Tameside Metropolitan Borough

Ashton-under-Lyne • Audenshaw • Denton • Droylsden • Dukinfield • Hyde • Longdendale • Mossley • Stalybridge

HOUSING, ENVIRONMENT AND ESTATES DIRECTORATE

Emma Varnam
Assistant Director, Environment

Tameside One, PO Box 317
Ashton under Lyne OL6 6BH
www.tameside.gov.uk
email: emma.varnam@tameside.gov.uk

Call Centre 0161 342 8355
Date 13 October 2026

Dear parent/carer,

On 10 July 2026, we wrote to advise that school holiday food voucher support would end after the summer 2026 holiday period.

This change follows the UK Government's decision to replace the Household Support Fund with the new Crisis and Resilience Fund.

Under the new arrangements, support is now based on each family's individual needs and circumstances, with families applying for crisis support if they need it, rather than receiving automatic vouchers.

I want to reassure you that a range of support remains available and if you are struggling financially, we encourage you to contact us. We can discuss your circumstances, provide emergency crisis support where appropriate, and help you to access longer-term support where it is needed.

- **School holiday clubs:** Free activities and free healthy meals during the school holidays for eligible families that receive targeted free school meals through the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme. You can find information on drop-in sessions and how to register by visiting www.tameside.gov.uk/haf
- **Childcare** information and advice is available at www.tameside.gov.uk/fis

CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE CSE
disability confident EMPLOYER
THE WORKPLACE WELLBEING CHARTER NATIONAL AWARD FOR ENGLAND
LGO Awards 2020 WINNER
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2020 WINNER MJ
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2019 WINNERS MJ
MINDFUL EMPLOYER
ARMED FORCES COVENANT EMPLOYER RECOGNITION SCHEME GOLD AWARD

- Advice on benefits from **Welfare Rights** on 0800 074 9985 (Monday and Wednesday 9.30am to 12.30pm) or visit www.tameside.gov.uk/welfarerights
- **Citizens Advice** can provide advice and information by calling 0808 278 7805 or visiting www.tamesidecab.org.uk. Between 6pm to 9pm you can contact Citizens Advice Greater Manchester by phone or text on 0161 850 5053
- **Help to find work** or increase earnings is available on 0161 342 3111 or by visiting www.tameside.gov.uk/employmentandskills
- **Food pantries and community grocers** provide discounted and healthy food with details at www.tameside.gov.uk/foodpantries
- **Helping Hands** provides further information on cost-of-living support across Tameside at www.tameside.gov.uk/helpinghand
- Families who are struggling to pay for essential living costs may be able to get emergency help through a **Crisis Payment**. Support is based on individual need and circumstances. Find out more about crisis payments and how to apply by visiting www.tameside.gov.uk/crisis-payments

We encourage anyone who may be struggling to seek advice as early as possible before problems build up.

If you are struggling financially, or would like advice about the support available, please contact us on 0161 342 2211, Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm.

Yours sincerely

Emma Varnam
Assistant Director,
Environment