



**Tuesday, 28 January 2025**

Dear Councillor / Honorary Alderman,

## **Meeting of the Council – Wednesday, 5th February, 2025**

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held at 10.00 am on Wednesday, 5th February, 2025, in The Council Chamber, Level 2, Town Hall Extension.

### **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 meeting held on 27 November 2024.

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### **4. Notice of Motion - Giving ownership back to our communities**

This Council notes:-

- The important role local assets play in thriving communities;
- That these assets can take various forms and can range from community centres and pubs to cinemas and music venues;
- That there are thousands of Assets of Community Value (ACVs) listed throughout the UK, with six live ACVs currently listed in Manchester;
- That the Council has a Community Asset Transfer Policy, enabling the positive transfer of assets, including community and leisure facilities, to community groups, allowing them to continue to operate and provide a vital service to those communities;
- That there are currently 35 community interest transfers in

- place, with a number of others in the pipeline;
- That during 14 years of Tory economic mismanagement, the sad decline of the British high street paired with the UK's stunted economic growth left our communities hollowed out of the assets that we all find important. Many vital assets have been left empty and vacant, ultimately becoming an eyesore to local communities.
- That despite the damaging impact of Tory austerity, the Council has worked proactively with communities across the city, to help revitalise district centres, and has supported those communities in saving and breathing new life into once-forgotten venues.

This Council welcomes:-

- The Labour Government's plans to introduce a Community Right to Buy, alongside a commitment to strengthen the powers available to communities including:
  - A first refusal on a wider range of assets of community value, and;
  - Doubling the time period for communities to raise finance to buy ACVs from six months to twelve.
- The Labour Government's introduction of High Street Rental Auctions (HSRAs), along with funding to support these. HSRAs will allow local authorities to tackle persistently vacant properties in our city and district centres by putting the leases up for auction.

This Council believes these initiatives will help boost the high street through a 'right to rent' commercial lots for businesses and community groups. They will also stop landlords from sitting on empty properties for more than 365 days in a 24-month period, before councils can step in and auction on a one-to-five year lease. In the long-term, bringing assets into community ownership will create jobs for local people and boost trade by bringing businesses, community services and customers back to our high streets.

This Council resolves to:-

- (1) Support community groups interested in acquiring an asset with connections to local and national funders as well as infrastructure support;
- (2) Recommend that the Executive ensure the ACV application process is simplified and made as accessible as possible, insofar as the legislative requirements applying to ACVs will allow this.;
- (3) Promote ACVs and Community Right to Buy;
- (4) Use the new tool of HSRAs to help communities take back control of their local assets and ensure these thrive under

- community ownership;
- (5) Continue to support community groups across the city to run assets and deliver vital support to communities;
- (6) Celebrate the success stories of ACVs in our communities.

**Proposed by Councillor Wills, seconded by Councillor Johns and supported by Councillors McCaul, I Robinson, Stogia, Taylor, Whiston and White.**

**5. Notice of Motion - Building the homes Manchester needs**

We welcome that one of Manchester City council's biggest priorities is building the homes that Manchester people need. For too many Mancunians, a safe, affordable place to call home remains out of reach after a 14 years of Government policy that restricted the building of council and social housing

We further note that:

- In 2022 this Council set an ambitious new housing strategy to deliver at least 10,000 genuinely affordable, Council and Social Rent new homes.
- Manchester's Labour council is on track to deliver this ambitious target- with 603 affordable homes were built in 2023/2024 with 1,895 affordable homes being built as we speak and a further 1,500 with planning permission. This represents the biggest genuinely affordable homes programme this city has seen in over 15 years.
- Manchester's Labour Council has been able to maximise delivery of affordable housing because it has been creative and innovative in finding opportunities to deliver affordable homes:
- This City – the Councils Housing Delivery vehicle- which takes on some of the most ambitious sites in the city, starting with Ancoats and the North Quarter- showing to the market that it can be done!
- Project 500 – using small plots of council owned land to work with housing providers to deliver social homes right across the city
- Using Council land to build affordable homes, and we welcome the announcement of another 700 homes at Januarys Executive.
- Ground breaking regeneration schemes, such as the North Manchester Strategy delivering one of the country's biggest urban regeneration and house building schemes in the country, the ambitious Wythenshawe Town Centre Regeneration, and other emerging plans like Holt Town - using partnerships to unlock local regeneration.

This Council welcomes:

- The introduction of the Manchester Living Rent with This City homes and that registered providers are now using for their affordable rent properties, capped at or below levels of local housing allowance in Manchester.
- The Labour Government's ambitious plans to tackle the housing crisis and build 1.5 million homes over the next 5 years.
- The Labour Government's investment into and reform of the planning system to help speed up housing delivery.
- The Chancellor's immediate cash injection of £500m into the Affordable Homes Programme, helping to build up to 5,000 new social and affordable homes.

This Council resolves:-

- (1) To remain at the forefront of social and affordable housing delivery and work in partnership with the new Government to put Manchester front and centre of the government's ambitious plans to build the homes this country needs
- (2) Through the CSR and in meetings with minister, lobby the Government on a range of issue to help fix the national housing crisis here in Manchester:
- (3) To call for more funding from Homes England for social housing in Manchester
- (4) To call for more brownfield funding to unlock the land we have to deliver affordable home
- (5) To work with Greater Manchester on genuine place-based regeneration that builds affordable homes, and much needed public services like schools and GPs.
- (6) To support communities who want to develop their own community plans so that at the same time as building the homes we need, we ensure our neighbourhoods are places that meet our communities' needs and ambitions.
- (7) To continue to look for new opportunities for affordable housing delivery including a practical strategy for the promotion and development of Community Led Housing.
- (8) To work with the Government to reform housing policy across the board to end the housing crisis for good.
- (9) Noting that the Deputy Prime Minister visited Collyhurst in North Manchester to see the building of new council homes, request the Leader of the Council to invite her to the opening of those Council homes in the autumn
- (10) To ask all Councillors in this chamber to support building social and council housing across the city, including in their own wards.

**Proposed by Councillor Richards, seconded by Councillor I Robinson and supported by Councillors Amin, Ludford, Lynch, Marsh, Noor, Rawson, Ogunbambo, and White.**

**6. Notice of Motion - River Mersey Flooding - Protecting Manchester for the next 100 years**

This Council:-

- Expresses its thanks to everyone involved in the response to the New Years' Day floods, including the emergency services, businesses, council officers and members of the community.
- Place on record its thanks to Didsbury Mosque, its trustees and volunteers who provided shelter to over 450 people evacuated from properties in West Didsbury.
- Recognises the efforts and commitment shown by Tracey Pook, the Community Officer at Didsbury Mosque.
- Identifies the role that climate change is having on Manchester and the increase in the regularity of severe weather events.
- Welcomes the efforts currently underway by the council to assist the Environment Agency to complete temporary fixes on the banks of the river Mersey in five locations where the bank of the river collapsed.
- Affirms this council's commitment to continuing to work with the Environment Agency and other agencies to secure funding for the necessary improvements.

This Council notes:-

- Residents are increasingly concerned about the frequency of flooding events and for the safety of their properties.
- That after flooding events in 2021, 2023 and now 2025, the Environment Agency assessment that flooding of properties in south Manchester required a one in one-hundred years weather event is no longer accurate.

This Council believes:-

- All residents have the right to feel safe in their own home.
- That when flood events happen the recovery response should be as important as the emergency response.

This Council resolves to:-

- (1) Work with agencies and contractors to aid in the recovery of properties, council assets and environment damaged by the floods.
- (2) Instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Environment Agency to request that the one in one hundred weather event probability calculations for South Manchester is assessed as a matter of urgency.
- (3) Urge the Environment Agency's update of the Mersey Flooding strategy started in 2021 is expedited as a matter of urgency.

**Proposed by Councillor Kilpatrick, seconded by Councillor Leech and supported by Councillors Abdullatif, Good, Johnson, Northwood Nunney and Sarwar**

**7. Proceedings of the Executive - to follow**

To submit the minutes of the Executive on 22 January 2025, and in particular to consider:

**8. 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.

**9. Scrutiny Committees**

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To note the minutes of the following committees:

- Economy & Regeneration – 3 December 2024 and 14 January 2025 (to follow)
- Communities & Equalities – 3 December 2024 and 14 January 2025
- Children & Young People – 4 December 2024 and 15 January 2025 (to follow)
- Health – 4 December 2024 and 15 January 2025
- Resources and Governance – 5 December 2024 and 16 January 2025
- Environment, Climate Change & Neighbourhoods – 5 December 2024 and 16 January 2025

**10. Proceedings of Committees**

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

- Audit Committee – 26 November 2024
- Planning and Highways Committee – 21 November, 19 December 2024 and 23 January 2025 (to follow)
- Health and Wellbeing Board – 29 January 2025 (to follow)

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Yours faithfully,



**Paul Marshall**  
**Deputy 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](http://www.manchester.gov.uk)

## Members of the Council

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### Councillors:-

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

### Honorary Aldermen of the City of Manchester –

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

## Further Information

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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, 28 January 2025** by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit, Manchester City Council, Level 2, Town Hall Extension (Library Walk Elevation), Manchester M60 2LA