

# Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) Performance Framework dashboards: accessibility statement

## Introduction

This accessibility statement is for the Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) Performance Framework dashboards. These were produced in summer 2022 using the Tableau platform, and are updated every six months – the current and historic versions are hosted on the [AboutGreaterManchester.com](https://www.aboutgreatermanchester.com) website. We want as many people as possible to be able to use the dashboards, and are committed to maximising accessibility for all users.

If you have a disability, the [AbilityNet](https://www.abilitynet.org.uk) website provides advice on making your device easier to use.

## How accessible are the dashboards?

We have tested the Performance Framework dashboards against [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 2.1 AA](https://www.w3.org/WAI/standards-guidance/wcag/) standards, and made changes to improve accessibility where relevant. For example, all links are navigable via the use of screen readers, following the introduction of descriptive text and increased direction. Furthermore, the data presented in the dashboards are provided as a download, enabling accessibility to all underlying data sources (where publicly available).

However, as set out in the 'Compliance status' section below, there are some areas that are not fully accessible.

## Compliance status

The Performance Framework dashboards are not fully compliant with the WCAG 2.1 AA standard, due to the areas of non-compliance listed below.

- Alt-text does not recognise charts and tables in Tableau dashboards; this fails [WCAG 2.1 success criterion 1.1.1 \(non-text content\)](https://www.w3.org/WAI/standards-guidance/wcag/#WCAG21-1.1.1). As recognised in its [Accessibility Conformance Reports](https://www.w3.org/WAI/standards-guidance/wcag/#WCAG21-1.1.1), this is a shortcoming in the functionality of Tableau, as screen-reader technology only picks up the titles of charts and tables presented in the dashboard. Given constraints of space, dashboard design and the type of content presented, introducing further on-screen explanation is not possible and would compromise both the clarity and quality of data presentation and wider accessibility guidance.
- When using keyboard-only navigation, dashboard design does not allow navigation in a sequential, left to right and top to bottom order. This means that [WCAG 2.1 success criteria 1.3.2 \(meaningful sequence\)](https://www.w3.org/WAI/standards-guidance/wcag/#WCAG21-1.3.2) and [2.4.3 \(focus order\)](https://www.w3.org/WAI/standards-guidance/wcag/#WCAG21-2.4.3) are not met.

- A small number of dashboards have chart labels and/or axes that are not at the required size 12 font. This is due to labels and axes being compromised when increased font size is used. To meet this criterion, chart size would need to be reduced, thereby compromising other accessibility guidance.

## Disproportionate burden

We have assessed the time and resources required to address the above points. To change the coding and ordering of the dashboards retrospectively would constitute a [disproportionate burden](#) in terms of GMCA resources. Similarly, ensuring that charts are a suitable and accessible size, whilst also retaining all text at size 12 font represents a disproportionate burden, as it would involve fundamental redesign of the dashboards and would impact negatively on accessibility in other areas.

As we further develop the dashboards, and particularly if Tableau functionality improves, we will seek to address these issues and any other accessibility concerns.

## What are we doing to improve accessibility?

We are committed to embedding accessibility considerations into the design process for all GMCA research outputs, and to ensuring compliance with the wider [accessibility statement](#) for the GMCA website.

## What to do if you are experiencing accessibility problems?

We welcome any feedback or queries relating to the accessibility of the Performance Framework dashboards. If you encounter any difficulties when using them, or have any comments, please email [research@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:research@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk).

## Preparation of this accessibility statement

This statement was prepared on 5 October 2022, and is reviewed on approximately an annual basis. It was last reviewed in December 2023.