



Eamonn Boylan OBE
Chief Executive
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M60 2LA

Monday, 3 February 2025

Dear Councillor / Honorary Alderman,

Meeting of the Council – Wednesday, 5 February, 2025

A summons was issued on Tuesday 28 January 2025 for meeting of the Council which will be held at 10.00 am on Wednesday, 5 February, 2025, in The Council Chamber, Level 2, Town Hall Extension.

The following items marked as 'to follow' on the summons are now enclosed.

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| 7. Proceedings of the Executive | Pages |
| To submit the minutes of the Executive on 22 January 2025. | 3 - 16 |
| 9. Scrutiny Committees | Pages |
| To note the minutes of the following committees: | 17 - 32 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economy & Regeneration –14 January 2025• Children & Young People –15 January 2025 | |
| 10. Proceedings of Committees | Pages |
| To submit for approval the minutes of the following meetings and consider recommendations made by the committee: | 33 - 44 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning and Highways Committee –23 January 2025• Health and Wellbeing Board – 29 January 2025 | |

Yours faithfully,

Tom Stannard
Chief Executive

Councillors:-

Andrews (Chair), Grimshaw (Deputy Chair), Abdullatif, Akbar, Azra Ali, Ahmed Ali, Nasrin Ali, Shaukat Ali, Amin, Appleby, Bano, E Bell, L Bell, Benham, Bridges, Butt, Chambers, Chohan, Collins, Connolly, Cooley, Craig, Curley, Dar, Davies, Doswell, Douglas, Evans, Flanagan, Fletcher, Foley, Gartside, Glover, Good, Green, Hacking, Hassan, Hewitson, Hilal, Hitchen, Hughes, Hussain, Igbon, Ilyas, Iqbal, Jafri, Johns, Johnson, Judge, Kamal, Karney, Kilpatrick, Kirkpatrick, Kirwin-McGinley, Leech, Lovecy, Ludford, Lynch, Lyons, Mandongwe, Marsh, McCaul, McHale, Midgley, Moran, Mumtaz, Muse, Noor, Northwood, Nunney, Ogunbambo, Rawlins, Rawson, Razaq, Reeves, Reid, Riasat, Richards, I Robinson, T Robinson, Sadler, Sadiq, Sarwar, M Mahamed, Sheikh, Shilton Godwin, Simcock, Stogia, Taylor, Wheeler, Wiest, Whiston, White, Wills and Wright

Further Information

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

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This agenda was issued on **Monday, 3 February 2025** by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit, Manchester City Council, Level 2, Town Hall Extension (Library Walk Elevation), Manchester M60 2LA

Executive

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 22 January 2025

Present: Councillor Craig (Chair)

Councillors: Akbar, Bridges, Hacking, Igbon, Midgley, Rawlins, T Robinson and White

Also present as Members of the Standing Consultative Panel:

Councillors: Butt, Chambers, Leech, Lynch, McCaul and Wiest

Apologies: Councillors Reid, Ahmed Ali, Douglas and Moran

Exe/25/93 Minutes

Decision

The Executive approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting on 13 November 2024.

Exe/25/94 Our Manchester Progress Update

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

The Leader reported on the Government’s confirmation of the rebuild of North Manchester General Hospital (NMGH), ending a period of uncertainty for this key project. NMGH redevelopment would be included in the first phase of the New Hospital Building Programme and there were hopes that the start date could be as early as 2027/28. The scheme was at the heart of a wider programme to improve the health, opportunities and quality of life of the communities. Together with other schemes in the North Manchester Strategy this represented the biggest regeneration project in the north of England and a £4.5 billion injection of investment into the area which in addition to a new world-class hospital, would include new parks and public spaces, new job and business opportunities and initiatives to support improved health in an area with significant deprivation and health inequalities.

The Leader also provided an update on the Upper Brook Street regeneration programme. The Council had completed a land disposal to Kadans Science Partner UK (Kadans) to deliver a landmark life science development as part of the first phase of the programme adjacent to the Oxford Road Corridor, facilitating the creation of 2,000 jobs. The brownfield site would be redeveloped to bring forward more than 215,000 sq ft of high-tech, purpose-built lab and office space focused on research, digital innovation and life sciences. A further 475,000 sq ft of life science employment space is being delivered by other developers in later phases of the regeneration programme.

The Executive Member for Housing and Development reported on the work underway on a new public town square in Gorton District Centre, creating a new heart for the community and a space for people to gather and spend time, while enhancing and supporting the existing Gorton Market. The investment was part of the wider ambition for the area as set out in the Gorton Development Framework, and complemented other developments in the area, including the Gorton Hub community space which opened in 2022. Longer-term regeneration proposals for this part of Gorton included hundreds of new mixed tenure homes, including significant affordable housing, that would be built on Council-owned land overlooking the new square.

The report also provided updates on the following matters:-

- Former Central Retail Park site
- Power Purchase Agreement
- English National Opera
- WorkWell
- UNICEF Child Friendly City

Councillor Leech enquired as to the indicative timescale for the completion of the new North Manchester General Hospital and sought clarification as to whether the new hospital will have any impact on service delivery during its construction and whether there had been any increase in the cost to build the Hospital since it had originally been proposed.

Councillor Leech also queried whether there were any proposals to increase the size of the new major urban park at the former Central Retail Park site following comments and opinions from local residents in relation to the proposals.

Decision

The Executive notes the report.

Exe/25/95 Revenue Budget update and Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2025/26

The Executive considered a report of the City Treasurer, which provided an update on the revenue budget position and outlined the main announcements from the provisional local government finance settlement 2025/26, which was published 18 December 2024.

The Executive Member for Finance and Resources advised the provisional 2025/2026 finance settlement was announced 18 December 2024, this was the annual determination of funding for local government from central government. The final settlement was due to be announced in early February 2025, this did not usually change significantly from the provisional settlement.

When the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) was approved in February 2024 a budget gap of £29m was forecasted for 2025/26 increasing to c£41m by 2026/27. Extending the MTFP for an additional year to 2027/28, based on the same broad

assumptions, added a further £37m to the gap to be addressed, resulting in a total revised gap of £77m for the MTFP. The budget gap was based on an assumption that the 2024/25 budget would remain balanced and outturn on budget; any overspend would therefore increase this gap.

It was reported that Manchester had seen an increase in children's external residential placement numbers and costs as well as further significant pressures across Adult Social Care budgets, as the number and cost of residents needing care had increased. The result was a forecast 2024/25 overspend of £20m. Whilst this was in line with national trends, other core cities and GM authorities all reporting similar issues, it would still need to be financed. Further pressures included those associated with being vibrant and growing city placing pressure on the need for universal services such as waste collection, disposal and street cleansing. The impact of the employers national insurance contributions and uplifts to the national and real living wage was also placing additional pressures on the Council's suppliers and the voluntary sectors, which needed to be recognised. Updating the baseline to reflect the impact of the 2024/25 in year position would cost £40m next year, reducing to £20m per annum ongoing.

Whilst it was necessary to set a balanced budget that funds all expenditure, both Children's and Adults Directorates were being challenged on the actions and mitigations they were taking to reduce the levels of expenditure. The Executive Member for Finance and Resources confirmed that it would therefore be necessary to set aside £20m corporately, in recognition of the current high cost base. In doing so he clarified that whilst it may be necessary to allocate some of this to Adults and Children's to cover existing costs, this would be subject to a full business case and action plan around demand reduction and costs in these services. In relation to funding the 2024/25 overspend, it was also reported that it would be necessary to replenish the General Fund reserve for the expected level of overspend of £20m. When the budget was approved the General Fund reserve balance at 31 March 2025 was forecasted at £23.4m. The current overspend would reduce this to £3.4m. It was noted that this brought additional pressure to the 2025/26 budget as the reserve would need to be topped back up to maintain at a robust level.

In relation to the provisional 2025/2026 finance settlement, the announcements were positive considering the unprecedented cost pressures being experienced. An additional £48.6m has been made available from within core spending power, when compared to assumptions made when the last MTFP was last reported in February 2024. There would also be a comprehensive spending review in Spring 2025 which would set the funding envelope for local government for the following two years to the end of 2027/28. This process would include a fundamental review of the funding distribution formulas, but it was expected that the various funding strands that currently made-up core spending power would remain available for local government.

It was also noted that the Chancellor's Autumn statement saw a front loading of spending plans from which the Council had benefited. However, it was expected that there would be funding constraints from 2026/27. The MTFP therefore assumed the cash total remained flat for futures years and would be revisited following the spring spending review, when more information was known. In addition, other resource

changes as a result of reviewing the model and other grants were expected to result in a further £22.2m being available.

With the current proposals the Council would be able to fund the 2024/25 overspend and set a balanced budget for 2025/26. There was uncertainty regarding the resourcing allocations for 2026/27 and 2027/28, however, the government had made its intentions clear in terms of introducing a fairer funding system which better recognised deprivation and ability to raise funds locally through council tax. Whilst the outlook for the public finances generally continued to be challenging, greater funding certainty and a more transparent funding system was welcomed

Councillor Leech sought clarification as to whether the additional £2m funding, proposed for Home to School Transport costs would be sufficient to cover the increase in demand for this service. He also queried what the impact of the increase in Employer National Insurance contributions had had on Adult Social Care providers and whether the forecasted future costs for this spend were realistic.

Decisions

The Executive note that if the identified savings of £18.232m for 2025/26 are progressed, alongside the provisional settlement grant increases, it is expected that a balanced budget can be set for 2025/26

Exe/25/96 Project Skyline, GMCA Childrens Sufficiency Proposal

The Executive considered a report of the Acting Strategic Director (Children and Education), which set out the proposal to enter into collaborative delivery arrangements between the 10 GM Local Authorities, NHS GM and the GMCA to deliver specialist residential care in Greater Manchester for Looked After Children and to note the relevant considerations in relation to this project. The report also provided an update on the arrangement to create a Regional Care Cooperative in GM.

The Executive Member for Children and Families advised that In late 2022 a piece of analysis undertaken by the GMCA Research team working alongside locality finance leads found GM's local authorities were spending more than £480m on children's social care budgets. The report identified that 50% of the £481m total expenditure across 2021/22 related specifically to c6,000 children looked after with around £100m on external residential placements.

A combination of market composition/pressures, increased case complexity and excessive profit levels from some Independent Providers was leading to unprecedented financial pressures relating to placements for Looked After Children facing Children's Services Departments within Manchester and across GM and nationally. The sufficiency challenge was also impacting on an increase in the proportion of children being placed outside of their home Local Authority/ the Greater Manchester area.

Whilst many of these issues were recognised within the Independent Review of Children's Social Care commissioned by central government there emerged a strong

sense that GM as a region needed to take more direct action to respond to these challenges. 'Project Skyline' was a proposal to create a supply of children's homes to increase availability of looked after children's placements in the GM region for some of most vulnerable young people whilst tackling the significant costs associated with these types of placements.

Since GMCA formally agreed to allocate funding to Project Skyline it had been announced that Greater Manchester would be one of two national pathfinder sites for the Regional Care Cooperative reforms which would see areas test different elements of how the children's home market and placements could be managed on a regional basis. As one of the pathfinder sites GM had received an allocation of capital funding that would need to be committed within 2024/25. Whilst some details were still to be worked through with DfE over forthcoming months (including the conditions associated with this opportunity) this meant that GM could use this funding as a contribution to Skyline homes as long as GM commits to investing in additional Skyline homes on top of the original specification of ten homes over the next few years.

As part of the proposals, GMCA would allocate funding of up to £5m Capital Project and £2.5m DfE Funding as part of Capital RCC Bid to acquire properties to be used for Project Skyline with the selection of properties determined by the Skyline Property Group which was a cross organisational internal governance board and recommended to the GMCA for acquisition. The GMCA would acquire all the properties and would be responsible for securing planning permission, delivery of certain refurbishment works to ensure compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements.

Whilst supporting the Regional Care Co-operative and its associated projects, there was also the need to acknowledge that the RCC could not benefit all the ten GM authorities in the same way. There were some common themes in terms of residential sufficiency, however Project Skyline would not relieve these pressures or provide significant market disruption. It did however provide further residential provision, which was ringfenced to Greater Manchester, but no further certainty that Manchester would directly benefit.

It was reported that Manchester's current and future sufficiency priorities would be the development of its fostering services and bespoke provisions for transitions, and its post 16 offer, these were aligned to the Council's work on budget efficiencies. Whilst there was no legal impediment to go forward with the proposed arrangements it was noted that the withdrawal penalties were, not insignificant given the acquisition costs and initial set up which was funded by GMCA via a loan or other income there is little cashflow risk initially.

Financial risk to the Council emerged if the provision made a loss, with local authorities being accountable to meet any shortfall. Given the current sufficiency challenges this scenario was difficult to envisage in the coming two to three years but became harder to predict, with confidence, beyond this.

Separately, as providers must consider "matches" with other children in placement there was a possibility that providers would not accept referrals from the Council and

Manchester children did not benefit from the principal aim of the approach that young people benefit from services close to their community and education providers. It was reported that further due diligence would take place on the funding model and that this was being overseen through a task and finish group consisting of chief finance officers across Greater Manchester.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note the proposed arrangements for the delivery specialist residential care in Greater Manchester for Looked After Children (“LAC”) and to agree that the Council should continue its due diligence prior to agreeing participation in the scheme.
- (2) Dependent upon due diligence agree to delegate authority to the Chief Executive/Director of Children’s Services in consultation with the portfolio holder for Children and Young People, and City Treasurer to negotiate and finalise the Partnership Agreement and all other contractual and ancillary arrangements.
- (3) Delegate authority to the City Solicitor to enter and complete all documents and agreements necessary to give effect to the recommendations.

Exe/25/97 Selective Licensing

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director (Growth and Development), which provided an evaluation of the recent public consultation undertaken in areas within Cheetham, Crumpsall, Harpurhey, Longsight, Miles Platting and Newton Heath and Moss Side which evidenced that the designation of a Selective Licensing scheme was required in these areas.

Following a review of the 2020 hot-spotting data exercise it was agreed for the Council to undertake a public consultation on the following nine areas as a potential fourth phase of Selective Licensing:-

- Cheetham: Flats above shops and Esmond / Avondale – 405 PRS properties
- Crumpsall: Enver Road – 147 PRS properties
- Harpurhey: Whiteway Street – 116 PRS properties
- Longsight: Heathcote / Sanby Road and Northmoor Road – 679 PRS properties
- Miles Platting & Newton Heath: Droylsden Road and Scotland Street – 373 PRS Properties
- Moss Side: Viscount Street and Heald Grove – 143 PRS properties

A consultation on the nine new proposed areas was launched on the 13 May 2024 and ran until the 22 July 2024. Following the closure of the consultation, responses to the online surveys had been evaluated. In summary, the consultation surveys identified broad city-wide support for the introduction of Selective Licensing from residents and business in Crumpsall, Harpurhey, Longsight, Miles Platting & Newton Heath and Moss Side, whilst Cheetham

provided a more mixed picture. with a higher percentage of both landlords and tenants in the proposed areas not supporting the introduction of Selective Licensing.

Through the consultation a range of issues were identified by both residents and landlords – with particular emphasis on rubbish and fly-tipping (one of the two issues that were the proposed criteria for designating Selective Licensing across the nine areas) as well as properties in poor condition and anti-social behaviour. In addition, 959 external inspections (c.50% of licensable properties) had been completed across the nine areas which had identified issues with the structures of buildings, roof quality issues, concerns over single and broken glazing and waste issues. 199 internal inspections (c.10% of licensable properties) had also been completed. Almost 12% of properties (24) inspected had a category 1 hazard where the Council had a duty to take enforcement action, and 164 properties had category 2 hazards which the Council had discretionary powers to take enforcement action.

The Executive Member for Housing and Development confirmed there was a strong and comprehensive evidence base which clearly illustrated the issues with property condition and antisocial behaviour (specifically linked to environmental and waste management) in all of the proposed Selective Licensing areas. Further consideration of this evidence base also demonstrated that Selective Licensing would be an effective additional tool for responding to the issues that have been identified. Therefore, and in light of the fact that considerable ongoing efforts had been made by officers to resolve waste and property condition challenges across the nine proposed areas (with limited success), it was recommended that all areas were designated for Selective Licensing.

Councillor Leech commented that the external appearance of some Private Rental Sector properties did not always highlight the true internal condition of the property and he sought clarification that if the potential areas that were being considered for selective licensing were widened, the percentage of properties inspected would remain at 50%.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note the consultation findings for the introduction of Selective Licensing for privately rented properties.
- (2) Endorse the following nine areas for designation in February 2025, together with the licence conditions under the Housing Act 2004 Part 3 Selective Licensing
 - Cheetham: Flats above shops and Esmond / Avondale – 405 PRS properties
 - Crumpsall: Enver Road – 147 PRS properties
 - Harpurhey: Whiteway Street – 116 PRS properties
 - Longsight: Heathcote / Sanby Road and Northmoor Road – 679 PRS properties
 - Miles Platting & Newton Heath: Droylsden Road and Scotland Street – 373 PRS Properties

- Moss Side: Viscount Street and Heald Grove – 143 PRS properties
- (3) Delegate authority to the Director of Neighbourhoods in consultation with the Executive Member for Housing and Development and the Executive Member for Finance and Resources to designate the nine selective licensing areas.
 - (4) Note that, following the decision to introduce a Selective Licensing scheme, a statutory public notification period of three months is required prior to the implementation of the scheme.
 - (5) Support the future direction of travel for discretionary licensing once the rolling programme designations come to an end.

Exe/25/98 Outcomes of the public consultation on the draft Holt Town Neighbourhood Development Framework

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director (Growth and Development), which sought approval of the final version of the draft Holt Town Neighbourhood Development Framework (NDF), following consultation with local and statutory stakeholders.

The Executive Member for Housing and Development advised that a total of 411 survey responses were received, and the website attracted over 10,000 visits. A third of the respondents lived in or near the area, with a further 13% working in the area. This included 2 responses from key stakeholders and 1 response from a community organisation. There was one response from National Grid as a local landowner.

Detailed responses were received from statutory stakeholders including Transport for Greater Manchester, Canal and River Trust, Historic England, Environment Agency, Natural England and United Utilities. Feedback from the consultation programme has been over 80% positive. Recurring themes and comments included:-

- Strong support for the vision of a mixed use residential led new neighbourhood within the draft NDF;
- Strong support for the proposal linked to the delivery of circa 4,500, including 20% affordable homes, including specific references to the delivery of family housing and social housing within this;
- Connectivity and the delivery of accessible public realm;
- Traffic movements, and the need to address existing traffic movement issues in the area and car parking;
- Strong support for the delivery of neighbourhood facilities, including local shops, health facilities and a community/cultural space that could act as a focal point for the area;
- Strong support for the proposals linked to the provision of quality public realm and open space;
- Highlighting the need to provide workspace for new businesses, in particular creative spaces and maker spaces; and
- Support for existing businesses within the area.

Overall the comments and feedback raised via the consultation process had been supportive and consistent with the themes contained within the draft Framework document.

The Executive Member for Housing and Development reported that the NDF set a long-term vision and framework for the regeneration of Holt Town to guide and inform delivery. It recognised the evolving nature of the Holt Town urban fabric and emphasised transforming underutilised spaces into vibrant, mixed-use districts

The Council had been working to develop an early delivery and phasing plan for Holt Town to ensure that implementation built on the success of the adjacent neighbourhoods and existing infrastructure in Holt Town. The overarching approach to Holt Town delivery emphasised collaboration among a diverse group of stakeholders, innovative delivery models, and alignment with key UK housing policy aims to set a benchmark for sustainable urban development.

It was acknowledged that the comprehensive redevelopment of Holt Town would take any years to complete. The strategy for delivery would focus on early phases to create immediate momentum and confidence through building partnerships and collaborating with investors and developers. The Council would lead with an enabling role to deliver inclusive growth in line with the NDF vision.

Furthermore, it was noted that Holt Town was critical, not just to the future place and community outcomes of the city, but also to Manchester's wider housing delivery strategy and housing policy fit.

Councillor Leech sought an assurance that statutory consultee organisations (such as the Environment Agency and United Utilities) were fully engaged with proposals for future housing development, to take into account any potential flood risk impact, not just in the immediate area but also on the wider water course.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note the comments received from stakeholders including local landowners, residents, businesses, and statutory consultees.
- (2) Approve the final version of the draft Holt Town Neighbourhood Development Framework to guide and co-ordinate the future development of the area, with the intention that it will be a material consideration in the Council's decision making role as Local Planning Authority.
- (3) Approve the pioneering approach to digital connectivity in Holt Town and the establishment of an innovation partnership with the University of Manchester to explore and apply tangible digital place making proposals as part of Holt Town's regeneration.
- (4) Endorse the Holt Town Public Realm Strategy as a key component of the NDF to ensure that compatible residential and commercial development opportunities

are realised, and that connectivity and access to quality public amenity spaces are maximised.

- (5) Note that the Council will use the NDF and its associated Public Realm Strategy to support public funding bids and guide discussion with potential private investors.
- (6) Note that the Council will use its land assets within the NDF area to prioritise and influence the delivery of new net zero carbon development and affordable homes.
- (7) Note that the Council will seek to acquire necessary land and property interests to deliver the Holt Town vision and public realm strategy by agreement and within available funding programmes. If this is not possible, a further report will be brought back to the Executive in the future to seek authority to promote a Compulsory Purchase Order.
- (8) Note that the comprehensive redevelopment of Holt Town will take many years to complete and that further work will be undertaken to develop a phasing and delivery plan in dialogue with key stakeholders, including potential funding bodies, investors, developer partners, landowners, and existing businesses.

Exe/25/99 Wythenshawe Civic Regeneration – Joint Venture update & approval of Strategic Business Plan - Part A

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director (Growth and Development), which provided a further update on the regeneration of Wythenshawe Civic and follows the approval in July 2024 to form a Joint Venture delivery vehicle with Muse.

The Executive Member for Housing and Development advised that since the selection of Muse as the Council's long-term, delivery partner in July 2024 progress had continued on the Levelling Up Fund works which would see the delivery of a Culture / Creative Hub, a new Food Hall and food and beverage offer, co-working and Enterprise employment space and Public Realm improvements.

The Council had now appointed Kier, via the North West Construction Hub following a competitive process, on the first package of works covering the public realm and Cultural Hub. The design team are now working towards RIBA Stage 3 with planning applications to follow in February/March 2025.

The work associated with all commercial and legal arrangements had also completed, and the Council was now in position to implement the Joint Venture and associated contracts, subject to the Executive's approval of the Strategic Business Plan.

The Strategic Business Plan set out the ambition and direction for the project, next steps, workstreams, strategies and governance for the next six to 12 months of the project. In doing so, it summarised the more detailed business plans for the Joint

Venture, Development Partnership Umbrella Agreement and Asset Management Agreement.

As per the Strategic Business Plan, both the Joint Venture and Development Partnership Umbrella Agreement would be overseen by a Board. The board members would be consistent across the two boards and would be responsible for strategic direction and decision making. There would be an equal number of board members from the Council and from Muse, with voting rights/decision making being 50:50. This allowed the Council to retain control of the Joint Venture and leverage outputs to meet corporate objectives. Beneath the boards would sit Project Delivery Groups, comprising staff from the Council and Muse responsible for the day-to-day project work.

Councillor Wiest welcomed the investment being made into the Civic Centre and sought clarification that local residents would be fully consulted on all proposals and would have an opportunity to collaborate with the developer on the proposals.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note the progress in the delivery of Levelling Up Fund regeneration investment along with progress in the formation of a Joint Venture vehicle to unlock the next steps in the development of Wythenshawe Civic.
- (2) Approve the Strategic Business Plan, thereby allowing senior officers to conclude all commercial and legal arrangements to implement the operation of the Joint Venture, Development Partnership Umbrella Agreement and associated documents.

Exe/25/100 Approval of land disposals for affordable housing - Part A

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director (Growth and Development), which provided an update on how the Council had integrated its approach to managing surplus land and harnessing the capacity of the Manchester Housing Providers Partnership (MHPP) to deliver new much needed affordable housing.

The Executive Member for Housing and Development advised that the Council had an open and transparent process when outlining options for disposal of surplus property. When land was suitable for residential development open market and affordable options were evaluated.

It was expected that where sites were disposed of for affordable housing, they would enter a standardised process in which MHPP partners were offered the opportunity to propose development that was designed to meet the needs of the locality whilst also providing competitive commercial terms in the context of viability. Where the Strategic Asset Management Plan board provided a recommendation that the scheme would deliver up to 100% affordable housing, it was evaluated with an expectation that the capital receipt would take this into account.

Where the land was held for general purposes, the only consideration to which regard could be had was those elements of the transaction of commercial or monetary value, capable of being assessed by valuers. However, best consideration was not limited to the purchase price and could include a term or condition attached to the disposal which identified a specific commercial benefit to the Council as the seller.

In addition, there were certain social, economic or environmental conditions or benefits which could not be considered when calculating best consideration, for example job creation; social value; using the land for a particular desirable purpose. Nevertheless, these benefits/ conditions could be taken into account if a disposal at less than best consideration

The report provided details in relation to the following brownfield sites that were proposed to be disposed of in order to unlock the delivery over 700 new affordable homes.

- Crabtree Lane, Clayton
- Barnhill Street, Moss Side
- Grey Mare Lane, Beswick
- Gorton Lane, Gorton (Peacock Centre and Pipewell Walk)
- Varley Street, Miles Platting
- Wilbraham Road, Chorlton Park
- Levenshulme Cricket Club
- Levenshulme Baths
- Alexandra Road, Moss Side
- Broadmoss, Charlestown

Finalised commercial negotiations would conclude following Executive approval and delegated to senior officers to approve. This was expected to total around 708 new affordable homes, however, all numbers were estimates at this stage as it would be subject to the design development of each scheme, the results of public consultations and granting of planning approval.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note the progress made to deliver our housing strategy targets.
- (2) Note the strategic rationale for the proposed land acquisition and disposal arrangements to MSV Housing (Mosscare St Vincents), Southway Housing Trust, Clarion, Jigsaw Homes North and Great Places Housing Group as outlined in Part B of this report
- (3) Note the exclusivity arrangements with Legal & General Affordable Homes and that the any commercial proposals resulting from the work will be submitted to Executive for approval at a later date.

Exe/25/101 Exclusion of the Public**Decision**

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

Exe/25/102 Wythenshawe Civic Regeneration – Joint Venture update & approval of Strategic Business Plan - Part B

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director (Growth and Development), which provided details on the commercially sensitive elements of the Joint Venture Strategic Business Plan.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note the progress in the delivery of Levelling Up Fund regeneration investment along with progress in the formation of a Joint Venture vehicle to unlock the next steps in the development of Wythenshawe Civic.
- (2) Approve the Strategic Business Plan, thereby allowing officers to conclude all commercial and legal arrangements to implement the operation of the Joint Venture, Development Partnership Umbrella Agreement and associated documents.
- (3) Approve the use of the capital fund to support the initial shortfalls in income and deferral of the invest to save charge, which will be replenished from the expected growth in income both within the Joint Venture and broader investment estate and capital receipts achieved from the disposal of interests in the area as part of the development plan

Exe/25/103 Approval of land disposals for affordable housing - Part B

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director (Growth and Development), which set out the strategic rationale for the proposed land acquisition and disposal arrangements to MSV Housing (Mosscares St Vincents), Southway Housing Trust, Clarion, Jigsaw Homes North and Great Places Housing Group

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Approve the principal land acquisition and disposal arrangements to MSV Housing (Mosscares St Vincents), Southway Housing Trust, Clarion, Jigsaw Homes North and Great Places Housing Group.

- (2) Delegate authority to the Strategic Director Growth and Development) in consultation with the City Treasurer to agree and finalise the details terms of the transactions.
- (3) Authorise the City Solicitor to seek statutory consents as may be necessary in regard to the disposal of identified land and conclude and complete all documents and agreements necessary to give effect to the terms agreed and the recommendations in this report

Economy and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 14 January 2025

Present:

Councillor Johns – in the Chair
Councillors Abdullatif, Benham, Northwood, I Robinson, Sadiq, Shilton Godwin,
Taylor and Wills

Also present:

Councillor Craig, Leader
Councillor Rawlins, Executive Member for Clean Air, Environment and Transport
Anthony Murden, Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM)
Simon Elliot, TfGM
Christopher Coleman, Network Rail

ERSC/25/01 Minutes

Decision

That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2024 be approved as a correct record.

ERSC/25/02 Improving Journeys Engagement Outcomes

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director (Growth and Development) which provided information on the engagement undertaken for the Improving Journeys programme.

Key points and themes within the report included:

- Methodology in relation to:
 - Response methods;
 - Promotion; and
 - In-person events;
- Reach;
- Responses broken down by mode of transport; and
- Location-specific responses.

The Strategic Director (Growth and Development) informed Members that the draft City Centre Movement Plan would be brought to the Committee within the next few months.

Key points and queries that arose from the Committee's discussions included:

- The travel experiences of people living outside of the city centre including:
 - Challenges pedestrians faced, such as pavement obstructions, poor quality and icy pavements and being soaked by cars driving through water; and

- The need for orbital bus services, in addition to bus services into the city centre;
- Passenger safety on public transport;
- Survey responses and further consultation;
- Recognising the links between the different strategies on the meeting's agenda; and
- The opportunities presented by bringing buses back under public control.

In response to Members' comments, the Executive Member for Clean Air, Environment and Transport informed the Committee that the local Bee Network Committee was being set up, which would enable Manchester Councillors to feed into the wider network. Members welcomed the opportunity to engage in this work, in order to reflect the needs and experiences of residents across all wards. The Executive Member advised that there was already a commitment to improving, as well as decluttering, pavements and she recognised the importance of supporting active travel. She outlined some of the initiatives to improve passenger safety, including the Strut Safe app, increasing the number of TravelSafe Officers and making it easier to contact Greater Manchester Police (GMP) through the Bee Network app. In response to a Member's comments, she recognised the importance of reaching all communities, using previous learning and Ward Councillors' local knowledge.

The Strategic Director (Growth and Development) clarified that the Improving Journeys programme encompassed journeys across Manchester and Greater Manchester, not only the city centre. In response to a Member's comments, she explained how the Strategic Oversight Board would ensure that the strategies being considered at today's meeting were aligned with one another.

The Chair requested that, when the Committee next received a report on Improving Journeys, it include a diagram of all the relevant strategies and who was responsible for them.

Anthony Murden from TfGM confirmed that there had been a good response to the autumn 2024 engagement exercise from a diverse range of communities. He outlined the plans for the next consultation, which would inform the public how the feedback from the previous engagement exercise had been used to shape proposals, present those proposals and invite further feedback to further shape the proposals. In response to a question from the Chair, he confirmed that data from previous consultation and engagement exercises had been considered. He informed Members that network review processes were underway in areas that were part of tranche one of bus franchising (Wigan and Bolton), that these network reviews involved an extensive consultation which Members, the public and businesses could engage with and that this, along with a range of data obtained from running the services and from local authority partners, was used to inform decision-making.

The Head of Network Management informed the Committee about work to improve drainage, declutter pavements and improve road crossings, in order to improve pedestrians' experience. In response to a Member's question, he provided information on some of the options that could be considered for dealing with A-

boards. In response to a question from the Chair about signage related to roadworks, he reported that the Council worked with its contractors on this.

Decisions:

1. To note the engagement undertaken for the Improving Journeys programme.
2. To request that, when the Committee next receive a report on Improving Journeys, it include a diagram of all the relevant strategies and who is responsible for them.

[Councillor Johns declared a personal interest, having recently published a report on Greater Manchester's bus reform and the impact of cuts to bus services across the country.]

ERSC/25/03 Road Safety Strategy

The Committee received a report of the Head of Network Management which set out the Council's approach to Road Safety, focussing on Manchester City Council's new draft Road Safety Strategy.

Key points and themes within the report included:

- Background information, including data on collisions in the city;
- The Safe System approach;
- Completed Road Safety projects; and
- Evolving future plans.

Key points and queries that arose from the Committee's discussions included:

- Ensuring the hierarchy of road users was fully reflected in the Strategy;
- Concern that increasing numbers of pedestrians and cyclists were being killed or seriously injured and that reducing this should be an objective in the Strategy, noting the equality and environmental implications of this;
- The reliability of the road collision data, noting that many collisions were not reported and whether data could be obtained from other sources, such as insurance companies;
- The importance of identifying near-misses, noting the intelligence that could be provided by local residents or Ward Councillors;
- Whether School Streets would be extended to all schools;
- Addressing pavement parking;
- Moving Traffic Offences;
- Requesting a breakdown by ward of the collision data in the table at 2.2 in the report;
- That the commitment to investigating collisions involving pedestrians and cyclists which resulted in death or serious injury should be strengthened;
- The importance of good maintenance of lane markings and signage;
- Ensuring that the location of pedestrian crossings met people's needs; and

- That the Strategy should take into account the different road safety environment at night.

The Executive Member for Clean Air, Environment and Transport acknowledged the Member's point about the hierarchy of road users and stated that she would look into this. She advised that School Streets were not appropriate in all locations but explained that this initiative was part of a broader suite of measures to improve road safety, including 20 mph speed limits on local roads and bringing about behaviour change.

In response to a Member's question, the Director of Highways clarified that this was the first version of the Strategy, that it would be periodically reviewed and that Members' comments would be taken into consideration. He acknowledged a Member's point that road collision data would not capture all collisions and advised that other information, such as information from Highways Maintenance on minor damage to guard rails, could be used to build up a fuller picture. He recognised a point from the Chair about the location of road crossings, while highlighting the challenges of balancing the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and cars. In response to comments from the Chair about innovations in road safety, he advised that local authorities in this country were reluctant to use measures which were not approved by the Department for Transport (DfT) due to the risk of claims being made against them but that the Council, along with TfGM, had introduced some innovations such as the floating bus stops on Oxford Road. In response to comments about near-misses, he advised that a technological solution might be required, for example, using Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The Head of Network Management advised that this was a plan for improving road safety and that it included ambitious targets to measure success and he suggested that the Committee receive periodic reports to scrutinise how effective it was in achieving these targets. He outlined some of the challenges in and opportunities to identify unreported collisions, including using hospital data to identify serious collisions which had not been reported, as well as work by a number of agencies to find a way to identify near-misses. He advised that walking and cycling had increased, leading to more accidents locally and nationally and that further work was needed to improve the safety of pedestrians and cyclists. In response to a Member's question, he outlined a range of changes that he would like the Government to introduce to improve road safety, including reviewing Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs), legislating on improved vehicle safety measures and income from speeding fines going to local authorities to reinvest in road safety. He reported that the Government had run a consultation on pavement parking which the Council and TfGM had responded to but that there had been no further response from the Government; however, he advised that the Council was continuing to lobby Government on this and was looking into what it could do in the interim, including trials in some areas and using leaflets to improve drivers' awareness. A Member welcomed this work, also emphasising the importance of lobbying Government on this, while recognising that in some areas with narrow roads and a lack of private parking, a balance was needed.

In response to a question about Moving Traffic Offences, the Head of Network Management advised that these powers were already in place in seven locations

and work was currently taking place on expanding this to additional locations, with Members having already been consulted on their priorities. In response to a Member's comments, he advised that TfGM could update the satnav companies if they were directing drivers down inappropriate routes and asked the Member to contact him if there were any ongoing issues which they had been unable to get resolved. In response to a Member's question, he advised that the Council was looking at 20 mph speed limits on residential roads which would benefit from this and reducing the speed limit from 40 mph to 30 mph on main roads. He advised that, even if drivers did not fully reduce their speed to the new limit, evidence showed that changing the speed limit did reduce speeds and improve safety. He informed Members that the data in the table at 2.2 in the report could be broken down in a number of different ways, including by ward. In response to comments from the Chair about investigating serious road collisions involving cyclists or pedestrians, he advised that he would look into this. He advised that the maintenance of road markings was being brought back in-house, with a new road marking vehicle being purchased and work taking place on updating the dataset of signs and road markings across the city.

In response to a Member's question, the Executive Member for Clean Air, Environment and Transport advised that she would circulate information to Members on the next steps in relation to reducing the speed limit on residential roads. In response to comments about the location of pedestrian crossings and where it was convenient for pedestrians to cross, she advised that the Council had gathered a lot of information on how pedestrians did or did not use crossings as part of the Manchester Active Travel Strategy and Investment Plan (MATSSIP) and that she would review this data with officers to see how this could be built into the road safety work.

Decisions:

1. To note the aims and objectives set out in the Road Safety Strategy.
2. To request a breakdown by ward of the collision data in the table at 2.2 in the report.
3. To note that the Executive Member for Clean Air, Environment and Transport will circulate information to Members on the next steps in relation to reducing the speed limit on residential roads

ERSC/25/04 Approach to Parking Management

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) which provided an overview of issues relating to surplus parking provision, kerbside space management and pavement parking, and the development of a Parking Strategy

Key points and themes within the report included:

- Background information;
- Understanding current parking supply and estimated demand; and
- Creating a Parking Strategy.

Key points and queries that arose from the Committee's discussions included:

- To welcome the development of a Parking Strategy which aimed to align with the Council's strategic aims and the transport strategy for the city centre;
- Noting that the report focused on the city centre and raising issues affecting wards neighbouring the city centre, in particular:
 - That there might be surplus parking in the city centre because commuters were choosing to park for free in wards neighbouring the city centre, rather than paying for city centre parking, creating problems in these areas; and
 - that planning permission was being granted for new housing developments in these areas without taking into account the parking implications;
- The methodology for determining that parking in the city centre might be under-utilised;
- The role of Parking Officers and how they interacted with the public;
- Households which owned cars but did not have off-street parking or did not have sufficient off-street space for the number of cars they owned;
- Pavement parking;
- The importance of reducing car use in the city centre;
- The need to consider the placement of city centre car parks, for example, in relation to major roads and the free city centre bus routes; and
- The need to consider loading and unloading spaces for deliveries, as well as cycle parking facilities.

The City Centre Transport Lead outlined the data sources used in calculating the parking surplus, advising that some of the data was from 2019 and some was more recent, and he clarified that it was based on an average across the year. He reported that further work was now taking place looking at variances across events and different times of the year, as well as on obtaining more accurate data on usage now that this was settling down, post-pandemic. He advised that the city centre was the area where this data was currently available but work was taking place to gather data on parking across the city, noting that the issues in other areas would be different to the city centre and that the Strategy would also need to address these, with the approach varying depending on local circumstances. He advised that this could include measures such as improved integration with public transport and park and ride facilities. In response to the point raised about new housing developments without parking provision, he advised that this was being looked at as part of the refresh of the Local Plan and that his team was pushing for transport to be considered at an earlier stage of new developments. He advised that the Parking Strategy would incorporate both behaviour change and enforcement, where needed. He highlighted that off-street car parking included both Council and commercial operators and that, as part of the work on the Strategy, the Council was looking into what influence it could have on private companies and their pricing structure, while recognising that there were limits to this. He advised that consideration was being given to the routes that drivers would take to access car parking facilities in the city centre. He highlighted examples of sites being used as loading bays during the day and taxi ranks at night, making the best use of the space depending on what was needed at different times of the day. In response to a question from the Chair, he

advised that the Strategy would set out a process for the disposal and re-allocation of on-street parking bays.

In response to a question from the Chair, the Head of Network Management clarified that double yellow lines applied from the centre of the road to the back of the highway, meaning that it also applied to the pavement but not to any space which was part of a shop frontage.

Decision:

To support the development of a Parking Strategy which takes into account Members' comments.

ERSC/25/05 Strategic Transport Update (Rail)

The Committee received a report of the Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure which provided a strategic update on rail infrastructure developments and long-term rail plans. It highlighted progress on key programmes such as Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR), the Manchester and North West Transformational Programme (MNTP), and ongoing challenges resulting from the cancellation of HS2 Phase 2.

Key points and themes within the report included:

- HS2 and future rail connectivity;
- Northern Powerhouse Rail and the Liverpool to Manchester Railway;
- Manchester and North West Transformation Programme (MNTP);
- Oxford Road Station remodelling and the Strategic Regeneration Framework (SRF);
- Rail devolution in Manchester;
- Developing a strategic long-term rail plan for Manchester; and
- Priorities for Manchester.

Key points and queries that arose from the Committee's discussions included:

- To welcome and support the priorities set out in the report;
- Capacity issues on the network;
- Plans for Oxford Road Station;
- Timescales for improvements;
- The importance of a good railway service for the economy and the environment;
- The importance of step-free access;
- How the Council's role on the Railway Board was being used to influence the Department for Transport (DfT) and secure improvements for Manchester's rail infrastructure and services;
- Victoria Station, including improving the commuter experience, accessibility and air quality;
- The closure of Deansgate Station during the Christmas Markets:

- The Avanti West Coast Sunday strike action and its impact on weekend visitors and Manchester's economy; and
- Proposals for additional platforms adjacent to platform 1 at Manchester Piccadilly.

Simon Elliot from TfGM outlined the importance of Oxford Road Station due to both its location at the core of the Castlefield Corridor and capacity issues related to the station itself. He advised that the proposals for the Station were intended to address both the capacity of the station itself and operational capacity through the station. He acknowledged a Member's point about the importance of public confidence in the railway, advising that a reliable service was needed so that people did not turn away from using rail and the benefits of investing in improvements were realised. In response to a Member's comments, he acknowledged that some improvements would not come to fruition until the 2030s but advised that work was taking place to improve capacity over the next few years, including improvements at Victoria Station and network improvements in north Manchester; however, these shorter-term improvements would only restore capacity to the position it was in in 2019, so more still needed to be done. He informed Members about the development of a Greater Manchester Vision for the rail network, advising that a report on this was being submitted to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) at the end of January. He also informed Members about improvements in rolling stock which would potentially be introduced over the next five years, advising that the region had some of the oldest rolling stock in the country and highlighting the environmental benefits of replacing older stock.

In response to a Member's question, the Leader explained that capacity issues related to both capacity for customers and capacity for passenger and freight trains to pass through the system, highlighting bottlenecks near Oxford Road and Stockport.

Christopher Coleman from Network Rail explained how, following the disruption caused by the over-ambitious May 2018 rail timetable, a recovery taskforce had been put in place. He outlined investments that were being made now, including a third platform at Salford Crescent, additional turn-backs in north Manchester and electrification of the line between Wigan and Manchester. He outlined longer-term proposals relating to Manchester Airport and Manchester Oxford Road. He informed Members about proposals to extend the platforms at Manchester Airport to accommodate 12 cars, which was linked to Northern and TransPennine Express's plans for new rolling stock and longer trains to provide additional capacity. He informed Members that Network Rail was committed to improving Manchester Oxford Road Station, and that this included improving accessibility, noting that platform 1 did not currently have step-free access. He reported that other planned improvements for the Station were better canopy coverage, re-mapping and re-laying the tracks, extending the platforms to accommodate longer trains and new signalling. He advised that a consultation on the plans for Oxford Road Station would commence on 20 January 2025 and that responses would then be considered before a second consultation later in the year. He advised that improvements were being accelerated as much as possible to realise benefits for customers. He reported that a South Manchester Strategic Study had been completed, with

consideration being given to what could be done to improve the service, while recognising that the network was largely at capacity.

The Leader reported that she was the Joint Vice-Chair of the Liverpool-Manchester Railway Board and she advised that this work was not only about getting better, faster trains between the two cities but about the broader impact this work would have on the network through infrastructure improvements. She advised that there had been more positive engagement with the Secretary of State for Transport and DfT since the new Government came into power.

Christopher Coleman advised that Network Rail was looking at the feasibility of additional platforms at Manchester Piccadilly adjacent to platform 1 but this was not yet funded; however, it appeared that this was more feasible than the previous proposal for platforms 15 and 16. In response to a Member's question, he advised that this new proposal sought to address a different issue from the previous proposal, which had been rejected following a cost-benefit analysis. He advised that HS2 would be arriving into Manchester from the mid-2030s but it would be arriving on the conventional network, which would be at capacity, and Network Rail was working with its partners to develop a long-term strategy which could realistically be funded and would align with partners' ambitions. In response to a question about Open Access, he advised that a number of applications had been received and that Network Rail was in discussions with the rail regulator, the Office of Rail and Road (ORR), about this, noting the importance of balancing the benefits of competition for the customer with network capacity and power.

Simon Elliot from TfGM advised that, while the national industrial relations issues had been resolved, there remained local issues to be resolved, including issues at Avanti West Coast and Northern which were affecting Sunday services, and he advised that there were ongoing discussions to resolve these. In relation to the performance of Avanti West Coast, he highlighted recent weather-related issues and issues with the network which were affecting performance and informed Members about the Network Rail Taskforce which was focused on improving the resilience of the network. He reported that Avanti had quite an old fleet which also impacted on performance. He advised that investment was needed in the infrastructure to improve reliability. In response to a Member's comments about step-free access, he assured the Committee that making stations accessible was a critical priority for TfGM. He reported that a paper on funding solutions for additional accessibility schemes at Greater Manchester stations was being submitted to the GMCA at the end of the month, advising that Levenshulme Station would be one of the stations included in this. He advised that ten locally-funded accessibility schemes had already delivered at Greater Manchester stations over the past five years.

In relation to HS2, the Leader clarified that the HS2 line north of Birmingham had been cancelled so, while the trains could still arrive into Manchester, the city would not get the same service that had been originally planned. She advised that strategies were being considered on how the network could meet future capacity needs, advising that the Manchester view was that an underground station was essential to this and that she and the Mayor of Greater Manchester would continue to lobby for the improvements to the network that the city region needed. She emphasised the importance of looking at the network as a whole.

Christopher Coleman explained that a lot of plans had been developed when HS2 was due to extend to Manchester and that, while the previous Government's decision to cancel Phase 2 of HS2 in October 2023 had forced stakeholders to regroup and assess how this decision affected those plans and how they would move forward, they remained committed to improvements in north Manchester, at the Airport, Oxford Road and through Stockport and Piccadilly. In response to a question from the Chair, he assured Members that Network Rail was committed to progressing improvements at Oxford Road, with the only caveat being if the Government removed the funding. He reported that the air quality at Victoria Station was closely monitored and that any changes at the station had to be assessed in terms of their impact on air quality. He reported that Northern closed Deansgate Station during the Christmas Markets as they felt that there was a safety issue but he advised that there were ongoing discussions about this. In response to further comments from the Chair, Simon Elliot informed Members that TfGM would pursue this with Northern in relation to the next Christmas period, advising that TfGM's view was that opening Deansgate during this period should be trialled.

The Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure reported that the Oxford Road SRF would include consideration of how people entered and exited the station and how to better integrate the station within the area. In response to a question about ensuring the city had the skills needed for future rail projects, she advised that a Work and Skills Strategy had been developed as part of the work on HS2 and that this work would be reviewed and revised.

Decision:

To note the information included in the report.

[Councillor Johns declared a personal interest due to writing on Strategic Transport as part of his job.]

ERSC/25/06 Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit was submitted. The overview report contained key decisions within the Committee's remit, responses to previous recommendations and the Committee's work programme, which the Committee was asked to approve.

Decision:

That the Committee note the report and agree the work programme.

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2025

Present:

Councillor E Bell – in the Chair
Councillors N Ali, Amin, Fletcher, Jafri, Lovecy, McHale, Mahamed, Muse, Nunney and Sadler

Co-opted Voting Members:

Mr G Cleworth, Parent Governor Representative
Mr Y Yonis, Parent Governor Representative

Also present:

Councillor Reid, Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People
Gaynor Stubbs, Executive Headteacher, Aiming High C of E Federation

Apologies:

Councillors Collins, Foley, Gartside and Mandongwe
Canon S Mapledoram, Representative of the Diocese of Manchester
Ms L Smith, Primary Sector Teacher Representative

CYP/25/01 Minutes

Decisions

1. That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2024 be approved as a correct record.
2. To receive the minutes of the Ofsted Subgroup meeting held on 23 October 2024.

CYP/25/02 Attainment Headline Outcomes 2024 (provisional)

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Education which provided a summary of the 2024 outcomes of statutory assessment at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 2, Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. It also provided a list of actions which were being progressed to address some of the gaps in learning following the pandemic.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Background information;
- 2024 outcomes in relation to:
 - Early Years Foundation Stage;
 - Year 1 Phonics Test;
 - Key Stage 2;
 - Key Stage 4; and
 - Key Stage 5 and
- Next steps.

Gaynor Stubbs, Executive Headteacher, Aiming High C of E Federation informed the Committee about some of the steps their schools had taken to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on children and their families. She outlined a range of steps taken, relating to the curriculum, including identifying and mitigating key aspects of teaching that had been missed through online teaching and provision for the increasing numbers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND), pastoral support, support for staff and support for families, including parent workshops on a range of issues and SEND Local Offer parent meetings.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- To welcome the work taking place and the progress being made, in particular in relation to children from disadvantaged backgrounds and global majority children;
- Meeting the needs of children with SEND, including making an earlier diagnosis and learning from best practice in other countries;
- Whether there were any particular areas of the city that were a cause for concern;
- Concern about the widening gap between Manchester and the national average in relation to Year 1 Phonics; and
- Availability of T-Levels.

The Assistant Director of Education advised that there were no specific areas of the city where outcomes were lower but that thematic issues had been identified. She highlighted writing as a skill which had been particularly affected by the pandemic and advised that it was being addressed through work with the Education Endowment Foundation on the Write Beginnings project, which was being rolled out to selected schools across Manchester. She reported that "a good level of development" had also been identified as a thematic issue for some cohorts of children, linked to disadvantage, and she outlined some of the work to address this, including the Kickstarter project providing speech, language and communication support to schools, as well as educational psychology. In response to a question about Phonics, she advised that there were pre-verbal children entering Reception and that speech needed to be developed before Phonics could be effectively taught and she outlined a range of programmes to address. She reported that the Manchester approach to SEND was to meet the presenting needs rather than waiting for a diagnosis. She informed Members that a tool for identifying early indicators of neurodiversity had been trialled in an area of the city and that discussions were now taking place with Health on how this could be rolled out across the city. She advised that Manchester was strong on early identification of needs but the increase in children with SEND presented a challenge in terms of capacity to meet that need. In response to a Member's question, she outlined the support provided to Early Years settings, including childminders, in supporting children with additional needs. In response to a Member's question on when the validated attainment data, including a breakdown by gender and ethnicity, would be available, she advised that this was dependent on the Department for Education (DfE) but it was hoped that this data would be available by the Spring or early Summer Term.

Gaynor Stubbs advised that, while children with additional needs were being identified early, the challenge was in having staff that were equipped to support them, noting the difficulties at a national level in recruiting Early Years staff. In response to a Member's question, she advised that some families did not want to engage with Early Help because of previous interactions with Children's Services which they had perceived as negative and, in those cases, her schools would provide support to the families.

The Director of Education informed the Committee that currently only The Manchester College provided T-Levels but that the Council had done a lot of work to increase post-16 places in the city and that from September 2025 a new provision opening in the city centre would be offering T-Levels and discussions were taking place with other post-16 providers about offering T-Levels, recognising the importance of having a balance of academic and technical courses. In response to a question from the Chair, she outlined how a range of partners were involved in work to improve school attendance, citing as an example the multi-agency approach to improving attendance in Wythenshawe. The Chair emphasised the important role of the wider community in children's education.

The Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People reported that Manchester schools were now the best they had ever been, while noting the impact of the pandemic on children and babies and that the north-west had been particularly badly affected. She congratulated schools and officers for their work. She advised that the two-year-old offer should be available to all families and that there should be qualified teachers in Early Years and she expressed concern about poor levels of pay in the Early Years sector. She encouraged the Committee to undertake visits to Children's Services teams across the city and to look at the detail of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill which was going through Parliament.

Decision

To note the report.

CYP/25/03 Inclusion Approaches and Exclusions Data 2022/2023 and 2023/2024

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Education which provided an update on the development of inclusion support for all Manchester schools. It also looked at available exclusions data held internally in Manchester for 2023/24 and validated Department for Education (DfE) published school exclusions data for 2022/23.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- An overview of work to support inclusion in Manchester schools;
- Data on permanent exclusions in 2022/2023 and 2023/2024;
- Data on suspensions in 2022/2023 and 2023/2024; and
- Early indications in relation to the current school year.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- Breaking the cycle of pupils being repeatedly suspended;
- Disproportionality regarding the pupils who were being suspended or permanently excluded;
- Sharing good practice;
- A suggestion that officers include a glossary in reports to make it easier for Members and the public to read; and
- Managed moves.

In response to a question about repeated suspensions, the AP Lead and SAFE Taskforce Lead advised that schools were encouraged to involve the Council's Outreach Services as early as possible where a pupil was at risk of disengaging to prevent suspensions from happening. She reported that, if a pupil was suspended, it was important to effectively re-integrate them back into school, which the Council could provide support on, and that this re-integration could include providing support to parents, mediation or other actions to demonstrate that it was a fresh start. In response to comments on disproportionality, she advised that there was a lot of variety of contexts between schools and that city-wide disproportionality might not reflect the population of individual schools but that the Council would provide support and challenge to schools as appropriate where there was a disproportionality of suspensions and exclusions compared to the demographics of that individual school. She advised that the Council had commissioned a study in relation to Gypsy and Roma pupils, noting that this group was an outlier, and that the Council was also working with Afruca and Dimobi to put together a strategy to address other outliers. In response to a Member's question, the Statutory Lead (Attendance and Exclusions) advised that the exclusion rate for Asian Pakistani pupils was 0.14 last year, informing Members that although the number of Asian Pakistani pupils excluded was quite high, the exclusion rate was quite low as there were a large number of Asian Pakistani pupils in Manchester.

In response to a question about the high number of White British pupils being excluded, the Assistant Director of Education advised that this was a national issue which was linked to disadvantage, low aspirations and negative feelings towards education and that a lot of work was being done by the Council and schools to engage with pupils and raise aspirations. She outlined how best practice, regarding inclusion and other issues, was shared between schools, including through webinars, Headteacher Briefings, through Senior Schools Quality Assurance Officers and the brokering of formal support between schools. In response to a Member's question, she advised that some of the local authorities with a lower exclusion rate were working in a different context from Manchester. She informed Members how the Council was working closely with other local authorities through its leadership of the North-West Change Programme for the SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan, including sharing best practice, adding that best practice was also shared through Greater Manchester Education Leads and informally.

The Director of Education informed Members that some of the schools which had had the highest exclusion rates were in areas with a predominantly white population, resulting in higher levels of white boys being excluded, and she advised that

interventions were determined at a school level. She advised that where there were concerns about either the overall level of exclusions at a school or disproportionality in who was being excluded, the Council would provide challenge to the school and support where needed. She outlined the purpose of Managed Moves, stating that it was a voluntary agreement between two schools to give a pupil a fresh start in another school and that a protocol for this had been developed between secondary headteachers. She advised that in a lot of cases it worked well but occasionally Managed Moves did break down. She advised that if the Managed Move did not work out, the child would return to the original school and that they remained on the roll of the original school until the receiving school decided that the move had been successful and agreed to take them on roll. She expressed caution about bringing this process under local authority arrangements due to its voluntary nature and the risk that it might deter schools from agreeing to it but advised that the Council could look at the numbers and in particular any pupil who had had a lot of Managed Moves which had broken down; however, she advised that the forthcoming Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill could change the local authority's role in relation to this. The Chair agreed that Managed Moves could work well but advised that it was important for the parents to understand what was happening.

The Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People advised that a lot of progress had been made on exclusions. She highlighted the challenges for teachers of dealing with disruptive behaviour in large classes. She commented on the issues relating to white working-class boys and emphasised the importance of Early Help in improving attendance and preventing exclusion.

Decision

To note the report.

[Councillor McHale declared a personal interest as Operations Manager for Navigators Alternative Provision.]

CYP/25/04 Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit was submitted. The overview report contained key decisions within the Committee's remit, responses to previous recommendations and the Committee's work programme, which the Committee was asked to approve.

Decision

To note the report and agree the work programme.

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Planning and Highways Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2025

Present: Councillor Lyons - In the Chair

Councillors: Shaukat Ali, L Bell, Chohan, Curley, Gartside, Hassan, Hughes, and Lovecy

Apologies: Councillors Davies, Hewitson, Kamal, Kilpatrick, Riasat and Richards

PH/25/01 Supplementary Information on Applications Being Considered

A copy of the late representations received had been circulated in advance of the meeting regarding applications 139778/FO/2024 and 141253/FO/2024.

Decision

To receive and note the late representations.

PH/25/02 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2024 as a correct record.

PH/25/03 139778/FO/2024 - Land Bound by Lever Street, Great Ancoats Street, Little Lever Street and Houldsworth Street, Manchester

The Committee considered a report that proposed the part retention, part demolition of existing buildings with the retained fabric forming part the base of an 18 storey 'tower'. There would be 2 ground floor commercial units, 2 basements and a central landscaped courtyard. There have been 11 objections and a neutral comment.

Objections had also been received from Victorian Society, Georgian Group and Historic Buildings and Places. These National Amenity Societies are not Statutory Consultees for this application.

Historic England's interest related to the impact on the setting of the Grade II* Listed Express Building. They had not objected.

Consideration of this application was deferred at the meeting of the Planning and Highways Committee on 19 December 2024, to enable a site visit to take place to allow Members to see the nature of the heritage to be retained and the impact the proposal would have on the immediate area.

The applicant's agent spoke in support of the application. He said that the applicant had worked with Planning Officers and the scheme would deliver significant

commercial and economic benefits to the city. He said the scheme would create jobs and deliver 16,989 m2 of office space, attracting both new and existing businesses and create commercial space. He said the proposals would retain some aspects of the heritage buildings, in keeping with other heritage buildings in the locality. He said that Historic England had not submitted an objection to the proposal and that the correct balance had been achieved in bringing forward this proposal and the public benefit outweighed any heritage harm.

Councillor Gartside stated that she had found the site visit undertaken by the Committee to have been very beneficial and this had allayed her concerns expressed at the previous meeting regarding the loss of working class heritage. She said that she would be supporting the officer recommendation to approve the application.

Councillor Curley noted that whilst Historic England had not submitted an objection to the proposal, comments had been received from the Victorian Society, Georgian Group and Historic Buildings and Places and he made reference to the section of the report that identified the 60% demolition of historical warehouses, and he asked officers to comment on this.

The Planning Officer reiterated the comment previously expressed by the agent that none of the buildings were protected and they did not sit within a conservation area. He stated that appropriate and careful consideration was given to the heritage of the city and the Department were satisfied, having undertaken a detailed analysis of the application that the correct balance had been achieved in the proposals presented to the Committee. He commented that the historic façades to be retained were the best preserved and most attractive facades in the block, and their retention would contribute to the continued character of the area at street level.

In response to a question from Councillor Lovecy, the Deputy Director of Planning stated that the internal courtyard area was largely private and intended for the use of those attending the premises and was not intended to be public space.

Councillor Shaukat Ali moved the Officer's recommendation.

Councillor Hughes seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee resolved to approve the application for the reasons and subject to the conditions set out in the submitted reports.

PH/25/04 141253/FO/2024 - West Didsbury and Chorlton Football Club Brookburn Road Manchester

The Committee considered a report that proposed the retention of two structures for a temporary period of five years, that have been installed at the West Didsbury and Chorlton Football Club. The structures have been in place since June 2023 according to the application documents. The erected outbuilding and metal storage container were used by the football club to provide refreshments to supporters during football matches.

As part of the notification of this application letters were sent to 23 addresses and site notices were posted and an advertisement placed in the Manchester Evening News given the location within the Chorltonville Conservation Area and the Greater Manchester Green Belt. Following amendments to the application to include a storage container, also installed at the site, a further full period of renotification was undertaken and this included further site notices posted at the site and advertisement placed in the Manchester Evening News.

As a result of these two notification periods 8 responses were received, 7 of these set out objections to the proposals including, amongst other matters:

- The installed structures do not comply with adopted local or national planning policies in respect of design, greenbelt and conservation area;
- No evidence that the applicant has sought to reconfigure current premises to accommodate the additional food and drink outlets;
- the proposals increase the creep into the Green Belt;
- Visual amenity impacts of the structures;
- Residential amenity impacts due to hours of potential sale for food and drink up until 2300hrs and corresponding odours, noise and disturbance that this could cause particularly to close neighbours.

The matters raised above and set out within the consultations section of the report were set out and considered in full within the main body of the report. The main issues arising from the proposals were the impacts of the proposals on the character of the Green Belt and the Conservation Area as well as impacts on the amenity of neighbouring occupiers.

The Planning Officer stated that if the application was approved an additional condition would be included in relation to waste management. He said such a condition would be in line with the existing waste management plan for the overall site as it was considered to be appropriate.

The applicant's agent spoke in support of the application. She said that she acknowledged the representations submitted by local residents, however reminded the Committee that the site was already a location where people congregated to watch and enjoy football matches. She said the retention of two structures for a temporary period of five years would not contribute to any increase in noise or disturbance and therefore not warrant any grounds for refusal. She said that the request to retain the structure to serve refreshments would contribute to the safety and enjoyment for all those attending matches, noting that the club was currently not in a financial position to extend the club house. She said the site was also subject to the existing licensing conditions in relation to the sale of alcohol. She further commented that the two structures did not impact on the conservation characteristics of the local area. She said that views of the two structures were generally restricted to public paths around the site to the south and when viewed in the context of the clubhouse and temporary stand to the north. Given this and that the outbuilding and storage container are of a smaller scale than existing buildings on the site the two structures were not considered to be visually intrusive in this location and were considered to be appropriate when viewed in conjunction with other existing buildings

on the site. She made further reference to the officer comments contained within the report that stated that any impacts on the open landscaped character of the Conservation Area were at the lower end of less than substantial harm and was outweighed by the public benefits. She further noted that the statutory consultees had no concerns. In conclusion she stated that the club was a responsible operator and was well respected both nationally and locally. She asked that the Committee endorsed the officer recommendation to approve the application.

In response to a question from the Committee the Planning Officer stated that there was no restriction as to the number of match days per season. He also drew the Committee's attention to the late representation that had been submitted in relation to this application that described the planning permission granted in 1995 and that the proposals for determination were considered to be acceptable.

Councillor Curley moved the Officer's recommendation.

Councillor Hughes seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee resolved to approve the application for temporary planning permission for 5 years, for the reasons and subject to the conditions set out in the submitted reports, together with the additional waste management condition proposed by officers at the meeting.

Health and Wellbeing Board

Minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2025

Present:

Councillor T Robinson, Executive Member for Member for Healthy Manchester and Adult Social Care (MCC) (Chair)
 Councillor Reid, Executive Member for Children and Schools Services (MCC)
 Councillor Chambers Deputy Executive Member for Healthy Manchester and Adult Social Care (MCC)
 Kathy Cowell, Chair, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust
 Elizabeth Calder, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust
 Amanda Smith, Chair, Healthwatch
 Sean McKendrick, Strategic Director of Children's Services
 Cordelle Ofori, Director of Public Health
 Bernadette Enright, Executive Director of Adult Social Services
 Tom Hinchcliffe, Place Based Lead
 Dr Doug Jeffrey, Manchester GP Board

Apologies:

Councillor Craig, Leader of the Council (MCC)
 Dr Geeta Wadhwa, Manchester GP Board

Also in attendance:

Sarah Doran, Deputy Director of Public Health, Department of Public Health and Chair of the Manchester City Council Child Death Overview Panel
 Leasa Benson, Lead Nurse Health Protection, Department of Public Health
 Sophie Black, Programme Lead for Health Protection, Department of Public Health
 Marie Earle, Strategic Commissioning Manager, Department of Public Health
 Mike Linnell (Linnell Communications)
 Claire Arkwright, Deputy Service Manager, Change Grow Live (Manchester)
 Eesha Naeem, Child Death Overview Panel Co-ordinator
 Simon Watts, Consultant in Public Health, Manchester NHS Foundation Trust

HWB/25/01 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2025 as a correct record.

HWB/25/02 Manchester Partnership Board – Update

The Board was advised that the meeting of the Partnership Board scheduled to be held on 18 December 2024 was cancelled due to system pressures in the period leading up to Christmas. The Board was advised that two development sessions had been held where the following issues were covered:

- Manchester Local Sustainability Plan (focussed on prevention and reduction on the prevalence of ill health).

- Financial position of the Manchester Partnership Board and the Integrated Care Board (ICB) (use of the funding available for use across the partnership and in the organisations represented to promote a strategy of ill health prevention).
- Management of long-term conditions, in particular: type 2 diabetes and the management of this into community and primary care to ensure that hospitals deal with only hospital related treatment. This included discussions on the use of the Manchester Neighbourhood Model and building on its use in addressing health inequalities and health challenges.
- The significant reduction in mental health out of area placements of 90% since October 2024, which has been achieved through close partnership working with GMMH, the Local Care Organisation, the locality team and ICB.
- Announcement of the redevelopment of the North Manchester General Hospital (NMGH) site from a funding package of £1.5 billion from 2027/28. The development will promote the health objectives and wider development of north Manchester. The announcement was welcomed by the combined partners that had worked to achieve the outcome over several years.

The Chair welcomed the announcement of government funding for NMGH and the future health and regeneration benefits the redevelopment will bring to the residents of north Manchester. The Board was advised that regular updates on the redevelopment proposals will be reported to the Health and Economy and Regeneration Scrutiny Committees.

The Chair also welcomed the update concerning the reduction in the number of out of area mental health placements and acknowledged the whole system approach undertaken by those involved to achieve the reduced number of placements during winter pressures. The Chair reported that Health Scrutiny would receive an annual health update report that will provide details on the whole system approach. Reference was made to the hard work by public health in helping to promote measure to reduce the numbers of cold and flu cases over the winter period.

Decision

To note the update provided.

HWB/25/03 Health Protection - Local Infectious Disease Outbreak Management and Drug Related Incident Response Plans

The Board considered the report of the Director of Public Health that provided background information about a refresh of the Local Infectious Disease Outbreak Management Plan for Manchester and included the draft plan for approval. The report further provided information on the development of a new Drug Related Incident Response Plan; the draft plan was also included for approval.

The Director of Public Health introduced the report and provided a summary.

Local Infectious Disease Outbreak Management Plan

An overview of the Local Infectious Disease Outbreak Management Plan for Manchester was provided by Sophie Black and Leasa Benson. The Board was

informed that the plan was taken from the GM Multi-Agency Outbreak Plan, and this is version 5 of the document since 2017 and has been developed to meet Manchester requirements and improve accessibility to the reader. The plan seeks to provide support in the response to periods of increased incidents and national outbreaks of infectious disease. The plan has been tested through a multi agency scenarios exercise in April 2024. The plan also contains new elements relating to a health protection surge capacity following the covid pandemic with support and information for those needing to self-isolate. Also included are control measures required when responding to incidents for instances where a child may miss education due to having an infectious disease and associated financial implications on individuals who self-isolate as well as the impact of self-isolation on the individual. The document will be regularly monitored and updated throughout its life.

Drug Related Incident Response Plan

An overview of the Local Infectious Disease Outbreak Management Plan for Manchester was provided by Marie Earle and Mike Linnell. The Board was informed that the focus is potent synthetic opioids, although the plan can be related to all drug related incidents. The report draws attention to a growing and concerning use of synthetic opioids (fentanyl(s) and nitazenes). The plan provides a framework for local health professionals to follow in the event of a drug related incident, including the operational roles and responsibilities of the key partners. The plan compliments the existing GM potent synthetic opioids plan and the Local Infectious Disease Outbreak Management Plan. The plan is a live document and will be monitored and updated regularly.

The Chair welcomed the report and in reference to the growing use of synthetic opioids in the UK, asked officers what similarities there may be with the synthetic opioid crisis in United States of America.

The Board was informed of similarities such as a ban on fentanyl in the US resulting in the development of nitazenes to replace them, also the impact of the 95% reduction of heroin production from Afghanistan. Such global events have an impact on drug ingredients and availability at a local level.

The Chair invited questions from the Board.

Officers were asked how the plans will be publicised for health professionals to be made aware of them. The Board was advised that both plans were submitted to the Health Protection Board where it was agreed to engage with primary care and health care colleagues to develop a robust communications plan for front line staff, such as PCNs and GP surgeries. An action plan is in place to ensure that the plan is promoted around Greater Manchester. There are good communication links in place with over 1000+ health professionals on the Drug Information Network which is linked to the NHS Local Information Network. Communication links with GMP provide updates on the types of drugs found and drug data is maintained to show which drugs are prevalent.

A member of the Board asked how the updates on the plans will be reported to the Board to show they are being maintained. It was reported that substantive

amendments would be reported. Also, the annual review of the Boards recommendations will provide an update. The Board was advised that the plans will be reviewed on a regular basis.

A Board member referred to the use of naltrexone or naloxone to help prevent drug deaths and the need to provide health professionals with the information on the medications. The member asked if a communication could be arranged to highlight this for the benefit health professionals dealing with drug related incidents and offered to contribute to the guidance.

Decisions

The Board:

1. Approve the refreshed Local Infectious Disease Outbreak Management Plan and the new Drug Related Incident Response Plan.
2. Continue to support the preparedness and response efforts to manage incidents and protect the health of residents and staff in Manchester.
3. To note the offer of help and guidance for health professionals on the naltrexone and naloxone medications.

HWB/25/04 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) - Antimicrobial Resistance

The Board considered the report of the Director of Public Health that described that Local Health and Wellbeing Boards were responsible for ensuring that a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) was published in line with the statutory requirements set out in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (as amended by the Health and Social Care Act 2012). This paper summarised the content of a new JSNA on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in Manchester. The Director of Public Health reported that the levels of MRSA reported by MFT are still lower than the national average. Also, there is a growing incidence of drug-resistant gonorrhoea at a national level however, there have been no confirmed cases within Manchester.

The JSNA introduced the topic of AMR and explored the issues of consumption of antimicrobials in Manchester and potential evidence of resistance. It goes on to identify current work going on to tackle AMR in Manchester, ending on presenting opportunities for action moving forward. The report also provided seven Opportunities for Action and requested the support of the Board to further strengthen Manchester's commitment to the AMR agenda.

The Opportunities for Action are:

- Gain clarity at a GM level on governance and any devolved responsibilities to the locality (inc. strategic, operational and monitoring of AMR).
- Support the annual World AMR Awareness week.

- Support our Vaccination & Immunisation Programme considering the vital link between the two topics.
- Promote the Antimicrobial Stewardship/Guardian training and increase uptake among our own & partner organisations.
- Explore opportunities to increase resident engagement, including a communications campaign on appropriate antimicrobial use.
- Support the Healthy Schools programme to roll out the e-Bug programme in schools.
- Broaden the mapping exercise to demonstrate how existing work contributes to tackling AMR and promote the use of viewing our work through an 'AMR lens'.

Sophie Black and Leasa Benson presented the report and explained the importance of producing the JNSA and the process used to inform the document. The document presented the current position of AMR within Manchester and the action being taken to tackle AMR.

The Chair invited members to ask questions.

A member referred to the e-Bug programme rollout in schools and the impact of low vaccine take up in school aged children.

The Board was informed that there is no data on the for the rollout of the programme. The e-Bug learning package was introduced during the covid pandemic and the programme was delivered via Teams to school staff and has since been developed for school to incorporate into its learning provision. The learning package includes information for children to think and learn about their own health, including immunisation.

The Chair referred C-Difficile bacteria levels in Manchester between 2003 to 2023 that have remained below the national level and acknowledged the importance of maintaining that position the contribute to the health of Manchester residents.

Officers were requested to provide an overview of Pharmacy First scheme and the data relating to ethnicity level in Manchester. The Board was advised that the Pharmacy First scheme is run at a Greater Manchester level. Data on ethnicity would need to be further researched due to the availability of in-depth data provided in the responses received. Further information on both issues would be provided through a report to a future meeting. The Board was also informed that the breakdown of ethnicity data is also part of a wider discussion with MFT on where data is obtained.

In noting the responses, the Chair requested that a report be submitted to a future meeting to provide an overview of the Pharmacy First scheme. Officers were also requested to produce data on ethnicity relating to instances of Antimicrobial Resistance for inclusion in future AMR reporting or to explain why such data may be difficult to obtain.

A Board member provided a summary of the Pharmacy First Scheme which is a national scheme designed to improve access to care and take the pressure of primary care providers by using pharmacies. The pharmacy is provided with training

and have to follow a protocol in order to prescribe antibiotic and anti-viral medicines for various conditions and infections.

The referred to the work of the Director of Health and the Place Based Lead to acknowledge the role they have in developing the use of pharmacies to help to plug the gap of care available to Manchester residents.

Decision

The Board:

1. Note the content of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment on Antimicrobial Resistance.
2. Support the opportunities for action outlined in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
3. To request that a report to provide an overview of the Pharmacy First scheme is presented to a future meeting of the Board.

HWB/25/05 Child Death Overview Panel Annual Report

The Board considered the report of the Deputy Director of Public Health that described that the Manchester Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) reviewed the deaths of children aged 0-17 years of age (excluding stillbirths and legal terminations of pregnancy), that are normally resident in the area of Manchester City.

In line with the Child Death Review: Statutory and Operational Guidance (England) published October 2018, the CDOP had a statutory requirement to produce a local annual report which provided a summary of the key learning and emerging trends arising with the aim of preventing future child deaths.

The report provided a summary of the key factors and modifiable factors for cases closed between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024 (45 deaths notified and 55 cases reviewed). Details of the four recommendations made by the Manchester Child Death Overview Panel were included in the Annual report submitted.

The Chair referred to the data and the of detail for wards and asked officers if this could be included. The Board was advised that due to the low numbers per ward, it may be possible to identify a child and so this was not included in the report. The data from a number of years could be considered as a way of not identifying an individual.

The Chair referred to the Safe and Healthy Beginnings Plan and asked if the report had been submitted to the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee (CYPSC). Reference was also made to the "Room to Breathe" project to remove cigarette smoke from the home where children are present and the good work ongoing to achieve this.

The Board was informed that the Safe and Healthy Beginnings Plan will be submitted to the CYPSC. The Director of Health also referred to modifiable factors relating to the maternal obesity and maternal smoking. There has been a positive outcome relating to the “Breath Clear” programme to reduce maternal smoking rates in the Greater Manchester area which has influenced the national programme. The Board was advised that a refresh was ongoing with partners to the action plan on reducing maternal obesity to produce an integrated health approach to include other health related factors that may also affect people who are obese.

The Chair invited questions from the Board.

A member asked how figures have changed over years and what related factors contribute to them.

The Director of Public Health reported that there has been a worsening trend in the infant mortality rate over the past ten years and the gap between the Manchester level of health inequality and national average has widened showing a clear link between deprivation and socio-economic disadvantage.

Decision

The Board noted the report and endorsed the recommendations included in the Annual report.

HWB/25/06 Manchester NHS Foundation Trust (MFT) Health Inequalities and Prevention Update Report

The Board considered the report of the Chief Medical Officer, Manchester NHS Foundation Trust that highlighted the progress made during 2024 on the health inequalities and prevention agendas at MFT and how this work contributed towards the priorities identified through the Making Manchester Fairer (MMF) programme.

The report highlighted a number of key organisational developments which would help drive the inequalities and prevention agendas going forwards and outlined a number of key priorities for this work as it progresses through 2025.

Simon Watts presented the report and made reference to:

- changes to governance,
- health literacy improvements,
- marginalised groups,
- prevention and the wider determinants of health,
- priorities for 2025.

The Chair welcomed comments from the Board.

In welcoming the report, a Board member noted that the report looks outwards and reported that within MFT there are a number of forums including staff and a Population Health Committee to provide consider and feedback on the way health services can be improved.

Members referred to the importance of working in a joined-up approach to help provide positive outcomes. Reference was made to the success of the appointment of a Consultant in Public Health and the referral pathway for families attending children's health services and are experiencing damp and mould conditions in their homes. The scheme has proved to be essential in addressing poor housing conditions to improve children's and family health.

Decisions

1. The Board Acknowledge the content of the report and the progress to date.
2. To note the comments received.

HWB/25/07 Making Manchester Fairer - Update on implementation of Health and Wellbeing Board recommendations from 2024

The Board considered the report of the Director of Public Health that provided provides a brief summary of the papers received by the board during the 2024 calendar year, an update on progress relating to recommendations made.

The Chair requested that the Age Friendly Manchester report should return to the Board for consideration.

Members requested that further information should be included to show what actions have been agreed and what progress had been made on items.

Decision

1. The Board note the report.
2. The request that the report include an 'actions agreed' column and provide additional detail in the 'progress' column.

HWB/25/08 Katy Calvin-Thomas

The Chair informed the Board that Katy Calvin-Thomas is leaving her position as Chief Executive of the Manchester Local Care Organisation.

The Chair, on behalf of the Board thanked Katy for her good work in the Manchester Local Care Organisation and for her contributions to the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board and wished her every success in her future role.