



Joanne Roney OBE
Chief Executive
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Tuesday, 6 July 2021

Dear Councillor / Honorary Alderman,

Meeting of the Council – Wednesday, 14th July, 2021

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held at 10.00 am on Wednesday, 14 July, 2021, in Exchange Hall, Manchester Central Convention Centre, Windmill Street, Manchester, M2 3GX.

1. The Lord Mayor's Announcements and Special Business

2. Interests

To allow members an opportunity to declare any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest they might have in any items which appear on this agenda; and record any items from which they are precluded from voting as a result of Council Tax or Council rent arrears. Members with a personal interest should declare that at the start of the item under consideration. If members also have a prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest they must withdraw from the meeting during the consideration of the item

3. Minutes

To submit for approval the minutes of the Annual meeting held on 19 May 2021.

7 - 12

4. Notice of Motion - Pay Day Loans

This Council notes:-

The rising cost of living and falling incomes is causing genuine problems to people with their finances. This has become much worse in the last eighteen months, due to the pandemic. More and more people are falling into debt due to zero hours contracts, and then going to the likes of payday loans etc. Those who borrow from high-cost credit companies, on average borrow £326 per month. The interest paid on this money is punishing rates of up to 5,800% APR . Many are unable to make the repayments and are pushed into a spiral of debt.

We all know that the long-term solution to the problem of pay day loans, must be to increase wages and control the cost of living, so that people are not forced into their arms. In the short term more

needs to be done to give our residents more information about other ways to access credit unions and debt agencies.

Credit Unions offer a sustainable alternative to high-cost short term credit and should be supported by this council. As someone who used to sit on the board of a credit union, I have seen at first-hand how much they can help people who might be struggling with their finances. South Manchester Credit Union and Voyager Alliance Credit Union are just two in Manchester. Credit unions are open to all and are beneficial to all.

This Council resolves:-

- (1) To block access to payday loan websites through any council-controlled IT systems, including libraries and staff computers.
- (2) Where access has been blocked, to display information about pay plan (www.payplan.com) and other free local debt counselling services, and contacts for local credit unions, such as South Manchester CU.
- (3) To promote local credit unions by working with council and external organizations to, for example give cheaper bus tickets to local CU members.
- (4) To restrict the growth of payday loans companies on high streets, using an article 4 direction to take back control of planning permission for conversions of general shops and offices into payday loan shops.

Proposed by Councillor Hughes, seconded by Councillor Clay and also signed (via email) by Councillors Akbar, Azra Ali, Farrell, Kamal, Reid and Wheeler.

5. Proceedings of the Executive

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To submit the minutes of the Executive on 2 June 2021 and 30 June 2021 and in particular to consider:

Exe/21/57 Capital Programme Update

- (1) Recommends that the Council approve the following changes to Manchester City Council's capital programme:
 - Resident and Business Digital Experience (RBDxP). A capital budget decrease of £5.228m funded from borrowing along with a corresponding revenue budget increase of £5.228m funded from Capital Fund.
 - Riverdale Maisonettes. A capital budget increase of £2.856m, funded by an RCCO from the HRA.

Exe/21/64 Capital Programme Outturn 2020/21

Recommend that the Council approve the virements over £0.5m between capital schemes to maximise use of funding resources

available to the City Council (as set out in the appendix to the 30 June 2021 minutes).

Exe/21/65 Capital Programme Update

To recommend that the Council approve the following changes to Manchester City Council's capital programme:

- Highways Services – Patching Defect Repairs Programme 2021/22. A capital budget increase of £4.244 is requested, funded by £0.500m RCCO and £3.744m Grant. A capital budget virement of £1m is also requested, from the Highways Project Delivery Fund budget.
- Neighbourhoods – Library Refurbishment. A capital budget increase of £0.500m is requested, funded by Borrowing.
- Neighbourhoods - New Islington Marina Bridge Works. A capital budget increase of £0.156m is requested, funded by Borrowing.
- Public Sector Housing - Newton Heath High Rise Blocks Improvements. A capital budget increase of £14.113m is requested, funded by an RCCO from the Housing Revenue Account.

6. Questions to Executive Members and Others under Procedural Rule 23

To receive answers to any questions that councillors have raised in accordance with Procedural Rule 23.

7. Scrutiny Committees

33 - 82

To note the minutes of the following committees:

Communities & Equalities	25 May 2021 and 21 June 2021 (to follow)
Resources & Governance	25 May 2021 and 21 June 2021
Health	26 May 2021 and 22 June 2021
Children and Young People	26 May 2021 and 22 June 2021 (to follow)
Environment & Climate Change	27 May 2021 and 23 June 2021
Economy	27 May 2021 and 23 June 2021 (to follow)

8. Proceedings of Committees

83 - 122

To submit for approval the minutes of the following meetings and consider recommendations made by the committee:

Audit	15 June 2021
Constitutional & Nomination Committee	13 July 2021 (to follow)
Health & Wellbeing Board	9 June 2021 and 7 July 2021 (to follow)
Licensing & Appeals	7 June 2021

Planning & Highways

3 June 2021 and 1 July
2021

Standards

17 June 2021

9. **Terms of Office of the Independent Members of the Standards Committee and the Independent Persons** 123 - 126
The report of the City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer is enclosed.
10. **Key Decisions Report** 127 - 132
The report of the City Solicitor is enclosed.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Joanne Roney', written in a cursive style.

Joanne Roney OBE
Chief Executive

Information about the Council

The Council is composed of 96 councillors with one third elected three years in four. Councillors are democratically accountable to residents of their ward. Their overriding duty is to the whole community, but they have a special duty to their constituents, including those who did not vote for them.

Six individuals with previous long service as councillors of the city have been appointed Honorary Aldermen of the City of Manchester and are entitled to attend every Council meeting. They do not however have a vote.

All councillors meet together as the Council under the chairship of the Lord Mayor of Manchester. There are seven meetings of the Council in each municipal year and they are open to the public. Here councillors decide the Council's overall strategic policies and set the budget each year.

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

Members of the Council

Councillors:-

T Judge (Chair), Abdullatif, Akbar, Azra Ali, Ahmed Ali, Nasrin Ali, Sameem Ali, Shaukat Ali, Alijah, Andrews, Appleby, Baker-Smith, Bano, Battle, Bayunu, Bridges, Butt, Chambers, Chohan, Clay, Collins, Connolly, Cooley, Craig, Curley, M Dar, Y Dar, Davies, Doswell, Douglas, Evans, Farrell, Flanagan, Foley, Green, Grimshaw, Hacking, Hassan, Hewitson, Hilal, Hitchen, Holt, Hughes, Hussain, Hutchinson, Igbon, Ilyas, Jeavons, Johns, S Judge, Kamal, Karney, Kirkpatrick, Lanchbury, Leech, Leese, J Lovecy, Ludford, Lynch, Lyons, McHale, Midgley, Mary Monaghan, Moore, Newman, Noor, Nunney, B Priest, H Priest, Rahman, Raikes, Rawlins, Rawson, Razaq, Reeves, Reid, Riasat, Richards, Robinson, Rowles, Russell, Sadler, M Sharif Mahamed, Sheikh, Shilton Godwin, A Simcock, Stanton, Stogia, Strong, Taylor, Wheeler, Whiston, White, Wills, Wilson and Wright

Honorary Aldermen of the City of Manchester –

Hugh Barrett, Andrew Fender, Audrey Jones JP, Paul Murphy OBE, Nilofar Siddiqi and Keith Whitmore.

Further Information

For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact the meeting Clerk:
Andrew Woods
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This agenda was issued on **Tuesday, 6 July 2021** by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit, Manchester City Council, Level 3, Town Hall Extension (Lloyd Street Elevation), Manchester M60 2LA

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Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 19 May 2021

Present:

The Right Worshipful, the Lord Mayor Councillor T Judge – in the Chair

Councillors:

Abdullatif, Akbar, Azra Ali, Ahmed Ali, Shaukat Ali, Alijah, Andrews, Appleby, Baker-Smith, Bano, Battle, Bayunu, Bridges, Butt, Chohan, Clay, Cooley, Connolly, Craig, Curley, M Dar, Y Dar, Davies, Doswell, Douglas, Evans, Farrell, Flanagan, Foley, Green, Grimshaw, Hacking, Hassan, Hewitson, Hilal, Hitchen, Holt, Hughes, Hussain, Hutchinson, Igbon, Ilyas, Jeavons, Johns, S Judge, Kamal, Karney, Kirkpatrick, Lanchbury, Leech, Leese, J Lovecy, Ludford, Lynch, Lyons, McHale, Midgley, Monaghan, Moore, Newman, Noor, Nunney, B Priest, H Priest, Rahman, Raikes, Rawlins, Rawson, Razaq, Reeves, Reid, Riasat, Richards, Robinson, Rowles, Russell, Sadler, M Sharif Mahamed, Sheikh, Shilton Godwin, A Simcock, Stanton, Stogia, Taylor, Wheeler, Whiston, White, Wills, Wilson and Wright

Honorary Alderman of the City of Manchester –

Mrs Nilofar Siddiqi

CC/20/31. The Lord Mayor's Announcements and Special Business - Welcome to Newly Elected Councillors

The Lord Mayor referred to the local elections held on 6 May 2019 and the attendance of newly elected Councillors to their first meeting of the Council and a re-elected Councillor. The Lord Mayor welcomed Councillors Baker-Smith, Bano, Bayunu, Foley, Hilal, Hussain, Hutchinson, Nunney, Robinson and Connolly.

CC/20/32. The Lord Mayor's Announcements and Special Business - Constitutional and Nomination Committee - 18 May 2021

The Lord Mayor informed the Council that he had agreed to the submission of the minutes of the Constitutional and Nomination Committee held on 18 May 2021.

CC/20/33. Election of the Lord Mayor of Manchester

The Lord Mayor invited nominations for the office of Lord Mayor for the forthcoming municipal year.

Councillor Tommy Judge was nominated by Councillor Leese and seconded by Councillor Karney and the Council voted by acclamation.

The Lord Mayor declared that he, Councillor Tommy Judge, was elected Lord Mayor of Manchester for the forthcoming municipal year.

Councillor T Judge then read aloud the Oath of Allegiance and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The City Solicitor then signed the Declaration Book as Proper Officer.

CC/20/34. Appointment of the Deputy Lord Mayor

The Lord Mayor invited nominations for the office of Deputy Lord Mayor for the forthcoming municipal year.

Councillor Donna Ludford was nominated by Councillor Leese and Seconded by Councillor Karney and the Council voted by acclamation. The Lord Mayor declared that Councillor Ludford had been appointed.

Councillor Ludford read aloud the Oath of Office and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invested with the badge of office.

The City Solicitor then signed the Declaration Book as Proper Officer.

CC/20/35. Minutes

Decision

To agree the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 31 March 2021 as a correct record.

CC/20/36. Seniority of Councillors

Decision

The Council noted the revised list of seniority of councillors following the election held on 6 May 2021.

The seniority of the members of the Council as of 12 May 2021 is appended to these minutes.

CC/20/37. Leader of the Council

The Lord Mayor invited nominations for election of Leader of the Council. Councillor Richard Leese was proposed by Councillor Karney and seconded by Councillor Lanchbury.

After the Council voted on this, the Lord Mayor declared that Councillor Richard Leese was elected Leader of the Council.

CC/20/38. Appointment of Committees and Chairs

Councillor Karney, Chair of the Constitutional and Nomination Committee, provided the Council with further appointments and amendments to the nominations made, as follows:

- Executive Standing Consultative Panel – remove Councillors S Judge and Sheikh.

- Environment and Climate Scrutiny Committee – appoint Councillor Flanagan
- Economy Scrutiny Committee – remove Councillor Jeavons
- GM Transport Committee – appoint Councillor Taylor with Councillor Connolly as substitute and appoint Councillor Hassan with Councillor Farrell as substitute
- Greater Manchester Health Scrutiny Panel – remove Councillor Holt and appoint Councillor Butt
- Greater Manchester Audit Committee – appoint Councillor Russell
- Manchester Port Health Authority – appoint Councillor Andrews
- GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committees
 - Economy, Business Growth and Skills – appoint Councillor Stanton
 - Housing, Planning and Environment – appoint Councillor Shilton-Godwin

Decisions

1. To receive the minutes of Constitutional and Nomination Committee held on 18 May 2021.
2. To approve the recommendations made by the Constitutional and Nomination Committee on 18 May 2021 regarding the appointment of chairs and membership of the Council's committees and Lead Members, including the amendments as stated.

CC/20/39. Appointments to the Combined Authority, Joint Authorities and Joint Committees

The Council considered the recommendations made by the Constitutional and Nomination Committee on 15 May 2019 about the Council's appointments to the Combined Authority, joint authorities and joint committees.

Decision

The Council approves the recommendations made by the Constitutional and Nomination Committee on 18 May 2019 for the Council's appointments to the Combined Authority, joint authorities and joint committees, including the amendments as stated.

CC/20/40. Dates of Council meetings

The Council considered the dates of Council meetings for the forthcoming municipal year.

Decisions

1. To agree the following dates of ordinary meetings of the Council in 2021/2022:

Wednesday 14 July 2021	Wednesday 6 October 2021
Wednesday 1 December 2021	Wednesday 2 February 2022
Friday 4 March 2022 (Budget)	Wednesday 30 March 2022

2. To agree that that the Annual Meeting of the Council 2020 will be on 18 May 2022.

Appendix - Members of the Council and their Seniority - 19 May 2021

Seniority by Office

The Right Worshipful, The Lord Mayor

The Deputy Lord Mayor

The Leader of the Council

The Leader of the Opposition* (*There is no current opposition group)

Patrick Karney	Luke Raikes	William Jeavons
Richard Leese	Angeliki Stogia	Sam Lynch
Basil Curley	Shaukat Ali	Sean McHale
Eddy Newman	Joanna Midgley	Majid Dar
Glynn Evans	Afia Kamal	Eve Holt
Susan Cooley	Tina Hewitson	Sam Wheeler
Paul Andrews	Donna Ludford	Ben Clay
Bernard Priest	Sarah Russell	Adele Douglas
Joanne Green	Azra Ali	Gavin White
John Flanagan	Sandra Collins	Fias Riasat
Tom Judge	Yasmin Dar	Jon-Connor Lyons
June Hitchen	John Hacking	Marcus Johns
Abid Chohan	James Wilson	Tim Whiston
Naeem Ul-Hassan	Rebecca Moore	Shazia Butt
John Leech	Mandie Shilton Godwin	Greg Stanton
Andrew Simcock	Emily Rowles	Jade Mary Doswell
Rosa Battle	Dzidra Noor	Amna Saad Omar
Sameem Ali	Basat Sheikh	Abdullatif
Veronica Kirkpatrick	Paula Appleby	Becky Chambers
Luthfur Rahman	Dave Rawson	Julie Connolly** (previous service 2015 - 18)
Suzannah Reeves	Garry Bridges	Marcia Hutchinson
Rabnawaz Akbar	Sarah Judge	Debbie Hilal
Suzanne Richards	Lee-Ann Igbon	Rob Nunney
Julie Reid	John Farrell	Thomas Robinson
Tracey Rawlins	Paula Sadler	Ekua Bayunu
Aftab Razaq	Emma Taylor	Muqqadash Bano
Matthew Strong	Mary Monaghan	Julia Baker Smith
Bev Craig	Mahadi Mahamed	Zahid Hussain
John Hughes	Hannah Priest	Linda Foley
Carmine Grimshaw	Zahra Alijah	
Shelley Lanchbury	Chris Wills	
Joan Davies	Jill Lovecy	
Nasrin Ali	Ali Ilyas	
Ahmed Ali	Annette Wright	

Notes

Seniority is calculated on total aggregated length of service as a member of the Council, **with the exception of** the member marked **.

* The seniority of these members, without previous service as councillors for Manchester, was determined by a ballot conducted by the Lord Mayor on 12 May 2021.

Executive

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 2 June 2021

Present: Councillor Leese (Chair)

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

Also present as Members of the Standing Consultative Panel:

Councillors: Karney, M Sharif Mahamed, Ilyas and Taylor

Exe/21/54 Minutes

Decision

The Executive approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting on 17 March 2021.

Exe/21/55 COVID 19 Monthly Update Report

The Executive received a report of the Chief Executive which took the form of three “situation reports”, one each for the work on the city’s economic recovery, work with residents and communities, and work on the future of the Council itself.

The Executive Member for Health and Care provided a brief update on how Manchester and Greater Manchester was looking to contain the outbreak of the “Delta” variant of Covid19 (formerly known as the Indian variant) and advised that a new Manchester Vaccination Partnership Board had been established.

It was reported that 277,000 residents had now had their first Covid19 vaccination and 161,000 had had their second vaccination.

The Director of Public Health added that the Council was also seeking additional support to assist further with the roll out of the vaccine programme.

Decision

The Executive notes the update.

Exe/21/56 Revenue Outturn Report 2020/21

The Executive considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which report informed Members of the final outturn position for the Council’s revenue budget in 2020/21. It also highlighted the movements from the previous forecast for the year, which was reported to the Executive in February 2021, based on the position as at the end of December 2020.

The Deputy Leader – Finance, outlined the reasons for the variations from what had previously been reported, citing the continued Covid19 pressures on all budgets.

It was reported that whilst having been able to deliver a balanced budget for 2021/22, the Council was still in a precarious situation should Government not bring forward a fair settlement for future years funding.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note the outturn position for 2020/21 as set out in the report.
- (2) Approve the following within the Adult Social Care budget:
 - (a) Transfers of £4.166m and £489k to the corporately held Adult Social Care reserve as outlined in paragraph 36.
 - (b) Transfer of £9.2m to the Integration reserve which is within the S75 pooled budget arrangements, as outlined in paragraph 52.
- (3) Note the Housing Revenue Account position for 2020/21.
- (4) Note the overall General Fund position for 2020/21.
- (5) Approve the use of grants in addition to that already planned, as set out in the report.
- (6) Approve the carry forward requests totalling £1.470m as set out in the report.
- (7) Note the allocation of COVID-19 funding received by the Council in 2020/21.

Exe/21/57 Capital Programme Update

The Executive considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which report informed Members of requests to increase the capital programme, sought approval for those schemes that could be approved under authority delegated to the Executive and requested the Executive to recommend to Council proposals that required specific Council approval

The proposals which required Council approval were those which were funded by the use of reserves above a cumulative total of £2million, where the use of borrowing was required or a virement exceeded £0.500m. These included the following proposed changes:-

- ICT - Resident and Business Digital Experience (RBDxP). A capital budget decrease of £5.228m was requested funded from borrowing along with a corresponding revenue budget increase of £5.228m funded from Capital Fund.
- Public Sector Housing – Riverdale Maisonettes. A capital budget increase of £2.856m is requested, funded by an RCCO from the HRA.

The report then went on to detail the proposals that did not require Council approval which were funded by the use of external resources, use of capital receipts, use of reserves below £2million, where the proposal could be funded from existing revenue budgets or where the use of borrowing on a spend to save basis was required. These included:-

- Adults – Stepping Stone Capital Works. A capital budget increase of £0.187m was requested, funded by Capital Fund.

- Neighbourhoods - Galleries' Collection Housing. A capital budget increase of £1.870m was requested, funded by Capital Receipts.
- ICT - Strategy improvements to infrastructure and resilience. A capital budget decrease of £0.879m was requested and approval of a corresponding transfer of £0.879m to the revenue budget, funded by Capital Fund.
- Children's Services – Externally Funded Works to Schools. A capital budget increase of £7.597m was requested, funded by Government Grant.
- Highways Services – HS2 Specialist Support. A capital budget decrease of £0.047m was requested and approval of a corresponding transfer of £0.047m to the revenue budget, funded by Capital Fund.

The report highlighted that there have been increases to the programme totalling £2.981m as a result of delegated approvals since the previous report to the Executive on 17 March 2021.

It was also reported that if the recommendations were approved, the General Fund capital budget would increase by £6.356m across financial years, as detailed in Appendix 1. This would also result in an increase in the prudential indicator for Capital Expenditure in corresponding years. Monitoring of all prudential indicators was included within the Capital Monitoring Report during the year.

It was commented that Manchester City Council was in the top three Local Authorities in the country for its investment and commitment to building affordable homes and was well on track to meeting its target of 6,400 council properties by 2026

It was suggested that the Officers made appropriate arrangements to publicise the positive impact this investment in access to good quality affordable housing was having on residents in the city.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Recommends that the Council approve the following changes to Manchester City Council's capital programme:
 - Resident and Business Digital Experience (RBDxP). A capital budget decrease of £5.228m funded from borrowing along with a corresponding revenue budget increase of £5.228m funded from Capital Fund.
 - Riverdale Maisonettes. A capital budget increase of £2.856m, funded by an RCCO from the HRA.
- (2) Approves the following changes to the City Council's capital programme:
 - Stepping Stone Capital Works – A capital budget increase of £0.187m, funded by Capital Fund.
 - Galleries' Collection Housing – A capital budget increase of £1.870m, funded by Capital Receipts.
 - Strategy improvements to infrastructure and resilience – A capital budget decrease of £0.879m and corresponding transfer of £0.879m to the revenue budget, funded by Capital Fund.
 - Externally Funded Works to Schools – A capital budget increase of £7.597m, funded by Government Grant.

- HS2 Specialist Support – A capital budget decrease of £0.047m and corresponding transfer of £0.047m to the revenue budget, funded by Capital Fund.
- (3) Note increases to the programme of £2.981m as a result of delegated approvals.
 - (4) To note virements in the programme of £1m as a result of virements from approved budgets.
 - (5) Request that Officers make appropriate arrangements to publicise the positive impact the Council's investment in access to good quality affordable housing was having on residents in the city.

Exe/21/58 Health and Social Care S75

The Executive considered a joint report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, Executive Director Adult Social Services and City Solicitor, which recommended the approval of a new section 75 agreement between Manchester City Council and Manchester University Foundation Trust (MFT) for the delivery of integrated community health and adult social care services by the Manchester Local Care Organisation.

The agreement would enable strengthened integrated working in neighbourhoods and further progress the ambitions for the city set out in the Our Manchester Strategy and Our Healthier Manchester Locality Plan.

If approved, the Council would delegate its adult social care functions to MFT in order to strengthen integration of community health and social care. This would build on the existing partnership arrangements set out in the 2018 Partnering Agreement. The adult social care workforce was already deployed into MLCO, working alongside health colleagues. In 2021/22, health and care budgets would also be aligned rather than pooled.

It was reported that this agreement was for an initial three years with scope to revise any partnership arrangements, either by entering into a pooled budget in future, or by moving other Council services into MLCO and there was also the option for the partners to extend the initial term by agreement.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Approves the Section 75 agreement between Manchester City Council and Manchester University Foundation Trust.
- (2) Delegates authority for final sign-off of the agreement including schedules to the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer and the City Solicitor, in consultation with the Deputy Leader – Finance and Executive Member for Health and Care.

Exe/21/59 Exclusion of the Public

Decision

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

Exe/21/60 Civic Quarter Heat Network Business Case

The Executive considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which sought approval of the Manchester Civic Quarter Heat Network. The report also provided an update on the expected timescales for completion of the project.

Decision

The Executive:-

- (1) Approves the Business Plan for the Civic Quarter Heat Network.
- (2) Note the progress towards completion of the project.

Executive

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 30 June 2021

Present: Councillor Leese (Chair)

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

Also present as Members of the Standing Consultative Panel:

Councillors: Karney, M Sharif Mahamed, Ilyas and Taylor

Apologies: Councillor Akbar

Exe/21/61 Minutes

Decision

The Executive approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting on 2 June 2021.

Exe/21/62 Covid 19 update

The Executive considered a report of the Chief Executive and Director of Public Health, which provided an update on the COVID-19 situation within the city and the development of the Enhanced Response Area (ERA) Action Plan.

The Executive Member for Health and Care reported that Manchester now had the third highest rate of infections in the country (453 people per 100,000) and it was expected that rates would continue to increase as a result of the Delta variant. She reported that on 8 June 2021, Manchester along with the rest of Greater Manchester and parts of Lancashire were designated as an 'Enhanced Response Area'. This designation built on the experience of Bolton, who had seen a sharp increase in Delta variant cases from the beginning of May and over the past few months had implemented surge vaccination plans and widespread community testing which had helped to bring rates down in the borough.

Manchester had already been working on a targeted Variants of Concern Action Plan with a focus on particular parts of the city. This plan had now evolved into the ERA action plan. The action plan would be implemented over a four week period up to the final stage of the road map on Monday 19 July 2021. The plan incorporated five key workstreams:-

- Targeted vaccination drive;
- Targeted communications and engagement;
- Identifying and breaking chains of transmission (testing, contact tracing and support to self isolate);
- Additional control measures; and
- Mitigating the risk of transmission in Universities.

The Executive Member for Health and Care also reported that 331,000 people in Manchester had now had their first vaccination and 207,000 people had had their second vaccination. She wished to place on record her thanks to all Council staff, health partners and volunteers who had been involved in the vaccination roll out across the city. She highlighted that the recently published Marmot report into health inequalities had highlighted that there had been a 25% higher COVID mortality rate in Greater Manchester which had led to a "jaw-dropping" fall in life-expectancy in the North West with contributing factors identified in the report being "regressive" cuts to public funding since 2010, as poorer areas and those areas outside London and the South experienced proportionately larger cuts.

The Executive Member for Children's Services commented that the findings of the Marmot report had also exposed inequalities in support available to families impacted by COVID. He reported that whilst Government had only very recently announced some further additional funding to support the provision of free school meals during the summer holidays, it had not been enough. He advised that Manchester would not let any of its children miss out on this provision and as such the Council once again would provide additional investment to make this available to every child (who qualified for free school meals in term time) during the summer holidays.

Councillor Karney commented that the Marmot report had also highlighted that half of the city's wards were in the top 10% of deprivation within the country, which had impacted on many Manchester residents and their ability to deal with the pandemic due to economic inequalities. He called on the new Health Secretary to respond to the Marmot report in advance of the proposed public inquiry into the Governments response to the pandemic.

The Leader noted that the impact on deprived communities had been a consistent theme of the pandemic, with Government's response being "inequality blind". He referenced that improving population health and addressing health inequalities lay at the core of the Our Manchester Strategy and urged Government to listen to the outcome of the Marmot report and take real action in its commitment to helping the Manchester region "build back fairer".

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note the update.
- (2) Support the Enhanced Response Area Action Plan.
- (3) Place on record its thanks to all Council staff, health partners and volunteers who have been involved in the vaccination roll out across the city.

Exe/21/63 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 Executive Member for Environment highlighted the work that was being undertaken as part of the Council's commitment to the city becoming zero carbon by 2038, citing the introduction of three neighbourhood climate change officers to help communities across Manchester reduce their carbon footprints.

The Executive Member for Housing and Employment highlighted the investment the Council continued to make in its social housing stock and commitment to delivering more affordable homes, reporting that the Council was on track to deliver 7,775 affordable homes by 2025 against a target of 6,400.

The Chief Executive also commented on the Council's continued commitment to apprenticeships against the backdrop of a 47% reduction in apprenticeship offers nationally due to the impact of Covid19.

Decision

The Executive note the update.

Exe/21/64 Capital Programme Outturn 2020/21

The Executive considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which informed Members of the of the capital outturn position for 2020/21 including total expenditure and funding. The report confirmed that funding sources had been managed to best utilise resources available to fund the capital programme. A revised capital programme for the 2021/22 financial year after taking into account the final outturn position was also reported.

The main changes to the programme since the report to Executive in February 2021 were as follows:-

- Highways – £1.4m to be moved into 2021/22 to be used against the future programme due to evening and weekend work not required due to the quiet road network;
- Neighbourhoods – £5.1m to be reprofiled into next financial year for the delivery of six Electric Refuse Collection vehicles;
- Strategic Development – £6.7m into future years reprofiled into future years due to negotiations on the finer details of certain clauses within the Northern Gateway project taking longer than anticipated;
- Our Town Hall Project – £4.6m to be reprofiled into next financial year due to unspent contingency in 2020/21 and a number of work packages starting on site later than originally anticipated;
- Public Sector Housing - £1.5m across the Northwards Programme to be accelerated into 2020-21 due to better progress being achieved than originally anticipated; and
- SEN programme – £1.5m to be reprofiled into next financial year due to the contractor for the Roundwood Road project overestimating their spend profile in the early stages of the works and setbacks due to COVID19.

The final spend position for the Capital Programme in 2020/21 was £335.7m compared to a revised budget of £373.3m.

The Deputy Leader (Finance) commented that whilst the outturn position for the 2020/21 financial year was relatively high when compared to the average outturn of £266m over the past three years, this represented the continued significant investment in Manchester with over 220 live projects progressing during the year, a major achievement given the impact of the pandemic.

The Deputy Leader (Finance) also commented on the focus within every capital programme project on social value and delivering benefits for Manchester people, in terms of job creation, apprenticeship opportunities and provision of affordable homes.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer supported the comments made by the Deputy Leader (Finance) and highlighted the ambitious capital programme for 2021/22 with a proposed budget of approximately £480m.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Recommend that the Council approve the virements over £0.5m between capital schemes to maximise use of funding resources available to the City Council set out in Appendix B.
- (2) Note the outturn of capital expenditure 2020/21 was £335.7m.
- (3) Note the changes to the outturn attributable to movement in the programme that occurred after the previous monitoring report to Executive in February 2021.
- (4) Approve virements under £0.5m within the capital programme as outlined in Appendix B.
- (5) Note the decisions of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer regarding the funding of capital expenditure in 2020/21 including the use of £98.8m Grants and Contributions, £21.4m Capital receipts, £34.7m Revenue funding and £180.8m borrowing.
- (6) Note the revised capital programme for 2021/22 shown in Section 9 and Appendix D.

Exe/21/65 Capital Update Report

The Executive considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which informed Members of requests to increase the capital programme. The report also sought approval for those schemes that could be approved under authority delegated to the Executive and asked the Executive to recommend to Council proposals that required specific Council approval.

The proposals which required Council approval were those which were funded by the use of reserves above a cumulative total of £2million, where the use of borrowing was required or a virement exceeds £0.500m. These included the following proposed changes:-

- Highways Services (Patching Defect Repairs Programme 2021/22) – a capital budget increase of £4.361m in 2021/22 and £0.883m in 2022/23, funded by £0.500m RCCO, £3.744m Grant and a capital budget virement of £1m from the Highways Project Delivery Fund budget;
- Neighbourhoods (Library Refurbishment) – a capital budget increase of £0.500m in 2021/22 is requested, funded by borrowing;
- Neighbourhoods (New Islington Marina Bridge Works) – a capital budget increase of £0.156m in 2021/22 is requested, funded by borrowing; and
- Public Sector Housing (Newton Heath High Rise Blocks Improvements) – a capital budget increase of £0.492m in 2021/22, £9.128m in 2022/23 and £4.493m in 2023/24, funded by an RCCO from the HRA.

The report then went on to detail the proposals that did not require Council approval which were funded by the use of external resources, use of capital receipts, use of reserves below £2million, where the proposal could be funded from existing revenue budgets or where the use of borrowing on a spend to save basis was required. These included:-

- Highways Services (Harpurhey and Moston – Junction and Crossings) – a capital budget increase of £1.170m in 2021/22 and £0.001m in 2022/23 funded by external contribution; and
- ICT (Future Council Discovery - Infrastructure and Application Hosting) – a capital budget decrease of £0.390m in 2021/22 and a corresponding transfer of £0.390m to the revenue budget, funded by Capital Fund.

The report highlighted that there had been increases to the programme totalling £0.075m as a result of delegated approvals since the previous report to the Executive on 2 June 2021 and if the recommendations in the report were approved, the General Fund capital budget would increase by £19.794m across financial years. This would also result in an increase in the prudential indicator for Capital Expenditure in corresponding years.

It was also reported that an offer of £2.75m was submitted on an unconditional basis to convert Buglawton Hall, a former residential special school located in Congleton, Cheshire (acquired on 6 December 1950 and held freehold by the Council) back into a single private residence had been received and in the opinion of officers, this represented best consideration under S.123 of the Local Government Act 1972. It was noted that any proposed disposal of former school playing field land and non-playing field land held by a Local Authority required the consent of the Secretary of State under S.77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Academies Act 2010. Therefore, an application for such consent would need to be progressed and successfully obtained prior to exchanging contracts on any disposal.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Recommends that the Council approve the following changes to Manchester City Council's capital programme:
 - Highways Services (Patching Defect Repairs Programme 2021/22) – a capital budget increase of £4.361m in 2021/22 and £0.883m in 2022/23, funded by £0.500m RCCO, £3.744m Grant and a capital budget virement of £1m from the Highways Project Delivery Fund budget;
 - Neighbourhoods (Library Refurbishment) – a capital budget increase of £0.500m in 2021/22 is requested, funded by borrowing;
 - Neighbourhoods (New Islington Marina Bridge Works) – a capital budget increase of £0.156m in 2021/22 is requested, funded by borrowing; and
 - Public Sector Housing (Newton Heath High Rise Blocks Improvements) – a capital budget increase of £0.492m in 2021/22, £9.128m in 2022/23 and £4.493m in 2023/24, funded by an RCCO from the HRA.

- (2) Approves the following changes to the City Council's capital programme:-
 - Highways Services (Harpurhey and Moston – Junction and Crossings) – a capital budget increase of £1.170m in 2021/22 and £0.001m in 2022/23 funded by external contribution; and
 - ICT (Future Council Discovery - Infrastructure and Application Hosting) – a capital budget decrease of £0.390m in 2021/22 and a corresponding transfer of £0.390m to the revenue budget, funded by Capital Fund.

- (3) Accept the offer for the disposal of Buglawton Hall, on a without prejudice and subject to contract basis, and subject to successfully obtaining the required consent from the Secretary of State to dispose of former school playing field land and non-playing field land. The disposal would not include the requirement to undertake any schedule of works to facilitate the proposed use.

- (4) Approve the disposal of the freehold interest as the property is located outside of the City and as agreed by the Chief Executive holds no strategic importance to the Council. The proposed use as a single residential dwelling also indicated the Leasehold Reform Act would eventually become applicable, resulting in a freehold disposal in any event.

- (5) Approve the delegation of the necessary authority to the City Solicitor to complete and finalise the contractual documentation regarding the disposal.

- (6) Note increases to the programme of £0.075m as a result of delegated approvals.

- (7) Note virements in the programme of £16.931m as a result of virements from approved budgets.

Exe/21/66 Early Years - Tendered Day-care settings

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director for Children and Education Services, which outlined a set of proposals to support the continued provision of high quality Early Years settings across the City. The report specifically provided an overview of the impact of the current Early Years tendered day care model (whereby providers offer day-care from a Council owned building), on the Council's duty to oversee sufficient day-care for pre-school children across Manchester; the Early Years Budget and ongoing maintenance of Early Years buildings which remained part of the corporate estate.

The Executive Member for Children's Services welcomed the report, referencing the lack of government investment for providers of early years settings to enable stability within the early years sector. In essence he advised that the report sought to take ownership of the buildings, provide suitable investment and renegotiate the leases, putting stability and quality at the heart of the service.

The Strategic Director for Children and Education Services advised that report had been considered by the Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee and Children and Young Peoples Scrutiny Committee, with both committees fully endorsing the recommendations.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Note 17 of 37 leases have been surrendered since December 2015 and the potential impact on the council's ability to meet its 'sufficiency duty'.
- (2) Note the continued negative budget implications on the Early Years budget which continues even if the status quo is maintained.
- (3) Approve the recommendation for the use of each building moving forward.
- (4) Approve the re-negotiation of the current leases by corporate estates with day care providers, making clear the responsibility of the lease holder and the corporate landlord in the re-negotiated lease.
- (5) Support the proposal to include the Early Years estate portfolio in the Council's future Asset Management Programme, at an estimated cost of £0.7m per year.
- (6) Approve a budget increase of £3m, funded by capital receipts, to fund the priority works

Exe/21/67 Armed Forces Covenant Annual Report 2020/21

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services (SMT Armed Forces Champion), which detailed the 2020/21 Annual Report in respect of the Council's pledges under the Armed Forces Covenant and its associated Action Plan.

The Deputy Leader (Human Resources) commented that the report reaffirmed the Council's commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant, recognising the immense contribution and sacrifices that those in the Armed Forces make. The Covenant also ensured that the Council was committed to providing all the services that Armed Forces personnel and veterans required to help with reintegration with civilian life. He went on to highlight the good work that had been done since the resigning of the Covenant in 2019 and despite the challenges that the pandemic presented.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Recognise the progress made during the period 2020/21.
- (2) Note the government's intention to legislate to place the covenant on a statutory basis.
- (3) Endorse and support the priorities for 2021/22.

Exe/21/68 Manchester's Year of the Child

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director for Children's and Education Services, which set out proposals to dedicate 2022 to celebrating the successes of Manchester's children and young people and supporting their recovery from the impact of Covid19.

The Executive Member for Children's Services commented that COVID had brought some key concerns that must be addressed before they became entrenched and hinder, or even prevented the progress of our children and young people. Children and young people since March 2020 had had to contend with significant disruption to their routines, social development, education and learning opportunities, leaving many feeling uncertain about their future.

The Executive Member for Children's Services reported that Manchester had many reasons to be proud of its children and young people. Their resilience and achievements in the face of the COVID pandemic was something to be celebrated and the proposed Manchester Year of the Child aimed to do this, and more. By dedicating a year to a city-wide campaign of listening and acting together, the Council would seek to proactively work with and 'call to action' its family of schools, early years settings, the public, private and voluntary sector to work closely together in a focused and purposeful way to listen to what children and young people were saying and act together to create a comprehensive offer of activities, experiences and opportunities with the creativity, innovation, pride and passion that was synonymous with Manchester

In addition, during the next 12 months Manchester would engage with UNICEF to progress its 'expression of interest' to participate in the Child Friendly Cities and Place Programme and ultimately awarded 'Child Friendly' accreditation

A steering group would be established which would be chaired by the Executive Member for Children's Services and made up of key strategic leaders to work alongside the business, public and voluntary community sector to shape, drive and oversee the delivery of key activities and develop the leaving of a legacy that places children at the heart of Manchester for years to come.

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Endorse and promote the dedication of 2022 to celebrating the successes of Manchester's children and young people and supporting their recovery from the impact of Covid19.
- (2) Promote initiatives/programmes within areas of responsibility that create activities, opportunities and celebrate the success of Manchester's children and young people.
- (3) Endorse and support Manchester submitting an expression of interest to become part of UNICEF's Child Friendly City and Communities programme.
- (4) Endorse the inclusion of a section of all reports presented to Manchester's Executive and Scrutiny Committees identifying the benefits and opportunities for the city's children and young people.
- (5) Request a progress and update report outlining the progress and impact

Exe/21/69 The Lodge - Foyer Model Accommodation

The Executive considered a report of the Strategic Director for Children's and Education Services, which outlined proposals for the development of a property into foyer model accommodation for up to 30 young people, as part of the Council's commitment to working closely with housing providers and partners to ensure that all care leavers had access to sustainable and affordable accommodation to meet their needs.

The Executive Member for Children's Services commented that the proposal was a positive step change to ensure that all care leavers had access to sustainable and affordable accommodation to meet their needs.

It was reported that the proposed operating model had four key aims:

- Improve the outcomes for our children by providing a quality setting for pathway to independence placements;
- Develop sustainable accommodation to meet the future demand of young people in care, stepping them into independence;
- Reduce the number of children in high-cost long-term residential care at age 17 years; and
- Develop links with sustainable community-based support to ensure young people have access to support when needed.

By introducing this foyer model of accommodation, the Council would increase the choice of sustainable accommodation to meet the future demand of young people in care stepping by them into independence and providing them with skills to share accommodation. It would also result in the reduction of the number of children in high cost long-term residential care at age 17 years by stepping them into pathways to independence earlier.

The report had been considered by the Children and young People's Scrutiny Committee who had endorsed the recommendations

Decisions

The Executive:-

- (1) Endorse the proposals for the development of a property into foyer model accommodation for up to 30 young people.
- (2) Delegate authority to the Strategic Director – Children and Education Services, in consultation with the Executive Members for Children's Services to commission foyer model of accommodation for up to 30 children looked after, delivered by Mosscafe St Vincents.
- (3) Delegate authority to the Strategic Director – Children and Education Services, in consultation with the City Solicitor to negotiate and formalise a ten year agreement with Mosscafe St Vincent , with associated contract clauses to the annual value of £731,500 per annum.

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/21
Project Name	In yr virement proposed	In yr virement proposed	In yr virement proposed	In yr virement proposed
Carriageway Resurfacing		-1,023	-450	
Footway schemes		2,063	200	
Carriageway Preventative		-1,040	250	
Total Highways Programme	0	0	0	0
Open Libraries			105	
Chorlton Library Refurbishment			-105	
Total Neighbourhoods Programme	0	0	0	0
The Factory (Build)		816	235	
St Johns (Public Realm)		-816	-235	
Total Factory Programme	0	0	0	0
Charlestown - Victoria Ave multistorey window replacement and ECW	404			
Environmental works			-5	
Moston Miners Low Rise externals	2			
Environmental improvements Moston corrolites	4			
ENW distribution network (various)	5			
Various Estate based environmental works	8		8	
Delivery Costs	-345		-80	
Harpurhey - Monsall Multis Internal Works	78		40	
Newton Heath - Multies Internal Works	214	173	1	
Higher Blackley - Liverton Court Internal Works	1			
Various - Bradford/Clifford Lamb/Kingsbridge/Sandyhill Court Internal Works		8	10	
Charlestown - Rushcroft/Pevensey Court Internal Works	125			
Collyhurst - Mossbrook/Roach/Vauxhall/Humphries Court Internal Works			67	
Decent Homes mop ups and voids	6			
One off work - rewires, boilers, doors	6			
ERDF Heat Pumps	395	2		
Charlestown - Rushcroft/Pevensey Courts Lift Refurb				
One off type work (rewires/boilers/doors)	23	3		
Fire Risk Assessments	79			

Northwards - Harpurhey 200 Estate Internal Works	48			
Rushcroft and Pevensey Courts Ground Source Heat Pumps	81			
Harpurhey Baths Estate (excl Edward Grant Court) and Cheetham Appleford Estate		-17	-11	
Newton Heath Troydale and Croyden Drive Low Rise Estates	45			
Responsive Investment Works	21			
Retirement blocks various M&E/H&S works		-22	-163	-213
Retirement blocks lift replacement apprentice and edward grant courts				
One off type work such as rewires boilers doors	25			
Delivery Costs	-1,479	-21	-47	-50
Bringing Studio Apartments back in use			-12	
Various Locations - bringing bedsits back into use			12	
Improvements to Homeless Accommodation	54			
Delivery Costs	-50		-4	
Various Locations - Adaptations	74			
Delivery Costs	-26	-25	-19	
Northwards Housing Programme - Unallocated	202	-101	203	263
Total Public Sector Housing (HRA) Programme	0	0	0	0
St Peters RC High school expansion	-113			
Basic need - unallocated funds	113			
Abbott Primary School Fencing	8			
Ringway Primary roof	1			
Ringway Primary School	1			
Crumpsall Lane - Electrical rewire	-108			
Mauldeth Rd Rewire	15			
Button Lane Primary Fire Alarm	-6			
Charlestown Comm Fire Alarm/Lighting	-5			
Northenden Primary Pipework and Radiators	-44			
Crowcroft Park roof repairs	-1			
Northenden Comm external works	-26			
Abbott Kitchen ventilation	-19			
Manley Park Primary roof repairs	-19			
Schools Capital Maintenance -unallocated	203			
Brighter Beginnings Burnage -Early Years maintenance works	-1			
Community Minded Ltd	23			
Early Education for Two Year Olds - Unallocated	-22			
Total Children's Services Programme	0	0	0	0
New Social Care System	1			

ICT Investment Plan	-1			
Total ICT Programme	0	0	0	0
Total Manchester City Council Capital Program	0	0	0	0

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Council meeting – 14 July 2021**Rule 23. Questions for Executive Members and Committee Chairs**

1. Question from Councillor Wright to the Executive Member for Environment.**Question:**

Can the Executive Member for the Environment please give an update about green screening of the Bentley House estate and St Phillips school in Hulme?

2. Question from Councillor Igbon to the Executive Member for Housing and Employment**Question**

As we start to move out of restrictions what has MCC put in place with partners to offer job opportunities, training, apprenticeship for Manchester residents, especially under 25's & over 50s?

3. Question from Councillor Nunney to the Executive Member for Environment**Question**

On the homepage of the council's website there is a very helpful Covid-19 banner where residents can find the latest guidance, information and support. Could the council implement a similar, prominent and dedicated resource with data showing the progress made towards the council's goal of net zero emissions by 2038? This resource could also provide support and guidance for residents, schools and businesses on how to reduce their emissions and what financial incentives are available for things like retrofitting or solar panel installation, or training and re-training into green economy jobs

4. Question from Councillor Nunney the Leader of the Council**Question**

The council has quite rightly responded to the Covid-19 pandemic as an emergency. Since the pandemic first hit all scrutiny committees regularly look at the impact of the pandemic on their remits. Is any work underway to similarly look at the impact of climate change on issues that fall within the remit of each committee and to do so regularly?

Council meeting – 14 July 2021**5. Question from Councillor Hutchinson to the Deputy Leader with responsibility for Human Resources****Question**

What specific measures are the council putting in place to recruit retain and support a more diverse workforce in Manchester.

6. Question from Councillor Shaukat Ali to the Executive Member for Housing and Employment**Question**

What are the council doing to support residents in my ward, in developments such as the Green Quarter, to ensure the removal and remediation of dangerous cladding, and other identified fire safety concerns?

7. Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods**Question**

What discussions has he and officers of the Council had regarding the covenant on Houghend Fields and how the covenant impacts Council plans to fence off sections of the fields?

8. Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for Environment**Question**

What is the oldest outstanding pothole repair that is still waiting to be fixed in Manchester?

9. Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for Environment**Question**

How many enquiries have been received by the Council in each of the last 5 years regarding whether specific trees are protected by Tree Preservation Orders or are situated within a conservation area?

Council meeting – 14 July 2021

10. Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for Housing and Employment

Question

How many affordable or social homes to rent have been approved in each of the last 6 years in the Didsbury West ward through the planning process, and how many of these have been built?

11. Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for Health and Care

Question

What discussions has she had with the lead commissioner for dental services since becoming Executive Member for Health and Care, and when?

12. Question from Councillor Leech to the Deputy Leader with responsibility for Culture

Question

What is the final overall cost of the Peterloo Memorial, including the design, build and subsequent unsuccessful attempt to make the memorial accessible to all?

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Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2021

Present:

Councillor Hacking - In the Chair

Councillors Azra Ali, Shaukat Ali, Andrews, Chambers, Connolly, M Dar, Douglas, Evans, Grimshaw, Hilal, S Judge, Rawson, Whiston, Wills and Wilson

Also present:

Chief Superintendent Paul Savill, Greater Manchester Police (GMP)

Detective Superintendent Jamie Daniels, GMP

Damian Dallimore, Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)

Apologies:

Councillor Battle

CESC/21/17 Minutes

The Chair informed Members that the Committee would receive the report on the Peterloo Memorial at its next meeting on 22 June 2021.

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2021 as a correct record.

CESC/21/18 Community Safety Partnership Update

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) which provided an update on the work of the Community Safety Partnership with particular focus on serious and organised crime, including gun crime and knife crime.

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

- Tackling crime and antisocial behaviour;
- Keeping children and young people safe;
- Protecting people from serious harm;
- Reducing the crime impact caused by alcohol and drugs;
- Changing and preventing adult offending behaviour; and
- Next steps.

Damian Dallimore from the GMCA informed the Committee about his role, heading the Violence Reduction Programme for Greater Manchester, managing the Violence Reduction Unit, working as Partnership Lead for Challenger, the partnership approach to tackling serious and organised crime, and working closely with colleagues in Children's Services on complex safeguarding. He highlighted the focus on early intervention, prevention and working with families to address the root causes of violence, and on partnership working and taking a community-led approach.

Detective Superintendent Jamie Daniels delivered a presentation on the current picture and activities to address firearms discharges and serious organised crime. The main points and themes within the presentation included:

- Summary of confirmed firearm discharges in 2020/21;
- Threat mitigation plan, including multi-agency work;
- Operation Haemus, which resulted in a reduction in serious criminality, particularly firearm discharges; and
- Other outcomes over the previous 12 months.

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

- Public perception of the police and the importance of residents seeing that action was being taken, noting that when people reported incidents such as break-ins, speeding or drug dealing in their area and had difficulty contacting the police on the 101 number or their report was not followed up, they felt it was not being taken seriously and were less likely to report further incidents;
- Issues within specific wards which had been reported to GMP but were still a problem;
- Request for more community police in local areas;
- Tackling antisocial behaviour, noting that this did not just relate to homelessness and street begging;
- How partner organisations worked together;
- To thank GMP officers for their work during the pandemic;
- Action to tackle modern slavery; and
- The forthcoming changes to probation services, supporting people leaving prison and the link between ex-offenders and homelessness.

The Community Safety Lead highlighted the importance of partnership working, particularly in relation to early intervention and prevention. She outlined the local partnership arrangements which were in place in each area, comprising of organisations such as GMP, different Council departments, housing providers and voluntary and community organisations, working together to solve problems in that area. She informed Members that the Community Safety Partnership worked across the whole city, bringing together the strategic leads from those organisations to ensure delivery of the strategy and that there were also strong links with the GMCA, working together and utilising good practice from across Greater Manchester.

The Community Safety Lead informed the Committee that tackling antisocial behaviour was a key priority for the Partnership and outlined some of the work taking place to address this, including encouraging reporting and a Day of Action, advising that a range of partners including GMP, the Council's Neighbourhood Teams and Antisocial Behaviour Team were working together to identify those responsible and action that could be taken in response to it. In response to requests for a breakdown of youth provision across the city and information on organisations funded to undertake preventative work, she advised that she could provide information on youth provision funded through the Community Safety Partnership, although this did not include all youth provision in the city. She advised that this provision was targeted at areas with high levels of antisocial behaviour and crime which impacted on children and young people. She also advised that youth provision was only one

element of this work and cited as other examples the Inclusion Strategy, which aimed to keep children and young people in school, and the Our Manchester Strategy, which she reported, addressed a lot of the underlying issues which led to crime.

Chief Superintendent Paul Savill informed the Committee about the expectations that the newly appointed Chief Constable of GMP was setting out for officers about responding effectively to crime, including the recording of crime, the investigation, safeguarding victims and the victim being satisfied at the end of the process. He reported that the Chief Constable had made clear that this included crimes such as burglaries, vehicle crime and drug supply which affected how safe people felt in their local area. He advised that the new Chief Constable would be looking to have some form of public consultation to enable local people and their representatives to contribute to their local and neighbourhood policing strategy. He highlighted the need to reduce other demands on GMP, particularly responding to reports of vulnerable people, where these were not crime-related, through working with partners to ensure that vulnerable people could access the support they needed while freeing up policing time to undertake the crime recording and investigating activity that the public wanted from GMP. He also referred to improvements in processes to increase efficiency, freeing up resources and officer time. In addition, he highlighted the intake of new police officers and the impact they would have.

In response to a Member's question about domestic abuse, the Community Safety Lead advised that her team produced a regular update for partners about the work taking place in this area and she offered to share this with Committee Members. A Member commented on the wide impact of domestic abuse and advised that it should be referenced within all five priorities of the Community Safety Partnership. The Community Safety Lead informed Members that a consultation was currently taking place about the new Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy, that feedback from Members was being taken into account and that a report on this would be brought to a future meeting when she could discuss further how this linked into other strategies. In response to a question about Prevent, she advised that she would check what information was available that could be shared with the Committee.

The Strategic Head of Early Help informed the Committee that community champions had been recruited to raise people's awareness of modern slavery and the signs to look out for, while work was also taking place with schools to make them aware of signs that children were at risk of exploitation. She advised that the work to tackle modern slavery had particularly focussed on sexual exploitation and criminal exploitation and outlined work that had taken place to disrupt this activity. She informed Members that the Complex Safeguarding Hub had a dedicated focus on the criminal exploitation of children and that two-thirds of requests for support related to children who were vulnerable or at risk of exploitation. She informed the Committee about the national referral mechanism for children who were vulnerable to and had experienced criminal exploitation and about work with partner organisations such as Barnardo's.

In response to a Member's question, Chief Superintendent Paul Savill advised that the firearms discharges in north Manchester were not a result of the migration of activity from south and central Manchester to north Manchester. He outlined some of the work that had been done in areas such as Moss Side, Hulme and Wythenshawe

to reduce firearms discharges and advised that GMP and its partners wanted to replicate this approach in north Manchester. In response to a Member's question about the number of organised crime gangs in areas of north Manchester, Chief Superintendent Paul Savill advised that he could provide this information outside of the meeting to Members. He also agreed for GMP to meet with north Manchester Councillors to discuss how the issues in their areas were being addressed.

The Community Safety Lead welcomed the opportunities presented by the forthcoming changes to probation services to improve services for people leaving prison, including a mentoring service. She advised that education, employment and accommodation were key issues for people leaving prison.

In response to a question from a Member, the Community Safety Lead reported that there had not been a decrease in the number of people accessing the Street Engagement Hub since the Everybody In scheme had ended.

The Chair thanked the guests for their contribution and thanked GMP for the work they did to keep Manchester residents safe.

Decision

To note the report.

[Councillor Azra Ali declared a personal interest as an employee of Change Grow Live.]

CESC/21/19 Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit was submitted. The overview report contained a list of key decisions yet to be taken 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.

CESC/21/20 Exclusion of Press and Public

Decision

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.

**CESC/21/21 Scrutiny Committees' work on cross-cutting themes of the
Our Manchester Strategy**

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided an overview of how cross-cutting themes in the *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025* reset document were to be covered by the scrutiny committees during the 2021/22 municipal year.

Decision

To note the report.

Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2021

Present:

Councillor Russell – in the Chair

Councillors Ahmed Ali, Clay, Hitchen, Lanchbury, B Priest, Robinson and A Simcock

Also present:

Councillor Craig, Deputy Leader

Apologies:

Councillors Davies, Rowles and Wheeler

RGSC/21/21 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2021 as a correct record.

RGSC/21/22 Updated Annual Property Report 2020/2021

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which provided an update on property activity since the last Annual Property Report to Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee in November 2019. The report was an updated version of a report that was prepared for the 9 March 2021 meeting and provided further information on activity across the Development Team and Investment Estate and the Operational Estate up to the current date. The report also included an update on the specific areas requested in the Scrutiny Committee's work programme, including Central Retail Park; future plans and performance of the investment estate in relation to potential income generation; estates rationalisation and work on reviewing the Council's operational estate; the Zero carbon agenda and future developments within the Capital Strategy.

Key points and themes in the report included:-

- Development Team and Investment Estate update, including commercial, city centre, other commercial and employment development, housing, district and town centre, leisure, sport and education development, capital receipts, investment estate, Jacobs contract and asset valuations; and
- Operational Estate and Facilities update, including operational estate activity, Facilities Management Service, Asset Management Programme update, Carbon Reduction Programme, systems and records update, Town Hall Project, future ways of working and estate rationalisation.

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

- Was there any update on the rent review of the airport;
- Press reports which had been critical of land deals made by the Council;
- The likely impact of the pandemic on the use of office buildings;

- When the plans for Wythenshawe Town Centre would be realised; and
- The importance of supporting Emerge/Fareshare in their re-location to a suitable property.

The Head of Development reported that the Council had received an initial response from the airport in relation to the rent review and that officers were working through the information provided and would respond to the airport in the next few weeks. In response to a further question, he clarified that this rent was reviewed on an annual basis.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer advised that the article in the Manchester Evening News had included the Council's response which explained the rationale behind the decisions taken. The Head of Development reported that there were compelling reasons for entering into the transactions referred to and that the research referred to in the press had not gone into sufficient detail, highlighting that in some cases the Council had legal obligations or was receiving a rent from the company concerned. A Member asked if officers would be willing to go through the detail of these transactions with any Members who wanted more information and explanation. The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer agreed and suggested that a session could be arranged for Members. The Deputy Leader highlighted the importance of communicating clearly to Members and the public what the Council was doing with its assets for the benefit of Manchester people. In response to a Member's question about the challenges for people trying to find out information about these transactions, the Head of Development advised that it was partly about the complexity of some of the transactions and the level of detail needed to understand it and also that the Council undertook a lot of transactions and the requests that people submitted for information could be quite generic.

In response to a Member's question about Heron House, the Head of Development informed the Committee that leases had already been completed for all tenancies with the exception of the Barclays Consortium. The Deputy Leader suggested that the Member could be provided with an indicative completion date to give her assurance.

The Director of Inclusive Growth reported that commercial development in the city centre had held up quite well during the pandemic and that, while office space could be configured differently in future, the indications for future growth were positive.

The Deputy Leader agreed to a Member's request that all Councillors be provided with details of how to obtain information in relation to different types of Corporate Property questions.

A Member asked whether the CPAD system would be able to provide some of the information that Committee Members were requesting about specific properties. The Head of Corporate Estates and Facilities reported that this was the case and that training sessions could be provided to Members on using this system; however, he advised that some of the information did require interpretation and that officers were happy to assist Members with this.

The Chair requested greater clarity in future reports on the original approved budgets, the current position on spending and income generated. A Member requested greater clarity in future reports on how “affordable housing” was being defined.

The Head of Development informed the Committee about plans for Wythenshawe Town Centre, including a round 2 Levelling Up bid, looking at how other investment could be leveraged in and recent land acquisitions nearby which provided more options for the area. He advised that, although like other areas it had been affected by the pandemic, it had held up well during this period and the Council was in discussions with the owners about future plans.

In response to a Member’s question about how many car parks the Council still had and how many had been disposed of, the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer advised that she would provide this information after the meeting.

In response to a Member’s question, the Head of Development reported that the rental support policy would be finalised within the next two or three weeks.

The Chair welcomed the range of work outlined in the report and the positive impact on Manchester residents. Regarding the carbon reduction programme, she advised that it would have been useful to see further information on the carbon reduction measures listed, including costs, who had funded them and cost savings. In response to a question from the Chair, the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer agreed that it would be challenging to complete the projects decarbonising heat in 11 Council buildings by September 2021 as the Council had only been informed in March 2021 that its bid for funding for these projects had been successful. The Head of Corporate Estates and Facilities advised that a delivery plan was in place to achieve this although the Greater Manchester Consortium was also working to understand what exactly had to be completed by this deadline. The Chair requested that officers report back on this at an appropriate time. In response to a Member’s question, the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer reported that the Council was working closely with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and Manchester Climate Change Partnership on climate change and highlighted that the successful bid referred to previously had been made as part of a Greater Manchester Consortium.

Decisions

1. To note the report.
2. To note that all Members of the Council will be provided with details of how to obtain information in relation to different types of Corporate Property questions.
3. To note that the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer will provide information on how many car parks the Council still has and how many have been disposed of.

4. To request that the Committee receive an update on the delivery of the projects funded through the Government Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme at an appropriate time.

RGSC/21/23 Re-establishment of the Human Resources Subgroup

The Committee received a report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which sought the Committee's approval to re-establish the Human Resources Subgroup for the 2021/22 Municipal Year and agree its terms of reference.

Decisions

1. To agree that the Chair of Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee chairs the HR Subgroup.
2. To appoint Councillors Ahmed Ali, A Simcock and Robinson to the Subgroup and to note that other Councillors who are not currently Members of this Committee have requested to be appointed to the Committee and also expressed an interest in joining the Subgroup.
3. To agree the terms of reference as set out in the report.
4. To agree the work programme as set out in the report and propose that each meeting has one thematic report and one departmental-based report.

RGSC/21/24 Re-establishment of the Ethical Procurement and Contract Management Subgroup

The Committee received a report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which sought the Committee's approval to re-establish the Ethical Procurement and Contract Management Subgroup for the 2021/22 Municipal Year and agree its terms of reference.

Decisions

1. To agree that the Chair of Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee chairs the Ethical Procurement and Contract Management Subgroup.
2. To appoint Councillors Clay, Lanchbury, B Priest and Robinson to the Subgroup.
3. To agree the terms of reference as set out in the report.
4. To request that the delivery of local employment and training opportunities be incorporated into the work programme.

RGSC/21/25 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations

was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

Decision

To note the report.

RGSC/21/26 Exclusion of Press and Public

Decision

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.

CESC/21/27 Scrutiny Committees' work on cross-cutting themes of the Our Manchester Strategy

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided an overview of how cross-cutting themes in the *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025* reset document were to be covered by the scrutiny committees during the 2021/22 municipal year.

Decision

To note the report.

Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 22 June 2021

Present:

Councillor Russell (Chair) – in the Chair
Councillors Clay, Davies, Hitchen, Kirkpatrick, Lanchbury, B Priest, Robinson, Rowles, A Simcock and Wheeler

Also present:

Councillor Bridges, Executive Member for Children's Services
Councillor Craig, Deputy Leader (Finance)

Apologies: Councillor Ahmed Ali

RGSC/19/28 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2021 were submitted for approval. A Member requested that the information that had been requested at that meeting in relation to Corporate Property (see ref. RGSC/21/22) be circulated to Members at the earliest opportunity. The Deputy Leader (Finance) stated that she would provide this following the meeting.

Decision

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2021

RGSC/19/29 Future Shape of the Council

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which set out the context and background for the Future Shape of the Council Programme, its priority areas of work and benefits to the Council and its residents and how the digital agenda formed a major workstream within the Future Shape programme and how ICT support would be integral to its successful delivery.

Key points and themes of the report included:-

- The Future Council programme objectives and overview of workstreams;
- A detailed introduction to the scope of the digitally integrated council workstream; and
- The role of ICT in the successful delivery of the programme

Some of the key points raised during the Committee's discussions were:-

- An understanding of how the figure of the number of residents who were digitally excluded was arrived at and how was this defined;
- Any digital service needed to be tested from the end user perspective to ensure it was fit for purpose prior to launching;

- The need to prioritise the most deprived wards in the city, noting the experience of residents during Covid;
- The need to work with large national providers to ensure residents were able to access data, noting the positive examples in response to barriers experienced by residents during the pandemic;
- An update was sought on the integration of both health systems and those used by Northwards;
- The CRM system needed to be reviewed to ensure residents could report issues, including the ability to upload photographs and consideration needed to be given to the automatic replies to ensure they were appropriate;
- Premises Licenses were previously available to view online, however they were no longer accessible and was there a reason for this; and
- An update on the timeline and budgets for the delivery of the replacement CRM and SAP systems was requested.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer explained that the report represented a significant programme of change to be delivered in a very challenging financial position. The Deputy Leader (Finance) commented that the report described the ambitions to deliver, noting that there were a number of workstreams to drive this ambition. She stated that this work was not a passive response to continued budget cuts but rather a proactive approach to drive improvements and efficiencies that met the needs of residents.

The Director of Customer Services and Transactions stated that the Digital Agenda was predicated on the needs of residents and improving their access and experience. She described that a Digital Index was being created that collated data from a range of sources that could then be provided at a ward level. She stated that the development of the Digital Index would then assist with the meaningful measurement of progress against an agreed set of criteria. She stated this work was being progressed by the Director of Inclusive Economy and the Manchester Digital Strategy would be reported to the Economy Scrutiny Committee.

The Director of Customer Services and Transactions acknowledged the comment raised by the Member regarding the need to adequately test systems from a user perspective, adding that a number of lessons had been learnt during the pandemic. She stated that it was recognised that systems needed to be appropriate and relevant to the service user and systems should be designed and purchased from the end user perspective. She advised that there was also the requirement to ensure that systems complied with all equalities duties to ensure they were fully accessible.

In response to the specific question relating to premises licenses being available to view online, the Director of Customer Services and Transactions stated that she would investigate this issue following the meeting.

The Deputy Leader (Finance) stated that the Manchester Digital Strategy would include consideration of digital inclusion and she advised that all Members would be consulted and specific ward issues and experiences, such as those raised during the discussion would be captured as part of that process.

The Director of ICT informed the Committee that a significant amount of work and testing was underway to ensure the safe integration of both Health systems and Northwards systems. Regarding the specific question relating to the timeline and budgets for the delivery of the replacement CRM and SAP systems he advised that this would be circulated to all Members of the Committee following the meeting.

The Director of ICT informed the Committee said that work continued to integrate systems across the Council, and IT analysts were working closely with Service Heads to review all systems with the aim of delivering a single view platform that would be device neutral. He advised that the IT department continued to work closely with the estates team, including libraries to ensure the technology and IT facilities were planned and appropriate.

Decision

The Committee note the report and the changes that will be required over the next few years to deliver this important agenda.

RGSC/19/30 Domestic Violence and Abuse Funding

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods), which set out the current funding arrangement for Domestic Violence and Abuse (DV&A) services across Manchester. It highlighted in particular, new investments that the Council was making in 2021/22 to help further support victims and children and tackle perpetrator behaviour.

Key points and themes in the report included:-

- Nationally and locally, it had been acknowledged that funding provision for DV&A services had historically been piecemeal and short term in nature;
- In total the Council funds £2,268,305 in 2021/22 for DV&A services which included contributions from Manchester Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and the Community Safety Partnership;
- In addition to this, it had recently been confirmed that the Council would receive a further £1,652,996 for 2021/22 from central government in relation to new burdens funding. The funding was guaranteed for three years, but funding allocations for 2022/23 and 2023/24 have not yet been set;
- Decisions on how DV&A funding is used going forward will be informed by the Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy Refresh; and
- A key aim of the new strategy would be to work with services, alongside schools, colleges and universities to support them in helping to prevent abuse, intervene earlier and change attitudes

Some of the key points that arose from the Committees discussions were:-

- Further clarification was requested regarding the accommodation that would be provided for males who were the victims of DV&A;
- Further information of the structure and function of the DV&A Partnership Board;

- Noting the ad hoc and piecemeal funding provided by central government to address DV&A was there strategic oversight of the various spending and funding bids across the city;
- Further information was requested in relation to the New Burdens Funding;
- Further information was requested on the Drive programme;
- Work needed to be undertaken with housing providers to ensure that it was the perpetrator of DV&A that was required to leave the family home; and
- What is the overall cost of DV&A to public services.

The Strategic Lead Integrated Commissioning explained that nationally funding to deliver DV&A services was piecemeal and short term and this approach was challenging when designing services. He advised that Manchester had remained committed to investing in DV&A services over the years of austerity which placed the city in a strong position to respond to the Domestic Abuse Act that placed a new duty on local authorities to provide support to victims in refuges and other safe accommodation. He stated that the new Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy for the city was being developed in partnership with the wider public services, communities and residents, and a draft would be available in the summer.

The Domestic Abuse Reduction Manager advised that the DV&A Partnership Board would replace the Domestic Violence Strategy Group and they would meet in July. She advised that the remit and governance arrangements of the Board would be agreed. She informed the Members that this Board would strengthen the existing relationships and develop new ones with a range of partners across the city. She advised that they were currently working with MACC to ensure that there was VCSE representation on the Board. She further advised that the Board would strengthen the understanding and coordination of funding streams across the city to address DV&A and would assist with reducing any duplication of funding bids.

The Domestic Abuse Reduction Manager stated that a recent report published by Safe Lives had calculated the cost of DV&A was £34k per victim and that she would share the report with the Committee for information. She stated that the New Burdens Funding was in addition to the homelessness fund and would be used to establish Domestic Abuse Specialist Support posts that would deliver an enhanced offer in refuge spaces. She stated that the exact details of these posts were still to be determined and that further information would be provided to the Committee at an appropriate time.

The Domestic Abuse Reduction Manager informed the Committee that as previously described the Domestic Abuse Act placed a new duty on local authorities to provide safe accommodation, and this included using dispersed accommodation that was provided through the homeless service. She further made reference to the DV&A project that was being delivered by the LGBT Foundation in collaboration with local housing providers across Greater Manchester. The Chair stated that the Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee would continue to consider and scrutinise the provision of DV&A services provided for different community groups.

In regard to the Drive programme the Domestic Abuse Reduction Manager informed the Committee that Manchester was participating in the national roll out of the programme in the South of the City. She stated that Drive was the Home Office

recommended approach for the management of high-risk high harm perpetrator work and followed a specified model using the Respect accredited standard. She stated this was a multi-agency approach and that an analysis of the impact and outcomes of this programme would be undertaken and the outcomes reported to Members via the appropriate scrutiny committee.

With regard to the issue and the specific case relating to perpetrators of DV&A remaining in the family home the Domestic Abuse Reduction Manager informed the Member that she would discuss this following the meeting.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer stated that she acknowledged the comments expressed by the Committee in relation to the challenges presented by short term funding for such important services. She stated that all options would be considered as part of the budget setting process.

The Chair in concluding this item of business paid tribute to staff and partners working to support all victims of DV&A.

Decision

The Committee notes the report

RGSC/19/31 Nursery Funding

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director for Children and Education Services, which outlined a set of proposals to support the continued provision of high quality Early Years settings across the City. The report specifically provided an overview of the impact of the current Early Years tendered day-care model (whereby providers offer day-care from a Council owned building), on the Council's duty to oversee sufficient day-care for preschool children across Manchester; the Early Years Budget and ongoing maintenance of Early Years buildings which remain part of the corporate estate.

Key points and themes of the report included:-

- Results of stock condition surveys;
- Review of early years buildings within the portfolio;
- Financial implications – revenue and capital;
- Further actions; and
- Support Provided to Early Years Settings During the Pandemic

The report was also being considered by the Children and Young Peoples Scrutiny Committee on 23 June 2021 and Executive on 30 June 2021.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committees discussions were:-

- Central Government had failed to adequately fund early years provision;
- This inadequate funding had resulted in instability across the sector and that was detrimental to both young people and their families;

- Recognising that the report proposed to bring a level of stability to the sector, across the whole of the city;
- Had the Council given consideration to providing direct provision using Invest to Save analysis, noting the importance of early years provision and the impact this had on other services if not adequately catered for;
- Noting that to deliver the required stability in the market a longer term plan was required and what metrics were considered to ensure the provision was adequate to meet the needs of the population;
- Was the reported time period for the retendering of a site commencing to the site being re-occupied typical; and
- Welcoming the proposal that the Council would have landlord responsibilities included within the Council's existing Asset Management Programme.

The Head of Corporate Estate and Facilities advised that the time period for the retendering of a site commencing to the site being re-occupied was typical. He commented that the decision to incorporate landlord responsibilities within the Council's existing Asset Management Programme would strengthen the inspection regime to ensure premises were safe and compliant with all required standards. He commented that this approach would also present the opportunity to invest in and facilitate the delivery of carbon reduction initiatives through the estates management and contribute to the city's carbon reduction ambitions. In response to a specific question regarding the future development of sites for purposes other than day care provision, he advised that there were mechanisms in place to protect those sites.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer referred to the budget decisions that had been taken in 2011 in relation to the delivery model of day care provision in the context of austerity. She added that nationally the direct provider model is not one that was adopted by Local Authorities.

The Executive Member for Children's Services explained that a range of metrics were used to understand the demand on the sector, including the census; the use of provision and where families accessed these from and birth rates. He commented that the report represented a significant amount of work over a period of years and represented an opportunity to strategically improve and strengthen upon the established relationships with providers across the whole of the city. He stated that the renegotiation of leases would provide an ideal opportunity to discuss and progress issues such as sustainability with providers and support the carbon reduction ambitions of the Council. In response to a specific question regarding a breakdown by use of day care he advised that this data was obtained and could be shared outside of the meeting.

Decision

The Committee endorses the recommendations proposed to the Executive, those being:-

Executive are recommended to:

- (1) Note 17 of 37 leases have been surrendered since December 2015 and the potential impact on the council's ability to meet its 'sufficiency duty'.

- (2) Note the continued negative budget implications on the Early Years budget which continues even if the status quo is maintained.
- (3) Approve the recommendation for the use of each building moving forward.
- (4) Approve the re-negotiation of the current leases by corporate estates with day care providers, making clear the responsibility of the lease holder and the corporate landlord in the re-negotiated lease.
- (5) Support the proposal to include the Early Years estate portfolio in the Council's future Asset Management Programme, at an estimated cost of £0.7m per year.
- (6) Approve a budget increase of £3m, funded by capital receipts, to fund the priority works.

RGSC/19/32 Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

A Member requested that the information relating to the Key Decision and Care Homes that had been requested previously be forwarded to the Committee at the earliest opportunity.

Decision

To note the report and agree the work programme subject to the above comment.

Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2021

Present:

Councillor Green – in the Chair
Councillors Curley, Newman, Riasat, Richards, Leech, Hussain and N.Ali

Apologies: Councillors Cooley, Monaghan and Reeves

Also present:

Councillor Midgley, Executive Member for Health and Care
Nick Gomm, Director of Corporate Affairs, Manchester Health and Care
Commissioning (MHCC)

HSC/21/18 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2021 as a correct record.

HSC/21/19 COVID-19 Update

The Committee considered the joint presentation of the Director of Public Health and the Executive Clinical Director Manchester Health and Care Commissioning that provided an update on COVID-19 activity that included the latest available information on data and intelligence.

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

- The Committee paid tribute to the Director of Public Health, his team, all health partners and volunteers for their response to the pandemic;
- Noting the prevalence of Variants of Concern in boroughs within Greater Manchester, did teams work collaboratively across borders to plan and respond to these events as and when they arose;
- A Member commented that government inaction had resulted in the spread of the Indian Variant;
- A view was sought as to the efficacy of Lateral Flow Tests (LFT);
- Why were the vaccination rates in the Piccadilly and Deansgate wards relatively low;
- What work was being done to ensure people with Learning Disabilities and other groups, such as travellers, were vaccinated;
- Information needed to be provided in all languages that were represented within the city; and
- Was data available relating to the number of hospital admissions for those that had not been vaccinated.

The Director of Public Health responded by informing the Committee that Public Health teams did work collaboratively across borders to respond to both existing and

emerging issues to deliver a coordinated response. He reassured Members that the supplies of vaccines remained sufficient across all wards.

The Director of Public Health stated that it was important for all members of the public to observe and adhere to Public Health guidance to mitigate the spread of infection. He further commented that it was the effectiveness of the UK laboratories that undertake genomic sequencing that quickly identified Variants of Concern. With regard to LFTs he stated that supervised tests were more reliable, however as people began to become more used to administering these themselves there was increased confidence that the testing was more effective. He stated that it remained the case that if an LFT provided a positive result the person should undertake a Laboratory PCR test and residents should continue to check for symptoms.

With regard to the relatively low vaccination rates for the Piccadilly and Deansgate wards the Director of Public Health commented that this could be explained due to a relatively high number of young, transient and often unregistered residents.

The Director of Public Health stated that hospitals were looking to collect data in relation to COVID-19 admissions to identify the numbers of those patients who had been vaccinated.

With regard to Learning Disabled citizens and the traveller community, the Director of Public Health stated that there were a number of initiatives that involved working with partners and across borders to engage with different groups and promote the take up of vaccination, similar to those described within the presentation.

The Executive Member for Health and Care reiterated the appreciation expressed by the Committee to the Public Health team, staff working across the NHS and all partners and volunteers in supporting the residents of the city during the pandemic. She stated that it was important to recognise that COVID-19 had not gone away and residents needed to adhere to Public Health advice and guidance to reduce the spread of COVID.

Decision

The Committee notes the report and presentation.

HSC/21/20 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

The Committee noted that it would be discussing the work programme for the forthcoming municipal year in further detail in a private session following the meeting, and that an updated work programme reflecting this discussion would be circulated as normal in the papers for the next meeting.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

HSC/21/21 Exclusion of Press and Public

Decision

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.

HSC/21/22 Scrutiny Committees' work on cross-cutting themes of the Our Manchester Strategy

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided an overview of how cross-cutting themes in the *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025* reset document were covered by MCC Scrutiny Committees during the 2021/22 municipal year.

Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025 had reset Manchester's priorities for the next five years to ensure we could achieve the city's ambitions set out in the *Our Manchester Strategy 2016 – 2025*.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2021

Present:

Councillor Green – in the Chair
Councillors Nasrin Ali, Cooley, Curley, Hussain, Newman, Reeves, Riasat and Richards

Apologies: Councillors Leech and Monaghan

Also present:

Councillor Midgley, Executive Member for Health and Care
Nick Gomm, Director of Corporate Affairs, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Dr Manisha Kumar, Executive Clinical Director Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Mark Edwards, Chief Operating Officer, Manchester Local Care Organisation

HSC/21/23 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2021 as a correct record.

HSC/21/24 COVID-19 Update

The Committee considered the joint presentation of the Director of Public Health and the Executive Clinical Director Manchester Health and Care Commissioning that provided an update on COVID-19 activity that included the latest available information on data and intelligence.

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

- Noting the importance of vaccination, especially for older residents to prevent them from becoming seriously ill if they contracted COVID-19;
- An assurance was sought that the supply of vaccines was sufficient to meet the increased numbers of people coming forward for vaccination;
- What were the reasons as to why the infection rates in Manchester were high;
- Noting that residents were being encouraged to obtain their second jab within eight weeks of having the first, what was being done to manage those who had a second appointment booked in twelve weeks and maybe reluctant to cancel that second prebooked appointment;
- An assurance was sought that Learning Disabled citizens were being supported and encouraged to have their vaccination, including those who may reside in a setting provided outside of Manchester;
- Further information was requested on the Community Champions Fund and how this had been allocated;
- Noting that the issue of trust was vital to ensure all communities access their vaccination;

- Noting that COVID deniers and vaccination hoaxers still existed and what was being done to address this; and
- Was planning underway to be able to deliver a seasonal vaccination booster.

In response, the Executive Clinical Director Manchester Health and Care Commissioning informed the Members that evidence showed that for those people contracting COVID following their second vaccination displayed much milder symptoms that could be safely managed at home. She advised that Manchester had enough vaccine to meet current demand and she encouraged all to obtain their second jab when offered. She described that people are being contacted directly to offer them their second jab with advice and information as to where and when this could be obtained, including the promotion of pop services in addition to the national system and that a helpline had been established to guide residents through this process if required. She advised that people should not delay in getting their second jab and then they can always cancel any prebooked second jab via the national NHS booking system.

In regard to Learning Disabled citizens, the Executive Clinical Director Manchester Health and Care Commissioning advised that all avenues of contact and support were being utilised to maximise and support the uptake of the vaccine. She said that General Practitioners records were being used and all relevant and appropriate teams experience knowledge was used to support this activity. She added that bespoke services such as taxis and specifically managed vaccination sessions in appropriate settings had been provided. The Consultant in Public Health Medicine stated that the Disabled Peoples Engagement Board had also helped coordinate and deliver appropriate key messages surrounding COVID-19.

The Consultant in Public Health stated that the high rates of infection rates in Manchester could be explained by a number of factors including structural inequalities, that Manchester was a densely populated city; larger and extended families living in the same household; a large student population and people struggling to self-isolate due to economic circumstances. She stated that the infection rates continued to be monitored and it was difficult to state if the figure had peaked yet, however she stressed that the vaccination was important to tackle COVID-19.

The Consultant in Public Health stated that initially assisted Lateral Flow Testing had been supported in schools with the results reported to the national recording system, however pupils were now being asked to undertake this at home and upload their own results. She stated that they had witnessed a decrease in the number of reported results which could indicate either the tests were not being undertaken or the results were not being reported. She said that to address this they were seeking to re-establish the supported testing in schools. Officers stated that it was vitally important for all residents to undertake a Lateral Flow Test twice a week and upload the results and to continue to observe all Public Health guidance regarding COVID-19.

In response to the specific question regarding the Community Champion Fund the Consultant in Public Health Medicine provided examples of what this fund had been used to support, such as the COVID chat programme and support for refugees and

asylum seekers and that she would share further information on this fund following the meeting.

The Consultant in Public Health advised the Committee that she was the co-chair of the Covid Health Equity Manchester (CHEM) group and consideration was given as to how different community groups were engaged with around the issue of COVID and the vaccination. She described that it was recognised and understood that the issue of trust and cultural competence was key to meaningful engagement and the use of trusted and credible people within communities helped support this activity. She continued by stating that access to vaccinations had been recognised as a barrier and as a result pop up events had been promoted and delivered in a range of settings, such as faith buildings. She further commented that it was important to listen to and value the views and concerns of people regarding the vaccination and not to meet this dismissively. She described that it was important to share facts and engage with people regarding their concerns, noting that people who had been resistant to the vaccination were beginning to come forward for these.

The Executive Clinical Director Manchester Health and Care Commissioning reported that she had also continued to engage with patients who were initially hesitant and had expressed concerns regarding the vaccination and she reported that she was witnessing patients now taking up the offer.

The Executive Member for Health and Care stated that if Members required any additional information regarding any the work discussed that they could contact her outside of the formal meetings.

The Chair concluded this item of business by thanking all involved with the vaccination programme for their continued hard work.

Decision

The Committee notes the report and presentation.

HSC/21/25 Strategic scene setting

The Committee considered the report and accompanying presentations of the Director of Public Health, the Executive Director Adult Social Services and the Deputy Director Adult Social Services that provided an overview of health inequalities and outcomes in Manchester; an overview of the system wide response with a focus on Manchester's Local Care Organisation and an update on Better Outcomes, Better Lives, the Manchester Local Care Organisation's transformation programme for Adult Social Care.

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

- Whilst welcoming the ambitions of Better Outcomes, Better Lives it was important to ensure that residents in need of care received the most appropriate levels of care;

- A Member provided a personal experience of a family member who received care and stressed the importance of appropriate care and support to enable people to live independently;
- Future update reports should include the voice of the patient experience;
- The role of Carers was very important;
- The COVID-19 vaccination programme had demonstrated the successful delivery of a service through collaborative working and this positive experience and learning should be built upon in other areas of service delivery;

The Executive Director of Adult Social Services stated that the ambition of Better Outcomes, Better Lives was to promote and enable independent living and support residents to continue living in their homes and communities. She stated this would be achieved through a strength based approach to the assessment and commissioning of services, with these were designed and delivered 'with' people as opposed to 'for' people. She stated that despite the budget Manchester had invested in this programme of improvement. She further recognised the comment made regarding the important role of carers and suggested that an update report on the Our Manchester Carers Strategy be submitted to the Committee for consideration at an appropriate time.

The Deputy Director of Adult Social Services noted the comments from the Member regarding the information provided in the slide pack regarding the Initial Impact Assessment and provided clarification on the examples and data provided. In response to a question regarding how the Better Outcomes, Better Lives programme connected to the Our Manchester strategy she stated that this information had been included in the report that had been considered by the Committee at the March 2021 meeting. She further stated that information relating to IMPOWER would be circulated outside of the meeting following comments by a Member.

The Chief Operating Officer, Manchester Local Care Organisation stated that the Local Care Organisation was predicated on Public Health ambitions and targets and Key Performance Indicators were agreed and monitored. He stated that the neighbourhood delivery approach of the Manchester Local Care Organisation built on partnerships and community based strengths and knowledge. He stated that Manchester was leading on this model of delivery when compared to other Local Authorities. He stated that he would share the details of the Neighbourhood Leads with the Committee following the meeting.

The Chair stated that the Committee would welcome the opportunity to further scrutinise the Performance Framework and Quality Impact Assessment and this would be considered when planning future agenda items. She commented that a report on the work of the Integrated Neighbourhood Teams would be included on the Committee's work programme. The Chair further added following comments from the Committee that consideration would be given as to the format and content of the reports.

The Executive Member for Health and Care stated that staff working within the integrated teams were the most valuable resource and key to the successful delivery of Better Outcomes, Better Lives work. She stated that feedback from staff was very positive that reflected improved services to residents. She stated that there were a

series of videos that could be shared with the Committee that highlighted the positive work that had been developed by developing integrated teams and the multi-agency working approach.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Note the report and presentations.
- (2) Recommend that items on the Our Manchester Carers Strategy and an update on the work of the Integrated Neighbourhood Teams be included on the Committee's work programme and these reports shall include the voice of the citizen.

HSC/21/26 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

The Chair recommended that the provision of NHS Dentistry, Primary Care access and NHS recovery that were currently listed as to be scheduled should be considered at the September meeting, and the update report on the work of Covid Health Equity Manchester would be considered at the October meeting.

The Chair stated that the July meeting would have a focus on mental health.

Decision

The Committee notes the report and agree the work programme subject to the above amendments.

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2021

Present:

Councillor Reid – in the Chair

Councillors Abdullatif, Sameem Ali, Alijah, Bano, Collins, Hewitson, Lovecy, McHale and Nunney

Co-opted Voting Members:

Ms Z Derraz, 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

Councillor Foley, Ward Councillor for Didsbury East

Dr Henri Giller, Independent Chair, Manchester Safeguarding Partnership (MSP)

Maria Slater, Director of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

Apologies:

Dr W Omara, Parent Governor Representative

CYP/21/17 Minutes

Decision

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2021.

CYP/21/18 Manchester Safeguarding Partnership (MSP) Annual Report 2019/2020

The Committee received a report of Dr Henri Giller, Independent Chair of the MSP, which detailed the strategic priorities and what MSP had achieved, reported on its annual assurance activity and what had been learnt from practice reviews undertaken where there was a serious incident.

Dr Henri Giller referred to the main points and themes within the report, which included:

- The Partnership Strategic Priorities and the action taken in relation to these;
- The Assurance Function;
- Learning from Practice Review and Improvement exercises; and
- Scrutinising the new MSP arrangements.

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

- Mental health and suicide prevention;
- Training for Members, including on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and on understanding exploitation;
- The importance of a joined-up approach between adult and children's services, where vulnerable adults were parents; and
- How the experiences of minoritised communities was embedded into the work of MSP.

Dr Giller advised that mental health was a priority area for MSP and that significant improvements had been put in place over the past 12 months to better meet the mental health needs of children and young people, citing the M Thrive and i-Thrive initiatives. He reported that one of the potential strengths of the new safeguarding arrangements was that they brought children's and adults' safeguarding under the same partnership and he advised that representatives of the Children's Executive Group and the Adult Executive Group were meeting together and discussing joint strategies and areas of common interest, such as the transition from children's to adult services and complex safeguarding. He outlined some of the challenges, such as the different legislative basis for children's and adults' safeguarding, the capacity of services to meet needs into adulthood and the level of continuity of support over time but he advised that there was an awareness of these issues and a commitment to working to improve them.

Dr Giller reported that there was an operational infrastructure behind the strategic groups referred to in the report and that this engaged with communities to understand the likely impact of proposals and changes. In response to a Member's question, he assured the Committee that work had taken place to look at the impact of the pandemic on working practices and that this learning would be taken forward.

In response to a question from the Chair, Dr Giller reported that the initial self-evaluation exercise had been intended to raise awareness of changes needed and for work with the organisations on how they could make and embed those changes. He advised that the next self-assessment would be followed by an audit of the changes that organisations had committed themselves to. In response to a further question, he reported that different organisations were subject to different regulatory mechanisms, further assurance structures would be available through the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and that MSP was keen to explore additional options such as peer reviews.

The Executive Member for Children and Schools advised that he and the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services arranged training for all Councillors each municipal year, covering topics such as corporate parenting responsibilities and safeguarding. He reported that dates would be sent round shortly for this and that, if Members then wanted further training on specific areas, this could be arranged.

Decision

That the Committee will receive regular reports on the work of the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership.

CYP/21/19 Impact of COVID-19 on children's services in Manchester, including schools, settings and the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)

The Committee received a report of the Deputy Director of Children's Services which detailed the impact and consequence management of COVID-19 across the Children's and Education Directorate. The report had a particular focus on the delivery arrangements and performance of children's services. Acknowledging the requirement to view the support to children as a partnership endeavour, the report also provided an update on schools and CAMHS's ongoing response to the pandemic.

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

- Schools update, including school attendance and Ofsted monitoring visits;
- Early Years update;
- Children's Services, including working practices during the pandemic, contacts with Children's Services, performance management and quality assurance;
- Early Help; and
- Managing the impact of COVID-19 on well-being and mental health.

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

- That individual schools were adopting different practices in response to the current situation;
- Reasons for the variations in school attendance levels;
- Concern that lockdown and learning at home had widened the gap between children from more and less advantaged backgrounds;
- The impact of the pandemic on babies' development; and
- How the Council would support schools if the Indian Variant spread within the city.

The Director of Education informed the Committee that all schools had initially completed risk assessments for COVID-19 which had been reviewed by the Council's Health and Safety Team. She advised that, despite recent changes in national guidelines, the Council was still strongly advising schools to keep the measures from their risk assessments in place, although they did not have any powers to enforce this. In response to a Member's question, she outlined some of the support being offered to Early Years settings and through additional activities to assist children with reaching developmental milestones, noting the impact that the pandemic would have had on the development of many young children, not only those who would have otherwise been identified as having Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). In response to another question, she advised that the strategy for supporting pupils with SEND had remained the same, although there had been a particular focus on school attendance during the pandemic.

The Deputy Director of Children's Services acknowledged the challenges facing new parents during the pandemic, highlighting the information in the report about some of the difficulties they were experiencing. He advised of the importance of providing

socialisation opportunities for children and opening Early Years settings, noting that the city's figures were good for this. He informed Members of a new evidence-based approach to supporting vulnerable people who were new parents or soon to become parents, recognising that having been isolated from support services during the pandemic would have added to their vulnerabilities.

The Executive Member for Children and Schools informed the Committee that, despite the challenges presented by the pandemic, the Council remained ambitious for the city's children. He informed Members about plans for a "Year of the Child" in 2022 and proposed that the Committee receive a report about this at a future meeting.

The Director of Education advised the Committee that school attendance was continuing to improve and was at about 94%. A Member commented that schools having different school holiday dates around Easter would have impacted on attendance levels. The Director of Education advised the Committee that the Council set schools holiday dates based on a set of principles agreed across Greater Manchester but that not all Greater Manchester councils were working to these principles and that this would be looked at again. She also reported that academies and Roman Catholic schools within Manchester did not have to follow the dates set down by the Council. She acknowledged the impact that the pandemic would have had on children's education, noting that pupils in Manchester had been particularly affected due to high infection rates in the city.

In response to a question from the Chair, the Director of Education reported that Ofsted were visiting schools to undertake monitoring visits, focusing on schools which were currently judged as Inadequate or Requires Improvement but would not be carrying out full inspections with new judgements until the autumn term.

The Chair praised the excellent work being carried out through Early Help and Sure Start and suggested that the police be invited to a future meeting, noting the references in the report to domestic abuse.

The Director of Education assured Members that there were already structures in place to support schools in the event of an outbreak of the Indian Variant within the city, due to the situation Manchester had been in in autumn 2020, when infection rates were high. She outlined how different services worked together, the processes in place and the support provided to schools.

Decision

To continue to receive regular update reports.

CYP/21/20 Children and Education Services – Overview and Key Issues

The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services highlighted the Directorate's priorities for the forthcoming year, which were set within the context of the previous year and the impact of the pandemic. He highlighted the impact of the pandemic on children and young people, while recognising the resilience they had demonstrated, in particular the educational gap between more and less fortunate

pupils, the anxiety felt by some young people, the risk of school exclusions as pupils returned to school, the long-term job opportunities for young people and support for children with additional needs. He also referred to the learning opportunities from the ways of working that had been adopted and the way the service has responded during the pandemic. He advised Members that other areas of focus for the forthcoming year were inequality, including the role of climate change, the voice of children and young people, the strengths of the school system, recovering from lost learning, reducing the number of young people Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET), Think Family work in collaboration with the Local Care Organisation, support for children with SEND and the transition of young people to adulthood or adult services. He reported that the Directorate was expecting an Ofsted inspection of its statutory children's services within the next year and was looking at its quality assurance framework, including what was being learnt from auditing activity, how that learning was being taken forward and informing practice and looking at the feedback from children and families. He advised that there would also be a focus on the impact of Troubled families and Early Help and that the service would be contributing to work on family poverty, homeless families and youth violence.

In response to a Member's question, the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services advised that the service had made progress since its last full Ofsted inspection and he proposed that he bring the Directorate's self-assessment of its statutory services to a future meeting. He also recognised the hard work of both Children's Services staff and schools staff during the pandemic. The Chair proposed that the Ofsted Subgroup consider the information in relation to the forthcoming Ofsted inspection. She noted that Members would be having a work programming session at the rise of this meeting where they would discuss further the areas which they wanted to scrutinise over the next year.

Decision

To note the oral report.

CYP/21/21 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.

CYP/21/22 Exclusion of Press and Public

Decision

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.

**CYP/21/23 Scrutiny Committees' work on cross-cutting themes of the
Our Manchester Strategy**

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided an overview of how cross-cutting themes in the *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025* reset document were to be covered by the scrutiny committees during the 2021/22 municipal year.

Decision

To note the report.

Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2021

Present:

Councillor Igbon – in the Chair
Councillors Appleby, Butt, Flanagan, Foley, Hassan, Holt, Jeavons, Lynch, Razaq, Sadler, Shilton Godwin and Wright

Apologies: Councillor Hughes and Lyons

Also present:

Councillor Rawlins, Executive Member for Environment
Councillor Akbar, Executive Member for Neighbourhoods
Jonny Sadler, Deputy Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency
Tom Flanagan, Interim Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency
Mike Wilton, Chair of the Climate Change Partnership

ECCSC/21/01 Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25: latest progress and priorities 2021/22+

The Committee considered the report and accompanying presentation of the Chair, Manchester Climate Change Partnership and the Deputy Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency that provided an overview of progress against the Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25 and priorities for 2021/22+.

The main points and themes within the report included: -

- Providing an introduction and background to the Our Manchester Strategy, the Manchester Climate Change Partnership and the Manchester Climate Change Agency;
- An overview of the Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25 and its four headline objectives and six priority areas for action;
- An overview of citywide progress 2019/20, noting that the latest report was published in July 2020;
- Providing an overview of the Partnership and Agency Progress Summary 2020/21; and
- Describing the various Partnership and Agency Priorities 2021/22+.

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

- Regular progress reports were required to enable the Committee to scrutinise progress against the ambitions to reduce emissions;
- Need to discuss climate change in the context of social justice and ensure that all communications supported the climate change agenda;
- Any communication strategy needed to be appropriate to maximise its reach and influence to all the diverse communities in Manchester;
- The need to articulate the urgency of this issue and that immediate action was required;

- Communities and young people needed to be supported to mobilise and take appropriate actions to tackle climate change;
- The importance of engaging with all communities and stakeholders on this important issue so that a collective response could be delivered;
- The need for the Council to use all levers and spheres of influence to prioritise climate change, including planning policy and enforcement;
- All information that was available to the public, including that available on the Council's website needed to be reviewed regularly to ensure it was accurate and current;
- Education and engagement with young people on the issue of climate change was key; and
- To recognise the need for meaningful and appropriate engagement with residents and communities, noting that those experiencing economic hardships might not prioritise climate change and the options and choices available to them could be limited.

In response to the comments raised by the Committee, the Deputy Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency advised that regular progress reports could be submitted for consideration, subject to the availability of data. However, he stated that as the team was relatively small there was a need to ensure the correct balance was drawn to ensure that they continued to deliver and progress actions. The Chair of the Climate Change Partnership stated that bimonthly RAG rating reports were produced against identified actions and these could be shared with the Committee for information. The Committee welcomed this suggestion.

The Chair of the Climate Change Partnership further commented that the focus on 2025 as a target date ensured that this remained an immediate issue and kept a focus on this important agenda.

The Deputy Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency, stated that he welcomed the role of scrutiny and commented that it provided an opportunity to engage with Members and encouraged them to use their existing knowledge of community groups and networks to drive and support activities and initiatives around this agenda. He further stated that he acknowledged and agreed with all of the comments made regarding communications. He further commented that he acknowledged the comments raised regarding the link between climate change and social justice, stating that work around this issue would be progressed.

The Deputy Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency, stated that the partnership model that had been developed in Manchester was recognised as good practice both nationally and internationally, in particular, he advised, the work to support the Manchester Climate Change Youth Board, whose Manifesto was to be launched in June 2021.

He stated that this partnership approach allowed for honest and constructive challenge to develop and articulate a collective response with a shared responsibility across the city.

The Strategic Director Neighbourhoods stated that it was important to recognise that it was a shared, partnership responsibility to deliver the climate change agenda,

noting that the Council was one of many partners and the Council was responsible for less than 4% of the city's overall direct emissions. She commented that the investment had been made in Climate Change Officers, whose role would be to support the local Neighbourhood Teams with climate change activities.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods further commented that the Neighbourhood Teams, in consultation with the local Members and Neighbourhood Managers, were encouraged to develop Ward Climate Change Plans.

The Chair of the Climate Change Partnership commented that work was always underway to engage and expand the partnership, stating that Age Friendly Manchester were currently in discussions to join. He reiterated the point that it was not the role of one organisation to tackle climate change, but rather a collective responsibility.

The Deputy Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency, acknowledged the comments made regarding the challenges when engaging with residents and he made reference to the Zero Carbon Communities Programme that was being piloted across six communities to deliver and support climate change activities. He added that this work would be a key feature of the 2.0 Framework Consultation and he would welcome all Members' input into that consultation to understand further the barriers experienced. He further commented that planning policy could be used to influence climate change and he made reference to a recent scheme to manage water that had been delivered in West Gorton as a good example.

The Chair thanked the invited guests for attending the meeting and delivering their presentation. She stated that it was everyone's personal responsibility to take action to tackle climate change and she paid tribute to the officers working in partnership in her ward to support and encourage her local community on this important issue. She stated that this and similar examples of good practice should be shared across all wards.

Decisions

The Committee recommend;

1. That all relevant information and data is shared with the Committee at the appropriate time, including the Climate Change Partnership bimonthly RAG rating against actions;
2. That information relating to good practice and climate change is shared across all Neighbourhood Teams; and
3. That the Chair discuss with the Chair of Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee the options for ensuring that climate change and young people was adequately addressed through the scrutiny process.

ECCSC/21/02 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations

was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

The Committee noted that it would be discussing the work programme for the forthcoming municipal year in further detail in a private session following the meeting, and that an updated work programme reflecting this discussion would be circulated as normal in the papers for the next meeting.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

ECCSC/21/03 Exclusion of Press and Public

Decision

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.

ECCSC /21/04 Scrutiny Committees' work on cross-cutting themes of the Our Manchester Strategy

The Committee considered the report of Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided an overview of how cross-cutting themes in the *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025* reset document were covered by MCC Scrutiny Committees during the 2021/22 municipal year.

Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025 had reset Manchester's priorities for the next five years to ensure we could achieve the city's ambitions set out in the *Our Manchester Strategy 2016 – 2025*.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2021

Present:

Councillor Igbon – in the Chair
Councillors Appleby, Butt, Flanagan, Foley, Hassan, Holt, Hughes, Jeavons, Lyons, Razaq, Sadler and Wright

Apologies: Councillors Chohan, Lynch and Shilton Godwin

Also present:

Councillor Rawlins, Executive Member for Environment
Councillor Akbar, Executive Member for Neighbourhoods

ECCSC/21/05 Minutes

The Chair requested that Councillor Chohan's apologies be recorded in the minutes of the previous meeting

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2021 as a correct record, subject to the above amendment.

ECCSC/21/06 Overview of the Parks Strategy

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) that provided an overview of Manchester's Park Strategy and the considerations for the Parks Service following the ongoing impacts of the global pandemic. The report set out the focus for the service over the next 6 months and outlined how momentum is being maintained on the delivery of the strategic themes despite the significant financial challenges caused by a reduction in permitted activity and trading.

The main points and themes within the report included: -

- Providing an introduction and background to the strategy, highlighting the four key themes of the ten-year strategy for Manchester's Parks;
- Noting that progress updates on the delivery of the Park Strategy had previously been reported to the Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee;
- Noting that during the last 15 months the priority for the service had been to maintain safe access to green space for the City's residents;
- An overview of the impact of the pandemic on service delivery;
- The financial impact of the pandemic;
- Information on the Parks Development Programme, that will see £12.5M of Manchester City Council funding utilised to attract new partnerships and support key stakeholder groups to continue to close the gap between operating costs and income raised through enhanced trading activity in parks;

- Plans and initiatives for the next six months; and
- Information relating to a Manchester Quality Standard and the Productive Parks in Partnership fund.

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

- The Committee thanked officers and staff working in parks for their work during the pandemic, noting that the service had undertaken a restructure during this period;
- Noting how important green space had been to residents' health and wellbeing during this challenging period;
- The parks offer needed to be standardised and consistent across all wards;
- Consideration needed to be given to advertising planned events in parks on notice boards at the entrance to parks;
- A report should be provided to the next meeting of the Committee that detailed all of the events planned in parks for the summer period;
- Welcoming the recent positive launch of the wellbeing garden in Didsbury and the positive contribution this would have for residents;
- Was the budget for parks increasing this year as a result of savings made in the previous year due to cancelled events;
- Noting The Year of Childhood, a year-long celebration of childhood running throughout 2021 events should be delivered in parks in those wards that experienced poverty and deprivation;
- Consideration needed to be given to installing individual recycling bins within parks;
- Clarification was sought as to the use of pesticides, particularly the use of glyphosate to manage weeds,
- Access and proximity to parks and green space should be mapped;
- Safety in parks needed to be appropriately considered;
- Sustainable travel to access green spaces should be encouraged and promoted;
- A register should be established that identified who owned and had responsibility for areas of land across the city;
- Cycle routes should be established to enable people to access cycling hubs and other cycling related facilities by bicycle;
- Planning policy should be used to maximise the delivery of green space, noting the successful delivery of the Mayfield scheme;
- Contractors should not use pesticides;
- What consideration had been given to introducing electric vehicles across the parks maintenance fleet;
- Information that was available on the Council's website needed to be regularly reviewed so that all relevant information relating to a ward, including park related information was current and correct; and
- A Member expressed his apologies, on behalf of himself and his fellow ward Councillors for the delays in delivering football pitches in his ward.

In response to discussion and questions the Parks Lead stated that the budget for parks was the same this year as in the previous year. She advised that there are approximately 100plus events per week delivered across parks in Manchester each

week, noting the impact that COVID has had on this programme of activity. She described that park plans had also continued to be developed throughout this period, engaging with residents and community groups. She stated that she welcomed Members comments and contribution to the development of park plans.

The Parks Lead described that The Year of Childhood was an opportunity to build up and deliver activities in parks and encourage young people's participation in park events. She described that a mapping exercise had been undertaken to consider access to parks, primarily around play areas and that Manchester was participating in a national study to understand access to green space. With regard to the issue of access to parks, she stated that generally this was very good however there was a commitment to engage with and work with local community groups and residents to address any barriers and find appropriate solutions. She made reference to the Community Renewal Fund Bid to support this and similar projects.

The Parks Lead continued by stating that one theme of the Park Planning process was to consider the promotion of active travel and how this could be supported such as by the provision of safe cycle parking and storage at correct locations. She further made reference to the Parks In Partnership Fund that allocated £30k per ward that could be bid for and if this was not an appropriate fund to bid for groups would be directed to other available sources of funding.

The Parks Lead stated that the Renewable Energy Team would use feasibility studies to consider all options and actions that could be taken to mitigate climate change, particularly around large scale events.

In response to the comment from a Member regarding his frustration and disappointment regarding the delivery of schemes in his ward, the Park Lead stated that she shared his disappointment and acknowledged that communications with local Councillors regarding the reasons for this needed to be improved, describing this had been as a result of challenges to the investment by external partners, adding further that delays could be experienced due to the complexities presented by specific sites. In regard to the issue of communications around parks and events more widely she stated that she acknowledged the comments raised by the Committee and would take that away from the meeting.

The Parks Lead stated that opportunities to increase the delivery and access to quality green space was considered when new schemes were being developed, making reference to the Mayfield and the Northern Gateway schemes and the positive contributions these would deliver.

In regard to the issue of identifying land ownership and responsibility the Parks Lead stated that access to this data needed to be accessible, adding that the CRM system should direct any enquiries submitted to the appropriate service and team for a response.

The Director of Commercial and Operations advised that glyphosate had not been used in parks since 2019, except in exceptional controlled circumstances when they were required to remove invasive species such as Japanese Knotweed. He stated that Grounds Maintenance who managed the street scene had minimal use of

pesticides and Biffa who were responsible for streets used glyphosate for weed control. He advised that cemeteries did use weed control and alternative methods of weed control were being considered an update report would be provided to the Committee later in the year. The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods stated that if residents in a neighbourhood stated they did not want Biffa to use glyphosate in their neighbourhood this request would be respected.

The Director of Commercial and Operations advised the Committee that currently there was no electric vehicle alternative to those that were required by the parks fleet, however as the market responded to this contracts and commissioning would be used to ensure that such vehicles were used.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods advised that the rubbish that was collected in parks was subsequently sorted for appropriate recycling and acknowledged that this fact needed to be communicated to residents so that they were aware that this was done. He commented that research had shown that where individual recycling bins were installed they had resulted in contamination so needed to be manually sorted in any event.

The Chair commented upon positive engagement in her ward regarding litter picking in parks and paid tribute to the officer who had led on this. She stated this and the many other examples of good practice should be shared across all wards via ward coordination and that she would liaise with the Executive Member to discuss how best this could be coordinated.

Decisions

The Committee recommend:-

1. All planned park events are advertised on notice boards at the entrance to parks;
2. That the Council website should be regularly reviewed to ensure that all information relating to a ward, including park related information was current and correct;
3. A report should be provided to the next meeting of the Committee that detailed all of the events planned in parks for the summer period.

ECCSC/21/07 Resident Engagement and Climate Change

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) that provided a summary of the progress since the three Climate Neighbourhood Officers were appointed in March and April 2021, how they were approaching their roles and initial areas which they had identified for development.

The main points and themes within the report included: -

- Providing an introduction and background, noting that the posts had been established on a 2-year fixed term basis;
- The Climate Change Officers would give advice and direction and ensure that both Councillors and communities had support and information to develop locally based climate change initiatives;

- Describing their key tasks and their approach to work with local Neighbourhood Teams;
- Noting the commitment to strong partnership working and building upon extensive relationships with internal and external stakeholders and residents on the climate change agenda; and
- Identified areas for development.

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

- Welcoming the new Climate Change Officers and wishing them well in their new role;
- Officers needed to engage with local schools to promote and support climate change projects, ideally with a Climate Change Officer allocated to each ward;
- The need to engage with businesses to develop plans and targets to tackle their own emissions and this should be incorporated and reported via the Climate Change Action Plan as this was key to delivering the city's emissions target;
- Were all of the individual ward climate change action plans established;
- There was a need to meaningfully measure the outcomes and impact of the individual ward climate change action plans;
- An update was sought in relation to Carbon Literacy training and could this be brought inhouse to progress and deliver as quickly as possible;
- Was the Neighbourhood Investment Fund sufficient to drive forward this important area of work, noting that the Lottery Fund was significantly higher however complex to access; and
- Examples of good practice and local initiatives related to climate change should be shared across all wards via ward coordination.

The Head of Neighbourhoods stated that the climate change officers would be working with local schools and were members of the Schools Network. She advised that the officers would also progress this work by engaging with local businesses, especially those operating at a neighbourhood level and would seek to establish links with local trader organisations to progress this agenda.

The Chair stated that following discussions at the May 2021 meeting she would be meeting with the Chair of Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to agree the options for ensuring that climate change and young people was adequately addressed through the scrutiny process.

The Head of Neighbourhoods advised that it was recognised that working with a range of partners across the city was vital to deliver the climate change ambitions for the city. She said that these new posts would seek to compliment existing programmes rather than duplicate any existing work. She advised that the work to deliver ward climate change action plans continued to be progressed, noting that some wards had progressed further than others and the Strategic Lead (South) commented that work was underway with the Tyndall Centre to establish metrics by which the impact of each ward plan could be measured and reported. He advised that Members would be kept informed as that work progressed.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods commented that the Neighbourhood Investment Fund was important to help raise awareness and deliver climate change

and environmental projects in wards and he encouraged community groups to apply to this.

The Executive Member for Environment stated that the work of the local Neighbourhood Teams was important to establish relationships and dialogue with a range of partners to progress the actions required to address climate change. She commented that Carbon Literacy had been offered to all Members and encouraged all who had not undertaken this training to do so at the earliest opportunity. A member commented that all members of this Committee should be offered the Carbon Literacy Training in advance of the next meeting of the Committee. The Committee were also informed that the delivery of Carbon Literacy Training would be reported in the Climate Change Action Plan updates.

Decisions

The Committee recommend that Carbon Literacy Training should be offered to all Members of the Committee in advance of the next meeting.

ECCSC/21/08 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

The Committee recommended that report titled 'Planning and its contribution to address climate change' should be brought forward to the earliest possible meeting and this should include consideration of the policy in relation to developers being required to install electric vehicle charging points and the delivery for suitable cycle storage facilities. A request was also made for an item that considered the actions taken to reduce carbon emissions at Manchester Airport including an update on the progress made to reduce aviation related carbon emissions was added to the Work Programme as an item "to be scheduled".

Decision

The Committee note the report and agree the work programme subject to the above comments.

Economy Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 27 May 2021

Present:

Councillor H Priest – in the Chair
Councillors Doswell, Farrell, Johns, Noor and Stanton

Also present:

Councillor Leese, Leader
Councillor White, Executive Member for Housing and Employment

Apologies: Councillor Baker-Smith, Bayunu, Moore and Raikes

ESC/21/23 Minutes

Decision

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2021 were approved as a correct record.

ESC/21/24 Economy COVID-19 Sit Rep Report

The Committee considered the report of the Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure that provided Members with a further update summary of the current situation in the city in relation to COVID-19 and an update on the work progressing in Manchester in relation to areas within the remit of this Committee.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussion were:-

- Were there plans in place to build upon the reported Post Pandemic Business Activity event that had been scheduled for 12 May 2021;
- Suggesting that some of the initiatives introduced as a result of the pandemic, such as the pedestrianisation of specific streets should be made permanent;
- What were the factors contributing to the reported high staff vacancy rates across the hospitality sector;
- Clarification was sought in relation to the planned Transport Hub identified for delivery in the Ancoats area, noting that there appeared to be a lot of misinformation relating to this scheme being circulated;
- Implications of the Queen's Speech in regard to local Planning controls;
- Had appropriate communication with local businesses been undertaken to ensure that they accessed all available support grants during the pandemic; and
- Was there a commitment that local people would benefit from the job opportunities that were created through the delivery of the Co Op Live development in east Manchester.

The Head of Environment, Planning and Infrastructure stated that the delivery of the Ancoats Mobility Hub was aligned to, and an element of, the City Centre Transport

Strategy and contributed to the delivery of Manchester's climate, transport and clean air commitments.

The Director of Inclusive Economy advised the Members that the delivery of the Co Op Live development would deliver employment opportunities for local residents and the developers would be attending a local recruitment event in July to promote this to promote this. In response to the question regarding the hospitality sector contributing factors were Brexit, some people finding alternative employment while venues have been closed, and a reduction in the number of students in the city as a result of the pandemic. She stated that work was underway to understand and assess the impact of these factors. She stated that influence was sought over the hospitality sector to improve terms and conditions with such initiatives as the Greater Manchester Good Employment Charter.

The Director of Inclusive Economy stated that direct contact had been made with local business to ensure that they accessed all means of grant support and local discretionary schemes available during the pandemic, adding this had been undertaken by telephone and letter using the information available on the Business Rates system and these contacts were followed up. In reply to a specific question relating to ESF 'Step Ahead' grants, the Director stated that she would circulate this information following the meeting.

The Leader stated that following the ending of the emergency legislation introduced in response to the pandemic, consideration would be given to making permanent some of the changes to remove traffic from streets and parking arrangements, adding that these would be subject to appropriate consultation. In response to the question regarding planning and the recent announcements in the Queen's speech, the Leader stated that Manchester would continue to retain influence and control over future developments across the city.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

ESC/21/25 Economy Dashboard 2019/20 - Introduction to new Members

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Performance, Research and Intelligence that provided the most up to date metrics on key aspects of the City's economic recovery.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussion were:-

- A contributing factor to the decline in property sales in the city centre could be attributed to the issue of external cladding;
- With regard to the journeys undertaken metrics, was data available for private vehicles; and
- Noting the number of licenses that had been provided to businesses in Manchester allowing them to increase outdoor seating in line with the latest Covid-19 protocols what would happen to these post Covid-19.

The Head of Performance, Research and Intelligence stated that there was a pipeline of schemes designed to deliver and support active travel and transport infrastructure.

The Leader stated that when the emergency legislation was lifted consideration could be given to businesses wishing to continue operating outdoor seating using the existing licensing regime. He further commented that Transport for Greater Manchester did compile data on the various vehicle usage, adding that the reported increased use of public transport was a positive indicator.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

[Cllr Johns declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in this item of business as he is an occupant of a property affected by the external cladding and fire safety issue.]

ESC/21/26 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

The Committee noted that it would be discussing the work programme for the forthcoming municipal year in further detail in a private session following the meeting, and that an updated work programme reflecting this discussion would be circulated as normal in the papers for the next meeting.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

ESC/21/27 Exclusion of Press and Public

Decision

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.

ESC/21/28 Scrutiny Committees' work on cross-cutting themes of the Our Manchester Strategy

The Committee considered the report of Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided an overview of how cross-cutting themes in the *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025* reset document were covered by MCC Scrutiny Committees during the 2021/22 municipal year.

Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025 had reset Manchester’s priorities for the next five years to ensure we could achieve the city’s ambitions set out in the *Our Manchester Strategy 2016 – 2025*.

Decision

The Committee note the report

Audit Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2021

Present:

Councillor Ahmed Ali - In the Chair
Councillors Clay, Lanchbury and Russell

Independent Co-opted member: Dr S Downs

Also Present:

Councillor Craig (Deputy Leader)
Karen Murray (Mazars) - External Auditor

Apologies:

Dr D Barker (Independent Co-opted Member)

AC/21/10 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2021 as a correct record.

AC/21/11 Draft Annual Governance Statement

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer which set out the draft 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement (AGS), which had been produced following completion of the annual review of the Council's governance arrangements and systems of internal control.

For 2020/21, a desktop review of the AGS process had been carried out to identify improvements and efficiencies. A review of good practice had also been undertaken, including comparison with peer authorities. As a result improvements had been identified and implemented with the use of a more concise document template now being used to enable a clearer focus on a high-level summary of the strategic oversight of improvements. The report re-emphasised the Council's commitment to improve transparency of its governance arrangements by ensuring that both the Statement itself and the explanation of the arrangements within it were clear, concise and written in plain, clear language in order to make it as accessible as possible for the lay reader.

The processes that had been followed to produce the draft Statement were outlined in the report and the Committee was asked to note the findings of the 2020/21 AGS as well as the actions proposed to further develop or strengthen elements of the Council's governance arrangements during 2021/22.

The Committee welcomed the draft with particular emphasis to the clear and concise nature of the explanations, which were deemed very helpful.

Decision

To note the draft Annual Governance Statement. .

AC/21/12 Head of Audit and Risk Management Annual Opinion

In accordance with Public Sector Internal Audit Standard 2450, the Committee considered the report of the Head of Audit and Risk Management which presented the annual internal audit opinion on adequacy, effectiveness and delivery of the programme of audit work designed to raise standards of governance, risk management and internal control across the Council over the last year. This included a summary outturn of the work of the Internal Audit Section for the 12 months April 2020 to March 2021.

The report outlined a discussion within the sector regarding the ability within the sector to undertake sufficient internal audit work and produce a reliable independent assurance assessment under current circumstances. As a result, revised guidance had been issued by Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) on the form the opinion may take. The report explained that whilst an opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the organisation's framework of governance, risk management and control had been issued for 2020/21, the impact of the Covid19 pandemic on public services over this period had been considerable and had resulted in significant change to planned priorities in order to focus resources on those critical activities essential to the pandemic response and recovery. As a result, the Head of Audit and Risk Management's approach had been to obtain sufficient assurance to support the annual opinion, considering both internal audit work and other sources of assurance which were outlined in the report.

The Head of Audit and Risk Management provided an opinion of reasonable assurance that the Council's governance, risk and control framework was generally sound and operated reasonably consistently in the year. This was an equivalent opinion to that issued in the previous four years and reflected that overall governance, financial management arrangements and core systems and processes within the Council remained effective despite the myriad of challenges presented by the pandemic. The strength of core governance, risk and control systems and the capability, commitment and agility of the workforce and leadership had been a key factor in enabling deviation from standard ways of working and in providing an effective response and recovery approach during the year. However, risks and issues remained in light of the ongoing pandemic and financial challenges to planned delivery of organisational priorities and strategies as well as backlogs in some core business processes. Those risks would be recognised in recovery and transformation priorities including the Future Shape Programme; as well as in budgets and business plans.

The Chair invited questions and comments from members of the Committee.

The Committee welcomed the issue of an opinion in the current climate. A Member commented that it was good to see that emergency contingency planning had been effective and asked whether any of those revised working practices would be carried forward to influence future practice. The Head of Audit and Risk Management spoke about the strong foundation of work done in previous years and the pace, speed and

agility required to work within the principles of good governance and the legal framework. This, he explained, had been reflected on as an organisation and had led to a changed focus on delivery involving greater collaboration across directorate and partnership working. He also said that use of virtual technology had been an important factor in maintaining the pace of delivery outcomes.

A Member sought assurance on the delivery of post payments of additional government grants and support schemes to businesses (including audit assurance). The Head of Audit and Risk Management expressed confidence in this due to the significant amount upfront activity that had taken place as part of mandatory requirements which lowered the error rate in the validation of payments.

With regard to the placement of Looked After Children, a Member welcomed the ongoing improvements towards greater efficiency and streamlining of core processes for Children's Placement Findings.

Turning to outstanding audit recommendations in respect of Transitions and Mental Health Casework, a Member sought assurance that progress had been made in these areas. It was reported that this matter was in hand and would soon be reported back to a future meeting of the committee.

A Member asked about the current impact and future implications of recent events on audit activity. The Head of Audit and Risk Management said that approximately 25% of formal audit days had been completed with the remainder spent on business grants and other pieces of assurance work. He said that there had been a year end evaluation of what had not been delivered together with an assessment of the associated risk /priority with some refocused activity rolled forward for completion this municipal year.

A Member asked for information on the establishment, composition and remit of the Commercial Board. Officers agreed to bring detailed information on delegations and lines of accountability to a future meeting of the committee.

With regard to the Civic Quarter Heat Network (CQHN) project and the forthcoming completion of the construction phase, a Member noted that recommendations for improvements in governance arrangements had been shared with the Commercial Board and asked if those recommendations could be shared with the Committee. The Head of Audit and Risk Management agreed to this.

Decisions

1. To note the issue of the Head of Audit and Risk Management Annual Assurance Opinion in challenging circumstances.
2. To request that an overview of the function, role and remit of the Commercial Board (Procurement, Contracts and Commissioning) is circulated to Audit Committee members for information.

AC/21/13 Risk and Resilience Strategy and Risk Register

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer and the Head of Audit and Risk Management which presented information on organisational risk management arrangements. The Committee had received its annual update in relation to delivery of Risk and Resilience strategic priorities in October 2020. The report therefore presented a short update on risk management arrangements since the last report as well as an overview of cross-cutting and strategic risks currently being monitored and managed by the Senior Management Team.

The Chair invited Members of the Committee ask questions and comment on the report.

Members noted the overall picture that ten risks had reduced in score and none had increased but were also mindful that the timing of the refresh did not reflect the current COVID infection rate in the city and its associated impact on delivery.

There was a discussion about the reported reduction in risk associated with medium term financial resources. A Member noted that concern about the Council's financial status had previously been reported by the external auditors and sought assurances around the reduction in risk. The External Auditor explained that that opinion had been issued in November 2020 when there was greater uncertainty around funding settlements as notifications from central government are issued at different points of the municipal year. She confirmed that following budget setting there was now increased confidence about the Council's ability to meet its financial commitments and acknowledged the organisation's strong track record of identifying and addressing challenges due to its robust governance arrangements.

As a point of clarification the Committee was invited to note that the identified risk associated with the loss of access to ICT had reduced its rating from 12 to 8 (medium).

Decision

To note the report

AC/21/14 Annual Audit Letter – Year Ending 31 March 2020 Council External Auditor

The Committee considered the Annual Audit letter for the year ended 31 March 2020 which summarise the work undertaken as the external auditor for Manchester City Council (the Council).

In line with the Local Audit and Accountability Act (2014) and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the National Audit Office (NAO), the Audit Letter set out key findings arising from audit activity in the following areas:

- Audit of Financial Statements
- Other information published alongside by the audited Financial Statements

- Value for Money Conclusion
- Reporting to the Group Auditor; and
- Statutory Reporting

The Letter also provided information on the increased fees for additional work undertaken as the Council Auditor around valuations and pensions liability and outlined the implications of recent changes to the Code of Audit Practice (April 2020) in relation to the Value for Money arrangements for the 2020/21 municipal year. It also made reference to the impact of the recent Redmond Review.

Karen Murray (Mazars) introduced the Letter explaining that, under usual circumstances, the findings would conclude the audit work undertaken for the 2019/20 municipal year however this had been delayed. Mazars had yet to conclude their work on the Council's Whole of Government Accounts return due to difficulties with the system that had recently been implemented. As a consequence, the Council had not yet been able to finalise its return due to a number of queries and was awaiting a response from the Treasury. However, Mazars were generally satisfied that proper arrangements were in place.

The Chair invited Members of the Committee ask questions / comment on the Letter.

On seeking assurances around the Council being unable to finalise Whole of Government accounts on time, Ms Murray indicated that the likelihood of penalties was very low since a number of Local Authorities had reported technical difficulties of a similar nature with the new system. She added that Mazar's had confidence in the Authority's position such that the return would be ready for sign off as soon as those technical difficulties were resolved. She explained that the report was largely a repeat of the Audit Completion report that was submitted to the Committee's November 2020 meeting in respect of issuing the Audit Opinion and the Value for Money Conclusion.

The Committee asked about the implications of the recent changes to the Code of Audit Practice. Ms Murray explained that in essence it represented a shift from the binary conclusion to determine whether or not proper arrangements had been put in place. She summarised the change in the Code as meaning that the external auditor will no longer provide a Value for Money conclusion and would instead provide a commentary which sets out all of the work undertaken over the course of the year provides a view on overall arrangements for delivering value for money. From the 2020/21 municipal year onwards, where a significant weakness in value for money arrangements had been identified, auditors would be required to quickly notify Local Authorities of those weaknesses and provide a series of actions to address those weaknesses. Ms Murray confirmed that Mazars remained generally satisfied that proper arrangements are in place based on the work done so far but that this was continuously under review.

There was a discussion about the implications of the Redmond Review and reference to the proposal to create the Office of Local Audit and Regulation (OLAR), which was subsequently rejected by MHCLG . Ms Murray explained that the intention behind OLAR would have been to coordinate and regulate audit practices and achieve better coordination of what is expected, when and by whom to meet the

challenges within the sector. The Committee noted that the matter was currently under consultation for another body as wider government reforms of the audit market.

Decisions

To note the report.

AC/21/15 Audit Strategy Memorandum – Year Ending 31 March 2021

The Committee considered the Council's External Auditors (Mazars) Audit Strategy Memorandum for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The document provided information on

- The audit scope (including group audit), approach and timeline
- Significant risks and key judgement areas
- The extended auditors report; and
- Value for Money

The document discussed national timescales for 2020/21 requiring the Council to produce their draft Group accounts by the end of July 2021 and for the audit to be completed by the end of September 2021, effectively two months earlier than the deadlines agreed for 2019/20.

Mazar's asserted that this timescale would be extremely challenging, particularly given the complexity of the Council's financial statements, the related complexity of their own external audit processes, and the pressure this placed on the Council's finance team to deliver draft financial statements and supporting working papers within the allocated timeframe. On that basis, Mazar's had resolved to complete the Council's audit by November 2021 therefore allowing the Council two additional months to produce the draft Group financial statements and supporting working papers to enable completion of the audit in a well managed and deliverable manner.

The main challenges to meeting the September 2021 timetable were described as:

- The size, number and complexity of the valuations of Council and Group land & buildings and investment properties – this was an area of significant difficulty in 2019/20, and the audit work requires significant information, and assistance, from the Council's three external valuers. The previous year's completion report recommended improvements in the audit trail from the Council's valuers to support the valuations. As a result, Mazar's planned to commence detailed audit activity in that area in July, in advance of the rest of the audit work in order to mitigate the risk of delays in completing the work.
- Completion of audit work by the auditor of GM Pension Fund – Mazar's obtained assurances from the auditor of GMPF on several areas relating to the Council's pension asset and liability. The GMPF audit is planned to be completed by the end of July and at this stage we do not anticipate any delays impacting on the Council's audit completion.

- The timetable does require the Council's draft accounts and working papers to be available for the start of our audit. We have planned our main audit work to commence at the start of September to ensure that sufficient contingency is inbuilt.

Ms Murray said that the Committee would receive a further report in November 2021 which would explain the work that had taken place.

The Committee sought assurances concerning the risk of penalties in not keeping to the national timetable. Ms Murray confirmed that Mazar's were not aware of any sanctions that would apply for the submission of a late Audit opinion. She explained that the new deadline had been set by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) following a consultation in which there had been unanimous supplier concern about the ability to attain a managed position in bringing the timescale forward. She added that in issuing a late opinion she was both confident of achieving a managed situation and the ability to issue in November 2021. Mazar's would work with the Council's Finance team to explain to MHCLG that the opinion was underway but not yet complete and that the complexity of the Council's finances was at the heart of the issue and stressed the importance of doing the right work at the right time for the avoidance of risk.

Decision

1. To note the report and in doing so, note that the external audit opinion will be submitted in November 2021.
2. To note that a further report on audit activity undertaken by Mazar's will be submitted to the Committee's November 2021 meeting.

AC/21/16 Register of Significant Partnerships

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer which provided an overview of the Register of Significant Partnerships in 2020. The report outlined the review and assurance process which had been conducted as part of the annual review. The report focused on the following key areas:

- Any new partnerships which have been added to the Register
- entries recommended for removal
- where the governance strength rating has changed following the introduction of the new four level ratings system
- any partnerships now classed as 'Reasonable' or 'Limited' strength following completion of the latest self-assessment.

The report stated that no new entries had been proposed for 2020; three however were proposed for removal due to either inactivity or in the process of being closed.

Members noted that the majority of partnership were ranked as 'substantial' or 'reasonable and welcomed this. There was a discussion about the ratings for health and social care partnerships which were determined as 'reasonable'. A Member

stressed the importance of ensuring that despite the reasonable rating, such partnerships were kept at the forefront of audit and monitoring activity due to the nature of their work. Officers acknowledged this and confirmed that these would form part of internal audit actions to provide continued assurance to members and health colleagues.

A Member sought more information about the potential insolvency of National Car Parks Manchester Limited and suggested that the partnership should not be removed from the Register until work around consolidation of the account had been finalised. The Head of PMO: Commercial Governance & Directorate Support agreed to circulate additional information on financial aspects outside of the meeting and assured the Committee there were no potential implications for the Council. Officers agreed to keep the item on the Register until all had been finalised.

There was a discussion about the proposed removal of Northwards from the Register. A Member suggested that this partnership should not be removed until all aspects, including the transfer of staff and assurances around service provision for tenants had been finalised. Officers agreed to this.

A Member expressed surprise that no new partnerships being added for the year. The Head of PMO: Commercial Governance & Directorate Support confirmed that nothing had been brought forward for inclusion by the Senior Management Team. However, she also said that there was potential for some further partnerships to be added in a 6 month review. She added that under usual circumstances the review focussed on reasonable or limited partnerships, but this could be extended to include new partnerships as well as updates on those proposed for removal.

There was a discussion about the Manchester International Festival and The Factory and whether this could become a future partnership. Officers acknowledged the interdependencies and the overarching governance arrangements which encompassed both entities. They agreed to bring provide a comprehensive update to the Committee in November 2021.

Noting that a number of recommendations had been made by the Committee in today's meeting, a Member suggested the introduction of a monitor that sits alongside the Committees Work Programme to track the progress /implementation of it decisions. The Head of Audit and Risk Management agreed to collaborate with the Committee Officer to progress this.

Decisions

1. To note the report
2. To agree to the development of a decisions monitor that sits alongside the committee's work programme to track the progress of decisions made and their associated outcomes.

Health and Wellbeing Board

Minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2021

Present:

Councillor Richard Leese, Leader of the Council (Chair)
Councillor Midgley, Executive Member for Adults Health and Wellbeing
Vicky Szulist, Chair, Healthwatch
David Regan, Director of Public Health
Rupert Nichols, Chair, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Ruth Bromley, Chair Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Kathy Cowell, Chair, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Geeta Wadhwa, GP Member (South) Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Bernadette Enright, Director of Adult Social Services
Paul Marshall, Strategic Director of Children's Services
Michael Luger, Chair of the Northern Care Alliance

Apologies:

Dr Murugesan Raja, GP Member (North) MHCC
Katy Calvin-Thomas, Manchester Local Care Organisation
Councillor Bridges, Executive Member for Children's Services
Dr Denis Colligan, GP Member (North) Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Dr Tracey Vell, Primary Care representative - Local Medical Committee

Also in attendance:

Dr Manisha Kumar, Medical Director, MHCC

HWB/21/12 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 March 2021 were submitted for approval.

Decision

To agree as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on 24 March 2021.

HWB/21/13 COVID-19 Update and Vaccination Programme Update

The Director of Public Health and Medical Director, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning gave a presentation on the latest data and intelligence relating to COVID-19, with a particular focus on Variants of Concern (VOC). The Medical Director, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning, provided the Board with a progress report on the ongoing roll out of the Vaccination Programme.

The Board was reminded that Greater Manchester had been designated as an enhanced response area. The data provided had been validated up to 4 June 2021. In view of the increase in the number of infections the message continued to be the importance of vaccination. Reference was made to the number of people being admitted to hospital and the circumstances relating to this, in particular other

underlying medical issues. The North West is dealing with a fourth wave in view of the rising number of infections being recorded.

The current dominant variant is the Delta Variant and is 40% more transmissible than the Alpha Variant. The current rate of infection is 216.7 per 100000 population. A breakdown of cases per ward was provided with the number of deaths of Manchester residents recorded between week 13 to week 20. To increase the rates of vaccination a focused vaccination approach had been introduced into the top eight wards of the City with the highest rates of Variants of Concerns cases. The growth in vaccination had resulted in a reduction of deaths. The Manchester Action Plan had proved successful in

- Targeted communications and engagement
- Enhanced community testing and contact tracing
- Support to self-isolate (GM Pathfinder)
- Settings based outbreak management and advice
- Track data on a daily basis (e.g. over 60s rate and hospitalisations)
- Targeted Vaccination Drive

Additional vaccines supplies were expected to help with the push on vaccinations.

The Executive Director for Children Services provided an update on the advice and approach for schools. This included the continued wearing of masks, testing and advice on maintaining a safe space and hand washing. Planning was also in place for children transitioning to high school and planning for recovery.

Dr Manisha Kumar, Medical Director, MHCC addressed the meeting on the Covid 19 Vaccination Programme.

The Board was informed that the latest first dose vaccinated number in the City is 290763, although though the actual number is higher, due to those not living within the City or registered with a Manchester GP not included in the total. The figure for those receiving a second vaccination dose is 173813. Work was ongoing to focus on the wards within the central areas of the City and to target hotspots where the take up of the vaccine is lower. In addition, there are almost 250,000 residents to invite for a vaccine for the 10-12 cohorts. Reference was made to the approach and engagement with all cohorts to increase access for the take up of the vaccine. Communication is an essential factor in reaching all areas with work through local groups and community leaders, social media and door knocking to directly contact and engage with residents. It was reported that there are (approx.) 3700 volunteers helping to run vaccination centres currently who's help has been invaluable.

The Chair thanked the officers for the presentation. Reference was made to the importance of staying strong in the work of ensuring the take up of the vaccine regardless of community or location. Residents have a personal responsibility to take the vaccine and not doing so places them, other residents and the NHS at risk and increases the chances of other domestic variants developing which may be more resistant to the current vaccines.

The Chair also reported on the Surge Vaccination Programme planned for Greater Manchester for a 3 week period. Manchester will utilise the whole of the period to provide vaccinations, due to the high number of residents involved. For the over 40 age group there is a good level of supply of the Astrazeneca vaccine to provide first and second doses and increase levels of protection. For the under 40 age group the important factor would be the accessing of sufficient doses of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines for the surge vaccination period.

The Chair responded to a question raised regarding the potential impact of taking vaccine from area to use in another and stated that by using the vaccine to contain the spread of infection in a high prevalence area, it would in turn reduce the risk of spread in other areas.

In noting the point raised regarding Patient Practices, the Chair endorsed the importance of working with neighbouring authorities, in particular instances where communities are located across two local authorities such as the Jewish community where Manchester residents were receiving a vaccination in Salford.

The Chair referred to infection prevalence figures which indicated a high rate for the 19-65years population. The figures produced by GMCA provided additional detail and identified the 16-29years age group as the highest prevalence cohort. It was also noted that this age group were less likely to have received a higher level of vaccination. This provided a correlation of prevalence of infection and non-vaccination to further justify to importance of getting vaccinated as soon as possible.

The Executive Director of Adult Services referred to partnership working and expressed thanks to Manchester Foundation Trust for the collaborative approach since the start of the pandemic on testing on release from hospital before national guidance was issued, vaccination work in the care sector and opening up the Pfizer vaccination to the under 40's age group.

The Chair referred to concerns raised regarding the Enhanced Response Area guidance and stated that a common-sense approach was needed in applying the guidance. No rules or restrictions apply to Greater Manchester that don't also apply to the rest of the country. Local lockdown measures did not work and the national lockdown was most effective to reduce the spread of infection.

Decision

The Board received the presentation and noted the plan update and thanked everyone involved in the vaccination programme for their massive effort.

HWB/21/14 Review of the Health and Wellbeing Board

The Board considered the report of the Director of Public Health regarding the membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The membership was last reviewed in 2018. In view of the scale of organisational and system change over the next year a refresh of the membership from July 2021 was proposed to support the work of the Board for the remainder of the municipal year. It is envisaged that once the Greater

Manchester Integrated Care System and place-based arrangements are clearer and then a more formal review of the Board can take place before April 2022.

The revised Membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board proposed that the following members will remain on the Board for the duration of 2021/22 and in line with the guidance the three statutory officers of the Council will continue to be Board members:

- Leader of the Council (Chair)
- Executive Member Health and Care (Deputy Chair)
- Deputy Leader of the Council
- Executive Member for Children's Services
- Chair Manchester Health and Care Commissioning (MHCC)
- Chair Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (MFT)
- Chair Greater Manchester Mental Health Foundation Trust (GMMHT)
- Chair Healthwatch
- VCS nominated representative
- Director of Public Health
- Director of Adult Social Services
- Director of Children's Services

In addition:

The Local Care Organisation will be requested to nominate a representative to sit on the Board.

The new Manchester GP Forum have been requested to identify three GP Board members.

The nominations will go to the Constitutional and Nomination Committee on 14 July 2021.

Further discussions will take place on representation from committees relating to Primary Care in Manchester (i.e. Local Medical Committee, Local Pharmaceutical Committee, Local Dental Committee, Local Optometry Committee).

The Chair stated that some of the appointments to the Board may be made before the end of the Municipal Year with transitional arrangements moving ahead. The appointments would include the Chair of the ICS and NHS Board. In addition, work was needed to address gaps within the membership of the Manchester Partnership Board which will form the basis of the Locality Board.

The Chair reported that the new system being introduced would involve two layers of accountability. One layer would relate to the NHS and accountability would be directly to the Secretary of State for Health. The local level would have accountability to the Locality Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board will play an important role in that local level of accountability. The Board's involvement may require changes its role and composition with a more formal composition. The Board's role is the public face of the local accountability and this will be noted in the discussions to take place.

A member referred to the importance of recognising the diverse nature of the city's population and during a review process the aspiration should be that the membership of the Board and the new Locality Board structure reflects the diversity of the population it serves.

The Chair noted the point raised and added that reflecting Manchester's breadth of diversity may make the process difficult for the membership of appointing a Board with a limited membership.

Decision

1. The Board noted the report submitted.
2. The Board agreed the proposed revised appointments to the Health and Wellbeing Board as follows:

Revised Membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board –

The following members will remain on the Board for the duration of 2021/22 and in line with the guidance the three statutory officers of the Council will continue to be Board members:

- Leader of the Council (Chair)
- Executive Member Health and Care (Deputy Chair)
- Deputy Leader of the Council
- Executive Member for Children's Services
- Chair Manchester Health and Care Commissioning (MHCC)
- Chair Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (MFT)
- Chair Greater Manchester Mental Health Foundation Trust (GMMHT)
- Chair Healthwatch
- VCS nominated representative
- Director of Public Health
- Director of Adult Social Services
- Director of Children's Services

In addition:

- The Local Care Organisation will be requested to nominate a representative to sit on the Board.
- The new Manchester GP Forum have been requested to identify three GP Board members.

The nominations will be submitted to the Constitutional and Nomination Committee on 14 July 2021.

Further discussions will take place on representation from committees relating to Primary Care in Manchester (i.e. Local Medical Committee, Local Pharmaceutical Committee, Local Dental Committee, Local Optometry Committee).

Licensing and Appeals Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 7 June 2021

Present: Councillor Ludford – in the Chair

Councillors: Grimshaw, Andrews, Chambers, Connolly, Evans, Flanagan, Hewitson, Hughes, Lynch, McHale and Reid

Apologies: Councillor Jeavons

LAP/21/3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2021 were submitted for approval.

Decision

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting held on 8 March 2021.

LAP/21/4 Minimum Licensing Standards – Consultation Findings

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing regarding an update on the Minimum Licensing Standards (MLS) project, which included a summary of consultation responses from the public and taxi trade.

The Licensing Unit Manager presented information from the report outlining how the public and taxi trade had responded to various aspects of the consultation which was made across Greater Manchester's 10 local authorities.

Responding to a question from a Committee member, the Licensing Unit Manager confirmed that Members would be provided with further reports on the consultation findings, with more detail on Manchester specific responses.

Responding to questions from a Committee member, the Licensing Unit Manager confirmed that the consultation could probably have taken place sooner but for the fact that the project was linked to the Clean Air Plan as there was a crucial link on vehicles, adding that the COVID19 pandemic further delayed the matter. The Licensing Unit Manager then confirmed that a £20million fund was to be made available to support vehicle upgrades and that this is due to commence towards the close of this calendar year.

Responding to a question from a Committee member, the Licensing Unit Manager confirmed that her understanding was that the aforementioned £20million was to be delivered by way of a grant scheme, and not a loan (although those grants may then be used towards special loans that are being devised as part of the overall Clean Taxi Fund Scheme) and that concerns of licensed drivers regarding extra charges have been fed back to TfGM.

Responding to questions from a Committee member, the Licensing Unit Manager confirmed that fee setting was not yet finalised, that the target dates for the Clean Air Plan were informed by the Government and could therefore not be altered, and that there had been a low percentage of feedback from the taxi trade to the consultation.

Responding to a final question from a Committee member, the Licensing Unit Manager stated that drug and alcohol testing for licensed drivers was supported in principle in the consultation findings, adding that the detail on implementation was to be determined and would need to be cost effective.

Decision

To note the report.

Planning and Highways Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 3 June 2021

Present: Councillor Curley (Chair)

Councillors: Shaukat Ali, Andrews, Baker-Smith, Y Dar, Davies, Hutchinson, Kamal, Lovecy, Lyons, Riasat, Richards and Stogia

Apologies:

Councillor Kirkpatrick

Also present:

Councillors Johns and Rawson

PH/21/26 Supplementary Information on Applications Being Considered

A copy of the late representations that were received in respect of applications 128864/OO/2020, 128698/FO/2020, 129251/FO/2021, 129252/LO/2021, 129406/FO/2021, 128248/FO/2020, 127241/FO/2020, 127016/FO/2020, 127017/LO/2020 and 129835/FO/2021 since the agenda was issued.

Decision

To receive and note the late representations.

PH/21/27 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2021 as a correct record, subject to the replacement of the words “to undertake a site visit” with “to approve the application” at paragraph 23 of minute number PH/21/22.

PH/21/28 128864/OO/2020 - Land Opposite 83-87 Vine Street, Manchester, M18 8SR - Gorton and Abbey Hey Ward

This application seeks outline planning approval for layout and access in connection with developing the site for 25 dwellinghouses. All other matters including appearance, scale and landscaping are reserved. A variety of house types are proposed, comprising a mix of 15 two-bedroom, 9 three-bedroom and 1 four-bedroom houses. All would meet the Council’s approved space standards. A parameters plan has been submitted which indicates that the proposed properties would be two storeys in height. Access would be taken from Vine Street at a location to the south of the existing access to the site, and the existing dropped cross over would be reinstated. The layout would be in the form of a spine road running east west from Vine Street through the centre of the site, which would terminate in a turning head at the western end of the site, with houses located to the north and

south of the proposed road, orientated to face onto the street. Each house would have a front and rear garden. The tenure for all the proposed houses would be affordable rent being delivered through a registered provider (Southway Housing).

The agent for the applicant addressed the Committee on the application.

The Committee was informed that there was no one present to speak in objection to the application.

The Planning Officer did not add anything further to the report and reiterated to the Committee that the application is for layout and access arrangements to the proposed development site.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

A member referred to three trees located on the access point of the site on Vine Street and the proposed removal of one of the trees.

The planning officer reported that there would be a landscaping scheme submitted at a later stage as part of a reserved matters planning application

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation for the Committee to be Minded to Approve the application. Councillor Shaukat Ali seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee is Minded to Approve the application as detailed in the report submitted, subject to the conditions included and subject to the section 106 legal agreement proposed to ensure that 20% of the properties are affordable and would remain so in perpetuity.

(Councillor Kamal declared a prejudicial interest in the application and left the meeting and took no part in the consideration or the decision made on the application.)

PH/21/29 128698/FO/2020 - Vacant Land bounded by Stockport Road, Swallow Street, Siddall Street and Pennington Street, Manchester - Longsight Ward

The application related to a planning application relating to a cleared area of vacant, largely grassed land bounded by Swallow Street (north), Stockport Road (east), Pennington Street (south) and Siddall Street (west). The location of the site within Longsight ward, it is located within Levenshulme District Centre. The eastern boundary to Stockport Road would relate to neighbouring retail and commercial uses that characterise Stockport Road. A three-storey building used for the supply of building materials is located to the north of the site at the junction of Swallow Street and Siddall Street. Residential uses predominantly comprising of back of pavement, 2-storey housing is located to the north, west and south of the application site. A building with a maximum height of 3 storeys is located to the south of the site and at

the junction of Stockport Road and comprises of ground floor retail and a commercial use with apartments above. The site is enclosed with fencing and has previously been affected by fly-tipping. Some self-seeded bushes are situated centrally within the site. Double yellow lines (TROs) are located adjacent to the boundaries with Stockport Road returning at the respective junctions with Swallow Street and Pennington Street. The principle of a mixed use residential and retail development was established on 21 November 2021 by planning permission ref: 117411/FO/2017 for the erection of a four storey building to form 10 retail units on the ground floor with 24 apartments Page 66 Item 6 above with associated 25 space car parking area and new vehicular access from Siddall Street.

The Committee was informed that there was no one present to speak in objection to the application.

The applicant addressed the Committee on the application.

The planning officer informed the Committee that a previous application had been granted for a four-storey building on the Stockport Road boundary of the site. However, the proposed application is an improvement on the existing application and provides regeneration opportunities for Levenshulme District Centre.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

In welcoming the development and the improvement it would bring to the development site and surrounding area a member of the committee made reference to the s.106 Agreement for a reconciliation re-appraisal of the development for an affordable housing contribution. Reference was also made to the enhancement of the street scene through the planting included in the scheme.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation for the Committee to be Minded to Approve the application. Councillor Riasat seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee is Minded to Approve the application as detailed in the report submitted, subject to the conditions and the s.106 Agreement to secure a reconciliation re-appraisal to determine if the delivered development should be related to an affordable housing contribution

(Councillor Richards declared a prejudicial interest in the application and left the meeting and took no part in the consideration or the decision made on the application.)

PH/21/30 129251/FO/2021 and 129252/LO/2021 - 98-116 Deansgate and 35-47 King Street West, Manchester, M3 2GQ - Deansgate Ward

The planning application proposes the use of floors 1-9 as offices and includes elevational alterations and the erection of a three storey rooftop extension to Kendal Milne and use of the ground, lower ground and basement levels as flexible

commercial space. The Fraser Building and link bridges would be demolished and replaced with a 14 storey office building (Use Class E), including plant level, amenity space and ground and basement commercial units. The application for Listed Building Consent is for internal and external alterations to Kendal Milne building as part of proposals for change of use and three storey rooftop extension to form 9 floors of offices and commercial uses at ground, lower ground and basement levels.

The Planning Officer informed the Committee that the development would support city centre growth and infrastructure and the St Mary's Parsonage Strategic Regeneration Framework and there is a demand for office accommodation post-covid. The Committee was also informed that there had been a modification made to Condition 9 and this had been included in the Supplementary Information circulated prior to the meeting.

The Agent for the applicant addressed the Committee on the application.

The Committee was informed that there was no one to speak in objection to the application.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

A member of the Committee referred to the loss of some of the glass block windows within the building and asked officers if other solutions had been explored before this decision had been made.

The Planning Officer reported that the heritage appraisal and the options analysis had interrogated this issue and the only way to retain the glass blocks would have been a 'black box' use such as a cinema or conference facility. Such usage would have a significant impact on the building. The applicant has since agreed to retain more of the glass blocks than had originally been proposed.

A member requested the inclusion of age friendly seating within the public realm element of the scheme. It was reported that condition relating to the public realm and the seating scheme would be amended to include age friendly seating.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation to approve the application.
Councillor Stogia seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee agreed the applications as detailed in the report submitted and subject to the conditions included in the report and subject to:

- Amendment to Condition 9, as set out in the Supplementary Information report.
- Amendment to the condition relating to public realm works for the inclusion of 'age friendly' seating within the scheme.

**PH/21/31 129406/FO/2021 - Land at Deansgate South, Manchester -
Deansgate Ward**

The application proposes a 28-storey purpose built student accommodation (PBSA) building providing 534 bed spaces. There have been 28 objections and 12 in support. Deansgate Ward Councillors Marcus Johns and William Jeavons have objected to the proposal.

The Planning Officer reported that a number of issues had been raised by the applicant and were included in the Supplementary Information report. The issues raised had been addressed by officers within the report submitted. The recommended reasons for refusal had been modified as set out in the supplementary information and related to:

- Principal of use
- Design quality – inadequacy of the proposed building materials
- Urban design – impact on surrounding building and the lack of open space around the building.
- Impact on nearby Listed Buildings
- Impact on the Conservation Area
- Wind environment

The Chair invited a spokesperson representing objectors to the proposal to address the Committee.

The objector stated that the proposal would have a negative impact on the surrounding buildings and the city centre. The proposal does not fit the Great Jackson Street Framework. The proposed structure is overbearing and obtrusive and there would be a loss of day light, a loss of privacy and a loss of the view from the neighbouring residential properties. The impact of the proposal would be detrimental to the Conservation Area and Listed Buildings. In addition, the universities do not support the proposal for student accommodation for this area of the city centre.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on the application.

Councillor Johns (Deansgate Ward) addressed the Committee in objection to the application and requested that the application be refused as recommended for the reasons outlined.

The Planning Officer reported that the applicant had been consistently advised that the use was unacceptable and the building too tall. It would not be consistent with core strategy policy H12 or the Great Jackson Street framework. There are no obvious regeneration benefits and the proposal which would have a negative impact on the surrounding area. The building materials are not of a quality required and the proposal has been recommended for refusal.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation to refuse the application. Councillor Stogia seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee refused the application for the reasons detailed in the report submitted and in the officer's presentation.

PH/21/32 128248/FO/2020 - Land bound by Gould Street, Williamson Street, Bromley Street and Bilbrook Street, Manchester, M4 4DD - Piccadilly Ward

The application proposes 1202 homes and 192 sqm of commercial space within 9 buildings ranging from 8 to 34 storeys in height with car parking, public realm and landscaping following demolition of existing structures. Neighbour notification generated seven objections together with comments from the Marble Arch Inn and Friends of Angel Meadow (FOAM).

The Planning Officer informed the Committee that an additional condition had been added and this was detailed in the Supplementary Information report which requires details of the interim treatment of all land not included in phase one to be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before development commences. All works approved in discharge of the condition to be implemented in full before the first occupation of any home in phase one.

There was no objector present at the meeting.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on the application.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

A member of the Committee referred to the inclusion of affordable housing and asked officers for the reason why the proposal had been set a level of 7%, which included remediation in view of the 20% policy.

The Planning Officer reported that a viability appraisal had been independently assessed on behalf of the Council which concluded that the development would only be viable with a 7% level of affordable housing. This would be reviewed at a later date to determine any changes in viability. If further affordable housing is considered appropriate it would be included within the development or as a contribution to off-site provision.

A member of the Committee noted the scale of the proposal and questioned whether social infrastructure such as nurseries and GP surgeries would be included within the development. The planning Officer was also asked whether the proposed development had been designed to promote intergenerational living and include provision for residents with a disability.

The Planning Officer reported that Victoria North is a very large-scale development that will take between 15-20 years to complete within the lower Irk Valley area. The overview and vision includes social infrastructure and that will be included within individual proposals as development proceeds. The units within the development will

include town houses and 1-3 bedroom flats to promote intergenerational living to ensure the development is successful.

A member of the Committee referred to the importance of ensuring the transporting of contaminated soil is done away from adjoining residential neighbourhoods and to conduct environmental assessments of the development land. Also, planning officers were informed that the proposed hours of work for the construction of the development appeared to be outside that of the current policy. In view of the scale and the length of time the development would take to complete and the close proximity of a residential neighbourhood, the proposal was made to include a condition for construction times to be as follows:

8.30am-6.00pm Monday to Friday

10.00am-2.00pm Saturday

No construction to take place on bank holidays or on Sunday.

The Planning Officer reported that the majority of the contaminated material had been removed. The remaining contaminated soil would be removed in a safe manner. An additional condition could be added to address concerns on the hours of operation of the site.

A member referred to the long-term vision for the development of the area and wider area of the lower Irk Valley and expressed concern that plans for this vision for the inclusion of social infrastructure planning for families needed to be forthcoming sooner rather than later.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation of Minded to Approve for the application, subject to the signing of a section 106 agreement in relation to affordable housing and to the inclusion of an additional condition requiring the hours work to be amended as proposed. Councillor Stogia seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee is Minded to Approve the application, subject to the conditions contained in the report and supplementary report, and to the signing of a section 106 agreement in relation to affordable housing and to the inclusion of an additional condition requiring the hours work to be amended as follows:

8.30am-6.00pm Monday to Friday

10.00am-2.00pm Saturday

No construction to take place on bank-holidays or on Sunday.

(The Committee adjourned at this point for 10 minutes.)

**PH/21/33 127241/FO/2020 - 515-521 Barlow Moor Road, Manchester, M21
8AQ - Chorlton Park Ward**

The application relates to a change of use of 515 Barlow Moor Road from ground floor retail (Use Class A1) and 1no. self-contained flat to form a single 2no. bedroom dwellinghouse (Use Class C3), elevational alterations to front and rear, landscaping,

and, conversion of no.s 517 to 521 Barlow Moor Road from ground floor retail (Use Class A1) and 6no. self-contained flats to form 11.no self-contained flats (Use Class C3) together with a three storey rear extension to no.s 517 and 519 Barlow Moor Road, 3no front dormers and 3no. rear dormers, associated elevation alterations to front and rear including creation of vehicular and pedestrian access, bicycle and bin stores and formation of 6 no. car parking spaces.

The Planning Officer reported that video footage had been received that show bats to be flying in the area around the development and a further bat survey of the area would take place to assess this.

A spokesperson representing objectors to the application addressed the Committee.

Councillor Rawson addressed the Committee to object to the application.

Councillor Andrews requested that the Committee hold a site visit to the development site to visualise the area and allow time for a bat survey to be completed and assessed. This was seconded by Councillor Richards.

Decision

To agree to defer consideration of the planning application to allow a site visit to be carried out by the members of the Committee.

PH/21/34 121897/FO/2018 - Unity House 42 Great Southern Street, Manchester, M14 4EZ - Moss Side Ward

The application relates to the erection of second-floor extension and infill extensions to courtyard to provide prayer hall and classrooms.

The Planning Officer did not add anything further to the report submitted.

There were no spokespersons representing objectors or the applicant present.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation to approve the application.
Councillor Shaukat Ali seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee agreed the application as detailed in the report submitted and subject to the conditions included.

PH/21/35 127016/FO/2020 and 127017/LO/2020 - 363 Wilmslow Road, Manchester, M14 6XU - Withington Ward

The application relates to the erection of two storey rear extension to create 9no. self contained flats together with various other works including internal alterations, the

rebuilding of gate piers, the laying out of car parking area and the provision of a cycle store and refuse store.

The Planning Officer advised the Committee that there were two applications to consider relating to development and Listed Building Consent.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on both of the applications.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation to approve the application.
Councillor Shaukat Ali seconded the proposal.

Decisions

1. The Committee agreed the application for development, as detailed in the report submitted and subject to the conditions included.
2. The Committee agreed the application for Listed Building Consent.

PH/21/36 129835/JO/2021 - Untapped 67 Church Road, Manchester, M22 4WD - Northenden Ward

The application relates to Application to remove Condition numbers: 1 (time period for operation), 2 (personal consent) and 8 (External Seating Area) from planning approval 124313/FO/2019 to allow the business to operate permanently, remove the personal consent and allow the property to be operated by any operator, and to allow an external seating area, and the variation of Condition 4 (opening hours) to amend the opening hours to allow opening between 10am to Midnight 7 days a week and to allow the operation of an external seating area between the hours of 10am and 9pm. Permission is also sought to amend Condition 9 (Management Plan) to reflect changes in management relating to the external seating area.

The Planning Officer did not add anything further to the application submitted.

The applicant addressed the Committee on the application.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation to approve the application.
Councillor Richards seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee agreed the application as detailed in the report submitted and subject to the conditions included.

Planning and Highways Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 1 July 2021

Present: Councillor Curley (Chair)

Councillors: Shaukat Ali, Andrews, Y Dar, Davies, Hutchinson, Kamal, Lyons, Riasat, Richards and Stogia

Apologies:

Councillor Baker-Smith, Kirkpatrick and Lovecy

Also present:

Councillors Jeavons, Rawson, Shilton-Godwin and Wheeler

PH/21/37 Supplementary Information on Applications Being Considered

A copy of the late representations received in respect of applications 130166/FH/2021, 121252/FO/2018 and 129010/FO/2020 since the agenda was issued had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Decision

To receive and note the late representations.

PH/21/38 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3 June 2021 as a correct record.

PH/21/39 11 Mardale Avenue, Manchester, M20 4TU

This application is for the erection of a part single, part two-storey side and part single-storey, part two-storey rear extension, the installation of rear dormer, front porch extension and elevational alterations to provide additional living accommodation. The property is not listed or in a conservation area and is typical of the type and style of properties within the immediate area. This application is a resubmission following an earlier refusal for a scheme consisting of larger extensions. The proposed extensions have been amended since the previous submission to reduce their scale and to reduce impacts on the appearance of the main part of the building and the neighbouring properties.

The Planning Officer addressed the Committee on the application stating that the scheme had been revised and reduced in width with the roof height lowered and stated that the application was now acceptable.

The Committee was informed that there was no one present to speak in objection to the application.

The applicant was not present to address the Committee on the application.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation for the Committee to Approve the application. Councillor Kamal seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee agreed the application as detailed in the report submitted and subject to the conditions included.

(Councillor Davies was not present in the meeting room and took no part in the consideration or vote on the application.)

PH/21/40 Application for 127241/FO/2020 - 515 to 521 Barlow Moor Road Manchester M21 8AQ - Chorlton Park Ward

The application relates to a change of use of 515 Barlow Moor Road from ground floor retail (Use Class A1) and 1no. self-contained flat to form a single 2no. bedroom dwellinghouse (Use Class C3), elevational alterations to front and rear, landscaping, and, conversion of no.s 517 to 521 Barlow Moor Road from ground floor retail (Use Class A1) and 6no. self-contained flats to form 11.no self-contained flats (Use Class C3) together with a three storey rear extension to no.s 517 and 519 Barlow Moor Road, 3no front dormers and 3no. rear dormers, associated elevation alterations to front and rear including creation of vehicular and pedestrian access, bicycle and bin stores and formation of 6 no. car parking spaces

The Planning Officer addressed the Committee on the application, stating that the Committee had been on a site visit that morning, prior to the meeting.

A resident made representations on behalf of residents of the building and addressed the Committee in objection to the application on the grounds that there was insufficient space for all features proposed, that the garden to the rear is a wildlife corridor, that there were concerns over the potential for adding further car parking spaces and that the current tenants would be forced to move out of their homes when the development was complete.

Councillors Rawson and Shilton-Godwin (Chorlton Park Ward) addressed the Committee in objection to the application and requested that the application be refused for the reasons outlined.

The Planning Officer reported that the concerns over car parking and the garden space had been properly assessed and no objection was raised by the ecology unit and that the agent for the applicant had confirmed that current tenants would be supported with a move from the building to alternative accommodation. The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

A member of the Committee, referring to the report, noted that the current tenants had been given a year and a half to prepare to move out of the premises.

The Planning Officer stated that the Government standard advice was that a planning permission should commence within three years of the grant of permission.

The Director of Planning confirmed the Planning Officer's comments and stated that an extension could be sought if this was seen to be agreeable to the Committee.

A member of the Committee suggested the planning permission should be extended to five years and this would give the tenants a further period of time to make any arrangements to move to new accommodation.

The Director of Planning stated that this proposal could be added as a condition.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation of Approve for the application, subject to the added condition that the planning permission should be commenced within 5 years, so as to give the existing tenants further time within which to secure new accommodation. Councillor Richards seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee agreed the application as detailed in the report submitted and subject to the condition that the planning permission should be commenced within 5 years.

PH/21/41 121252/FO/2018 - Great Marlborough Street Car Park, Great Marlborough Street, Manchester M1 5NJ - Deansgate Ward

The application relates to a partial reconfiguration of a Multi-Storey Car Park (MSCP), including temporary access off Great Marlborough Street, construction of 5 storey external ramps, closure of vehicular access to top level; and construction of new facade; and partial demolition of the surplus part of existing MSCP and erection of a part 55, part 11 storey, part 4 storey mixed-use building comprising 853 Purpose Built Student Accommodation units (sui generis), ancillary amenity space and support facilities, and 786sqm (GIA) SME incubator workspace (Use Class B1), including public realm improvements and other associated work.

The Planning Officer stated that there had been late representations which had been circulated to the Committee. A lengthy representation had been received on the morning of the committee which, it is understood, had been sent direct to all members of the Committee. The officer informed the Committee that the comments had not raised new issues and these had been fully set out and addressed in the printed report and the late representation. The officer responded to the comments about the Equalities Act and the Public Sector Equality Duty. These had been looked at and that officers are satisfied that the issues are adequately covered in the application and the report.

The officer also confirmed that the publishing of the report before the expiry of the (fourth) neighbour notification was in accordance with usual practice and there had been no failure to comply with due process or normal practice.

A local resident, acting as spokesperson for a resident's group, addressed the Committee in objection to the application on the grounds of the size of the development and associated carbon, waste and oxygen issues, loss of parking spaces during development, decrease in disabled parking spaces, increase to the traffic network in the immediate surrounding area and loss of amenity to neighbouring residences.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on the application.

Councillor Jeavons (Deansgate Ward) addressed the Committee to object to the application.

The Planning Officer referred the Committee to the report, stating that all issues raised had been addressed. The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

A member of the Committee raised a question about the development's link with Manchester University and the percentage of units being affordable

The Planning Officer stated that the policy required the support of one University only, adding that Manchester Metropolitan University had provided this support and that there is no policy on providing affordable student accommodation.

A member of the Committee supported the principle of housing students and releasing HMOs back into the rental market for families but felt that the proposal was too tall at 55 storeys, feeling that 30 storeys would be more acceptable.

The Planning Officer stated that Executive had supported the provision of student accommodation in line with the Committee member's previous comments and added that the impact of buildings, once over a certain height, diminishes.

A member of the Committee raised the issue of parking for residents during and after the construction.

The Planning Officer stated that the parking spaces would be available throughout construction, other than when specific aspects of the building work were taking place.

A member of the Committee raised the issue of early publication of reports and concerns around taxis and food deliveries creating noise and disturbance in the vicinity.

The Planning Officer stated that, in this most recent round of consultation, local residents had been given 30 days to respond with comments. Some comments had been received following that round of notification. The latest comment was received on the morning of the meeting (day 37) and had been circulated to the Committee Members. Addressing the other concerns, The Planning Officer stated that there is a robust management plan for the building with regard to taxis and deliveries.

Councillor Lyons moved that the Committee refuse the application on the grounds of excessive height, loss of amenity to local residents, lack of support from Universities and

the impact of adding 853 students to a local community. Councillor Hutchinson seconded the proposal.

The Committee voted against Councillor Lyons' proposal.

Councillor Andrews moved the officer's recommendation of Minded to Approve for the application, subject to a legal agreement. Councillor Hutchinson seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee is Minded to Approve the application as detailed in the report submitted, subject to the signing of a legal agreement in relation to infrastructure improvements.

(The Committee adjourned at this point for 10 minutes).

PH/21/42 130475/LO/2021 - 42, 44 and 46 Thomas Street (Including 41, 43 and 45 Back Turner Street) Thomas Street, Manchester M4 1ER - Piccadilly Ward

The planning application proposes the demolition of the Grade II Listed former Weavers Cottages 42-46 Thomas Street that were listed in 2018 following the grant of planning permission for their demolition in 2017. Approval of this proposal would enable the delivery of the wider site proposal including the retention and refurbishment of 7 Kelvin Street.

The Planning Officer informed the Committee a representation had been received from a local business stating that the proposal would be a benefit to the Northern Quarter.

A member of the Committee requested a deferral of this item until the Committee's previous decision to refuse an earlier application had been assessed by the Secretary of State.

The Director of Planning stated that this was a new application, albeit for the same proposal, and should be considered by the Committee and allow for officers to respond to any matters the committee may wish to raise before reaching a decision.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on the application.

Councillor Wheeler (Piccadilly Ward) addressed the Committee in objection to the application and requested that the application be refused due to the loss of a historic working-class site.

Councillor Lyons (having declared an interest and speaking as Councillor for Piccadilly Ward) addressed the Committee in objection to the application and requested that the application be refused in line with Historic England's opposition to the demolition of the site.

(Councillor Lyons left the meeting for the remainder of this item and the following item).

The Planning Officer stated that there had been one earlier refusal of permission, not two as had been suggested by previous speakers. This was the second application for Listed Building Consent for these proposals. The Planning Officer advised that the current derelict site has a negative impact on the surrounding area. If the Committee made a decision to approve this application, it would need to be referred to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government who could decide to either call in the application for determination or refer it back to the City Council to issue a decision. This is different to an Appeal which are mutually exclusive processes.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

Councillor Hutchinson moved to defer the application for a site visit. Councillor Davies seconded the proposal.

Councillor Stogia said that the site, which was known by many, is in a poor state and that a decision should not be delayed. Adding that that the redevelopment would support businesses which was much needed as a result of COVID-19 and proposed the application should be Approved, in line with the Officer recommendation. The Chair stated that the proposed deferral for a site visit would require a vote by the Committee.

The Committee voted against the deferral for a site visit.

Councillor Stogia moved the recommendation of Minded to Approve for the application. Councillor Shaukat Ali seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee is Minded to Approve the application, subject to referral to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, in accordance with the Arrangements for handling heritage applications – notification to Historic England and National Amenity Societies and the Secretary of State (England) Direction 2015.

PH/21/43 129010/FO/2020 - Public Car Park Accessed Via Stockport Road and Albert Road, Manchester M19 3AB - Levenshulme Ward

The application relates to the temporary use of the southern half of public car park for a 4 year period in connection with the operation of a weekly market on Saturdays (10.00 am-4.00 pm) between March and December (inclusive) and no more than 10 annual Friday night-markets (5.00 pm-9.00pm) during the same period, retention of existing storage container unit and internal generator, reconfiguration of waste / recycling storage area and installation of electric power supply cabinet (following the phased decommissioning of an existing generator)

The Planning Officer stated that the frequency of the markets operations had been proposed to be increased in frequency but the application had been revised in order to seek approval for the same times and dates that the market had operated for the last four years.

There was no objector present at the meeting.

The applicant addressed the Committee on the application.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation for the Committee to Approve the application. Councillor Kamal seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee agreed the application as detailed in the report submitted and subject to the conditions included.

Standards Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2021

Present

Independent Co-opted Member: N Jackson – In the Chair

Councillors Andrews, Connolly, Lanchbury and A. Simcock

Ringway Parish Council: Councillor O'Donovan

Independent Co-opted Member: G Linnell

Apologies:

Councillor Evans

ST/21/08 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held 18 March 2021 were submitted for approval.

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2021 as a correct record.

ST/21/09 Draft Annual Governance Statement 2020/21

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer presenting the draft 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement (AGS). The AGS has been produced following completion of the annual review of the Council's governance arrangements and systems of internal control. The Directorate Lead - Corporate Planning and Governance introduced the report and informed the Committee that work had been undertaken to streamline the report following an exercise with peer authorities to look at examples of good practice and to adapt those to improve the layout and content of the statement. The statement has been made more concise and now focuses on important strategic information.

The Committee was reminded that the AGS is reported to both Audit Committee and Standards Committee. The Annual Report of Standards Committee informs the AGS as a source of assurance and it was proposed that for 2021/22 and subsequent years that instead of the AGS itself being brought to Standards Committee and Audit Committee, that would instead be submitted to Audit Committee only. This amendment would improve the efficiency of the process due to the timing of the usual Committee schedule which holds the meeting of the Standards Committee in March before Audit Committee. This will allow the draft version of the AGS to be in a more complete year-end position when reported to Audit Committee, therefore reducing officer resources required to update and produce the document. A recommendation would be required for the Council to consider and decide whether to amend article 9 of the Council Constitution accordingly. In addition, the Committee was requested to agree that the Code of Corporate Governance (CCG) be removed

from the remit of the Standards Committee and be considered by the Audit Committee.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the report.

Members of the Committee questioned the reasons for the removal of the AGS from consideration by Standards Committee in particular the reference to officer time. Members also considered the involvement of the Committee to be relevant and important. A change of date of the Standards Committee was suggested to address the matter.

The Committee was informed that a change of date to bring the report later would address the matter.

The Chair advised the Committee that the change of timings in the accounting regulations had impacted on the production of the AGS. Also, the Standards Committee had only limited terms of reference in relation to the AGS and CCG. The Committee's ability to inform the AGS is through the production of the Annual Standards Report as it provides the Standards Committee overview of how the Council is operating and provides the Council with that assurance. It would also be difficult to advise on what the Committee could add to the CCG through the limited standards related focus it has, unless changes were made by CIPFA to the key principles relating to matters of conduct.

A member questioned what compromise could be made if a change was made to the CIPFA principles to allow to allow the Committee to assess if input was required into the any new principles.

The Committee was advised that any changes to the CIPFA principles would be reported to the Committee for consideration.

Following discussion, members were in agreement that the Committee should retain its current responsibility for parts of the AGS and CCG relating to Standards matters. In addressing the issue of the scheduling of meetings, it was suggested that the Chair agree to call an additional meeting of the Standards Committee to deal with those matters as and when they arise.

The Chair noted that the Committee was aware of the need for flexibility in considering the Annual Governance Statement and preferred to retain the current responsibilities as part of its terms of reference, as detailed in the Council Constitution. To ensure the schedule for the production of the AGS is met, the Committee would meet to consider the AGS at an additional ordinary meeting at a time to complement its submission to the Audit Committee.

Decisions

1. The Committee noted the contents and the comments on the draft version of the Council's 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement (AGS).

2. The Committee agreed to retain its responsibility to consider the Annual Governance Statement and Code of Corporate Governance in relation to member standards matters.
3. The Committee agreed that an additional ordinary meeting of the Standards Committee be arranged, in consultation with the Chair, to consider the AGS, to complement the submission of the AGS to the Audit Committee if needed.

ST/21/10 Review of the Operation and Efficacy of the Arrangements for dealing with Code of Conduct complaints against Members

The Committee considered the report of City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer that provided an update on the operation and efficacy of the arrangements for dealing with Code of Conduct complaints against Members.

The report was introduced by the Head of Governance, Legal Services.

Reference was made to the suggestion that the Chief Legal Officers in Greater Manchester consider the wording of the Arrangements as part of their discussions on the new Local Government Association Model Code of Conduct for Members. The report also provided the timeframes within the Council's Arrangements for dealing with complaints. The Committee was also advised that for the period 1 February to 31 May 2021, four complaints against Members were received by the Monitoring Officer and in respect of all four complaints the timeframes were complied with.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the report.

A member asked when the Chief Legal Officers would consider the New Model Code.

The Committee was informed that a meeting to consider the Code would take place within the next two months and the outcome would be reported to the next meeting of the Standards Committee in November.

Decisions

1. To note the Monitoring Officer's information on the operation and efficacy of the Arrangements for dealing with Code of Conduct complaints against Members.
2. That the Chief Legal Officers in Greater Manchester be requested to discuss their respective Arrangements and that the outcome of these discussions be reported to a future meeting of this Committee.

ST/21/11 Review of the Operation and Efficacy of the Use of Resources Guidance for Members

The Committee considered the report of the City Solicitor that provided an update on the operation and efficacy of the Use of Resources Guidance for Members.

The Head of Governance, Legal Services introduced the report and informed the Committee that the changes made to the Guidance as part of the review of the Constitution had been agreed by Council in February 2021 and these are highlighted in the report.

Decisions

1. To note the Monitoring Officer's views on the operation and efficacy of the Use of Resources Guidance for Members.
2. To recirculate the Use of Resources Guidance for Members to all members of Council for information.

ST/21/12 Membership of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee

The Committee considered the report of City Solicitor to assist the Committee in reviewing the membership of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee, considering recent changes to the membership of the Standards Committee.

Decisions

1. To appoint the membership of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee as follows:

Members of the Sub-Committee	Substitute Members
The Independent Member who has been appointed as Chair of the Standards Committee, who will act as Chair of the Standards (Hearing) Sub Committee – currently Nicolé Jackson	The other Independent Member of the Standards Committee, who will act as substitute Chair of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee – currently Geoff Linnell
Councillor Andrew	Councillor Simcock and Councillor Connolly shall, in that order of priority and subject to availability, act as substitute elected members in the event that one or more elected members of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee is unable to attend a meeting of the Sub-Committee.
Councillor Evans	
Councillor Lanchbury	

2. Where the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee is considering a complaint against a member of Ringway Parish Council, the Parish Member of the Standards Committee (currently Parish Councillor O'Donovan) shall also be a member of the Sub-Committee.

ST/21/13 Review of Procedure for the Hearing of Allegations of Breaches of the Council's Code of Conduct for Members

The Committee considered the report of the City Solicitor seeking the views of the Committee on the proposed revisions to the Procedure for the Hearing of Allegations of Breaches to the Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

Decision

The Committee noted the proposed revised Procedure for the Hearing of Allegations of Breaches of the Council's Code of Conduct for Members ('the Procedure') and approved, the revised Procedure, as detailed in the Appendix of the report submitted.

ST/21/14 Terms of Office of the Independent Members of the Standards Committee and the Council's Independent Persons

The Committee considered the report of the City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer that sought the views of the Committee in relation to the terms of office of the two independent co-opted members of the Standards Committee and the Council's two Independent Persons.

The Head of Governance, Legal Services introduced the report. Reference was made to the extension of the terms of office of the current two Independent members and the two Independent Persons for one further year. The Committee for Standards in Public Life have recommended that Independent Person appointments should be for a fixed term of 2 years, renewable once. The Government's response to the recommendations is still awaited.

It was reported that contact with each of the Independent members Persons on the Standards Committee would take place outside of the meeting to confirm whether each person wishes to continue in the role. A report would then be submitted to Constitutional and Nomination Committee before submission to Council to approve the extension of one year from November 2021 to November 2022.

The Chair invited questions from the Committee.

A member asked if there is a recruitment process in place, in the event that any of the independent persons did not wish to continue in the role. Officers were also asked if it would be possible to extend the term of office beyond November 2022 and asked that the Committee be notified of the outcome of the contact with the Independent Persons and Independent Members

The Committee was informed that a recruitment process is in place and sufficient time is available to recruit if required. The extension beyond the current proposal is possible however, the recommended term of office is four years to prevent any possibility of their independence being compromised by a long period of involvement with particular Council

Decisions

1. That Nicolé Jackson & Geoff Linnell (the two independent co-opted members of the Standards Committee) and Alan Eastwood & Sarah Beswick (the Council's two Independent Persons) be contacted to ask whether they are agreeable to the extension of their terms of their office for a period of one year from 18 November 2021.
2. That the matter then be referred to the Constitutional and Nominations Committee and Council for a decision to be taken regarding the potential extensions of their terms of office.

(The Committee was advised that following advice from the City Solicitor, the Co-opted members named within the report (Nicolé Jackson and Geoff Linnell), who were present at the meeting, would not be required to declare an interest for the reason that the report sought agreement to contact co-opted committee members to ask if they are agreeable to the extension of the terms of their office for a period of one year from 18 November 2021.)

ST/21/15 Work Programme for the Standards Committee

The Committee considered the report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit that invited the members of the Standards Committee to consider its work programme for future meetings and make any revisions.

Decision

To note the report and agree the Work Programme.

**Manchester City Council
Report for Resolution**

Report to: Constitutional and Nomination Committee – 13 July 2021
Council – 14 July 2021

Subject: Terms of Office of the Independent Members of the Standards Committee and the Independent Persons

Report of: City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer

Summary

To invite Council to extend the terms of office of the two independent co-opted members of the Standards Committee and the Council's two Independent Persons.

Recommendations

That the Constitutional and Nomination Committee recommend that Council extend the terms of office of Nicolē Jackson & Geoff Linnell (the two independent co-opted members of the Standards Committee) and Alan Eastwood & Sarah Beswick (the Council's two Independent Persons) for one year commencing on 18 November 2021.

Wards Affected – All

Financial Consequences – Revenue None

Financial Consequences – Capital None

Contact Officers:

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

None

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Localism Act 2011 fundamentally changed the local authority Standards regime in England with the current standards regime coming into effect from mid-2012. The Committee on Standards in Public Life (“the CSPL”) completed a review of local government ethical standards and published a report on 30 January 2019.
- 1.2 The Council has delegated to the Standards Committee the power to deal with matters of conduct and ethical standards, and the promoting and maintaining of high standards of conduct by Councillors, Co-opted Members and church and parent governor representatives.
- 1.3 Members are invited to consider the potential extension of the terms of office of the Council’s Independent Members of the Standards Committee and the Independent Persons.

2.0 Independent Members of the Standards Committee

- 2.1 The Standards Committee is composed as follows:
 - Six elected Members of Manchester City Council (none of whom may be the leader of any political group and no more than one of whom may be a member of the Executive);
 - One Member of Ringway Parish Council who is not a Member of Manchester City Council (the Parish Member); and
 - Two people appointed by the Council who are not councillors or officers of the Council (Independent Members).
- 2.2 Independent Members are not be entitled to vote at meetings.
- 2.3 The Council appoints one of the Independent Members as Chair of the Standards Committee. In the absence of the appointed Chair, the Committee is chaired by the other Independent Member.

3.0 Independent Persons

- 3.1 Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011 requires all English local authorities to appoint Independent Persons (IPs) to help them to discharge their duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by their Councillors and co-opted members and any Parish Councillors.
- 3.2 An IP must be a person who has applied for the post following advertisement of a vacancy for the post, and appointed by a positive vote from a majority of all the Members of the Council at a meeting of the full Council.

3.3 Independent Persons have the following roles:

- An IP's views **must** be sought, and taken into account, by the authority before it makes its decision on an allegation that it has decided to investigate;
- The authority may also seek an IP's views on an allegation that it has not decided to investigate. However, there is no requirement for the authority to do so, or to take those views into account;
- A member or co-opted member of the authority (or of a parish council in its area) may seek an IP's views on an allegation made against them.

4. **Recommendations of the Committee on Standards in Public Life (“the CSPL”)**

4.1 In relation to Independent Persons, in January 2019 the CSPL made the following two recommendations to the government:

- (a) That the role of IPs should be strengthened. However, to avoid any possibility that their independence is compromised by a long period of involvement with a single Council, the CSPL recommended that IP appointments should be for a fixed term of 2 years, renewable once;
- (b) An IP should be consulted as to whether to undertake a formal investigation on an allegation and should be given the option to review and comment on allegations which the responsible officer is minded to dismiss as being without merit, vexatious, or trivial.

4.2 It still remains to be seen whether the government accepts these recommendations. Given the current COVID-19 pandemic the Government may encounter difficulties in setting aside sufficient Parliamentary time to debate these, and other recommendations of the CSPL in the near future.

5. **Terms of Office of the Independent Members and Independent Persons**

5.1 On 18 November 2015 the Council resolved to:

- extend Alan Eastwood's term of office as an Independent Person for four years commencing on 18 November 2015;
- appoint Sarah Beswick to act as an Independent Person for a term of office of four years commencing on 18 November 2015;
- appoint Nicolé Jackson as an independent co-opted member and Chair of the Standards Committee for a term of office of four years commencing on 18 November 2015;
- appoint Geoff Linnell as an independent co-opted member of the Standards Committee for a term of office of four years starting on 18 November 2015.

5.2 On 15 May 2019 the Council resolved to extend the terms of office of Nicolé Jackson & Geoff Linnell (the two independent co-opted members of the

Standards Committee) and Alan Eastwood & Sarah Beswick (the Council's two Independent Persons) for two years commencing on 18 November 2019.

5.3 The terms of office of all four will therefore expire on 17 November this year.

6. Recommendation of the Standards Committee

6.1 Whilst the response to the CSPL recommendation in relation to the terms of office of Independent Persons is awaited from the Government, the Standards Committee agreed on 17 June 2021, that Nicolé Jackson & Geoff Linnell (the two independent co-opted members of the Standards Committee) and Alan Eastwood & Sarah Beswick (the Council's two Independent Persons) be contacted to ask whether they are agreeable to the extension of their terms of their office for a period of one year from 18 November 2021.

6.2 It is confirmed that all four have been contacted and are agreeable to the extension of their terms of their office for a period of one year from 18 November 2021.

6.3 It is envisaged that in 2022 further consideration be given to advertising the offices of the two Independent Members of the Standards Committee and the two Independent Persons with a view to appointing new membership with effect from 18 November 2022.

7. Recommendation

The recommendations appear at the top of this report.

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Council – 14 July 2021

Subject: Urgent Key Decisions

Report of: City Solicitor

Purpose of report

To report those key decisions that have been taken in accordance with the urgency provisions in the Council's Constitution.

Recommendation

To note the report.

Wards affected: All

Financial consequences for the Revenue budget

None

Financial consequences for the Capital Budget

None

Implications for:

Antipoverty
No

Equal Opportunities
No

Environment
No

Employment
No

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Background documents:

None.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Constitution (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules) establishes a procedure for dealing with key decisions where action needs to be taken immediately for reasons of urgency and is therefore not subject to the normal call in arrangements.
 - 1.2 The procedures states that the chair of the appropriate scrutiny committee must agree that both the decision proposed is reasonable in all the circumstances, and to it being treated as a matter of urgency.
- 2.** Such decisions are to be reported to the Council.

3. Urgent Key Decisions taken since the last meeting of Council

3.1 A list of key decisions requiring exemption from the call in procedure that have been taken since the last meeting of Council is listed below.

Date	Subject	Reason for urgency	Decision Taken by	Approved by
31 March 2021	Award of a contract for Mobile Voice and Data Services (mobile telephones and sim cards for tablets and laptops)	Due to an oversight, the key decision was not placed on the forward plan. Any delay to entering into the new contact would mean remaining on the disadvantageous data charging arrangements included in the old contract. The previous contract expired in September 2020 and was based on predominately office based working across the authority. As working practices have changed due to CV-19, complex modelling of scenarios and negotiations with the supplier have been necessary with the provider to agree contractual terms that reflect the current and anticipated future flexible working model. It has also been necessary to use a different procurement framework for the new contract. The pricing model for the new contact involves a shared data pool across all devices whereas the previous model was a specific data allowance per sim card – much of which could go unused or incur higher charges if the allowance was exceeded. The new model therefore significantly reduces costs because we will no longer be charged for unused data and will avoid punitive charges when users occasionally exceed their data allowance.	Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer	Councillor Russell (Chair of Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee)
29 April 2021	Appointment of a contractor due to Road collapse	The decision was to appoint Bethells to investigate four road collapses across the City and deliver remedial works to make the sites safe and reinstate the highway	Director of Highways	Councillor Russell (Chair of Resources and

		<p>where the Council has a liability. The contractor had been working with United Utilities at all locations so has already established a site and had working knowledge of the issues. This decision would appoint United Utilities contractors who have been investigating issues across the sites to undertake further assessments and remedial works to prevent damage to residents' homes and further damage to the highway. As they are already onsite, there is a continuity benefit to engaging the contractor including expertise and understanding of the issues across all sites. Once the reason for the collapses are identified substantial repairs will be required to make the sites safe and enable the reinstatement of the highway. Where liability can be established with United Utilities, this will be recovered.</p> <p>Following the key decision process could have delayed repairs to collapses or have prevented repairs from progressing and presented a health and safety risk while creating potential damage or further damage to homes and the highway.</p>		Governance Scrutiny Committee)
29 April 2021	To establish a capital budget of £1m to investigate four road collapses across the City and deliver remedial works to make the sites safe and reinstate	<p>Liability had been passed to the Council for two of the sites. The request for urgency across all sites is to create a funding mechanism should liability fall to the Council due to the urgent nature of these works.</p> <p>All four road collapse sites have caused damage to the highway and nearby properties. The budget requested will enable investigatory and remedial works at all road collapses where liability is identified as with MCC. Where liability can be established with United Utilities,</p>	Director of Highways	Councillor Russell (Chair of Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee)

	the highway where the Council has a liability	this will be recovered. Following the key decision process may delay repairs to collapses or prevent repairs from progressing which presents a health and safety risk while creating potential damage or further damage to homes and the highway.		
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