

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee – 7 December 2016

Subject: Delivering the Our Manchester Strategy:

Report of: Deputy Leader

Summary

This report provides an overview of work undertaken and progress towards the delivery of the Council's priorities as set out in the Our Manchester strategy for those areas within the portfolio of the Deputy Leader, Councillor Sue Murphy.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to note and comment on the report.

Contact:

Name: Councillor Sue Murphy
Position: Deputy Leader
Tel: 0161 234 3352
Email: cllr.s.murphy@manchester.gov.uk

1. Introduction

1.1 The Our Manchester Strategy was formally adopted by the Council in January 2016 and sets the ambitions for the city for the next ten years, to 2025, for Manchester to be:

- Thriving – creating great jobs and healthy businesses
- Filled with talent – both home-grown talent and attracting the best in the world
- Fair – with equal chances for all to unlock their potential
- A great place to live – with lots of things to do
- Buzzing with connections – including world-class transport and broadband

1.2 Executive Members are collectively and individually responsible for supporting the delivery of the Our Manchester Strategy and for providing political oversight and direction to officers for the better outcomes for Manchester residents. In October, the Executive also published its collective political priorities and those of individual Executive Members, all of which are aligned to the Our Manchester Strategy.

1.3 This report sets out how I as Deputy Leader have sought to deliver these priorities over the past six months and is the first of twice yearly reports to this Committee, with reports being submitted to Scrutiny Committees at their May and November meetings from now on.

2. Deputy Leader - Portfolio

2.1 As Deputy Leader, my portfolio includes:

- Public Sector Reform
- Inclusion – including Family Poverty
- Voluntary Sector
- International links
- Civic events
- Support on Regeneration (Wythenshawe and South Manchester)

2.2 For this year, my main priorities are:

- Reduction in Family and Child Poverty
- Our Manchester (including fairness and cohesion, and engaging the voluntary sector)

3. Progress and Outcomes May- November 2016

Our Manchester

3.1 From deciding to adopt this approach a huge amount of work has been carried out, although if we consider that this is potentially a ten year project, we are still at a relatively early stage.

- 3.2 Over 200 staff, councillors and partners have attended full day workshops outlining the ideas behind the Our Manchester approach, and the academic principles that have informed the way of working. Between me and officers, we have attended more than 50 meetings of partner organisations to talk particularly to their senior teams and board members. There has been almost universal support.
- 3.3 We have held 6 ‘Listening in Action’ staff engagement events, with more than 600 staff from all parts of the council. As well as talking about Our Manchester, the forward strategy and priorities for the council has been discussed, including Executive Members priorities. The Chief Executive and the Leader have attended all the events, spoken to staff and taken questions. Executive members have also been invited to attend. The most important part has been responding to questions from our staff – more than 150 have been submitted, from a mix of open Q & A at the meetings, questions submitted in advance by email, or submitted on postcards at the meeting, They are on a wide variety of topics, not just about the council, but on living and working in Manchester. There have also been discussions about issues that came out of the staff survey. It’s intended to continue these events in the New Year.
- 3.4 An action plan is nearly ready about we put the principles into practice, and the final outcome of all the input we have had into the core behaviours.
- 3.5 We have encouraged people who have done the training to do sessions with their own staff (inside and outside the council.) There are many examples of where the Our Manchester approach is working – reflected in the increase in people responding to consultations where they are being done in a more open way for example. Some of the strategies that we are producing are using this approach to involve citizens and service users in the production of these – such as talking to people who have experienced homelessness in the development of the strategy. There are many areas where we have already used and are starting to use this approach – Signs of Safety in Children’s Services is a good example of where staff are using a different method of having strengths based conversations with families.
- 3.6 Work is underway to look at the first area based work and will start in the New Year.

Family Poverty Strategy

- 3.7 The draft Family Poverty Strategy is on the agenda for the Economy Scrutiny Committee this cycle and been produced using the principles outlined above. There have been over 120 conversations with people who are living in poverty, by going out to food banks and community centres etc, so their voice and experience informs the strategy. As well as this there have been events with young people and their families to talk about their experience. The first draft includes the findings from this work and will be used to produce an action plan. A number of other organisations have contributed, such as Oxfam and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

Welfare Reform

- 3.8 The Welfare Reform board meets monthly and looks at the impact of changes to benefits and how we can seek to support people affected by them. The most recent change is the introduction of the benefit cap and we have identified where we expect families will be affected by this.

Working Well

- 3.9 Progress on Working Well was reported to the Economy Scrutiny Committee in September. Front line workers from the two providers in Manchester also attended to talk about their experience. The figures show that across Greater Manchester we are meeting our targets to get people in sustained work, but are slightly behind in Manchester. As we get a greater understanding of the multiple barriers people face, this should improve. Manchester is one of the pilot areas for expansion, getting people onto the programme at an earlier stage. The pilot also includes GPs being able to refer directly into Working Well. Work is also underway to co-commission the new Work and Health Programme (the successor to the Work Programme) for Greater Manchester.

Voluntary Sector

- 3.10 I have been meeting regularly with a group of voluntary sector leaders to have a conversation about closer working. This has resulted in us involving the voluntary sector at an earlier stage in developing how our services will change. We had a person seconded from the voluntary sector working as part of the team looking at services for people with Learning Disabilities, and currently have another secondment working as part of the team looking at Early Help.
- 3.11 There have been a number of meetings looking at changes to voluntary sector funding for next year, starting with a couple of large open meetings and now working with a smaller group nominated by the voluntary sector on the details of how the single pot will work.

Equalities

- 3.12 There are quarterly meetings with all the Lead Members for the different areas. My role is mainly oversight, and helping and advising Lead Members as necessary. Much of the work has already been reported to the Communities Scrutiny Committee, where equalities issues are regular agenda items.

International

- 3.13 Post Brexit, this is an important area of work. Manchester will remain a member of Eurocities, and may seek to increase our profile. I have also visited Wuhan, our sister city in China, as part of the 30th anniversary of our link with them. During the visit, we signed memorandums of understanding on Climate Change and Sustainability, and on collaboration between Universities in

Wuhan and Hubei and in Greater Manchester. New Economy also presented a piece of work outlining potential further areas for closer working, as did the Yangtze Institute on behalf of Wuhan. There was also a well attended and productive meeting to encourage links between businesses from both places.

- 3.14 We get an ever-increasing number of requests to host visits and discussions with people who want to come to Manchester and work more closely with us and potentially invest and encourage business links. As an international city we need to develop our own links across Europe and beyond, and a paper is being written to look at how we do this to maximise these opportunities.

Civic

- 3.15 During the first half of the year we have had two major civic events – the Olympic Parade and the unveiling of the Victoria Cross Paving Stones at the Cenotaph. Both events were extremely successful. We have an excellent staff team who worked very hard on both events.

Health

- 3.16 I have been working to support Councillor Paul Andrews, particularly on health and social care integration. The amount of work needed to make this work is enormous, and I have been sitting on the Commissioning Board alongside Paul as well as working with officers. I will also be involved with him in appointing the new head of the joint CCGs. I also sit on the Greater Manchester Strategic Partnership Board Executive which is the final stage of decision making for Greater Manchester.

Budget

- 3.17 All executive members have been involved in looking at budget proposals. I have also been working with Councillors Sheila Newman, Andrews, Flanagan and Priest looking specifically at Children's and Adults budget monitoring for this year.

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

- 3.18 I have been appointed as one of the Deputy Portfolio Holders for the Combined Authority and have been given the Public Sector Reform Portfolio, working with the Mayor and Councillor John Merry from Salford.

Local Government Association

- 3.19 I have been appointed as one of the Deputy Chairs of the LGA, and now sit on the Leadership Board and the Executive. I am currently working as the Labour member of the Brexit Task and Finish Group, preparing the main objectives for local government for the Brexit negotiations. This is a crucial piece of work not just for Manchester but for local government as a whole.

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Report for Information**

Report to: Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee - 7 December 2016

Subject: Delivering the Our Manchester Strategy:

Report of: Executive Member for Culture and Leisure

Summary

This report provides an overview of work undertaken and progress towards the delivery of the Council's priorities as set out in the Our Manchester strategy for those areas within the portfolio of the Executive Member for Culture & Leisure.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to note and comment on the report.

Contact:

Name: Councillor Luthfur Rahman
Position: Executive Member for Culture and Leisure
Tel: 0161 234 4900
Email: cllr.l.rahman@manchester.gov.uk

1. Introduction

1.1 The Our Manchester Strategy was formally adopted by the Council in January 2016 and sets the ambitions for the city for the next ten years, to 2025, for Manchester to be:

- Thriving – creating great jobs and healthy businesses
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1.2 Executive Members are collectively and individually responsible for supporting the delivery of the Our Manchester Strategy and for providing political oversight and direction to officers for the better outcomes for Manchester residents. In October, the Executive also published its collective political priorities and those of individual Executive Members, all of which are aligned to the Our Manchester Strategy.

1.3 This report sets out how I as the Executive Member for Culture and Leisure have sought to deliver these priorities over the past six months and is the first of twice yearly reports to this Committee, with reports being submitted to Scrutiny Committees at their May and November meetings from now on.

2. Executive Member for Culture & Leisure - Portfolio

As Executive Member for Culture & Leisure, my portfolio includes:

- Cultural Strategy
- Events
- External Arts/Sports Bodies
- Galleries & Museums
- Indoor/Outdoor Leisure
- Libraries
- Markets and Hospitality & Traded Services
- Sport and Sport Development
- Youth Offer

The individual priorities for my portfolio are:

- Inclusive and Affordable for all Manchester residents with increased access to Culture and Leisure.
- Youth Trust, Youth Strategy and The Youth Offer
- Park Strategy and Libraries

3. Progress and Outcomes May- November 2016

Culture and Leisure

- 3.1 In order to ensure that participation and uptake of our Cultural and Leisure offer is accessible and affordable to all Manchester residents I have held discussions with lead officers to firstly collate information/data around the current uptake, identify areas of low participation and identify the barriers that may restrict participation. Once we have a clear analysis of the current landscape for participation within our Cultural and Leisure offer we will work on a series of consultations with stakeholders, Partners, Members and residents that will shape our widening access Strategy.
- 3.2 I also met with key partners within the Cultural and Leisure services to discuss our work and seek buy in to widening access and increasing participation. I am pleased to report that all our partners are very supportive and see widening access as a key element to the future of their organisation and offer.
- 3.3 Manchester Art Gallery are leading on a new and exciting project called the “The New North & South” which consists of a £1 Million investment in bringing the Contemporary art of South Asia to northern audiences. The project will be working with the biennials in Colombo, Kochi, Lahore, Dhaka and Karachi. I regularly meet with Maria Balshaw (Director of Culture MCC) to ensure that this project as well as all other projects meet our priorities of inclusion and participation.
- 3.4 I have been working closely with the director of Manchester Museum in connecting local residents in the initial stages of the new courtyard development that will be a new exhibition space for South Asian displays.
- 3.5 I have met with representatives from Manchester University and agreed to support an application to UNESCO for Manchester to be recognised as the City of Literature. I will report back on progress at a future scrutiny meeting.
- 3.6 I am pleased to report that membership and usage of all our leisure facilities is high however there is still a great deal we need to do to ensure all Manchester residents lead active lives by taking up some form of physical activity which is essential if we are to reduce the poor health inequalities that exist in Manchester.
- 3.7 As part of this work of getting the inactive active and widening access and participation I attended the seminar for Sport England’s new strategy which now has a greater emphasis on physical activities, health outcomes and participation.
- 3.8 I have also met with a number of National Governing bodies for sports to further expand on our major sports offer in the City and I am pleased to report that we have been successful in securing the World Taekwondo Championship for 2019 along with the Taekwondo Grand Prix in 2018. Please

note that officers are aware and have incorporated within the delivery plan a clear emphasis on legacy and benefit to Manchester residents.

- 3.9 I regularly meet with the Factory project team to monitor progress and ensure our priorities are reflected throughout the development stage.

Youth

- 3.10 Manchester residents and particularly young Mancunians voted overwhelming to remain in the UK and through discussions with young people, Manchester Youth Council and youth providers in the City, it was clear that young people in Manchester identified with Europe. Therefore we pursued Manchester's bid to become the Youth Capital of Europe which was submitted in October. Unfortunately despite our best efforts and ultimately identifying up to £4.9 million made up of in kind and partner contributions, in addition to a commitment from the City Council, we unable to match the financial strength of other applications because of the unfair and relentless cuts to our budget.
- 3.11 I think it is essential under the current climate of Austerity that as a City we continue to value and invest in young people. It is therefore that I have reorganised and reconvened the Valuing Young People board which held its first meeting on the 6th December The role of the board will be to oversee the Valuing Young people Strategy.
- 3.12 The Youth & Play Trust which is called Young Manchester has now recruited seven trustees with three remaining. Thirty eight applications were received for the Chief Executive's job, eight were shortlisted however the board were not convinced that any one candidate had the complete set of skills required to effectively lead Young Manchester. The position has been re-advertised with recruitment of a Chief Executive most likely to take place early next year.

Parks/Park Strategy

- 3.13 The park strategy consultation received the highest number of responses ever for a MCC consultation clearly demonstrating how much people value their parks and green spaces. The budget consultation also identified that parks were important to residents and places that they use the most. Therefore we need to ensure that our park strategy clearly responds to and speaks to our residents in a clear and understandable format. The first draft of the strategy which was due at the October scrutiny I felt whilst it captured the essence of what residents were telling us it didn't articulate our response in a format that is easily relatable therefore I asked officers for further work on the report. The completed report will be presented to scrutiny in December.
- 3.14 Nearly every park in the City has had some improvements made to it through investment from clean city. Most of the works are now complete with a small number awaiting completion.
- 3.15 Heaton Park has been awarded two green flags. The new play area has now opened which is proving to be extremely popular despite the weather. I meet

regularly with the Heaton strategy board which is overseeing the restoration of Heaton Hall and the development of the stables. I am pleased to report that we have successfully secured further Historical England funding for the next stage of Heaton Hall works, I am also pleased to report the addition of Tree Top Trek which will open in 2017.

Libraries

- 3.16 Our Library network consists of 14 Neighbourhood Libraries and 6 community partnership libraries. Most of our libraries now operate as a hub & spoke model with shared use and provide a vital role as community spaces which are valued by local residents. We have been able to retain and provide a library service despite cuts and pressure on our budget and as a result our library service is presented as an exemplar to other core cities. All this has been possible because of the commitment from Manchester residents, dedication of our officers and the foresight of the Council to be innovative and create a library offer fit for purpose.
- 3.17 The work is not over, we have to continue to enhance the library offer therefore we have been working closely with our residents and partners to explore the next stage of development for our library service. I am also working with officers to explore a range of new and innovative ways to make our libraries even more accessible to the public, including some possibly 24 hours a day through the 'Open Library' concept.
- 3.18 In addition to the above priorities, I have had regular meetings and visits to our business units operations which include Manchester Markets, Manchester Fayre, and Bereavement services. Some of my visits include markets, including the Christmas Markets, visit to St Wilbraham's Primary School where I saw first-hand our school dinner service and spoke to staff and children, I attended the 150th anniversary of Philips Park cemetery and many more.
- 3.20 I also visit most of our Leisure and Sports facilities and attend events where I regularly speak to frontline staff and volunteers which I think is important for the delivery of Our Manchester. I also visit and participate in panel discussions with young people and youth service providers.
- 3.21 I represent the Council on the Manchester International Festival, Manchester Football Museum, HOME, Eastland's Trust boards and as such I attend board meetings and have clearly articulated our priority of access and participation for Manchester residents.