

**Our Plan for The Year
2026/2027**





Foreword from our Lead Officer

As we enter this new planning period, our commitment to amplifying the health and social care experiences of Tameside residents remains as strong as ever.

This year brings a period of change following the Government's announcement of its intention to abolish the Healthwatch brand. In response, we have developed a focused six-month workplan that enables us to stay agile and responsive, ensuring local people's voices continue to shape services at a time when they need to be heard most.

Alongside delivering our key priorities, we will continue to follow up on previous work, demonstrating the influence we have had and the tangible impact of residents' feedback. Later in the year, as the national picture becomes clearer, we will review our position and develop a further six-month plan to guide our work into the second half of the year.

Although this is a moment of uncertainty, we remain positive about the future. Whatever changes lie ahead, our purpose stays the same: to listen to local people and champion their experiences so that health and care services continue to improve for everyone in Tameside.



Who we are

Healthwatch Tameside is your champion in health and social care in Tameside. We work to ensure the voice of the public is strengthened and heard.

As an independent statutory body, we have the power to make sure NHS leaders and other decision-makers listen to your feedback and improve services and standards of care.

We can also help you to find reliable and trustworthy information and advice.

healthwatch
Tameside



Why do we exist?

Healthwatch was established under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to understand the needs, experiences and concerns of people who use health and social care services and to speak out on their behalf.

We exist on a national, regional and local level, working towards the same goal of enabling people to have a voice about their health and social care systems.

Healthwatch Tameside is a key member of the Healthwatch in Greater Manchester Network, collaboratively working with the other nine local Healthwatch to deliver the agreed strategy and vision.



Our approach for 2026/27

In line with our strategic objectives and ensuring we continue to be a values-led organisation, we are approaching our plan with a focus for each quarter.

Quarter	Objectives
<p>Q1 April to June 2026</p>	<p>Objective 1 – In accordance with our enter and view schedule, we will conduct one announced visit.</p> <p>Objective 2 – We will launch a focused project highlighting the experiences of a seldom heard group in our community and their experiences of health and social care.</p> <p>Objective 3 – We will publish our Healthwatch Tameside Annual Report 2025/2026.</p>
<p>Q2 July to September 2026</p>	<p>Objective 4 – We will organise an event that will provide an opportunity to showcase our annual report</p> <p>Objective 5 – In accordance with our enter and view schedule, we will conduct two announced visits.</p> <p>Objective 6 – We will refine our 2026/27 Work Plan for the remaining 6-months, considering local and national developments. More detail on the following page.</p>

Planning Beyond Q2

Given the uncertainty surrounding national reforms, proposed work priorities for Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 will be developed during the year and presented to the Healthwatch Tameside Advisory Board in line with our usual governance and decision-making processes.

This phased approach ensures:

- Continued oversight and accountability
- Responsiveness to emerging system changes
- Alignment with any new national or local direction
- Ongoing resident-led prioritisation

Our Commitment

At a time of potential structural change to Healthwatch, our focus remains clear:

- Listening to residents
- Amplifying lived experience
- Influencing improvement
- Working constructively with partners

This workplan reflects both stability in our core purpose and flexibility in how we deliver it.

For more information

Healthwatch Tameside
131 Katherine Street
Ashton-Under-Lyne
OL6 7AW

www.healthwatchtameside.co.uk
t: 0161 667 2526
e: info@healthwatchtameside.co.uk

 HealthwatchTameside

 [Facebook.com/healthwatchtame](https://www.facebook.com/healthwatchtame)

healthwatch