

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee - 22 June 2017
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)

Progress and Outcomes - November 2016 - June 2017

Our Manchester

- 3.1 There has been a large amount of work to embed the Our Manchester Way of working, although given that we think it is potentially a ten year project, there is still a long way to go.
- 3.2 We have produced a 'Plan on a Page' which outlines the work so far and the principles we have adopted, it includes some of our key targets from the Our Manchester Strategy. It's been well received, and there are plans for each directorate to produce their own version. Children's Services have already done so.
- 3.3 We have been working on creating the Our Manchester Experience. This will be situated near the city centre, and will be an interactive training venue. The guides have already been recruited from staff volunteers who will run the sessions that will explain the Our Manchester behaviours and principles. All staff will be invited to take part, and all members.
- 3.4 The Listening in Action staff engagement events have continued, and the format has been updated as the work develops. The last set have included an introduction to Joanne Roney. Richard Leese has spoken about our priorities going forward. Again there have been a wide variety of questions from staff at every event. The feedback from staff has been overwhelmingly positive.
- 3.5 Work is underway to develop an outcomes framework to measure performance against the Our Manchester targets, particularly those about reducing dependency. We need a variety of measures to test that the new approach is actually working.

Family Poverty Strategy

- 3.6 The final report goes to Economy Scrutiny this week. The way that people living with poverty has informed the report in a different way - using their experiences as a fundamental part of writing the strategy. Have asked anchor institutions in the city to sign a pledge about what they can do to tackle poverty in Manchester - for example by using their procurement to benefit local businesses, and those that employ local people.

Welfare Reform

- 3.7 The Welfare Reform Board has continued to meet to look at the impact of welfare changes, and to work with partners to support people who have been affected.

Health and Work Programme

- 3.8 The successor to the Work Programme will be co-commissioned by the Combined Authority together with DWP. The amount of money available will be

less that the current programme, but control over the commissioning will help the programme have the most impact.

- 3.9 Over the next year, I would like to look at how to join up the work of the Welfare Reform Board, the Family Poverty strategy and the work on tackling unemployment to see how we can have a greater impact.

Voluntary and Community Sector

- 3.10 I have continued to meet with voluntary sector leaders, and there is currently a proposal for a further secondment to the council to look at embedding Our Manchester as part of the principles of the Local Care Organisation.
- 3.11 There are now final proposals for a new way of funding VCS organisations in Manchester. They have been developed in conjunction with the sector, who have led a lot of the work. This has resulted in a much more fundamental change being suggested. I'm very grateful for the amount of time and hard work that people have put in. The report is on the agenda today for discussion.

Community Cohesion

- 3.12 We invited Louise Casey to Manchester to discuss the findings of the Casey Review. In addition to meeting with myself and officers we facilitated a meeting for her with community groups. The groups were a mix of those we have already worked with, plus some others who had received RadEqual funding. The people at the meeting expressed some strongly held views about the report, but the outcome was constructive. The groups present, together with those who were invited but were unable to attend, agreed to form a panel to work with the Council to support work on cohesion
- 3.13 In the week of the Arena Attack, we brought the group together again to discuss the impact on our community. There were a range of comments. People were concerned about the impact on cohesion and particularly about an increase in hate crime. I also met with representatives of the Libyan Community. Manchester is inclusive and diverse city and we will do our utmost to maintain that.
- 3.14 Community impact is a major strand of the Recovery plan, and we will be reviewing our current plan.

Health

- 3.15 I have been working with Councillor Paul Andrews, and now with Councillor Bev Craig on the integration of health and social care, particularly on the formation of the Local Care Organisation. I am a member of the Manchester Provider Selection Board, which will award the contract. This is a huge piece of work and very time consuming. I have also been appointed to the Manchester Health and Care Commissioning Board.

- 3.16 I am also still involved with the Greater Manchester work and am a member of the Greater Manchester Strategic Partnership Executive.

Equalities

- 3.17 We are applying to become recognised as a Disability Confident Employer, to demonstrate our commitment to ensuring we support disabled employees and encourage people with a disability to apply to work for the council. The process is in three stages - Bronze, Gold and Silver award - so will take some time to complete.

International

- 3.18 Work to continue expanding our links continues. This is particularly important post- Brexit. A report has been prepared to look at existing links and where there are international organisations, particularly in those which have a strong urban and city focus.

We Love Manchester Emergency Appeal

- 3.19 I have been appointed as chair of trustees of the appeal fund. There has been a large amount of work to set the appeal fund up and get funds to families affected. In just over 3 weeks we have raised over £11 million and distributed almost £4 million to those families.

Local Government Association

- 3.20 As well as attending and contributing as one of the Deputy Chairs of the organisation my main focus has been continuing the work on the implications of Brexit for Local government. We have produced a report setting out the asks that we should make of government to ensure that the funding we will lose is replaced, and that there is local control of the replacement programme. We have also outlined our concerns about the impact on employment, and are working through the long list of legislation that will need to be reviewed or replaced.