



# **Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**

Date: Wednesday, 9 February 2022

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber, Level 2, Town Hall Extension

Everyone is welcome to attend this committee meeting.

There will be a private meeting for Members of the Committee at 1.30 pm in the Council Chamber

## **Access to the Public Gallery**

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

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## **Membership of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**

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### **Councillors –**

Reid (Chair), Abdulatif, Sameem Ali, Alijah, Bano, Benham, Collins, Cooley, Foley, Hewitson, Lovecy, McHale, Nunney and Sadler

### **Co-opted Members -**

Miss S Iltaf, Ms K McDaid, Mrs J Miles, Dr W Omara and Ms L Smith

## Agenda

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**1. Urgent Business**

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

**2. Appeals**

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

**3. Interests**

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

**4. Minutes**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2022.

Pages  
7 - 18

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Ofsted Subgroup held on 24 November 2021.

**5. An update on families residing in both bed and breakfast accommodation and homeless accommodation outside of the city boundaries, and the impact on schools and transport**  
Report of the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services and the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods)

Pages  
19 - 32

This report sets out the collaborative work undertaken by the Homeless Service and Children's Services to support families who are impacted by homelessness.

**6. Children and Education Services Directorate Budget 2022/23 - to follow**

**7. Virtual Schools Annual Report - to follow**

**8. COVID-19 Update - to follow**

**9. Overview Report**

Report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit

Pages

33 - 44

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

## Information about the Committee

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

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

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

- Representative of the Diocese of Manchester – Vacant
- Representative of the Diocese of Salford – Mrs Julie Miles
- Parent governor representative – Dr Walid Omara
- Parent governor representative – Ms Katie McDaid
- Parent governor representative – Vacant
- Secondary sector teacher representative – Miss Saba Iltaf
- Primary sector teacher representative – Ms Laura Smith

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

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

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Smoking is not allowed in Council buildings.

Joanne Roney OBE  
Chief Executive  
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Manchester, M60 2LA.

## Further Information

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

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This agenda was issued on **Tuesday, 1 February 2022** by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit, Manchester City Council, Level 2, Town Hall Extension (Library Walk Elevation), Manchester M60 2LA

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## Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

### Minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2022

#### Present:

Councillor Reid – in the Chair  
Councillors Abdullatif, Bano, Benham, Foley, Hewitson, Lovecy, McHale, Nunney and Sadler

#### Co-opted Voting Members:

Dr W Omara, Parent Governor Representative

#### Co-opted Non-Voting Members:

Miss S Iltaf, Secondary Sector Teacher Representative  
Ms L Smith, Primary Sector Teacher Representative

#### Also present:

Councillor Bridges, Executive Member for Children’s Services  
Councillor Rawlins, Executive Member for the Environment  
Ruth Todhunter, Manchester resident  
Lee Ormsby, Our Lady’s RC High School  
Kristian Cope, Our Lady’s RC High School  
Elaine Morrison, Education Consultant

#### Apologies:

Councillors Alijah and Collins  
Mrs J Miles, Representative of the Diocese of Salford

#### **CYP/22/01                      Minutes**

#### **Decision**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2021.

#### **CYP/22/02                      Climate Emergency and the Education Sector**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Education which outlined the work being undertaken by the Council to support the Education Sector in responding to the Climate Emergency declared by the Council in July 2019, with a focus on decarbonisation. It also outlined the plans to develop this as a theme of Our Year 2022 in response to feedback from children and young people. This would enable children and young people to have their say and contribute to achieving the zero carbon target for the city.

The main points and themes within the report included:

- Planned conference;
- Carbon Literacy Training;

- De-carbonisation;
- Partnership working with the Department for Education (DfE) and Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA);
- Young People's Offer;
- Our Year;
- Green skills;
- Early Years settings; and
- Promoting active travel.

Manchester resident, Ruth Todhunter, addressed the Committee, telling them about her involvement in campaigning for clean air with other local mothers and the British Lung Foundation. She informed Members about the School Streets Initiative, where a road outside a school had a temporary restriction on motorised traffic at school drop-off and pick-up times and the benefits of this for children and young people. She encouraged the Council to work with schools and communities to identify where air quality could be improved to inform interventions and behaviour change. She advised that funding to support School Streets should prioritise those schools most affected by poor air quality. She reported that the British Lung Foundation was offering to meet with the Council to discuss how they could work together to monitor air pollution in the city.

Lee Ormsby and Kristian Cope from Our Lady's RC High School delivered a presentation on their Climate Action Roadmap.

The main points and themes within the presentation included:

- Background information;
- Climate action activities by area;
- Student voice; and
- The steps of the roadmap from emerging to established to being a leading school on combating climate change, which could be a model for others and share its resources and learning.

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

- To welcome the presentation from Our Lady's RC High School and the work they were doing and to ask whether they would be looking to move to using organic food;
- To what extent were other schools undertaking this kind of work, how would the actions taken by other schools be monitored and could Members be kept updated on this work;
- The need for safe walking and cycling routes to schools;
- Request from a Member for an Ardwick school to be included in the Street Schools initiative;
- How was the retrofitting of schools being addressed;
- To welcome the work that the Director of Education and Executive Member for Children's Services had done in this area and to ask that sufficient officer



capacity be made available to bring together best practice and progress this work in time for the planned conference;

- The importance of the new Climate Change Officers in each district engaging with schools and of ward-level and community engagement;
- The importance of a joined-up approach and sharing good practice between primary schools, secondary schools and colleges;
- The importance of involving children and young people in this work so that they felt they had agency, noting that this could help to reduce anxiety about climate change;
- What support was there from the Government and Council to support schools with carbon reduction; and
- The poverty faced by many families and that, when they were struggling to provide the basics of food and a warm home for their children, it was difficult to engage with issues such as where food was sourced from.

The Executive Member for Children's Services advised Members that this was a very high priority for the Council and that they were looking to increase capacity to support this work. He welcomed how much schools had been doing on this, despite the additional challenges they had faced due to the pandemic. He reported that every ward had a climate action plan and that schools were central to that and he recommended that Ward Councillors ensure that the link with schools was explicit in their own ward action plans. He advised that he would discuss with the Director of Education how schools' work on climate change would be monitored and then discussions would take place with the Chair about the most appropriate way for the Committee to continue to scrutinise this.

In response to the question about organic food, Kristian Cope advised that organic food was procured for use in food technology lessons but that for school meals it was difficult to buy sufficient volumes of organically produced food to feed nearly 1000 pupils, even before the cost was taken into account.

The Director of Education reported that individual schools were addressing climate change in different ways and that many did not have a single plan like Our Lady's had so this did create challenges in monitoring it. She advised that the Council would work with schools to share good practice and knowledge from schools which had done a lot of positive work on this to schools which had not started addressing this issue. In response to a Member's question, she advised that her service did already work with Neighbourhoods on some work relating to air quality but agreed that there was more to be done on this. She reported that a lot of schools had wanted to take part in the School Streets initiative but that it had to be done in line with Highways legislation and that it was important to evaluate the impact from piloting the scheme in a few locations first. She advised that, in terms of encouraging active travel, her service would focus on behaviour change, while also linking with Neighbourhoods on the local infrastructure. She informed Members that a condition survey would be carried out on all school buildings that the local authority maintained and that this would enable the Council to better prioritise spending on buildings maintenance where it was most needed.

The Executive Member for the Environment advised that some of the reports which were going to the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee the

following day were relevant to this discussion so she would ensure that these were shared with Members of this Committee. She advised that the Council was looking at developing an improved criteria for how schools involved in the School Streets initiative were selected. In response to a Member's question, she confirmed that the location of planting of trees and hedges was co-ordinated and that this had massively increased. She informed Members how Biffa was engaging with schools, including an offer of an educational programme on waste and recycling, and about the learning centre at the Longley Lane Household Waste and Recycling Centre and she advised that she would ensure this information was re-circulated to schools.

Elaine Morrison, Education Consultant, advised that the Council was sending regular communications to schools about any funding they became aware of to assist with this work and that addressing funding issues would be a focus of the conference. She advised that working with the DfE on pilot projects was also bringing additional funding into the city. She reported that officers were working with local businesses to see if they would be interested in supporting schools on this work. She informed Members how links were being made with the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Sector (VCSE) to support this work. She advised that officers were monitoring the geographical spread of schools involved in climate action work so that they could focus on any particular wards where there was a lower uptake.

## **Decision**

To note the report.

## **CYP/22/03                      COVID-19 Update**

The Committee received a verbal update of the Assistant Director of Education which outlined new developments and significant changes to the current situation, particularly in relation to schools.

The main points and themes within the verbal update included:

- Temporary changes to the guidance on face coverings in schools;
- Other measures schools were implementing to reduce the spread of COVID-19;
- Lateral flow testing and requirements for those testing positive;
- Support for schools, including the use of Outbreak Meetings;
- School attendance;
- The impact of staff absence; and
- Vaccination of young people.

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

- Support for young people's mental health;
- The impact of staff being able to self-certify as sick for 28 days, data on schools and areas which were worst affected by staff absence and whether any schools had had to close;
- To ask for more data on vaccination levels at next month's meeting; and

- That the Committee should look at the number of children being electively home educated.

The Assistant Director of Education outlined the work that had taken place to improve mental health support to children and young people, through Healthy Schools and Manchester Thrive and training for schools on other ways to access mental health support, advising that this support to schools had been increased during the pandemic. She advised that, as term had only just re-started, data was not yet available on staff absences but that four primary schools had been affected by a partial closure, for example, a particular class doing remote learning but with vulnerable pupils still coming on site.

The Executive Member for Children's Services praised the work of schools and the Council's Education Service during the pandemic, including the prioritisation of vulnerable children and young people.

### **Decisions**

1. To ask for data on vaccination levels for young people in Manchester to be included in the next update.
2. That the Committee should look at the number of children being electively home educated.
3. That a letter should be sent to all schools congratulating them for their work during the pandemic.

### **CYP/22/04                      Our Year 2022**

The Committee received a report and presentation of the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services which provided an update on Our Year 2022.

The main points and themes within the presentation included:

- The feedback from engagement with children and young people on what was important to them and what Manchester could do better;
- Key themes identified from this;
- Events, activities and campaigns;
- UNICEF Child Friendly City submission; and
- How Members could support this work.

The Executive Member for Children's Services encouraged the Co-opted Members to watch the webcast of the Council meeting on 1 December 2021, at which young people from across Manchester had spoken about the issues that were important to them. He highlighted the last slide of the presentation on how Members could support Our Year and encouraged the Committee Members to get involved. He advised that support was available in doing this and that the Our Year Project Lead could circulate an information pack.

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

were:

- To welcome this work;
- The number of children and young people across different settings who had been engaged through this work and whether they were representative of all children and young people across the city;
- The importance of the voice of children of all ages being heard;
- How Our Year would be promoted, including engagement with parents;
- That many teachers would welcome the opportunity to support this work and that it was important to ensure that this was communicated to them; and
- The lack of work experience placements during the pandemic and what could be done to encourage more organisations to take part, noting that Members might be able to offer work experience or shadowing opportunities.

The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services advised that the communication strategy was being refined and developed and the intention had been to start with a soft launch through a series of events with the website being fully up and running by mid-February. He also highlighted the briefing packs which were being produced. The Chair advised that empty billboards across the city should be used to promote Our Year as well as using social media. The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services emphasised the importance of Our Year not just being about the Council but involving the wider community, with a cultural shift and a legacy of children and young people being involved in the big decisions for their city. He advised that the Executive Member for Children's Services and the Director of Education were engaging with schools regarding Our Year. He outlined how children and young people had been engaged with across school settings, advising that pupils, for example, those who were part of the School Council, spoke on behalf of their peers so the views gathered reflected a wider range of pupils than just those who were directly engaged with. He informed Members that engagement with the business sector as part of Our Year was not just about getting a financial contribution from businesses but about time, accessibility and support, including work experience opportunities. The Chair advised that these issues should be considered as part of the social value element of contracts awarded by the Council. The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services assured Members that social value was being built into this work.

In response to a Member's question, the Our Year Project Lead outlined the work involved in the UNICEF Child Friendly City submission and suggested the Committee could be provided with an update at a later date, including information on how Members could support this. In response to a Member's suggestion about engaging with young people again in a year to assess the impact this work had had, the Our Year Project Lead advised that this would be part of the measures of success for the project.

### **Decision**

To note the report and presentation and endorse and support Manchester submitting an expression of interest to become part of UNICEF's Child Friendly City and Communities programme.

**CYP/22/05****The Quality of Practice in Children's Social Care**

The Committee received a report and presentation of the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services which reflected the development and current position of the quality of practice being delivered to children and their families in Manchester, with a particular focus on Children's Social Care..

The main points and themes within the presentation included:

- Manchester's children and young people population;
- What was quality of practice and what sources did the service use to assess its quality of practice;
- What was known about the current position; and
- How the service planned to drive continuous improvement and learning.

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

- Whether the better quality of practice and the poorer quality were concentrated in particular service areas;
- How were young people's views and experiences captured and was any negative feedback received;
- The importance of addressing IT issues to enable social workers to work effectively; and
- To note that some issues would be looked at by the Ofsted Subgroup.

The Executive Member for Children's Services informed Members that the IT issues were being addressed, that a lot of progress had been made on this and that Children's Services were receiving top priority within the Council for new devices.

The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services advised that the service did not just rely on the auditing tool to understand where it was at in terms of quality of practice, noting the role that scrutiny played with Members visiting social work teams, asking questions of staff and then using what they had learnt on these visits to effectively question and challenge the service's senior leadership at its meetings. He outlined how areas were identified which would benefit from targeted auditing and observed practice and the work to drive up quality of practice, taking the learning from this into workforce development training. He advised that he would bring a report on Participation and Engagement to a future meeting which would provide additional information on how the views of young people were gathered. The Strategic Lead for Safeguarding and Practice Development outlined some of the ways that young people's feedback was gathered and advised that key issues young people raised were that they did not like being allocated a new social worker, when they had already built a relationship with the existing one, and that they wanted improved transitions to adult social services.

**Decision**

To note the report.

**CYP/22/06****IRO (Independent Reviewing Officer) Annual Report  
2020/2021**

The Committee received the 2020/2021 Annual Report of the Independent Reviewing (IRO) Service for Cared for Children, which was required in accordance with the Children and Young Person's Act 2008 and subsequent statutory guidance published by the Department for Children Schools and Families in 2010 as set out in the IRO Handbook

The main points and themes within the report included:

- Service and legal context;
- Our Children and Young People data 2019/2020;
- Our Children statutory reviews;
- Participation and engagement;
- Quality assurance;
- Outcomes and impact of the service 2020/2021; and
- Key priorities 2020/2021.

In response to a Member's question about children placed outside the local authority area, the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services reported that the vast majority were placed within Greater Manchester. The Strategic Lead for Safeguarding and Practice Development advised that for most of those children they had been placed there because that was the best way to meet their needs and that the service still took the same responsibility for them as for children placed within the city, although she acknowledged that there were additional barriers to overcome.

**Decision**

To note the report.

**CYP/22/07 Overview Report**

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

**Decision**

To note the report and agree the work programme.

## **Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee – Ofsted Subgroup**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2021**

#### **Present:**

Councillor Lovecy – in the Chair  
Councillors Hewitson, Nunney and Reid

#### **Apologies:**

Councillor Foley

#### **CYP/OSG/21/01 Minutes**

#### **Decision**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2020.

#### **CYP/OSG/21/02 Responding to Children in Need of Help, Support and Protection**

In response to a Member's question about the areas that Ofsted would focus on in their inspection, the Strategic Director for Children and Education Services drew Members' attention to the information in the two presentations, included in the papers, which had previously been delivered to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee and outlined the approach Ofsted was likely to take. He highlighted some of the key areas they were likely to look at, including the number of referrals to social services, partnership working and how well partners such as schools, police and health colleagues understood the threshold for referrals. He also highlighted the recent Local Government Association Peer Review and offered to bring this to a future scrutiny meeting. In response to a Member's question, he reported that he had not yet received the letter outlining the feedback from the Peer Review but that the verbal feedback had been positive, while also providing a lot to consider.

A Member advised that IT had been identified as an issue of concern on recent visits to social work teams. The Deputy Director of Children's Services explained that the service had invested in technology in 2017 and 2018 so a lot of laptops were coming to the end of their shelf-life in 2020, coinciding with the pandemic and supply issues, so there had been delays in the distribution of new laptops. He acknowledged that Wi-Fi was poor across the service's estate but advised that a temporary fix had been put in place. He also outlined the work taking place to resolve outstanding IT issues. The Chair advised that it was important that staff were being kept informed about what was being done to try to resolve issues rather than surmising that managers were not bothered about the issues they were having.

The Chair commented positively on a recent visit she and other Members of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee had undertaken, highlighting the team spirit within the social work teams. The Strategic Director for Children and Education Services advised that these visits were important because they made staff feel listened to and Members were able to amplify issues.

The Chair commented that the changes to the Longsight Office, including the increase in informal spaces, was working well. A Member emphasised the importance of issues such as IT and the buildings that social workers were working in, advising that these could have an impact on staff retention. The Strategic Director for Children and Education Services advised that support from colleagues was important for social workers and that there needed to be an office environment that enabled this. He informed Members about work taking place across the Council to look at the condition of its entire estate. The Subgroup discussed the possibility of having more co-located services.

A Member welcomed that fewer children were becoming Looked After, praising the role of Alonzi House and Edge of Care Services. The Deputy Director of Children's Services advised that Mental Health support was important, in particular early intervention, including universal services, Healthy Schools, THRIVE and working collaboratively with Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).

A Member commented positively on the work of schools during the pandemic. The Chair welcomed the partnership working which had been taking place, including with the Voluntary and Community Sector.

The Chair reported that, based on recent visits to social work teams, staff felt that they could concentrate on significant cases while advising on others; however, she commented, that sometimes schools staff who were experienced in safeguarding felt that a particular case met the threshold for social work intervention but that this was not accepted by Children's Services. The Strategic Director for Children and Education Services acknowledged that sometimes different professionals held different views on a particular case and he outlined how he and his service were engaging with schools and how clusters of schools were working together. The Chair emphasised the important role of schools and the importance of ongoing conversation and relationship building.

The Strategic Director for Children and Education Services suggested that the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee could look again at proxy indicators, such as repeat referrals. In response to a Member's comments, he also suggested that Members could look at serious youth violence at a future scrutiny committee meeting. The Chair suggested that Members could look at the outcomes from Serious Case Reviews.

The Deputy Director of Children's Services advised that improved services with strong partnerships resulted in better outcomes for children and families and also more opportunities to apply for and obtain grant funding.

## **Decision**

To note the discussion and the issues raised.

## **CYP/OSG/21/03 Ofsted Inspections of Manchester Schools**

The Senior School Quality Assurance Officer provided Members with details of the Ofsted visits which had taken place during the 2020-2021 academic year. She



explained that routine inspections had been put on hold during the pandemic but that Ofsted inspectors had still been visiting schools – either remotely or in person – during this time. She drew Members' attention to the Section 8 visits which had taken place, advising that these did not result in a judgement but that the reports from these visits had been overwhelmingly positive. She reported that, for schools which had been previously judged as Requires Improvement or below, Section 8 monitoring inspections had continued and that these had been very positive.

A Member commented that, due to the use of virtual visits and reduced staffing, Ofsted were relying more on data to assess schools. She also reported that in some areas of the city, and particularly in the secondary sector, there were some very good schools and some not so good schools and that the leadership and management were key to this.

In response to a question from the Chair, the Senior School Quality Assurance Officer confirmed that Newall Green High School had closed. She informed Members that the Council had raised at a national level the pressures that Manchester schools had faced during the pandemic. She highlighted that some schools had received multiple Ofsted visits within a short period of time and offered to provide an update at the next meeting. The Chair commented on the excellent work of Manchester schools during the pandemic and the additional pressures that they had been placed under, particularly schools which had already been struggling.

The Subgroup considered the recent Ofsted report for Manchester Enterprise Academy, which stated that this continued to be a good school. Members welcomed this and discussed the school's Fantastic Futures programme. A Member expressed concern at the new, more simplified report format that Ofsted was now using, which the Senior School Quality Assurance Officer advised was written to be accessible for parents and families. The Chair commented on the low numbers in the school's sixth form, to which another Member responded that the sixth form was closing down. The Chair noted the comment in the report about boisterous behaviour and advised that the important issue was how this was dealt with. In response to a question from the Chair, the Senior School Quality Assurance Officer advised that the school's Alternative Provision would have been included in the inspection and, if there had been any concerns about it, this would have been mentioned in the report.

The Subgroup considered the recent Ofsted report for Wright Robinson College, which stated that this continued to be an outstanding school. The Senior School Quality Assurance Officer explained that schools that had been judged outstanding had previously been exempt from routine inspections but that this had now changed. She informed Members that schools which were last inspected before 2015 were receiving a Section 5 inspection and that schools which had been inspected since 2015 were receiving a less wide-ranging Section 8 inspection and that Wright Robinson fell into the latter category. The Chair commented that it was an impressive report. A Member reported that the school was over-subscribed but did not suit all children and that it had strict behaviour management. She advised that it welcomed new arrivals and was an inclusive school. The Chair expressed concern at the zero tolerance behaviour policies and asked if the school had in-house Alternative Provision. Another Member advised that pupils would remain on roll but attend a nearby Alternative Provision. She also commented that it was very inclusive

of children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND).

### **Decisions**

1. To write to Manchester Enterprise Academy and Wright Robinson College to congratulate them on their recent Ofsted reports.
2. To arrange visits to both schools.

### **CYP/OSG/21/04 Terms of Reference and Work Programme**

The Subgroup considered the Terms and Reference and Work Programme. A Member suggested that the next meeting again look at both Children's Services and schools. The Chair proposed that the next meeting take place on 19 January 2022.

### **Decision**

To approve the Terms of Reference and Work Programme, subject to the above comments.

**Manchester City Council  
Report for Information**

**Report to:** Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee – 9 February 2022

**Subject:** An update on families residing in both bed and breakfast accommodation and homeless accommodation outside of the city boundaries, and the impact on schools and transport

**Report of:** Strategic Director of Children and Education Services  
Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods)

### Summary

MCC has experienced a high level of homeless presentations, including families with children. Compounded by a combination of factors such as high population growth, welfare reform changes and a shortage of affordable housing in the City, the Council has utilised out of City placements to meet its statutory duties in relation to homelessness.

This report sets out the collaborative work undertaken by the Homeless Service and Children's services to support families who are impacted by homelessness.

### Recommendations

Members are invited to consider and comment on the information contained within this report.

**Wards Affected:** All

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| <b>Environmental Impact Assessment</b> - the impact of the issues addressed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city |
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| Placing families in settled accommodation quicker, and transferring children to a school local to the accommodation, will reduce the travelling time needed to get to school. |
|---|

| Manchester Strategy outcomes  | Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS  |
|---|---|
| A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities | Having good quality accommodation will help people to thrive.<br>Reducing the number of people who are homeless, or placing them in appropriate accommodation with help to access employment and learning opportunities will contribute to Manchester becoming a thriving and sustainable city. |
| A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success                   | Having accommodation that people can access, in areas where they have a support network to help them, and their children, into education or employment will help grow talent in the city.   |
| A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities    | Having good quality accommodation in our communities improves the environment people live in and helps them to make a positive contribution.  |
| A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work                                      | Ensuring properties are a good quality and high standard will reduce the need to heat properties and therefore reduce energy waste.   |
| A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth                                     |   |

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Name: Mohamed Hussein  
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**Background documents (available for public inspection):**

None

**1.0 Introduction**

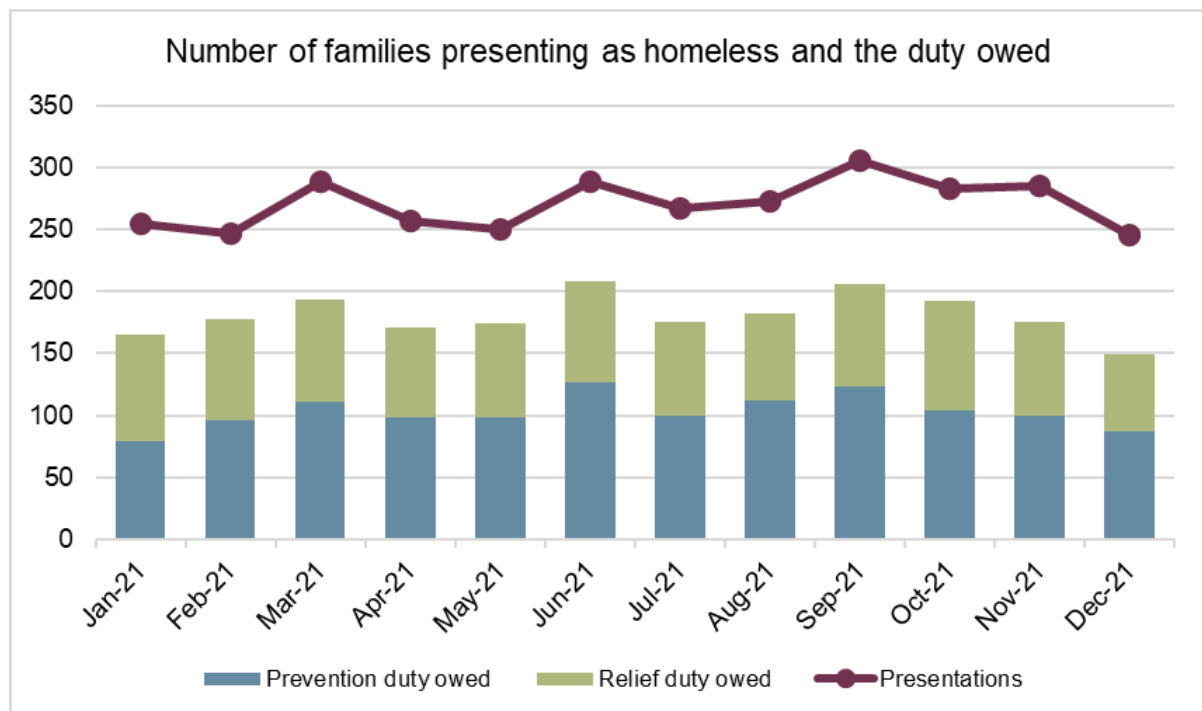
1.1 This report is further to the discussion at the November 2021 Children and Young Person’s Scrutiny Committee where it was requested that a report on families being placed in bed and breakfast accommodation, and accommodation outside of the city, be brought to the Committee to discuss.

1.2 This report will cover the numbers of families in bed and breakfast, the numbers of families accommodated outside of the city, and the impact on them. It will also cover the work that is being progressed to stop the use of bed and breakfast accommodation in the city.

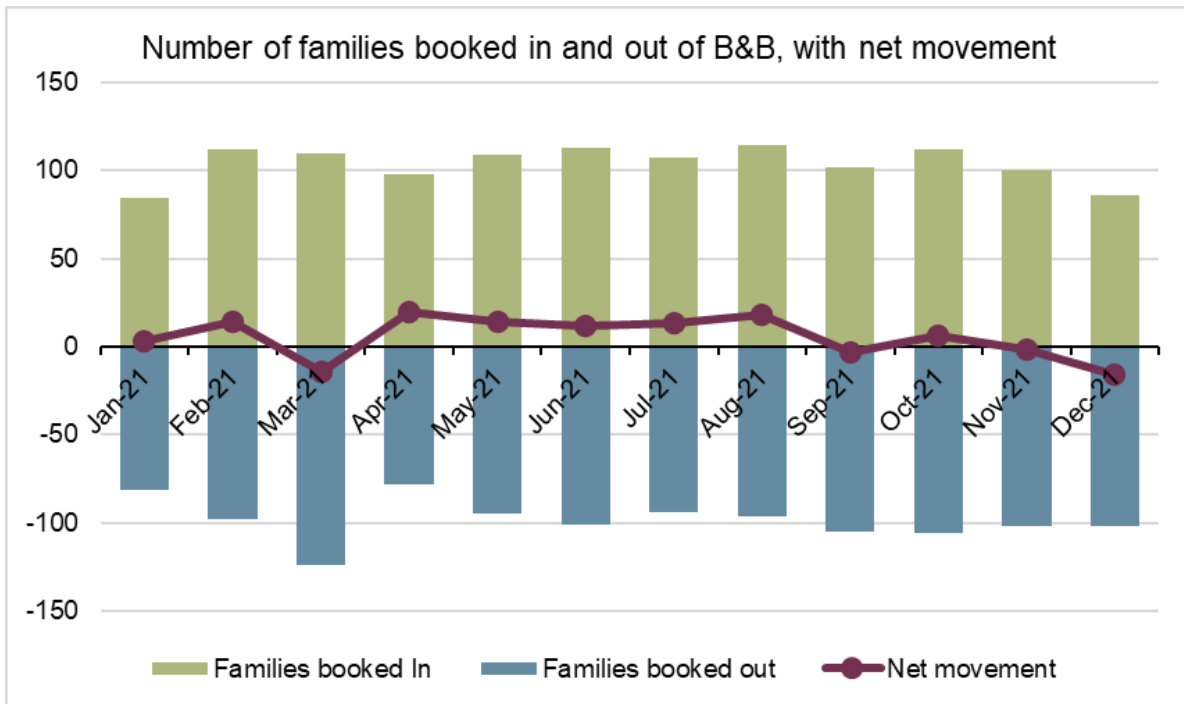
**2.0 Background**

2.1 The City Council has a statutory duty to assess and accommodate homeless families. Although it is preferable to accommodate families in their locality, close to their support networks, this is not always possible due to the cost and availability of accommodation. The homeless service will therefore accommodate families where there are available properties to ensure that families are not without vital accommodation.

2.2 The number of families presenting as homeless have continued to remain consistently high in Manchester and higher, than more comparative cities.

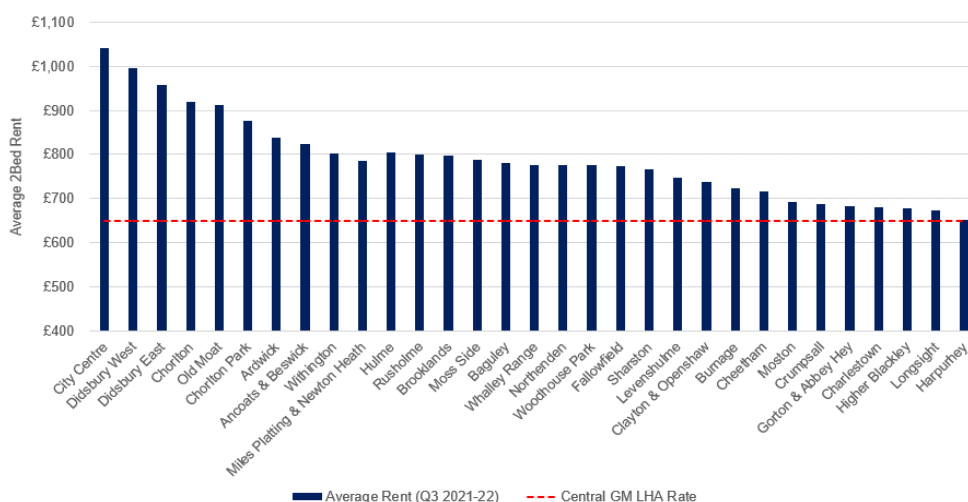


2.3 Bed and Breakfast is used as an emergency accommodation option before families move to either dispersed temporary accommodation or a private rented sector offer. Historically, the time spent in Bed and Breakfast has been very short, with swift move on to alternative accommodation.



2.4 Over the past 6 months, it has become increasingly difficult to move families out of emergency accommodation due to a reduction in the amount of dispersed temporary accommodation being brought online. There are currently 94 families in bed and breakfast accommodation as of January 2022 and the average number of days in B&B accommodation for families being 20 days.

2.5 The most significant challenge to accommodating families is the buoyant housing market in Manchester and the capped Local Housing Allowance rate. It has become more profitable for providers to rent properties on the open market. To illustrate this challenging issue further, due to the changes brought about by welfare reform, there is not a ward in the city that has an average rent that is lower than the local housing allowance. This is illustrated in the table below.



- 2.6 The impact of this significant constraint, is that it is increasingly difficult to place people in temporary accommodation and/or in affordable settled accommodation in the city.
- 2.7 Consequently, and to ensure the council meets its statutory duties, more placements are being made outside the city, and in addition, more discharge of housing duty accommodation offers (settled accommodation) are being made outside of the city too, as this is where families, due to their circumstances, can find more affordable accommodation.
- 2.8 As of the January 2022 there are currently 1,196 temporary accommodation family placements in Manchester, and 755 family placements outside of the city. The table below sets out the numbers of both families and singles currently in Temporary Accommodation in and out of the city.

|                             | Manchester   | Outside Manchester | Total        | Average time in TA (days) |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Families B&amp;B</b>     | 38           | 56                 | 94           | 20                        |
| <b>Singles B&amp;B</b>      | 182          | 115                | 297          | 79                        |
| <b>Families In-house TA</b> | 42           | 0                  | 42           | 182                       |
| <b>Singles In-house TA</b>  | 252          | 0                  | 252          | 186                       |
| <b>Families dispersed</b>   | 1,116        | 699                | 1,815        | 548                       |
| <b>Singles dispersed</b>    | 107          | 121                | 228          | 490                       |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>1,737</b> | <b>991</b>         | <b>2,728</b> | <b>434</b>                |

- 2.9 As at January 2022 there are the following number of dependent children (including pregnancies) in temporary accommodation;



- 181 in B&Bs
- 10 in nightly rate accommodation
- 67 in in-house TA
- 3,649 in dispersed

2.10 The experience of becoming homeless for families often impacts on:

- Continuity of education due to difficulties in getting to current school, or requiring a move to a new school
- Being apart from local support networks, friends and family
- Continuity of health and social care support
- Getting to the accommodation

2.11 The mitigation and support that MCC puts in place is set out in more detail in 4.0.

2.12 Due to the level of high demand and the current shortage of affordable housing, families who present as homelessness are often unlikely to find affordable and permanent housing in their preferred locality and where they originally presented as homeless to the council.

2.13 As such, families often need to find alternative areas to live permanently where they can afford the rent based on their income and particular circumstances. A consequence of this is that the majority of children move schools during the lifecycle of presenting as homeless to moving into temporary accommodation and then to finding a permanent home.

2.14 To help address these challenges issues, both the Homelessness Service and Childrens Services work together to provide a floating support offer which provides families with advice to support families during this unsettling period.

### **3.0 School and Travel**

3.1 Attending school and nursery places remains one of the most significant difficulties that families face when placed at some distance or outside of the city. Families often have children of mixed ages and travel to multiple sites to get children to schools and nurseries. Although families who have been placed at distance from their local school can access free travel passes so that there is not a financial pressure, this still presents parents with at times unmanageable logistical challenges. This can then lead to children potentially missing school days or arriving late.

3.2 The Councils Performance, Research and Intelligence team is looking to identify a random sample of young people currently in temporary accommodation to ascertain whether are notable patterns of attendance or exclusions where the temporary accommodation is further away from the school or whether there was a notable impact on performance after transition into temporary accommodation

- 3.3 In addition, there is also the impact on opportunities for these children to socialise outside of school with their friends. In many cases schools work with families to put in place flexible arrangements, provide access to before or after school clubs or even support with transport to and from school in some circumstances. They will also support families with a transfer to a more local school when accommodation becomes more long term.
- 3.4 As the families stay in temporary accommodation can often be prolonged, families often decide to move their children to a school or nursery close to their dispersed accommodation.

#### **4.0 Support for Families**

- 4.1 As the data in this report demonstrates, homelessness and housing related difficulties are a significant issue for many families in the city. The circumstances leading up to a family becoming homeless are often traumatic, especially if violence or domestic abuse are a factor. This is compounded when families have to spend time in Bed and Breakfast accommodation and/or are placed away from their support networks. For many children, family networks and school are protective factors, and the loss of stability and support can have a detrimental impact on their sense of security, as well as their physical and emotional well-being. Parents struggle to manage these additional pressures practically, financially, and emotionally, and this can result in mental health vulnerabilities linked to low mood, depression, and anxiety. This can be made more difficult if the family's usual health networks (GPs, Health Visitors etc) are a significant distance away.
- 4.2 In the first instance both Children's and Homelessness Services try to work with families in order to prevent homelessness. This will be an increasing focus over the next few years to reduce the number of people who become homeless.
- 4.3 If families do become homeless, this increases the vulnerability for children and the completion of an Early Help Assessment (EHA) becomes necessary. An EHA is completed on all presentations unless a social worker is already in place.
- 4.4 The Early Help Project Team have delivered training and support to homelessness staff and partners in the use of strengths-based conversations and the use of the Early Help Assessment as a tool to capture family need so that appropriate responses can be identified.
- 4.5 The Homelessness Floating Support Service complete these Early Help Assessments with families who are moved into dispersed temporary accommodation. As stated above, this identifies any needs the family may have. The EHA will trigger support including, but not exclusive to:
- Liaising with schools and school based support if needed,
  - Applying for transport passes to help children travel to school,

- Transferring children to a school local to the new property if the family decide this is the most appropriate course of action,
  - Transferring the family to a local doctor and dentist
  - Linking in with the specialist homeless health visitor service
  - Referrals to local nurseries and play groups
  - Referrals to Sure Start
  - Referrals to Early Help for more intensive support
  - Referrals and signposting to local voluntary organisations.
- 4.6 Some of the Floating Support Teams are co-located with the Early Help Hubs to ensure close working with Children's Services.
- 4.7 In respect of those children who are receiving a 'targeted' or 'specialist' service via the Council's Children's Services (social care or early help service), staff work extensively with partners to provide advice, support, and help to families to secure stable accommodation and prevent rooflessness, support with financial difficulties and advocacy with housing providers and private landlords. Homeless staff take social work intervention into account when allocating properties, and prioritise those receiving specialist help are kept within Manchester to ensure continuity of care.
- 4.8 The very nature of temporary accommodation, the indicative duration for some and the legal principle of 'ordinary residence' present a challenge for parents to make 'hard choices' and a balancing act for Local Authority Children's Services. On one hand the statutory duty and responsibility to provide help, support and protect sits with the Local Authority where a child is 'ordinarily resident' yet 'temporary accommodation' by its very nature is suggestive of a transitional arrangement.
- 4.9 This is compounded by the difficulty that a combination of factors, such as the shortage of suitable affordable property and changes to the welfare system, which can lead to families staying in temporary accommodation for a prolonged period of time.

## **5.0 Reducing the use of bed and breakfast and out of city placements**

- 5.1 The Homeless Service is focused upon reducing both the use of bed and breakfast and the amount of temporary accommodation that is utilised by the service by progressing the following projects as part of a wider transformation programme:

## **6.0 Prevention**

- 6.1 The most effective way to reduce the numbers of families in bed and breakfast and temporary accommodation is by preventing families from becoming homeless. Officers have been working on the following projects to increase the numbers of families who can access timely advice and support that resolves issues before they need to approach the service:

- A private rented sector eviction working group regularly meets to share information about current interventions to prevent evictions and to agree how advice services can work better together, for example, to ensure that the Breathing Space scheme is used effectively. The group has developed a Risk Matrix which identifies the areas of the city where people may be at heightened risk of being evicted and will target publicity and resources in those areas to encourage people to get advice.
- Communications on accessing financial and debt advice is being increased to encourage people to access help before it impacts upon their rent payments and ability to keep their home.
- Information sharing between the Homelessness Directorate and Manchester Move is being improved to ensure people who apply for accommodation who are at risk of homelessness are identified at an earlier stage and supported to stay in their current accommodation.
- The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) have provided £689k of funding to help people who are at risk of becoming homeless due to COVID-19 related rent arrears. The Council is working closely with Shelter, Citizens Advice and Cheetham Hill Advice Centre (CHAC) to prevent the most vulnerable people from becoming homeless.
- Registered providers and charities that provide accommodation are working with the Council to reduce evictions from their accommodation and ensure that all support possible has been provided to people before any eviction does occur.
- Children's and Homeless Services are working together to develop ways to support homelessness staff at the 'front-door' who deal with families when they first present so that a fuller picture of need and any potential risks for the children are explored at the earliest stage, in conjunction with Early Help Hub Triage teams. The Walmer Street incident is an example of good practice and partnership working, this model of collaborative working is being developed to improve outcomes for households in difficulty. Prior to the pandemic the Housing Solutions Service and Early Help were considering working together in the hubs. This approach needs developing as the outputs could result in greater prevention.

## **7.0 Apex House as a Model**

- 7.1 Apex House opened in March 2021. It consists of 20 flats for families in a mixture of 14 2-bed and 6 3-bed, some with connecting doors for larger families. The accommodation is staffed 24/7 with a mixture of support staff and security. The approach is for families to move directly into Apex instead of B&B, and then to work very closely with the private rented sector team to move families into the private rented sector and not temporary accommodation.

- 7.2 The benefits of the model are the time in temporary accommodation is very short, and families are moved quickly into settled accommodation. This means children are not travelling to their original school over a long period of time, but travel to the original school for a brief period, and then have the option to transfer to a local school when they move into their settled accommodation.
- 7.3 Due to the success of this model, officers are working with developers to create other family hostels to replicate this approach.

## **8.0 Placing families directly into dispersed accommodation**

- 8.1 Officers are seeking to place families directly into dispersed accommodation from presentation rather than placing families in emergency accommodation. This will necessitate a change in process with staff and providers working together to ensure there is sufficient dispersed accommodation available on the day for the number of families presenting.

## **9.0 Nightly rate accommodation**

- 9.1 As an alternative to bed and breakfast, many other Local Authorities use nightly rate accommodation. Nightly rate accommodation is where a family is accommodated in a property or flat, and therefore have their own front door, but the accommodation is on an emergency basis, and paid for on a nightly rate. Manchester has started to use this accommodation as an option to reduce the use of bed and breakfast. Officers are monitoring its use to ensure it remains a better alternative to bed and breakfast, and Manchester does not fall into the same situation as other Local Authorities, where it becomes an expensive dispersed accommodation option.

## **10.0 Private Rented Sector**

- 10.1 The Council has invested significantly in increasing the size of the private rented sector team and providing incentives to increase the number of families moving out of temporary accommodation into the private rented sector as a discharge of homeless duty. Moving families into settled accommodation means more families have the option to transfer to a school that is close to their new property that the children can settle into permanently.

## **11.0 Domestic Violence and Abuse**

- 11.1 Homelessness prevention forms a key part of commissioned domestic violence and abuse floating support, with Manchester Women's Aid's Connect Service providing an early help offer targeted at vulnerable families. The service is co-located with the Early Help Hubs and is based on the principles of early intervention and prevention. It supports low-medium risk families with safety planning, recovery and mental health support, and its aim is to intervene early in order to reduce both escalation of risk and prevent homelessness due to domestic abuse.

- 11.2 In addition, work delivered through the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 provides support to families in refuge and safe accommodation. Funding for 2021/22 has been utilised to provide additional specialist domestic abuse support to families whilst in temporary accommodation, and additional support in moving on into the private rented sector. Funding is also being used to support prevention with an enhanced Sanctuary Scheme offer established, which has seen additional resource put in place to manage the installation of target hardening/safe rooms as well as providing support to review the impact of safety measures installed.
- 11.3 Collectively these areas seek to reduce the numbers of individuals and families presenting as homeless to the council.

## **12.0 Refugee Transitions Outcomes Fund (RTOF)**

- 12.1 Several homeless applicants are refugees who have been given a positive asylum decision. The Refugee Transitions Outcomes Fund will fund 2 key worker staff to support 90 households in Manchester with:
- housing;
  - housing sustainment;
  - employment;
  - employment sustainment; and
  - improvement on outcome star, at both 6 and 12 months. The outcomes star would include referrals into ESOL, integration, education, training and health.
- 12.2 The expectation is that when the refugee receives their positive decision and are given 28 days to move from the Serco accommodation, the key workers will help the family move directly into private rented sector accommodation and provide resettlement and integration support thereby avoiding the homeless system. The family will be given support to transfer any children to a school or nursery local to their new accommodation, along with local GP (General practitioners) surgeries and other local services.

## **13.0 Transformation Programme**

- 13.1 To support and accelerate the successes of the Manchester Homeless Partnership and collaboration with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, the council is now embarking on a refreshed transformation programme as a different approach is vital to unlock some of the most intransigent system issues that are adversely impacting our residents. On that basis, the programme is focussed on the following outcomes;
- Increasing Prevention
  - Ending Rough Sleeping
  - More suitable and affordable accommodation
  - Better Outcomes and Better Lives for people and families at risk of homelessness or who are homeless.

The programme will help the Directorate to focus on the key aims of prevention, including ceasing the use of B&B accommodation (prioritising families) and reducing the use of temporary accommodation. A more detailed report is being presented to the Communities and Equalities Committee in February 2022 on the aims and scope of the Transformation Programme

#### **14.0 Conclusion**

- 14.1 The Children's and Homelessness service continue to work closely together, supporting each other's priorities and programmes, for example, Homelessness are supporting 'The Year of the Child' and Children's are involved with the homelessness prevention agenda and associated transformation programme; working with the homelessness service to ensure that families get the support they need to reduce the risk of homelessness, support families in temporary accommodation and assist families to resettle into safe, secure, long-term homes.
- 14.2 In the first instance, both Services try and prevent families from becoming homeless, and this is a focus going forward. If families do become homeless, an Early Help Assessment is undertaken and this triggers the appropriate and individualised support.
- 14.3 The support will be tailored to the family but can include liaising with the school, and school based support if needed, support in the form of free travel passes to schools, social care or early help support, and support with longer term decisions from education if the family decide they need to move school alongside their housing considerations.
- 14.4 The Early Help Assessment will also identify other needs such as referrals to the specialist health visiting service, support to move GPs, referrals to nurseries and general help with utilities, signposting to voluntary sector organisations and other help such as referrals to ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes.
- 14.5 The Council will ensure that homeless families are placed in accommodation that is available and affordable in order to fulfil the Council's statutory duty. Unfortunately, the placement is often not at the family's preferred location, however, our primary responsibility is to provide emergency and temporary housing.
- 14.6 The Homeless Service is commencing a transformation programme over the next three years that has reducing the amount of bed and breakfast and temporary accommodation as two of its key aims. The clear aim is to move families into affordable settled accommodation in the private rented sector in a more timely manner. This quicker throughput should help families settle into their new areas, moving children to schools closer to their new accommodation and building up new links and social networks.

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**Manchester City Council  
Report for Information**

**Report to:** Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee – 9 February 2022

**Subject:** Overview Report

**Report of:** Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit

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**Summary**

This report provides the following information:

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

**Recommendation**

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

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**Wards Affected:** All

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**Contact Officer:**

Name: Rachel McKeon

Position: Scrutiny Support Officer

Tel: 0161 234 4997

Email: rachel.mckeon@manchester.gov.uk

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**Background Documents (available for public inspection):**

None

## 1. Monitoring Previous Recommendations

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

| Date            | Item   | Recommendation   | Action   | Contact Officer  |
|-----------------|--|--|--|--|
| 8 January 2019  | CYP/19/05<br>Youth and Play Services                             | To request the needs analysis ranking information for the 32 wards in Manchester.  | A response to this recommendation will be incorporated into a future report.   | Neil Fairlamb,<br>Head of Parks,<br>Leisure, Events<br>and Youth                 |
| 9 October 2019  | CYP/19/39<br>Skills for Life                                     | To request that the Council work to ensure that, as far as possible, all settings are involved in Skills for Life, including independent schools, and that officers look into how Skills for Life could be incorporated into the contracts when Our Children are placed in non-Council-owned residential settings. | A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report. | Neil Fairlamb,<br>Head of Parks,<br>Leisure, Events<br>and Youth                 |
| 6 November 2019 | CYP/19/48<br>Youth and Play Services - Young Manchester          | To request that clear information on the availability of toilet facilities, for example, in park cafes, be included on signage in parks.   | A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report. | Neil Fairlamb,<br>Head of Parks,<br>Leisure, Events<br>and Youth                 |
| 4 March 2020    | CYP/20/16<br>Improving Children's Outcomes Through Collaboration | To request further information on how the Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust is dealing with smoking around its hospital sites and to note that the Executive  | A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report. | Paul Marshall,<br>Strategic Director<br>of Children and<br>Education<br>Services |

| Date            | Item   | Recommendation   | Action   | Contact Officer                            |
|-----------------|--|--|--|--|
|                 | and Working in Partnership in a Locality   | Member for Children and Schools will circulate a briefing note on work that is already taking place to address smoking in pregnancy.   |  |  |
| 22 July 2020    | CYP/20/26 Manchester's Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing | To request that school governors be included in the plans for schools and that CAMHS and the support on offer be included on the agenda of a future Chair of Governors briefing.             | A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report. | Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education     |
| 2 December 2020 | CYP/20/51 Early Help Evaluation (2015 - 2020)  | To ask officers to consider how Councillors could help with this work and to circulate a note to the Committee Members on this.  | A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be circulated to Members.                                  | Julie Heslop, Strategic Head of Early Help |
| 2 December 2020 | CYP/20/51 Early Help Evaluation (2015 - 2020)  | To request that the Early Help Project Manager provide information on the number of families, in relation to the presentation slides on areas of the city and the sustainability of impacts. | A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report. | Ed Haygarth, Early Help Project Manager    |
| 8 December 2021 | CYP/21/61 COVID-19 Update  | To request that guidance for secondary schools on testing and staggered starts for the next term be circulated to the Committee.   | This was circulated to Members by email on 6 January 2022.   | Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education     |

| Date            | Item                         | Recommendation  | Action   | Contact Officer                           |
|-----------------|------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 12 January 2022 | CYP/22/03<br>COVID-19 Update | That a letter should be sent to all schools congratulating them for their work during the pandemic. | Several letters have been sent to schools thanking them, most recently at Christmas. | Amanda Corcoran,<br>Director of Education |

## 2. Key Decisions

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

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

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

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

An extract of the most recent Register of Key Decisions published on **31 January 2022** containing details of the decisions under the Committee's remit is included below. This is to keep members informed of what decisions are being taken and, where appropriate, include in the work programme of the Committee.

### Register of Key Decisions:

| Subject / Decision   | Decision Maker | Decision Due Date   | Consultation | Background documents       | Officer Contact                        |
|--|----------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Early Years - Tendered Daycare Settings (2021/07/16B)</b> | City Treasurer | Not before 16th Aug |              | Checkpoint 4 Business Case | Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education |

| Subject / Decision  | Decision Maker                                       | Decision Due Date        | Consultation | Background documents            | Officer Contact                                |
|---|--|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--|
| The approval of capital expenditure to support the continued provision of high-quality Early Years settings across the City.  | (Deputy Chief Executive)                             | 2021                     |              |                                 | a.corcoran@manchester.gov.uk                   |
| <p><b>Youth Offer Strategy (2019/12/11B)</b></p> <p>To agree a Youth Offer Strategy for the next 3 years and complete the production of the strategy document.</p>                              | Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods)                  | 13 Jan 2020              |              | Manchester Youth Offer Strategy |  |
| <p><b>Future model of care for Lyndene Children's Home (2020/07/24C)</b></p> <p>To agree a new model of residential, short breaks and edge of care support care at Lyndene Children's home.</p> | Strategic Director - Children and Education Services | Not before 22nd Aug 2020 |              | Report and Recommendation       | Sarah Austin<br>sarah.austin@manchester.gov.uk |
| <p><b>Contract for The Provision of a SaLT (Speech and Language Therapy) Service (2021/10/14A)</b></p>  | Strategic Director - Children and Education Services | Not before 14th Nov 2021 |              | Report and recommendation       | Mike Worsley<br>mike.worsley@manchester.gov.uk |
| <p><b>Contract for the Provision of: TC724 - Missing from Care Service &amp; Return Interviews</b></p>  | Strategic Director - Children                        | Not before 4th Dec 2021  |              | Report and recommendation       | Julie Heslop<br>julie.heslop@manchester.gov.uk |

| Subject / Decision  | Decision Maker                          | Decision Due Date        | Consultation | Background documents       | Officer Contact                           |
|---|---|--------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|---|
| <p><b>(2021/11/04A)</b></p> <p>The appointment of a Provider to deliver the Missing from Care Service &amp; Return Interviews.</p> <p>The Missing from Care commissioned service will provide a statutory independent return interview service for children and young people who go missing from care. The service will contribute to the delivery of the complex safeguarding strategy which identifies key areas of work required to take place in order to meet the core objective of reducing the number of young people who go missing and those who go missing regularly in the city.</p> | and Education Services                  |                          |              |                            |   |
| <p><b>Liquid Logic Phase 2 (2021/11/29D)</b></p> <p>To support the further embedding of system functionality and improved data quality and reporting and agree to fund the staff costs associated with this work and the costs for a external consulting organization to help with</p>  | City Treasurer (Deputy Chief Executive) | Not before 27th Dec 2021 |              | Checkpoint 4 Business Case | Andrew Blore<br>a.blore@manchester.gov.uk |

| Subject / Decision   | Decision Maker                          | Decision Due Date       | Consultation | Background documents      | Officer Contact                            |
|--|---|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--|
| the work.  |   |                         |              |                           |  |
| <p><b>Changing Primary and Secondary School Formula (2021/12/06A)</b></p> <p>Approve starting a transition to the National Funding Formula (NFF) in advance of submission of primary and secondary budget to the Department for Education in January 2022.</p> | Executive                               | 19 Jan 2022             |              | School Budget Report      |  |
| <p><b>Q20347 Consultant for EYES data Migration. 2019/04/25A</b></p> <p>Contract is to support Manchester City Council with the migration of their Education Management System away from Capita One towards the Liquidlogic EYES solution.</p>                 | City Treasurer (Deputy Chief Executive) | Not before 1st Jun 2019 |              | Report and Recommendation | Jon Nickson<br>j.nickson@manchester.gov.uk |

**Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee  
Work Programme – February 2022**

**Wednesday 9 February 2022, 2.00 pm (Report deadline Friday 28 January 2022)**

| <b>Item</b>                       | <b>Purpose</b>   | <b>Executive Member</b>                 | <b>Strategic Director / Lead Officer</b>             | <b>Comments</b>           |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|---------------------------|
| Homeless Families                 | To receive a report on Homeless Families, in particular families being placed outside of the city and the impact of this.                      | Councillor Rahman<br>Councillor Bridges | David Ashmore/<br>Mohamed Hussein/<br>Paul Marshall  | See November 2021 minutes |
| Budget proposals 2022/23 - update | Consideration of the final budget proposals that will go onto February Budget Executive and Scrutiny and March Council.                        | Councillor Craig<br>Councillor Bridges  | Carol Culley/<br>Paul Marshall/<br>Amanda Corcoran   | Executive report          |
| Virtual Schools Annual Report     | To receive the Virtual Schools Annual Report.  | Councillor Bridges                      | Amanda Corcoran/<br>Jane Johnson                     |                           |
| COVID-19 Update                   | To receive a written report providing an update.   | Councillor Bridges                      | Paul Marshall/<br>Amanda Corcoran/<br>Andrea Daubney |                           |
| Overview Report                   | The monthly report includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information. |   | Rachel McKeon  |                           |



Wednesday 9 March 2022, 10am (Report deadline Friday 25 February 2022)

| Item                         | Purpose  | Lead Executive Member | Strategic Director/ Lead Officer  | Comments                  |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| SEND Inspection              | To receive the letter from the recent Ofsted inspection of services for children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). | Councillor Bridges    | Amanda Corcoran                   |                           |
| Home School Transport        | To receive a report on Home School Transport.  | Councillor Bridges    | Amanda Corcoran                   | See November 2021 minutes |
| Sensory Service              | To receive a report on proposals for the Sensory Service.  | Councillor Bridges    | Amanda Corcoran                   | Executive Report          |
| COVID-19 Update              | To receive a further update.   | Councillor Bridges    | Paul Marshall/<br>Amanda Corcoran |                           |
| Participation and Engagement | To receive a report on work relating to participation and engagement with children and young people.                                   | Councillor Bridges    | Paul Marshall/<br>Yasmin Bibi     |                           |
| Overview Report              |  | -                     | Rachel McKeon                     |                           |

#### Items To Be Scheduled

| Item            | Purpose   | Executive Member   | Strategic Director/ Lead Officer | Comments                  |
|-----------------|---|--------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Remote Learning | To receive a report on remote learning, to include a particular focus on Years 11 and 13 and information on the numbers of pupils who are able to | Councillor Bridges | Amanda Corcoran                  | See November 2020 minutes |

|   |   |  |                             |                            |
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|   | access any streamed lessons or online learning that is being made available.  |  |                             |                            |
| Children and Young People's Plan 2020 - 2024  | To receive an annual report on the progress of this work.   | Councillor Bridges                       | Paul Marshall               | See November 2020 minutes  |
| Provision of Services by One Education  | To receive a report on the provision of services by One Education.  | Councillor Bridges                       | Amanda Corcoran             | See March 2021 minutes     |
| Lyndene   | To receive a further report on Lyndene in 12 months' time.  | Councillor Bridges                       | Paul Marshall               | See March 2021 minutes     |
| Manchester Safeguarding Partnership   | To receive regular reports on the work of the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership.  | Councillor Bridges                       | Paul Marshall               | See May 2021 minutes       |
| School dinners and healthy well-balanced meals  | To receive a report on school dinners and healthy well-balanced meals for the children.   | Councillor Bridges                       | Amanda Corcoran             |                            |
| Update on wellbeing and mental health and support for schools and settings and education for children unable to attend school due to ill health | To receive a further report on this and to invite a representative from CAMHS to this meeting.  | Councillor Bridges<br>Councillor Midgley | Paul Marshall               | See September 2021 minutes |
| Sex and Relationship Education  | To receive a report on Sex and Relationship Education in schools, including how child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation are addressed through this. | Councillor Bridges                       | Amanda Corcoran             | See October 2021 minutes   |
| Youth and Play  | To receive a further report on Youth and Play commissioning arrangements at an appropriate time.  | Councillor Bridges                       | Fiona Worrall/Neil Fairlamb | See October 2021 minutes   |

|   |   |                    |                 |                           |
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| Adoption  | To receive a report on adoption which includes what difference the move to Adoption Counts has made in providing stable adoption placements for Our Children and what happens when an adoption breaks down. | Councillor Bridges | Paul Marshall   | See November 2021 minutes |
| Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) and Alternative Provision       | To receive an update report in approximately 12 months' time.   | Councillor Bridges | Amanda Corcoran | See December 2021 minutes |
| The Role of GMP Engagement Officers in Manchester Schools | To receive a report on the role of GMP Engagement Officers in Manchester schools.   | Councillor Bridges | Amanda Corcoran |                           |
| Elective Home Education                                   | To receive a report on Elective Home Education.   | Councillor Bridges | Amanda Corcoran | See January 2022 minutes  |

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