



Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Date: Wednesday, 22 July 2020

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Virtual meeting - Webcast at
https://manchester.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/485326

Advice to the Public

The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

Under the provisions of these regulations the location where a meeting is held can include reference to more than one place including electronic, digital or virtual locations such as internet locations, web addresses or conference call telephone numbers.

To attend this meeting it can be watched live as a webcast. The recording of the webcast will also be available for viewing after the meeting has concluded.

Membership of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Councillors –

Sameem Ali, Alijah, Cooley, Hewitson, T Judge, Kilpatrick, Lovecy, McHale, Madeleine Monaghan, Reeves, Reid, Sadler, Stone (Chair) and Wilson

Co-opted Members -

Ms S Barnwell, Ms Z Derraz, Mr L Duffy, Ms J Fleet, Mrs J Miles, and Dr W Omara

Agenda

1. Urgent Business

To consider any items which the Chair has agreed to have submitted as urgent.

2. Appeals

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

3. Interests

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

4. Minutes

5 - 10

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2020.

5. Manchester's Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing - to follow

6. 5-Year Social Care Workforce Strategy - to follow

7. Children and Education Services response to COVID-19 - to follow

8. Overview Report

11 - 18

Report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit

This report provides the Committee with details of key decisions that fall within the Committee's remit and an update on actions resulting from the Committee's recommendations. The report also includes the Committee's work programme, which the Committee is asked to amend as appropriate and agree.

Work Programming Session

At the rise of formal business, the Committee will meet in private to discuss upcoming issues and challenges in order to determine the work programme for the next three meetings (September to November 2020). Longer-term themes may also be identified in this session.

Information about the Committee

Scrutiny Committees represent the interests of local people about important issues that affect them. They look at how the decisions, policies and services of the Council and other key public agencies impact on the city and its residents. Scrutiny Committees do not take decisions but can make recommendations to decisionmakers about how they are delivering the Our Manchester Strategy, an agreed vision for a better Manchester that is shared by public agencies across the city.

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee reviews the services provided by the Council and its partners for young people across the city including education, early years, school standards and valuing young people.

In addition to the elected members the Committee has seven co-opted member positions. These are:

- Representative of the Diocese of Manchester – Vacant
- Representative of the Diocese of Salford – Mrs Julie Miles
- Parent governor representative – Ms Samantha Barnwell
- Parent governor representative – Dr Walid Omara
- Parent governor representative – Ms Zainab Derraz
- Secondary sector teacher representative – Mr Liam Duffy
- Primary sector teacher representative – Ms Joanne Fleet

The co-opted members representing faith schools and parent governors are able to vote when the Committee deals with matters relating to education functions.

The Council wants to consult people as fully as possible before making decisions that affect them. Members of the public do not have a right to speak at meetings but may do so if invited by the Chair. If you have a special interest in an item on the agenda and want to speak, tell the Committee Officer, who will pass on your request to the Chair. Groups of people will usually be asked to nominate a spokesperson. The Council wants its meetings to be as open as possible but occasionally there will be some confidential business. Brief reasons for confidentiality will be shown on the agenda sheet.

The Council welcomes the filming, recording, public broadcast and use of social media to report on the Committee's meetings by members of the public.

Agenda, reports and minutes of all Council Committees can be found on the Council's website www.manchester.gov.uk

Smoking is not allowed in Council buildings.

Joanne Roney OBE
Chief Executive
3rd Floor, Town Hall Extension,
Manchester, M60 2LA.

Further Information

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

Rachel McKeon
Tel: 0161 234 4497
Email: rachel.mckeon@manchester.gov.uk

This agenda was issued on **Tuesday, 14 July 2020** by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit, Manchester City Council, Level 3, Town Hall Extension (Lloyd Street Elevation), Manchester M60 2LA

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2020

This Scrutiny meeting was conducted via Zoom, in accordance with the provisions of the The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

Present:

Councillor Stone – in the Chair
Councillors Sameem Ali, Alijah, Cooley, Hewitson, T Judge, Kilpatrick, Lovecy, Madeleine Monaghan, Reeves, Reid and Wilson

Co-opted Voting Members:

Ms Z Derraz, Parent Governor Representative
Dr W Omara, Parent Governor Representative

Co-opted Non Voting Members:

Mr L Duffy, Secondary Sector Teacher Representative

Also present:

Councillor Bridges, Executive Member for Children and Schools

Apologies:

Councillor Sadler
Ms S Barnwell, Parent Governor Representative
Ms J Fleet, Primary Sector Teacher Representative

CYP/20/19 Councillor Sue Murphy

The Chair paid tribute to Councillor Sue Murphy, who had recently passed away, and the Committee paused to reflect on her life.

CYP/20/20 Minutes

The Chair noted that an update had been requested about the work to address the issues arising from the decision to close Newall Green High School, including progress in finding new school places for the affected pupils, and asked that this be provided to Committee Members.

Decisions

1. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2020.
2. To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Ofsted Subgroup held on 22 January 2020.
3. To request that an update on the work to address the issues arising from the

decision to close Newall Green High School, including progress in finding new school places for the affected pupils, be circulated to Committee Members.

CYP/20/21 Children and Education Services response to COVID-19

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services which provided an update on the impact, progress and response of schools, children and education services to the presenting challenges of COVID-19, with a specific focus on the support being provided to Manchester's schools and those children considered to be more vulnerable than their counterparts. The report noted that, through the learning and education system, children were informed about and understood environmental issues and the negative impact of carbon, promoting safe and healthy lives.

The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:

- An update on schools, early years settings, childminders and post-16 providers;
- Initiatives to support children and young people, including the provision of laptops and support to children at transition stages in their education;
- Support for Children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND);
- Free School Meals;
- Support for children who were not currently on a school roll;
- An update on Children's Services, including the impact of lockdown on demand, interface with the Family Court and work to support Our Children and Young People (Looked After Children and Care Leavers);
- The potential impact of COVID-19 on the mental health of children and young people and how this was being addressed; and
- The financial implications of COVID-19.

The Executive Member for Children and Schools recognised the achievements of Council staff and partners, including schools and early years providers, during this challenging time and welcomed the high quality of the data which had been provided to the Executive. He also highlighted the work of the Director of Customer Services and Transaction and her team in putting in place the Manchester Free School Meals Scheme. He reported that, while there had been some positive outcomes from the current situation, such as increased engagement from young people who preferred to communicate via digital means, there were many challenges for the Council and its partners to address. He advised that these included most children not attending school, lower social work referrals and existing issues such as poverty and domestic abuse being exacerbated by the crisis.

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

- Concern about children not being in school, including that there was variation in what support children were getting from their schools and how much learning they were doing at home;
- Concern that mental health issues would increase as a result of the pandemic;

- Preparations for children returning to school;
- Concern that some children and school staff were in a high risk category or lived with someone who was, noting that data indicated that Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups were at higher risk of mortality from COVID-19;
- What progress had been made in providing laptops to pupils who needed them;
- Free School Meals (FSM), including recognising the success of Marcus Rashford's campaign for FSM to be provided to eligible families over the summer holidays and to thank him for using his platform to achieve positive change;
- Concern about the financial impact of the pandemic on Council services if the national government did not provide sufficient financial support to local government; and
- The potential for increased referrals to social services once children returned to school and issues which had arisen or worsened during lockdown were identified and how the Council would manage that increased demand.

A Member highlighted the work that some Councillors were doing to support residents during the pandemic, including producing a leaflet about support that was available. She advised that this being distributed to try to reach residents who might not be accessing information online and encouraged other Councillors to do the same. The Chair suggested that the Member circulate the leaflet to other Councillors.

The Deputy Director of Children's Services advised Members that the pandemic and lockdown had not impacted equally on everyone, with some children and families being worse affected by not being able to attend school, by financial problems and other issues such as mental health. He reported that Children's Services expected to see an increase in referrals once children returned to school and needed to plan for this. He drew Members' attention to the information in the report on the mental health services available to children and young people. He advised Members that there had been an increase in eating disorders during the lockdown which was putting a pressure on the support services.

The Director of Education reported that the Council and schools were still waiting for government guidance on how schools could safely re-open to all pupils in September; however, she advised Members that her service had already been discussing this with schools and colleges. She informed Members that schools and colleges wanted to have all pupils attending school, not just some year groups, either full-time or on a part-time basis, using a blended learning approach. She reported that schools were currently working with "bubbles" of 15 pupils who did not mix with other pupils in the school but that in future the bubbles might potentially be increased to a full class. She highlighted that secondary schools and colleges faced additional challenges as pupils were studying different combinations of GCSE and A-Level subjects but needed to stay in a bubble with one group of students. She informed Members that a lot of work had taken place to develop home learning, for example online lessons, and that schools needed to continue to work on that offer, particularly as there could be another spike in virus transmissions or a case of COVID-19 within a school requiring a class to self-isolate for two weeks. She advised Members that there would also be some children who could not attend school because they, or

someone in their household, was in a high risk group so the remote learning offer would need to be available for them. She informed the Committee that schools had also been provided with risk assessment forms to complete with individual staff members and that this took into account the risk factors relating to being from a BAME group. She reported that the Council had received 3000 laptops from the national government and 150 from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA). She informed Members that these had been distributed to schools to give out to pupils and that a number of schools had already used their own resources to provide laptops to pupils who were most in need of them. In response to a Member's question, she reported that the government had announced that £650 million would be allocated to schools to support children to catch up on their education and that £350 million would be provided to the national tuition service to provide subsidised tuition but that further detail was still to be announced on how this would work in practice.

The Deputy Director of Children's Services stated that officers shared the concern that there could be an increase in demand for social work services but highlighted that the average social work caseload was currently 17.8 and the progress in the Council's social worker recruitment campaign, both of which, he advised, provided some assurance of the capacity to cope with increased demand. He also reported that increased use of technology during the pandemic, for example, use of virtual meetings, had highlighted some efficiencies which could be adopted longer term. A Member requested a report at a future meeting on social work recruitment, including the impact of this recruitment on caseloads and information on how cases were allocated and responded to. The Executive Member for Children and Schools suggested that this include information on the recent recruitment campaign, highlighting a video which had been made featuring a current Manchester social worker.

Decisions

1. To express concern about the financial impact of the pandemic on Council services and recognise the importance of the government providing financial support to local councils.
2. To thank Council staff and partners, including schools and early years providers, for their hard work.
3. To write to Marcus Rashford to thank him for using his platform to campaign for eligible families to receive Free School Meal vouchers over the summer holidays.
4. To request a report at a future meeting on social work recruitment, including the impact of this recruitment on caseloads and information on how cases are allocated and responded to.

CYP/20/22 Attainment and Progress 2019

The Committee received a report of the Director of Education which provided an analysis of the 2019 outcomes of statutory assessment at the end of the Early Years

Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2, Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. The report also included a summary of performance according to groups by ethnicity.

Officers referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:

- Early years outcomes;
- Primary school outcomes;
- Secondary school outcomes;
- Post-16 outcomes;
- Outcomes by groups, including disadvantaged children, those with English as an Additional Language (EAL), Our Children, children with SEND and children by ethnicity; and
- Next steps.

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

- That GCSE and A-Level results for 2020 would be based on teacher assessments as no examinations would be taking place, noting that the situation had been made more challenging by the move from modular assessments to a system where results were based on final examinations at the end of the course, and concern that pupils from BAME groups could be negatively affected due to unconscious bias;
- How the Council could support schools to have a more inclusive curriculum that represented all communities in the city, commenting that this should not just be restricted to Black History Month; and
- Request for an update on work to ensure young children were school ready.

The Head of Schools Quality Assurance and Strategic SEND outlined how GCSE and A-Level results would be assessed, which involved schools sending two pieces of each student's work to the examination board, along with the grade they expected they would have received and a list ranking all students entered for that subject. She advised Members that the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) was standardising grades against schools' historic performance and that this was concerning for Manchester schools which had previously been failing but were now on a strong improvement journey. She reported that attainment data was analysed by ethnicity and that this would continue with the 2020 results.

The Director of Education informed Members that there was some very good practice in Manchester of ensuring that the curriculum was relevant to all communities and that the data analysis of outcomes by ethnicity would be used to identify schools which had good practices and share that learning across the city. The Executive Member for Children and Schools informed Members that discussions were currently taking place on how issues relating to Black Lives Matter and racial equality could be better addressed and that further information on the Council's response could be provided to the Committee at a later date.

The Director of Education reported that the Council was involved in the Greater Manchester plan to improve school readiness but that a lot of young children had not been in early years settings over the past few months due to COVID-19, although

schools were now able to re-open to nursery children. She advised the Committee that the Council had been working to address this, for example, providing learning materials to the families of two-year-olds who were eligible for the free two-year-old early years offer; however, she reported that the money that the government was providing to schools to enable pupils to catch up on missed learning did not include support for early years. In response to a Member's question, she reported that COVID-19 had placed an additional financial strain on early years settings, particularly as many parents were not yet sending their children back to these settings, and that work which had started prior to the pandemic on addressing financial challenges in this sector would be resumed.

Decision

To note the report.

CYP/20/23 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.

The Chair informed Members that a decision had not yet been made about when the next meeting would take place but that Members would be informed.

A Member highlighted some of the Committee's previous recommendations to which Members had not yet had a response and, while recognising the current pressure on officers, asked that a date be agreed by which a response would be provided.

Decisions

1. To note the report.
2. To request that a date be agreed by which officers would provide a response to the three recommendations which had been on the recommendations monitor for over a year.

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee – 22 July 2020

Subject: Overview Report

Report of: Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit

Summary

This report provides the following information:

- Recommendations Monitor
- Key Decisions
- Items for information
- Work Programme

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to discuss the information provided and agree any changes to the work programme that are necessary.

Contact Officer:

Name: Rachel McKeon
Position: Scrutiny Support Officer
Tel: 0161 234 4997
Email: rachel.mckeon@manchester.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

Background Documents (available for public inspection):

None

1. Monitoring Previous Recommendations

This section of the report contains recommendations made by the Committee, responses to them, if they will be implemented, and if it will be, how this will be done.

Date	Item	Recommendation	Action	Contact Officer
5 September 2017	CYP/17/40 School Place Planning and Admissions	To request further information on the number of siblings who have been allocated places at different schools.	A response to this recommendation was circulated to Members by email on 9 July 2020.	Michelle Devine, Interim Head of Access
6 November 2018	CYP/18/55 Promoting Inclusion and Preventing Exclusion	To request that information on the final destination of pupils who attended the Secondary PRU following permanent exclusion be circulated to Members of the Committee.	A response to this recommendation was circulated to Members by email on 2 July 2020.	Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education
8 January 2019	CYP/19/05 Youth and Play Services	To request the needs analysis ranking information for the 32 wards in Manchester.	A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be circulated to Members by email.	Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education
9 October 2019	CYP/19/39 Skills for Life	To request that the Council work to ensure that, as far as possible, all settings are involved in Skills for Life, including independent schools, and that officers look into how Skills for Life could be incorporated into the contracts when Our Children are placed in non-Council-owned residential settings.	A response to this recommendation will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report.	Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education
6 November	CYP/19/46 Ghyll Head	To recommend that officers look into how Ghyll Head could	A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported	Neil Fairlamb, Strategic Lead

2019	Outdoor Education Centre	be used by families whose children are on the edge of care.	back to the Committee via the Overview report.	(Parks, Leisure, Events and Youth)
6 November 2019	CYP/19/46 Ghyll Head Outdoor Education Centre	To request that consideration be given as to how Members and the Friends of Ghyll Head can be engaged in the work of the Stakeholder Board.	A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report.	Neil Fairlamb, Strategic Lead (Parks, Leisure, Events and Youth)
6 November 2019	CYP/19/47 Youth Strategy and Engagement	To request demographic information on the young people accessing youth services, particularly the youth hubs, including by ward.	A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report.	Neil Fairlamb, Strategic Lead (Parks, Leisure, Events and Youth)
6 November 2019	CYP/19/48 Youth and Play Services - Young Manchester	To request that clear information on the availability of toilet facilities, for example, in park cafes, be included on signage in parks.	A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report.	Neil Fairlamb, Strategic Lead (Parks, Leisure, Events and Youth)
5 February 2020	CYP/20/11 The Council's Updated Financial Strategy and Budget reports 2020/21	To request a short note in a future Overview Report on the tendering process for the Educational Psychology service.	A response to this recommendation will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report.	Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education
4 March 2020	CYP/20/16 Improving Children's Outcomes Through Collaboration	To request further information on how the Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust is dealing with smoking around its hospital sites and to note that the Executive Member	A response to this recommendation will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report.	Paul Marshall, Strategic Director of Children and Education Services

	and Working in Partnership in a Locality	for Children and Schools will circulate a briefing note on work that is already taking place to address smoking in pregnancy.		
24 June 2020	CYP/20/20 Minutes	To request that an update on the work to address the issues arising from the decision to close Newall Green High School, including progress in finding new school places for the affected pupils, be circulated to Committee Members.	A response to this recommendation will be circulated to Members of the Committee.	Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education
24 June 2020	CYP/20/21 Children and Education Services response to COVID-19	To write to Marcus Rashford to thank him for using his platform to campaign for eligible families to receive Free School Meal vouchers over the summer holidays.	A response to this recommendation will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report.	Rachel McKeon, Scrutiny Support Officer

2. Key Decisions

The Council is required to publish details of key decisions that will be taken at least 28 days before the decision is due to be taken. Details of key decisions that are due to be taken are published on a monthly basis in the Register of Key Decisions.

A key decision, as defined in the Council's Constitution is an executive decision, which is likely:

- To result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates, or
- To be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the city.

The Council Constitution defines 'significant' as being expenditure or savings (including the loss of income or capital receipts) in excess of £500k, providing that is not more than 10% of the gross operating expenditure for any budget heading in the in the Council's Revenue Budget Book, and subject to other defined exceptions.

An extract of the most recent Register of Key Decisions, published on **10 July 2020** containing details of the decisions under the Committee's remit is included below. This is to keep members informed of what decisions are being taken and, where appropriate, include in the work programme of the Committee.

Register of Key Decisions:

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Officer Contact
Capital Investment in schools Ref: 2016/02/01D The approval of capital expenditure in relation to the creation of school places through new builds or expansions.	City Treasurer (Deputy Chief Executive)	Not before 1st Mar 2019		Business Case	Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education a.corcoran@manchester.gov.uk
Schools Capital Maintenance Programme for 2020/21 Additional Works (2020/05/29A) The approval of capital expenditure for a programme of work designed to address condition needs identified in the Council's estate of maintained schools, funded by a capital grant from the DfE.	City Treasurer (Deputy Chief Executive)	Not before 27th Jun 2020		Checkpoint 4 Business Case	Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education a.corcoran@manchester.gov.uk
Young Manchester Funding (2019/12/06A)	City Treasurer	Not before 4th Jan 2020		Manchester Youth Offer	Lisa Harvey Nebil lisa.harvey-nebil@manchester.gov.uk

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Officer Contact
To finalise the contract value for the continuation of funding to Young Manchester	(Deputy Chief Executive)			Strategy	
Youth Offer Strategy (2019/12/11B) To agree a Youth Offer Strategy for the next 3 years and complete the production of the strategy document	Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods)	13 Jan 2020		Manchester Youth Offer Strategy	
Q20347 Consultant for EYES data Migration. 2019/04/25A Contract is to support Manchester City Council with the migration of their Education Management System away from Capita One towards the Liquidlogic EYES solution.	City Treasurer (Deputy Chief Executive)	Not before 1st Jun 2019		Report and Recommendation	Jon Nickson j.nickson@manchester.gov.uk

**Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme – July 2020**

Wednesday 22 July 2020, 10.00am (Report deadline Friday 10 July 2020)				
Item	Purpose	Executive Member	Strategic Director / Lead Officer	Comments
Manchester's Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing	In light of the proposal for the Council to reinvest £500k that was committed to CAMHS to responding to the needs of children with high/complex needs, to consider the scope of the revised CAMHS specification, locality transition plan and the benefits and impact for Manchester's looked after children and care leavers.	Councillor Bridges	Paul Marshall/Darren Parsonage	See January 2020 minutes Invite Mental Health Champion and Chair of Health Scrutiny Committee
5-Year Social Care Workforce Strategy	To receive a report on the 5-Year Social Care Workforce Strategy	Councillor Bridges Councillor Ollerhead	Paul Marshall	Invite Chair of the Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee
Children and Education Services response to COVID-19	To receive an update following the report which was submitted to the 24 June meeting.	Councillor Bridges	Paul Marshall	
Overview Report	The monthly report includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information.		Rachel McKeon	
Work Programming Session	The meeting will close for a work programming session where members determine the work programme for the next few months.		Rachel McKeon	

Wednesday 2 September 2020, 10.00am (Report deadline Thursday 20 August 2020)				
Item	Purpose	Executive Member	Strategic Director / Lead Officer	Comments
Overview Report			Rachel McKeon	