

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee -
6 December 2016

Subject: Delivering the Our Manchester Strategy

Report of: Executive Member for Environment

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 Environment.

Recommendations

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

Contact:

Name: Councillor Rosa Battle
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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 The individual priorities for my portfolio are: -

- Roads (inc. Pot Holes) and Pavements
- Keep Traffic Moving
- Transport infrastructure
- Climate Change

1.4 This report sets out how I, as the Executive Member for Environment, have sought to deliver these priorities over the past 4 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 Environment Portfolio

As Executive Member for Environment, my portfolio includes:

- Highways
- Parking
- Planning and Building Control
- Transport
- Climate Change
- Food

3. Progress and Outcomes July - November 2016

Priority 1: Roads (inc. Pot Holes) and Pavements

- Earlier this year a restructure of Highways Department was agreed. This has led to new ways of working and bringing the Highways function into the

Corporate Core. I have met regularly with the interim Director of Highways to oversee progress.

- There has also been a review of the Highways Reactive Maintenance Programme, looking at the way the Council repair pot holes and what measures are in place to check the performance of contractors and sub-contractors. Following on from this piece of work, I have instigated a review of gully cleansing across the city to look at possible options to clear the backlog of blocked gullies, as well as fixing ones that are broken.

Priority 2: Keep Traffic Moving and Priority 3 Transport infrastructure

- As Members will no doubt be aware, there have been a number of infrastructure projects taking place within the city including second City Crossing, Portland Bus Gate and changes to Oxford Road. I have had regular meetings with TfGM and the Director of Highways to make sure the works currently being undertaken in the City Centre create as minimal disruption as possible.
- Following the roll out of the 20 mph Zones across the city, I initiated a review of the effectiveness of the schemes at reducing speeding. As part of this review I met with GMPCC to talk about enforcement action by GMP. Councillor Akbar is now leading on this work and will report back to members in due course.
- Parking by commuters within residential areas has become a growing problem across the City and has led to a high number of requests for residents parking schemes to be initiated. Resident parking schemes are both costly to implement and also costly to enforce which creates budget pressures. I have therefore started a review of the schemes across the city to ensure a level of consistency is agreed and to find out what costs are actually involved in managing the schemes. I expect the review to be completed early 2017.

Priority 4: Climate Change

- I am a member of the M:ACF steering group and over the past 4 months, I have been working closely with the Manchester Climate Change Agency and Deputy Chief Executive of Manchester City Council to identify ways in which tackling climate change can become more relevant to the lives of Manchester residents. I have also met with the Carbon Literacy Project to discuss ways in which the project can be rolled out to Council Members, staff and residents.
- I am the Chair of the Manchester Food Board which met in October with a wide range of partners from across the city. The Food Board is currently driving forward Manchester's application for Sustainable Food City Status
- In August, I attended a Round Table discussion in the House of Lords to discuss the One Tree per Child initiative with a view to implanting the project within Manchester to help reach the GM target of one tree planted per resident.

Communication and Engagement

- Emphasis is placed on the importance of listening and communicating with our staff, residents and partners about The Our Manchester strategy and I have met regularly with staff from my department including Planning, Building Control, Policy, Parking and Highways and have attended several staff engagements session.
- I have met regularly with elected members, residents and businesses across the city to discuss issues relating to my portfolio.
- I have taken part in the Budget process, writing a blog on Climate Change and filmed a video on the challenges we face around the Highways budget , as well as engaging with residents on Twitter.

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee - 6
December 2016

Subject: Delivering the Our Manchester Strategy

Report of: Executive Member for Neighbourhoods

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 Neighbourhoods.

Recommendations

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

Contact:

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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 published its collective political priorities and those of individual Executive Members, all of which are aligned to the Our Manchester Strategy. The individual priorities for my portfolio are: -

- Increase recycling rate
- Clean Streets
- Manage the Biffa waste contract
- Re-negotiate GM Waste Deal
- Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in the light of the new policing model

1.3 This report sets out how I as the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods 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 Neighbourhoods – Portfolio

2.1 As Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, my portfolio includes:

- Crime & Community Safety
- Licensing Policy
- Neighbourhood Management including Waste Strategy & Collection
- Maintenance of Parks, Cemeteries & Allotments
- Management of Physical Environment & Environmental Services
- Public Service Reform Reforming Justice

2.2 In addition to my portfolio in Manchester I am also Chair of the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority

3. Progress and Outcomes May- November 2016

- 3.1 I will run through each of my individual priorities and provide an update on the progress that has been made over the last six months.

Increase Recycling rates

- 3.2 Over the last six months, we have seen the roll out of over 157,000 new grey bins in our four bin households. This was implemented to increase the city's recycling rate and reduce the cost of waste disposal. Canvassers spoke to over 47,000 households explaining the service change, which resulted in nearly 40,000 deliveries of new/additional recycling bins, caddies or liners. Early indications are showing that residents are embracing the new arrangements and overall recycling rates have increased by over 10%, organic recycling (green bin) has seen the largest increase with rates increasing by over 20%. It is still early days, but we are on target to see our overall recycling rate exceed 40% for the first time.
- 3.3 Work is underway to increase recycling in apartments, details of which can be found in the Waste, Recycling, and Street Cleaning Update report that is also on this month's agenda.

Clean Streets

- 3.4 Residents have constantly said that they expect clean street, which is why we invested £300,000 in additional resources focused in neighbourhoods to tackle fly tipping. As well as removing the waste, compliance officers are working with Biffa to proactively target areas and gain evidence so enforcement action can place.
- 3.5 A considerable problem for the city is waste from commercial premises, the council is not currently able to effectively control where and when commercial waste is presented for collection; Manchester is lobbying for powers similar to those available in London to be able to properly manage this sector.

Managing the Biffa Waste Contract

- 3.6 In July 2015, Biffa Municipal took over the contract for household waste and recycling collections from Enterprise Manchester, and took over responsibility for Street Cleaning from the council's in house team.
- 3.7 A full update report on the service is being presented to the December Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.8 Over the past six months I have held a weekly meeting with the Strategic Lead for Waste, Recycling and Street Cleaning, to monitor both the role of the new bin service and monitoring of the Biffa contract and monthly budget performance meetings also take place. I also attend a quarterly Strategic Partnership Board meeting. In addition to reporting to scrutiny a members briefing session was held in early October.

Re-negotiate the GM Waste Deal

- 3.9 In April 2009, the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority (which is all GM councils except Wigan) entered into a 25-year Private Finance Initiative (PFI) agreement with Viridor Laing (Greater Manchester) Ltd to deal with the disposal of domestic waste and recycling from across the conurbation. A mechanism for paying for the facilities was agreed by all members and is set out in an Inter Authority Agreement (IAA), the IAA encourages councils to recycle.
- 3.10 It has been agreed that a review of the contract will take place to ensure that the residents of Greater Manchester are getting the best possible value for money and at the same time establish if the IAA is fit for purpose. I sit on the working group that is overseeing this review is currently underway and is expected to report back in early 2017.

Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in the light of the new policing model

- 3.11 In May 2016, Greater Manchester Police (GMP) merged the North and South Manchester Policing Divisions to form the City of Manchester Division and introduced a new policing model across the City, this followed the introduction of similar models across Greater Manchester.
- 3.12 I've held a number of meetings with Chief Superintendent Wasim Chaudhry, to discuss some of the teething issues experienced by the reorganisation and I have also been part of discussions that have also taken place on a Greater Manchester basis with the Chief Constable. Superintendent Arif Nawaz attended the November meeting of the Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee to give an overview on the new model two briefing sessions have also been arranged for members.
- 3.13 It is too early to assess the impacts the new policing model has had on crime and anti-social behaviour, but comparable figures will be available next year.