Trafford, 11 August to 18 August 2021

Ethnic Group	n	Rate
Other	12	545.5
Black / Black British	35	535.2
Mixed	26	431.1
Asian / Asian British	57	317.1
White	566	292.0

2.0 Geographical spread of COVID-19 in Trafford

2.1 Rates have decreased for 9 wards, increased for 8 wards, and remained unchanged for 2 wards during the most recent week. We continue to see cases spread across the borough, however rates are lowest for wards in the south and central localities.

2.2 Case rates are highest for wards in Trafford's north and west localities, as Davyhulme East (**572.4/100k**), Flixton (**493.4/100k**), Longford (**440.1/100k**), Urmston (**414/100k**), and Stretford (**404.7/100k**) all have case rates above **400/100k**.

2.3 During the most recent week case rates have increased most for the wards of Flixton (**51.4%**) and Davyhulme East (**+47.4%**).

3.0 Testing in Trafford

3.1 Over a 7 day period, ending August 18, the majority (**93%**) of COVID tests were conducted in our pillar 2 sites, consisting of all out-of-hospital testing sites. 56 cases were reported from pillar 1 sites.

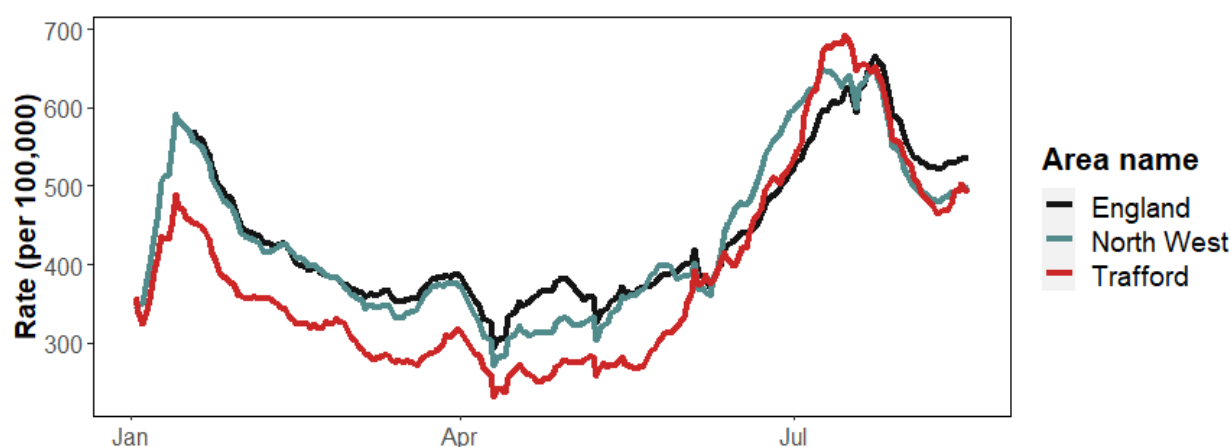
3.2 Figure 3 shows that, following a peak testing rate of **690/100k** in mid-July, we saw a sharp reduction in the number of residents getting tested, continuing to drop into August.

3.3 We started to see testing rates stabilise during the second week of August, but the most recent data shows that testing rates have started to increase.

3.4 As of August 17, Trafford's 7-day positivity rate sits at **9.6%** (dropping from **10.2%** in the previous week). Trafford positivity rate is above the North West (**8.9%**) and England (**8.6%**) average.

Figure 3. Daily testing rate (7-day average): England, North West, & Trafford

Trafford, 02 January to 19 August 2021



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

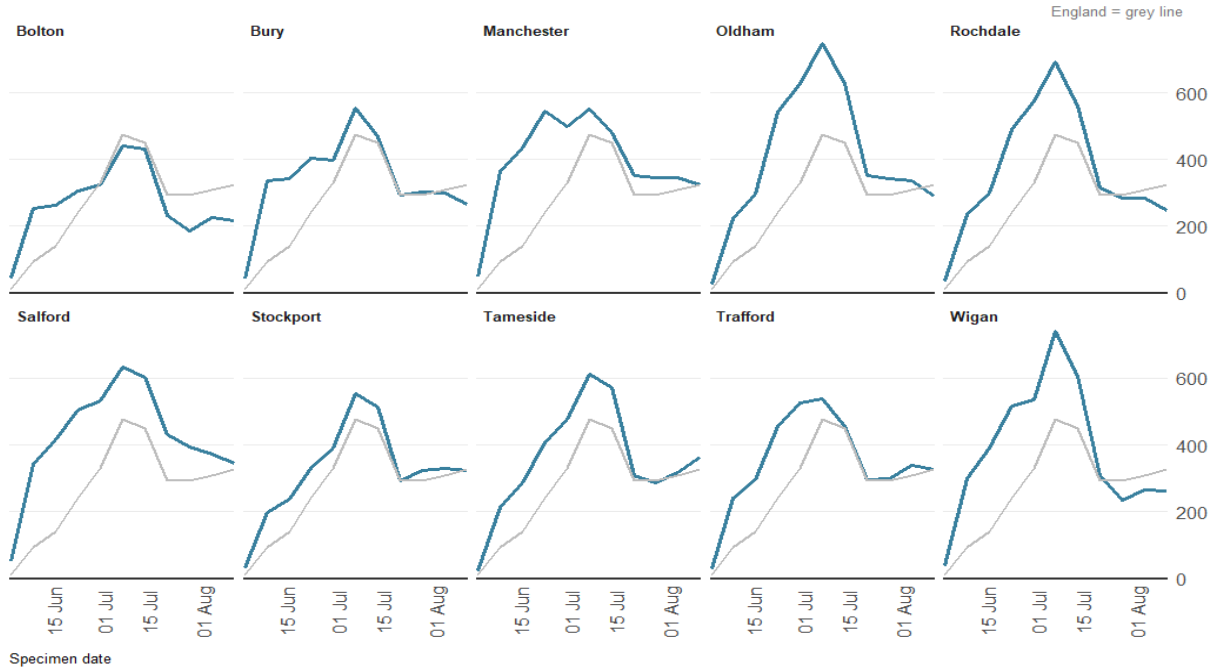
4.1 As presented in figure 3, regional case rates started to rise throughout May and June.

4.2 For each of the 10 GM boroughs, case rates peaked in early July, reaching as high as **700/100k** in some boroughs.

4.3 Case rates across the region started to drop throughout late July and stabilising in early August. Some boroughs (Trafford included) started to see a slight rate increase during the second week of August, however those rates are starting to stabilise again.

Figure 4. Weekly incidence per 100,000 population by local authority

Greater Manchester, 12 June to 19 August 2021

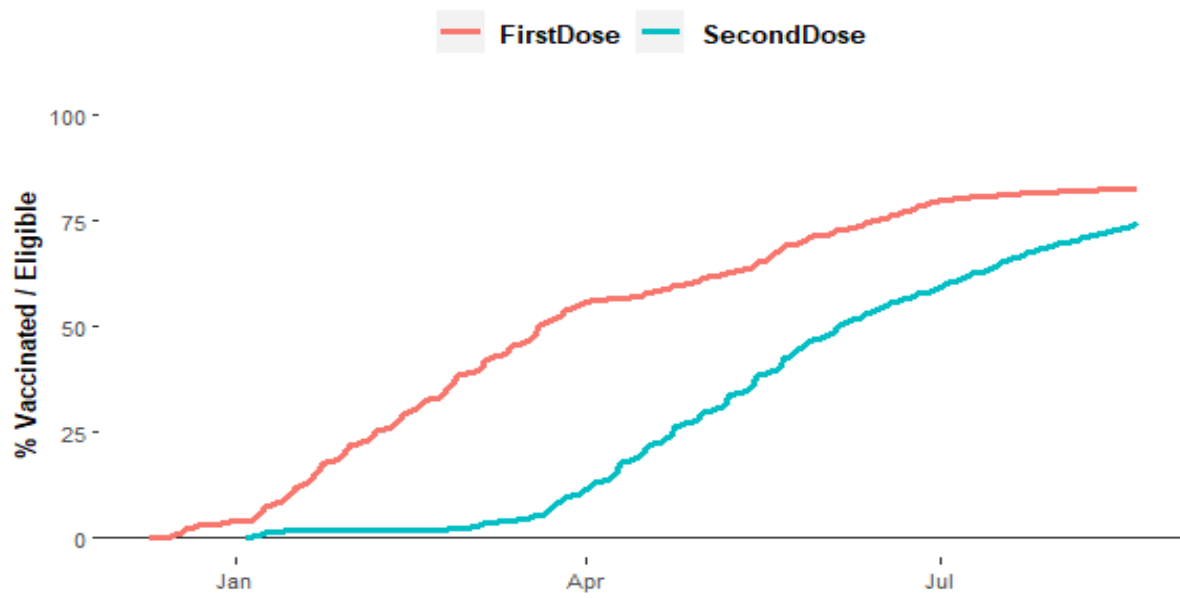


Vaccinations

- The total percentage of Trafford residents (Aged 18+) administered their first vaccine dose on **Saturday 21-08-2021** was **82.6%**.
- The total percentage of Trafford residents (Aged 18+) administered both vaccine doses on **Saturday 21-08-2021** was **74.4%**.

Figure 5. Running total of first and second dose vaccines for Trafford residents (18 years and above)

Trafford, 09 December to 21 August 2021



Source: COVID-19 Situational Awareness Explorer