

Appendix 2: UPDATED Our Manchester Narrative

Our Manchester - You said, TOGETHER we did

We need to work together to make Manchester the thriving, buzzing, world-class city we all want it to be. The place where everyone can be everything they want to be.

Everyone has a part to play to make it happen. We know we can't do this alone. Our Manchester means people taking charge – in their home, street and community – to turn a decade of damage from budget cuts into a positive future.

Together we need to get the basics right, prevent problems happening further down the line and tackle the hard stuff together.

1. Keep the basics on track

For our part, we've listened to people's priorities; so we'll focus on keeping public spaces clean, fixing roads, collecting bins and recycling. We support people into apprenticeships, work experience and good jobs. We'll work on the basics that make Manchester a great place to live.

We can't do this alone and we need to work together [not all examples need to be used] :

- If we work with residents to increase recycling by 1% we can save half-a-million pounds.
- Finding 'friends' who'll help keep our streets and open spaces clean and green can free up Council staff to tackle larger jobs.
- Volunteers can keep our libraries open and offer more activities and opportunities for local people.
- Shopping for vulnerable neighbours frees up care staff and budgets.
- Keeping active boosts our health, easing pressure on the NHS.
- Keeping our own surroundings tidy frees up cleansing teams to blitz the grotspots.
- Walking to school eases traffic, cuts pollution and gets kids active.
- 'Friends' need to look after their own local park.
- Days out for older people need drivers.
- Youth groups need volunteers to steer young lives.

2. Prevent more problems down the line

Acting now to prevent future problems costs just a fraction of the public money needed to fix complex problems. We'll support people to find their own solutions from what's already going well.

But cutting the causes of future problems like ill health, poor school results, loneliness and antisocial behaviour can't just be the Council's job. Alongside us is an army of carers, support groups and the larger voluntary and community organisations. Together we can provide, for example: [Not all examples need to be used].

- Extra help for children struggling in the early years or at school, and their families.
- Advice on coping with bills, with support for landlords to stop tenants being evicted.
- Support for those becoming unwell, helping their employers keep them in work.
- Help for older people to stay in their homes and remain active – keeping them out of hospital or residential care.

3. Tackling complex problems together

By working together to deliver the basics we should free up money and time to help us focus on dealing with the big things.

We know there are still too many people in the city facing poverty or hardship. We know that too many people are in poor health. Together we can make a difference, but it means bringing together all of the services that support people.

We can make this happen together. We'll dedicate resources and staff, but we need to be equal partners, making Manchester better, together.

We call it **Our** Manchester, because it is. At home, on your street, in your community, it's Our Manchester.