

The Executive

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 January 2016

Present: Councillor– Leese in the Chair
Councillors Andrews, Battle, Chappell, Flanagan, N Murphy, S Murphy, S Newman and Priest

Also present as Members of the Standing Consultative Panel:
Councillors Akbar, Dar, Manco, Stogia and Rahman

Exe/16/001 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2 December 2015 as a correct record.

Exe/16/002 Manchester Strategy 2016 - 2025

We considered a draft of the proposed Manchester Strategy for 2016 - 2025. This was to be the successor to Manchester's Sustainable Community Strategy for 2006 - 2015 that had been adopted by the Council in July 2006 (Minute CC/06/76). A report submitted by the Deputy Chief Executive (Growth and Neighbourhoods) explained how the Strategy was to provide a vision for the whole city and a framework for action to achieve the goals for the city. The draft had been developed with involvement and contributions from many sectors and organisations across the city, led by the Manchester Leaders Forum.

In drafting the Strategy as the successor to the 2006 document, account had been taken of the many changes to the city's economy, communities, partnerships and governance. The evidence base for the Strategy had been reviewed and consideration given to the city's contributions to the further development of Greater Manchester and the Greater Manchester Strategy.

The draft Strategy reviewed the progress made since 2006 and current drivers for change that were going to shape the city over the next ten years. The vision of Manchester as a world-class city had remained, a city:

- with a competitive, dynamic and sustainable economy that draws on our distinctive strengths in science, advanced manufacturing, culture, creative and digital business, cultivating and encouraging new ideas
- with highly skilled, enterprising and industrious people
- that is connected, internationally and within the UK
- that plays its full part in limiting the impacts of climate change
- where residents from all backgrounds feel safe, can aspire, succeed and live well
- that is clean, attractive, culturally rich, outward looking and welcoming.

We had considered an earlier draft of the Strategy in July 2015 (Minute Exe/15/083) and had agreed that the draft should be subject to public consultation. The report explained that the level of responses received during the consultation had been unprecedented, with over 2,300 people and organisations contributing their views. The report summarised the key messages expressed by consultees as being:

- A strong sense of optimism about the city and its future: people were engaged and willing to contribute their views, were proud of Manchester and wanted it to be successful.
- Many people wanted to see a cleaner and greener city. Concerns over litter were frequently raised, as was the need for green spaces particularly in the city centre. There was a less prominent but important theme on the need to reduce carbon emissions and have low carbon buildings.
- A recognition that there had been major investment that was improving the transport system but a strong feeling that this needed to go further. People wanted cheaper travel, smartcards and better quality transport. Many people wanted to see better facilities for walking and cycling across the city. This was about culture as well as infrastructure. Disruption resulting from the current work in the city centre and on Mancunian Way was evidently a concern.
- Manchester's identity and heritage, the spirit of the city and its people as well as how its buildings and spaces are used. There was a desire to bring bold new design and ideas into the city to complement its history.
- Equity matters to people. This covered a broad range of issues but included an appreciation of the diversity of the city and the benefits this could bring. There was considerable interest in creating strong communities where people could live well and have the best opportunities in life whatever their background. The need to improve mental and physical health was supported. People were concerned at the levels of homelessness and wanted to ensure that people could receive help.

The report described the changes that had been made to the earlier draft to take account of the views expressed by consultees.

We also noted that the Strategy had also been considered by the Economy Scrutiny Committee in December 2015 (Minute ESC/15/79). In its report to us the committee had commented that the draft could be amended to better describe the positive contribution of older people to the city's future. We agreed with this view and felt that the document could take a modified approach to describing the many assets of the city, which included older people and the city's voluntary and community sector. We proposed that the final version of the Strategy that would be presented to the Council would include such amendments.

We welcomed the level and the range of engagement that there had been in the development of the draft Strategy and during the public consultation. We also expressed our thanks to the many people, partners and staff that had contributed to the development of the strategy. We agreed that the document should be further

revised prior to being presented to the Council for adoption, and that work should continue on the development of plans to implement the strategy and on suitable proposals to oversee its delivery.

Decisions

1. To note the results of the consultation and the revisions that have been made as a result of the consultation process.
2. To recommend further amendments be made so as to underscore more explicitly in the strategy the city's many assets, taking into account the comments of the Economy Scrutiny Committee about older people, and also the importance of the voluntary sector in the city.
3. To authorise the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council to finalise the draft strategy for presentation to the Council.
4. To commend the Manchester Strategy to the next meeting of the Council with a view to the Council adopting it as part of the Policy Framework.
5. To ask officers, working with members of the Manchester Leaders Forum, the Manchester Partnership structures and other partners to develop plans to implement the strategy and suitable proposals to oversee its delivery and to use the annual State of the City reports to monitor progress.

Exe/16/003 Work and Skills Strategy 2016 - 2021

The Deputy Chief Executive (Growth and Neighbourhoods) submitted a report proposing the adoption of the Manchester Work and Skills Strategy 2016 - 2021. This proposed Strategy was to be one of the supporting documents for the Manchester Strategy 2016 - 2025. A copy of the proposed Work and Skills Strategy was appended to the report.

The report explained that this Strategy had been designed to be concise with clear priorities. It had been developed with significant input from stakeholders, including businesses, and had been subject to consultation with residents, businesses and partner organisations. The relevant responses from the wider Manchester Strategy consultation had also been reviewed and considered in preparing the final draft of the document.

The proposed Work and Skills Strategy was to provide the priorities for action by the Work and Skills Board over the next 5 years. The report also explained how the implementation was to be monitored, including annual progress reports to the Economy Scrutiny Committee of the Council.

Decision

To approve the Strategy.

Exe/16/004 Enterprise Zones

We considered a report that proposed establishing a new Enterprise Zone within Manchester that was to focus on the development opportunities associated with the growth of life sciences within Manchester.

The Greater Manchester Enterprise Zone had been announced by Government in 2011 (minute Exe/11/048). In the 2015 Spending Review the Government had announced a further 18 new Enterprise Zones, one of which was to be the Greater Manchester Life Science Enterprise Zone. This Enterprise Zone would comprise two sites within the "Corridor Manchester" area: the Manchester Science Partnerships Central Campus (owned by Manchester Science Partnerships); and the Clusterlabs site (owned by the Central Manchester University Hospital Foundation Trust). Together these two sites comprised 10.6 hectares of strategic employment land within Corridor Manchester. The boundaries of the Zone and the sites were shown in a plan appended to the report.

The report explained the incentives available from the designation of the Enterprise Zone as:

- the retention of all the business rate growth for 25 years, with the expectation that this be used to fund development required in the Zone;
- for businesses that enter the Zone before 31 March 2022, a business rate discount for occupiers for five years, up to the maximum state aid de minimis threshold; and
- given that this Zone was to be in an Assisted Area, companies investing in plant and machinery would qualify for Enhanced Capital Allowances, allowing them to write down the costs of qualifying plant and machinery assets against their taxable income, subject to conditions and rules set by the Government.

For this new Zone it was proposed that a Business Rate framework be adopted whereby the growth of new businesses moving into the Zone would be supported through business rates discounts. However, businesses already inside the Zone would not normally qualify for the discount. If an existing business was to expand within the Zone, either on their existing site or by moving, it was proposed that the merit of a discount for that business be assessed on a case by case basis. There would need to be a clear basis for awarding a discount related to a material change in size and contribution to the success of the Zone. The Government had confirmed that the start date for claims for Business Rate relief was to be 1 April 2016.

The business rates growth generated within this new Zone could be retained for at least 25 years. The report proposed that any retained business rate growth should be ringfenced for reinvestment in this Zone. The Corridor Manchester Board would consider the re-investment opportunities and make recommendations to the Council. The Council would then consult the Greater Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership on any proposals put forward.

The report also set out the details of the new boundaries that increased the extent of the Greater Manchester Airport City Enterprise Zone. The Government had agreed these new boundaries. This Greater Manchester Airport City Enterprise Zone was

one of those announced in 2011 and consisted of a series of five linked sites focused around Manchester Airport, University Hospital of South Manchester, Atlas Business Park and Wythenshawe Town Centre. In October 2014 a Business Case had been made to Government to extend the geographic coverage of three of the five sites: Airport City South, the Airport City North and the Medipark site. The business case had been accepted by the Government but the core conditions and timescales governing the availability of business rate discounts and other incentives for this Zone had not been extended. A plan showing the changes to the boundaries of the three sites was appended to the report.

In July 2012 we had agreed policy proposals for applying business rate discounts for businesses locating in this Enterprise Zone (Minute Exe/12/080). That framework was comparable to the proposal for Greater Manchester Life Science Enterprise Zone in that the merits of agreeing a discount for existing businesses expanding in the Zone were considered on a case by case basis. It was proposed, and we agreed, that that the policy framework agreed in 2012 be applied to the newly expanded Greater Manchester Airport City Enterprise Zone. The Government had confirmed that the start date for claims for Business Rate relief was also to be 1 April 2016.

We noted that the Government was to lay the Orders before Parliament that would give effect to the Life Sciences Enterprise Zone and the extension to the Airport City Enterprise Zone from the 1 April 2016.

Decisions

1. To approve the boundaries of the Greater Manchester Life Sciences Enterprise Zone as outlined in Annex 1 of the report.
2. (a) To approve the Business Rate Framework for the Greater Manchester Life Sciences Enterprise Zone as set out in the report.

(b) For that Enterprise Zone, to authorise the City Treasurer to determine applications for discounts within this policy framework, following consultation with the Chief Executive and the Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources.
3. (a) To agree that any business rate growth achieved within the boundaries of the Manchester Life Science Enterprise Zone be ringfenced for reinvestment in the Greater Manchester Life Sciences Enterprise Zone area.

(b) To authorise the Chief Executive and the City Treasurer, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources, to agree any proposals for such reinvestment following consultation with the Corridor Manchester Board and the Greater Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership.
4. To approve the boundaries of the expanded Greater Manchester Airport City Enterprise Zone as outlined in Annex 2 of the report.

5. (a) To approve the Business Rate Framework for the Greater Manchester Airport City Enterprise Zone, as set out in Paragraph 4.5 of this report

(b) For this Enterprise Zone, to authorise the City Treasurer to determine applications for discounts within this policy framework, following consultation with the Chief Executive and the Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources.
6. To agree that any business rate growth achieved within the boundaries of the expanded Greater Manchester Airport City Enterprise Zone will be invested to support priorities agreed at City Region level by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and the Greater Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership.

Exe/16/005 NOMA Update and Angel Meadow – A Strategic Update to the NOMA Development Framework Consultation Response

In September 2015 we had asked the Chief Executive to undertake public consultation on a Strategic Update to the NOMA Development Framework, and on the draft Angel Meadow Framework (Minute Exe/15/100). We now considered a report on the outcome of those consultations.

Consultation letters had been sent to 598 local residents and businesses, informing them of the public consultation and how to participate and engage in the consultation process. The proposals had also been published on the Council's website. There had been 38 responses received, one from a residents' group, and the other 37 from individual residents. Almost all respondents had raised concerns about the proposals, including:

- issues of design and amenity, particularly around building height and development scale;
- heritage Issues, particularly around proposed design being in keeping with existing buildings;
- the impact on existing property values;
- traffic management pedestrian access and parking; and
- neighbourhood management and community facilities, including Angel Meadow Park.

Having explained the issues that had been raised, the report set out the proposed responses to each and the matters that would be the subject of more detailed consideration during the detailed design process for the area. It also explained the changes made to the documents in response to the issues raised by consultees. We endorsed those responses.

Decisions

1. To note the comments received from local residents on the regeneration strategy and the response to the comments.

2. To agree the proposed amendments to the Strategic Update to the NOMA Development Framework arising from the comments received, as described in the report.
3. To endorse the principles in the NOMA 2015 Progress Report and the revised Angel Meadow – A Strategic Update to the NOMA Development Framework document, and request that Planning and Highways Committee take the documents into account as a material consideration when considering planning applications within the NOMA masterplan area.

Exe/16/006 Update on Cities and Devolution Bill

A report submitted by the City Solicitor provided an update on the status of the Cities and Devolution Bill. The Bill had gone through the report stage in the House of Commons on 7 December 2015. It was going back into the House of Lords on 12 January and it was anticipated that it would receive Royal Assent shortly thereafter.

The report explained that discussions had taken place with Government on the timetable for implementation of the Orders required by the Bill. The first Order was to be that to create the GM Mayor role, and to provide for the Mayor to exercise the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for the Greater Manchester police area. It would also provide for the election of the Mayor in May 2017 for an initial three year term and would remove the requirement for a GM PCC election in May 2016. It was anticipated that the Order would be laid immediately after Royal Assent so as to meet the timetable required to obviate the need for a PCC election.

The Order would require the consent of GMCA and the 10 constituent GM Councils. We agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to give that consent on behalf of Manchester City Council. We agreed that consenting to the Order had to remain conditional on the Government delivering the devolution agreement as a whole, including the granting of powers to franchise bus services and introduce smart ticketing. Confirmation was being sought from Ministers that if the councils gave their consent to this order that legislation would proceed through Parliament to implement these other parts of the agreement.

The report also explained that the GMCA would require the ability to exercise health related functions from April 2016 to enable it to play a full part in health and social care devolution. It was proposed that this be achieved by way of providing for the Combined Authority to have the function that all local authorities have under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to take appropriate steps to improve the health of people who live in their area. We further agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to give consent to terms to enable the GMCA to carry out these functions.

Decision

1. To note the progress of the Bill and next steps required for implementation.
2. To delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council to consent to the terms of the Order required to establish the role

of GMCA Elected Mayor and to provide for the Mayor to exercise the functions of the PCC in relation to the Greater Manchester Police area, noting the confirmation that had been requested from Ministers.

3. To delegate to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council the authority to consent to the terms of orders required to enable GMCA to carry out health related functions from April 2016.

Exe/16/007 Decisions of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Decision

To receive and note the Decision Notices of the meetings of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority on 27 November 2015 and 18 December 2015.

Exe/16/008 Decisions of the joint meeting of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities Executive Board and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Decision

To receive and note the Decision Notices of the joint meetings of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and the AGMA Executive Board on 27 November 2015 and 18 December 2015.

Exe/16/009 Exclusion of the Public

A recommendation was made that the public be excluded during consideration of the next item of business.

Decision

To exclude the public during consideration of the following item which involved consideration of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of particular persons and public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Exe/16/010 Former BBC Site – Land Consolidation (Public Excluded)

The Strategic Director (Strategic Development) submitted a report setting out details of the land transactions and financial implications of the decisions made in relation to the Former BBC Site - Delivery Strategy, Phasing and Land Consolidation proposals agreed in July 2015 (Minute Exe/15/088). We agreed the transactions as set out in the report.

Decisions

1. To note the Deputy Chief Executive (Growth and Neighbourhoods) will:
 - a. declare surplus to requirements such part of the land outlined red on the Plan 1 appended to the report, as that land is considered is not required for highways purposes.
 - b. Appropriate to planning purposes such part of any land declared surplus to requirements under i)a) above as is considered necessary to achieve the planning purposes, pursuant to section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 and section 226 and 227 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
2. To approve the disposal of the long leasehold interest in that land appropriated to planning purposes under 1.b. above, using the Council's powers contained in section 233 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
3. To authorise the Head of Development in consultation with the Chief Executive, City Treasurer, Chair of the Executive and Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources to finalise the terms of the above transactions.
4. To authorise the City Solicitor to conclude and execute the agreed documentation.
5. To note the decision of the Head of Development in consultation with the Chief Executive, Leader and Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration to the purchase and leaseback of the site edged blue on Plan 1 appended to the report.