



## **Executive**

Date: Wednesday, 16 March 2022

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber, Level 2, Town Hall Extension

This is a **supplementary agenda** containing additional information about the business of the meeting that was not available when the agenda was published.

### **Access to the Public Gallery**

Access to the Public Gallery is on Level 3 of the Town Hall Extension, using the lift or stairs in the lobby of the Mount Street entrance to the Extension. There is no public access from any other entrance.

### **Filming and broadcast of the meeting**

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## **Membership of the Executive**

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### **Councillors**

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

## **Membership of the Consultative Panel**

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### **Councillors**

Butt, Karney, M Sharif Mahamed, Ilyas, Leech 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.

## Supplementary Agenda

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|-----|--|---------------------------------------|
| 4.  | <b>Manchester Living Safely With Covid Plan</b><br>Report of the Director of Public Health attached  | <b>All Wards</b><br>3 – 48            |
| 6.  | <b>Capital Programme Update</b><br>Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer attached  | <b>All Wards</b><br>49 – 62           |
| 8.  | <b>Funding care providers to enable the Real Living Wage for the care workforce</b><br>Report of the Executive Director Adult Social Services and Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer attached | <b>All Wards</b><br>63 - 74           |
| 14. | <b>Outcomes of the public realm consultation on development and public realm strategy for the Back of Ancoats</b><br>Report of the Strategic Director (Growth and Development) attached              | <b>Ancoats and Beswick</b><br>75 - 90 |

## Further Information

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

Michael Williamson  
Tel: 0161 2343071  
Email: michael.williamson@manchester.gov.uk

This supplementary agenda was issued on **Thursday 10 March 2022** by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit, Manchester City Council, Level 3, Town Hall, Manchester M60 2LA

**Manchester City Council  
Report for Information**

**Report to:** Executive –16 March 2022

**Subject:** Living Safely and Fairly with Covid

**Report of:** Director of Public Health

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### Summary

On Monday 21 February 2022 the Prime Minister announced the publication of the National Living Safely with Covid Plan.

Over the past few weeks, the Director of Public Health, council colleagues and other partners have been developing the local Manchester Living Fairly and Safely with Covid draft plan. The comments from the Manchester Health Scrutiny Committee held on 9 March 2022 have now been incorporated and the final version of the Plan is attached.

### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Executive approve the Manchester Living Safely and Fairly with Covid Plan.

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### 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.

<b>Our Manchester Strategy outcomes</b>	<b>Summary of how this report aligns to the Our Manchester Strategy</b>
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

A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	establish new services as quickly as possible to support the most vulnerable in our city.
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	

**Contact Officers:**

**Name:** David Regan  
**Position:** Director of Public Health  
**Email:** david.regan@manchester.gov.uk

**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 The attached plan is based on what our current understanding is on national policy direction on Covid-19 and based on what the epidemiology (scientific study of Covid-19 and how it is found, spread and controlled) is telling us.
- 1.2 As with all our Covid-19 plans, it is iterative and will be updated and developed over time. Indeed, there are several important national policy announcements (e.g., testing) expected in the next month that will be incorporated.
- 1.3 The City Council and partners are committed to reviewing what has worked to date and learning from our experiences so far. Our plan is a system wide plan, coordinated by leads in different organisations and Council directorates, who will work with a wide range of people who live and work in the city to drive the delivery of the plan.
- 1.4 The plan includes:
  - Summary of our Covid-19 response so far
  - Covid-19 Inequalities
  - Epidemiology, including possible future scenarios
  - National Living Safely with Covid-19 Strategy key information
  - Building a shared understanding of what 'living safely and fairly with Covid-19' means for Manchester – our approach, what we will do and inequalities considerations
  - Local Governance arrangements
  - Our 12-point plan for Living Safely and Fairly with Covid-19 in Manchester
  - Resource Requirements

## **2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Executive approve the Manchester Living Safely and Fairly with Covid Plan

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# Manchester Health Protection System

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**Living Safely and Fairly with Covid-19 in Manchester**

March 2022



Appendix 1, Item 4

# Our Plan

This is a plan based on what our current understanding is on national policy direction on Covid-19 and based on what the epidemiology (scientific study of Covid-19 and how it is found, spread and controlled) is telling us.

As with all our Covid-19 plans, it is iterative and will be updated and developed over time. Indeed, there are several important national policy announcements (e.g. Testing) expected in the next month that will be incorporated.

We are committed to reviewing our work, learning from our experiences so far and sharing our learning and understanding as we move to learn to live safely and fairly with Covid-19. Our plan is a system wide plan, coordinated by leads in different organisations and directorates, who will work with a wide range of people who live and work in the city to drive the delivery of the plan.

The plan includes:

- Summary of our Covid-19 response so far
- Covid-19 Inequalities
- Epidemiology, including possible future scenarios
- National Living Safely with Covid-19 Strategy key information
- Building a shared understanding of what 'living safely and fairly with Covid-19' means for Manchester – our approach, what we will do and inequalities considerations
- Local Governance arrangements
- Our 12-point plan for Living Safely and Fairly with Covid-19 in Manchester
- Resource Requirements



# Covid-19 Response – The Manchester Difference

**It hit us harder.  
We helped each other.  
We fought back stronger.**

From Manchester's Public Health Annual Report Jan 2020-August 2021

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Manchester has been hit hard with Covid-19, experiencing higher case rates and higher death rates than many other areas in the country.

We came together as a city to respond to Covid-19, and we still have a huge challenge when we continue to work together to 'live safely and fairly with Covid-19'.

Health protection should remain a high priority. The world is different now and we need to build a new normal where we are more resilient, more prepared and able to respond.

# Covid-19 Inequalities (1)

Covid-19 has shone a light on existing health inequalities and underlying health conditions of our population and exacerbated them for our most vulnerable residents.

National evidence shows that:

- People who live in the most deprived areas of England and Wales were around twice as likely to die after contracting COVID-19.
- People of Black, Asian and other minority ethnic groups were more exposed to COVID-19, more likely to be diagnosed with it and more likely to die from it than those of white ethnicity
- Compared to people under 40 years old, the chances of dying from COVID-19 were 70 times higher for those aged over 80 and 50 times higher among those aged 70-79
- The risk of death involving COVID-19 in England was 3.1 times greater for more-disabled men and 3.5 times greater for more-disabled women, compared with non-disabled men and women.
- COVID-related deaths for people with a learning disability were dramatically higher than the general population in England and Wales

In Manchester, the age standardised rate of COVID-19 cases and deaths involving COVID were both higher among people living in the most deprived 20% of areas within the city across the course of the pandemic.

## Covid-19 Inequalities (2)



### The Manchester Challenge

- Up to 200 languages spoken (most ethnically diverse outside London), 100 in Central Manchester alone
- Much younger population than other major towns and cities - just under 50% of the population is aged under 25 (and around 40% are likely to be multilingual)
- People come to work, learn, worship, shop and play - Manchester is the second most visited local authority after London
- 43% of LSOAs are ranked in the most deprived 10% of areas in England
- Geographically small city with large population - high population density

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- The nature of Manchester's geography, demography and assets made residents of Manchester more vulnerable to COVID-19 with **higher rates of transmission**, and large numbers of people at higher risk of **severe disease and death** (see graphs in Appendix 1 and 2)
- These factors also meant that the response to the pandemic including testing, contact tracing, support to self-isolate and delivery of the vaccination programme were more challenging and resource intensive
- These factors need to be considered to ensure this plan is delivered equitably

## Covid-19 Inequalities (3)

Manchester also has a high number of complex and high risk settings.

These are settings where individuals may be more vulnerable to Covid-19, where Covid-19 is more likely to spread and where outbreaks may be harder to control.

### Complex and High Risk Settings in Manchester include:

- Adult's care homes
- Supported living accommodation
- Homeless hostels
- Asylum seeker provision
- Prison
- Universities Halls of Residences/large shared private accommodation
- Manchester Airport
- Hospice
- Day centres
- Children's care homes and residential settings
- Boarding schools
- Special Educational Needs schools
- Large businesses, warehouses

# Covid-19 Inequalities (4)

Health and wellbeing of the population – before, during and after Covid-19

Before	During and after
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stalling life expectancy/healthy life expectancy</li> <li>• Increasing health inequalities/'social gradient'</li> <li>• Prevalence of preventable long term conditions</li> <li>• Prevalence of risk factors for LTCs ('health behaviours', wider determinants)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact of C19 on health and health inequalities</li> <li>• Impact of C19 containment measures on health and health inequalities</li> <li>• Impact of C19 containment measures on social and economic circumstances and inequalities</li> <li>• Disproportionate impact on some people (young and old, disabled, mental health conditions, minority ethnic communities, key workers, carers)</li> </ul>



Existing health inequalities in the City were also exacerbated by COVID-19 potentially leading to a vicious cycle where people who are more vulnerable to disease due to their socio-economic circumstances, then face further adverse impacts on their circumstances as result of COVID-19 illness or containment measures, which puts them further at risk of severe illness for example

- Manchester's unemployment rate compared to England's for people aged 16-64 was beginning to widen before the pandemic and has further widened since the pandemic
- There were 2,546 households in temporary accommodation at the end of March 2021. This is an increase of 17% from March 2020.

## Covid-19 Inequalities (5)

- The impact of Covid-19 has been felt by our children and young people in education settings: On average, each school age child in Manchester lost 43 days face to face learning.
- For every reported case of a female in Key Stage 4 (GCSEs), there were 26 identified contacts who also needed to self-isolate. This is higher than the mean average of 22 contacts for every case of a male in Key Stage 4.
- The number of confirmed cases of Covid-19 over the academic year were higher in school age children living in more deprived wards (particularly in the north of the city), and in wards with larger ethnic minority populations including Longsight, Cheetham, Crumpsall, Moss Side and Levenshulme.
- Manchester residents have needed extra support to self-isolate due their often complex circumstances and working situations which will continue as the legal requirement to self-isolate is removed. Our local Manchester Test and Trace Service reached out to 23,000 residents to offer support and 2,700 were given practical, clinical and emotional support.
- 9,392 residents have received a Test and Trace Support payment of £500 to support them to self-isolate – a total of £4,696,000. This scheme ran from 28/9/2020 and stopped on 23/2/2022

## Epidemiology - Context and where we may be headed (1)

- Omicron has demonstrated a wave of Covid-19 with less direct health harms than previous waves, due to population levels of immunity (vaccines and prior infection) and to some extent inherent reduction in severity.
- Covid-19 is not yet endemic - It will become endemic once it is predictable and there is a clearer understanding of how to manage it.
- Even with vaccination, Covid-19 and its variants will continue to circulate for some time.
- SAGE have estimated it will take at least a further five years for Covid-19 to settle to a predictable endemic state and the path to endemicity will be critically dependent on:
  - ❖ how the virus evolves
  - ❖ the rate of waning of immunity
  - ❖ chosen policies on vaccination and boosting
- There are likely to be further waves of infection, due to waning immunity and/or new variants emerging but it may be hard to spot when and where these are occurring in Manchester without routine and reliable local surveillance data.

## Epidemiology - Context and where we may be headed (2)

- A future Variant of Concern could be more or less transmissible, and more or less dangerous.
- Waves of new variants are likely to continue until a very much higher percentage of the world's population has been vaccinated.
- Repeated vaccination may be required to maintain sufficient vaccine-derived immunity for future Covid-19 control.
- We are moving to minimal restrictions with rates still at very high levels, therefore it is likely that reasonably high levels will remain for some time, possibly falling to lower levels in the summer. However, Delta was a summer wave, and in the last two years we have had a new wave roughly every 6 months.
- It is a realistic possibility that, over the next five years, there will be epidemics of sufficient size to overwhelm health and care services (SAGE - Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies).



## There are various possible future scenarios (Further details in Appendix 3 and 4)

**World Health Organisation** describes 3 scenarios:

Scenario	
<b>1: 5th endemic coronavirus</b>	Covid-19 remains highly contagious but causes mild illness in most cases It is added to the existing 4 coronaviruses that already circulate endemically (SAGE estimates this could take 5 years)
<b>2: Flu like</b>	Covid-19 behaves like seasonal flu with recurring epidemics and severe disease is seen in people most at risk
<b>3: Ongoing pandemic through various Variants of Concern</b>	A new variant emerges that evades acquired immunity resulting in large number of cases, overloaded health system and more deaths

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**Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE)** describes 4 possible scenarios and compares these to the current Omicron variant:

Scenario	
<b>1: Reasonable Best-Case</b>	Relatively small resurgence in Autumn/ Winter with low levels of severe disease
<b>2: Central Optimistic (most likely)</b>	Seasonal wave of infections in Autumn Winter with similar size and severity to Omicron wave
<b>3: Central Pessimistic (most likely)</b>	Emergence of new variant of concern results in large waves of infections at short notice and outside Autumn/ Winter season. Severe disease and mortality concentrated in certain groups – unvaccinated, vulnerable, older people
<b>4: Reasonable Worst-Case</b>	Large waves of infections with increased levels of severe disease seen across populations, with most severe health outcomes primarily in people with no prior immunity

Appendix 1, Item 4

## National policy context (1):

### Covid-19 Response: Living with Covid-19 published on 21st Feb 2022

**Objective:** To enable the country to manage Covid-19 like other respiratory illnesses, while minimising mortality and retaining the ability to respond if a new variant emerges with more dangerous properties than the Omicron variant, or during periods of waning immunity, that could again threaten to place the NHS under unsustainable pressure.

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#### Government response centred around the following four principles:

- Living with Covid-19: removing domestic restrictions while encouraging safer behaviours through public health advice, in common with longstanding ways of managing most other respiratory illnesses;
- Protecting people most vulnerable to Covid-19: vaccination guided by Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) advice, and deploying targeted testing;
- Maintaining resilience: ongoing surveillance, contingency planning and the ability to reintroduce key capabilities such as mass vaccination and testing in an emergency;
- Securing innovations and opportunities from the Covid-19 response, including investment in life sciences.

## National policy context (2):

### 21st Feb

- the Government removed the guidance for staff and students in most education and childcare settings to undertake twice weekly asymptomatic testing (still in place for high risk education settings e.g. SEND)

### 24th Feb

- Routine contact tracing ended (local teams will continue to carry out context-specific contact tracing as part of outbreak response)
- Legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test removed.
- Fully vaccinated close contacts and those under the age of 18 no longer required to test daily for 7 days, and the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate removed
- End to self-isolation support payments and national funding for practical support. The medicine delivery service will no longer be available.
- The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No. 3) Regulations revoked.
- End of the legal obligation for individuals to tell their employers when they are required to self-isolate.

### 24th March

- Covid-19 provisions within Statutory Sick Pay and Employment and Support Allowance regulations will end.

## National policy context (3):

### 31st March

- National Test and Trace will end
- National Education Advice Service (accessed through DfE Helpline) will end

### 1st April

- No longer provide free universal PCR and lateral flow testing for the general public (tests will be made available to purchase). Limited symptomatic testing available for a small number of at-risk groups – further details to be confirmed. Free symptomatic and routine testing will remain available in health and social care settings.
- Remove the current guidance on voluntary Covid-19-status certification in domestic settings and no longer recommend that certain venues use the NHS Covid-19 Pass.
- Update guidance setting out the ongoing steps that people with Covid-19 should take to minimise contact with other people. This will align with the changes to testing.
- Consolidate guidance to the public and businesses, in line with public health advice.
- Remove the health and safety requirement for every employer to explicitly consider Covid-19 in their risk assessments.
- Replace the existing set of 'Working Safely' guidance with new public health guidance.

# Building a shared understanding of what 'living safely and fairly with Covid-19' means for Manchester

## Our approach:

- Remain committed to doing what is right for our Manchester residents, taking an Our Manchester approach
- Work together with our communities, valuing the role of community leaders and neighbourhood working in our health protection system
- Keep health equity and tackling health inequality at the heart of what we do
- Build on learning from our Covid-19 response and follow the latest evidence and insights from our communities

## We will:

- Consider the national policy direction from Feb/March 2022 as more information is released
- Look at the local patterns of infection and transmission to help inform our plans
- Review current local and Greater Manchester arrangements – both function and resourcing
- Build a resilient local health protection system, retaining the crucial skills, knowledge and experience of teams we have built up over the past two years working on Covid-19 response
- Remain prepared for future Covid-19 surges and be able to respond early and rapidly to outbreaks
- Integrate Covid-19 work with other infectious diseases that we respond to locally, e.g. TB, flu, measles, other vaccination programmes (childhood immunisations)
- Have a renewed focus on other important health protection issues and deliver new programmes of work
- Through the Chief Executive of the City Council and Director of Public Health continue the dialogue with central Government to ensure the learning from Manchester is fed into national policy developments.

## Inequalities considerations

Significant inequalities and disproportionate direct and indirect impacts of Covid-19 have been evident and persisted throughout the pandemic

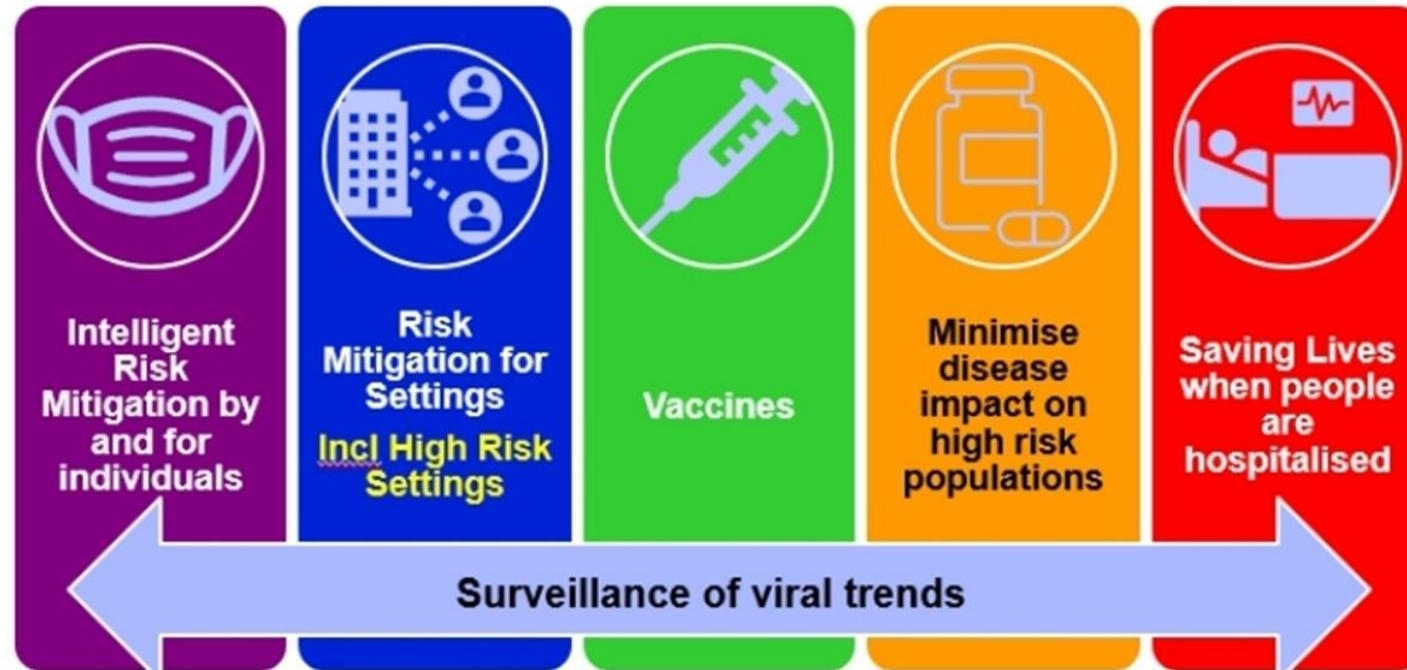
We will:

- Protect high risk settings and people who are more vulnerable to disease, to reduce the impact of Covid-19 on individuals and communities at highest risk of poor outcomes (people may be vulnerable because of clinical and or social reasons)
- Assess and mitigate equalities impacts as part of any review and change in national Covid-19 policy/guidance
- Rebuild population health and address both the direct and wider impacts of the pandemic on health and wellbeing and on health inequalities
- Ensure that plans to tackle the health service treatment "backlog" have a strong inequalities focus

It is unknown if enhanced support will be available to places with ongoing high case rates.

## 5 Cornerstones to make Living Safely and Fairly with Covid-19 work

The Association of Directors of Public Health has identified 5 cornerstones to make Living Safely and Fairly with Covid-19 work

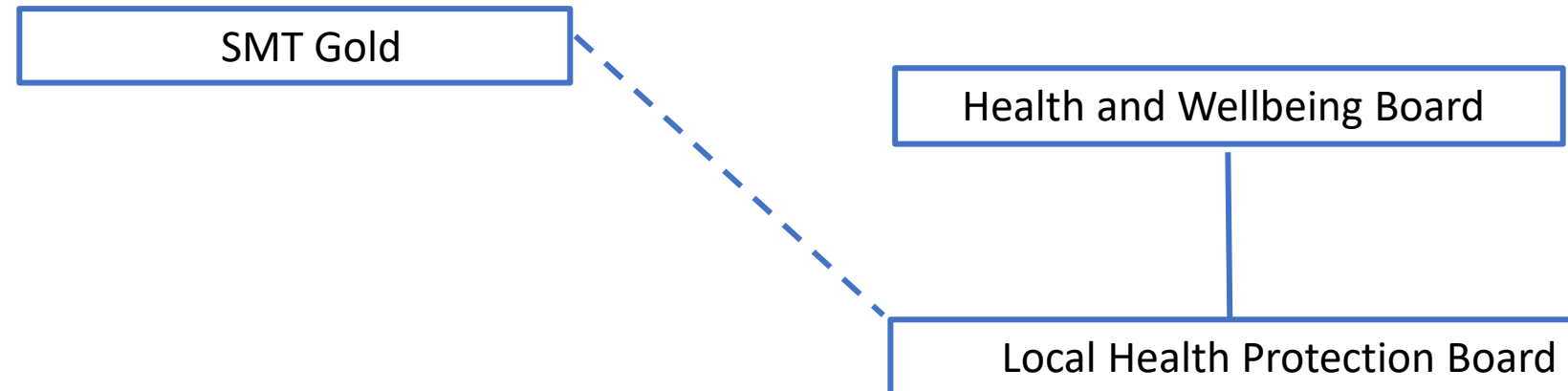


## Local Governance Emerging Arrangements

Throughout the pandemic we have had strong governance arrangements to oversee our Covid-19 response. Our Local Health Protection Board (Covid-19 Response Group/ Covid-19 Task Group), chaired by the Director of Public Health, had a dedicated Covid-19 focus and reported into the Health and Wellbeing Board and SMT Gold meetings, chaired by MCC's Chief Executive.

Moving forward, we will incorporate the Covid-19 Task Group back into a wider Health Protection Board, which will cover Covid-19 and other health protection issues.

Page 24 The Health Protection Board will report into the Health and Wellbeing Board and will link to SMT Gold, which will be stood up as and when required. It is important to note that the Manchester Partnership Board will be considering the wider NHS challenges and care system pressures relating to the "backlog".





# Our Twelve Priorities

Our Twelve Point Action Plan has been updated regularly since August 2020 and has mirrored the national and Greater Manchester approach.

The Plan has been revised in line with the new national strategy and our own Living Safely and Fairly with Covid-19 in Manchester vision.

- Page 25
- For each of our priorities we have described:
- How we are currently responding to Covid-19
  - How we will change our approach to live safely and fairly with Covid-19
  - How we will go about moving from our current position to where we need to be

As part of the transition, there will be a very different approach needed to some areas of work, in particular testing, contact tracing and isolation support.

## Our 12 priorities are:

1. Resilient Local Health Protection System
2. Infection Prevention and Control
3. Vaccination and treatments
4. Care homes and other high risk settings
5. People and communities that are high risk, clinically vulnerable or marginalised
6. Testing, contact tracing, outbreak management and support to self-isolate (revised approach)
7. Communications
8. Community engagement
9. Data and intelligence
10. Education settings
11. Workplaces and businesses
12. Events, leisure and religious celebrations

# 1. BUILDING A RESILIENT LOCAL HEALTH PROTECTION SYSTEM

**AIM: Develop a new, resilient local health protection system using the learning and skills developed through our Covid-19 response to respond to future surges, outbreak and variants of Covid-19 as well as other health protection threats such as measles, TB and poor air quality**

Manchester Covid-19

Living Safely and Fairly With Covid-19

Lead: Sarah Doran

## Responding to Covid-19: *current position*

## Living Safely With Covid-19: *our priorities for the future*

## Transition Plan: *how we will achieve this*

- Manchester Test and Trace provides strategic and operational Covid-19 response around testing, contact tracing, support to self isolate, outbreak response to Covid-19 and vaccination helpline
- Covid-19 Central Co-ordination Hub in place with clinical and non-clinical staff
- Specialist Community Health Protection Team provides advice, support and outbreak management for Covid-19 and other infections in high risk settings
- Environmental Health Team provides advice, support and outbreak management for workplaces and businesses
- Data and Intelligence, Communications and Neighbourhood Teams have been essential to Covid-19 response work
- Some work has now stopped based on govt strategy e.g. contact tracing outside of outbreak situations and support to isolate (from 24th Feb), compliance and enforcement activity now stood down in line with removal of plan B measures

- Develop a new resilient local health protection system with public facing, specialist advice, outreach and strategic functions
- Retain some capacity using skills and expertise built up through Covid-19 response
- Work ongoing to identify key priorities but likely to include:
  - Living safely and fairly with Covid-19
  - Increasing screening and vaccination, with a focus on childhood immunisations, flu and Covid-19 vaccination
  - TB work programme
  - Reducing health inequalities associated with poor air quality
- Develop plans that can be scaled up at pace based on local surveillance and data analysis with all partners sufficiently engaged and resourced.
- Reintroduce compliance and enforcement measures if required to manage future peaks/variants

- Local Health Protection Board will be refreshed and re-established to oversee the new local health protection system and the Living Safely and Fairly with Covid-19 work
- Transition planning will scope and implement a new local health protection system by June 2022
- Current arrangements funded until June 2022 and plans for capacity required July onwards will consider how we head out of emergency response and towards business as usual but retain capacity to stand up elements of emergency response swiftly, whilst uncertainty of the virus evolution remains.
- Plans will include retaining some compliance and enforcement capability to re-establish previous arrangements should legally enforced measures/restrictions be put in place again

## 2. INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL

**AIM: Increase skills and good practice in infection prevention control across settings and residents to minimise risk of transmission of infectious diseases including Covid-19**

Manchester Covid-19

Living Safely and Fairly With Covid-19

Lead: Leasa Benson

Responding to Covid-19:  
*current position*

Living Safely With Covid-19:  
*our priorities for the future*

Transition Plan:  
*how we will achieve this*

- Enhanced Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) measures in place across health and care settings
- Increased awareness of IPC measures across the general public and settings including social distancing, ventilation, improved hand and respiratory hygiene, use of face coverings and environmental cleaning.
- Outbreak management includes enhanced IPC controls
- A mixed model of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) provision with most now provided through the national portal
- Local PPE mutual aid hub is in place
- Specialist advice provided by Community Health Protection Team and Environmental health Team

- Promotion of key public health messages including staying at home, respiratory and hand hygiene and environmental cleaning to reduce transmission of all infections including Covid-19
- Consider policy options to improve ventilation and indoor air quality in schools, workplaces, enclosed public spaces and homes
- Continue to use enhanced IPC controls to manage outbreaks
- Increased focus on IPC training and awareness across sectors, building on skills and knowledge developed during the pandemic
- Investigate cost effectiveness of additional measures including CO2 monitors and filtration systems
- Continue to support enhanced IPC measures as the norm in some health and social care settings
- Support providers to access national PPE supplies and retain a locality contingency role

- Inclusion of IPC measures in all relevant plans and service specifications
- Continued messages to the public around keeping safe, hand and respiratory hygiene and ventilation etc, for example encouraging face coverings on public transport
- Retain a locally deployable stockpile of PPE
- Implement the E-Bug Programme across education settings

### 3. VACCINATION & TREATMENTS (1)

**AIM: Maximise vaccination coverage and improve vaccine equity for first and second doses and booster vaccinations; develop and deliver annual winter vaccination programme, ensure availability and equitable access to appropriate treatment for those who are eligible**

Manchester Covid-19

Living Safely and Fairly  
With Covid-19

Lead: Manisha Kumar & David Regan

## VACCINATION

Responding to Covid-19:  
*current position*

Living Safely With Covid-19:  
*our priorities for the future*

Transition Plan:  
*how we will achieve this*

- Mixed model of delivery in place including Local Vaccination Sites and GP practices, Mass Vaccination Clinics, Hospital Hubs, community pharmacies, schools, pop ups, housebound delivery and bespoke clinics for specific target groups.
- Vaccine equity plan delivering a number of activities focussed on communities (either geographically, by ethnicity or other risk groups) with lower vaccine coverage including; data driven approach, culturally competent targeted communications and engagement,, bespoke targeted vaccination clinics, neighbourhood based approach, and continuous learning, evaluation and improvement of offer informed by community insight
- "Think Family" approach for schools (12-15) vaccination programme with enhanced support offer for schools in priority/lower coverage areas and communities
- Helplines available to support with non-digital booking and access, and a range of Covid-19 related queries with clinical staff and interpreters available

- Tackling inequalities and improving vaccine equity for population groups and areas of the city with lower vaccine coverage
- Ensure Evergreen offer in place across the city to respond to demand for first and second doses; and ability to increase capacity if needed for any future surge
- Ensure a continued offer for new phases as they are introduced e.g. Healthy primary school aged children, spring boosters and any further doses ,
- Ensure an accessible out of school offer is promoted and available to children, young people and families that is aligned to the evergreen offer
- Plan for Autumn 22/23 annual winter vaccination programme which may require additional capacity – building on the model for the programme so far
- Local Vaccination Helpline to continue to be offered by Local Health Protection Co-ordination Hub (previously called Manchester Test and Trace Coordination Hub)
- NHS Gateway phonenumber to continue including targeted outbound calling

- Commitment in place to deliver 'Evergreen' offer until March 2023 with a strong focus on inequalities and community engagement including delivery for housebound, community pop ups and bespoke clinics alongside fixed-site offers.
- Hyperlocal outreach offer to continue with mobile units and peripatetic vaccination team working in partnership with neighbourhood teams to target areas and communities who are marginalised, underserved or have lower vaccine coverage
- Lobby for change to current national commissioning and payment models to enable flexible, nuanced and resource intensive approach required to improve coverage in Manchester
- Apply workforce models for Covid-19 vaccination to other vaccination programmes
- Local Vaccination Helpline to be expanded to offer help on other vaccinations, such as childhood imms, as well as Covid-19

### 3. VACCINATION & TREATMENTS (2)

**AIM: Maximise vaccination coverage and improve vaccine equity for first and second doses and booster vaccinations; develop and deliver annual winter vaccination programme, ensure availability and equitable access to appropriate treatment for those who are eligible**

Manchester Covid-19

Living Safely and Fairly  
With Covid-19

Lead: Manisha Kumar & David Regan

## TREATMENTS

Responding to Covid-19:  
*current position*

Living Safely With Covid-19:  
*our priorities for the future*

Transition Plan:  
*how we will achieve this*

- Antiviral and monoclonal antibody treatments are available for certain high risk individuals who test positive for Covid-19 and who have mild-moderate symptoms. The treatments are aimed at reducing severity of covid-19 and reducing the risk of hospitalisation. Treatments are delivered via CMDUs (Covid Medication Delivery Units) within the first 5 days of acute Covid-19 illness. Current eligibility is based on positive lateral flow test or positive PCR result.
- Hot clinics are a GP led primary care service for people with suspected or confirmed positive Covid-19, where they can be seen in person for an assessment. Clinics are based in Central, South and North Manchester for those able to travel.
- Home visits if required are provided by a patient's own General Practice
- People at high risk of severe disease will be referred either into the Covid-19 Home Oxygen Monitoring Service, considered for antiviral treatment or escalated into hospital if required
- Long Covid Clinics at all 3 Manchester hospital sites following GP assessment and referral

- Ensure equitable access to Covid Medication Delivery Units (CMDUs) so that all eligible people at risk can access antiviral and monoclonal antibody treatments if they have mild-moderate symptoms
- Continue offer of access to face to face care if needed for patients with Suspected Covid-19, through GP, Hot Clinics or Home visit.
- Further escalation route into Hospital or CMDU (for considering antiviral treatment) will remain.
- Availability of testing capability is essential for eligible people to access treatment.
- Encourage vaccination to prevent long Covid-19, and increase awareness of symptoms and available support
- Ensure emergency preparedness for futures waves

- Detailed government guidance awaited to confirm that free testing remains in place for people eligible for treatments, as part of "limited symptomatic testing" for a small number of at risk groups" to ensure that they can go on to access life-saving treatments.
- Deliver good communications to ensure that eligible individuals know how to test and access treatment if develop symptoms of covid-19.
- Development of Long Covid rehabilitation offer from Manchester Local Care Organisation
- Development of robust emergency preparedness and business continuity plans to address possible future waves

## 4. CARE HOMES & OTHER HIGH RISK SETTINGS

**AIM:** Protect the city's most vulnerable residents by reducing and minimising the effects of Covid-19 outbreaks in high risk settings, such as adult's care homes, children's care homes and residential settings, supported living accommodation, homeless hostels, asylum seeker provision, hospice, day centres, boarding schools, Special Educational Needs schools and the prison.

### Responding to Covid-19: current position

- Community Health Protection Team (CHPT) supports vulnerable residents and high risk settings
- Partnership work with Manchester Test and Trace Coordination Hub, Environmental Health, Adult Social Care, UK Health Security Agency, education and homelessness service colleagues
- Monitoring Covid-19 cases in residents and staff, supporting settings to manage situations, and reporting to various regulators
- Managing outbreaks
- Providing support and guidance on staff and resident testing regimes
- Promotion of vaccination uptake in staff and residents in high-risk settings
- Providing regular comms and guidance to settings
- Virtual visits where concern is raised
- Training and education sessions on specific areas of Infection Prevention and Control
- Specialist support for settings providing high risk procedures

### Living Safely With Covid-19: our priorities for the future

- Continued role in supporting high risk settings with outbreak management, including enhanced infection prevention and control measures and regular staff and resident asymptomatic testing regimes and outbreak testing as guided by national policy
- Continuation of review and distribution of new and updated guidance and other comms
- Ongoing communication between the Community Health Protection Team, Adult Social Care, children's social care, education, homelessness services and other care providers around Covid-19 and other communicable diseases
- Promotion of vaccination programmes and promotion of vaccine status checks for new residents
- Planned and spot check support visits to providers with concerns post outbreak
- Return to proactive visits to provide support and guidance on infection prevention and control measures and managerial responsibilities around health protection issues, outbreak response and prevention of health protection incidents

### Transition Plan: how we will achieve this

- Retain staffing levels and expertise of specialist Community Health Protection Team staff, ensuring sufficient capacity and knowledge base
- Work in partnership with Greater Manchester contact tracing hub, UKSHA, GM Health Protection Collaborative as part of Health Protection reforms and ongoing review of Health Protection delivery locally and across Greater Manchester
- A clear communications plan for health protection issues in high risk settings, including planned and emergency situations
- Work closely with neighbourhood colleagues to raise awareness of actual and potential health protection risks in specific areas of the city
- Local health protection system leadership to influence local, Greater Manchester and national groups, boards & committees, ensuring health protection remains a priority with future planning of services and developments.

## 5. 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 Living Safely and Fairly with Covid-19 plans**

Manchester Covid-19

Living Safely and Fairly With Covid-19

Lead: Cordelle Ofori

Responding to Covid-19:  
*current position*

Living Safely With Covid-19:  
*our priorities for the future*

Transition Plan:  
*how we will achieve this*

- Covid-19 Health Equity Manchester (CHEM) engaging and working with communities at high risk of adverse impacts to deliver culturally competent bespoke messages and engagement approaches, improve vaccination coverage, and enable people to keep safe and well. Activities include establishment of Sounding Boards and Disabled People's Engagement Board; Targeted Fund for voluntary and community organisations; Covid-19 CHATS; working with community influencers and leaders to share messaging' and working with neighbourhood teams to target Covid-19 response work
- The shielding programme for people who were previously considered Clinically Extremely Vulnerable ended on 15.9.21 however many people never stopped shielding and are now anxious about what the removal of restrictions will mean for them.

- Continue to promote the importance of vaccination for high risk groups and ensure that information and the vaccination offer itself is accessible , and work continues build trust, dispel myths and address vaccine hesitancy
- Ensure equitable access to testing and treatment for people in high risk groups who develop Covid-19 symptoms and would be eligible for treatment to prevent severe illness and death
- Ensure that people who were clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) are supported and enabled to safely integrate back into society.
- Address the indirect consequences of Covid-19 with a focus on what matters to people in the CHEM risk groups e.g. Mental Health; Long Covid-19; food, housing and income security; children and young people, and primary care and as part of Manchester's Build Back Fairer/Marmot Action Plan

- Maintain, develop and strengthen the CHEM infrastructure and approaches to engagement, inclusive communication and inclusive data that underpin the work to address health equity
- Work with NHS, primary care and neighbourhood teams to identify and address any inequalities in access to Covid-19 Medication Units, Hot Clinics and opportunities for treatment for eligible individuals
- Welcome back events being planned with the support of libraries and galleries to enable those that were categorized or saw themselves as clinically extremely vulnerable to participate in activities in a safe way.
- Further guidance is awaited on the national Enhanced Protection Programme (EPP) approach for people who were clinically extremely vulnerable.
- Ensure voice of Communities that Experience Racial Inequality, Inclusion Health and other marginalised groups influence delivery of the Build Back Fairer plans.

## 6. TESTING, CONTACT TRACING, SUPPORT TO ISOLATE, OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT (1)

**AIM: Focus testing on those most vulnerable to disease and those in high-risk settings, to ensure these residents are protected. Testing to be used for treatment, prevention, surveillance and outbreak investigation.**

### TESTING

#### Responding to Covid-19: our current position

#### Living Safely With Covid-19: our priorities for the future

#### Transition Plan: how we will achieve this

- Free universal testing for general population until 31st March 2022:
  - 9 PCR test sites (7 'local' and 2 regional), and PCR home delivery, run by NHS Test and Trace
  - LFD test provision through pharmacies, community venues, workforce schemes, and home delivery
  - Community agile 'pop up' testing, targeted to reduce health inequalities
- Routine testing for health and social care staff and residents/patients in high-risk settings
- Enhanced testing as part of outbreak response for example schools, prison and businesses
- Mobile Testing units available for large scale outbreak / variants of concern response
- Twice weekly asymptomatic testing for school staff and secondary school students encouraged
- Local testing team delivering regular and outbreak testing in high-risk settings, and home swabbing.

- Much of our approach will be guided by national policy and infrastructure, where full details are to be confirmed over the coming weeks.
- Continued twice weekly testing for SEND schools (regular testing in other education settings ended on 21st February)
- Continued routine and symptomatic testing for health and social care settings following national guidance
- Use of enhanced testing as a control measure for outbreak management in high risk settings
- Ensure equitable access to available testing for Manchester residents, based upon factors such as income, digital access and ability to leave home.
- Ensure testing is accessible for 'at-risk' groups as government guidance becomes available.
- Ensure we have the capacity and capability to scale up provision rapidly.

- Continue to work closely with UKHSA colleagues to understand and influence ongoing changes, e.g. how mass testing can be re-established rapidly, how testing will be made available to specified groups (e.g. those identified in Government report as 'at-risk').
- Continue collaborative working with Education, Adult Social Care, and Communications colleagues to share understanding of upcoming changes to guidance and manage its effective implementation
- PCR float stock will be made available to support outbreak response
- Maintain a supply of LFD kits in reserve given uncertainty around national arrangements.
- Costed options for securing additional supplies of tests to ensure cost is not a barrier for residents to access testing.



## 6. TESTING, CONTACT TRACING, SUPPORT TO ISOLATE, OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT (2)

**AIM: Identify local outbreaks of COVID early and provide an integrated, rapid response through effective management, drawing on the expertise and learning developed over the pandemic.**

**Manchester Covid-19**

**Living Safely and Fairly With Covid-19**

**Leads: Sarah Doran & Christine Raiswell**

### CONTACT TRACING & OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT

**Responding to Covid-19:  
current position**

**Living Safely With Covid-19:  
our priorities for the future**

**Transition Plan:  
how we will achieve this**

- As our Single Point of Contact, our Local Test and Trace Coordination Hub has received detail of cases of COVID in settings, working to risk assess and triage out to teams to lead investigations in their specialist areas:
  - Environmental Health team (inc. businesses, offices, hospitality, justice)
  - Community Health Protection Team (inc. care settings, early years and schools)
- Multiagency Outbreak Control Team meetings called where required, involving UK Health Security Agency colleagues where appropriate.
- We have had clinical, expert contact tracing staff in place in our Local Manchester Test and Trace Team, undertaking complex contact tracing of residents who have not engaged
- We have taken the lead from national on tracing as part of Variant Of Concern (VOC) response
- GM Integrated CT Hub has provided additional surge capacity & resilience
- All routine individual contact tracing ended on 24 February 2022.

- A revised national Covid-19 Outbreak Management Framework is expected in March. This will further outline our local role. Moving forward, it is understood:
  - Outbreak management will move to be focussed only on high risk settings, and will need to include testing and antiviral prescription routes. Outbreak management for COVID will be delivered by local and regional teams with no national system in place.
  - Contact tracing would only be required as part of outbreak management and in response to new variants, although circumstances whereby the latter would be required are as yet unclear. We will need to ensure we have capacity to scale up this specialist provision rapidly.

- We will retain capacity and expertise for contact tracing and outbreak management supported by the Greater Manchester Integrated Hub as part of health protection reforms and ongoing review of health protection delivery
- We will engage with businesses on wellbeing agenda and importance of changing presenteeism
- Clear communications to business and the public on importance of staying at home for all communicable diseases
- We will gather insight from the two years of Covid-19 tracing and outbreak management and ensure lessons are applied to future health protection systems.

## 6. TESTING, CONTACT TRACING, SUPPORT TO ISOLATE, OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT (3)

**AIM: Ensure support is available for residents who are self-isolating by connecting people to existing support provision and engaging with employers**

**Manchester Covid-19**

**Living Safely and Fairly With Covid-19**

**Leads: Christine Raiswell & Shefali Kapoor**

### SUPPORT TO ISOLATE

**Responding to Covid-19:  
current position**

**Living Safely With Covid-19:  
our priorities for the future**

**Transition Plan:  
how we will achieve this**

- The legal duty to self-isolate ended on 24 Feb, moving to an advisory position to stay at home.
- Non-financial support: over the past year our local Test and Trace Coordination Hub has fulfilled requirements set out in DHSC Framework to support residents to self isolate. We have called any resident who has declared a support need during the contact tracing process.
- Our clinical team has given advice for people feeling unwell and we have offered support to access medicines and GPs.
- We have worked closely with the Food Partnership and VCSE organisations to ensure culturally sensitive provision is available.
- Financial support: colleagues in Revenues & Benefits have administered the NHS Test & Trace Payment scheme, which has exceeded expected demand. This scheme ended on 24 Feb 2022.
- Wider Humanitarian Support: Covid Response Hub has been in place offering support with food, getting online, loneliness, delivery of medication and support with fuel. Proposed that Covid Response hub will end on 31st March.

- Our Manchester Test and Trace Hub will continue to offer advice and support to residents about Covid-19 and other health protection issues in its new Health Protection Co-ordination Hub function
- Develop and adapt our support in light of the ways poverty and certain types of employment are likely to mean that some residents will be less able to follow any discretionary advice which might exist on isolation, creating increased risks of higher infection rates and outbreaks
- Continue to develop the Manchester Food Partnership which will support the city's approach to tackling poverty
- Work with communications team to provide messages as to how to prepare for isolation if measures are reintroduced

- There is an inequalities risk with employers setting policy/culture on staying at home advice when unwell so engagement with businesses and employers will be vital.
- Where our local team speak to residents opting to stay at home (via choice or experiencing symptoms) we will link them into existing provision via the Family Poverty Strategy, including CAB to explore financial support.
- Humanitarian Support - Any calls for signposting/ information in relation to Covid will be absorbed by the contact centre
- We will continue the Food Partnership, although resources are required in the short term to grow and develop a sustainable entity.
- Business case developed to establish food partnership to continue work developed amongst food providers across the city.

## 7. COMMUNICATIONS

**AIM: Co-ordinate an effective communications response to an inclusive recovery, enabling Manchester residents to live safely with Covid-19 and help them make well considered and informed decisions, including around staying safe and well, vaccinations and responding to Variants of Concern.**

Manchester Covid-19

Living Safely and Fairly  
With Covid-19

Lead: Alun Ireland

Responding to Covid-19:  
*current position*

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- Communications has played a key role in amplifying and localising national public health messaging, reassuring communities and supporting people impacted by Covid. Links to national messaging via weekly Cabinet Office briefing  
Regular local insight surveys and national research used to inform messaging and policy.
- Multi-channel communications campaign in place throughout the pandemic
- Tailored materials developed to address the information needs and concerns of priority audiences
- Additional investment in engagement and community capacity building, through Covid-19 funding with an emphasis on neighbourhood level messaging from trusted sources.

Living Safely With Covid-19:  
*our priorities for the future*

- Communications will be critical over coming months/weeks as policy and guidance changes
- Communications support will be required if risks increase (outbreaks, future peaks, variants and so on)
- Potential that humanitarian support may also be needed again in future peaks
- Recognised need for targeted messages and engagement support for those at risk or less likely to comply with public health messages
- Focus on where people can get help
- The focus on health equity through COVID Health Equity Manchester (CHEM) has transformed community engagement and built a level of trust and co-operation. This partnership approach is our blueprint for the future
- Communications support on wider health protection issues as part of building resilient health protection system.

Transition Plan:  
*how we will achieve this*

- Develop a system-wide communications strategy and approach for the next 3 months to manage outbreaks, future peaks and variants of concern
- Develop a clear narrative with direction and guidance on how people can stay safe, protect themselves and their loved ones, particularly those at highest risk in their community
- Develop clear messages and guidance to businesses and the public on importance of staying at home for all communicable diseases
- Build on new approaches to community engagement rooted in equality and equity, including developing culturally competent, targeted public health messages supporting targeted engagement activity
- Continue using data and insights to increase the efficacy of messaging and activities.

Appendix 1, Item 4

## 8. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

Manchester Covid-19

Living Safely and Fairly  
With Covid-19

Lead: Shefali Kapoor

Responding to Covid-19:  
*current position*

Living Safely With Covid-19:  
*our priorities for the future*

Transition Plan:  
*how we will achieve this*

- Targeted engagement approaches taking place across the city, particularly with those communities where vaccination rates are low and/ or where there are higher numbers of the population that have been disproportionately affected by Covid-19.
- This activity and feedback received from the community has helped inform our communications material
- Additional resource embedded within the council's Neighbourhood team; work with health colleagues to focus on this activity
- Regular messaging going out to over 1000 community groups via Covid-19 Community Toolkit

- Continue to utilise day to day engagement activities as a way of promoting how to live with covid safely
- Work closely with health, COVID Health Equity Manchester (CHEM) and other partners to continue to proactively engage with communities that have been disproportionately affected by Covid-19
- Continue to use the Team Around the Neighbourhood and use of data and intelligence as a way of targeting activity and working in partnership to deliver activity at a local level
- Engagement model used for Covid-19 response to be used with other health protection issues affecting our communities as part of building a resilient health protection system

- Engagement Strategy to draw on learning from Covid-19, and sustainability of current work needs to be considered
- Embed activity through day to day activity via the Team Around the Neighbourhood.

# 9. DATA & INTELLIGENCE

**AIM: Ensure that decisions in respect of the living safely and fairly with Covid-19 and the wider recovery programme are informed consistently by high quality data and intelligence**

## Responding to Covid-19: *current position*

## Living Safely With Covid-19: *our priorities for the future*

## Transition Plan: *how we will achieve this*

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- Data: We access a range of individual record level data via Covid-19 Situational Awareness Explorer (Power BI) including positive and negative tests results, cases, contact tracing cases and contacts; enhanced contact tracing (common exposures and postcode coincidences) and vaccination
- Surveillance: We undertake a range of strategic and more in -depth analysis of patterns and trends in Covid-19 at whole population level utilising full range of data available
- Reporting: With partners, we produce a range of routine reports, dashboards and tools relating directly to Covid-19 for a number of different audiences, including Covid-19 Weekly Data Updates, Daily Covid-19 Dashboard, IMT Covid-19 19 update, Covid-19 Neighbourhood Surveillance Dashboard and Covid-19 recovery dashboard

- Data: Data derived from testing activities will be more limited in scope, thus necessitating the greater use of qualitative local insight from sounding boards, schools, universities and local businesses etc.
- Surveillance: We will move from whole population surveillance to surveillance based on targeted testing in high-risk setting and vulnerable populations and make greater use of alternative, non-testing-based data sources such as wastewater analysis
- Reporting: We will refocus our reporting on the new Manchester Health Protection Board. Less regular but more targeted reporting. Greater focus on Long Covid-19 and other sequelae of infection. Undertake more retrospective analysis of data as part of national / local review of Covid-19 response activities

- Data: Set up local data collection and recording processes. More joined up, structured arrangements for gathering, collating and analysing local insight from businesses and communities.
- Surveillance: Identify sources of syndromic surveillance e.g. hospital admissions, GP presentations, absenteeism for 'Covid-like-symptoms'.
- Reporting: Develop broader Health Protection Dashboard(s) to replace Covid-specific ones. More analysis will be undertaken at pan-LA level by GM ICS and GMCA teams ('do once and share').

Appendix 1, Item 4

## 10. EDUCATION SETTINGS

**AIM: Support early years, schools, colleges, universities and other higher education settings to remain open and operate as safely as possible, using effective infection control measures, vaccination and supporting management of outbreaks**

Manchester Covid-19

Living Safely and Fairly  
With Covid-19

Leads: Amanda Corcoran & Christine Raiswell

### EARLY YEARS, SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Responding to Covid-19:  
*current position*

Living Safely With Covid-19:  
*our priorities for the future*

Transition Plan:  
*how we will achieve this*

Manchester Test and Trace, Education Teams and Health and Safety supporting education settings:

- Monitoring Covid-19 cases and supporting settings to manage situations
- Managing outbreaks using the Greater Manchester Outbreak Management Framework for Schools and Colleges
- Providing regular comms and guidance to settings
- Providing advice on Covid-19-related HR matters for schools
- Promoting vaccination
- Supporting with risk assessment and Covid-19 controls
- Schools encouraging regular asymptomatic testing and providing onsite testing at starts of term
- Enhanced testing to manage outbreaks including use of mobile testing units

- Continued role in supporting education settings with advice to manage outbreaks including enhanced measures and testing – in line with processes for other infectious disease outbreaks
- Continued regular testing in SEND and other specialist settings (regular testing for other education settings finished on 1st Feb)
- Education settings will need to have outbreak plans in place
- Ongoing communication between the local health protection system and education leaders around Covid-19 and other infectious diseases
- Increasing vaccination uptake in children and young people with a focus on health inequalities
- Continued role providing advice on Covid-19-related HR matters for schools
- UKHSA Educational Setting Advice Service (accessed through DfE Helpline) will be decommissioned from 31 March 2022. Our local helpline for education settings will continue to be available via our Health Protection Co-ordination Hub

- Manchester Public Health Advice to Schools Group will expand its remit to cover all education settings (early years through to Universities) and wider health protection issues. The group will continue to provide relevant advice.
- Ensure sufficient surge capacity is available to support outbreaks and single cases of high risk infections such as TB, in education settings (testing and outbreak vaccination/chemoprophylaxis where appropriate)
- Continue to support work to increase vaccination uptake, working with the Vaccination Programme Leads
- Implement EBug Programme across education settings

## 10. EDUCATION SETTINGS

**AIM: Support early years, schools, colleges, universities and other higher education settings to remain open and operate as safely as possible, using effective infection control measures, vaccination and supporting management of outbreaks.**

Manchester Covid-19

Living Safely and Fairly With Covid-19

Leads: Sarah Doran, Jenny Clough, Arpana Verma

### UNIVERSITIES AND HIGHER EDUCATION SETTINGS

Responding to Covid-19:  
*current position*

Living Safely With Covid-19:  
*our priorities for the future*

Transition Plan:  
*how we will achieve this*

- Manchester Test and Trace supporting Universities and Higher Education settings
- Monitoring Covid-19 cases with regular joint meetings to examine cases
- Supporting with risk assessment and Covid-19 controls
- Supporting settings to manage situations
- Managing outbreaks using the Greater Manchester Outbreak Management Framework for Universities, with focus on outbreaks within Halls of Residence
- Providing regular comms and guidance to settings
- Promoting regular testing in students and staff
- Promoting vaccination uptake amongst students and staff
- Supporting Universities to manage Covid-19 related issues with International students and large scale events
- Universities Learning and Networking Group supports joint working between Universities, Manchester Test and Trace and UK Health Security Agency

- Continued role in supporting Universities and Higher Education settings with advice to manage outbreaks including enhanced measures and outbreak testing – in line with processes for other infectious disease outbreaks
- Universities and Higher Education settings will need to have outbreak plans in place
- Ongoing communication between the local health protection system and Universities around Covid-19 and other infectious diseases
- Continue to promote vaccination uptake in students and staff
- Continued role in supporting Universities to manage Covid-19 related issues with International students and large scale events
- UKHSA Educational Setting Advice Service (accessed through DfE Helpline) will be decommissioned from 31 March 2022. Our local helpline for education settings will continue to be available via our Health Protection Co-ordination Hub

- Universities Learning and Networking Group to continue to meet and focus on key events, such as Welcome week, sharing good practice, student mental health support with an emergency stand up option for outbreak situations
- Manchester Public Health Advice to Schools Group will expand its remit to cover all education settings (early years through to Universities) and wider health protection issues. The group will continue to provide relevant advice.
- Ensure sufficient surge capacity is available to support outbreaks and single cases of high risk infections such as TB, in University and HE settings (testing and outbreak vaccination/chemoprophylaxis where appropriate)
- Continue to support work to increase vaccination uptake, working with the Vaccination Programme Leads

## 11. 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**

**Manchester Covid-19**

**Living Safely and Fairly  
With Covid-19**

**Lead: Carmel Hughes**

**Responding to Covid-19:  
current position**

**Living Safely With Covid-19:  
our priorities for the future**

**Transition Plan:  
how we will achieve this**

- Environmental Health (EH) support outbreaks in Manchester workplace businesses and Borders at Manchester Airport
- EH partnership work with the Community Health Protection Team and Manchester Test and Trace Central Co-ordination Hub on complex settings such as Asylum Seekers settings and Bridging Hotels and with UKSHA on outbreak management at Immigration Centres and Justice settings
- Current work includes:
- Monitoring Covid-19 cases in workplace staff, supporting settings to manage situations and reporting to various regulators
- Managing outbreaks
- Providing support and guidance to Business owners and Managers providing regular comms and guidance to the settings
- Visits where concern is raised
- Engagement visits to small and medium sized businesses in wards identified in the 12 point plan
- Assistance at vaccination pop up events in local communities

- Continued role for regulatory services in managing outbreaks, particularly in workplaces, replicating approach for other infectious diseases/threats to health
- Ongoing communication and guidance to businesses on living safely and fairly with Covid
- Respond to concerns raised by employees and members of the public
- Promote vaccination programmes during visits to local businesses
- Ongoing communication and guidance supporting Hospitality and Large Venues with continued work with licensing strategy and local Out of Hours colleagues
- Ongoing work with the current HSE Spot check initiative for Office based settings in Manchester

- Continue to support and advise business on current national and local guidance
- Continue to use data and intelligence surveillance tools
- Facilitate DHSC/UKHSA wastewater epidemiology feasibility pilot schemes with high risk business settings and report findings and on going workstreams
- Continue to support the development and integration of the case management system for Covid infection in business settings
- Integrate covid and vaccination engagement work into food business visits and engage with the Manchester Food board, coordinated by Population Health Team, and focus on Food Poverty.
- Develop work with Be Smokefree (Shisha) Community outreach and the new Population Health Regulatory Project Manager



## 12. 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

Manchester Covid-19

Living Safely and Fairly With Covid-19

Leads: Barry Gillespie & Carmel Hughes

Responding to Covid-19:  
*current position*

Living Safely With Covid-19:  
*our priorities for the future*

Transition Plan:  
*how we will achieve this*

- Supporting, wherever possible, events, leisure and religious celebrations to take place.
- Population Health and Environmental Health active participation in planning, risk assessment and Safety Advisory Groups
- Taking a Twin Track Approach: Professional and expert liaison, advice and support to the sector, including large scale venues, to help them to deliver safe events and fulfil legal requirements; adequately protecting their staff, contractors and visitors
- We encourage staff to be vaccinated.
- Where businesses might fail to comply, the authority will exercise legal powers to enforce.

- We want Manchester to be a Covid-safe and welcoming city, with a thriving cultural, sports, leisure and religious offer, giving people a renewed sense of place
- We will support the sector to transition from regulatory to voluntary guidance for events, leisure, sports and religious celebrations
- We will continue to advise all events providers and venue operators of remaining legal responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act and Workplace Health, Safety and Welfare Regulations, which will ensure that a level of control remains in place, enabling us and them to respond and manage risks from future possible Covid-19 scenarios

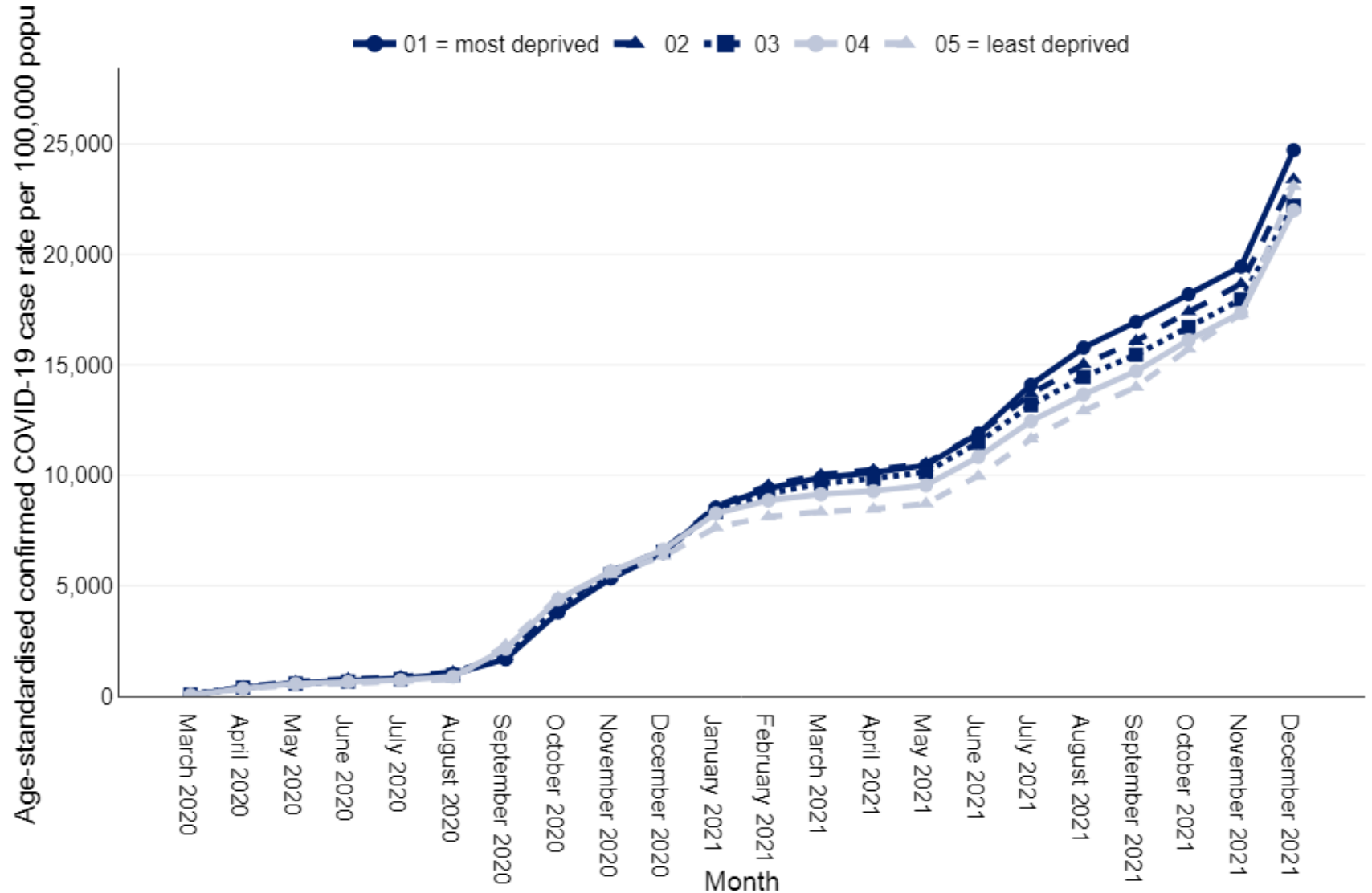
- Collaboration: We will build upon relationships and collaborations which began during the pandemic between Population Health, Environmental Health, and Licensing teams, including ongoing participation in the Safety Advisory Group Process
- Project Management Support: Population Health have employed a Project Manager to support areas where regulation can support and promote public health. This manager will capture and coordinate intelligence around risks in relation to events and beyond, coordinating collaborations with partners and escalating to the Director of Public Health if needed
- Vigilance: We will remind our partners and providers in the sector that some risk from Covid-19 remains, that risks may increase and decrease and that planning for all events, leisure and religious celebrations should be carried out with this in mind, particularly for mass participation events – both in respect of public, staff and medical response.

# Resource Requirements

- The Government have agreed that unspent Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) resources allocated in 2021/22 can be carried forward into 2022/23
- This will aid transition planning, however, COMF is not recurrent. Work will take place in the first quarter of 2022/23 with Council and Manchester Health and Care Commissioning/ICS colleagues to identify the core resources needed from the public health grant and other sources to sustain the revised health protection system. This will be a collaborative approach that will also involve the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)

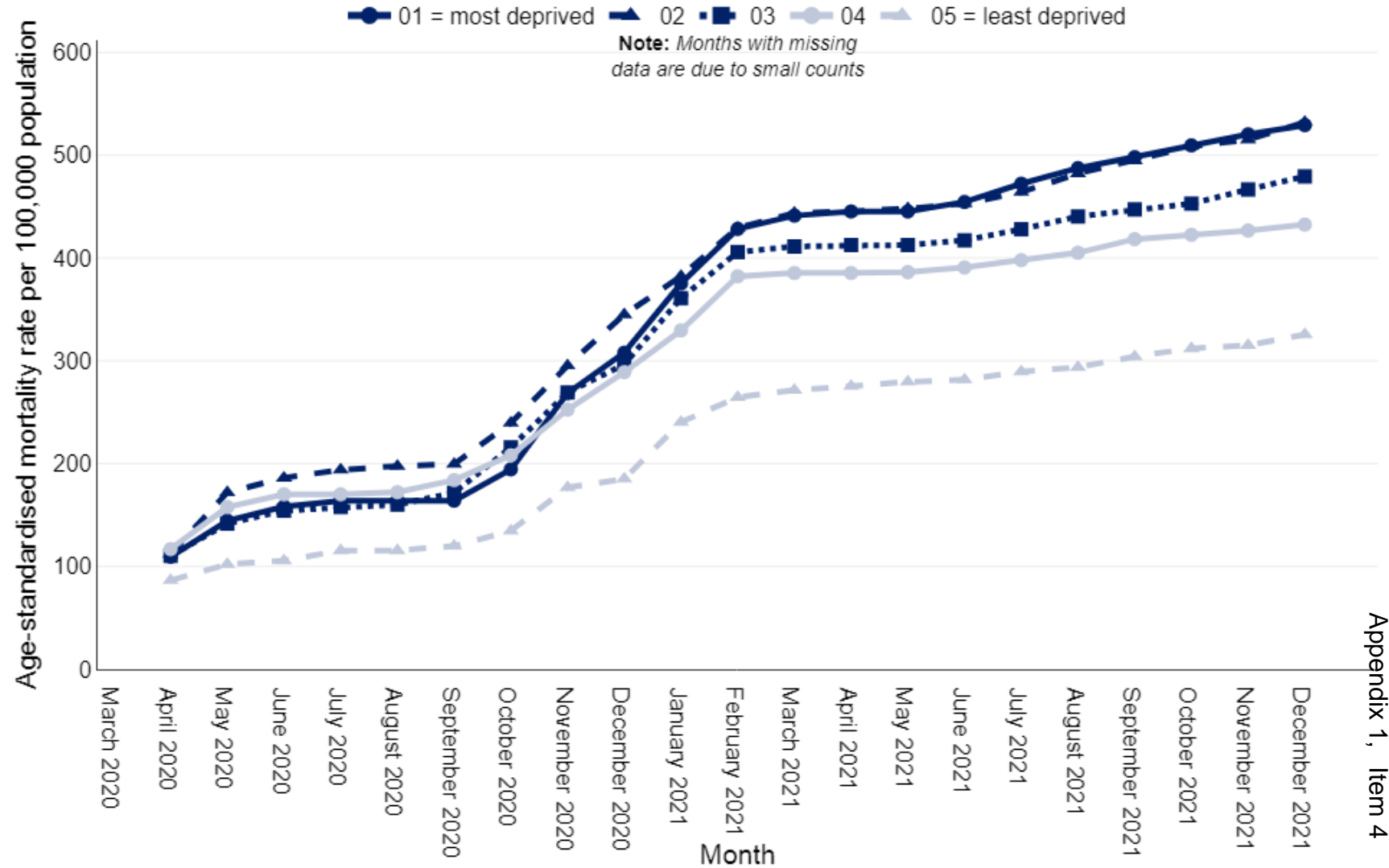
# Appendix 1

Cumulative age-standardised COVID-19 cases rate per 100,000 population in Manchester by deprivation quintile (March 2020 to December 2021)



# Appendix 2

Cumulative age-standardised mortality rate per 100,000 population for deaths involving COVID-19 in Manchester by deprivation quintile (March 2020 to December 2021)



## Appendix 3

### WHO Predicted Scenarios

- **Scenario N°1: 5th endemic coronavirus** SARS-CoV-2 remains highly contagious but causes mild illness in the majority of cases. The virus can be grouped with the 4 other coronaviruses that circulate endemically. This scenario is not unrealistic, but it may take many years to be realised. SAGE estimates this could take as long as 5 years
- **Scenario N°2: “Flu-Like”** The disease presents itself as recurring epidemics when the conditions of transmission are favourable (similar to seasonal influenza). Since the population has basic immunity, severe forms of the disease are observed only in people at risk. It will be important to continue to vaccinate at-risk groups and adopt preventive measures when transmission is high
- **Scenario 3: Ongoing pandemic through new VOCs** A new variant emerges evading acquired immunity and resulting in a large number of cases. The health system is overloaded and therefore there are more deaths. The situation is very similar to what was experienced at the beginning of 2020 in many regions of the world

# Appendix 4 (Part 1)

## SAGE - Future evolution of the virus

There are various possible scenarios, including:

Key: Relative to Omicron characteristics

- Less/better
- Equal to
- More/worse

Scenario	Transmissibility	Immune escape	Intrinsic severity	Realised severity
1: Reasonable Best-Case	Equal to	Less/better	Equal to	Less/better
2: Central Optimistic	Equal to	Equal to	Equal to	Less/better
3: Central Pessimistic	More/worse	More/worse	Equal to	Equal to
4: Reasonable Worst-Case	More/worse	More/worse	More/worse	More/worse

Source: [S1513 Viral Evolution Scenarios.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/101413/S1513_Viral_Evolution_Scenarios.pdf)

## Appendix 4 (Part 2)

### SAGE - Future evolution of the virus

There are various possible scenarios, including:

#### 1. Reasonable Best Case

- Further variants emerge but there are no gains in transmissibility and severity.
- Vaccines retain their effectiveness
- Minor seasonal/regional outbreaks.
- Existing vaccines used annually to boost only most vulnerable.
- Antiviral drugs reduce death and illness.

##### **In next 12-18 months:**

relatively small resurgence in Autumn/ Winter with low levels of severe disease

#### 2. Central Optimistic

- Waves of infection occur
- Waning immunity and/or
- New variants, some will cause more severe disease
- Good and bad years
- Immunity protects most people
- Resistance to antiviral drugs starts

##### **In next 12-18 months:**

seasonal wave of infections in Autumn Winter with similar size and severity to Omicron wave

#### 3. Central Pessimistic

- Repeated, disruptive waves of infection
- Waves driven by unpredictable emergence of variants
- Existing immunity and new vaccines continue to protect people
- Resistance to antiviral drugs is widespread

##### **In next 12-18 months:**

emergence of new variant of concern results in large waves of infections at short notice and outside Autumn/ Winter season. Severe disease and mortality concentrated in certain groups – unvaccinated, vulnerable, older people

#### 4. Reasonable Worst Case

- High levels of transmission
- Incomplete global vaccination
- Transmission among animals leads to repeated emergence of variants (some which cause severe disease and escape immunity)
- There are increased long term impacts of infection

##### **In next 12-18 months:**

large waves of infections with increased levels of severe disease seen across populations, with most severe health outcomes primarily in people with no prior immunity

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## Manchester City Council Report for Resolution

**Report to:** Executive – 16 March 2022

**Subject:** Capital Programme Update

**Report of:** Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer

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### Summary

This report informs members of requests to increase the capital programme, seeks approval for those schemes that can be approved under authority delegated to the Executive and asks the Executive to recommend to Council proposals that require specific Council approval.

### Recommendations

Under powers delegated to the Executive, to approve the following changes to the Council's capital programme:

- Growth and Development – Our Town Hall Levels 5 and 6. A capital budget increase of £1.170m is requested, funded by Capital Receipts.
- Growth and Development – Back of Ancoats: Public Realm and Mobility Hub. Subject to final approval of the Council's bid for grant funding by Government, a capital budget increase of £32.7m is requested. Acceptance of the bid and any conditions be delegated to the Strategic Director for Growth and Development in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer and the Executive Member for Finance
- Neighbourhoods - Wythenshawe Park - Commercial Master Plan and Strategic Transport Plan. A capital budget decrease from Parks Development Programme Budget of £0.080m is requested and approval of a corresponding transfer of £0.080m to the revenue budget, funded by Capital Fund.

Executive is also asked to note:

- The increases to the programme of £0.490m as a result of delegated approvals.
  - The virements in the programme of £0.369m as a result of virements from approved budgets
- 

**Wards Affected - Various**

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

All capital projects are reviewed throughout the approval process with regard to the contribution they can make to Manchester being a Zero-Carbon City. Projects will not receive approval to incur costs unless the contribution to this target is appropriate.

<b>Our Manchester Strategy outcomes</b>	<b>Contribution to the strategy</b>
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	Contributions to various areas of the economy including investment in ICT services, Housing, and leisure facilities.
A highly skilled city: world class and home-grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	Investment provides opportunities for the construction industry to bid for schemes that could provide employment opportunities at least for the duration of contracts
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	Improvements to services delivered to communities and enhanced ICT services.
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	Investment in cultural and leisure services and housing.
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	Through investment in ICT and the City's infrastructure of road networks and other travel routes.

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

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

#### **Financial Consequences – Revenue**

The revenue budget of the City Council will increase by £0.080m, if the recommendations in this report are approved.

### **Financial Consequences – Capital**

The recommendations in this report, if approved, will increase Manchester City Council's capital budget by £33.759m across the financial years as detailed in Appendix 1.

#### **Contact Officers:**

Name: Carol Culley  
 Position: Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer  
 Telephone: 0161 234 3406  
 E-mail: c.culley@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Tom Wilkinson  
 Position: Deputy City Treasurer  
 E-mail: tom.wilkinson@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Tim Seagrave  
 Position: Group Finance Lead – Capital and Treasury Management  
 Telephone: 0161 234 3445  
 E-mail: t.seagrave@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Kirsty Cooper  
 Position: Principal Finance Manager – Capital  
 Telephone: 0161 234 3456  
 E-mail: k.cooper@manchester.gov.uk

#### **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.

Report to the Executive 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021 – Capital Strategy and Budget 2020/21 to 2024/25

Report to the Executive 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021 - Capital Programme Update

Report to the Executive 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 – Capital Programme Update

Report to the Executive 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 – Capital Programme Update and Capital Programme Monitoring 2020/21 Outturn

Report to the Executive 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021 – Capital Programme Update

Report to the Executive 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – Capital Programme Update

Report to the Executive 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 – Capital Programme Update

Report to the Executive 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021 - Capital Programme Monitoring 2021/22

Report to the Executive 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – Capital Programme Update

Report to the Executive 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022 – Capital Strategy Report and Capital Programme Monitoring 2021/22

## **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 This report outlines the requests for changes to the capital budget from 2021/22.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 In February each year the Executive receives a report on the capital budget for the forthcoming five financial years and approves a series of recommendations to Council for the approval of the five-year capital programme. Proposals for the capital budget were presented to the Executive on 17th February 2021, with the updated forecast presented on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022.
- 2.2 The capital programme evolves throughout the financial year, and as new projects are developed, they will be reviewed under the current governance framework and recommendations made regarding whether they should be pursued.
- 2.3 The following requests for a change to the programme have been received since the previous report to the Executive on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022. The impact of changes to the Capital Budget from previous reports are detailed in Appendix 3.
- 2.4 Note that where requests are made in the report to switch funding from capital to revenue and to fund the revenue spend from the Capital Fund, this is a funding switch from within the capital programme and will not have a negative impact on the Fund itself.
- 2.5 For the changes requested below, the profile of the increase, decrease or virement is shown in Appendix 1 for each of the projects.

## **3.0 Proposals Not Requiring Specific Council Approval**

- 3.1 The proposals which do not require Council approval and only require Executive approval are those which are funded by the use of external resources, use of capital receipts, use of reserves below £10.0m, where the proposal can be funded from existing revenue budgets or where the use of borrowing on a spend to save basis is required. The following proposals require Executive approval for changes to the City Council's capital programme:
- 3.2 Growth and Development – Our Town Hall Level 5 and 6 Fit Out. Additional funding is required for the fit out of levels five and six for the Our Town Hall Project. The original proposal was for a commercial tenant to fund the works but following market advice that the accommodation is more suitable for the public sector, the accommodation has now been incorporated into the Council's wider estates strategy. A capital budget increase of £0.573m in 2022/23 and £0.597m in 2023/24 is requested, funded by Capital Receipts.

- 3.3 Growth and Development – Back of Ancoats: Off-site infrastructure to facilitate residential development includes Public Realm and the Ancoats Mobility Hub. The Back of Ancoats programme will deliver an innovative Mobility Hub, new public realm, and land acquisition / remediation in order to facilitate the regeneration of the area with the delivery of 1,500 new homes. The regeneration of the Back of Ancoats is a major opportunity to initiate a programme of transformational growth across the Eastern Gateway in Manchester.
- 3.4 The programme of works will deliver the necessary off-site infrastructure to achieve place making and site delivery through public realm to unlock development sites and a state-of-the-art Ancoats Mobility Hub to release land for housing and provide a sustainable transport solution for the Eastern Gateway. Consequently, the partnership-working would create a platform for investors and developers to deliver additional housing. Funding from various public sector sources will remove development constraints and unlock otherwise unviable development. Funding from Homes England is subject to final approval from the Treasury. A capital budget increase of £0.866m in 2021/22, £13.778m in 2022/23 and £18.025m in 2023/24 is requested, funded by £4.4m Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) Brownfield Land Funding grant, £28.1m Government Grant from Homes England and £0.200m funded by Capital Fund.
- 3.5 As noted above, the government grant funding from Homes England is subject to approval from the Treasury. In order to progress the Mobility Hub element of the scheme it is proposed that work is progressed on the project before the expected final approval is received, noting that this would be work conducted at risk – if the funding is not approved, the Council would need to fund any costs incurred.
- 3.6 Neighbourhoods - Wythenshawe Park - Commercial Master Plan and Strategic Transport Plan. The funds are to commission a Commercial Master Plan and a Strategic Transport Plan for Wythenshawe Park. The commercial plan will identify and set out investment opportunities into the park informing priorities across the site to build on the existing offer and activate the existing infrastructure. The Strategic Transport Plan will inform the external and internal traffic management requirements and active travel plans in partnership with Highways to look to accommodate an increase in visits for ongoing and future developments to the site. The traffic plan is also a planning condition of the ongoing Wythenshawe Cycling Hub project which will need to be discharged before July 2022. A capital budget decrease from Parks Development Programme Budget of £0.080m is requested and approval of a corresponding transfer of £0.080m to the revenue budget, funded by Capital Fund.

#### **4.0 Delegated budget Approvals**

- 4.1 There have been increases to the programme totalling £0.490m as a result of delegated approvals since the previous report to the Executive on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022. These are detailed at Appendix 2.

## **5.0 Virements from Approved Budgets**

- 5.1 Approval has been given for a capital budget virement from Highways Improvement Budget for 40mph Speed Limit Reduction Programme. The £0.300m budget will implement new reduced speed limits from 40mph to 30mph at ten locations across the city, these include: Moseley Road, Mancunian Way, Wilbraham Road, Dawson Street, Egerton Street, Regent Road, Kingsway, Styal Road, World Way and Broadway A663
- 5.2 A capital budget virement was approved to address problems on the Avro Hollows District Heating Scheme. The £0.069m funding from within the Northwards Programme budget will carry out the immediate heat meter replacement at 159 properties.

## **6.0 Prudential Performance Indicators**

- 6.1 If the recommendations in this report are approved the General Fund capital budget will increase by £33.759m across financial years, as detailed in Appendix 1.
- 6.2 This will also result in an increase in the prudential indicator for Capital Expenditure in corresponding years. Monitoring of all prudential indicators is included within the Capital Monitoring Report during the year.

## **7.0 Contributing to a Zero-Carbon City**

- 7.1 All capital projects are reviewed throughout the approval process with regard to the contribution they can make to Manchester being a Zero-Carbon City. Projects will not receive approval to incur costs unless the contribution to this target is appropriate.

## **8.0 Contributing to the Our Manchester Strategy**

### **(a) A thriving and sustainable city**

- 8.1 Contributions to various areas of the economy including investment in ICT services, housing, and leisure facilities.

### **(b) A highly skilled city**

- 8.2 Investment provides opportunities for the construction industry to bid for schemes that could provide employment opportunities at least for the duration of contracts.

### **(c) A progressive and equitable city**

- 8.3 Improvements to services delivered to communities and enhanced ICT services.

**(d) A liveable and low carbon city**

8.4 Investment in cultural and leisure services and housing.

**(e) A connected city**

8.5 Through investment in ICT and the City's infrastructure of road networks and other travel routes.

**9.0 Key Policies and Considerations****(a) Equal Opportunities**

9.1 None.

**(b) Risk Management**

9.2 Risk management forms a key part of the governance process for all capital schemes. Risks will be managed on an ongoing and project-by-project basis, with wider programme risks also considered.

**(c) Legal Considerations**

9.3 The approvals set out in this report are in accordance with the Council's constitution.

**10.0 Conclusions**

10.1 The revenue budget of the City Council will increase by £0.080m, if the recommendations in this report are approved.

10.2 The capital budget of the City Council will increase by £33.759m, if the recommendations in this report are approved.

**11.0 Recommendations**

11.1 The recommendations appear at the front of this report.

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## Appendix 1- Requests for Adjustments to the Capital Budget Provision

Dept	Scheme	Funding	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Future	Total
			£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b><u>Executive Approval Requests</u></b>							
Growth and Development	Our Town Hall - Levels 5 and 6 Additional Funding	Capital Receipts		573	597		1,170
Growth and Development	Back of Ancoats - Public Realm and Mobility Hub	Government Grant - Homes England	-	10,044	10,152	7,873	28,069
Growth and Development	Back of Ancoats - Public Realm and Mobility Hub	Government Grant - Brownfield Land Fund	666	3,734			4,400
Growth and Development	Back of Ancoats - Public Realm and Mobility Hub	Capital Fund	200				200
Neighbourhoods	Wythenshawe Park - Commercial Master Plan and Strategic Transport Plan	Borrowing reduction, funding switch via Capital Fund	- 80				- 80
<b><u>Total Executive Approval Requests</u></b>			<b>786</b>	<b>14,351</b>	<b>10,749</b>	<b>7,873</b>	<b>33,759</b>

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## Appendix 2 - Approvals under authority delegated to the City Treasurer

Dept	Scheme	Funding	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Future	Total
			£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Growth and Development	Space Studios Phase 3 – Disposal Costs	Capital Fund	40				40
Growth and Development	Public Realm Strategy – Back of Ancoats Phase 1	Government Grant	200	100			300
Neighbourhoods	British Cycling Wind Tunnel Grant	Waterfall Fund	150				150
<b>Total Delegated Approval Requests</b>			<b>390</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>490</b>

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### Appendix 3 - Capital Programme Budget 2021-25

	Approvals			
	Council	Executive	Delegated	Total
	£'000's			
Capital Outturn 2020/21		1,034,971		1,034,971
Executive June 2nd	-2,372			-2,372
Executive June 30th	19,013	3,781	75	22,869
Executive July 28th	21,556	7,149	295	29,000
Executive September 15th	661	3,347	320	4,328
Executive October 20th	203	5,985	376	6,564
Executive November 17th	34,000			34,000
Executive January 19th	1,225	22,978	599	24,802
Executive February 16th	30,029	-796	861	30,094
Executive March 16th			490	490
<b>Total Revised Budget</b>	<b>104,315</b>	<b>1,077,415</b>	<b>3,016</b>	<b>1,184,746</b>

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**Manchester City Council  
Report for Resolution**

<b>Report to:</b>	Executive – 16 March 2022
<b>Subject:</b>	Funding care providers to enable the Real Living Wage for the care workforce
<b>Report of:</b>	Executive Director Adult Social Services and Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer

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## Summary

This paper sets out proposals to ensure that all care providers providing care and support to Manchester residents are in receipt of funding enabling them to pay their workforce the Real Living Wage (RLW).

Manchester City Council has been committed to the Real Living Wage for several years. These proposals will ensure that all care providers are now able to pay their workforce the Real Living Wage through providing a fee uplift across all care provision.

It is anticipated that this will cost an additional £3.5m in excess of the £5.7m set aside in the budget for the increase to the National Living Wage (NLW) in 2022/23. In addition, it is proposed to also provide uplifts to providers to support wider inflationary pressures on their costs, and the employer's national insurance increase of 1.25%. In total, it is estimated that this will equate to an additional investment into the care sector of £12.1m for 2022/23.

The investment in excess of the £5.7m set aside will be met through utilising the Market Sustainability and Fair Cost of Care Funding, the £1m recurrent underspend from the 2021/22 NLW uplift, carry forward of the one off £1m underspend 2021/22 NLW uplift and a draw down from the corporate inflation provision notionally allocated to ASC. Funding for 2023/24 and future years will need to be agreed as part of future years' budget setting process.

## Recommendations

The Executive is recommended to:

- (1) Approve the investment of a total of £12.1m for the 2022/23 financial year to the care sector made up of:
  - £5.7m set aside in the budget for NLW increase
  - £3.5m to enable an increase beyond NLW to RLW
  - £1m to support providers with the costs of the national insurance increase
  - £1.9m to support wider non pay inflationary increases in costs

- (2) Approve the funding of this from
- £5.731m of existing budget earmarked to fund the NLW uplift
  - £1m of 2021/22 unallocated NLW uplift budget
  - £2.8m of corporate inflation budget allocated to ASC
  - £1.62m of Market Sustainability and Fair Cost of Care grant funding
  - £1m of 2021/22 unspent NLW uplift carried forward into 2022/23
- (3) Approve the carry forward of the 2021/22 NLW uplift £1m underspend in Adult Social Care to support the above.
- (4) Delegate to the Executive Director Adult Social Services and the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, in consultation with the Deputy Leader with responsibility for Health and Care, approval of the fee uplift in accordance with the above, as well as the associated process to be implemented in April 2022

### Wards Affected - All

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

This decisions proposed do not contribute negatively or positively to achieving the zero-carbon target for the city

Our Manchester Strategy outcomes	Contribution to the strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	Ensuring that care providers are paying the Real Living Wage will ensure that care roles are more attractive, ensuring a more sustainable care workforce in the city
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	The proposals will support plans to further strengthen our care workforce in the city, including ensuring we are encouraging home grown talent into caring roles
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	Our care workforce in Manchester live in and are part of Manchester's communities. By paying the Real Living Wage we will be ensuring that we are recognising the contribution that the care workforce makes.
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	The proposals will support plans to further strengthen our care workforce in the city, including ensuring that a career in care in Manchester is attractive.



A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	Adult social care is a key piece of our neighbourhood infrastructure, supporting the city's most vulnerable. Ensuring that care providers can pay the Real Living Wage is a key enabler to further strengthening Adult Social Care in the city as part of our Better Outcomes, Better Lives programme.
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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

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### **Financial Consequences – Revenue**

The financial consequences of the proposals set out in the report will cost a total of £12.1m. They include an investment of £3.5m in excess of the £5.7m set aside in the 2022/23 budget for the National Living Wage to support the investment to uplift to the Real Living Wage. In addition, it is proposed to set aside investment of £1m to support providers with the employers national insurance increase and a further £1.9m to support wider non pay related inflationary increases in costs.

These investments will be funded through the utilisation of £1.6m of the Market Sustainability and Fair Cost of Care Fund, the allocation of £2.8m of the Adult Social Care proportion of the corporate inflation budget, retaining the recurrent £1m unspent budget allocated to funding the 2021/22 NLW uplift, and from the request of a carry forward this £1m underspend to use as a one off to support these measures in 2022/23.

Options will be developed as part of the 2023/24 budget process to identify permanent recurrent funding for the carried forward funding used in 2022/23.

### **Financial Consequences – Capital**

None

#### **Contact Officers:**

Name: Bernadette Enright  
 Position: Executive Director Adult Social Services  
 Email: bernadette.enright@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Carol Culley  
 Position: Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer  
 Email: carol.culley@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Sarah Broad  
Position: Deputy Director Adult Social Services  
Email: sarah.broad@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Tom Wilkinson  
Position: Deputy City Treasurer  
Email: tom.wilkinson@manchester.gov.uk

**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. Introduction

- 1.1. This paper provides the background and context to Manchester City Council's commitment to paying care workers who care for and support Manchester people the Real Living Wage (RLW) from April 2022.
- 1.2. The budget paper for 22/23 gave a commitment to bring forward the RLW as soon as possible and by 1 April 2023 at the latest.
- 1.3. Further work to refine our budget assumptions and with the care market throughout February has confirmed that we are able to implement from April 2022 as set out in this paper.
- 1.4. Manchester City Council is making this commitment in recognition of:
  - The critical role that care and support workers play in meeting the needs of our city's most vulnerable residents, and in particular the criticality of this role during the city's response to the covid-19 pandemic
  - The need to ensure we attract individuals into the care workforce in Manchester, particularly critical as national labour market changes have impacted on recruitment and retention in Manchester into caring roles
  - Manchester's care workforce are often Manchester residents. The Our Manchester Strategy describes our commitment to being a 'progressive and equitable' city – paying the RLW for this workforce will have wider health wellbeing and economic impacts for the city's residents

## 2. Background

- 2.1. Manchester City Council has for several years been working towards paying the Real Living Wage.
- 2.2. MCC are a RLW employer and have signed the Unison Adult Social Care charter. MCC are a significant provider of care with a £28.6m budget for directly provided care. In 2019 MCC made a further commitment to the RLW, when paying the RLW was included within the new contractual arrangements for homecare services.
- 2.3. The care market is complex in Manchester and across Greater Manchester and nationally. In Manchester we commission a range of services including care at home, care in Residential and Nursing Homes for older people, supported accommodation services for adults with learning disabilities and mental health challenges, as well as day services for all age groups and cohorts.
- 2.4. MCC commissions services, alongside health (CCG) and residents who fund their own care. In recent years, particularly due to the impact of covid-19, the care market locally, regionally and nationally has been under exceptional pressure. Recruitment and retention has been a significant challenge over the last 12 months due to the impact of wider national labour market changes and mandatory vaccination in care homes introduced in November 2021 (noting

that this legislation will be revoked on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022).

- 2.5. Our commissioned care services are critical to the delivery of our statutory duties to provide support to meet the needs of our most vulnerable residents. Supporting and developing the market to be sustainable with the right mix of provision, provided in fit for purpose environments with a skilled and trained workforce is essential to the delivery of our Better Outcomes, Better Lives programme.
- 2.6. These challenges are recognised nationally. The 2022/23 Market Sustainability and Fair Cost of Care Fund, £162m nationally, is designed to ensure local authorities can prepare their care market for reform and move towards paying providers a fair cost of care, as appropriate to local circumstances. The Government expects local authorities will carry out activities including:
- conduct a cost of care exercise to determine the sustainable rates and identify how close they are to it;
  - engage with local providers to improve data on operational costs and number of self-funders to better understand the impact of reform on the local market;
  - strengthen capacity to plan for, and execute, greater market oversight and improved market management to ensure markets are well positioned to deliver on our reform ambitions; and
  - use this additional funding to genuinely increase fee rates, as appropriate to local circumstances.

The Council's share of the £162m is £1.8m for 2022/23.

- 2.7. A further £600m is available for distribution in 2023/24 and another £600m in 2024/25. This is conditional upon the conclusion of the cost of care exercise, publication of a provisional 3-year market sustainability plan on how councils intend to move to a sustainable rate fee and a grant spending report. The distribution of the funding will be decided upon the completion of this work with the funding targeted to those areas with the biggest funding differentials. It is unclear at this stage whether the level of funding through this exercise will be sufficient.
- 2.8. The budget setting process for 2022/23 recognised the aspiration to move to the RLW and proposed doing so as soon as possible on the completion of the cost of care exercise, and that it would form part of the 2023/24 budget process with a view to its full introduction by 1 April 2023 at the latest. Full feasibility work had not been completed in time for the publication of the Council's budget. However, it was noted by the Executive and Council that this work was being completed with a view to accelerating the implementation to 1<sup>st</sup> April with a report being presented to the March Executive.
- 2.9. Initial feasibility work has now been completed internally and with the market, as well as benchmarking with other GM local authorities, and as a result this report recommends to the Executive that the RLW is introduced across all

adult social care providers from 1 April 2022.

### **3. Detail of the proposals**

- 3.1. Each year as part of the city council budget process an exercise is undertaken to look at the impact of any National Living Wage (NLW) increase announced by central government. The announcements are usually made in October and feed into the budget calculations presented to scrutiny and then full council in February/March. For 2022/23 £5.7m was set aside on the basis of the NLW increase from £8.91 an hour to £9.50 per hour (6.62%).
- 3.2. Over the last month, a review exercise has been undertaken in recognition of the immediacy of the challenges to the care market and the benefits to move to the RLW as soon as possible, and specifically from 1 April 2022. It has also become apparent that wider costs of delivering care will be increasing from April 2022 including energy costs and the employers national insurance contributions rise, for example.
- 3.3. This review exercise has involved updating our fee model adapted following engagement with some of our care providers and discussions with other GM authorities. This updated model estimates the costs to providers of paying the RLW, the employers NI increase and for an inflationary uplift to cover their non-staff costs.
- 3.4. The model makes a calculation based on assumptions of the staffing structures in each part of the care sector, as to what percentage of staff are paid at the NLW, those at the RLW and those above the RLW. The model allows the Council to make an estimate of what the likely impact on fees will be of the move to support providers to pay the RLW, and provide a budget envelope sufficient to support its delivery. This budget estimate will then be allocated after commissioners have worked with providers to agree the necessary uplifts required.
- 3.5. Based on our forecast year end spend position, an increase from the present NLW rate of £8.91 an hour to the RLW of £9.90 would cost £9.209m. Funding of £5.731m, to cover the original proposed increase from £8.91 to £9.50, to match the NLW, is already included in the 2022/23 budget for Adult Social Care, as is £1.8m of new funding from central government in commencement of the fair cost of care exercise.
- 3.6. Negotiations with some providers regarding uplifts for 2021/22 are not finalised, as it has been complicated by pressures in the market and temporary fee increases being paid to providers though the DHSC via a one off Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund.
- 3.7. The latest financial report at period 10 shows that £1.720m of funding for uplifts in 2021/22 is yet to be allocated to providers and it is highly unlikely that it will all be utilised. It is estimated that c.£750k will be required in year and the budget will therefore underspend by £1m. This underspend is in the base budget and will also be available in 2022/23 to support the funding of the

RLW. In addition, approval is sought to carry forward the unspent £1m into 2022/23 as a one off measure to support the proposals set out in this paper. This will become a budget pressure in 2023/24 and options will need to be considered as part of the 2023/24 budget process to address this shortfall, alongside any further uplifts in the RLW.

- 3.8. Conversations with providers across the care sector during this review period have allowed them to highlight a number of additional non pay pressures they are facing including employer's national insurance increases, utility costs, food and insurance increases.
- 3.9. In light of this, an estimate of the potential non pay inflationary costs have been made, assuming a 5% inflation rate based on the average CPI increase since October 2021. In addition, a calculation of the increased NI costs of 1.25% has been estimated. The Council set aside an inflation budget of £10m as part of the 2022/23 budget process, of this an indicative £3.520m has been allocated to ASC and it is proposed to utilise a significant proportion (£2.8m) of that to cover what is recognised as specific increased pressures in ASC which are occurring alongside the removal of 2021/22 DHSC one-off funding.
- 3.10. The 'fair cost of care exercise' referenced above will look at all provider costs in more granular detail and will provide an enhanced level of understanding of the sustainability requirements of the sector. This will allow us to appropriately budget for 2023/24 and beyond with the expectation that additional costs will be met by the release of the £600m available nationally in 2023/24 and 2024/25. It is expected that as a result of this exercise fees will be re-set with providers from 2023/24, providing a new baseline for future fee uplifts. The 2022/23 arrangements will therefore be a 'bridging' position to this new approach.
- 3.11. In addition, from October 2023, the government will introduce a new £86,000 cap on the amount anyone in England will need to spend on their personal care over their lifetime. The role of the Local Authority will also be impacted as citizens will be able to source care through the local authority with the aim of reducing the cross-subsidisation of care between self-funders and local authority commissioning. It is not yet known what the financial impact of the change will be and the implications on the wider care market in Manchester, adding to the uncertainty of the wider position for 2023/24 and beyond.
- 3.12. The high-level costs and proposed funding to deliver the above changes for 2022/23 is shown in the table below.

	Costs per annum £000
<b>Indicative costs</b>	
Cost of moving to £9.90 Real Living Wage	9,209
NI additional 1.25%	1,027
5% non pay inflation allowance	1,902
<b>Total cost increase</b>	<b>12,138</b>
<b>Funding available</b>	
National Living Wage funding set aside	5,731
Market Sustainability and Fair Cost of Care funding*	1,620
Recurrent 2021/22 underspend	1,000
Share of corporate inflation budget	2,787
<b>Total funding available</b>	<b>11,138</b>
<b>Shortfall</b> to be funded from one off 2021/22 carry forward request	1,000

(\*10% retained to deliver the cost of care exercise)

- 3.13. The shortfall in funding will be met from carrying forward the 2021/22 NLW uplift budget underspend, but this will become a budget pressure in 2023/24 and options will need to be considered as part of the 2023/24 budget process to address this shortfall, alongside any further uplifts in the RLW.
- 3.14. In total, the uplift set aside for providers will average 7-8% across care types, dependent on current status in relation to the RLW, the proportion of staff in that part of sector estimated to be currently paid at NLW and the proportion of non pay costs applicable to that part of the sector.
- 3.15. It is recommended that required decisions to finalise the fee structures to include the measures outlined in this report are taken by the Executive Director of Adult Social Services and the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer in consultation with the Deputy Leader to enable the model to be finalised ahead of 1 April 2022.

#### **4. Implementation and commissioning approach**

- 4.1. The implementation of the increase will take place as soon as possible from 1st April 2022 and will be backdated to 1 April 2022.
- 4.2. Care providers will be offered the standard increase (inclusive of NLW, inflation and NI costs) as well as the elevated increase in relation to the RLW on the proviso that their workforce are paid the increase to take them to the RLW. This is already a contractual requirement for homecare.
- 4.3. The % increase will be offered on a care type basis and in some cases will be negotiated with individual providers where appropriate.

- 4.4. Care providers will be monitored to ensure that the increase to the RLW is delivered with the cost of care exercise providing an immediate opportunity to provide assurance that it has been delivered across all care providers.
- 4.5. The fair cost of care exercise will provide us with a more granular understanding of workforce and other costs going forward which will form the basis for a further review of fees for 2023/24 and beyond as part of our wider budget setting process, including ensuring that we continue to pay the RLW in future years.
- 4.6. In addition, during 2022/23 we will be strengthening our contractual arrangements across care homes and supported accommodation in particular with the creation of framework agreements where appropriate, aligning with the fair cost of care exercise and ensuring contractual terms are updated to reflect current priorities.
- 4.7. MCC's approach has been discussed with Manchester CCG (MHCC) colleagues given the role of the CCG as a commissioner of the care market in Manchester. MHCC recognise and share the aspirational move to the real living wage for Manchester and supports the move to provide additional resilience to the Manchester care market. Currently MHCC is undertaking its budget setting process with Greater Manchester CCG and NHS partners as part of the move to the Integrated Care Board. The move to the RLW would represent a pressure on CCG budgets; which have other competing demands for NHS investment and therefore the decision must be made as part of this collaborative budget setting approach.

## **5. Conclusion**

- 5.1. The proposals set out in this paper will ensure that all adult social care providers are able to pay their care workforce the RLW, a significant step forward in our commitment to being a RLW city. In addition, the proposals will support care providers with other increases in costs including utility and national insurance increases, ahead of further understanding the fair cost of care through the exercise planned for April-September 2022.
- 5.2. The uplift will further strengthen our care market in Manchester and whilst there are financial risks with the proposals these have been modelled and will be managed within available budgets.
- 5.3. The Executive are recommended to approve uplifting fees to enable care providers to pay the RLW from 1 April 2022, with the finalisation of the detail of the proposals to be delegated to the Executive Director Adult Social Services and Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer in consultation with the Deputy Leader.



## **6. Key Policies and Considerations**

### **(a) Equal Opportunities**

- 6.1. The proposals outlined in this report will ensure that care providers are able to pay their workforce the RLW, ensuring a £0.40 per hour increase in pay in excess of the increase to the NLW. We know that a large proportion of our care workforce in Manchester are female and that the workforce is well represented by people from a black, Asian and minority ethnic background. The proposals will benefit all care workers and therefore will support our aspirations to be a fairer and more equal city.

### **(b) Risk Management**

- 6.2. As described above, there are financial risks associated with the proposals. These risks are low for the financial year 22/23 but there are increased financial risks looking forward to 23/24 and 24/25 given the uncertainty surrounding the allocation of additional government for the cost of care.

### **(c) Legal Considerations**

- 6.3. As a result of the way in which our contracting approach is currently structured for care services there are some implementation challenges associated with the proposals. In particular, at this point the RLW is only a contractual requirement for homecare providers (including extra care) and has not yet been built into our contracts for supported accommodation, care homes and other services. As described above, the approach proposed will release the RLW additional fee uplift (in excess of the NLW increase) to individual care providers on the proviso that they pay their workforce at or above the RLW. Individual providers will be asked to confirm acceptance of the proviso in writing. This will need to be built into contracts in due course between the Council and the individual care providers.

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**Manchester City Council  
Report for Resolution**

**Report to:** Executive – 16 March 2022

**Subject:** Outcomes of the public realm consultation on development and public realm strategy for the Back of Ancoats (Poland Street Zone Public Realm Strategy)

**Report of:** Strategic Director (Growth and Development)

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## Summary

This report presents the findings from the recent public consultation exercise that will inform the final version of the Poland Street Zone Public Realm Strategy for consideration and approval. The Draft Strategy was considered by the Executive in January 2022 and approved as a basis for consultation with local and statutory stakeholders. The final version of the Strategy is intended to support the delivery of the previously adopted Ancoats and New Islington Neighbourhood Development Framework (NDF) and to help facilitate future development in the part of Ancoats bounded by Bengal Street, Oldham Road, Butler Street and the Rochdale Canal in the northeast of the extended city centre. A plan is attached at Appendix 1.

In July 2020, the Executive approved a refreshed Ancoats and New Islington NDF as a material consideration for the Local Planning Authority in determining all future planning applications relative to the Study Area. The Executive covering report that accompanied the final framework document highlighted several constraints to delivery and recommended key activities that supported the delivery of the NDF objectives. The Poland Street Zone Public Realm Strategy represents a significant strand of this activity, articulating a co-ordinated approach to public realm delivery and a series of mechanisms for maximising developer contributions, with the intention of supporting the provision of appropriate public realm and core neighbourhood infrastructure.

## Recommendations

The Executive is recommended to:

1. Note the comments received from stakeholders, including local land and property owners; residents; businesses, along with public and statutory consultees: and how they have been responded to in the final draft;
2. Approve the final version of the Poland Street Zone Public Realm Strategy as a material consideration in the Council's decision making as a Local Planning Authority;
3. Note the Delivery Strategy set out in this report and authorise the Strategic Director - Growth and Development to further develop and implement this strategy, in dialogue with key stakeholders, including potential funding bodies,

investors and developer partners, landowners and existing businesses.

4. Note that a further funding package from Homes England for off site infrastructure in the Ancoats neighbourhood has been agreed subject to further Treasury approvals and an agreed grant funding agreement with the Council. This is in addition to the previously reported £4.7m from Brownfield Land Fund will be utilised to fund the majority of the capital works in accordance with the Delivery Strategy.
5. Note that the Delivery Strategy will require the City Council to implement a number of area-wide public realm improvements and to work in partnership with investor and developer partners to this end.

**Wards Affected:** Ancoats and Beswick

<b>Environmental Impact Assessment</b> - the impact of the decisions proposed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city
<p>The Ancoats and New Islington Neighbourhood Development Framework and the draft Poland Street Zone public realm strategy recognise that future development within the area will be required to contribute to the City Council’s objective of achieving a zero carbon target by 2038 through the active utilisation and deployment of leading building technologies.</p> <p>The Ancoats Mobility Hub (AMH) is a key component in delivering a highly sustainable neighbourhood. It will directly reduce car trips and on street parking in this area, promoting a modal shift to cycling, walking and the use of public transport networks. The logistics hub within the building will provide a central location for parcel deliveries with ‘final mile’ delivery via a fleet of electric vehicles.</p> <p>The City Council is and will continue to use its land interests in the area to deliver the zero-carbon target for the city and this will be integrated into all aspects of the public realm delivery strategy. As we move into the delivery and implementation phase opportunities to minimise the whole life carbon impact of the new public realm will be explored. This will be achieved through various means including careful consideration of the materials to be used and also through designs of streets and open spaces that do not require carbon-intensive maintenance and watering.</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	The proposals outlined in the Poland Street Zone draft public realm strategy supports the opportunity to create a new mixed-use neighbourhood including new jobs and employment opportunities and easy access to the regional centre economy for residents.

A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	The Poland Street Zone will continue to provide direct employment opportunities and also meet the demand for housing from residents who wish to live close to the Regional Centre.
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	The draft Poland Street Zone public realm strategy and the approved Ancoats and New Islington Neighbourhood Development Framework offers the potential to drive forward the Manchester Residential Growth Prospectus and meeting the growing demand for new homes in the city, through the provision of high-quality neighbourhood infrastructure to serve the local community.
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	The vision for the Poland Street Zone is to create a high-quality sustainable neighbourhood within the extended city centre. The draft public realm strategy will support the creation of a new neighbourhood in a sustainable location, adjacent to the city centre and the range of jobs, culture and leisure opportunities contained therein.
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	The draft public realm strategy will underpin the delivery of the Ancoats Mobility Hub and promote connectivity with core public transport infrastructure across the city and the wider GM conurbation.

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

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

### **Financial Consequences – Revenue**

The Public Realm Strategy for the Poland Street Zone proposes that a long-term stewardship plan for the area will be developed in consultation with relevant City Council services who have responsibility for the management and maintenance of the public realm. The stewardship plan is a condition for the Homes England funding.

The Council will need to maintain the quality of the new streets and open spaces, but the ongoing maintenance costs will not be known until the design for the public realm is complete. The Council will examine potential funding routes to achieve this over the long term, including estates management charges.

Any estate charging or other proposed funding mechanism with stakeholders will be brought to a future meeting of the Executive for approval.

### **Financial Consequences – Capital**

The appended Public Realm Strategy for the Poland Street Zone reports a total estimated cost of c£16m, for delivery of all proposed projects and interventions. However, the representative costs provided assume the delivery of the Strategy in full. The proposed approach to delivery outlined in this report will utilise funding from Homes England which is subject to Treasury approval. £4.7m is already secured from Brownfield Land Fund. All opportunities to source additional S106 funding from developers as part of their planning applications will be explored in accordance with Regulation 122 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010.

Any resulting programmes of work to be undertaken by the City Council will be brought forward for approval through the Executive and via the Capital Strategy and Capital Programme processes as and when required.

### **Contact Officers:**

Name: Rebecca Heron  
 Position: Strategic Director, Growth and Development  
 E-mail: Rebecca.Heron@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Shelagh McNerney  
 Position: Interim Lead, Eastern Gateway  
 E-mail: Shelagh.McNerney@manchester.gov.uk

Name: David Lord  
 Position: Head of Development  
 E-mail: David.Lord@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Rebecca Maddison  
 Position: Head of Commercial and Strategic Development (Legal)  
 E-mail: Rebecca.Maddison@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Tim Seagrave  
 Position: Group Finance Lead  
 Email: Tim.Seagrave@manchester.gov.uk

### **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.

- Ancoats and New Islington Neighbourhood Development Framework July 2014
- Ancoats and New Islington Neighbourhood Development Framework, report to

the Executive October 2014

- Refresh of the Ancoats and New Islington Neighbourhood Development Framework, report to the Executive December 2016
- Refresh of the Ancoats and New Islington Neighbourhood Development Framework Poland Street Zone, report to the Executive February 2020
- Refresh of the Ancoats and New Islington Neighbourhood Development Framework Poland Street Zone, report to the Executive July 2020;
- Mobility Hub proposal for the Back of Ancoats, report to the Executive November 2020;
- Development Strategy for the Back of Ancoats, Progress report to the Executive September 2021;
- Development and public realm strategy for the back of Ancoats, report to the Executive January 2022:
- Manchester Zero Carbon 2018 – Manchester City Council’s Commitment, report to the Executive March 2019;
- Council Resolution on declaring a Climate Emergency, report to the Executive July 2019;
- Eastland Regeneration Framework, report to the Executive July 2019;
- Revised City Centre Transport Strategy, report to the Executive October 2019 and City Centre Engagement Outcomes, report to the Executive February 2020;
- Draft City Centre Transport Strategy, Report to the Executive September 2020.

## **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 The Ancoats neighbourhood is located on the eastern edge of the city centre and is part of the Eastlands Regeneration Framework area, a refresh of which was taken to the Executive in 2018. Ancoats is an important part of the growing city centre and its importance is further enhanced by the opportunity to complete investment in the area, within a sustainable public realm strategy.
- 1.2 The Ancoats and New Islington Neighbourhood Development Framework (NDF) was approved by the Executive in 2014, to enable the City Council to provide development principles in line with adopted planning policy in this key location on the north-eastern edge of the city centre. It was further updated in 2016 and broke the area down into several character zones.
- 1.3 The area has become the focus for developer interest and because of this an illustrative masterplan was commissioned and paid for by four major landowners in the area (Manchester City Council, Manchester Life Development Company, Urban Splash and Northern Group). This document provided an aspirational guide to the further development of the area based on the principles of the 2016 NDF.
- 1.4 To ensure that the NDF reflected these aspirations, a further review and update of the NDF Poland Street Zone was undertaken in 2020. This review and update took account of updated City Council strategies and adopted planning policy, and provides a framework to ensure that compatible residential and commercial development opportunities are realised, and that connectivity and access to quality public amenity space area is maximised. This document proposes 1500 new residential units can be delivered in the area.
- 1.5 The NDF highlighted the provision of supporting public realm, a clear approach to place making and connectivity through the area and a coordinated approach to parking requirements and street design as central to the NDF vision for a distinctive and successful residential led neighbourhood that meets the needs of the local community. It is now essential that the City Council establishes a coordinated approach to public realm provision in the back of Ancoats to support the work of the City Council and its partners in delivery of the wider place making ambitions.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 The area referred to as the Ancoats Phase 3 is located within the north-eastern fringe of the city centre, and forms part of the wider Ancoats neighbourhood. The area between Great Ancoats Street and Butler Street is a conservation area and is home to a number of listed and architecturally important buildings. The area is surrounded by the neighbourhoods of Miles Platting in the East, New Cross to the West, the core of Ancoats and the city centre to the south and New Islington.
- 2.2 Developer interest has for the last 20 years focused on the core of Ancoats in the area between Great Ancoats Street and Bengal Street. There are now



limited development opportunities remaining in this area. The Poland Street Zone as referred to in the NDF, also known as the Back of Ancoats, is now the subject of developer interest and represents the final elements of the regeneration of Ancoats.

- 2.3 The area is currently characterised by low value, low density light industrial units, surrounding an area of green space that has been the focus of anti-social behaviour and does not reflect the quality of open space elsewhere in the city. The breakdown of the grid street pattern in this area has resulted in there being no clear street hierarchy and consequently it is difficult for pedestrians to navigate. This is further manifested in the fact that the area suffers from being used as a “rat run” for vehicles seeking to avoid Oldham Road and Great Ancoats Street. The poor physical quality of the area is also compounded by commuter and fly parking during the day adding to traffic movements. There has been very limited new build development activity in the area as sites are unviable and unlocking their redevelopment requires a high level of public and private co-ordination.
- 2.4 The aforementioned NDF for the Poland Street zone approved in July 2020, responded to the increase in developer activity by establishing development and design principles for the area that recognised the need to establish place making objectives that underpin a public realm strategy that supports delivery of 1500 new homes and provides the infrastructure to create a sustainable urban neighbourhood.
- 2.5 A number of other sites in the neighbourhood are owned by developers, and there have been recent transactions to demonstrate further the developer interest in the locality. As such, it is now essential that the City Council moves to establish a formal public realm strategy to ensure that all future development can be delivered alongside investment in place-making to support the creation of a sustainable neighbourhood of choice with up to 1500 new residential units within the area.

### **3.0 Public Consultation Approach**

- 3.1 In January 2022, the Executive endorsed a draft Poland Street Zone Public Realm Strategy for public consultation to be undertaken throughout February 2022.
- 3.2 The consultation programme ran from 31 January – 27 February and was resourced by staff from the City Council and public affairs consultants Counter Context.
- A Poland Street Zone Public Realm Strategy consultation web page on the [www.manchester.gov.uk](http://www.manchester.gov.uk) website, providing details of the draft Poland Street Zone Public Realm Strategy, download links to all relevant documents, and online feedback from a dedicated email and phonenumber for comments and feedback;
  - 2,742 leaflets were sent via Royal Mail standard delivery to all land and property owners and residents within the study area, promoting the

- availability of online material and encouraging feedback;
- Two drop-in events were held on 14 February 12 – 2.30 pm and 5 – 7 pm at Halle St Peters. These were joint consultation events with the “This City” Rodney Street scheme.
- The Leader of the Council and the Executive Members for Housing and Regeneration and local Members were briefed by the Director of Growth and Development and the interim lead for the Eastern Gateway;
- A press release was circulated to relevant business pages and media organisations to promote the start/end of the consultation period and the drop in events that were scheduled;
- Social media accounts were used to promote both the online consultation and the drop in events;
- An email briefing and link to the Poland Street Zone Public Realm consultation web page was provided to key public and statutory stakeholders; including Homes England, Transport for Greater Manchester; Historic England, United Utilities, The Environment Agency, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service and Greater Manchester Police;
- One to one briefing sessions were held with key Manchester City Council departments including Planning, Highways, Neighbourhoods, Park, and Public Realm team;
- One to one briefing sessions were held with developers and landowners in the area and they were also invited to attend the drop in events and the public realm consultation materials was also shared with all parties.

#### 4.0 Public Consultation Outcomes

- 4.1 During the consultation period a total of 88 responses were received, including 81 responses from the general public, 2 responses from landowners/developers and 5 responses from statutory consultees and stakeholders.
- 4.2 Feedback from the consultation was positive, with key themes as follows:
- **Transport and Movement** - the amended street hierarchy and approach to traffic management and reduction of rat running through the area was welcomed
  - **Ancoats Green and Green Space** - improvements to Ancoats Green and the establishment of the park as the “green heart” with a clear pedestrian link to Jersey Street and the Rochdale Canal were supported, with the caveat that existing trees were retained, and the size of the green was not reduced
  - **Ancoats Mobility Hub** - there were a number of comments in relation to the Ancoats Mobility Hub, albeit not part of the consultation residents expressed some concern about the long-term use of this site in the centre of Ancoats.
  - **Amenity provision** - there was a number of comments regarding the provision of amenities in the area to reflect the areas growth and the influx of residents in recent years
  - **Trees** - concern was expressed regarding the potential of trees being

removed as a result of the strategy and there were particular comments regarding the retention of mature trees. The City Council will look to replace and replant at least 2 trees locally for every tree that may be lost

- **Crime and Anti-social behaviour** -respondents requested further information on the measures being taken to address crime and anti-social behaviour in Ancoats, including requesting further safety measures are introduced such as CCTV and more street lighting.

## 5.0 Adjustments to the Public Realm Strategy

5.1 In light of these comments, the Public Realm Strategy has been reviewed and the document will be strengthened where appropriate.

5.2 Overall, there was strong support for the vision and principles set out in the draft Public Realm Strategy, most notably around support for rebalancing movement towards active travel and taking decisive action to address rat-running and ensure that streets and spaces are pedestrian and cycle friendly.

5.3 Consistent with feedback received during the consultation on the draft Neighbourhood Development Framework in 2020, Ancoats Green emerged as a key issue for local people. While there was considerable support expressed for the draft strategy's recognition of Ancoats Green as the heart of the neighbourhood, there were several requests that any changes are "light touch." Ancoats Green will be protected and improved with further tree planting. The Public Realm Strategy provides a significant amount of additional, accessible, and safe green space.

5.4 The final version of the Public Realm Strategy will include an Implementation strategy for the public realm and will address the long-term stewardship of the area. The Public Realm Strategy will enable investment in open spaces for a variety of uses. Spaces will be designing to be accessible and safe. It is the intention that the Public Realm Strategy will propose a mechanism for securing sustainable contributions that will be ringfenced for public realm management and maintenance in the long term.

## 6.0 Delivery of the Public Realm Strategy

6.1 Accompanying the Public Realm Strategy will be a Delivery Plan that identifies a series of costed projects and interventions in a programmed schedule of activity. The City Council will determine how external Public Sector funding sources will be drawn down and allocated. Landowners, developers, and stakeholders will be engaged in the wider plan. Appropriate contributions to delivery, maintenance and long-term stewardship of this new neighbourhood will be agreed with them.

6.2 The Delivery Plan has been developed in conjunction with Planning, Highways, Neighbourhoods and Public Realm colleagues to ensure that upgrades to the public realm can be appropriated and that all works can be correctly sequenced to correlate to development activity as it comes forward.

- 6.3 Brownfield Land Funding of £4.7m has been secured for public realm works as previously reported. In addition, a further £28.069m has been agreed with Homes England. This is conditional on Her Majesty's Treasury (HMT) approval. The funding will enable the delivery of the Ancoats Mobility Hub and further offsite infrastructure.
- 6.4 A number of delivery mechanisms have been considered as part of the Public Realm Strategy to:
- Provide a framework within which public realm improvements can be programmed and sequenced with development activity.
  - Alignment of public realm works with public funding constraints to ensure drawdown and spend of funding within agreed timescales.
  - Ensure that contributions from developers can be fully maximised within the confines of existing policy and legislation (local and national); and
  - Respond to the constraints and practicalities of delivery e.g., to ensure that economies of scale are realised and that standards of construction are maintained.
- 6.5 The Delivery Plan will provide a series of costed projects and interventions to form the basis of further consultations with landowners and developers and interested parties and funding bodies. These projects will be delivered through various mechanisms including:
- Enabling Activity – the Public Realm Strategy proposes interventions that are required to take place as enabling activity to facilitate improvements across the area. The prioritisation and early programming of these activities remain critical to successful delivery.
  - Area wide projects – the Public Realm Strategy proposes a number of area wide improvements that will require a level of central coordination and commissioning.
  - Public realm works secured via planning conditions - where a development proposal necessitates improvements to the public realm, the City Council will seek to secure upgrades by way of planning conditions as part of the planning process. In these instances, the City Council will specify materials and design standards prior to the discharge of these conditions
  - Public realm works secured via planning permission – works to the public realm that fall outside of the remit of permitted development will be submitted for Planning permission. The programming of these works will be aligned to adjacent development activity and funding stream requirements

- Permitted development works – works that can be undertaken without planning permission

6.6 In many cases areas of new public realm, such as sections of pavement or carriageway, will be delivered by private developers as they bring forward their own residential or commercial schemes. To ensure such spaces are constructed to the correct quality and using the appropriate materials, officers will publish a design toolkit setting out the materials palette to be used, as well as recommendations on soft landscaping, planting, and drainage. This design toolkit will in effect form an appendix to the strategy, and it will help guide the discussions between developers and Planning Service as they bring their proposals forward through the pre-application process. By providing this clarity as to the Council's expectations, it will ensure adoptable areas are built to the correct standard and give developers greater certainty as they come to design and cost their schemes.

6.7 The aim of the Public Realm Strategy and the supporting Delivery Plan will be to provide officers with a practical toolkit to assist in the successful delivery of public realm and will form the basis of ongoing consultation with landowners and developers as part of the planning process.

## **7.0 Costing Strategy**

7.1 The Public Realm Strategy for the Poland Street Zone, accompanying project proposal and delivery plan are supported by a series of representative cost estimates for the proposed upgrades to the public realm. The representative costs have been developed to provide a basis for grant submissions to both Homes England and Greater Manchester Combined Authority for Grant Awards for the Public Realm works and as a basis for consultation with landowners and developers.

7.2 The estimated costs for the delivery of the Public Realm Strategy have been prepared in accordance with the adopted NDF, the accompanying illustrative masterplan and the Public Realm Strategy. Subject to further amendments outlined in Section 5 of this report, the representative total cost of identified public realm projects and interventions has been calculated at c£16m. However, it should be noted that NDF and the Public Realm Strategy present only one option for a potential form of development that aligns with the core vision and development and design principles. Whilst it is envisaged that the basic proposals for the public realm articulated in this strategy will remain unchanged, the necessary mitigation measures for individual developments will be addressed on a scheme-by-scheme basis and in accordance with the Delivery Plan.

## **8.0 Legal Considerations**

8.1 It is proposed that once adopted the Poland Street Zone Public Realm Strategy will be used as a material consideration for the City Council in considering all future planning applications relevant to the study area.

- 8.2 To note, the use of Section 106 planning obligations is only permitted when such obligations are a) necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms, b) directly related to the development and c) fairly and reasonably related to the development in scale and kind (Section 106 TCPA 1990, regulation 122 of CIL Regulations)

## **9.0 Contributing to a Zero-Carbon City**

- 9.1 Explain how this helps to make climate breakdown and the environment an integral part of activity throughout the Council, including all decision making?

## **10.0 Contributing to the Our Manchester Strategy**

### **(a) A thriving and sustainable city**

- 10.1 The proposals outlined in the Poland Street Zone draft public realm strategy supports the opportunity to create a new mixed-use neighbourhood including new jobs and employment opportunities and easy access to the regional centre economy for residents.

### **(b) A highly skilled city**

- 10.2 The Poland Street Zone will continue to provide direct employment opportunities and also meet the demand for housing from residents who wish to live close to the Regional Centre.

### **(c) A progressive and equitable city**

- 10.3 The draft Poland Street zone public realm strategy and the approved Ancoats and New Islington Neighbourhood Development Framework offers the potential to drive forward the Manchester Residential Growth Prospectus and meeting the growing demand for new homes in the city, through the provision of high- quality neighbourhood infrastructure to serve the local community.

### **(d) A liveable and low carbon city**

- 10.4 The vision for the Poland Street Zone is to create a high-quality sustainable neighbourhood within the extended city centre. The draft public realm strategy will support the creation of a new neighbourhood in a sustainable location, adjacent to the city centre and the range of jobs, culture and leisure opportunities contained therein.

### **(e) A connected city**

- 10.5 The draft public realm strategy will underpin the delivery of the Ancoats Mobility Hub and promote connectivity with core public transport infrastructure across the city and the wider GM conurbation.

**11. Key Policies and Considerations**

**(a) Equal Opportunities**

- 11.1 The Poland Street Zone Public Realm Strategy and subsequent planning arrangements will all be prepared and introduced through appropriate consultations, giving all stakeholders opportunities to engage in the process.

**(b) Risk Management**

- 11.2 Not applicable

**(c) Legal Considerations**

- 11.3 The City Solicitor has been represented in all discussions relating to the development of the strategy and will continue to advise the City Council in all discussion relating to the use of S106 and developer input into the Poland Street Zone area.

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Appendix 1

Back of Ancoats – Boundary plan



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