

Weekly External COVID-19 Data Briefing

The reported week in these briefing slides cover the 7-day period between 4 March and 10 March 2022

Trafford Public Health Team

Epi Summary (1 of 2)

Overview

- There were **1148** confirmed cases during the week ending Thursday 10 March 2022, with the highest number of cases (**230**) reported on **Wednesday 9 March**.
- Our 7 day case rate has increased to **483.2/100k** from **259.7/100k** in the previous week.
- We have seen a sharp increase in our case rate over the past week and we expect further increases in the coming days.
- Trafford's case rate is above the North West average (**398.3/100k**), but below England (**502.4/100k**) average. Trafford has the highest case rate across the 10 GM boroughs.
- Trafford's testing rate saw slight increases (at **187.6/100k** from **177/100k**), whilst our positivity rate (at **18.5%** from **10.3%**) increased sharply from the previous week.

Age Profiles

- Case rates have increased for all residents over the past week.
- Case rates remain highest for 30-44 year olds (at **709.4/100k** from **414.2/100k** in the previous week).
- We have seen large increases in the number of positive cases for residents aged 60+ (at **333.5/100k** from **192.7/100k** in the previous week).
- When compared to the previous week, PCR testing rates have increased slightly for most age groups. PCR testing rates are much higher for residents above the age of 74 when compared to all other ages.

Epi Summary (2 of 2)

Geography

- Case rates have increased for all but 1 ward (Brooklands).
- Case rates are highest for wards in Trafford's South and West localities.
- Case rates have increased most for wards in the West & South of the borough.

Hospital Activity

- The increases in hospitalisation that we had noted has now stabilised.
- There were **183** local COVID-19 admissions during the week ending Sunday 6 March 2022 compared with **181** COVID-19 admissions during the previous week.
- The North West region is seeing larger increases in COVID-19 hospital admissions.

Mortality

- There were less than **5** deaths for Trafford residents testing positive from COVID-19 in the 14 days up to Sunday 14 March 2022, which is unchanged from the previous 14 day period.

Public Health Concern

We have seen a sharp increase in COVID-19 cases over the past 10 days. We expect to see further increases in our case rate, however we do not expect a similar spike in COVID-19 infections to what we experienced in December 2021-January 2022. Although all other GM boroughs are also seeing an increase in their case rate, Trafford has the highest case rate across GM. Trafford has the highest positivity rate and 3rd highest testing rate across GM (with little difference in testing between the boroughs), indicating that our current case rate is reflective of increasing community transmission. As a result of testing policy changes, our understanding of data accuracy and trend analysis will change. Other surveillance means will start to become utilised, however these techniques are still in development.

Post December 2021 has seen a visible increase in the number of COVID-19 re-infections. The Omicron variant seems to be a driving factor in these re-infections, indicating that people are still at risk of COVID-19 even if they have had the infection previously. We are keeping a close eye on the data to see if any noticeable trends are occurring throughout the borough.

COVID-19 vaccinations continue to provide the most effective protection against COVID-19 infection and the link with hospital admissions/COVID-19 mortality. Although the most recent two weeks shows a slight increase in the number of local hospital admissions (as well as a similar regional trend), the number of COVID-admitted residents occupying ventilation beds is lower than any period prior to July 2021. The increasing trend in hospital admissions is of concern, however the current level of hospital admissions is as expected considering our current prevalence.

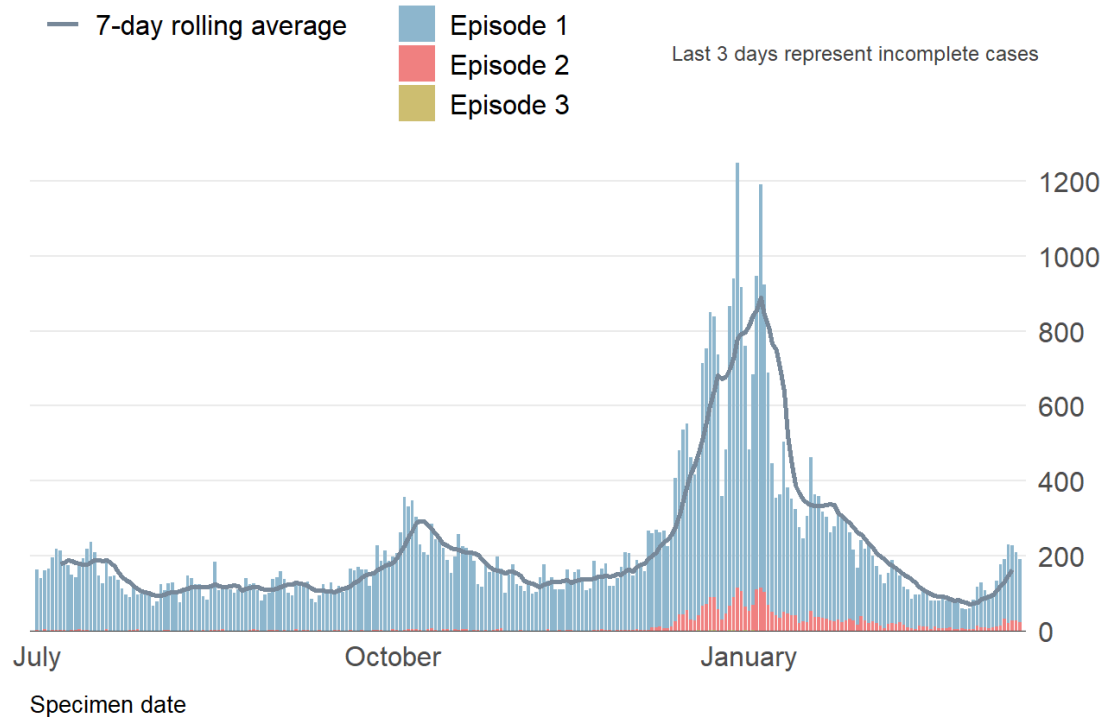
On February 21st, the Prime Ministers announced the 'Living with COVID-19' plan. Restrictions will be lifted in stages from the 21st February through to April 1st. The local COVID-19 response team continues to focus on preventative measures, communicating COVID secure behaviors, and advising caution in high risk settings.

COVID-19 measures

- The Government's 'Living with Covid' plan was published on 21/02/22.
- Many restrictions have now been lifted, outlined below:
 - There is no **legal requirement** to self-isolate. People who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. After 5 days, they may choose to take a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) followed by another the next day - if both are negative, and they do not have a temperature, they can safely return to their normal routine.
 - Close contacts do not need to daily test for 7 days and unvaccinated close contacts no longer need to self-isolate.
 - Self-isolation support payments have ended
 - staff and students in most education and childcare settings no longer need to undertake twice weekly asymptomatic testing
 - Routine contact tracing has ceased
 - The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No. 3) Regulations will be revoked. Local authorities will continue to manage local outbreaks of COVID-19 in high risk settings.
 - From 24 March, the COVID-19 provisions within Statutory Sick Pay and Employment and Support Allowance regulations will end.
 - **From 1 April:**
 - the Government will update guidance setting out the ongoing steps that people with COVID-19 should take to minimise contact with other people.
 - the Government will no longer provide free universal symptomatic and asymptomatic testing for the general public in England
 - the Government will remove the current guidance on domestic voluntary COVID-status certification and will no longer recommend that certain venues use the NHS COVID Pass.
- Vaccines have enabled the gradual and safe removal of restrictions on everyday life over the past year, and will remain at the heart of the Government's approach to living with the virus in the future.
- Local health teams continue to use contact tracing and provide context-specific advice where they assess this to be necessary as part of their role in managing infectious diseases.
- The local COVID-19 response team continues to focus on preventative measures, communicating COVID secure behaviors, and advising caution in high-risk settings.
- The NHS COVID Pass will remain available within the NHS App for a limited period, to support the use of certification in other parts of the UK. The NHS App will continue to allow individuals access to their vaccination status for international travel, as well as their recovery status for travel to those overseas destinations that recognise it.
- Individuals can still reduce the risk of catching and passing on COVID-19 by:
 - Getting vaccinated
 - Letting fresh air in if meeting indoors, or meeting outside
 - Wearing a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces, especially where you come into contact with people you do not usually meet, when rates of transmission are high
 - Trying to stay at home if you are unwell
 - Taking a test if you have COVID-19 symptoms, and staying at home and avoiding contact with other people if you test positive
 - Washing your hands and following advice to 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it'.
- The UK Passenger locator form and all remaining testing rules for travellers arriving in the UK will be scrapped from 18th March 2022.

Trend

Figure 1. Epidemic curve of daily confirmed new cases in Trafford (1 July 2021 to 12 March 2022)



Source: PHE Covid-19 Situational Awareness Explorer

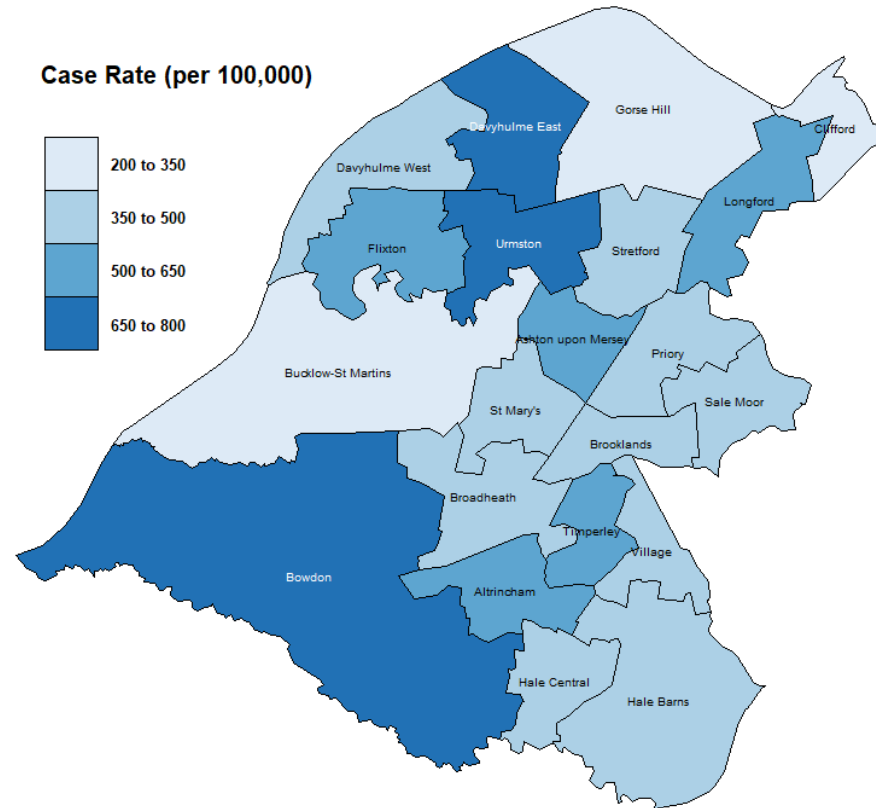
Summary Context:

We have seen a substantial increase in daily cases over the past week, increasing above 200 cases per day. We expect further increases over the coming week. December 2021 shows a growing proportion of COVID-19 reinfections ('Episode'). Please see link below for further information on COVID-19 reinfections.

[Cases definition now includes multiple infection episodes | Coronavirus in the UK \(data.gov.uk\)](#)

Geography

Figure 2. Incidence per 100,000 population by MSOA in Trafford 4 March to 10 March 2022)



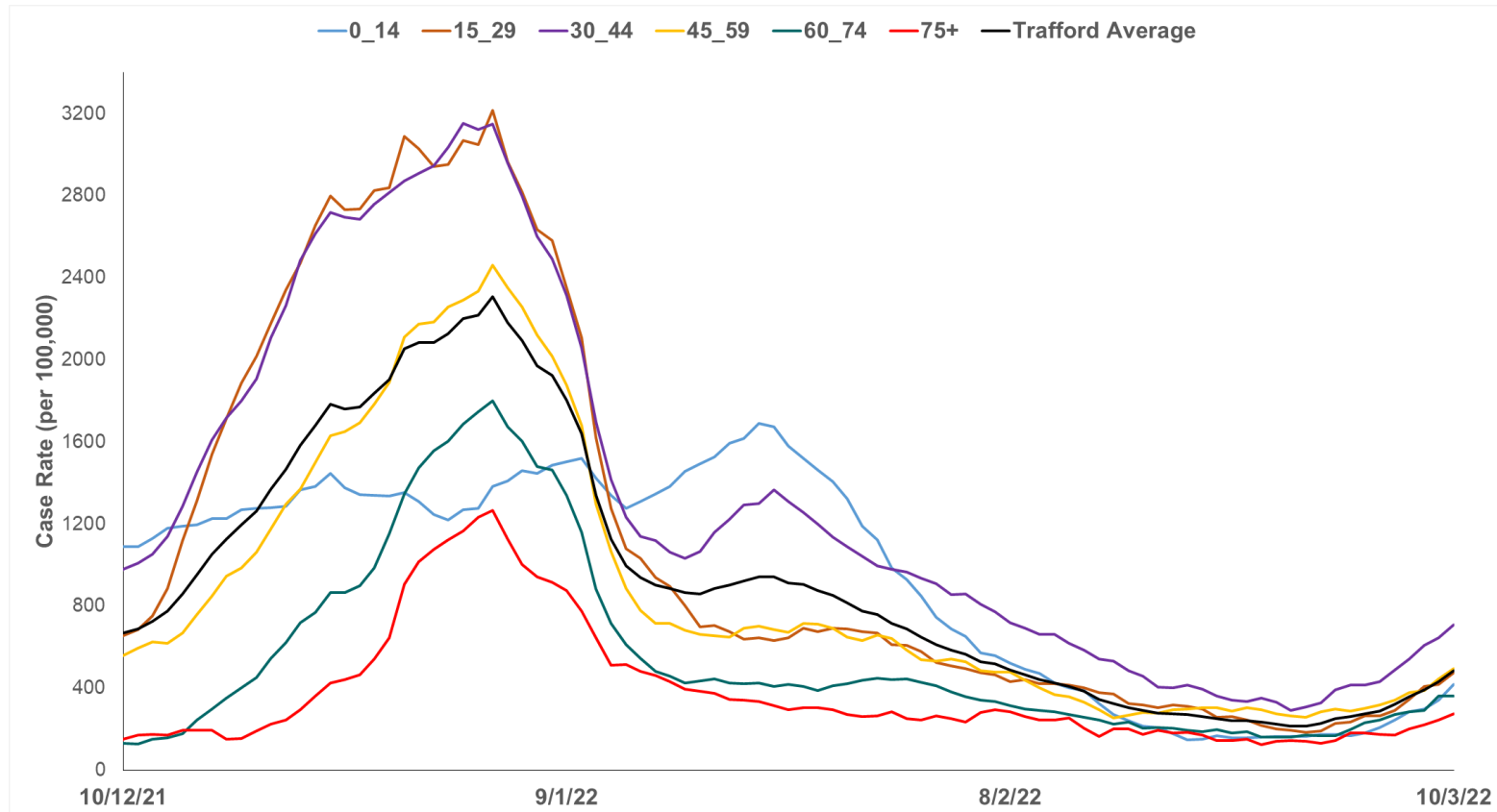
Source: PHE Covid-19 Situational Awareness Explorer

Summary Context:

Case rates have dropped for all but 1 ward (Brooklands). Case rates are highest for wards in Trafford's South and West localities. Case rates have increased most for wards in the West and South of the borough. Case rates are highest for the wards of Davyhulme East (**715.5/100k**), Bowdon (**705.1/100k**), and Urmston (**695.9/100**).

Age Groups: Cases

Figure 3. Age-specific case rates per 100,000 population Trafford, 7-day moving average (10 December 2021 – 10 March 2022)



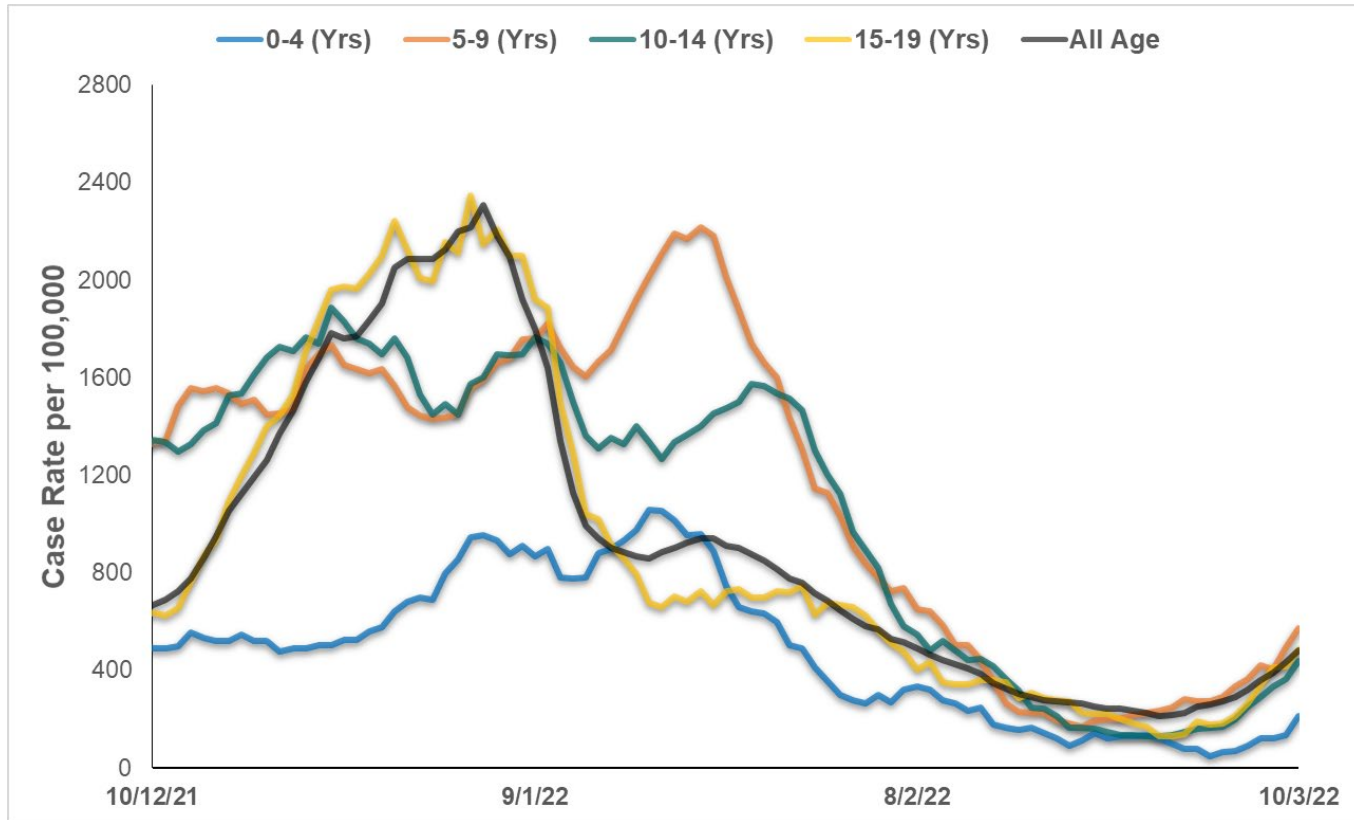
Source: PHE Covid-19 Situational Awareness Explorer

Summary Context:

When compared to the previous week, case rates have increased for all age groups. Rates remain highest for 30-44 year olds (at **709.4/100k** from **414.2/100k** in the previous week). Case rates have increased most for 0-14 year olds (**+148%**). We have seen large increases in the number of positive cases for residents aged 60+ (at **333.5/100k** from **192.7/100k** in the previous week).

School Age Groups: Cases

Figure 4. Age-specific case rates per 100,000 population Trafford, 7-day moving average (10 December 2021 – 10 March 2022)



Source: PHE Covid-19 Situational Awareness Explorer

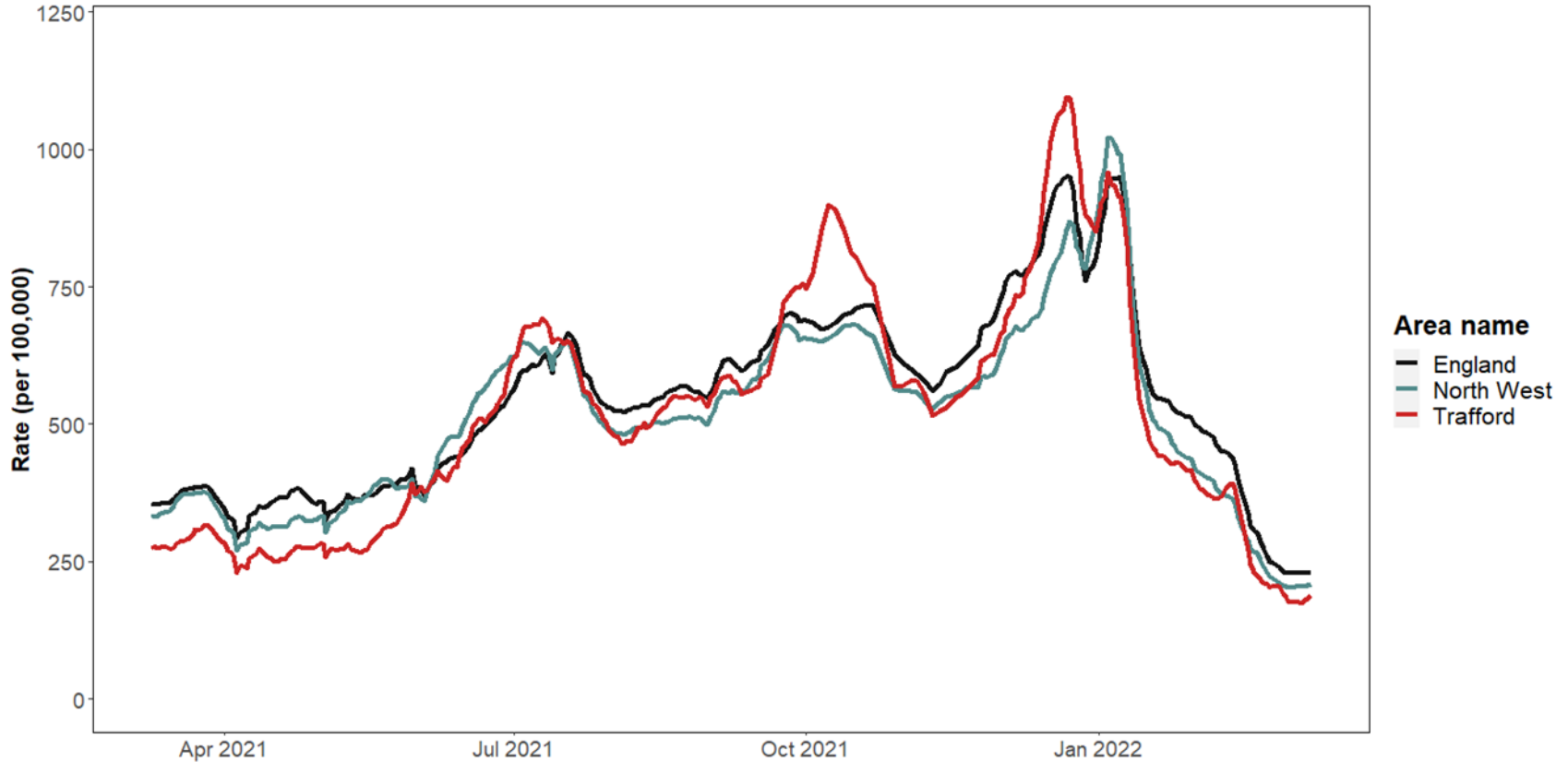
Summary Context:

Case rates have increased for young persons below the age of 20 over the recent week. Case rates remain highest for 5-9 year olds (at **573.6/100k**), but have increased most for 0-4 (**+329%**), 15-19 (**+175%**), and 10-14 (**+164%**) year olds when compared to the previous week.

PCR Testing

Figure 5. Daily Testing Rate (7-day average): England, North West, & Trafford

Trafford, 9 March 2021 - 9 March 2022



Source: PHE COVID-19 Situational Awareness Explorer

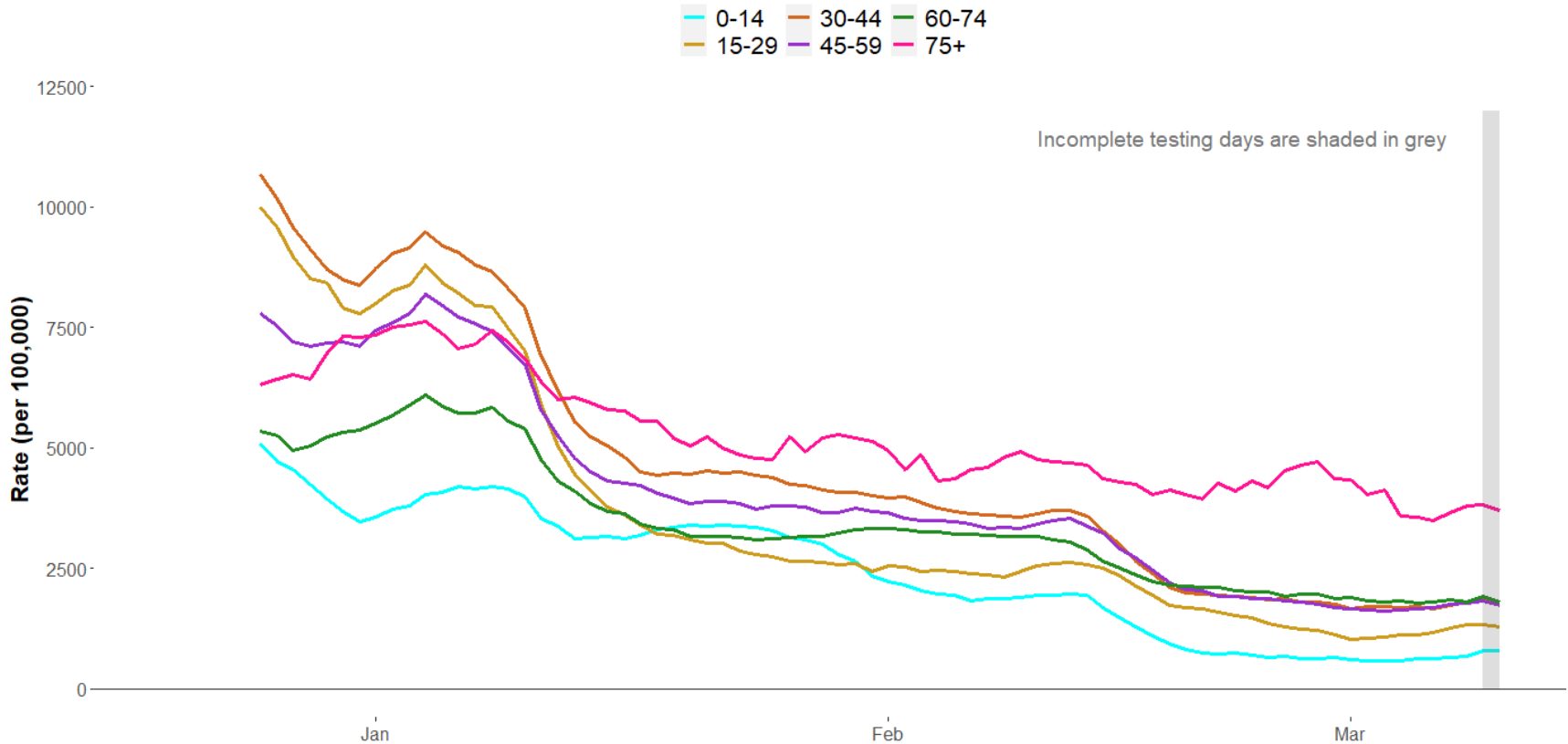
Summary Context:

PCR testing rates have increased slightly over the past week, however remain at their lowest ever levels since recording started. Trafford's testing rate is below the North West and England average. Trafford has the 3rd highest testing rate across the 10 GM boroughs, although there is little variation in testing between the boroughs.

Age Groups: PCR Testing

Figure 6. Age-Specific PCR testing rate per 100,000 residents (7-day moving)

Trafford, 25 December 2021 - 10 March 2022



Source: Data from PHE COVID-19 Situational Awareness Explorer

Summary Context:

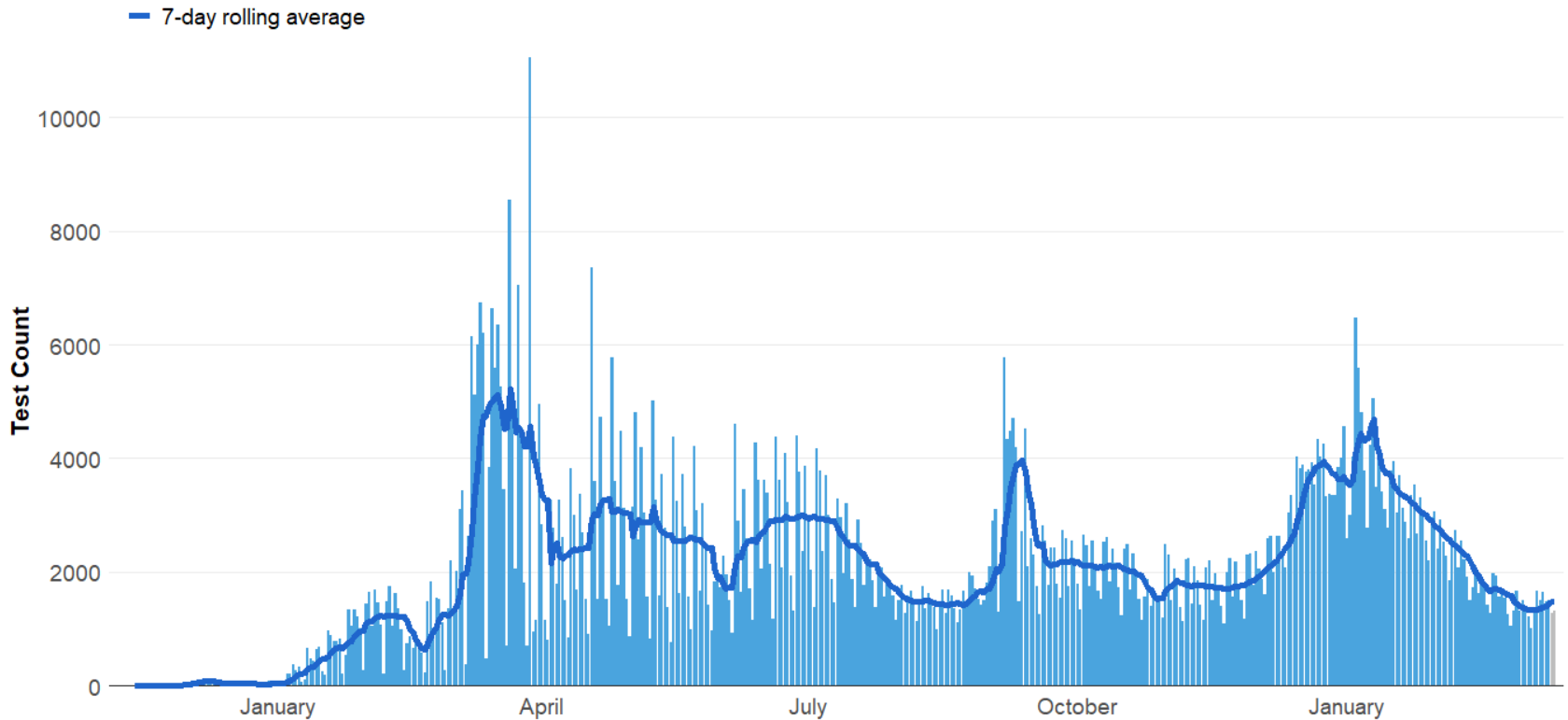
PCR testing rates for all age groups have seen slight increases over the past week. PCR testing remains highest for residents above the age of 74 (**3807.7/100k**) and lowest for 0-14 year olds (**681.3/100k**).

LFD Testing

Figure 7. Number of Daily LFD Tests

Trafford, 13 November 2020 - 13 March 2022

Incomplete testing days are shaded in grey



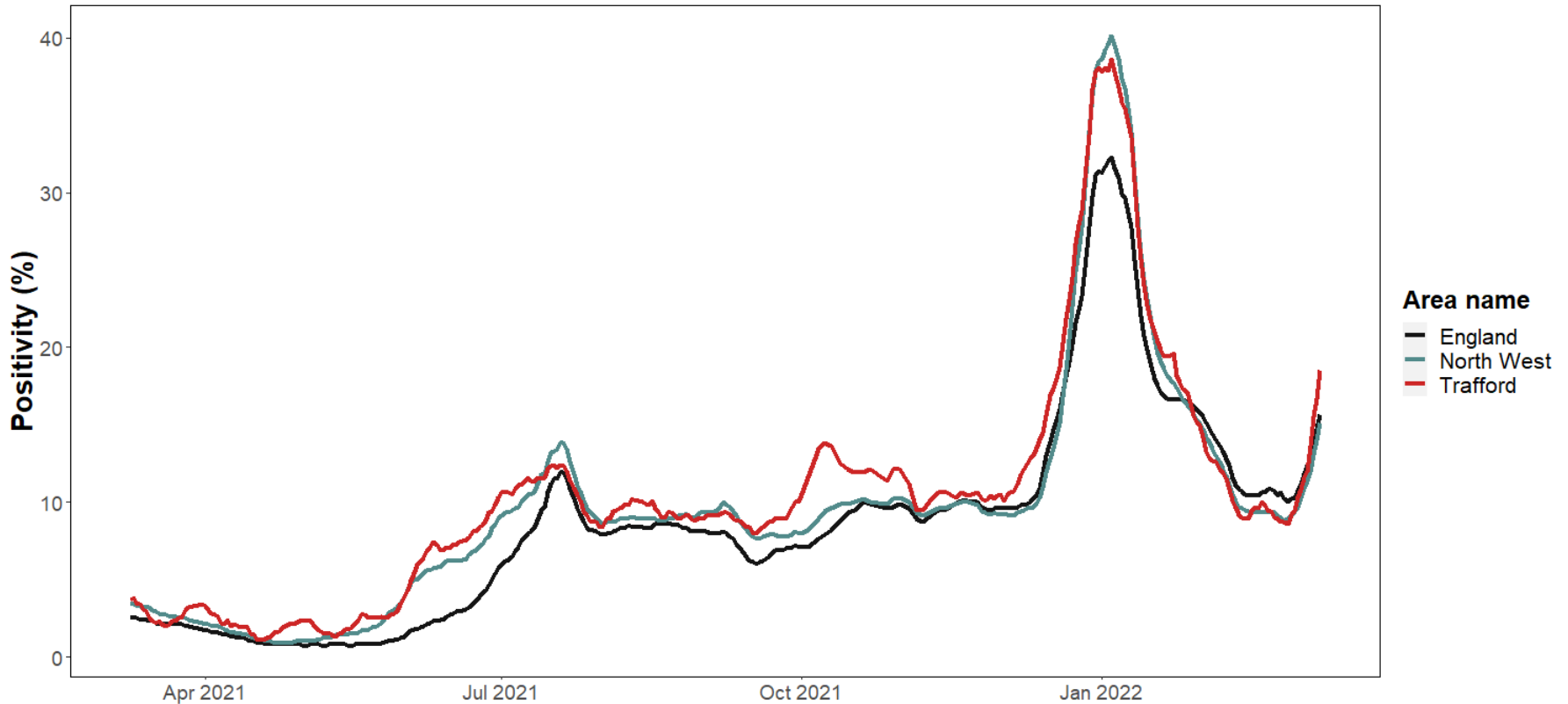
Summary Context:

We have seen slight increase in Lateral Flow Testing over the past week, although testing remains well below levels that we were seeing from the previous 6 months. On average, **1,440** tests are being conducted by Trafford residents per day.

Positivity

Figure 8. Weekly Positivity Rates: England, North West, & Trafford

Trafford, 9 March 2021 - 9 March 2022



Source: Data from PHE COVID-19 Situational Awareness Explorer

Summary Context:

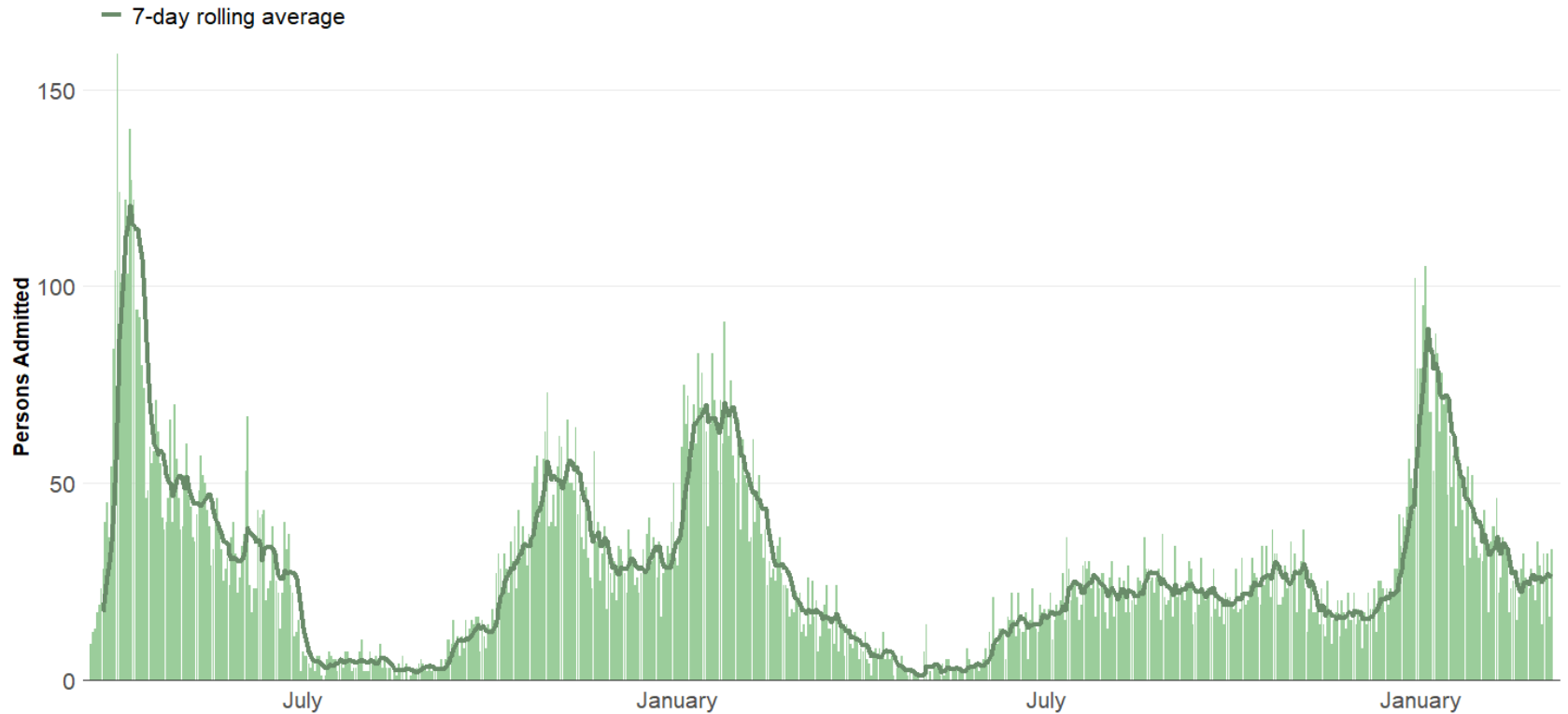
We have seen a sharp increase in Trafford's positivity rate over the past 10 days, partially linked to the continued reduction in testing rates. Trafford's positivity rate is above the North West and England average. Trafford currently has the joint highest positivity rate across the 10 GM boroughs, at **18.5%**.

Hospital Admissions

(Data includes any resident (not specific to Trafford-only residents) for: Manchester University, Stockport, and Warrington & Halton Teaching Hospital Foundation Trusts)

Figure 9. Daily count of COVID-19 hospital admissions

19 March 2020 to 6 March 2022



PHE Coronavirus Dashboard

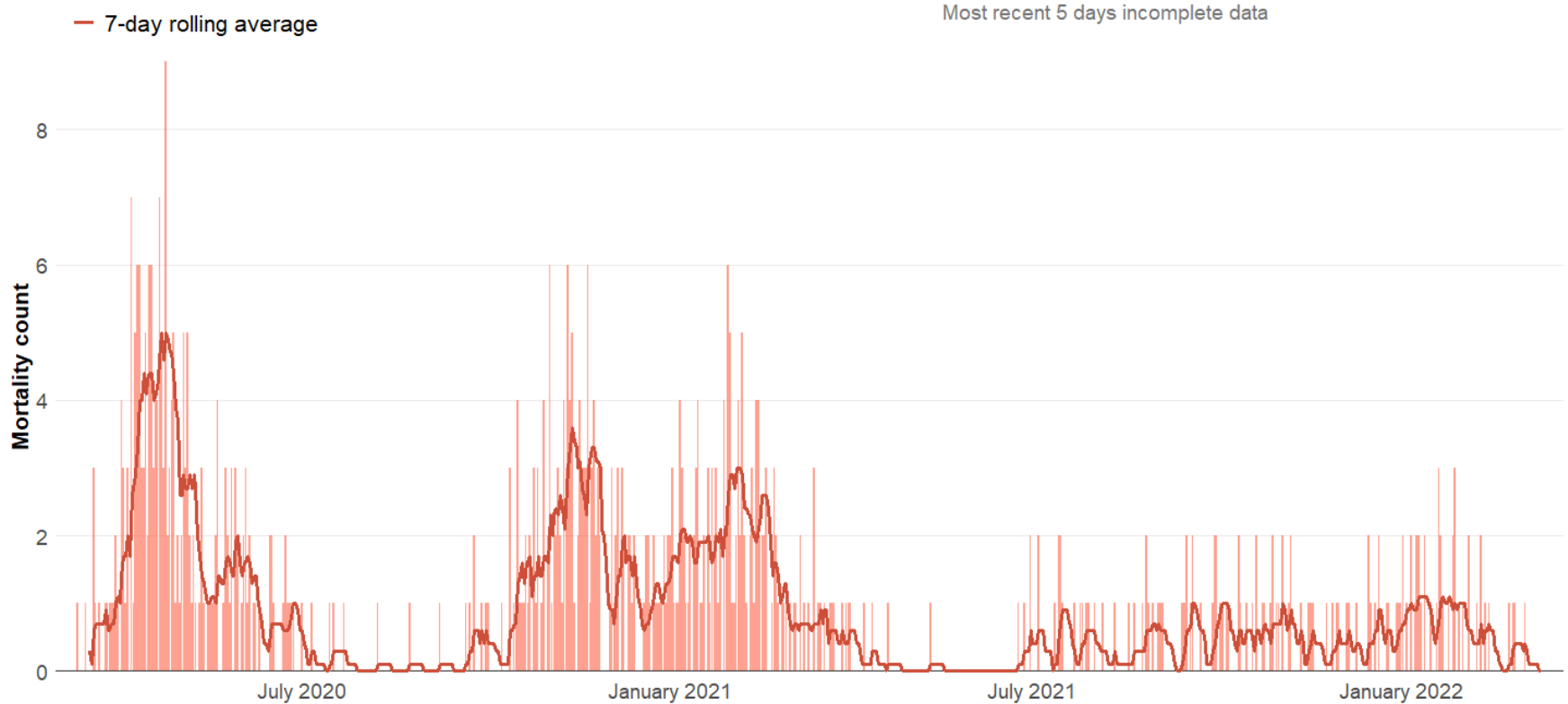
Summary Context:

The increases in hospitalisation that we had noted has now stabilised. There were **183** COVID-19 admissions during the week ending Sunday 6 March 2022 compared with **181** COVID-19 admissions during the previous week.

Trafford Resident COVID-19 Mortality

Figure 10. Daily count of COVID-19 deaths within 28 days of positive test result

Trafford, 11 March 2020 - 12 March 2022



Source: PHE Coronavirus Dashboard

Summary Context:

Similar to periods in summer 2021, we are seeing a small number of mortalities linked to COVID-19. There were less than **5** deaths for Trafford residents testing positive from COVID-19 in the 14 days up to Sunday 14 March 2022, which is unchanged from the previous 14 day period.

Vaccinations

Overview

- The total percentage of Trafford residents (Aged 12+) administered their first vaccine dose by **5-3-2022** was **84%** (increasing by **0.1%** from the previous week).
- The total percentage of Trafford residents (Aged 12+) administered both vaccine doses by **5-3-2022** was **79.5%** (increasing by **0.1%** from the previous week).
- Booster uptake is at **85.3%** (dropping from the previous week due to an increase in eligible residents) for residents who are **currently** eligible (eligible from time of second dose).

Cohort Groups

- Vaccine uptake remains lowest in adults and young people below the age of **40**. Similar to patterns we have seen among 18-39 year olds, vaccine uptake has stalled among young persons below the age of 18 – below **75%**.
- Vaccine uptake is at **73.2%** for 18-29 year olds (increasing by **0.8%** since February 1st) and **75.8%** for 30-39 year olds (increasing by **0.2%** since February 1st).
- Vaccine uptake is at **73.8%** for 16-17 year olds (increasing by **1.2%** since February 1st) and **62.6%** for 12-15 year olds (increasing by **2.6%** since February 1st).
- Vaccine uptake for priority groups 1-9 is at **91.2%**, increasing by **0.1%** since February 1st.
- Uptake (1st dose cohorts 1-12) across Trafford's four localities is lowest in the north (**74.3%**) and highest in the south (**87.2%**).
- There is a social gradient in vaccination uptake (first dose) across Trafford, with decreasing uptake as the level of deprivation increases (**69.9%** for most deprived compared to **89.2%** for least deprived areas). This gradient widens as we drop down the age groups.
- We are seeing variation in second dose and booster uptake, also linked to age and deprivation.

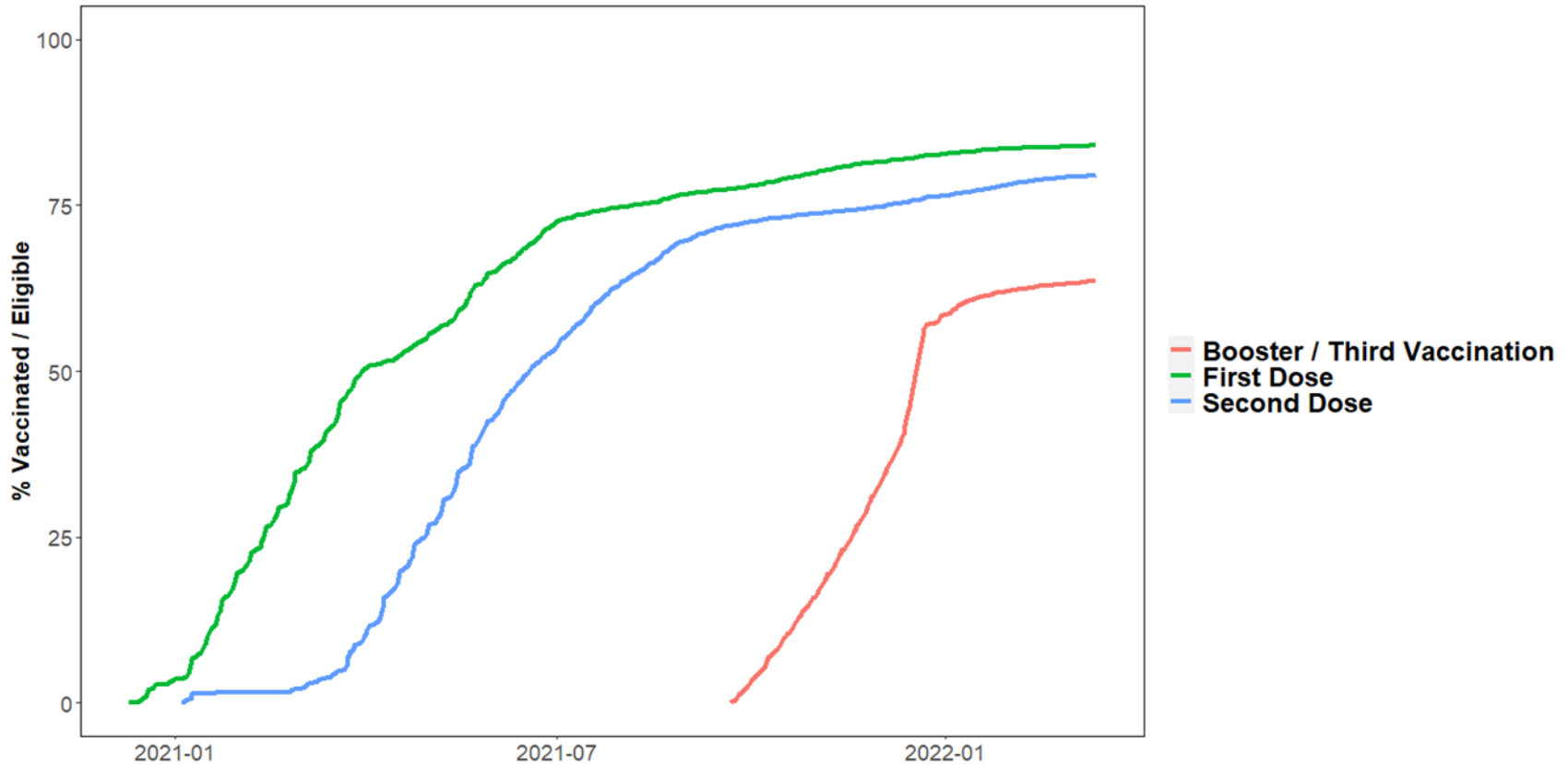
Programme Changes

- The in-school 12-15yr old programme of clinics is now complete, however those 12-15 year olds who are due a vaccine can still access the out of school clinics, details can be found here: <https://www.traffordccg.nhs.uk/Coronavirus/COVID-19-vaccine-walk-in-clinics-in-Trafford.aspx>
- The national booking service has been updated so that clinically vulnerable 12 to 15 year olds can quickly and easily book in a booster jab when they become eligible.
- We are awaiting details on the expected additional booster programme and on the healthy 5-11 year old programme. We anticipate these programmes will be rolled out during the Spring.
- Adults who had COVID-19 more than 28 days ago and missed their booster should now get their booster vaccine as soon as possible. Children aged 12-15 should wait 12 weeks after testing positive before having their vaccine.
- Regulations requiring COVID-19 vaccination to work in Care Quality Commission (CQC) registered care homes have been lifted from 15 March and the legal requirement for health and social care staff to be double jabbed from 1 April has been revoked.

Vaccine Delivery Timeline

Figure 11. Running Total of First, Second, and Third/Booster Dose Vaccines

Trafford Residents, up to March 13th 2022



Source: COVID-19 Situational Awareness Explorer

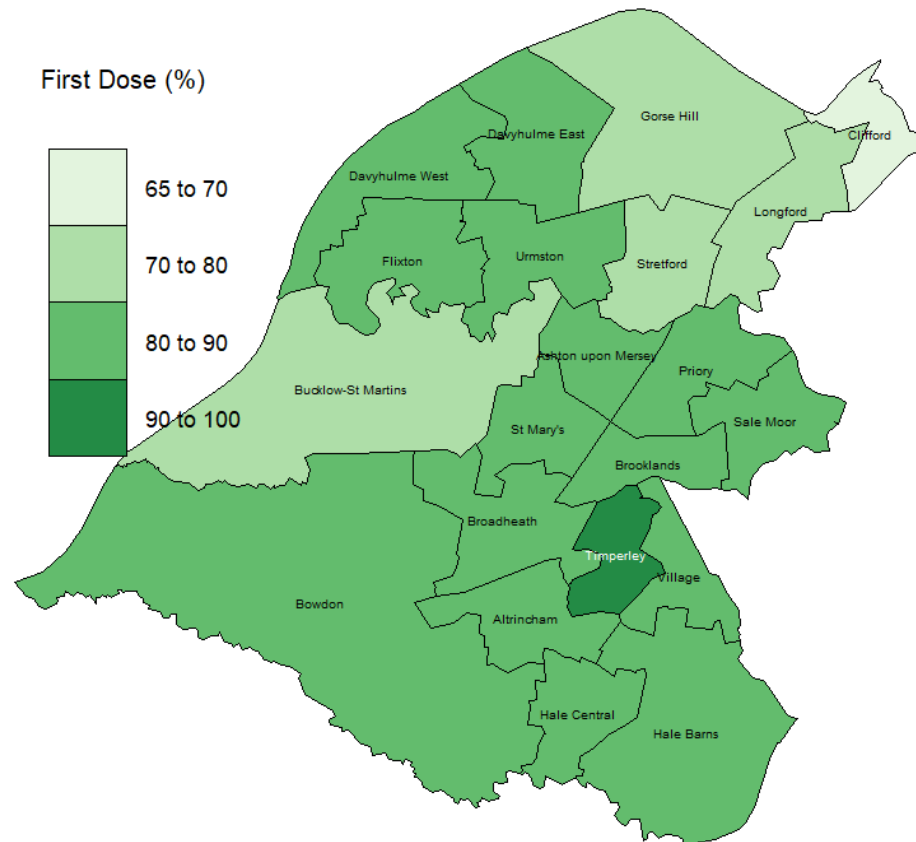
Summary Context:

Vaccine uptake for residents above the age of 12 is progressing slowly, increasing by **0.1%** in residents receiving their first dose and both vaccine doses within the last 7 days (up to March 12th). Third dose / booster vaccines have increased by **0.2%** within the last 7 days.

Please note: Booster uptake in this slide refers to every residents aged 12+, regardless of eligibility status.

Vaccine Uptake by Ward

Figure 12. First dose vaccine uptake (%) for all eligible residents (12+) by Ward
Trafford, up to 14th March 2022



Summary Context:

Vaccine uptake is lowest in Trafford's North locality and highest in Trafford's South locality. We are seeing variation in vaccine uptake (first dose) across the borough, ranging from **67.7%** (Clifford) to **91.3%** (Timperley). Timperley remains the only Ward to have a first dose uptake above 90%.

Further resources

- [COVID-19 page](#) on [Trafford Data Lab's](#) website
- [COVID-19 Resources](#) developed by [Manchester Health & Care Commissioning](#)
- The Government [Coronavirus dashboard](#)
- [Our World in Data's](#) coronavirus pages