

# Merton Story 2021 – at a glance

## What is the Merton story?

- ✓ Summary of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)
- ✓ High-level health profile of Merton's population
- ✓ Statutory requirement of the Health and Wellbeing Board
- ✗ **Not a review of services or series of recommendations**

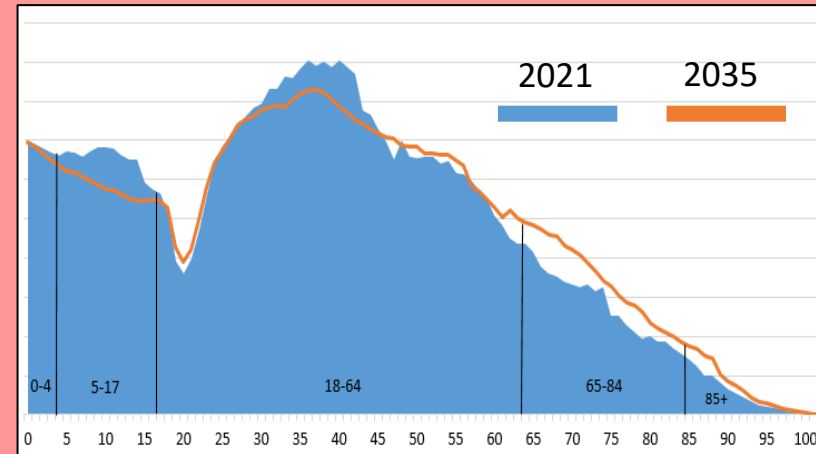
### Merton Story 2021 - Special considerations

- Focus on COVID-19 impact and inequalities in Merton
- Limited 2020 data available at local level
- Resident 'Voice' incorporated throughout, including engagement work from BAME voice, MenCap, AgeUK and Young Inspectors.



## Merton's population

### COVID-19 impact: expected total population fall for 2020



- Accelerated ↓ birth rate
- ↑ Excess deaths
- People leaving urban areas

## Useful resources

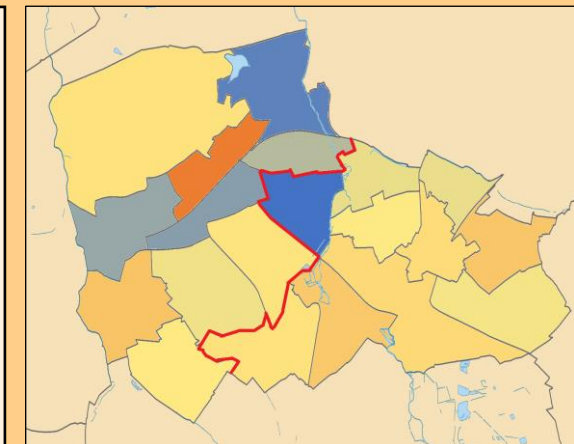


- [The Merton Story](#) provides a snapshot of local needs through the JSNA and gives an overview of the health and wellbeing of Merton residents.
- [Health Profiles](#) by ward and comparing east and west Merton
- [Health Needs Assessments](#) e.g. CYP SEND JSNA Profile 2020
- [Merton data](#) provides an overview of Merton level demographics
- [Annual Public Health Reports](#) including Tackling Childhood Obesity Together; Tackling Health Inequalities - Closing the Gap; Diabetes Whole System Approach
- [Merton Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#)
- [Public Health England - PHE Fingertips](#)
- [Merton Local Health and Care Plan](#)

## COVID direct impacts (Jan – Dec 2020)

### Existing health and social inequalities amplified by COVID-19

- COVID-19 deaths: **268**
  - 88% aged 60+
  - ↑ East Merton
  - 38 in care homes
- Excess deaths: **278**
- 'Long COVID': **1,300**
- Shielding: **13,680**
- Furloughed: **38,200**



Rate of COVID deaths

Higher

Lower

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## Start Well

*Increase in vulnerabilities for children and young people and worse mental health due to COVID-19*

### Staying safe, enjoying & achieving

- ↑ Child poverty
- \*Worsening parental mental health and substance misuse
- ↑ Domestic violence
- ↑ In child protection plans
- \*↑ Educational attainment gap



### Being healthy

- Poorer mental health
- High self-harm
- Healthy weight challenges:
  - ↑ Obesity gap
  - ↑ Food poverty
  - \*↑ Eating disorders
- \*Immunisations interrupted



## Age Well

*Many residents with multi-morbidity and complex needs; prevention and management of Long Term Conditions impacted by COVID-19*

### Frailty & dementia

- Deconditioning
- ↓ Dementia diag.
- ↑ Falls



### Disability

- \*↑ Loneliness
- ↑ Burden on carers
- Digital exclusion



### Cancer

- \*Delays in:
  - Diagnosis
  - Treatment
  - Screening



## Live Well

*Many residents have unhealthy lifestyles and poor mental wellbeing, exacerbated by COVID-19*

### Obesity

- Half residents overweight
- ↑ Food parcel use
- ↓ Physical activity



### Smoking

- 1 in 7 residents smoke
- ↑ Smoking cessation during COVID-19



### Mental health

- 1 in 5 report anxiety
- \*↑ Loneliness
- \*Poorer mental health for those shielding

### Alcohol / drugs

- ↑ Alcohol-related admissions
- ↑ Nationally in drug-related deaths



### Sexual health

- ↓ Service use during COVID-19
- ↑ Syphilis and Gonorrhoea pre-COVID



## Merton as a Healthy Place

*Borough with many assets; challenges include housing shortage and employment gap, increased by COVID-19*

### 👍 Assets

- Diverse green spaces
- Good transport links
- Low crime
- Good schools
- Resourceful libraries
- Active voluntary and community sector

### ! Challenges

- Affordable housing
- Insecure employment (↑ in East)
- Air pollution
- Climate change
- Cycling infrastructure behind neighbouring boroughs
- Street drinking