

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Economy Scrutiny Committee – 8 January 2014
Subject: Overview Report
Report of: Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit

Summary

This report provides the following information:

- Recommendations Monitor
- Key Decisions
- Items for Information – including the most recent Real Time Economy Dashboard (to follow)
- Work Programme (attached as an appendix)

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to discuss the information provided and agree any changes to the work programme that are necessary.

Contact Officers:

Eleanor Fort
Scrutiny Support Officer
0161 234 4997
e.fort@manchester.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

Background documents (available for public inspection): None

1. Suggestions for the Work Programme

Members of the Communities Scrutiny Committee have suggested that the Economy Scrutiny Committee look into the issue of “bogus” colleges. The suggestion is:

- to find out extent of any closures in Manchester
- to determine the methodology for determining which colleges are intended as other than genuine pre-further education or pre-higher education
- to invite students who have been affected in terms of visa delays or refusals under the plans to crack down on abuse of study visas
- for example a whole masters course at one a university in Sheffield was threatened when a predominantly overseas entry were all delayed by visa issues

2. Monitoring Previous Recommendations

Date	Item	Recommendation	Response	Contact Officer
14 November 2012	ESC/12/29 Update on the Manchester Business Survey Group	To request that members be provided with an explanation of main organisations working at a Greater Manchester level, the structure and their role in as simple as possible diagrammatic form.	There is a review of these structures currently taking place, and an explanation of these structures will be provided for members once this review has finished. As of 1 October 2013, the review is still ongoing and there is no information to update the Committee with.	Karin Connell, Regeneration Coordinator
16 October 2013	ESC/13/48 The Hub – Chapter 1, the Limes	To recommend that the Council consider supporting halls for apprentices, to enable them to leave home and learn to be independent.	A response to this recommendation will be reported back to a future meeting of the Committee.	John Edwards, Director of Education and Skills
16 October 2013	ESC/13/49 Family Poverty Strategy	To request that the Director of Education and Skills provide a	A response to this recommendation can be found	John Edwards, Director of

	Update	paragraph for the November Overview Report on what the Council is doing to encourage update of free school meals.	under section 4 of this report.	Education and Skills
13 November 2013	ESC/13/55 Links between business and schools in Manchester	To recommend that the Director of Education and Skills ensure that different projects are monitored to see what impact they have and promote the types of programme which have the most impact.	The Director of Education and Skills has confirmed that this is an ongoing action which is in hand as the broader approach is further developed.	John Edwards, Director of Education and Skills
11 December 2013	ESC/13/58 Minutes	To request the Head of Regeneration circulate the Greater Manchester Combined Authority report on sustainable procurement.	This report has been requested will be circulated as soon as the report is provided.	Angela Harrington, Head of Regeneration
11 December 2013	ESC/13/59 The Corridor	To request that Claire Lowe, Corridor Manchester Partnership Manager, provide members with the figure of how many residents live in the Corridor.	The population of the area is approximately 27,000, based on 2010 data from the Office for National Statistics, via Commission for the New Economy.	Clare Lowe, Corridor Manchester
11 December 2013	ESC/13/59 The Corridor	To circulate the report for Central Manchester SRF members on employment activity by the Corridor's partners.	This report was circulated on 30 December 2013	Clare Lowe, Corridor Manchester
11 December 2013	ESC/13/61 Central Manchester Strategic Regeneration Framework Refresh	To request that the Regeneration Manager South provide the summary of respondents to the consultation for circulation to members.	This report has been requested and will be circulated as soon as it is provided.	Andy Wilson, Regeneration Manager - South
11 December 2013	ESC/13/62 Careers Advice and Guidance	To request that the labour market information is circulated to the Committee.	This information has been requested and will be circulated as soon as it is provided.	Elaine Morrison, Head of 10-19 Commissioning

11 December 2013	ESC/13/62 Careers Advice and Guidance	To request that the Greater Manchester wide research on the quality of advice and guidance is circulated to members.	This information has been requested and will be circulated as soon as it is provided.	Elaine Morrison, Head of 10-19 Commissioning
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3. Key Decisions

The Council is required to publish details of key decisions that will be taken at least 28 days before the decision is due to be taken. Details of key decisions that are due to be taken are published on a monthly basis in the Register of Key Decisions.

A key decision, as defined in the Council's Constitution is an executive decision, which is likely:

- To result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates, or
- To be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the city.

The Council Constitution defines 'significant' as being expenditure or savings (including the loss of income or capital receipts) in excess of £500k, providing that is not more than 10% of the gross operating expenditure for any budget heading in the in the Council's Revenue Budget Book, and subject to other defined exceptions.

An extract of the most recent Register of Key Decisions, published on **3 December 2013**, containing details of the decisions under the Committee's remit is included below. This is to keep members informed of what decisions are being taken and, where appropriate, include in the work programme of the Committee.

Subject Area for Decision	Key Decision Objective /Consultation arrangements /Point of Contact	Anticipated date of decision Documents to be considered	Decision Taker (Executive or Chief Officer)
CHIEF EXECUTIVE West Gorton	Key Decision Objective To approve proposals for West Gorton Documents to be considered: Report Contact Officer: Ian Slater, Strategic Neighbourhood Lead, 234 4582	December 2013	Executive
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	Key Decision Objective	December 2013	Executive

The Sharp Project (West Gorton)	To confirm the ERDF grant funding application decision and note next steps. Documents to be considered: Report to Executive 5/12/12 Contact Officer: Eddie Smith, Chief Executive, New East Manchester Ltd, 234 3030		
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4. Items for Information

The December 2013 Real Time Economy Dashboard is not available at the time of publication, and will be circulated to members as soon as possible.

Subject	Response to recommendation: ESC/13/49 Family Poverty Strategy Update
Contact Officers	John Edwards, Director of Education and Skills Tel: 0161 234 4314 Email: j.edwards@manchester.gov.uk

Summary

At its meeting in October 2013, the Committee made the following recommendation:

To request that the Director of Education and Skills provide a paragraph for the November Overview Report on what the Council is doing to encourage update of free school meals.

Response

The Council regularly encourages the registration of free school meals. This encouragement takes place from within three different sections in the Council; Manchester Fayre; Children and Commissioning Finance; and Manchester Benefits Service.

Manchester Benefits Service

Manchester Benefits Service (MBS) automatically assess applicants for housing benefit or council tax support for free school meal eligibility. People have the option to opt-out of free school meals during the application process, most people do not opt out. MBS circulate an annual newsletter to schools to explain the arrangements for dealing with free school meals each year.

Manchester Fayre

Manchester Fayre regularly advertises free school meals to parents in the form of posters and leaflets. Adverts are included in the school admissions brochure, posters are displayed in primary schools, a leaflet is sent home with every primary school pupil and artwork is displayed in the Customer Contact Centre on pop up banners and plasma screens.

Children and Commissioning Finance

In May 2012, Children and Commissioning Finance circulated a model letter to schools which was designed to encourage parents to register their child for free school meals based on the fact that schools receive extra money for each registered child. The letter summarises the registration process and who is eligible for free school meals.

A letter was sent to schools in September 2012 by Finance which was as a result of an internal audit of free school meal processed in schools. This letter provided guidance on the administration of free school meals in schools and included a reminder of the importance of promoting free school meal uptake via the school newsletter or otherwise.

As the level of free school meal uptake directly affects the level of funding provided to schools, schools are aware of the importance of registering eligible pupils and this is often verbally discussed between schools and the finance team.

Economy Scrutiny Committee Work Programme – January 2014

Wednesday 8 January 2014, 10.00am (Report deadline Tuesday 24 December 2013)				
Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
The Role of Medical Research in Supporting Economic Growth	To invite Professor Ian Jacobs, Vice-President and Dean of the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences at Manchester University, to the Committee to provide a presentation on the role that medical research has in supporting economic growth across Greater Manchester.	Councillor Richard Leese	Professor Ian Jacobs	See October 2012 minutes
Update on Business Start Up Support, including the recommendations of the Business Start Up	<p>To receive an update on business start up support in Manchester.</p> <p>To also include an update on progress with the recommendations of the Business Start Up Task and Finish Group.</p> <p>To also include an update on the Committee's recommendation that the Council works with the Royal Bank of Scotland and other banks in the region to develop the following ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up drop in centres and business hubs to provide easier access for potential applicants for lending to RBS staff and expert advice. • Working more closely with the Council in local communities to identify ways to engage with people interested in setting up a business and established businesses which might benefit from 	Councillor Sue Murphy	Angela Harrington Karin Connell	<p>See the reports and minutes of the Business Start Up Task and Finish Group.</p> <p>See minutes from July 2012 (ESC/12/13) and November 2012</p> <p>See October 2011 and September 2012 minutes regarding the recommendation on the Royal Bank of Scotland</p>

	working more closely with a bank.			
Impact of Minor Infrastructure Projects in Comparison to Regional Growth Fund Grants and Loans	<p>To follow up on the piece of work carried out jointly between the Council and New Economy to analyse the difference between the impact that minor infrastructure projects (such as alleygating schemes and maintenance of roads) and regional growth fund grants and loans targeted at small and medium enterprises have on economic issues such as youth employment, jobs and apprenticeships.</p> <p>To include further investigation into the whether the costs of alleygating could be offset by the savings made through prevention of crime, and whether any organisations which would benefit from this could be approached to fund alleygating schemes.</p>	Councillor Sue Murphy Councillor Kate Chappell Councillor Bernard Priest	Angela Harrington John Holden, New Economy	<p>See October 2012 minutes</p> <p>Councillor Simcock leading on this work with New Economy</p> <p>To invite the Chair of Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Committee</p>
Overview Report	<p>The monthly report includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee’s work programme and any items for information.</p> <p>To include the most recent Real Time Economy Dashboard.</p>		Christina Sharples	

Wednesday 5 February 2014, 10.00am (Report deadline Friday 24 January 2014)				
Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Update on the city’s economy	To invite the Chief Executive to provide an update on the presentation on the city’s economy that he gave in January 2012, following his address to Council in January 2014.	Councillor Richard Leese	Sir Howard Bernstein Eddie Smith Sara Todd	Date to be confirmed See December 2013 and January 2012 minutes.
Update on the Work	To invite representatives of the Work Programme	Councillor	Angela	To invite

<p>Programme</p>	<p>discuss progress since it was last considered by the Committee in July 2013. To request information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what the prime contractors are doing to improve performance, specifically for the hardest to reach groups; • what aspects of their approach to delivering the Work Programme they have changed to improve performance; • detailed targets and performance against them; • details on specific strategies to improve performance. • What evidence there is of people who have been referred to the Work Programme going back to Jobcentre Plus subsequently, and how many have done so. • More detail on work clubs in the city, including what role they play; how widespread; and how effective they are. 	<p>Sue Murphy</p>	<p>Harrington</p>	<p>representatives of the prime contractors: Seetec, G4S and Avanta.</p> <p>To invite Collette Carrol, from the Harpurhey Work Club to the meeting (See September minutes, ESC/13/41).</p>
<p>District Centre Policy</p>	<p>To consider how the Council can take a more holistic approach to the policy of district centres to ensure that local issues are taken into account, particularly in planning and licensing decisions.</p> <p>To focus on different types of businesses that can have a detrimental impact on a district centre, including hot food outlets, off licenses, businesses offering very high interest loans, shisha bars, betting shops.</p> <p>To consider the health implications that some of these businesses have. To also consider how communications between the Planning and Licensing</p>	<p>Councillor Richard Leese Councillor Nigel Murphy Councillor Sue Murphy Councillor Kate Chappell</p>	<p>Jessica Bowles Angela Harrington Jenette Hicks James Shuttleworth</p>	<p>See January 2013 minutes</p> <p>To invite the Chairs of the Neighbourhoods and Health Scrutiny Committees</p>

	departments can be improved to support this policy effectively.			
Overview Report	To include the most recent Real Time Economy Dashboard.		Christina Sharples	

Mid-February – Business Planning

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Consideration of the Growth and Neighbourhoods Business Plan	The Committee has agreed not to hold a meeting to consider the business plans but to feed back comments to the Chair. Members' comments will be reported to the Finance Scrutiny Committee when it considers the proposed budget on 24 February 2014.	Councillors Leese, S Murphy, Priest, N Murphy and Chappell	Eddie Smith Sara Todd Jill Meredith Courtney Brightwell	See December 2013 minutes

Wednesday 5 March 2014, 10.00am (Report deadline Friday 21 February 2014)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
The Christmas Economy Annual Report	To receive a report on the Christmas Economy and the Council's role in maximising the potential for economic benefit in the city. To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> detail on the city centre and how it has developed over the last few years; information on district centres; comparison with other major cities, where such information is available. 	Councillor Richard Leese Councillor Nigel Murphy	Sara Tomkins Pat Bartoli David Lea Angela Harrington	Date to be scheduled once data is available – March 2014 See March 2013 minutes

Update on Community Budgets and Troubled Families	To receive an update on community budgets and work with troubled families since the Committee last considered it in October 2013, with a focus on the work to develop skills and increase employment. To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the work to address smoking; case studies, to illustrate how the work has had a real impact on families and provide insight in to specific interventions. 	Councillor Richard Leese	Geoff Little	See October 2013 minutes
Update on the Greater Manchester Growth Company	To invite Mark Hughes, Chief Executive of the Greater Manchester Growth Company, to the meeting to review the work being undertaken by the company in Manchester.	Councillor Richard Leese	Mark Hughes, Manchester Growth Company Angela Harrington	See February 2013 minutes
Final Report of the Environmental Sustainability Subgroup	To consider the final report and recommendations of the Environmental Sustainability Subgroup.	Councillor Kate Chappell	Eleanor Fort	Date to be confirmed
Overview Report	To include the most recent Real Time Economy Dashboard.		Christina Sharples	

Items To be Scheduled				
Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Corporate Social	To request a report on Corporate Social Responsibility	Councillor	Sara Todd	See November 2012

Responsibility	(CSR) in Greater Manchester. To look at the ways that major organisations in the city carry out CSR. To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barriers to companies having effective CSR • Best practice in CSR • Particular focus on how companies in Greater Manchester fulfil CSR in terms of recruiting apprenticeships, employing local people and paying a living wage. 	Richard Leese	Angela Harrington	minutes To invite a representative from the Chamber of Commerce and/or a business with strong CSR.
Accessing Economic Benefits – follow up	To receive a follow up report once more relevant data from the 2011 Census is available, which provides details of the outcomes of initiatives that were discussed in the report the Committee received in December 2012.	Councillor Richard Leese	Sara Todd Angela Harrington	See December 2012 and March 2013 minutes
Talent Match Programme	To request a report on the Talent Match Programme. This is a scheme funded by the Big Lottery in 21 parts of the country which works with people aged 16-25 who are not in education, employment or training. GMVCO (Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisations) is leading on this scheme in Manchester. To receive this report once the business plan has been developed.	Councillor Sue Murphy	Angela Harrington Liz Goodger	To invite representatives from GMVCO to the meeting.
Broadband coverage in Manchester	To invite representatives of the main internet providers to the meeting to hear their views on why some areas in the city do not have broadband coverage. To also review the map showing exactly where in Manchester has broadband, and where does not.	Councillor Nigel Murphy	Sara Tomkins	See July 2013 minutes.
Impact of Funding	To invite representatives of third sector organisations	Councillor	Geoff Little	See July 2013

Cuts to the Third Sector	to hear their personal experiences of the impact of funding cuts on their organisation and the people they help.	Sue Murphy	Liz Goodger	minutes To invite Mike Wild of Macc to the meeting
Cost of transport	To look into the cost of transport and the impact this has on people's finances. (To be fully scoped)	Councillor Kate Chappell	Jessica Bowles	
Job creation through large investments	To request a report which provides analysis of the jobs that were created in large developments in the last five years. To consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all developments which planned to create 100+ jobs; • to compare the number of jobs planned with the number of jobs created; • to provide an analysis of the jobs by development and in total: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - what level they are; - whether they are full or part time; - how many went to Manchester residents. 	Councillor Richard Leese	Angela Harrington Jessica Bowles	
Financial Inclusion	To invite representatives from local banks to discuss how they can work with the Council and social housing providers to support residents in budgeting and making best use of the services available. To consider examples of where this has worked well.	Councillor Richard Leese Councillor Nigel Murphy	Angela Harrington	See September 2013 minutes
Manchester Adult Education Service	To receive a report on the Manchester Adult Education Service (MAES) self assessment. The self assessment will include an analysis of where MAES is most effective; getting the best results and, where possible, what percentage of students go on to employment.	Councillor Sue Murphy	Julie Rushton	See November 2013 minutes

Sharp Futures	<p>To receive a report on the Sharp Futures model of apprenticeships.</p> <p>To assess how the Council and partners can support Sharp Futures to maintain and expand the success of the model and enable Sharp Futures to expand to meet demand for the work being carried out by the apprentices.</p>	Councillor Sue Murphy	John Edwards Angela Harrington	To invite Rose Marley of Sharp Futures to the meeting
'Bogus' colleges	<p>To look into to the issue of 'bogus' colleges, which are set up to enable people to enter the country on a student visa on the pretence of studying, but who actually carry out employment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To find out if there have been any colleges closed for this reason in Manchester and if so how many; • To find out the methodology for determining which colleges are not genuine; • To assess the impact on genuine students and colleges that the government's activity crack down on the abuse of study visas has had; • To invite students who have been affected, for example by visa delays or students on courses or education institutes which have been closed or threatened with closure; • For example a whole masters course at a university in Sheffield was threatened when the predominantly overseas entry were all delayed by visa issues. 	Councillor Sue Murphy	John Edwards Angela Harrington	To invite members of the Communities Scrutiny Committee
Links between businesses and schools	To invite the young people from St Matthew's RC High School who have taken part in the programme with Wates to hear from them what impact the programme has had.	Councillor Sue Murphy	John Edwards	See November 2013 minutes ESC/13/55

Smart Cities	To revisit Smart Cities at an appropriate date, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the 'Road Map' which sets in detail the work streams, deliverables, outcomes and milestones of the vision;• more detail at what other cities are doing, for example Rio De Janeiro and other European cities.	Councillor Richard Leese	Jessica Bowles	See December 2013 minutes ESC/13/60
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