



Executive

Date: Wednesday, 15 December 2021
Time: 2.00 pm
Venue: Council Chamber, Level 2, Town Hall Extension

This is a combined agenda pack for information only.

Access to the Public Gallery

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Filming and broadcast of the meeting

Meetings of the Executive are 'webcast'. These meetings are filmed and broadcast live on the Internet. If you attend this meeting you should be aware that you might be filmed and included in that transmission.

Membership of the Executive

Councillors

Craig (Chair), Bridges, Midgley, Rahman, Rawlins and White

Membership of the Consultative Panel

Councillors

Butt, Karney, M Sharif Mahamed, Ilyas and Taylor

The Consultative Panel has a standing invitation to attend meetings of the Executive. The Members of the Panel may speak at these meetings but cannot vote on the decisions taken at the meetings.

Agenda

1. Appeals

To consider any appeals from the public against refusal to allow inspection of background documents and/or the inclusion of items in the confidential part of the agenda.

2. Interests

To allow Members an opportunity to [a] declare any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests they might have in any items which appear on this agenda; and [b] record any items from which they are precluded from voting as a result of Council Tax/Council rent arrears; [c] the existence and nature of party whipping arrangements in respect of any item to be considered at this meeting. Members with a personal interest should declare that at the start of the item under consideration. If Members also have a prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest they must withdraw from the meeting during the consideration of the item.

3. Minutes

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2021.

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4. Appointment of Executive Members and their Portfolios

Report of the Executive Leader attached

All Wards

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5. Allocation of responsibilities for the discharge of executive functions

Report of the City Solicitor attached

All Wards

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6. COVID19 updates - Population Health and Economic Recovery

Report of the Director of Public Health and Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure attached

All Wards

33 - 92

7. Our Manchester progress update report

Report of the Chief Executive attached

All Wards

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8. This City: Manchester's Housing Delivery Vehicle Business Case (Part A)

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer attached

All Wards

101 - 110

9. Exclusion of the Public

The officers consider that the following item or items contains exempt information as provided for in the Local Government Access to Information Act and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. The Executive is recommended to agree the necessary resolutions excluding the public from the meeting during consideration of these items. At the time this agenda is published no representations have been made that this

part of the meeting should be open to the public.

10. This City: Manchester's Housing Delivery Vehicle Business Case (Part B)

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer
attached

All Wards

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Information about the Executive

The Executive is made up of 8 Councillors: the Leader and two Deputy Leaders of the Council and 5 Executive Members with responsibility for: Children's Services; Health and Care; Environment; Housing and Employment; and Neighbourhoods. The Leader of the Council chairs the meetings of the Executive

The Executive has full authority for implementing the Council's Budgetary and Policy Framework, and this means that most of its decisions do not need approval by Council, although they may still be subject to detailed review through the Council's overview and scrutiny procedures.

It is the Council's policy to consult people as fully as possible before making decisions that affect them. Members of the public do not have a right to speak at meetings but may do so if invited by the Chair.

The Council is concerned to ensure that its meetings are as open as possible and confidential business is kept to a strict minimum. When confidential items are involved these are considered at the end of the meeting at which point members of the public and the press are asked to leave.

Joanne Roney OBE
Chief Executive
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Further Information

For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact the Committee Officer:

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This agenda was issued by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit, Manchester City Council, Level 3, Town Hall Extension, Manchester M60 2LA

Executive

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 17 November 2021

Present: Councillor Leese (Chair)

Councillors: Akbar, Bridges, Craig, Midgley, Rahman, Rawlins, White

Also present as Members of the Standing Consultative Panel:

Councillors: Butt, Karney, M Sharif Mahamed, Ilyas and Taylor

Exe/21/102 Minutes

The Executive approved as a correct record the minutes of the meeting on 20 October 2021.

Exe/21/103 COVID19 updates - Population Health and Economic Recovery

The Executive considered a report of the Director of Public Health and the Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure, which provided an update on the COVID-19 situation within the city and the progress that was being made with the city's economic recovery.

The Executive Member for Health and Care advised that infection rates within the city were now 290 per 100,000 of the population and Manchester was currently 9th amongst Greater Manchester's Local Authorities in terms of infection rates, with rates gradually increasing but remaining below the national average and the infection rate amongst the over 60's was 148 per 100,000 which had significantly decreased over the past few weeks and put Manchester 10th across Greater Manchester.

Rates amongst school children remained higher than other groups and as such the in school and out of school offer of vaccinations to 12 to 15 year olds would continue and all schools would be visited by the 1 December 2021. The booster programme was well underway and people could now book their booster vaccination 5 months after their second vaccination dose. 65% of the city's residents aged 70 or older had had their booster. The vaccination team was working on plans to deliver the offer of second vaccinations to those aged 16-17 and for those aged 40-49 who were now eligible for a booster vaccination.

The Executive Member for Health and Care advised that events would be held to recognise those who had volunteered to help deliver the city's vaccination programme.

Councillor Karney sought clarity on the level of unvaccinated people admitted to Manchester and Greater Manchester hospitals with COVID related illnesses. The Director of Public Health stated that a few months ago the majority of people being admitted were unvaccinated but over the last few months people had been admitted who had had both vaccinations, particular amongst the city's older cohort, which was why the booster programme was important. The Leader noted the unprecedented

pressure the whole care system was under at this time of year, with current hospital occupancy levels being at 93%.

In relation to the city's economic recovery, the Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure advised that office take up remained positive, with a number of SME's taking up of larger office space. Larger corporate businesses remained slow to return but this was attributed to the decision to return being taken at national or headquarter level. Recruitment challenges remained across all employment sectors of the city although the labour market was holding up at present. There was concern around the increase in inflation and the rising cost of living and the impact of this on residents. In relation to various sectors, Manchester Airport had reported that they were at 55% of pre-pandemic levels. In terms of levelling up, the Council had been successful with its Culture in the City bid, with an award of £19.8m which would support around 4000 jobs over a 15 year period. The Council had also secured 90% of the City Regen Sustainable Transport Settlement, which was just over £1billion which would support continued active travel plans. The decision around the Integrated Rail Plan was expected to be announced within the next 24 hours, which would set the context for taking forward wider transport plans around rail.

Councillor Karney commented on the surge of people returning to the city centre and district centres, noting that Mancunians were wanting to come together, especially at this time of year. He also commented on reports that staff in local cafes and bars had been subjected to aggressive and over assertive behaviour from customers and urged all visitors to the city to treat staff within these types of businesses with respect.

Decision

The Executive note the report.

Exe/21/104 Our Manchester progress update report

The Executive considered a report of the Chief Executive which provided an update on key areas of progress against the Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025 which reset Manchester's priorities for the next five years to ensure the Council could still achieve the city's ambition set out in the Our Manchester Strategy 2016 – 2025.

The Deputy Leader (Finance) advised that work to transform Albert Square into a world class public space, increasing its size by around 20%, had got underway as part of the Our Town Hall project. The changes involved the closure of two sides of the square to traffic with the former road space incorporated as part of the pedestrianised public space. The first phase, focused on the area outside the existing square, had been brought forward and would now be completed next year, two years ahead of the original schedule, to minimise the impact on surrounding businesses and ensure they can benefit from its traffic-free environment more quickly, supporting their recovery from the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Deputy Leader (Human Resources) advised that Manchester Art Gallery had reported that its visitor numbers were back up to pre-pandemic levels. Since re-opening in May this year, the gallery has welcomed almost 200,000 visitors despite

social distancing measures in place to limit the number of visitors in the building at any one time. Taking into account the galleries reduced opening hours, this figure was equivalent to visitor numbers at the gallery before the first Covid-19 lockdown was imposed in March 2020. In addition he advised that the Grayson's Art Club exhibition, curated by artist Grayson Perry, had spearheaded the re-opening and had been a major factor in attracting people back through the gallery's doors.

In relation to homelessness, the Deputy Leader (Human Resources) reported that the Council's extended accommodation offer would run throughout the winter months from early December to 31 March and would include space for 50 individuals with en-suite rooms in a former hotel outside the city centre. These bed spaces would be targeted at people who have been identified by partners and outreach teams as having high priority need, and who have been on the streets for a long time and meet the criteria as set by the Homelessness Partnership. In addition to this, there would be 50 bed spaces provided in a hotel close to the city centre. These bed spaces would only be activated during prolonged cold weather, when the temperature was forecasted to drop below zero, and would offer secure and Covid-safe spaces with support services in place to help people until they could move into more permanent accommodation. There would also be access to 186 -A Bed Every Night - spaces jointly funded by Manchester City Council and Greater Manchester Combined Authority, plus 30 additional spaces in a hotel in Fallowfield which was now an annual council scheme for people sleeping rough

The Deputy Leader (Human Resources) also commented on the recent allegations of racism in cricket by Azeem Rafiq and stated that there was no place for racism in any sport and as Manchester was the sports capital of England, the city should be proud of its diversity and stand in support of those subjected to racism.

The Executive Member for Health and Care reported on dedicated Covid advice helpline which had been launched in Manchester last month to help support the ongoing push for vaccinations. People were able to ring the number, for free, to speak with clinical professionals about the Covid-19 vaccine and any concerns they have, or simply to get advice on how to book an appointment. It was also reported that for people whose first language wasn't English, a translation service was available to ensure that no communities were left without advice.

The Leader reported that the Council had been successful in receiving a levelling up bid of £19.8m for the Culture In The City scheme, as part of the first round of awards made under the Government's Levelling Up Fund. The project was focused around two different locations in the city centre's creative district. It would see the Upper and Lower Campfield Market buildings, which were both listed but in need of renovation and refurbishment, brought back into life as an affordable tech hub with more than 1,000 workspaces. Culture In The City would also see investment in three railway arches on Whitworth Street which would be converted to create a creative talent development centre for arts venue HOME, providing affordable co-working areas, a free rehearsal space and creative skills training for young people.

The Leader commented that it was disappointing that the bid for Withington Town Centre had not been successful, however there was a strong community partnership and the Council would continue to work with this partnership to get improvements for

the town centre. He also commented that in the two years since Government had started making commitments around levelling up, it had been noted by Conservative MP's from the north that very little progress had been made for a genuine levelling up agenda.

Decision

The Executive note the report.

Exe/21/105 Revenue Budget Monitoring report - P6

The Executive considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which outlined the projected outturn position for 2021/22, based on expenditure and income activity as at the end of September 2021 and future projections.

The Deputy Leader (Finance) advised that the current budget monitoring forecast was estimating an underspend of £1.161m for the year. The impact of COVID 19 was still being felt and there were significant uncertainties and risks to the position as COVID 19 restrictions ease, with significant potential risks around services to Adults, Children's and Homelessness of increasing demand leading to additional costs.

In relation to the delivery of the £40.717m of savings identified as part of the budget process the majority are on track for delivery. However, £1.841m (4.5%) of these were considered high risk and a further £4.365m (10.7%) were medium risk, in terms of the likelihood of delivery. Officers were working to address the risk to ensure all savings are achieved or mitigated

It was reported that there remained a significant budget shortfall to 2025/26 alongside uncertainty about the future funding settlement and a report would be brought back to the Executive to consider the longer-term position and proposed mitigations as part of the budget process.

Decision

The Executive:-

- (1) Note the forecast outturn position which is showing a £1.161m underspend.
- (2) Approve the proposed revenue budget virements.
- (3) Approve additional COVID 19 grants to be reflected in the budget
- (4) Approve the use of other unbudgeted external grant funding (non COVID 19)

Exe/21/106 Spending Review and budget update

The Executive considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which provided an update on the main announcements from the Spending Review on 27 October 2021 with a focus on the implications for local government funding and what this meant for the Council's budget position and the proposed budget process.

The Deputy Leader (Finance) commented that following the Spending Review announcements and other updates, the Council was forecasting an estimated

shortfall of £4m in 2022/23, £64m in 2023/24 and £85m by 2024/25. The position would be clearer in December when the Local Government Finance Settlement was received although that was unlikely to provide detailed funding allocations for after 2022/23.

A longer-term strategy to close the budget gap was being prepared with an estimated requirement to find budget cuts and savings in the region of £40m per annum for 2023/24 and 2024/25. In addition, £50.6m of risk-based reserves had been identified as available to manage risk and timing differences.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer commented that whilst the Spending Review announcement was better than expected, it still did not address long term pressures around demand, inflation and a suitable funding solution for Adult Social Care. There was concern in relation to the longer term position and the funding shortfall beyond the next financial year.

A further report would be presented to the Executive following the receipt of the Local Government Finance Settlement.

Decision

The Executive notes the Spending Review announcements and the forecast medium term revenue budget position

Exe/21/107 Capital Programme Monitoring 2021/22

The Executive considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which provided an update on the progress of the global capital programme in the three months to the end of September 2021, including activity, benefits realised, financial implications and risk. It also provided a more detailed update on the major projects within the programme and confirmed that there were adequate levels of resources available to finance the capital programme.

The Deputy Leader (Finance) commented that the revised capital budget sat at £493.7m, with a further £601.5m budgeted to be spent across 2022-2025, taking total Council led capital investment in the city to £1.095.2m.

To reflect the climate change emergency that the Council had declared, every capital expenditure business cases now included carbon reduction measures for both during the project progression stage and the ongoing lifecycle post completion. The intention being that the carbon footprint of a scheme was considered as part of the decision-making process. In addition, every capital project was required to consider the social value which could be realised, either through procurement or other routes, through the creation of the asset. This was one of the key requirements of any capital business case brought forward.

The Deputy Leader (Finance) also stated that the capital programme was varied, and included significant spend across the city, not just within the city centre and highlighted a number of schemes as detailed in the report.

Decision

The Executive note the report and the change to the applicable mortgage rate as detailed at paragraph 11.2 of the report

Exe/21/108 Delivery of the Household Support Fund

The Executive considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which set out the Council's approach to delivering the Household Support Fund. The aim of the fund was to support households in the city during the winter period with household and other essential expenses.

The Deputy Leader (Finance) commented that the Council would receive £6.453m from the Household Support Fund for a six-month period from October 2021 to end of March 2022. This budget was a fraction of the estimated £30 million that had been removed from UC claimants as a result of the withdrawal of the £20 UC uplift. The removal of the uplift affected an estimated 59,000 residents of the 78,000 residents/households in receipt of UC in the city, many of whom had household costs to manage.

It was reported that at least 50% of the total funding would be spent on families with children. In terms of type of support, the expectation was that the Household Support Fund should primarily be used to support households in the most need with food, energy and water bills. It could also be used to support households with essential costs related to those items and with wider essential costs. In exceptional cases of genuine emergency, it could additionally be used to support housing costs where existing housing support schemes did not meet this need.

In addition to this, if the Council wished to support ongoing free school meal provision during the school holidays that were within this six-month scheme period, then this would require circa £1.7m from the £6.453m allocation before any wider awards or consideration.

Councillor Karney lambasted the current government for its failure to recognise the damage that the last ten years of austerity had had on residents living in Manchester and the miniscule amount of funding now being offered was an insult against the decision by government to remove the UC uplift and the ramifications that this had on Manchester residents.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Agree the government funding for the Household Support Fund of £6.453m is mainly used for direct awards to support residents during the winter months. Although the Council will quantify the admin costs, it will not deduct all of these from the grant award.
- (2) Agree that the Council administers the Household Support Fund scheme in four key parts to support Manchester residents, this includes the provision of:-

- (i) Support to families to provide free school meals during the holidays, including free school meals for the remainder of the school holidays in this financial year, equating to £15 per pupil per week with money distributed to households on a pupil basis via schools.
 - (ii) A universal offer to recipients of Council Tax Support and other key groups that includes a payment to all households in the city in receipt of CTS, other key groups, including care leavers responsible for the Council Tax bill in their property and residents who are exempt from council tax due to being severely mentally impaired, equating to a one-off cash grant of £100 to households with dependent children and £70 to households without children.
 - (iii) A discretionary Household Support scheme using £300k of the grant funding for Households with responsibility for household bills and who are in receipt of means tested benefits. This could include those that may not have qualified or be in receipt of Council Tax Support, residents living in shared or other accommodation where they do not have a liability for Council Tax but have responsibility for household bills.
 - (iv) Third sector support offer, with the Council setting aside a further £300k to work with advice agencies and the third sector in the city. This will include further work with the Manchester Food partnership. This element of the scheme will be developed under delegation in the weeks ahead and will include liaison with key partners.
- (3) Note that the final published version of the government guidance to local authorities has not been received and on this basis, agree that continuing development and delivery of the scheme is delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer in conjunction with the Deputy Leader. This will include the budget management as well as scheme eligibility and delivery.
- (4) Note that if significant changes to the scheme are required, it will be brought back to the meeting of Executive in December 2021.
- (5) Places its thanks on record for the work undertaken by the Director of Customer Services and Transactions and her team in developing the proposals with technical proficiency and speed as well as care and compassion.

Exe/21/109 Better Care Fund Section 75 2021/22

The Executive considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which set out the proposed Section 75 (S75) between Manchester CCG and Manchester City Council on the Better Care Fund and the Improved Better Care Fund (BCF).

The Executive Member for Health and Care advised that on 1 April 2021, new arrangements came into place between the Council and Manchester Foundation Trust (MFT) to 'supercharge' Manchester's Local Care Organisation. This included

the creation of a new Section 75 (S75) between the Council and MFT which included Adult Social Care services, which previously made part of the S75 between Manchester Clinical Commissioning Group (MCCG) and the Council. Consequently, as a result of these changes, the MCCG / Council S75 needed to be amended to reflect the new arrangements. Consequently, as a result of these changes, the MCCG/Council S75 needed to be amended to reflect the new arrangements.

Following discussions between MCCG and the Councils' finance and governance teams, it was agreed that the approach would be to revert back to as close as possible to the pre 2017 S75 arrangements on the BCF. The updated S75 had been presented to and endorsed by, MHCC Executive and Finance Committee on 21 October 2021 and the CCG's Governing Body on the 27 October 2021

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Approve the proposed S75 on the Better Care Fund and the Improved Better Care Fund set out in Appendix One.
- (2) Agree that delegated authority be given to the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer and City Solicitor, in consultation with Executive Member with responsibility for Health and Care, for any minor finalisation amendments to be made to the document.

Exe/21/110 Adoption Counts - Regional Adoption Agency

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director Children and Education Services, which sought approval to formally and permanently transfer staff from Manchester into Stockport Council (host organisation) under TUPE regulations.

The Executive Member for Children's Services advised that in 2017, the Council's Senior Management Team and Executive supported a proposal from the Strategic Director of Children's Services for Manchester's adoption service to merge with four other local authorities (Stockport, Trafford, Salford, and Cheshire East) and two voluntary adoption agencies (Adoption Matters and Caritas) to form a Regional Adoption Agency which was known as 'Adoption Counts'. Stockport were nominated as the host organisation for the Regional Adoption Agency, and it was agreed in 2017 to temporarily second adoption staff from Manchester, Trafford, Salford and Cheshire East into Stockport whilst the RAA was established and developed.

The proposal to formally transfer the staff into the host organisation was expected to further improve management support and oversight, organisational performance, organisational identity and relationships as all the staff working in the RAA would become part of a single organisation and no longer have to experience a set of temporary organisational arrangements.

It was noted that the report had been considered by the Children and Young people's Scrutiny Committee who had supported the recommendations.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Agrees the adoption service for Manchester City Council is integrated into the Regional Adoption Agency 'Adoption Counts'.
- (2) Approves the transfer of the service and notes that staff who are assigned to the service will transfer to Stockport under TUPE regulations.

Exe/21/111 Grey Mare Lane Master Plan

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director (Growth and Development), which sought approval in-principle for land to be disposed of to One Manchester (OM) for development, subject to the achievement of agreed milestones, as part of the proposals for the transformation and regeneration of the Grey Mare Lane Estate in Beswick, East Manchester.

The Executive Member for Housing and Employment advised that the regeneration of Grey Mare Lane was being led and funded by OM with an overall investment to be an estimated value of £70m. The scheme involved the provision of 290 new affordable homes, which would include 124 for social rent. There would also be investment in community facilities and a community hub as well as public realm investment alongside the retrofitting of 150 existing homes to make them low carbon and reduce fuel bills.

The Strategic Director (Growth and Development) confirmed that the disposal of the Council's land interest would enable the comprehensive regeneration of the estate by enabling the delivery of additional housing to allow an element cross subsidy across the scheme, which will fund the public realm, street scape, a new community hub and the transformation of Grey mare lane into an attractive high street

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note the progress made to date by One Manchester in developing proposals for the regeneration of the Grey Mare Lane estate:
- (2) Endorse the Masterplan for the Grey Mare Lane Estate, which from this point forwards, will act as a point of co-ordination for future regeneration activity, including the submission by One Manchester of detailed planning applications on a phased basis.
- (3) Approve in-principle the disposal of land shown in Appendix 2 and as set out in the body of the report; the timing of such disposals being subject to the successful achievement of milestones including the receipt of relevant planning consents and the re-provision of a new Community Hub to replace the current Grange Centre.

- (4) Delegate authority to the Strategic Director Growth and Development and the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, in consultation with the Executive Member for Housing and Economy and the Statutory Deputy Leader, to finalise the terms of specific land disposals as and when necessary, to facilitate the regeneration and housing outcomes as set out in the body of the report.
- (5) Authorise the City Solicitor to complete the legal documentation required to put these recommendations into effect

[Councillor Taylor declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in this item due to her employment with One Manchester and left the meeting during consideration of the item].

Exe/21/112 Streets for All Strategy

The Executive considered a report of the Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure, which provided an overview of the Streets for All Strategy, which formed a sub strategy to the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy and would enable the Council to deliver its ambitions for walking, cycling and bus in a holistic way. The approach set out in Streets for All would also support the Council's pathway to net zero transport, which was vital to the Government's 'Decarbonising Transport' plan, alongside the Council's local plans to reduce carbon and improve air quality.

The Executive Member for Environment advised that the Streets for All Strategy was well-aligned with national policy documents, including 'Gear Change: A bold vision for Cycling and Walking' (2020) in which Government outlined its ambition to create better streets for people walking and cycling, and 'Bus Back Better: A National Bus Strategy for England' (2021) in which Government asked all Local Transport Authorities to 'commit to significant improvements in traffic management, including bus priority measures and active travel measures. It was a new approach to everything people did on streets in Greater Manchester and it supported the Council's place-based agenda as well as aimed to achieve the ambition for more travel by walking, cycling and public transport, which would help us to tackle our most pressing economic, environmental, quality of life and innovation challenges.

Central to the strategy was reducing the distances people needed to travel to reach everyday destinations such as work, healthcare, education, green spaces, and leisure facilities. Shorter distances meant more trips that could easily be walked or cycled, and new developments could be designed to be easy and safe to access on foot, by cycle and using public transport. The 15 minute neighbourhood concept, whereby in urban areas residents could meet most of their needs within a short walk, cycle, or public transport journey, was an example of this.

The Executive Member for Environment highlighted measures that the Council was already taking in applying a Streets for All approach as it planned for and delivered key sustainable transport infrastructure projects across Manchester.

Decision

The Executive endorse the approach and the principles that will underpin the Streets for All Strategy.

Exe/21/113 Withington Baths Financial Support

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods), which provided details of a proposed £1 million loan by Manchester City Council to Love Withington Baths Charitable Trust which would enable essential repairs to the facility that provides valuable swimming, leisure and well-being activities in south Manchester.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods explained that the facility had been operated on a full repair and maintenance lease and in addition to annual maintenance work, refurbishment of both studios, redeveloped upstairs unused area into workspace and refurbished sauna had all been financed from Love Withington Baths own profits, crowdfunding and a loan for the workspace. The structural fabric of the 110-year-old building was now in need of considerable repair, in particular the roof of the building, but also some repairs to the external elevations and to the building's structural elements, including a significant amount of reinforced concrete around the pool and replacement of the boiler.

In 2019 the Baths were successful in securing Heritage Lottery funding for £900,000. An additional £230,000 from the Baths' own reserves was intended to cover all the anticipated £1.1million project costs. A robust and transparent tendering process undertaken by the Baths had returned tendered costs considerably higher than anticipated. Three prices were submitted to the Baths, with the preferred tender coming in at around £2.1 million reflecting the rapid increase in construction costs. Consequently, there was a significant gap in funding of around £1 million. Some value engineering work had taken place along with prioritisation of works, to reduce the overall cost. However, the ability to achieve cost reductions or reduce the scope of the works was limited to ensure the long term condition of the building and to ensure that the works were in keeping with the architectural quality of the building required by the National Heritage Lottery Fund. As a result of the financial shortfall and the risk factors associated with not proceeding with the works, Love Withington Baths Charitable Trust had approached the Council for financial assistance.

If agreed, the loan to Love Withington Baths Charitable Trust would be repayable over a long payment period of a maximum of 25 years, based on the expected life of the works

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note the background and rationale for the provision of this loan.
- (2) Recommend to Council a capital budget increase of £1 million for the purpose of a loan from Manchester City Council to Love Withington Baths Charitable Trust, to be over a repayment period of a maximum of 25 years, and to be funded from borrowing.

- (3) Delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, and City Solicitor, in consultation with the Deputy Leader (Statutory), to agree and finalise the terms of the loan.
- (4) Delegate authority to the City Solicitor to enter into all contractual and ancillary arrangements to give effect to the recommendations set out in this report

Exe/21/114 Refresh of the Greater Manchester VCSE Accords

The Executive considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which provided an overview of key activities in Manchester to support the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector.

The Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) had requested all 10 GM local authority areas to approve and endorse the GM VCSE Accord, with the GMCA having already approved it.

The Leader advised that the GM Accord represented a continuation of the approach currently adopted in Manchester, and would help to strengthen commitments across GM to build a stronger and more resilient VCSE sector that could best supported and delivered for Manchester residents.

Decision

The Executive approve the new GM VCSE Accord and confirm its endorsement on behalf of Manchester

Exe/21/115 Manchester International Festival Evaluation

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods), which provided an overview of the outcomes of the 2021 Manchester International Festival (MIF21). The report summarised the performance against the agreed objectives and details the impact of the festival, based on the results of the independent evaluation and demonstrated how the festival delivered an inspiring programme which enabled Manchester residents and wider audiences to return to the city to enjoy arts and culture, despite the challenges and uncertainty of COVID-19.

The Deputy Leader (Human Resources) commented that despite the challenges and uncertainty of Covid, MIF21 inspired residents of Manchester and beyond to return to the city and enjoy a programme of art, dance, theatre and music, delivered through an immersive series of events that utilised outside spaces like never before.

John McGrath, Artistic Director & Chief Executive MIF reported that MIF developed a range of scenarios for the various potential levels of restriction that might be in place. He paid tribute to the MIF team as at any one time, MIF was running five or more differing scenarios for the festival, and for each project within it, ranging from full lockdown to 'business as usual', and with several versions of a socially-distant or blended festival also in play. He commented that the festival could not have happened without the extraordinary relationship that cultural sector and MIF had with the Council.

Despite the impact of Covid on the media landscape, MIF21 generated strong press coverage across print, online and broadcast media including news announcements, previews of MIF shows, and features, interviews and reviews.

It was also reported that MIF21 was the last Manchester International Festival to take place before the opening of the city's new flagship cultural venue The Factory. As such it provided a citywide and international platform to build profile, raise awareness and introduce elements of The Factory brand to audiences, partners, press and stakeholders locally, nationally and internationally

Randel Bryan, Executive Director MIF, advised the Executive that whilst MIF21 was a socially distanced festival due to Covid, a large number of free and online events made it possible to reach a record number of audiences locally, nationally and internationally and as a result the 2021 festival reached 2,662,244 people (compared with 302,161 in 2019) – 1,462,244 in person and 1,200,000 online. He added that whilst the effects of Covid had meant that the economic impact of the 2021 Festival was lower than previous years, the total economic impact of MIF21 estimated to be £19.5million. The festival also played an important role in terms of employment. 69 staff now worked for the festival all year round and a further 83 were contracted by the festival for a minimum of three weeks during the festival period as well as an additional 62 office-based freelancers. In addition, to deliver the festival, MIF contracted a further 680 people who worked as performers, stage managers, front of house staff or technicians on MIF commissions.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note the substantial achievements of the 2021 Festival in achieving its objectives and in supporting the economic and cultural recovery of the city following the COVID-19 pandemic.
- (2) Recognise and support the importance of maintaining public sector funding commitments in order to attract significant match funding from other public and private sector partners

Exe/21/116 Update on the CCTV Code of Good Practice

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods), which advised of changes required to the Council's CCTV Code of Practice (COP) since it was last updated in 2019.

The Executive member for Neighbourhoods reported that the only significant change to the COP is the insertion of paragraph 5.4.3.4 relating to the operation of the CCTV system by the Greater Manchester Police ('GMP'). This meant that a number of designated GMP officers in the Silver Command Control room, the City Centre policing team and associated radio operators would also be able to view all CCTV cameras in the City Centre independently of a Council CCTV operator.

In addition to being able to view a camera those GMP officers would also have the ability to use the pan, tilt, and zoom features of all cameras they had access to. All

such viewing and also use of the features of the CCTV cameras would be controlled through a single generic user account and GMP would be required to keep records to show which individual officers were using the CCTV cameras at any time. Representatives of the Council, and other Greater Manchester partners such as the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service and the North West Ambulance Service would also have access to view the CCTV feedback when working in the Silver Command Control room

Decision

The Executive approve the updated Manchester City Council CCTV Code of Practice.

Exe/21/117 HS2 Tramway Consent (Part A)

The Executive considered a report of the Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure, which provided an overview of the consent requested by HS2 Limited under Standing Order 25 for the inclusion, in the High Speed Rail (Crewe to Manchester) hybrid Bill, of works associated with the construction of a tramway on the public highway in the Piccadilly ward of Manchester.

The Assistant Executive Member for Transport advised that the Council, alongside its Greater Manchester partners, continued to support the development and delivery of High Speed Two (HS2) and Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR) at a local, regional and national level. The Council remained committed to working collaboratively with HS2 Limited and Government to ensure that both rail schemes fully aligned with the economic growth context for the city, as well as adjacent and linked regeneration initiatives and other transport infrastructure schemes, to ensure that the optimum solution was delivered in Manchester, which maximised a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Following representations from the Council and TfGM, HS2 Limited had agreed to include a relocated and enhanced Metrolink stop as part of the HS2 station at Manchester Piccadilly. Benefits of the new Metrolink stop at Piccadilly included a significantly improved passenger experience, enhanced capacity to accommodate future growth (in both passengers and services) and enabled improved integration with the existing railway station and the anticipated HS2 station.

The consent under Standing Order 25 would not directly grant HS2 Limited the powers to construct the tramway works in the Piccadilly ward. The consent under Standing Order 25 was merely to allow deposit of a hybrid Bill containing the proposed powers to construct a tramway within the City of Manchester.

There would be further opportunities for the Council to make representations on the content of the hybrid Bill itself. The granting of Standing Order 25 consent would not prejudice the ability to petition against the hybrid Bill, or specific parts of the hybrid Bill.

It was explained that the substantive decision making for the Executive was contained within the Part B report and as such, the Executive was asked to note this Part A report.

The Leader commented that if government was serious about levelling up, then it needed to keep its promises, especially in relation to delivering an Integrated Rail Plan and the delivery of an underground HS2 rail station integrated with a Northern Power House rail services station providing through services from Liverpool through to Leeds via Bradford. He added that without the level of investment requested, levelling up would not be possible.

Decision

The Executive note the report

Exe/21/118 Exclusion of the Public

Decision

The Executive agrees 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/21/119 HS2 Tramway Consent (Part B)

The Executive considered a report of the Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure, which provided an overview of the consent requested by HS2 Limited under Standing Order 25 for the inclusion, in the High Speed Rail (Crewe to Manchester) hybrid Bill, of works associated with the construction of a tramway on the public highway in the Piccadilly ward of Manchester.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note and, for the purposes of Standing Order 25 (Consents in case of tramway bill) of both Houses of Parliament relating to Private Business, give formal consent to the inclusion in the High Speed Rail (Crewe-Manchester) hybrid Bill in the Session 2021-22 of the tramway works in the Piccadilly ward within the City of Manchester..
- (2) Authorise the City Solicitor to provide a Certificate of Consent under Standing Order 25 to HS2 Limited

Exe/21/120 This City - Funding for Phase 1 Development (Part B)

The Executive considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which outlined a funding request for the delivery of the first scheme through the

Council's housing delivery vehicle, This City, at Rodney Street in the Ancoats and Beswick Ward, which would deliver 128 new homes.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note the content of this report and the rationale for the timing of the financing request for the first scheme delivered via This City.
- (2) Recommend that the Council approve a capital budget increase of £33m funded by prudential borrowing.
- (3) Note that no funding will be spent or contracts entered into until the This City Business Case is approved by the Executive on 15 December 2021.

Manchester City Council Report for Information

Report to: Executive – 15 December 2021

Subject: Appointment of Executive Members and their Portfolios

Report of: The Executive Leader

Summary

In accordance with Articles 7.4(a) and 7.5(a) of the Constitution, the appointment of the Deputy Leader and Executive Members takes effect on receipt of the Leader's written notice by both the person who the Leader is appointing as Deputy Leader and as Executive Member(s) and the Monitoring Officer.

The Monitoring Officer keeps a written record of the appointment of the Deputy Leader and Executive Member(s) and the Leader is required to report these appointments, including their portfolio, to Council and the Executive at the earliest opportunity.

Recommendations

The Executive is requested to note the appointment of the Deputy Leader(s) and Executive Member(s)

Wards Affected - All

Environmental Impact Assessment - the impact of the decisions proposed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city

Not directly applicable

Our Manchester Strategy outcomes	Contribution to the strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	Not directly applicable
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	Not directly applicable
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	Not directly applicable

A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	Not directly applicable
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	Not directly applicable

Full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

Financial Consequences – Revenue

None

Financial Consequences – Capital

None

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

- “Notice of the membership of the Executive and portfolio Responsibilities” – record completed by the Leader following Article 7.5(a) review, dated 1 December 2021.
- Manchester City Council Constitution, as adopted by the Council on 3 February 2021 (and amended April 2021).

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Executive Leader ("the Leader") and the Executive carry out all of the local authority's functions which are not the responsibility of any other part of the local authority, whether by law or under the Council's Constitution.
- 1.2 The Executive will consist of the Leader together with between two and nine councillors appointed to the Executive by the Leader (one of whom will be appointed by the Leader to act as Deputy Leader).
- 1.3 In addition to the Deputy Leader, the Leader will appoint between one and eight further Executive Members to hold such Portfolios as the Leader shall determine.

2. Background

- 2.1 In accordance with Article of the Constitution 7.4(c) when appointing a Deputy Leader, the Leader must give written notice of such appointment to both the person who he/she is appointing as Deputy Leader and the Monitoring Officer.
- 2.2 The appointment of the Deputy Leader will take effect on receipt of the Leader's written notice by both the person who the Leader is appointing as Deputy Leader and the Monitoring Officer.
- 2.3 When appointing an Executive Member(s), in accordance with Article of the Constitution 7.5(a), the Leader must give written notice of the appointment and of the Portfolio to both the person who he/she is appointing as an Executive Member and to the Monitoring Officer.
- 2.4 As above, the appointment of the Executive Member(s) will take effect on receipt of the Leader's written notice by both the person who the Leader is appointing as an Executive Member and the Monitoring Officer.
- 2.5 The Monitoring Officer is also required to keep a written record of both the appointment of the Deputy Leader and of an Executive Member(s).
- 2.6 In regard to both the appointment of a Deputy Leader and the appointment of an Executive Member(s), the Leader is required to report these appointments (including their Portfolio), to Council and the Executive at the earliest opportunity

3. Appointment of Executive Members and their Portfolios

- 3.1 The Leader has notified the Monitoring Officer and relevant Councillors of the following appointments and portfolios

Portfolio	Member	Leads on
Leader	Councillor Bev Craig	City Centre Communications Community Asset

		Transfer Corporate Property Covid Recovery Devolution Economic Policy & Major Economic Development External Relationships Finance (Budget, Capital Programme, Revenues & Benefits) Legal (including Registrars & Coroner) Overall Policy Co- Ordination Procurement & Social Value Strategic Transport
Deputy Leader (Statutory)	Councillor Luthfur Rahman	Civic Culture & Events Equalities & Community Cohesion Future Shape Homelessness Human Resources & Organisational Development International Internal I.T. Our Manchester Performance Voluntary Sector
Deputy Leader	Councillor Joanna Midgley	Adult Care Domestic Abuse Early Intervention & Prevention Family Poverty Health Refugees & Asylum Seekers
Children's Services	Councillor Garry Bridges	16-19 Children & Families Early Years Looked After Children to Age 25 Play Schools

		Young People
Environment	Councillor Tracey Rawlins	Air Quality All Green Issues (Including Climate Change) Biodiversity Food Sustainability Highways Infrastructure & Waste Licensing & Planning Policy Transport & Parking Zero Carbon
Housing and Employment	Councillor Gavin White	Community Assets Digital Strategy District/Neighbourhood Centres Local Economic Strategy (Employment & Adult Skills, Apprenticeships, Worklessness, Employer Engagement) Strategic Housing
Neighbourhoods	Vacant	All Enforcement Bereavement Services Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour Leisure Libraries Markets & Other Traded Services Neighbourhood Management (Including Housing Management) Parks & Allotments

4. Recommendations

4.1 The recommendations are set out at the beginning of this report.

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**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Executive – 15 December 2021

Subject: The Leader of the Council's Review of the Allocation of Responsibilities for the Discharge of Executive Functions

Report of: The City Solicitor

Summary

The purpose of this report is to ask the Executive to note that the Leader of the Council has undertaken a review of the allocation of responsibilities for the discharge of executive functions recorded in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution and to note that the Leader has reaffirmed the existing arrangements under Part 3.

In addition, the Executive is asked to note that the Leader has also reaffirmed any other arrangements for the discharge of executive functions that were in place at the time of her predecessor's resignation as Leader.

Recommendations

That the Executive:

1. Notes that, in accordance with Article 7.10(c) of the Council's Constitution, the Leader of the Council has undertaken a review of the allocation of responsibilities for the discharge of executive functions recorded in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.
 2. Notes that following that review the Leader has reaffirmed the existing allocation of such responsibilities set out in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.
 3. Notes that the allocation of responsibilities so reaffirmed includes the:
 - i) delegation of the discharge of all of the Council's executive functions to the Executive, as per paragraph (A) of Part 3, Section B of the Council's Constitution;
 - ii) delegation to officers of the discharge of the Council's executive functions recorded at Part 3, Sections A and F of the Council's Constitution, including both those functions that are designated as "Executive Functions" and, insofar as they are executive functions, those that are designated as "General Functions".
 4. Notes that the Leader has also reaffirmed any other arrangements for the discharge of executive functions that were in place at the time of her predecessor's resignation as Leader.
-

Wards Affected: All

Manchester Strategy outcomes	Summary of the contribution to the strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	Not directly applicable
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	Not directly applicable
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	Not directly applicable
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	Not directly applicable
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	Not directly applicable

Where applicable, full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for:

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

Financial Consequences – Revenue

None directly.

Financial Consequences – Capital

None directly.

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

- “Arrangements for the Discharge of Executive Functions” – record completed by the Leader following Article 7.10(c) review, dated 1 December 2021
- Manchester City Council Constitution, as adopted by the Council on 3 February 2021 (and amended April 2021)

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Section 9E(2) of the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended) provides that when a Council operates a Leader and Cabinet form of Executive, it is for the Leader of the Council to allocate responsibility for the exercise of all of the Council's executive functions. The Leader may decide to discharge any of the Council's executive functions personally, or may arrange for the discharge of any of the Council's executive functions by –

- the Executive;
- another member of the Executive;
- a Committee of the Executive;
- an Area Committee; or
- an officer of the Council.

1.2 Section 9E(3) of the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended) provides that where the Leader has arranged for the discharge of any of the Council's Executive functions to be delegated to the Executive, then (unless the Leader directs otherwise), the Executive may arrange for the discharge of any of the Council's executive functions that have been delegated to it by –

- a Committee of the Executive;
- an Area Committee; or
- an officer of the Council.

1.3 Section 9E(7) of the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended) provides that any arrangements that are made by –

- the Leader for the discharge of any of the Council's executive functions by the Executive or by a Council Officer, or
- the Executive for the discharge of any of the Council's executive functions by a Council Officer,

do not prevent the Leader or the Executive whom the arrangements have been made by from exercising the executive functions concerned.

1.4 Article 7.10(c) of the Council's Constitution provides that:

At the earliest opportunity following the election of a Leader, the Leader will review the allocation of responsibilities for the discharge of executive functions recorded in Part 3 of this Constitution. Any alterations that the Leader wishes to make to the allocation of responsibility for the discharge of executive functions will be dealt with in accordance with Executive Procedure Rule 1.4 in Part 4, Section D of the Constitution.

2.0 The Delegation of Executive Functions

2.1 As required by Article 7.10(c) of the Council's Constitution, the newly elected Leader of the Council has undertaken a review of the allocation of responsibilities for the discharge of executive functions recorded in Part 3 of

the Constitution. Having completed that review, the Leader has determined that, for the time being, the existing arrangements are to be unchanged and are reaffirmed. This means that:

- The discharge of all of the Council's executive functions remains delegated to the Executive, as per paragraph (A) of Part 3, Section B of the Council's Constitution;
- The discharge of the Council's executive functions remain delegated to officers as recorded at Part 3, Sections A and F of the Council's Constitution, including both those functions that are designated as "Executive Functions" and, insofar as they are executive functions, those that are designated as "General Functions".

2.2 As no changes have been made to the arrangements for the discharge of executive functions set out in Part 3 of the Constitution, the notification process set out in Executive Procedure Rule 1.4 in Part 4, Section D of the Constitution has not been engaged. Notwithstanding this, to ensure that the position is clearly recorded, the Leader has made a written record of her reaffirmation of the existing arrangements and delivered it to the Monitoring Officer. In that notice the Leader has also reaffirmed any other arrangements for the discharge of executive functions that were in place at the time of Sir Richard Leese's resignation as Leader.

2.3 While there is no constitutional requirement to do so, for the purposes of clarity and transparency the Leader's reaffirmation of the existing arrangements is brought before the Executive for its attention.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 The recommendations are set out at the beginning of this report.

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Manchester City Council Report for Information

Report to: Executive – 15 December 2021

Subject: COVID Progress update - Economic Recovery

Report of: The Director of Public Health and Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure

Summary

This note provides the Executive with a brief update on the COVID-19 situation and an update on the Economic Recovery situation.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Executive note the report.

Wards Affected: All

Environmental Impact Assessment - the impact of the issues addressed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city

There had been a positive short-term impact on the city's carbon emissions, as a result of reduced travel during the road map period. There are opportunities to accelerate the medium term move towards the low carbon economy through, for example, supporting investment in green technology business opportunities and employment.

Our Manchester Strategy outcomes	Summary of how this report aligns to the Our Manchester Strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	This unprecedented national and international crisis impacts on all areas of our city. The Our Manchester approach has underpinned the planning and delivery of our response, working in partnership and identifying innovative ways to continue to deliver services and to establish new services as quickly as possible to support the most vulnerable in our city.
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	

A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 On Tuesday 23rd November a small number of cases of a new variant were identified in South Africa (named B.1.1.529) and shortly after designated as a Variant of Concern (VOC) by the World Health Organisation and the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and given the name Omicron. The Omicron variant is a stark reminder that the Covid pandemic is far from over and still requires a robust response.
- 1.2 While there is still a lot that is not yet known about this new variant, it does spread far more easily than other forms of the virus, and we are now seeing a doubling of cases every two days and very shortly it will overtake Delta as the dominant strain in the City.
- 1.3 Data is still being collated about how severe, in terms of disease progression, the Omicron variant will be. Whilst some of the news from South Africa appears to show less severe illness it is important to note that population profile is very different. Furthermore, even if the proportion of people who go on to develop serious illness is smaller than for Delta, if Omicron infects more people, then the number of potential hospitalisations will be considerable.
- 1.4 It was also unclear initially how effective vaccines would be against this new variant. It is now understood that two doses of vaccine are less effective than they were against previous forms of coronavirus which they were specifically designed to tackle. Data published last week suggests that two doses are less effective at protecting against an infection with symptoms, but a third dose boosts your protection back up to over 70%.
- 1.5 That is why nationally and locally the vaccine programme will be accelerated over the next three weeks, to ensure everyone who is eligible is offered a booster jab by 31 December 2021.
- 1.6 The Manchester 12 Point Plan has been updated and is attached as Appendix 1 and in addition the latest information on how to access vaccinations at different sites will be updated regularly on the City Council website.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Executive note the report.

Economic Recovery Workstream- Sitrep Summary

As at 18/11/2021 for meeting on 19/11/2021. Updated fortnightly. Latest updates shown in yellow.

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
General Overview	<p>ONS labour market figures (16 November):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the figures for the three months to September from the ONS shows that unemployment in quarter 3 fell to 4.3%, down from 4.5% for the previous quarter. September was the last month of furlough and the figures do not seem to suggest a spike in unemployment as a result of the scheme ending. the number of people on payroll increased by 163,000 in the same period. However, there were still record numbers of vacancies and the sectors with highest growth in vacancies were transport and storage, and construction. <p>ONS Real Time Indicators (11 November):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The total volume of online job adverts on 5 November 2021 increased by 4% from the previous 	<p>Powering Recovery: Manchester's Recovery and Investment Plan' launched in Nov. Four investment priorities around: innovation; city centre and urban realm; residential retrofit programme; and North Manchester regeneration. Seeking govt funding for over 50 projects of £798.8 m. The plan can be accessed here.</p> <p>United City business-led campaign launched 22/11 and supported by MCC.</p> <p>Business Sounding Board and Real Estate subgroup continue to meet regularly to share intel across sectors and to help support MCC lobbying. Weekly MCC newsletter issued to over 9,000 businesses with updates.</p> <p>Comms update</p> <p>Link to the film: Manchester is back. Stronger than ever. - YouTube</p> <p>The film performed most well on Twitter with over 100k impressions, 13k view of the video and over 300 likes. Our Twitter followers tend to include partners and well as residents and businesses. It also did well on LinkedIn with 7k views and 367 likes.</p>

	<p>week, to 147% of its February 2020 average level (Adzuna)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The seven-day average estimate of UK seated diners in the week to 8 November 2021 was 116% of the level in the equivalent week of 2019, which is a 13 percentage point decrease from the previous week, and follows four consecutive weekly increases (OpenTable) • In Wave 43, 29% of businesses reported a decrease in turnover in the last month, compared with normal expectations for this time of year; this is a 5 percentage point increase from Wave 41 (initial results from Wave 43 of Business Insights and Conditions Survey (BICS)) <p>Environment Bill becomes law: the House of Lords has given its approval to the long-awaited Environment Bill so that it now becomes legislation. The Environment Act will deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term targets to improve air quality, biodiversity, water, and waste reduction and resource efficiency 	<p>The Welcome Back campaign moved into the next phase of lockdown messaging from the 17th May with emphasis on culture venues opening back up. We produced another film with the Contact Theatre on what opening up meant to them and how important it is to support our cultural venues. Manchester art & entertainment venues are opening 🎨 #WelcomeBackMCR - YouTube</p> <p>Alongside this, visitors to the city will see a raft of Welcome Back messaging from outdoor digital advertising, poster sites, shop windows and in taxis to name a few.</p> <p>The weekly Welcome Back ebulletin signposts to the events taking place, such as the flower show, along side key advice to ask that people continue to follow the advice and guidance so we can all return safely.</p> <p>Re-opening update</p> <p>c. 400 licences have been issued to the hospitality sector. Overall businesses have responded to all requirements positively, have engaged with authorities and are overwhelmingly compliant. However the impact does continue to be significant for them. The delayed lifting only delays their recovery and makes for continued higher operational costs. More widely than that because as a sector they are required to record customer contacts in a way that other sectors are not required to (retail/transport for example), they are harder hit when an individual tests positive – and isolations/temporary closures are required that are not mirrored in the retail sector.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A target on ambient PM2.5 concentrations, the most harmful pollutant to human health • A target to halt the decline of nature by 2030 • Environmental Improvement Plans, including interim targets • A cycle of environmental monitoring and reporting • Environmental Principles embedded in domestic policy making • Office for Environmental Protection to uphold environmental law <p>Retail recovery leading to Christmas: people shopping earlier in the year in preparation for Christmas amid the supply chain shortages, as well as increased spending on travel, digital entertainment and subscription services and cinema tickets all boosted sales. The research was conducted by the BRC and Barclaycard.</p> <p>PwC festive predictions: according to PwC's research, consumers will spend an average of £428 per person, which is up from £384 last year. Given the disruptions last year, the increased spend is driven in part by more people planning to spend</p>	<p>There has been a shift in employment within the sector as already reported, with many leaving it altogether and there is a real shortage of staff at the minute that is compounding all the aforementioned issues meaning some businesses also have to shut due to staff shortages.</p> <p>19th July- Several city centre nightclubs did a NYE's style countdown and one venue had a full capacity ticketed queue of 800. Most nightclubs operating a tickets only entry. Of the 650 hospitality venues, almost all will be open by the coming week end (only 6% were not operating in some form). Many night time venues had reinvented themselves during the pandemic to allow trading to continue and are now reverting back or upgrading to previous operating patterns.</p> <p>Prior to stage 4, additional opening and operating safely guidance has been issued to businesses and venues including for nightclubs and for weddings and funerals. Bulletins continue to encourage staff vaccination and regular use of Lateral Flow Tests with comms that protecting staff protects the business. The Licensing and Out of Hours Team is visiting all nightclub premises and engaging re risk assessments and now working until 04.30hrs; officers are also monitoring re noise levels (particularly with current ventilation advice) and waste from external operations. 'Pinging' is having impact on hospitality staff and on waste and cleansing staff availability.</p>
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	<p>Christmas with extended family, leading to more gifting opportunities, more celebratory food and drink and more Christmas socialising. Meanwhile, recent price inflation means people expect they will need to spend more. 87% of spend will be online.</p> <p>Lloyds Business Barometer October: the bank's business barometer was released on 1 November and it reported that business confidence dropped by three points to 43% from September. Confidence rose in manufacturing but fell in retail and services. Lloyds put the reduction in consumer confidence down to the fall in optimism about the wider economy, rising costs and the supply chain issues.</p> <p>Quarter of workers planning to quit: a report by recruitment company Randstad UK claims that 24% of 6,000 workers surveyed were planning on changing their jobs within three to six months, which is an increase on the expected 11% Randstad would usually expect to move in a year. Those in the construction, tech and logistics sectors were most confident about getting a new job.</p> <p>Games makers to create jobs: having recently announced their move to</p>	<p>14 September – temporary licences enabling use of outside space by hospitality will not be renewed in most cases over the winter. This will give the opportunity to look long term at use of space. Where licences are part of already approved schemes, these will continue. Comms going out this week.</p> <p>24 September – Christmas markets will return to the city centre for 2021. Piccadilly Gardens will be the site for an expanded 'winter gardens' featuring market stalls, lighting, food and drink, seating areas and entertainment space.</p> <p>12th October – security measures around the temporary outside space for hospitality will be removed 18/19th October. Consideration is being given to longer term options taking into account needs of all parties including residents and neighbouring businesses together with the city's overall objective to increase space available to pedestrians.</p> <p>12th November – Manchester's Christmas Markets opened including the new Winter Garden on Piccadilly Gardens which includes a large decked area with seating and tables, a stage and music and a fully accessible toilet facility with provision for adult changing. The opening weekend saw city centre footfall increase by 16% on the previous week. City Centre congestion was up 33% between 1600 and 1900 on the Saturday.</p> <p>NTE sales are strong, up 6% on the same week in 2019.</p>
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	<p>Enterprise City, Cloud Imperium Games have committed to creating more than 1,000 jobs in the city, 700 by 2023. The company is moving its headquarters from Wilmslow to Manchester and will be in their new studio by May 2022.</p>	<p>October 2021 saw an increase in city centre footfall with Halloween week end the busiest since pre-pandemic.</p> <p>Business support and engagement; the various networks are beginning to function again in person post-pandemic. In addition, interest is being assessed amongst stakeholders in some new place specific groups such as St Ann's Square and King Street. Options to address the challenge of empty premises are to be further considered- some 'pop-up' use by community or charity groups has proved successful.</p>																				
Footfall	<p>Footfall trends- City Centre (Springboard / CityCo)</p> <p>Week 44 31st October – 6th November</p> <table><tr><th></th><th>Week on week %</th><th>Year on year %</th><th>Pre Covid</th></tr><tr><td>St Ann's Sq</td><td>-10.7%</td><td>88.5%</td><td>38.3%</td></tr><tr><td>Exchange Sq</td><td>-16.9%</td><td>82%</td><td>-27%</td></tr><tr><td>King Street</td><td>-23.2%</td><td>41.8%</td><td>56.5%</td></tr><tr><td>Market Street</td><td>-19.8%</td><td>85.8%</td><td>20.7%</td></tr></table>		Week on week %	Year on year %	Pre Covid	St Ann's Sq	-10.7%	88.5%	38.3%	Exchange Sq	-16.9%	82%	-27%	King Street	-23.2%	41.8%	56.5%	Market Street	-19.8%	85.8%	20.7%	
	Week on week %	Year on year %	Pre Covid																			
St Ann's Sq	-10.7%	88.5%	38.3%																			
Exchange Sq	-16.9%	82%	-27%																			
King Street	-23.2%	41.8%	56.5%																			
Market Street	-19.8%	85.8%	20.7%																			

New Cathedral St	-39.8%	60.7%	-38%
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Footfall trends- District Centres
(Springboard)

Week 45 8th – 14th November

	Week on week %	Year on year %	Pre- Covid
Cheetham Hill	3.9%	19.1%	-5.4%
Chorlton	-5.7%	28.8%	-17%
Fallowfield	22.9%	32.1%	31.4%
Gorton	11.5%	13.8%	- 14.3%
Harpurhey	4.2%	27.5%	10.2%
Levenshulme	2.2%	11.8%	- 28.2%
Northenden	5%	41.3%	-7%
Rushholme	16.8%	46%	6.8%
Victoria Avenue	3.7%	22.4%	- 14.4%
Withington	9.8%	29.3%	-2.7%

Higher Education Institutions	<p>MMU - Teaching on campus commenced, testing and vacs taking place on campus. RNCM - 90% students back, 10% still online due to Covid.</p> <p>UoM - have 2k more students in the first year intake than in previous years, but had anticipated and planned for this. MECD and the Royce Institute opened this Sept. UoM reported at BSB that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student numbers remain high and are at 46,500 registered with a few still going through registration. 	
Aviation	<p>From 4am Monday 4 October 2021, the rules for international travel to England will change from the red, amber, green traffic light system to a single red list of countries and simplified travel measures for arrivals from the rest of the world. The rules for travel from countries and territories not on the red list will depend on your vaccination status.</p> <p>If you are fully vaccinated you will have to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • book and pay for a day 2 COVID-19 test – to be taken after arrival in England • complete your passenger locator form – any time in the 48 hours before you arrive in England 	<p>Manchester Airports Group (MAG) airports served 2.7 million passengers in October, which represented 51% of pre-pandemic traffic compared to the same month in October 2019.</p> <p>The total number of passengers in October for Manchester Airport was 1,205,230. The rolling total for the 12 months to October is at 4,621,601.</p> <p>The airport received a boost from the opening of the US borders on 8 November. Manchester Airport's Virgin Atlantic services to New York and Orlando restarted on the first day after the relaxation, with the Singapore Airlines service to Houston set to return in early December. Aer</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take a COVID-19 test on or before day 2 after you arrive in England <p>Under the new rules, you will not need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take a pre-departure test • take a day 8 COVID-19 test • quarantine at home or in the place you are staying for 10 days after you arrive in England <p>If you are not fully vaccinated from 4am Monday 4 October, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take a pre-departure COVID-19 test – to be taken in the 3 days before you travel to England • book and pay for day 2 and day 8 COVID-19 tests – to be taken after arrival in England • complete your passenger locator form – any time in the 48 hours before you arrive in England <p>After you arrive in England you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quarantine at home or in the place you are staying for 10 days • take a COVID-19 test on or before day 2 and on or after day 8 • You may be able to end quarantine early if you pay for a private 	<p>Lingus is also launching new services to New York, Orlando and Boston later this month</p> <p>Manchester Airport served 1.6 million passengers travelling direct to the US each year before the pandemic and is currently expecting to welcome back approximately half of its pre-pandemic routes to America in the first month of the transatlantic restart.</p> <p>Volumes of air freight traffic at Manchester Airport are up 23.6% in October from the same period last year.</p>
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	COVID-19 test through the Test to Release scheme.	
Culture	<p>Culture Recovery Fund CRF Round 3 announced 25/6 for the cultural, heritage and creative sectors. £218.5 million will be available through the Culture Recovery Fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRF Funds now closed to applications <p>The successful applicant to the ACE CRF3 fund were notified by Friday, 29/10. No public announcements have yet been made.</p>	<p>Marketing campaign #HereforCultureMcr Cultural organisations in Mcr jointly fundraised, though their individual Culture Recovery Fund bids, to deliver 2 joint projects - MADE - the Cultural Education Partnership programme and #HereforCultureMcr - a joint marketing campaign to communicate to residents and visitors to the city the cultural offer was open for business.</p> <p>Results of the #HereforCultureMcr campaign were shared this week. The report summarised that collectively, Manchester venues lost over 90% of total income when comparing 19/20 with 20/21 or 21/22 so far. Attendances were down by 97% = 3.5m lost attendances. Excluding MIF- 21/22 is currently at only 11% of pre-pandemic levels (NB. Partial year). In 20/21 compared to 19/20:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance income down by over £20m (-92%) • Secondary spend income down by £3.5m (-89%) • Donations down by £0.5m (-50%) <p>#HereForCultureMCR campaign Produced by a consortium of more than 20 arts organisations in the city. It went Live 17 May to end August 2021 with a poster, radio and digital</p>

		<p>campaign aimed at welcoming visitors back safely to culture in the city</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Raising awareness that venues had reopened o Communicating the summer programme o Reassuring on safety <p>Research on the campaign inc - 4280 respondents through an online questionnaire - 605 'population' members of the public weighted to match census data and 3675 people from venues' 'databases'</p> <p>Just over two in five in the 'population' survey recall the #HereForCultureMCR campaign – and this is also reflected amongst 'database' respondents.</p> <p>The campaign helped 75% of the 'population' group surveyed and 48% of the 'database' contacts surveyed "feel comfortable about visiting an arts or cultural venue or event in the near future". (Full report attached)</p>
Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued development interest in the city for both commercial and residential scheme. • All schemes are back on site, and construction levels increased since the beginning of the pandemic, although with some overall delays to programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEC searches for development partner: a strategic investment partner is being sought for the Victoria North's Red Bank neighbourhood, which will see around 1,500 build to rent homes built. • MMU buildings complete: both the Institute of Sport and the School of Digital Arts (SODA) have been handed over to Manchester Metropolitan University, and the

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Risks around supply chains/access to materials, with associated increases in costs.</i> • <i>Access to finance for hotel and retail schemes likely to be more challenging.</i> • <i>Economic Recovery & Investment Plan identifies key schemes which can drive recovery and create new jobs. Ongoing work to identify funding opportunities for schemes.</i> • <i>Long term impact on office demand being monitored on an ongoing basis, but positive indications from office agents and the Business Sounding Board, with recent reports of increased demand, especially for flexible, high quality office space.</i> 	<p>buildings are ready to welcome students this academic year.</p> <p>Plans for 50 Fountain Street: the owner M&G is looking to build a modern extension, creating seven storeys of commercial office space, while retaining the façade of the building.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renaissance/Ramada: a planning application for the residential element of the scheme has been submitted to the Council, which will feature a 27-storey tower and 300 apartments. • Bruntwood buys Pall Mall Court: the office block on King Street has been sold to Bruntwood and the building will become part of Bruntwood's Pioneer programme alongside Bloc and 111 Piccadilly. • Strong interest in Manchester property recorded: Manchester Apartments has experienced the highest level of interest in its history, with 21,000 enquiries for rental homes in the city made between July and September 2021.
Affordable Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to developer and investor confidence. • Working with RP's and other developers to understand current impact and forward plans. 	<p>Current forecasts suggest 497 new affordable homes will be built across Manchester in 2021-22 – 153 of which have already completed. This includes 278 social rent, 104 affordable rent, 113 shared ownership and 2 rent to buy homes.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing sources and levels of investment, and any obstacles • Investigating grant funding, financial and other support needed to enable early start of key projects • Understanding supply chain issues and identifying appropriate support measures. • Developing guidance/share good practice for safe operation of sites • Expediting design & planning phases of projects. • Risk of registered providers slowing down or pausing programmes to consolidate finances/liquidity • Ensure Zero Carbon and Fire safety provision are part of the programmes. • Potential flooding of the PRS sector as the short term let market shrinks. 	<p>In addition, there are currently over 900 new affordable homes currently under construction across the city and expected to complete over the next few years. This includes a number of large-scale developments including the Former Belle Vue Stadium Site (130 affordable homes) and Gorton Lane (109 affordable homes) and 2 city centre schemes delivering Affordable Private Rent at Swan Street (19 homes) and Addington Street (50 homes).</p> <p>Feedback from MHPP Growth is suggesting that problems with supply chains for products and materials are beginning to impact on delivery timescales and costs</p> <p>Updates on further key schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning has been approved for MCC's development of 69 social rent homes at Silk Street • Enabling works to facilitate the delivery of 130 new MCC social rent homes in Collyhurst are ongoing. • Alongside their purchase of the Former Boddingtons Brewery Site, Latimer - the development arm of Clarion – have acquired the final phase at Islington Wharf which will provide 54 shared ownership homes as part of a mixed tenure development • Mosscafe St Vincents are set to acquire the Boundary Lodge student accommodation block in Hulme and redevelop it into a
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		<p>supported living scheme for up to 30 young people to add to their existing accommodation on Booth St West</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Places secured planning consent for 68 new affordable homes at Downley Drive and 39 new affordable homes at Ancoats Dispensary at July Planning Committee. • Grey Mare Lane Estate – One Manchester have started construction on the first two phases of the Estate Regeneration programme (Blackrock Street & Windermere Close). The redevelopment is set to deliver c.290 new affordable homes (incl. 124 of reprovision) and the retrofit of 150 homes over the next 5 years. A Master Plan has been submitted to the November meeting of the Executive.
Transport and Infrastructure	<p>Bee Network Cycle Hire Scheme launch</p> <p>On 18 November the Scheme launched publicly with a road show event at All Saints Park in Manchester, and the opening of docking stations and cycles along Oxford Road from Piccadilly Station to Fallowfield. The scheme aims to remove one of the main barriers to increasing the take up of cycling, which is access to a cycle. 74% of GM households have no access to a cycle, and it is</p>	<p>Summary of transport activity for week ending 7 November (GM-wide)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were an estimated 50.3m trips made in Greater Manchester for the week ending 7 November. This is 1% above the previous week and 4% below the same week in 2019 (pre-pandemic). • Likely impacted by the end of October half term, weekday trips were up 2% compared to the previous week while weekend trips were down 1%.

	<p>198,000 people will live within 300m of a docking station once Phase 1 is rolled out.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The return of education trips saw weekday bus patronage increase 22% and highways volumes increase 2%. • The reduction in leisure trips saw weekday footfall at Piccadilly Station down 5%. • Compared to the same period in 2019, trip levels were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4% below the same week in 2019 • Weekday trips were down 5% • Weekend trips were up 1% • Public Transport trips were down 27% with Bus and Rail down 25% and Metrolink down 37% • Highway volumes were 2% below the same week in 2019. 3% below on weekdays 2% above on the weekend. • Regional centre and Manchester: The Regional Centre saw 9% fewer trips than the previous reporting week, which included 2.5m trips from GM and 964,000 from outside of GM. • Regional Centre trips are now at approximately 72% of the pre-pandemic baseline (November 2019). • Trips from within GM (74%) to the Regional Centre continue to remain closer to pre-pandemic levels than trips from outside of GM (68%).
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Skills, Labour Market and Business Support	Headlines include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In September 2021 there were 29,205 claimants of unemployment benefits in Manchester – down from 30,500 in August. Unemployment for women is falling much faster than it is for men across (trend across GM). JCP continue to report that they have not seen a significant uptake in claims in October. • The number of furloughed residents has continued to drop as COVID-19 restrictions on the economy have been lifted. 12,600 residents were furloughed on 31st August, down from 14,900 in June. The majority of residents that remain furloughed are employed in accommodation & food services or wholesale & retail. Final furlough figures available 4th November. There is no evidence, yet that formerly furloughed residents have moved onto UC, where the number of claimants has remained broadly stable at just under 80,000 since the start of the year. 	Newly Unemployed Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Mosely Street Jobcentre is now open supporting clients aged 24+ from Cheetham Hill, Rusholme, Newton Heath (these Jobcentres are focusing on 18-24 year olds). • Employment partnership focus is on re-training and job matching as no significant increase in redundancy notices has taken place. Partners reporting hospitality is still an issue as many SBWAs taking place, many at the Employer Suite, but with very poor attendance. Need to look at a different approach • Continue to work with several live and in development recruitment opportunities with business including Getir, BNY Mellon, Biffa, PWC, Boohoo. • Progress continues to be made on Skills development and bounce back of the Cultural Sector with partners co-ordinating a response led by The Factory. Expected relaunch of Factory Consortium in the new year.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">New national data shows that vacancies are at their highest point since the pandemic at 1.1m driven across all sectors with highest increases in hospitality.							
	<p>Offer for 16-19 year olds September CCIS DfE Submission: NEET</p> <table><tr><td>NEET Known</td><td>1.5%</td></tr><tr><td>NEET Unknown</td><td>22.9%</td></tr><tr><td>NEET Combined</td><td>24.4%</td></tr></table> <p>September CCIS DfE Submission: EET</p>	NEET Known	1.5%	NEET Unknown	22.9%	NEET Combined	24.4%	<p>Offer for 16-19 year olds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Career Connect are planning winter outreach sessions for NEET YP in North, Central and South. They will aim to use shopping venues in communities and not traditional youth hubs to engage parents and young people who may be ‘unknown’.New Education Lead, Anthony Turner in post following on from Elaine Morrison’s retirement.
NEET Known	1.5%							
NEET Unknown	22.9%							
NEET Combined	24.4%							

	Post-16 Education	72.9%	
	Employment	1.8%	
	Training	0.9%	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NEET known figure has reduced from the same point in 2020/21 from 2.2%. - NEET known figure 2nd lowest/11 when compared to statistical neighbours. - NEET unknown figure has increased from the same point in 2020/21 from 14.1%. - NEET unknown figure is 5th highest/11 when compared to statistical neighbours. - September guarantee figure for Yr 11 was 92.8%, a decrease from 97.2% in 2020/21 and below North West average. - September guarantee figure for Yr 12 was 94.2%, an increase from 91.8% in 2020/21 and above North West average. - 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with GMCA to identify overlap / duplication in schools CEIAG activity. • Linking with Education team to identify employer/ career activities for Our Year • Careers Connect are actively tracking and updating NEET unknown, including phone calls and visits. Agreement has been made re: targeted ward approaches to local events in the coming weeks. Expected that a full review of figures will be available at the end of November. • Post-16 Reference Group agenda item of in-year admissions/January offer. • NEET Partnership Network – planned meeting in December, second of the academic year, with key item of targeted ward-based approach using the updated figures. • Internal Post-16 Education Network scoping session planned for November to align work across areas with a focus on NEET reduction and RONI development. • Longer-term planning re: Post-16 census and sufficiency, linking with Our Year plans and RONI – released, updating characteristics and consultation with Post-16 re: Yr 12 process and promotion of T-Level offer.

	<p>Youth unemployment Maximise the opportunities from and work with partners to roll out the Kickstart Scheme.</p> <p>Supporting youth employment programmes</p> <p>Developing a clear offer to support our graduates</p>	<p>MCC Kickstart opportunities – 5 Kickstart roles now filled. Working with DWP to hold weekly interviews at Mosley St JCP to fill remaining vacancies</p> <p>Planning underway with Reform Radio to provide work placements for NEET young people in MCC teams as part of the Manchester Futures programme.</p> <p>Traineeship providers session convened to discuss priorities for Manchester post Kickstart.</p> <p>Meeting held with University Academy 92. We are supporting the programme to connect to employers and provide positive opportunities for students.</p>
	<p>Skills and employment support for adults Challenges -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll out of phase 2 of the MCC Digital Device Scheme – reaching groups identified as most excluded via the Digital Exclusion Index. • Ensure that the City's learning provision is responding to new challenges as well as existing challenges. • Launching Let Get Digital work though Get Online week • Not a high enough percentage of referrals for device scheme are being found to be eligible. To tackle 	<p>W/C 8th Nov is Lifelong Learning Week – MCC comms and MAES will have a social media focus on the benefits of adult education.</p> <p>W/C 1st Nov - MAES delivered successful 2 day employer insight day for 10 residents in partnership with PWC. Feedback was excellent and this provides a model to scale up in future.</p> <p>MAES delivered Sector Based Work Academy programme in partnership with DWP for the Co-Op. There were 28 participants, and all roles were filled successfully having not been filled for several months previously. SWAPs are</p>

	<p>this the DIT are looking at the data to identify whether the scoring system which hasn't been changed since the initial trial scheme, needs to be adjusted based on the different challenges residents are now facing. The team are also looking for gaps where there is a shortage of key priority groups being referred and found eligible, in aim to work with partners to action.</p>	<p>proving to be an effective recruitment method – particularly for large employers.</p> <p>Refurbished Device Scheme – deadline for applications is this week. There have so far been 5 businesses who have informed the Digital Inclusion Team that they are going to apply. Interview to take place W/C 6th December.</p> <p>Let's Get Digital Manchester website launch – 1.4k page visits since October 18th to date. The website is to be handed over from the creator to the Digital Inclusion Team by W/C 22nd. Both Work and Skills and the DIT have had 2 training sessions to be able to make best use of the website and campaign assets.</p>
	<p>Social Value and Local Benefit</p> <p>Challenge: Many residents are not connecting to opportunities created in the city – how can we use social value internally to maximise creation of employment/skills/training opportunities targeted at our residents and use our influence to do the same with organisations externally?</p> <p>Ensure that MCC's approach to SV reflects current economic circumstances and <i>Think</i> recommendations.</p> <p>Coordinate employment and skills related social value "offers" from across MCC's</p>	<p>Social Value Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers are pulling together existing social value data and trackers for the Social Value Governance Board to build up a portfolio level view of social value delivery (i.e. at directorate / whole council level). • Additionally officers are appraising options for potential system solutions for social value monitoring, again for the Social Value Governance Board. • Elsewhere, work continues in North Manchester with ANTZ on detailed scoping of the ANTZ social value monitoring and brokerage platform.

	largest suppliers and capital projects into a pipeline of opportunities that can be promoted to residents and employment/skills/training organisations.	
	<p>Business Support, Sustainability & Growth</p> <p>Business Grants</p> <p>Growth Hub Monthly Business survey highlights</p> <p>GM businesses are holding up well in terms of financial stability, 80% of firms stating that they have cash reserves to last over 6 months (up 8% on the previous month)</p> <p>An increase in firms reporting increased sales (26% vs 19% previously).</p> <p>However, challenges and risks remain. These include</p> <p>minor supply chain issues (29% of businesses up 2% on the previous month)</p>	<p>Business Grants</p> <p>Business Grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency Business grant scheme for businesses with last remaining ARG grant closed for applications on 1 November with almost 60 applications from a range of sectors. Officers are processing and assessing applications and dealing with enquiries. <p>Small Business Saturday Tour</p> <p>The Small Business Saturday Tour came to Manchester 11 November, Excellent day had by all, interviews were undertaken throughout the day with Manchester businesses, business support partners, the work and skills team and Councillor White. These have been promoted across social media channels. Further work to be undertaken to support Small Business Saturday 4th December – promotional information to be circulated.</p> <p>The next steps are to look at a plan to support a localised plan to include District Centre / High Street work working closely with partners and Neighbourhood teams.</p>

	<p>rising costs still affecting 20% of firms, albeit 7% lower than the previous report.</p> <p>comments from businesses focus on labour and raw material shortages, rising prices and inflation/pricing pressures (linked to the combined impacts of C19, Brexit and the opening up of the economy).</p> <p>These challenges are also reflected in terms of businesses' investment priorities and areas of support:</p> <p>41% expect capital expenditure to increase</p> <p>56% expect investment in workforce development (skills & training)</p> <p>45% in digital transformation showing the need to boost productivity in the workforce, systems and boosting sales through new platforms, innovation and digitalisation.</p>	<p>SME and District Centres Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning the next SME business support in person event 24th November – Digital Future for SMEs – Eventbrite link sent out - good response to sign up The Manchester Business Support group continues to meet every fortnight to drive this work forward <p>Meeting held with MIDAS and PWC and Bank of New York Mellons, GFA to discuss recruitment to 100 jobs within phase one of their expansion. Also linking PWC with various organisations to support their social value commitments.</p>
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	Business Grants LRSG, ARG are now closed, there are outstanding complaints / queries currently being reviewed. The EBSG is utilising the remaining £1.2M of the funding provided by Central Government	
	Equalities/ Disadvantaged Ensure that disadvantaged and underrepresented groups are supported by activity included in Workstreams 1-6. This would include Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups, young people, over 50's, homeless, veterans, survivors of DV&A, ESA claimants, and those experiencing family poverty. Covid has worsened the situation for many already experiencing inequality – the challenge is to ensure support is targeted to reach the communities in most need.	<p>The 2nd Uncertain Futures Employment & Skills webinar will be held on 16th November. National Careers Service will deliver the session on changing careers and labour market intelligence for women over 50 years.</p> <p>The Growth Company as part of the Our Manchester Disability Equality and Inclusion Partnership are delivering a series of workshops for employers to encourage and support them to attract more disabled people. The next online event will be held on 5th November.</p> <p>The W&S team will be reviewing the use of language in relation to race and will incorporate this into the activity around the refresh of the W&S strategy currently taking place.</p>
Funding	No specific known impacts on current external funding bids caused by C19 as yet. Known bids progressing through funding approval processes as expected.	Funding Announcements UK Shared Prosperity Fund 3 year of funding announced. 2022-3 0.4 billion 2023-4 0.8 billion (0.7 revenue, 0.1 capital)

		<p>2024-5 1.8 billion (1.5 revenue, 0.3 capital)</p> <p>As expected, this shows a “ramping up” to European levels of funding by year 3. Supporting local priorities, the UKSPF will include a new initiative (‘Multiply’) to help hundreds of thousands of adults across the UK improve their numeracy skills. All areas will receive access to a learning platform and funding to improve adult skills. £560 million is being allocated to this scheme as part of the SPF.</p> <p>Funding in Progress Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund Round 3 has been announced – MCC secured c.£19m from round 1 of the fund and delivery of that programme is our priority. A bid for £4.5 million to the latest round has been submitted.</p> <p>Funding Approved</p> <p>Energy Savings Trust’s (EST) eCargo Bike Grant Fund, Local Authority Scheme 2021/2022. . Confirmation of funding received.</p> <p>Levelling Up Fund Funding approved for Culture in the City Application (HOMEArches & Campfield) in Budget & Spending Review on 27th October. 105 projects funded across the UK, £1.7 billion in total, inc. In Manchester, Tameside, Salford, Bury (x2), and Bolton. Culture in the City will receive £19.8</p>
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		<p>million. We have now received details on the monitoring and evaluation framework for this bid.</p> <p>Community Renewal Fund - The Government announced successful bids on the 3 November 2021, with 8 coming from GM worth £4.36m. There are 2 bids exclusive to Manchester and 6 cover the City alongside other parts of GM. The 2 successful Manchester bids are One Manchester with Green Economy Employment project (£662k) and the Growth Company with The Good Jobs Project (£582k).</p>
External Lobbying	<p>Parliament returns from summer recess on 6 September 2021 with an announcement on the date of the 2021 Spending Review expected soon after. There is currently uncertainty surrounding the 2021 Spending Review period in relation to a 1 or 3 year settlement for local government. Direct lobbying of Government is needed as well as working via Greater Manchester and networks such as Core Cities UK, Convention of the North and the LGA.</p>	<p>Regular meetings with representatives from Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities, and Cabinet Office are continuing. The last meeting focussed on the proposed cityscale hydrogen fleet project with cross departmental attendance including the Department for Transport, BEIS and the Hydrogen Hub. Government representatives acknowledged the strength of the proposal and that existing funding was currently too fragmented. A specific follow up session is now being arranged to try and push departments to work together in a more joined up way to achieve the desired outcome. The next regular meeting will focus on Levelling Up and the North Manchester proposals following the Spending Review.</p>

		<p>UK Cities Climate Investment Commission events took place ahead of and during COP26. A joint declaration from Connected Places Catapult, London Councils and the UK's 11 Core Cities has now been published.</p> <p>Nations Pledge, Cities Deliver on Climate corecities.com</p>
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Manchester COVID-19

Twelve Point Action Plan: Winter 2021/2022 (incorporating our response to the Omicron Variant of Concern)






Introduction

This Action Plan for Winter 2021/2022 is an integral part of our high level, public facing [Manchester Local Outbreak Prevention and Response Plan](#), last updated in March 2021. The requirement for local authorities to set out their plans for responding to COVID is detailed in the Department of Health and Social Care's [COVID-19 Contain Framework](#), recently updated on 7th October 2021.

Manchester's Local Outbreak Prevention and Response Plan is organised according to **themes**, the **core aspects of the end-to-end response** and **key developments**:

Themes	Core Aspects of the End-to-End Response	Developments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High risk settings and locations • High risk, clinically vulnerable and underserved communities • Compliance and enforcement • Communications and engagement • Resourcing • Data mobilisation and information sharing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community testing • Contact tracing • Support to self-isolate • Outbreak management • Surveillance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responding to Variants of Concern (VOC) including Omicron • Enhanced Contact Tracing, in partnership with PHE Health Protection Teams • The ongoing role of Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPIs) • Activities to enable 'living with COVID-19 (COVID secure) • Interface with vaccine roll out • Action on enduring transmission

A great deal of work has taken place since our Local Outbreak and Response Plan was last updated, and the pandemic has moved into a different phase. Colleagues from across the system have worked tirelessly to ensure that our city moved as safely as possible through all four steps of the national roadmap **and we are now able to deliver targeted interventions in response to the Omicron Variant of Concern (VOC) that emerged at the end of November.** It is important to note that our local Manchester Test and Trace team have the capability and expertise to deal with any VOC as demonstrated by our response in managing the transition from the Alpha to the Delta variant, including the local delivery of Operation Eagle. To reflect these developments and the corresponding evolution of our response, the following adjustments have been made to the framework that underpins our plans:

Developments		
<div>Page 63</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responding to Variants of Concern (VOC) Enhanced Contact Tracing, in partnership with PHE Health Protection Teams The ongoing role of Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPIs) Activities to enable 'living with COVID-19 (COVID secure) 		<i>This work is now very much 'business as usual' in terms of our response and to reflect this is interwoven throughout our plan</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interface with vaccine roll out 		<i>Given the major role that vaccination now plays nationally in breaking the link between infection and hospital admission, this work is now incorporated as the twelfth and final core aspect of the end-to COVID-19 response</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action on enduring transmission 		<p><i>On 8 June 2021, Manchester along with the rest of Greater Manchester and parts of Lancashire were designated as an 'enhanced response area' (era). This designation officially ended on 26 July, however, the dedicated cross-system COVID-19 Task Group continues to drive work through our Twelve Point Plan.</i></p> <p><i>In September 2021 the Task Group used data analysis to select 12 wards of the city deemed to be at particular risk of enduring transmission that would benefit from enhanced collective, cross-system action: Hulme, Moss Side, Rusholme, Ardwick, Longsight, Fallowfield, Whalley Range, Cheetham, Crumpsall, Moston, Piccadilly and Deansgate. The choice of areas is reviewed every three months.</i></p>

Endorsement and Implementation

The implementation of this Action Plan is overseen by the Manchester COVID-19 Task Group, a multi-agency partnership chaired by the Director of Public Health, David Regan.

Key decisions are escalated to Manchester Gold chaired by Joanne Roney, Chief Executive, Manchester City Council. The membership of Gold includes the Senior Management team of Manchester City Council and senior representatives from Manchester Local Care Organisation, Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning and GMP

For any further information about this plan please contact (david.regan@manchester.gov.uk).

Our Twelve Aims

Our Twelve Point Action Plan has been updated regularly since August 2020 and mirrors the national and Greater Manchester approach, with a focus on the following aims:

1. Support [early years, schools and colleges](#) to remain open and operate as safely as possible, using effective infection control measures, testing, management of outbreaks and vaccination where appropriate. Ensure [universities and other higher education settings](#) remain open and operate as safely as possible using effective infection control measures, testing, management of outbreaks in campuses and student accommodation and vaccination where appropriate
2. Protect the city's most vulnerable residents by reducing and minimising outbreaks in [care homes](#) and other [high risk residential settings](#), including prisons
3. Support [workplaces and businesses](#) to operate as safely as possible, using [compliance](#) measures and [enforcement](#) powers where necessary. Support work to keep our [border](#) safe at Manchester Airport and respond to VOC such as **Omicron**.
4. Facilitate the recovery of the city by supporting the shift from regulatory to voluntary guidance for [events, leisure and religious celebrations](#)
5. Ensure the needs of people and communities that are [high risk, clinically vulnerable or marginalised](#) are prioritised and addressed within the broader COVID response
6. Co-ordinate [communications](#) activity to enable Manchester residents to live safely with COVID and make informed decisions, including around vaccination
7. Deliver targeted community [engagement](#) that supports wider aims and objectives, ensuring that appropriate and culturally sensitive approaches are taken
8. Ensure that decisions in respect of the direct response to COVID-19 and the wider recovery programme are informed consistently by high quality [data and intelligence](#)
9. Continue to deliver the community [testing](#) model, with a focus on testing becoming part of 'living with COVID' and on underrepresented and disproportionately impacted groups
10. Identify local cases of COVID early including VOC such as **Omicron** and provide a rapid response through effective [contact tracing and outbreak management](#)
11. Ensure residents comply with any legal instruction to [self-isolate](#) and have the support to enable them to do so
12. Work with the NHS locally to drive up [vaccination](#) rates among those groups with lower uptake, ensure second vaccinations are administered and support the roll out of booster vaccinations

EARLY YEARS, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

AIM: Support early years, schools and colleges to remain open and operate as safely as possible, using effective infection control measures, testing, management of outbreaks and vaccination where appropriate.

Autumn Highlights

Lead: Liz Clarke

Objectives:

1. Closely monitor cases and provide robust local test and trace procedures, with access to expert advice and support to manage complex outbreaks
2. Support settings to implement regular testing at the start of Autumn term and testing in outbreak situations
3. Disseminate timely and accurate advice, guidance and learning
4. Encourage vaccination uptake in adults working with children

September

- Schools returned for the new academic year with lifted restrictions. Packages of support were provided in advance including revised health and safety documents and a revised online positive case reporting form and guidance
- Guidance and support provided re: vaccine hesitancy and onsite testing. There were a high number of cases in primary and particularly secondary schools; small outbreaks were responded to quickly

October

- The majority of schools continued to report cases directly to the Manchester Test & Trace Response Service; the team worked with many parents who were self-isolating and were having difficulty getting their children to school in line with DfE guidance - individual support was provided to parents in this situation
- Two Infection Prevention and Control webinars were delivered to nurseries and childminders across the city

November

- Presented a retrospective analysis of COVID in school-age children and across Manchester school settings to the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee
- Schools were provided with information on enhanced risk management and interim arrangements in line with other GM areas. No concerns noted on face mask wearing being re-introduced

EARLY YEARS, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

AIM: Support early years, schools and colleges to remain open and operate as safely as possible, using effective infection control measures, testing, management of outbreaks and vaccination where appropriate.

Contain Outbreak
Management
Funding until 31/03

December	January	February	March	Q1 2022
Implement processes for monitoring cases in settings: analyse info & initiate Outbreak Control Team meetings/additional measures as required				
Implement the new Greater Management Outbreak Management Framework				
Provide regular updates/guidance on reducing & managing infections, incl. webinars				
Monitor & implement changes to national guidance, incl. on-site testing if required				
Ensure risk assessments are updated & appropriate				
Provide advice re: MCC/agreed union position & govt guidance on COVID-related HR matters				
Promote vaccinations for school communities, eligible children & young people				
Promote regular lateral flow testing for staff & students				
Offer onsite visits & COVID-secure audits				

UNIVERSITIES & OTHER HIGHER EDUCATION SETTINGS

AIM: Ensure universities and other higher education settings remain open and operate as safely as possible using effective infection control measures, testing, management of outbreaks in campuses and student accommodation and vaccination where appropriate

Autumn Highlights

Leads: Sarah Doran, Arpana Verma & Jenny Clough

Objectives:

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Manage complex outbreaks in campuses and student accommodation by closely monitoring cases and providing robust local test and trace procedures, with access to expert advice and support.

2. Support settings to implement regular testing at the start of Autumn term and testing in outbreak situations.
3. Increase student and staff vaccination coverage.

September

- Established a GM Public Health Advice to Universities Group; Outbreak Prevention Plans were in place for all higher education settings
- Regular investigation of cases linked to universities to support an early and effective outbreak response. There were a low number of cases associated with universities

October

- There were a low number of cases in students in university-owned and private student accommodation during this period and no significant outbreaks. Student vaccination uptake was good
- A new GM Higher Education COVID-19 Outbreak Management Framework was developed

November

- Delivered a presentation to LARIA (Local Area Research and Intelligence Association) to demonstrate and share learning from the innovative work of Manchester Test and Trace with universities
- There were a small number of cases in students in university-owned and private student accommodation during this period and no significant outbreaks. There were a small number of staff cases. A small outbreak at BPP University was investigated by the Environmental Health team with no immediate concerns

UNIVERSITIES & OTHER HIGHER EDUCATION SETTINGS

AIM: Ensure universities and other higher education settings remain open and operate as safely as possible using effective infection control measures, testing, management of outbreaks in campuses and student accommodation and vaccination where appropriate

Contain Outbreak
Management
Funding until 31/03

December	January	February	March	Q1 2022
Monitor cases in settings (staff, students, visitors (incl. to cultural institutions and events))" analyse info & initiate Outbreak Control Team meetings as required				
Promote vaccination options to students & staff; encourage vaccination for health and care students to enable them to attend placements				
Promote winter comms campaign				
Encourage regular LFD testing; implement any guidance for PCR testing in response to VOCs as required				
Recommend PCR testing for students returning home at end of Autumn term	Recommend PCR testing for students returning for Spring term			
Implement new GM Higher Education COVID-19 Outbreak Management Framework				
Plan for 'Plan B' and DfE Levels 3 & 4				
International Students: ensure access to support to self-isolate & accurate advice around their vaccination requirements				
Provide advice/support to private student accommodation providers & promote outbreak notification webform form to enable early reporting >2 cases				
Ensure Outbreak Control Plans in place for private student accommodation providers				
Engage with Student Unions and University leads on COVID-secure plans for campus hospitality and hosting large events, including managing visitors				
Work with university H&S teams to assess COVID controls within on-campus retail sites, pop-up markets & hospitality				

CARE HOMES & OTHER HIGH RISK RESIDENTIAL SETTINGS

AIM: Protect the city's most vulnerable residents by reducing and minimising outbreaks in care homes and other high risk settings, including prisons and primary care

Autumn Highlights

Leads: Leasa Benson, Nicola Rea

Objectives:

1. Manage outbreaks by closely monitoring cases and provide expert advice and support.
2. Reduce transmission by supporting settings to implement good practice and national/local guidance including infection prevention and control, testing, contact tracing, result management and outbreak management.
3. Increase vaccination uptake in staff and residents by supporting providers and partners.
4. Work with regional Health Protection Teams to manage prison outbreaks.

September

- This period saw the lowest number of COVID situations all year within adult social settings. The team developed a regular Adult Social Care bulletin and continued to support care homes around mandatory vaccination for staff
- Supported the development of systems to identify, report and manage COVID cases in the city's Bridging hotels

October

- Joint work between Environmental Health and the Community Health Protection Team around ventilation in day care centres and to address concerns with COVID-secure plans in some Manchester care homes and isolation provisions for people with COVID returning from hospital stays
- Provided advice to a children's residential home regarding admission of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children

November

- Conducted onsite visits to Bridging Hotels; cross-team working to develop responses to cases and outbreaks, arrangements for testing and provision of Infection Prevention & Control advice
- Supported Independent Mental Health Hospitals with Infection Prevention & Control visits and testing

CARE HOMES & OTHER HIGH RISK RESIDENTIAL SETTINGS

AIM: Protect the city's most vulnerable residents by reducing and minimising outbreaks in care homes and other high risk settings, including prisons and primary care

Contain Outbreak
Management
Funding until 31/03

December	January	February	March	Q1 2022
Support settings to manage cases, clusters & outbreaks; incl. interpreting new guidance				
Support settings to implement IPC advice/guidance, incl. provision of audits & on-site visits				
Provide regular bulletin to settings (e.g. guideline changes, PPE/AGP support, IPC training, vaccination)				
Ensure local process in place for providers to access testing and antiviral medication when required				
Work towards winter planning, provision of testing for flu/other respiratory outbreaks				
Contribute to GM Supported Living audit tool				
Support primary care settings, incl. resource pack and audit tools				
Deliver IPC training programme via specialist Infection Control trainers				
Monitor, provide & coordinate Fit testing & training for Aerosol Generating Procedures				
Provide guidance to and implement controls at Afghan Bridging Hotels				
Provide support to prisons, Courts and Approved Premises and homelessness provision around cases, clusters & outbreak, undertaking site visits to assess controls when necessary				
Work to enhance understanding of data in respect of cases and tests in high-risk settings				

WORKPLACES, BUSINESSES & BORDER

AIM: Support workplaces and businesses to operate as safely as possible, using compliance measures and enforcement powers where necessary. Support work to keep our border safe at Manchester Airport

Autumn Highlights

Lead: Carmel Hughes

Objectives:

1. Reduce transmission by supporting businesses to reactively and proactively implement good practice and national and local guidance.
2. Enact compliance measures and enforcement powers where necessary.
3. Provide early identification of potential issues within businesses using data and intelligence.
4. Support compliance with testing and quarantine regimes for international travellers and work with airside partners to facilitate access to local primary care.

September

- Managed Quarantine Hotels transitioned to Bridging Hotels (localities-led), with a move from DHSC to Home Office-led controls involving integrated work between local and regional teams
- Ventilation promoted with venues in advance of winter

October

- No large workplace outbreaks were reported. Engagement took place with businesses re: CO² monitors and ventilation issues
- 120 visits to businesses took place, with distribution of LFD test kits to businesses in Rusholme, Hulme, Moss Side, Miles Platting, Moston, Newton Heath and Harpurhey

November

- Investigated workplace outbreaks at a travel company, estate agents and clothing wholesaler; provided advice and guidance to improve controls, notification procedures and ventilation
- Reassurance was provided to a member of the public who raised a concern regarding a funeral they had attended and potential risk of an open casket. A visit to the setting confirmed all required controls were in place to prevent risk of transmission

WORKPLACES, BUSINESSES & BORDER

AIM: Support workplaces and businesses to operate as safely as possible, using compliance measures and enforcement powers where necessary. Support work to keep our border safe at Manchester Airport

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CITYWIDE

December	January	February	March	Q1 2022
Develop/recalibrate COVID response services - blended & flexible approach				
Develop Eating Out Engagement Project to incl. night-time economy & events				
Enhanced engagement/site visits, coordinating different elements of COVID response				
Develop guidance & information re: COVID controls & risk assessments, incl. ventilation & CO ² monitors				
Prepare businesses to return to full capacity, pre-COVID workplace activities & operations				
Distribute lateral flow testing kits; implement any guidance for PCR testing in response to VOCs as required				
Engage with venues re: Christmas celebrations				
Take enforcement action where necessary, incl. use of COVID-19 Direction Powers				
Work with Manchester Business Support Group to offer regulatory and COVID-secure guidance to small and medium enterprises as they move towards BAU				
Work with Community Health Protection Team & homelessness to provide outbreak management procedures				
Comms to businesses re: testing & booster				

OUR 12
AREAS

			REVIEW	
Prioritise workplaces for further enhanced action (PCC line lists, common exp reports, risky venue alerts)				
Work with testing team/neighbourhoods to co-deliver pop-ups				

Cheetham
Crumpsall

Ardwick
Longsight

Moston
Piccadilly
Deansgate

Hulme
Moss Side
Rusholme

Fallowfield & Whalley Range

Appendix 1 Item 6

EVENTS, LEISURE & RELIGIOUS CELEBRATIONS

AIM: Facilitate the recovery of the city by supporting the shift from regulatory to voluntary guidance for events, leisure and religious celebrations, and to ensure the sector is well positioned to respond to any national policy changes

Autumn Highlights

Leads: Barry Gillespie, Julie Jerram, Carmel Hughes

Objectives:

1. Support the event sector to reactivate ensuring that event organisers can proceed with confidence and we are adequately protecting our residents and visitors.
2. Working closely with communities, provide leadership and guidance in order to safely and proportionately manage the risk of transmission of COVID.
3. Ensure that event organisers/venue operators are clear with regard to their legal responsibilities and provide support and advice, using enforcement powers where necessary.

September

- Good controls in place and effective partnership working for large events, including Sounds of the City, Parklife, Warehouse Project and Carnival 50
- Preparation for Bonfire Night celebrations, the Conservative Party Conference and Christmas markets

October

- Work took place with the FA and Trafford Council on COVID-secure plans for the UEFA Women's Champion Football Draw
- Site visits and assessment of controls took place at the Cathedral Gardens Ice Rink, Levenshulme Market and for Halloween and Bonfire Night celebrations

November

- Undertook inspections to all Christmas Market food concessions, checking COVID-secure risk assessments. Triangulated and monitored case data closely to enable a quick response to any transmission issues
- Worked closely with the Etihad Stadium and the Palace Theatre in response to positive cases; provided advice to British Taekwondo in order to enable a young athlete to participate in the Junior European Championships

EVENTS, LEISURE & RELIGIOUS CELEBRATIONS

AIM: Facilitate the recovery of the city by supporting the shift from regulatory to voluntary guidance for events, leisure and religious celebrations, and to ensure the sector is well positioned to respond to any national policy changes

December	January	February	March	Q1 2022
Provide events programme with Partnership approach to support planned events (Safety Advisory Group framework and/or Risk Assessments) & retain a cautious approach to large scale, free-to-access, close proximity events				
Undertake pre-event site visits to assess COVID controls				
Define city's Risk Management approach incl. use of the NHS COVID pass.				
Apply COVID-19 Direction Powers where organisers fail to put appropriate controls in place				
Support sector & supply chain with labour, supplies & equipment challenges				
Develop messaging for communities/audiences promoting vaccination, testing & ongoing requirement for COVID control measures				
Establish Events Commission to shape how Manchester Event Strategy can support city's recovery programme (2022 onward)				

HIGH RISK, CLINICALLY VULNERABLE & MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES

AIM: Ensure the needs of people and communities that are high risk, clinically vulnerable or marginalised are prioritised and addressed within the broader COVID response

Autumn Highlights

Lead: Cordelle Ofori

Objectives:

1. Page 76

1. Ensure that communications activity is inclusive of and targeted on priority groups.
2. Ensure the needs of priority groups are understood and used to drive engagement activity.
3. Ensure priority groups can access and benefit from all COVID response offers (testing, contact tracing, support to self-isolate, vaccination) and general support for living with COVID by regularly monitoring insight and intelligence from a health equity perspective

September

- Over 2000 COVID Chats had taken place, with more requests being received for training
- Central Coordination Hub staff undertook training on vaccinations to enable them incorporate vaccination advice when speaking to the public about testing, contact tracing and support to self-isolate

October

- The vaccination helpline went live, calls were received from across GM and enquiries covering a wide range of vaccination topics
- Changes were trialled to the delivery of the Vaccine Equity meetings to recreate the connections that worked well during the enhanced response area work, bringing together soft intelligence, data, staff working on the ground and vaccination programme leads

November

- Approved 40 applications to the COVID Health Equity Manchester Targeted Grant Fund for small community groups
- Significantly increased the conversion of enquiries to the Vaccination Helpline to vaccination appointments

AIM: Ensure the needs of people and communities that are high risk, clinically vulnerable or marginalised are prioritised and addressed within the broader COVID response

December	January	February	March	Q1 2022
Develop & strengthen approach to inclusive communication				
Focus on health inclusion groups (new migrants, refugees & asylum seekers, Gypsies, Roma & Irish travellers)				
Commission project to improve engagement with Black Caribbean communities				
Commission project to improve engagement in young Pakistani communities				
Continued work to support and strengthen Sounding Boards				
COVID Chats – next steps				
Identify actions to address the immediate indirect consequences of COVID				
Deliver CHEM targeted fund 21/22				
Deliver Vaccine Equity Plan, incl. support for Evergreen & Booster offers				
Ensure Vaccination helpline meets needs of COVID-19 Health Equity Manchester priority groups				

COMMUNICATIONS

AIM: Co-ordinate communications activity to enable Manchester residents to live safely with COVID and make informed decisions, including around vaccination and responding to Variants of Concern such as **Omicron**

Autumn Highlights

Lead: Alun Ireland

Objectives:

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1. Support the cultural shift to 'living with COVID' by communicating clear messages that people will need to continue longer term with regular testing, contact tracing, infection prevention and control measures.
2. Increase vaccination uptake by ensuring that the general public and other key stakeholders have clear information about the vaccination programme, its delivery and effectiveness

September

- Developed the Winter Vaccination Campaign, bringing together information about the COVID vaccine, booster, flu jab and testing
- 'Return to School' packages and campaign messages provided in 'Welcome Back' style

October

- Manchester's Winter communications campaign was launched, featuring a 'Manchester's winter is coming' theme with a 'Game of Thrones' lookalike actor and a winter message from Manchester's Director of Public Health
- Full channel plan initiated for the campaign, including media relations, digital screens, radio, mobile phone advertising, GP surgeries, student pubs, website, social media, local publications etc. Vaccination site-based assets were also developed

November

- Developed new communications assets for Christmas parties and shopping
- Broadened the Winter Wellness messages, including work with the Age Friendly Team

COMMUNICATIONS

AIM: Co-ordinate communications activity to enable Manchester residents to live safely with COVID and make informed decisions, including around vaccination and responding to Variants of Concern such as **Omicron**

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CITYWIDE

December	January	February	March	Q1 2022
Work across MFT, MHCC, MLCO & MCC to implement joint community engagement plans for targeted work				
Deliver Winter Comms Campaign				
Support delivery of Vaccine Prog winter comms plan				
Ongoing delivery to promote the 'evergreen' offer				
Targeted activity around boosters and second doses				
Support inequalities workstream incl. work with neighbourhoods				
Targeted sector & service specific communications support incl. for cultural events				
Co-ordinate messaging in response to any Variants of Concern				

OUR 12
AREAS

			REVIEW	
Tailor messaging using feedback from Neighbourhood Teams/community groups for 'hard to reach' groups				

Cheetham
CrumpsallArdwick
LongsightMoston
Piccadilly
DeansgateHulme
Moss Side
Rusholme

Fallowfield & Whalley Range

Appendix 1 Item 6

ENGAGEMENT

AIM: Deliver targeted community engagement that supports wider aims and objectives, ensuring that appropriate and culturally sensitive approaches are taken

Autumn Highlights

Leads: Shefali Kapoor,
Cordelle Ofori

Objectives:

Page 80

Plan and deliver targeted community engagement activity informed by data/intelligence-led and place-based approach

2. Ensure a wide as reach as possible working with the right organisations and individuals so that messaging is able to come from trusted sources.
3. Deliver an effective response to Variants of Concern and Variants Under Investigation where required.

September

- Engagement work targeting young people at Parklife used a system-wide approach
- Worked with People Voice media to produce grassroot films with 9 VCSE organisations citywide, targeting key communities with foodbanks

October

- Staff from the five neighbourhoods covering the 12 priority areas began meeting weekly to ensure a consistent approach and to share resources
- The Citywide Neighbourhoods (COVID) Response Team commenced work to deliver the Youth Engagement Strategy over the next 6 months

November

- Delivered a wide range of engagement activities in the priority wards, including a Wellbeing Chat pop-up in Moss Side & Rusholme, distribution of 'COVID Safe Packs' to popular student venues in Fallowfield, library engagement sessions in the central area, a supermarket stall targeted at the Jewish community in Cheetham & Crumpsall and work with a VCSE group in Longsight to update and distribute COVID posters they had created
- Met with Neighbourhood Managers and COVID Connectors to develop and inform the Youth Engagement Strategy and identify key influencers

ENGAGEMENT

AIM: Deliver targeted community engagement that supports wider aims and objectives, ensuring that appropriate and culturally sensitive approaches are taken

CITYWIDE
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December	January	February	March	Q1 2022
Place-based approach to community engagement - work with local communities to support testing & vaccination messages				
Community Champions strength-based approach (use of trusted anchor institutions, faith & community groups, primary schools, youth & play orgs, General Practices) building trust & improving engagement with Black, Asian & disabled communities				
Strengthen role of COVID Chat coordinators and COVID Chat provider group				

OUR 12
AREAS

Youth engagement: Work with Teams Around Neighbourhoods to design 100-day challenge programme of events	REVIEW			
	Youth engagement: Engage target groups via delivery of 100-day challenge			
	Enhanced engagement & delivery of testing & vaccination messages			
	Ensure that n/hood teams have opportunity to feedback on tailored messages for their communities			
	Cascade messages and updates across wider neighbourhood teams			
	Analyse granular data (e.g. housing types, analysis of non-contactable individuals) to target enhanced engagement			

Cheetham
Crumpsall

Ardwick
Longsight

Moston
Piccadilly
Deansgate

Hulme
Moss Side
Rusholme

Fallowfield & Whalley Range

Appendix 1, Item 6

DATA & INTELLIGENCE

AIM: Ensure that decisions in respect of the direct response to COVID-19 and the wider recovery programme are informed consistently by high quality data and intelligence

Autumn Highlights

Lead: Neil Bendel

Objectives:

1. Use data and intelligence to review and inform the responses to, and outcomes of, changes to national and local COVID guidance and regulations.
2. Work with partners to continue to refine and improve data management and reporting processes, adding new data sources where appropriate.
3. Use existing and emerging data sources to analyse the impact and effectiveness of historic and future interventions to inform COVID response and recovery programmes

September

- Analysed data to support the COVID-19 Task Group to select twelve areas of the city as 'areas of collective action', including high case rates, low testing rates, low levels of compliance with contact tracing, need for support to self-isolate, low vaccination rates and local intelligence
- Undertook analysis to identify the number of non-household contacts for school-age cases to support communications with Regional and National Contact Tracing teams.

October

- Developed a Tableau dashboard to monitor key surveillance measures across the 12 priority wards for collective action
- Commenced analysis on excess deaths in Manchester residents throughout the pandemic

November

- Completed an initial analysis of COVID-19 re-infections
- Provided data analysis to support a review of the priority areas

DATA & INTELLIGENCE

AIM: Ensure that decisions in respect of the direct response to COVID-19 and the wider recovery programme are informed consistently by high quality data and intelligence **including the early warning system for the Omicron VOC**

*PRIORITIES THAT ARE SPECIFIC TO INDIVIDUAL WORKSTREAMS ARE INCLUDED ELSEWHERE IN THE PLAN

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CITYWIDE

December	January	February	March	Q1 2022
	Improve linkages between vaccination, positive tests & cases data sets			
	Monitor emerging research on key monitoring and surveillance tools (e.g. regarding reinfections)			
	Support COVID-19 Vaccination Programme incl. seasonal flu & Booster workstreams			
	Raise awareness of Post-Acute Covid-19 Syndrome in communities & interactions with existing health inequalities			
	Develop programme of work to support COVID-19 Recovery Programme			
	Undertake retrospective analysis of local impact of COVID, beginning with excess deaths by cause			
	Develop programme of work to support the transition to Manchester Health Protection Board			
	Develop links with MFT Clinical Sciences Data Unit to inform modelling of secondary care demand & implications for Winter Pressures			

OUR 12 AREAS

			REVIEW	
	Support INTs with data and intelligence synthesis			

Cheetham Crumpsall

Ardwick Longsight

Moston Piccadilly Deansgate

Hulme Moss Side Rusholme

Fallowfield & Whalley Range

Appendix 1 Item 6

TESTING

AIM: Continue to deliver the community testing model, with a focus on testing becoming part of 'living with COVID' and on underrepresented and disproportionately impacted groups

Autumn Highlights

Lead: Tim Keeley

Objectives:

1. Continue to adapt our community testing offer, supporting improved and equitable access.
2. Support schools, universities and businesses through encouraging regular asymptomatic testing.
3. Support testing in targeted priority groups, addressing any gaps, and deliver an effective response to Variants of Concern and Variants Under Investigation through surge testing where required.

September

- Testing pop-ups held at Gorton Festival, Whitworth Park and New Smithfield Market
- Work ongoing with COVID Chat Coordinators and to increase understanding of barriers to testing including via surveys at testing sites.

October

- A second joint testing and vaccination event was held in Chinatown, led by the Integrated Neighbourhood Team, this was very successful with 62 assisted tests completed and 252 testing kits distributed
- A joint testing and flu vaccination event in was held at a Youth Centre on the Longsight/Ardwick border

November

- The Manchester Test & Trace Response Service Testing Team conducted 38 community tests and 9 rounds of asymptomatic testing and 1 round of outbreak testing in Extra Care facilities
- Modelled potential local costs for community testing in the event of national funding coming to an end, including support for schools, high-risk settings, targeted pop-ups, engagement via voluntary and community-based organisations and storage and distribution

TESTING

AIM: Continue to deliver the community testing model, with a focus on testing becoming part of 'living with COVID' and on underrepresented and disproportionately impacted groups and mobilising capacity **as necessary to respond to the Omicron VOC**

	December	January	February	March	Q1 2022
		Likely rationalisation of national testing sites			
	Monitor demand on Local PCR Testing Sites				
	Review agile community asymptomatic testing & home test distribution in line with Govt review of programme and our contingency planning				
	Promote asymptomatic testing in line with Government guidance through regular comms/engagement & via business settings				
		Work with UKHSA to implement LTS (PCR testing) rationalisation strategy for 2022			
	Monitor & support school testing				
	Provide 'step up to care' testing & supported testing for Extracare settings				
	Support high risk settings with regular & outbreak testing				
	Monitor implementation of enhanced testing pilot for symptomatic disabled people unable to access testing via usual routes.				
	Work with partners to implement testing in response to VOCs, as and when required				
	Gather, analyse, share & implement learning				

			REVIEW
Focus of Community Testing Strategy & Plan			
Work with Neighbourhood Teams (Integrated Neighbourhood Teams and MCC) to deliver joint testing/vaccination pop-ups			

Cheetham
CrumpsallArdwick
LongsightMoston
Piccadilly
DeansgateHulme
Moss Side
Rusholme

Fallowfield & Whalley Range

CONTACT TRACING & OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT

AIM: Identify local cases of COVID early and provide a rapid response through effective contact tracing and outbreak management

Autumn Highlights

Lead: Sophie Black

Objectives:

1. Increase the number of cases managed locally by continuing to develop the 'locality first, GM-supported' model of contact tracing.
2. Focus on local intelligence, skill and networks to engage residents in the contact tracing process.
3. Coordinate knowledge, data and intelligence to identify and respond to situations at the earliest stage and provide a responsive local outbreak management response across all settings.
4. Deliver an effective response to Variants of Concern and Variants Under Investigation where required.

September

- The local contact tracing team dealt with an increase in people being wrongly informed by NHS Test & Trace to extend self-isolation after re-testing within 90 days of a previous positive test
- Over 70% of residents were contacted who would not have been contact traced by the national system

October

- Work began to assess the option of moving to a 'Local Four' approach to contact tracing which bypasses the national system, potentially making contact tracing more effective and streamlined
- 40% of cases in this period were of school age, an increase of 10% from the previous month. Conversations with residents were predominantly centred around the clarification of isolation guidance, travel advice and retesting within 90 days.

November

- The local contact tracing team used a variety of investigative methods to quickly resolve issues arising from an error with the national Test and Trace database causing a backlog of Index cases and duplication of work

CONTACT TRACING & OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT

AIM: Identify local cases of COVID early and provide a rapid response though effective contact tracing and outbreak management **with a particular focus on responding to the Omicron VOC**

Contain Outbreak
Management
Funding until 31/03

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CITYWIDE

December	January	February	March	Q1 2022
Use full range of available (incl. common exposure reports & postcode coincidence reports) to identify & respond to situations at the earliest stage				
Monitor changes to restrictions/guidance/case rates & model demand				
Update/adapt Local Outbreak Management Processes, including Case Management System, to reflect changing guidance/new developments & VOCs				
Xmas service delivery planning				
Model longer term (post-March) options for contact tracing, shaped by national announcements expected early Jan				
Gather, analyse, share & implement learning				

OUR 12 AREAS

	Explore feasibility of adopting 'Local Four'			REVIEW
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Cheetham Crumpsall

Ardwick Longsight

Moston Piccadilly Deansgate

Hulme Moss Side Rusholme

Fallowfield & Whalley Range

Appendix 1 Item 6

SUPPORT TO SELF-ISOLATE

AIM: Ensure residents comply with any legal instruction to self-isolate and have the support to enable them to do so

Autumn Highlights

Lead: Sophie Black

Objectives:

1. Provide practical, emotional and social support to those who need it, working with key partners and learning from cases to develop and enhance our package of support.
2. Improve awareness of the need to self-isolate, how long for, its importance and the support available.

September

- 12-month anniversary of the NHS Test & Trace Support Payments scheme, which had received an average of 37 applications per day (13,519 exc. duplicates) and paid out £2,943,000 to 5886 applicants
- Continued delivery and funding of the enhanced isolation support was agreed by the GMCA Pathfinder Programme Board.

October

- The geographical areas being targeted for enhanced support to self-isolate activity were changed from the 8 enhanced response areas to the 12 priority areas of collective action, resulting in increased activity
- The team reached out to a total of 2,551 residents across the city in this period (1980 in the 12 priority wards; 571 elsewhere in the city).

November

- The Support to Self-Isolate Team reached out to over 2,600 households in this period
- In total, 16,661 NHS Test & Trace Support Payment applications have been received

NHS Test & Trace Support
Payment Scheme to
continue until 31/03

SUPPORT TO SELF-ISOLATE

AIM: Ensure residents comply with any legal instruction to self-isolate and have the support to enable them to do so

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CITYWIDE

December	January	February	March	Q1 2022
Provide support & signposting to residents required to self isolate, using learning from the GM Pilot				
Deliver VCSE funding to 'plug the gaps' in existing support to self isolate offer				
Expand/update support to self isolate offer in response to feedback, incl. directory of OOH services				
Deliver NHS Test & Trace Support Payments				
Use communications to support levels of compliance with periods of isolation				
Model options post-March, incl. integrating with the wider humanitarian response activity				
Gather, analyse, share & implement learning				
Participate in evaluation of GM Pilot				

Appendix 1 Item 6

OUR 12
AREAS

			REVIEW	
Deliver enhanced package of support				

Cheetham
Crumpsall

Ardwick
Longsight

Moston
Piccadilly
Deansgate

Hulme
Moss Side
Rusholme

Fallowfield & Whalley Range

VACCINATION

AIM: Work with the NHS locally to drive up vaccination rates among those groups with lower uptake, ensure second vaccinations are administered and support the roll out of booster vaccinations

Autumn Highlights

Lead: Manisha Kumar

Objectives:

1. Page 90

1. Deliver a safe and effective vaccination programme, maximising coverage across the whole population.
2. Provide effective system coordination of the 'evergreen offer' for COVID vaccination, the COVID booster, flu vaccination and the children's vaccination programme.
3. Facilitate and support the design of a sustainable vaccine delivery function

September

- There was a strong start to college vaccination pop-ups targeting 16–17-year-olds, with 210 vaccinations delivered at Xaverian College
- The Booster programme commenced, with a phased response with vaccinations taking place 6 months post-second dose

October

- The children's' vaccination (12-15) offer was expanded to include a secondary offer at the mass vaccination centre, pharmacies and two local vaccination sites; coverage was on a par with or better than other GM areas
- The Gateway started making outbound calls to immune-suppressed patients for their third dose

November

- All Manchester schools bar one were visited as part of the vaccine programme; approximately 25% of the school aged population were vaccinated as a result of the visits
- Manchester continues to perform well in relation to vaccine uptake amongst pregnant women

VACCINATION

AIM: Work with the NHS locally to drive up vaccination rates among those groups with lower uptake, ensure second vaccinations are administered and support the roll out of booster vaccinations

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CITYWIDE

OUR 12
AREAS

December	January	February	March	Q1 2022
"Evergreen" Vaccination Offer for all JCVI cohorts				
Second Doses for 16 /17 year olds and all ages who are overdue				
Booster programme: 40+ and planning for potential wider cohorts				
Immunosuppressed 3rd dose				
12-15 year olds In/Out of School Offer – planning for potential 2 nd doses				
Flu programme				
Inequalities (e.g. pregnant women, asylum seekers, homeless, Learning Disability)				
Deliver Vacc Programme Communications and Engagement Plan incl. targeted engagement within 'at risk' communities at neighbourhood level				
Deliver Vaccine Equity Plan - targeted delivery plans for wards/community groups with lowest coverage				
<div> <div> <div>REVIEW</div> </div> <div> <div>Targeted delivery</div> <div>Targeted comms & engagement</div> </div> </div>				

Cheetham
CrumpsallArdwick
LongsightMoston
Piccadilly
DeansgateHulme
Moss Side
Rusholme

Fallowfield & Whalley Range

Appendix 1 Item 6

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Manchester City Council Report for Information

Report to: Executive – 15 December 2021

Subject: Our Manchester Progress Update

Report of: The Chief Executive

Summary

The report provides an update on key areas of progress against the Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025 which resets Manchester's priorities for the next five years to ensure we can still achieve the city's ambition set out in the Our Manchester Strategy 2016 – 2025

Recommendations

The Executive is requested to note the update provided in the report.

Wards Affected - All

Environmental Impact Assessment - the impact of the decisions proposed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city
N/A

Our Manchester Strategy outcomes	Contribution to the strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	The work to reset the Our Manchester Strategy considered all five of the Strategy's existing themes to ensure the city achieves its aims. The themes are retained within the final reset Strategy, Forward to 2025.
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	

A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	
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Full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

Financial Consequences – Revenue

None

Financial Consequences – Capital

None

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

Executive Report – 17th February 2021 - Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This is the sixth in an ongoing series of reports highlighting examples of areas where strong progress is being made against key strategic themes identified in the Our Manchester Strategy.

2. Stevenson Square

- 2.1 A consultation concludes on Tuesday 21 December into plans to pedestrianise Stevenson Square in the Northern Quarter, with the intention of making it one of the most attractive destinations in the city.
- 2.2 The proposals build on previous consultations about the space which have established that people want to see the full pedestrianisation of the square, a traffic-free space which they can move through easily, somewhere they can also choose to sit and relax and somewhere which retains and contributes to the distinctive character of the Northern Quarter through elements such as public art, outdoor dining and green planted areas.
- 2.3 Among the key changes proposed are new trees, contributing to the wider City of Trees project; new seating and a sustainable drainage system. Under the proposals a new two-way cycle lane, running through the square at the same level as the pavement, would also feature.

More details about the consultation can be found at
www.manchester.gov.uk/consultations

Relates to Our Manchester strategy themes:

*Thriving and Sustainable City
 Liveable and Zero Carbon City
 Connected City*

3. New children's library at Central

- 3.1 Manchester Central Library's new jungle-themed children's library opened at the end of November.
- 3.2 The design of the new look facility - which includes crawl-through spaces, wildlife wall art, new book display cases and a cosy corner where parents and their children can sit together to read – is inspired by feedback from Manchester families about what they wanted in a survey conducted last year.
- 3.3 It is the latest example of the investment which is taking place to regenerate libraries across the city.

Relates to Our Manchester strategy themes:

*Progressive and Equitable City
 Highly Skilled City*

4. Our Town Hall project

- 4.1 The painstaking restoration and repair of Manchester Town Hall will be under the spotlight in a new documentary to be broadcast later this month.
- 4.2 The Our Town Hall project is the subject of an episode of the series Great British Landmark Fixers which will be shown on the Yesterday channel at 8pm on Monday 20 December 2021.
- 4.3 The programme looks behind the scenes at work taking place in the Town Hall, which at 144 years old is in need of an array of careful repairs to preserve its heritage from the ravages of time and ensure that it remains at the centre of civic life for many decades to come. It features some of the people dedicating years of their working lives to the project, which will be completed in 2024, and notes that the project's legacy will not just be in protecting and enhancing the building itself but in helping a new generation of Mancunians learn heritage and construction skills.

Relates to Our Manchester strategy themes:

Highly Skilled City

Thriving and Sustainable City

5. Our Rivers, Our City strategy

- 5.1 A strategy to revitalise Manchester's river valleys and put them at the heart of the city's regenerations was launched on Tuesday 7 December.
- 5.2 The *Our Rivers, Our City* strategy, which covers up a period up to 2030, aims to make Manchester's three rivers – the Irk in the north of the city, the Medlock in the centre and the Mersey in the south – a vital part of its future, not simply part of its heritage. That means boosting their biodiversity and cleanliness, ensuring they are managed in a way which helps prevent and reduce flooding and contributes to the city's wider zero carbon goals and recognising them as an asset which can play a vital role in the character of new neighbourhoods such as Victoria North, where 15,000 new homes are being built over the next 15-20 years.
- 5.3 The strategy, co-ordinated by Manchester City Council, is a culmination of 18 months of work which has included seeking the views of the public and other partners. Strikingly, 90% of those surveyed said they want Manchester's rivers to be a real focus of the city.
- 5.4 Its five main aims are to improve the quality and functioning of the city's river valleys and their catchments; to ensure river valleys and sustainable drainage are key components of new developments; improve the accessibility of river valley; promote the wider benefits of river valley and improve flood management and risk mitigation.

- 5.5 Manchester's rivers are already coming out of the shadows. For instance, a previously culverted 350m stretch of the Medlock will form the centrepiece of the new Mayfield Park and a City River Park, following the course of the Irk from the city centre to Queen's Park will be at the heart of the Victoria North development.
- 5.6 Partners in the strategy include Manchester City Council, United Utilities, the Environment Agency and Natural England and community and third sector organisations.
- 5.7 The strategy has been funded by the GrowGreen project which is an EU Horizon 2020 programme for Research and Innovation to create climate and water resilient, healthy, and liveable cities by investing in "nature-based solutions." Alongside our partner cities in Valencia, Wroclaw (Poland), Brest, Zadar (Croatia) and Modena; Manchester is working to review and refresh our Green Infrastructure Strategy as part of the ambition of GrowGreen to accelerate and upscale the uptake and understanding of nature-based solutions.

Relates to Our Manchester strategy themes:

*Liveable and Zero Carbon City
Thriving and Sustainable City
Connected City*

6. West Gorton Community Park

- 6.1 West Gorton Community Park has won a prestigious environmental design award from the Landscape Institute.
- 6.2 The park, nicknamed 'sponge park' thanks to the way it soaks up excess water, the community park – designed by architects BDP in partnership with Manchester City Council – won the prize for Excellence in Flood and Water Management at the Landscape Institute Awards 2021.
- 6.3 Situated in the heart of the West Gorton, the park is first and foremost a place for the community to use and enjoy but West Gorton Community Park's innovative design shows how nature-based solutions can help combat the impacts of climate change. Some of the park's specialist features include: The widespread use of water-loving plants and design features which help capture excess water from nearby roads and slow the rate at which it flows into drains; Swales, shallow trenches planted with aquatic vegetation which store and help absorb excess surface water; Rain gardens – attractive low level, wildlife-friendly spaces (which water naturally runs into) filled with thirsty plants which can handle being waterlogged and bioretention tree pits – designed to receive stormwater and store it for gradual absorption through the root system.

Relates to Our Manchester strategy themes:

*Liveable and Zero Carbon City
Thriving and Sustainable City*

7. Victoria North

- 7.1 A planning application was submitted last month to begin the process of making the Red Bank neighbourhood in north Manchester ready for development, bringing a large swathe of brownfield land back into productive use.
- 7.2 This initial phase of works has been made possible through a £51.6m funding award from the government's Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF), which will address a series of infrastructure constraints and allow the delivery of new homes and green spaces, including the first phase of a new City River Park within the Red Bank neighbourhood – part of the wider Victoria North programme of development.
- 7.3 The application includes a commitment to increase biodiversity by at least 10% as a result of the overall development.
- 7.4 Red Bank will see the delivery of up to 5,500 new homes across a range of types and tenures, including affordable homes, as well as supporting social and community infrastructure. This includes key improvements to walking, cycling and public transport routes, creating an accessible and highly sustainable community, close to the city centre.
- 7.5 Red Bank is one of seven neighbourhoods that make up the Victoria North regeneration area – one of the biggest renewal projects the city has ever undertaken. The area is currently characterised by underused brownfield land – with the largest brownfield site being the 25-acre former Red Bank carriage sidings – which closed for rail use in the late 1980s, and which has often been blighted by fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour.
- 7.6 Victoria North is a joint venture programme between Manchester City Council and developer Far East Consortium (FEC). Over the next 15 to 20 years, the Victoria North project will deliver more than 15,000 new homes (at least 20% of which will be affordable housing), with each neighbourhood connected by high quality green spaces and 46-hectare City River Park, which will open up and celebrate the Irk River Valley for the first time in decades.

Relates to Our Manchester strategy themes:

*Thriving and Sustainable City
Liveable and Zero Carbon City
Progressive and Equitable City
Connected City*

8. Our Year

- 8.1 Manchester businesses have been invited to get behind the city's year-long campaign to create and celebrate opportunities for its young people.
- 8.2 The 2022: Our Year campaign aims to create an array of activities, opportunities and experiences for the city's children and young people and create a legacy which will make Manchester one of the best places for young people to grow up in. It is hoped to secure UNICEF Child Friendly City status.
- 8.3 It is recognised that the pandemic period has been particularly difficult for the city's children, especially those who were already experiencing inequalities.
- 8.4 Businesses are being asked to pledge their support and demonstrate their commitment to social value by signing up for one of a range of sponsorship packages, from £5k to £50k to help deliver activities for children and young people.
- 8.5 The private sector can also make donations in kind such as play, sports or ICT equipment, free tickets for events, vouchers for experiences, volunteer hours, events or storage space and work experience.
- 8.6 A launch of the campaign to the wider public is scheduled for January, with further details to be released in the new year. For more information about 2022: Our Year visit www.ouryear.uk

Related Our Manchester strategy themes:

*Progressive and Equitable City
Thriving and Sustainable City
Highly Skilled City*

9. Tree Action MCR

- 9.1 The second year of a two-year project to plant at least 2,000 trees across Manchester got underway with its first plantings on Monday 13 December, an avenue of 18 English oak trees alongside the tram track in Heaton Park.
- 9.2 More than 1,000 trees were planted across Manchester in the first year of the £1m Tree Action MCR programme in 15 wards identified as having the lowest tree cover with around 1,200 more set to be planted in the remainder of wards with suitable locations in the coming months, including four new community orchards.
- 9.3 The trees will contribute to the national Queen's Green Canopy campaign, for which Greater Manchester is a champion city region, which is encouraging tree planting to mark the Queen's platinum (70 year) jubilee on the throne in 2022.

- 9.4 Tree species have been carefully chosen for their resilience to climate change, ability to store carbon and biodiversity benefits. As well as their visual appeal, they also help improve air quality.
- 9.5 The wards which will benefit from year two of Tree Action MCR are: Baguley, Brooklands; Clayton and Openshaw; Gorton and Abbey Hey; Miles Platting and Newton Heath; Moss Side; Old Moat; Withington and Woodhouse Park.
- 9.6 Wards featured in first year of planting were Ancoats and Beswick, Ardwick, Cheetham, Clayton and Openshaw, Gorton and Abbey Hey, Miles Platting and Newton Heath, Moss Side, Old Moat, Withington and Woodhouse Park.

Relates to Our Manchester strategy themes:

*Liveable and Zero Carbon City
Thriving and Sustainable City*

10. Contributing to a Zero-Carbon City

- 10.1 Achieving Manchester's zero carbon target has been reflected throughout the work on the Our Manchester Strategy reset, with sustainability being a key horizontal theme throughout. Forward to 2025 restates Manchester's commitment to achieving our zero carbon ambition by 2038 at the latest.

11. Contributing to the Our Manchester Strategy

- 11.1 The reset of the Our Manchester Strategy will ensure that the city achieves its Vision. The five themes have been retained in the reset Strategy, with the new priorities streamlined under the themes.

12. Key Policies and Considerations

- 12.1 There are no particular equal opportunities issues, risk management issues, or legal issues that arise from the recommendations in this report.

13. Recommendations

- 13.1 The Executive is requested to note the update provided in the report.

Manchester City Council Report for Resolution

Report to: Executive – Wednesday 15 December 2021

Subject: This City: Manchester's Housing Delivery Vehicle (Part A)

Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer

Summary

Further to a report to the Executive in September 2021 on This City, a business case has been developed outlining the rationale and considerations that have been taken into account when developing the proposal for the establishment of the Council's wholly owned housing delivery vehicle.

Recommendations

The Executive is recommended to note the content of the report and comment as appropriate.

Wards Affected: All

Environmental Impact Assessment - the impact of the decisions proposed in this report on achieving the zero carbon target for the city
<p>The delivery of sustainable homes will be a key priority for This City. This will be at the core of the design considerations for all homes that will be delivered through the housing delivery vehicle.</p> <p>Careful consideration is being given as to how the developments will make a positive contribution to the zero carbon agenda and support the Council with the achievement of zero carbon by 2038.</p> <p>All proposals linked to sustainability have been costed and considered from a financial viability perspective to ensure that there is a clear cost vs benefit realisation justification for the approach being taken.</p>

Our Manchester Strategy outcomes	Contribution to the strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	A successful economy must be supported by a vibrant and diverse housing market. The provision of a multi-tenure, high quality, low carbon range of housing options will assist the City to attract investment and provide a housing offer to those working on lower incomes in the city.

A highly skilled city: world class and home-grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	A successful jobs and skills market has to be supported by a vibrant and diverse housing market. The provision of a multi-tenure, high quality, zero carbon range of housing options will assist the City to attract and retain talent.
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	The scale of development envisaged will provide much needed accommodation in the city which will be delivered across a range of communities to meet the needs of the City.
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	All homes being developed will be expected to contribute to our zero carbon targets through the sustainability measures that will be included within design specifications.
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	Housing development makes a direct and influential impact on infrastructure and growth. By ensuring an accelerated delivery programme, it is anticipated that there will be a stimulus to investment and development.

Full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

Financial Consequences – Revenue

Any revenue consequences are associated with the use of revenue funds from the Housing Investment Reserve to cover the costs of establishing This City and initially covering design team fees.

Financial Consequences – Capital

A capital budget increase of £33m funded by prudential borrowing has previously been approved by Council and the Executive towards the construction costs to deliver the first scheme as part of the This City housing delivery vehicle.

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

Executive: Delivery of new affordable homes in Manchester – 25th March 2020

Executive: A Housing Delivery Company – 3rd June 2020

Executive: This City Housing Delivery Vehicle – 15th September 2021

1. Introduction

- 1.1 As part of the dynamic and proactive post COVID-19 Manchester Economic Recovery Plan, the Council is committed to sustaining confidence in the housing market by reinforcing current approaches to new development to ensure that our existing core messages to investors and developers remain as strong. With this in mind, the Council has decided to create its own housing delivery vehicle, This City, to further bolster housing supply, focussing on the provision of new accessible and sustainable homes, which are in significant demand.

2. Background

- 2.1 There has been significant work undertaken to formulate the This City proposition in detail as well as to bring forward development proposals for the first phase of delivery via This City. Furthermore, there has been extensive work on the development of a robust financial model to underpin the operation of the entity and provide detailed performance monitoring information which will be regularly reported back to the Council as Shareholder.
- 2.2 To ensure there is clarity around the focus of This City, the approach to delivery and the company business case / plan has been structured around the following objectives:
- Viable proposition – to ensure that as a minimum the company can repay principal and interest finance costs back to the Council in addition to managing and maintaining the property to a high standard;
 - Provision of an accessible tenure – that a proportion of each scheme, a minimum of 20%, is let at an 'Accessible Rent; which is defined as at or below Local Housing Allowance rates;
 - Sustainability – demonstrate that a high-quality housing product, meeting zero carbon aspirations and providing accessible homes is achievable;
 - Retention of control – that the company will retain control of rent setting, management and lettings functions;
 - Commercial with a conscience – the company is a trading entity with a key focus on maximising the number of accessible homes that can be delivered through cross subsidisation from the market rented units and ensuring that the delivery of Social Value is embedded through the companies policies and practices;
 - Scalable and adaptable – flexibility in the structure and model of the company in order for delivery to be scaled up and provide a route in for investors, with the ability to deliver up to 500 new homes per year.
- 2.3 A range of corporate structuring options have been considered for This City. The structure is required to be efficient, underpinned by robust governance, and offering the flexibility to be adaptable as the delivery and business model evolves for This City over time, to enable the company to be flexible and respond to new opportunities as they emerge.
- 2.4 For the first phase of delivery, This City will be delivered through a wholly

owned company. As the Council wishes to exert control and influence on shaping this phase and developing the blueprint for what the This City housing offer will look like, the use of a wholly owned vehicle was deemed the most appropriate way to do this. In addition, it is proposed that This City will utilise the Council's procurement frameworks for the first phase whilst its own procurement strategy is developed.

- 2.5 To wrap around the operation of This City, there will be strong and transparent governance, regularly reporting back to the Council as Shareholder and outlining company performance from both a delivery and financial perspective. The implementation of a robust monitoring and accountability framework for This City will be a critical factor to its success. A set of Key Performance Indicators are in the process of being established which will be tracked by the This City Board, with performance monitoring being presented to the Council on a minimum of each quarter. This will ensure that there is effective oversight of operations and any emerging risks or performance issues can be mitigated appropriately.
- 2.6 A Company Board comprising of Directors and Non-Executive Directors with the appropriate skills is to be created. The Board will work to a defined Delegations Matrix, highlighting the decision-making authority which the Board has and what should be referred to the Shareholder.
- 2.7 With regards to Directorships, it is proposed that the Executive Member for Housing & Employment alongside another Councillor nominated by Council, will take up positions on the Board. In addition, a senior officer will act as the Council's Shareholder representative on the Board. In addition, adverts have been issued for the appointment of Non-Executive Directors, who will be recruited in early 2022.
- 2.8 For the first phase of This City, it is expected that the Council will fund the construction of the homes through a mix of debt and equity in the company, which the Council will fund through the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB). The interest and debt repayments received by the Council from This City will be used to service the PWLB debt incurred by the Council.
- 2.9 In progressing this approach, the Council will need to incur costs before the company is fully established, including design fees. It is expected that costs incurred in advance of the This City company being fully established will form part of the setup costs of the company and will therefore be recovered by the Council.
- 2.10 The debt and equity blend are expected to be slightly different for each scheme, and the Council will ensure that the composition of financing is compliant with the Subsidy Control Principles outlined within the Subsidy Control Bill, which provides the framework for a new, UK-wide subsidy control regime.
- 2.11 A comprehensive financial modelling tool has been developed for This City. The model provides the ability to apply a range of sensitivities in order to

create the optimum financial viability scenario. The ability to run a range of sensitivities is key at this early stage of scheme formation given costs for delivery are still high level, indicative and in the process of being refined as part of the work being undertaken through the RIBA stages.

- 2.12 For the first phase of delivery, a prudent approach to the cost estimates has been taken to pricing with 5% inflation, 5% risk and 5% design contingency included in any indicative cost modelling. These provisions are being monitored closely, with advice being taken from cost consultants and economists working for Mace, who have the latest industry insights and trends.
- 2.13 Following tax advice covering Corporation Tax, VAT and SDLT, the wholly owned company route for phase 1 provides the optimum level of efficiencies, rather than the first phase of delivery being amalgamated into a wider group structure. Tax advice has been provided for both the Council and This City, to ensure that the implications and benefits for both parties are fully understood.
- 2.14 It is to be noted, that for the first phase of delivery, there will be no grant input, such as Right to Buy Replacement Programme or Homes England funding programmes, applied. However, for future phases, the opportunity to access grant funding streams will be considered.
- 2.16 For Phase 2 and beyond, it is intended that This City will seek an investment partner to work with to drive forward new developments, rather than fund through further PWLB debt. Any new schemes which will be delivered in partnership with an investor will still seek to follow the core principles of This City: development of new, high quality, sustainable homes which are accessible to the people of Manchester.

3. This City Business Case

- 3.1 The This City Business Case sets out the proposals for Manchester City Council to establish a wholly owned housing company, This City, to develop new homes which will contribute towards meeting the Council's housing, regeneration and growth objectives.
- 3.2 This City will operate as a wholly owned, independent company, with the business case setting out the following:
 - (i) The rationale for establishing This City, including the aims and objectives of the company;
 - (ii) Housing market context and how This City will act as a key player in meeting housing need
 - (iii) Governance, legal and financial considerations that have been taken into account
 - (iv) Proposals for the first two schemes that are intended to be delivered through This City and an overview of future phases of development
 - (v) An overview of key policies which are in the process of development
 - (vi) Operational considerations, both in terms of an indicative staffing

structure and the service provision of the management and maintenance function

(vii) Risks and proposed mitigations

- 3.3 The business case outlines the finer detail of the proposed approach, building on the reports presented to the Executive in March and June 2020 and more recently, September 2021. It sets out the context of the project, the Council's vision and the proposed governance arrangements. It demonstrates the legal frameworks that the Company will operate within and that the proposals meet with legal and financial requirements. It is hoped that this document will give senior leaders the confidence that the proposal has been carefully thought through and that all aspects for the creation, development and operation of a venture as such as this have been considered from both a company and Council perspective.
- 3.4 It is to be noted that the content of this business case has been independently assured to provide external validation that approach outlined has taken into account necessary regulatory provisions and has responded to any lessons learnt highlighted through recent public reports into the operation, financing and governance other similar Local Authority backed ventures.
- 3.5 Once approved by the Council's Executive, the business case will be used as the guiding document to initiate the operation of the company and delivery of the first two phases of development. The business case will be reported back through to the already established governance structure for This City and will eventually evolve into a business plan for the company. In addition, performance of This City will be reported back through to the Council's Shareholder Panel, to ensure that the company is performing against Key Performance Indicators and financial projections.

4. Risks and Mitigations

- 4.1 Through the development of the This City proposition and refinement of the business case, a number of key risks have been highlighted, and a mitigations tracker has been developed. The points below highlight the most live and pertinent risks to this project at present:
- **Volatility of the construction sector:** Cost consultants and economists working as part of the design team have ensured that accurate as possible inflation figures are applied to the cost profiling. At present, there is a 5% provision for inflation but this is being monitored closely as some sources have indicated that this could increase up to 9%. It is to be noted that financial modelling has also been undertaken on a 9% basis to ensure that overall potential impact is clearly understood. In addition, the contractor procurement commenced early in the design process for the first proposed development to ensure that there is a contractor that has the capacity to include the scheme in their resourcing programme.
 - **Financial and Cashflow:** The financial model developed allows for sensitivity analysis, so that the impact of, for example, rent levels, voids, and maintenance costs can be reviewed. Inflation risk remains a concern

given the current market intelligence, but the design team are building in prudent assumptions on cost increases. Cashflow will be an ongoing risk, which can be mitigated through some of the measures discussed below, but it will need constant review.

- ***Robust market intelligence:*** It's critical that there is robust market intelligence underpinning the approach to This City – that we are delivering the right mix to meet the market need. A range of housing performance and delivery data has informed approach and will keep a regular track of changes in the property market.
- ***Availability of a properties:*** A certain proportion of market rented properties need to be let within a certain timeframe to ensure that there is enough cashflow to repay debt and cover ongoing running costs. Staggered occupancy dates have been built into the financial modelling to provide enough headroom in the scenario where properties could take longer to let than anticipated. Flexibility to switch the tenure to accessible to ensure some level of income is also being explored.
- ***Attracting an Investor for Phase 2 and beyond:*** As highlighted earlier in the report, future phases are predicated on attracting an investor to back This City. Therefore, the proposition must be attractive to a third party and constructed in the right way for maximum benefits. An insight into investor preferences has been discussed with some of the external advisors who have supported This City to date to ensure that we are cognisant of the parameters that would need to be worked within.

5. Contributing to a Zero Carbon City

- 5.1 The delivery of sustainable homes will be a key priority for This City. This will be at the core of the design considerations for all homes that will be delivered through the housing delivery vehicle. Careful consideration is being given as to how the developments will make a positive contribution to the zero-carbon agenda and support the Council with the achievement of zero carbon by 2038.
- 5.2 All proposals linked to sustainability have been costed and considered from a financial viability perspective to ensure that there is a clear cost vs benefit realisation justification for the approach being taken.

6. Contributing to the Our Manchester Strategy

(a) A thriving and sustainable city

- 6.1 A successful economy must be supported by a vibrant and diverse housing market. The provision of a multi-tenure, high quality, low carbon range of housing options will assist the City to attract investment and provide a housing offer to those working on lower incomes in the city.

(b) A highly skilled city

- 6.2 A successful jobs and skills market has to be supported by a vibrant and diverse housing market. The provision of a multi-tenure, high quality, zero carbon range of housing options will assist the City to attract and retain talent.

(c) A progressive and equitable city

- 6.3 The scale of development envisaged will provide much needed accommodation in the city which will be delivered across a range of communities to meet the needs of the City.

(d) A liveable and low carbon city

- 6.4 All homes being developed will be expected to contribute to our zero carbon targets through the sustainability measures that will be included within design specifications.

(e) A connected city

- 6.5 Housing development makes a direct and influential impact on infrastructure and growth. By ensuring an accelerated delivery programme, it is anticipated that there will be a stimulus to investment and development.

7. Key Policies and Considerations

(a) Equal Opportunities

- 7.1 There are no equal opportunities considerations at this stage but through the development of policies for This City, there will be equality, diversity and inclusion impact assessments undertaken.

(b) Risk Management

- 7.2 As outlined at section 6, there is a comprehensive understanding of the risks associated with This City and are being mitigated appropriately. There is a detailed risk register included in the business case which is regularly tracked through the This City governance structure and once the This City Board is established, this will be a standing item on each agenda.

(c) Legal Considerations

- 7.3 Both internal and external advice has been provided to ensure that the approach to the creation of the company meets legal and regulatory requirements.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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