

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee – 11 October 2018

Subject: Improving Life Chances: Generations Together (Improving the Life Chances of Manchester Residents)

Report of: Deputy Chief Executive

Summary

This report highlights the Council's commitment to Improving Life Chances for all Manchester communities, one of its strategic equality objectives. This commitment is provided as context to specific activity which has taken place and is planned around the intergenerational agenda, using the agreed Generations Together Manifesto as a basis for action.

Recommendation

Members are recommended to consider and comment on the contents of this report.

Wards Affected: All

Alignment to the Our Manchester Strategy Outcomes (if applicable)

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	The corporate equality objective of Improving Life Chances is underpinned with performance metrics regarding employment for diverse resident groups.
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	The corporate equality objective of Improving Life Chances is underpinned with performance metrics that promote community wellbeing and contribution / involvement. The Generations Together work described aims to unlock residents' potential across generations.
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	
A connected city: world class	

infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	
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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

- Manchester's Generations Together, *Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee* - 7 September 2016
- Equality Objectives 2016 - 2020, *Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee* – 1 March 2018

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Council agreed it's refreshed Equality Objectives in 2016 building on its initial accreditation at the Excellent level of the Equalities Framework for Local Government. The three objectives support the aims of the Our Manchester Strategy and have, at their heart, a focus on working with the City's diverse residents to improve outcomes for all by embracing diversity and the benefits it brings. The Objectives are:

1. Knowing Manchester Better
2. Improving Life Chances
3. Celebrating Our Diversity

1.2 For a number of years the Council has recognised that delivering on equality requires an approach which is embedded across the organisation and our partnerships and which recognises that equality and what it means to people is a complex and very personal matter. In support of this, the Council has appointed a Lead member for Intergenerational matters to provide focus to work in understanding and bringing together the benefits of activity focused on younger and older people, acknowledging the Council's strong reputation here and recognising the distinct elements of these areas as well as the opportunities to align activity and discussions. - This intergenerational focus is a key underpinning feature of work across the Council's Equality Objectives.

2.0 Equality Objectives Update

2.1 Each of the three high level equality objectives is underpinned with a set of more specific measurable delivery aims. The objectives and their delivery aims in full are at *Appendix 1* of this report. A full and detailed update on the Equality Objectives, including a detailed analysis of key measure in relation to the Improving Life Chances objective was presented to this Committee in March and an updated will be developed for the end of this financial year.

2.2 Improving Life Chances

2.2.1 The Improving Life Chances equality objective and its underpinning delivery aims focus on the outcomes that contribute to improved life satisfaction and wellbeing, and the inputs required of the Council and its partners to make these happen across generations. The objective in full states that:

"We want everyone living in Manchester to have a good quality of life and equal chances. We know that for some groups in Manchester this is not the case. We will work with our partners to take a positive approach to removing inequalities."

2.2.2 Progress against the Improving Life Chances objective is measured against the areas of:

- health and wellbeing
- education

- volunteering, apprenticeships and pathways to employment
- family / child poverty
- community safety

2.2.3 These areas represent the clear intergenerational focus of our work on equalities and the update presented in March demonstrates the progress and impact of work here to date.

3.0 Generations Together

3.1 Manchester has developed a definition of Intergenerational work, which is set out in the Manchester Intergenerational toolkit:

“Intergenerational work involves bringing people from different generations together in purposeful, mutually beneficial activities. These can promote greater understanding and respect between these generations and can contribute to building stronger communities. Intergenerational work builds on the positive resources that the young and old have to offer each other and those around them.”

3.2 Work in this area over recent years has been progressed in two distinct ways:

1. Specific projects and initiatives aimed at bringing generations together
2. Ensuring that the organisation’s programme of equality focused events is accessible and attractive to individuals from across generations.

3.3 The projects and initiatives strand above has, in the main, been historically delivered as part of the Age Friendly Manchester Programme and has included Age-friendly City visioning workshops, supporting Manchester’s Generation’s Together symposium and developing the Manchester Generations Together manifesto (*Appendix 2* of this report).

3.4 Work to assure that the Council’s calendar of equality-focused events has been accessible and attractive to individuals from across generations has been progressed by the Equalities team. This has included consideration within the planning of a range of events such as: the Living Library even in 2016, Manchester Pride Parade and International Women’s Day.

3.5 Under the leadership of the new Lead Member for Intergenerational matters the approach described above will be strengthened. This will include identifying a number of further tangible projects for action and broadening the scope of events and activities where explicit work is progressed to assure intergenerational accessibility and appeal. - In refreshing the Council’s intergenerational activity, the Generations Together Manifesto will provide a strong basis to further this activity.

3.6 A representative steeringing group of stakeholders will be formed to drive this work, including Council officers and representatives from relevant groups including the Age Friendly Manchester Older People’s Board and Manchester Youth Council. This group will be chaired by the Lead Member for Intergenerational matters,

3.7 The work programme for this steering group will need to be jointly agreed, but some broad principles that the group will work to include:

- promote and embed ownership of the Generations Together Manifesto
- engage with Manchester communities to establish and celebrate what currently works well around intergeneration; develop case studies of good practice to share with others
- establish intergenerational activity across Wards in Manchester where this is not already happening
- assess the feasibility for a Manchester Intergeneration Network, owned and coordinated by residents with initial facilitation support from the Council

3.8 The initial discussions between stakeholders and the planning of this programme of work will take place by the end of the financial year, with activity to follow early in 2019-20.

4.0 Conclusions

4.1 The Council has a clear and stated commitment to improving life chances for all Manchester communities. An update on this area was last provided to this Committee in March 2018 and a further update will be provided in March 2019 which will include details of progress with work to develop more detailed analysis of outcome measured by protected characteristic.

4.2 Activity under the Generations Together banner has and will continue to be woven across all three of the Council's equality objectives. There have been some successes here, however work is needed to strengthen and fully embed the organisation's approach. Over the coming months the programme of work around intergenerational matters will be refreshed and strengthened. This will include the development of much clearer success measures aligned to the equality objectives and delivery aims themselves.