

This Covid19 Monthly Update Report of Manchester City Council has three parts

(a) Residents and Communities Situation Report

(b) Economic Recovery Situation Report

(c) Future Council Situation Report

Covid-19 Sitrep Summary

Residents and Communities Workstream

Date: 20 Nov 2020

Workstream	Impact / challenges experienced	Key planning and recovery activity being undertaken**
Residents at risk		
<p>Shielded Residents and the Food Response</p>	<p>Whilst shielding hasn't been re-introduced, guidance has been sent via a national letter to all those that that are defined as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable. This is being followed up by a local letter sent via GPs with more detail about how to access support locally via the Covid Helpline.</p> <p>There is a move away nationally from direct food provision to supporting self sufficiency. Those who are CEV will be able to register on line to obtain a preferential supermarket slot and request to be linked in to a local support offer. We are very mindful that there will be a number of residents that are digitally excluded and will not be able to access this offer. The helpline will be available to offer support needed</p> <p>Small increase in demand due to National / Local Clinically Extremely Vulnerable instruction letters.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbers coming through to the food response are slowly increasing, but for now we are confident in the capacity within the system to meet need • The food response will continue to support people with either a clinical or financial vulnerability • The focus for the food response will remain on providing access to a holistic support offer which looks at issues beyond food support needs / root causes. Key referral pathways established with CAB, Be Well Service, Early Help, Digital Volunteers and other provision • Demand is being monitored daily and appropriate measures put in place to scale up as required, there is the potential for this to have implications on resources. • Call Handlers have been pro-actively contacting identified CEV residents / households to provide food support if needed (based on intelligence from PRI).

			<p>26 residents have been contacted so far, with 4 requiring immediate food response support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work is underway to ensure that digital support is integrated so that more residents can benefit from online options• The New Smithfield Market function is on standby subject to demand increasing – a project and finance plan has been drafted and can be stood up quite quickly. However, ongoing discussions with providers has suggested that capacity can be met through additional volunteer and (les significant) financial support• The new Food Response Team is now largely in place – the final role (Volunteer Manager) will be filled 25/11• The Our Manchester Food Partnership has launched, and 3 themed webinars have taken place. The objective of this is to increase skills and knowledge of food providers, and to help make food providers make connections with other support services.• Planning for Christmas period has begun, and we are mapping provision and referral pathways to services (some providers have a cut-off point for Christmas referrals). Call Handlers will where appropriate signpost to additional
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			<p>Christmas VCS provision as well as general brokerage and allocation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As well as calls to CEV residents re food, calls are also being made to those who have registered on the National Shielding website and asked to be connected into a local support offer.
Domestic Violence & Abuse	<p>Domestic abuse community services are working at and in some cases over capacity. Previous lockdown saw a steady increase in referrals to DA services apart from the IRIS services which links GPs directly to the DA advocate.</p> <p>Staff resilience continues to be a risk given the length of previous and new restrictions. Consideration to be made as to what support providers may need to maintain staff wellbeing in order to continue with service delivery</p> <p>At a meeting with providers, they report there has not been an immediate increase in demand since the new lockdown measures, however most DA providers are now seeing higher than pre-covid referral levels.</p>	<p>MWA to continue to support high risk referrals from MARAC until 31 March 21.</p> <p>Additional covid funding provided to the MCC IDVA service to provide a further temporary manager post and a temporary IDVA post to manage demand and support the staff team.</p> <p>Comms have been reviewed to reinforce message that services are still open and victims can leave the home to escape an abusive relationship. This includes messaging in relation to the IRIS service</p>	
Welfare Provision	Half-Term Free School Meals	The WPS Team administered the Council's Free School Meals replacement scheme for the half-term week. The scheme was open from 23/10/20 to 13/11/20. We made payments for 6,616	

		<p>Test and Trace Support Payments</p>	<p>children at a total cost of £99,240. There may be some final adjustment to the reported numbers following a data cleansing exercise.</p> <p>At 16 November we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Received 2,616 eligible applications• Paid £356,500 to 713 main scheme applications• Paid £105,500 to 211 discretionary cases• Declined 1,433 applications (615 main scheme and 818 discretionary)*• Pended 261 cases while awaiting further information• Allocated all applications received <p>*The main reasons for refusals are where the income is above the threshold based on the agreed AGMA model</p> <p>The government estimated that the scheme would generate 12 applications per day for an authority the size of Manchester. We are receiving an average of 53 per day.</p> <p>Consideration is being given at a senior level to contacting the DWP to request an increase in the discretionary budget (£227k) provided within the scheme and the amount provided to administer the scheme. Based upon the DWP position there is limited confidence that the discretionary budget would be increased.</p>
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		Covid Winter Grant Scheme	<p>The DWP are providing a budget of up to £2.6m to Manchester to deliver a Covid Winter Grant Scheme up to 31/3/21. The details of the scheme are being worked through at strategic and operational levels. The primary focus is to provide food support for families with children during the Christmas and February 2021 half-term holidays. Flexibility is also offered to allow support for families without children and single people. DWP require authorities to provide data returns to show how the fund is being directed and the total grant received is dependent on the assurance provided by these returns. Current thinking / activity to deliver the scheme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vouchers to a value of £15 per week provided to schools to allocate • Up to 34,000 vouchers available per holiday period to meet estimated need • A rapid tender process to identify partner supermarkets with a view to achieving an element of uplift to the value of the voucher • SMT colleagues involved in identifying and implementing preferred options for providing support across other key groups that may include care leavers; homeless families; carers; college students: and may include food / utilities / other key needs support.
	Homelessness	Increase in presentations to pre-Covid levels has continued, presenting additional pressures as access to move-on and temporary accommodation	Working with partners to maximise access to move-on accommodation, including targeted interventions in the private rented sector. This will

		<p>remains limited. Re-start of s21 evictions not being seen as a major factor yet, but this process has only recently re-started and pent-up demand will be seen in the system again soon. Increases in domestic abuse presentations has been sustained. Currently in the process of identifying arrangements for winter provision for people who sleep rough. Numbers have shown a slow but consistent trend of increase. Commitment to not use night shelters wherever possible, but concern as to the availability of self-contained accommodation, its cost and the availability of adequate staffing and support services, including a food offer.</p> <p>Concerns with finding sufficient suitable accommodation for people who are positive, and a testing process for people who sleep rough</p> <p>Challenges with more staff testing positive, or needing to self isolate</p>	<p>remain a significant challenge, particularly in light of national lock down.</p> <p>Regular meetings with partners are considering the options for the city for winter. There is a strong view that shelters should not be used though an absolute commitment to this cannot be made, it is a shared aspiration. The scale of provision required and the additional cost will be continuing challenges, as will the availability of adequate staffing should a prolonged period of provision be required.</p> <p>Working with contract tracing steering group to agree processes. Public Health have agreed for homelessness to have access to testing kits. Working with Salford City Council to identify an accommodation site for people who are covid positive.</p> <p>Contingency plans are in place to ensure sufficient staffing across the portfolio, this may include increase in overtime or agency.</p>
Resilient communities			
	Resilient Communities		<p>Calls into the helpline have not seen an overall increase since the lockdown period began on 5th November. Lots of calls are about general</p>

			<p>queries eg covid guidance, how to access test and trace isolation payment.</p> <p>The partnership approach at a neighbourhood level continues to work well, with the Team around the Neighbourhood working collectively to engage with residents re Covid in hotspot areas as well as supporting those most at risk.</p> <p>MCRVIP continues to promote opportunities for volunteers to support with the covid response.</p>
	<p>Libraries, Galleries and Culture</p>	<p>National lockdown has resulted in Museums, Galleries and Cultural venues being closed across the city including Manchester Art Gallery. Currently planning for reopening 3rd December in line with future government guidance and restrictions.</p> <p>We have temporarily closed the following libraries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arcadia Library (Levenshulme) • Barlow Moor Community Library • Burnage Library • Central library (City Library on the lower ground floor is open) • Fallowfield Community Library • Hulme High Street Library • Miles Platting Community Library 	<p>Following government guidance, the range of services at our libraries has been temporarily reduced. The following libraries remain open:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Library (part of Central Library) • Abraham Moss Library • Avenue Library • Beswick Library • Brooklands Library • Chorlton Library • Didsbury Library • Gorton Library • Longsight Library • Newton Heath Library • North City Library • Withington Library • Wythenshawe Forum Library

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moss Side Powerhouse Library • New Moston Community Library • Northernden Community Library <p>Expected Impact of New national lockdown measures. All cultural venues closed to the public and those with reopening plans have been suspended. It is understood venues as places of work can remain open allowing for the rehearsal of work and performance for broadcast.</p> <p>Financial impacts on cultural organisations will include loss of income from audience based and participatory activities that were planned. Costs in terms of cancellation fees and loss of income from hospitably services.</p>	<p>Libraries can remain open to provide access to IT and digital services - for example for people who do not have it at home - and for click-and-collect services.</p> <p>Some organisations have benefited from Cultural Recovery Fund Grants which for may would have included income assumptions based on being open and delivering a reduced, but emerging, public facing programme. We expect ACE to apply flexibilities to the grant management process, but losses of projected income will impact on financial forecasts.</p>
	<p>Parks, Leisure & Events</p>	<p>Significant closures of sports and leisure centres and cancelling of events in line with covid restrictions currently in place.</p>	<p>Sport & Leisure</p> <p>The following permitted activities are currently operating:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elite Training Centre sites are open for elite athletes only – this includes sites such as the National Cycling Centre, the National Taekwondo Centre and the Manchester Aquatics Centre. 2. Some facilities are open or are being mobilised for the provision of NHS activities such as COVID testing, vaccination and general support – This

includes sites such as Denmark Road, Abraham Moss, Wythenshawe Forum and the Tennis Centre.

3. Dual use leisure/ education sites are open for use by the Schools for curriculum PE – This includes sites such as Abraham Moss (temporary sports hall), Whalley Range and Belle Vue.
4. Northcity Family & Fitness Centre is open for access to formal child care provision only.
5. Swimming Pools are open for Primary School Education Swimming only.

Parks

Services that remain operational are as follows:

- Play areas
- Cafes (as a takeaway service only)
- Ice cream vendors (as a takeaway service only)
- Toilets
- The Garden Centre at Heaton Park
- Allotments (access to outdoor areas only, with limitations on individuals meeting in line with guidance)

Services that remain closed are:

- Athletics tracks
- Formal baseball, cricket, football and rugby pitches.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heaton Park boat hire. • Heaton Park Tree Top Trek. • Wythenshawe Park Horticultural Centre • Flat and crown green bowling greens • Golf courses • Stables (livery services and animal care can still continue) • Outdoor gyms • Multi use games areas, tennis courts, BMX and skate parks • Voluntary activity that is not essential (i.e. linked to health and safety of visitors or providing care to animals). <p>Events Event companies are permitted to progress construction and planning activities. Events such as Lightopia at Heaton Park are continuing to progress lighting installations with the expectation that restrictions will lift and their activity will be permitted over the Christmas period.</p>
Youth		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Following the Government announcement on 31/10/2020 – all youth provision operating inside buildings will have to close. 2. Reports of increased numbers of young people congregating on the streets due to the closure of youth, leisure and sports facilities. 3. Challenge of providing support to young people following incidents in the area – effective youth 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We are working closely with the 4 hubs to understand what 1:1 & support provision they will be providing; supporting with risk assessments and interpretation of the guidance. Monthly meetings planned with the sector to ensure they have the support needed to continue providing provision for young people.

		<p>work versus management of restrictions.</p> <p>4. Closure of provision could increase the financial risk for youth and play partners – furloughing of staff members, reduction in donations and income.</p>	<p>2. We will support partners to increase their detached / street work provision. Support provided around risk assessments and virtual training.</p> <p>3. We are working closely, particularly in the North, with Police, Youth, CSP, and community to leaders to ensure young people have the support they need following a fatal incident, but also to ensure providers can still be covid compliant.</p> <p>4. We will meet regularly with partners to understand and support with the furlough process, as well as, understanding the financial impact on organisations. Our funding to partners will continue as planned. Mapping process will continue to understand the 'state of the sector' during and post lockdown.</p>
	<p>Children's Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referrals to both early help and children's services have seen incremental increases in the past month and the past two weeks • Performance has slightly dipped in terms of visits set against national performance indicators • Marginal increase in respect of residents requesting immediate financial assistance • In this lockdown period we have re-established our family time services • Impact of track and trace on workforce availability 	<p>Requirement to flex the early help offer to address increasing requests for parenting support These are generally still high – child protection 91% Looked after children 96% - there is significant performance management activity to track the gap and remedial action identified</p> <p>Ongoing maximisation of the third sector offer in this regard</p> <p>Adherence to public health messages, limitations on offer due to restricted availability</p> <p>Although not a major concern less staff available impacting on morale within the service</p>

	<p>Schools and settings</p>	<p>Half term 1 attendance data shows that excluding children who are required to be at home self isolating attendance was 94% for this period which is much higher than anticipated.</p> <p>Requests for elective home education are continuing to rise with 30 new requests last week.</p> <p>W/b 16th November process for tracking and tracing with schools and Early years settings was reviewed and brought in house – this has been successful in week and positive feedback from schools.</p> <p>1 secondary school closed last week due to high staff absence and high numbers of positive cases for pupils – children accessing remote learning.</p> <p>Starting to see increases in perm exclusion from secondary schools since half term – mostly persistent disruptive behaviour.</p> <p>Schools concerned about impact of last week of school term on Christmas leave.</p>	<p>Planning for FSM support over Christmas holidays using COVID Winter grant.</p> <p>Working with schools leaders and TUs re end of term arrangements. Asking DFE for clarity on what they are planning./allowing schools to do.</p> <p>Monitoring impact of new T and T processes and what the data is telling us. Ensuring schools/settings access advice when requests to support decision making and have ouytbreak meetings in response to closures.</p> <p>Monitoring school exclusions and roll out of training on wellbeing and Manchester Thrive model.</p> <p>Discussions about testing in schools.</p>
VCSE		<p>Ongoing communication and engagement with the VCSE sector around Covid response and recovery plans, particularly around current lockdown restrictions and guidance.</p> <p>Impact of Covid 19 on the VCSE sector (and those that they serve) – Winter lockdown / Tier restrictions</p>	<p>Following on from a session held on 04.11.2020 with VCSE venue groups around the latest lockdown guidance, Macc released a bulletin across their mailing list and channels on the 06.11.2020 containing further information and guidance for groups and latest MCC and NHS comms material.</p>

	<p>VCSE future funding (both MCC and external) - Good range of emergency Covid response funds made available during first wave but concerns around longer term funding of the sector e.g. MCC OMVCS grant</p> <p>Covid Health Equity - communication and engagement and key messages to communities of identity</p> <p>Overall strategic leadership of the work with the VCSE - work takes place across a number of officers, teams and departments. This can create communication issues, duplication of effort and lack of clarity around priorities, accountability and progress and what is being expected of Macc and other VCSE partners.</p>	<p>The high-level plan around next steps for the OMVCS grant fund is underway and will include the undertaking of an Equality Impact Assessment. This is being aligned to the VCSE funding (across the Council) mapping work currently being conducted to help support future budget discussions and decisions.</p> <p>Further scoping work taking place at pace around the development of VCSE Covid Winter Fund focussed supporting mental health and wellbeing and reducing isolation. A targeted engagement and grant approach is being considered to ensure that these funds are able to be released quickly using thematic areas and forums for Disability, Mental Health and Older People. A summary of this proposal is being shaped by the Head of Neighbourhoods and OM Funds Programme Lead to request a funding allocation to support this work. This will form part of the wider request to SMT Gold covering the 4 key areas identified for the Tier 3 funding allocation from central government.</p> <p>Covid Health Equity Manchester (CHEM) group-partners (including the VCSE sector) across the city working together to improve experiences of and outcomes for communities that suffer disproportionate adverse impacts from Covid-19. Local sounding boards involving VCSE organisations, local people, Health Development</p>
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		<p>Coordinators and MHCC comms and engagement have been set up for Black African and Black Caribbean and Pakistani communities. This has been supported by the release of engagement grants (£500 – £2000) aiming to strengthen the Covid messaging and challenge some of the myths/information being shared in communities, utilising local people and leaders. This work is being progressed and will continue to be monitored via the Covid Health Equity workstreams (new normal)</p> <p>Strategic conversation with the VCSE sector meeting scheduled to take place at the end of the month with senior officers across departments and VCSE leaders in the city. This will be managed by BAU arrangements with Policy, Performance and Reform.</p>
<p>Equalities and Inclusion</p>	<p>Equality impacts related to the response to lockdown and the winter effects of Covid need to be managed through BAU processes (i.e. EIAs and actions in response). These will interplay with the Council's budget decision making (also subject to EIAs) and will need to be considered in the round.</p>	<p>Need refreshed commitment for any new activity related to response to be equality impact assessed on the Covid-19 EIA template, across workstream areas.</p> <p>Budget options EIAs are being championed by SMT . Revised budget-specific Equality Relevance Assessment and EIA templates have been produced and shared with SMT, uploaded to the intranet and promoted through internal comms. These require a further push before the end of Nov.</p>

		It has been agreed that the equality analysis process will run concurrently with assessments of poverty impact: these are associated pieces but do not lend themselves to coming together as one combined one. In January, the two processes will be brought together to provide a cumulative assessment of poverty and equality impact.
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** There is clear evidence that COVID-19 does not affect all population groups equally. Many analyses have shown that older age, ethnicity, male sex and geographical area, for example, are associated with the risk of getting the infection, experiencing more severe symptoms and higher rates of death (*Beyond the Data: Understanding the Impact of COVID-19 on BAME Communities, PHE, 2020*). It remains vital that those who are frequently the most disadvantaged in society do not then take a 'double hit' from decisions taken to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. Please include detail of the activity you are planning to undertake to ensure recovery activity considers the impact of COVID-19 on different population groups. For example, undertaking an Equality Impact Assessment to support the planning for longer term changes to service delivery.

Economic Recovery Workstream- Sitrep Summary

As at 03/12/20

For Economic Recovery Meeting on 4/12/20 Changes since last updated highlighted in yellow. Updated fortnightly.

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
<p>General overview</p>	<p>Tier announcement (25/11) GM in Tier 3 from 02/12- Major concerns re severe impact on hospitality and cultural sectors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality venues must close- such as bars, pubs, cafes, restaurants, except for delivery and takeaway services. • Spectator sports cannot resume. • Indoor entertainment venues- such as bowling alleys, museums, galleries, cinemas and theatres must close. • People are advised not to travel to and from Tier 3 areas. • Leisure and sports facilities may continue to stay open, but group exercise classes (including fitness and dance) should not go ahead. Saunas and steam rooms should close • There should be no public attendance at spectator sport or indoor performances and large business events should not be taking place. Elite sport events may continue to take place without spectators • Large outdoor events (performances and shows) should not take place, with the exception of drive-in events. <p>Spending Review and Economic Forecasts (25/11) Economy: ONS estimates output fell 25 % between Feb and April as the economy entered the largest recession on record.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Powering Recovery: Manchester's Recovery and Investment Plan' launch event held on 25/11. Event outlined the plan and how businesses can engage in helping to deliver objectives. Four investment priorities around: innovation; city centre and urban realm; residential retrofit programme; and North Manchester regeneration. Seeking govt funding for over 50 projects of £798.8 m. The plan can be accessed here. • United City business-led campaign launched 22/11 and supported by MCC. New campaigning and research group to help drive recovery and bring vibrancy back to the city. Members of Business Sounding Board leading this. Positive response received. Over 1,700 followers as at 01/12. Advertising campaign underway in city centre calling on govt to review the tier allocation weekly rather than fortnightly. • Joint MCC/Cityco webinar held 30/11 to brief businesses on grant system, latest position on Tiers and any regulation implications. 500 businesses attended and was well received. Main issues- confusion on grants and eligibility criteria. Officers explained the process and stressed importance of providing the required evidence in support of applications. • Weekly newsletter issued to over 9,000 businesses with updates incl business support, grants and latest guidance.

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
	<p>Office for Budget Responsibility's (OBR's) forecast expects UK GDP to shrink by 11.3 per cent in 2020. The economy is not expected to reach pre-crisis level until the end of 2022. OBR forecast the economy will be 3% smaller in 2025 than previously expected - this is based on "the equivalent of England's pre-lockdown Tier 3 until the spring".</p> <p>By mid-2021, the OBR expects the unemployment rate to peak at 7.5%, equivalent to 2.6 million people out of work.</p> <p>Fiscal: The public sector deficit is expected to peak at 19% of GDP (£394bn) in 20/21 falling to 3.9% of GDP (£101.8bn) by 25/26. The OBR have pointed out that the government is cutting non-virus spending in 21-22 by £10bn versus Budget 2020 plans.</p> <p>Levelling Up Fund- £4bn across CLG and DfT open for bids of up to £20m from next year (with £600m available in 2021/22). The combined money for the new Levelling Up Fund and UKSPF appears to be lower than that previously available under EU funds and the Local Growth Fund.</p> <p>UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)- will 'at least' match receipts from EU structural funding (reaching £1.5bn a year) with funding profile set at the next SR. <i>(see also Funding section below)</i></p> <p>Labour Market: National Living Wage to be increased for individuals aged 23 and over by 2.2 per cent from £8.72 to £8.91, effective from April 2021. The new 3-year long £2.9 billion Restart programme to provide intensive and tailored support to over 1 m unemployed people - work search support measures announced in the Plan for Jobs.</p>	<p>Spending Review - Details on many of the announcements are to follow. Implications and opportunities for Manchester to be further considered. <i>(See also Report to Dec Executive)</i></p>

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
	<p>£2 billion Kickstart Scheme to create new, fully subsidised jobs for young people. This settlement confirms funding for over 250,000 Kickstart jobs.</p> <p>Local Government Funding Settlement: an increase of around £500m in core grant in 2021-22, in addition to £3bn of one off spending in 2021-22 to meet Covid-19 pressures.</p> <p>Intracity transport settlements: £4.2bn for Mayoral Combined Authorities is going ahead from 22/23 - plus £50m to develop in 21/22.</p> <p>National Home Building Fund: £7.1bn which includes the already announced Brownfield Housing Fund and the Single Housing Infrastructure Fund.</p> <p>UK Infrastructure Bank: to be based in North of England and operational from Spring. Will support and lend to both local and combined authorities.</p> <p>New Green Book: published with more focus on strategic case, looking across departmental silos and new guidance on appraisal of transformational projects.</p> <p>Overall R&D funding: £14.6bn, including increases for UK Research & Innovation core science and Innovate UK programmes and infrastructure.</p> <p>Monthly economic update headlines (Dec- Mancr) - number of residents on furlough in Mancr reduced by over 70% between July- Sept. 22,500 at Sept.</p>	

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
	<p>-total Universal Credit claimants continue to exceed 70,000 (approx double Sept 19)</p> <p>-20-34 year old represent fastest cohort of UC claimants.</p> <p>-city centre rents remain resilient.</p> <p>-over 10,000 homes on site across the city, incl 900 affordable homes. Over 10,700 new homes expected over next 3 years.</p> <p>-a minimum of 6,400 affordable homes to be delivered by 2025, 445 expected to complete this year.</p> <p>-195,000 m2 of office space on site (85% in city centre)</p> <p>-2,739 hotel rooms under construction</p> <p>-total business rate charges fallen by 37% from £378 m to £237m since April.</p> <p>Footfall figures- City Centre (Springboard)</p> <p>Sun 8th – Sat 14th November</p> <p>% Year / % Week</p> <p>Total -86 -47</p> <p>St Ann's Sq -86 -38</p> <p>Exchange -86-56</p> <p>King St -86 -21</p> <p>Market St -85 -57</p> <p>New Cathedral Street -86 -51</p> <p>By comparison: UK (City) -74</p> <p>Manchester wide figures (excluding city centre)-</p> <p>Week 48/ week commencing 2311/20.</p> <p>+2.3% week on week (UK +4.2 %)</p> <p>Footfall for the year to date is 24.1% down on the previous year.</p>	

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
	<p>District Centres Week on Week/ Year on Year</p> <p>Cheetham Hill -0.1 % -22.4%</p> <p>Chorlton -1.7 % -42.6%</p> <p>Fallowfield 7.9 % 2.5%</p> <p>Gorton -2.1 % -38.4%</p> <p>Harphurhey -3.8 % -15.7%</p> <p>Levenshulme -0.8 % -42.3%</p> <p>Northenden 8.4 % -36.4 %</p> <p>Rusholme -1.0 % -30.1%</p> <p>Victoria Avenue -1.5 % -28.9%</p> <p>Withington 3.5 % -25.8%</p> <p>Retail- Major announcements on future of large retailers- Debenhams (12,000 jobs at risk across UK following failed rescue) and Arcadia into administration (13,000 jobs at risk). 01/12</p> <p>Only 3 weeks remain of the 'golden quarter'. Shops and other non-hospitality businesses will be able to reopen from Weds 2nd Dec.</p> <p>Retailers are still expecting large demand over Dec, particularly across the three remaining weekends before Christmas.</p> <p>Government announced 30/11 that retailers will be able to extend their daily opening hours from Mon to Sat in the run up to Christmas and through Jan.</p> <p>Book and art shop Magma (Oldham Street) is closing after Christmas.</p>	<p>Retail- Daily reviews taking place following re-opening of non-essential retail. No major issues reported as at 03/12.</p> <p>Retailers are extending their opening hours in many cases, with both an earlier start, and later closing. Includes core retailers at Manchester Arndale, Boots, TK MAXX, Top Shop, NEXT, Selfridges, Primark, M&S, Adidas, Debenhams, Harvey Nichols, Nationwide, Barclays, Lloyds Bank.</p> <p>MCC teams been working closely with CityCo and partners to plan safe return to trading. Regular contact with the largest retailers. Marshals will be in place on the streets to help manage queues.</p> <p>Christmas plans- plans in place to ensure the city centre is as attractive as possible. Lights switched on this week. Father Christmas in place outside Central Library. Viewing tower on hold due to Tier 3 restrictions. Discussions continuing on the possibility of tower in place for the new year. Winter Gardens plans on hold- keeping under review.</p> <p>Comms campaign underway with festive messaging to welcome people along with health and safety messages. Electronic messages at key</p>

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
	<p>Analysis underway to understand impact of Tax Free Shopping changes due in Jan 21. Airport and Marketing Manchester campaigning on this issue.</p> <p>Hospitality and Night-Time Economy Under Tier 3 hospitality venues must remain closed. Take away, delivery and click and collect can continue. Due to staff costs and low demand, many are offering a reduced service, predominantly weekend only.</p> <p>Many operators are trading as insolvent or close to it.</p> <p>Uncertainly re tier review. Tier 2 would only give venues one full week of trading before Christmas at short notice. Even those who are wet-led have confirmed they will look to offer food this time around as they need to begin to trade again.</p> <p>Govt announced additional £1,000 one-off grant for wet-led pubs across Tiers 2 and 3 in lieu of Christmas trade. To be paid on top of the existing £3,000 monthly cash grants for businesses. LAs to administer. For the month of December only. 01/12.</p> <p>Tourism and Leisure- Natwest North of England Tourism Barometer ran for 16 weeks up to end of Oct. Significant parts of the sector that have been closed since March and cities such as Manchester have borne the brunt of additional lockdown restrictions.</p> <p>– Half of hospitality and leisure businesses across north of England were trading at a loss of over 60% for 10 weeks out of</p>	<p>outdoor sites in the city centre. All retailers have in-place Covid secure regimes, including compulsory mask wearing for customers, one-way systems and enhanced cleaning regimes. Plans have been made for external queuing outside stores, with 'Safe Distancing' floor stickers being provided by the BID, and Manchester Arndale to its tenants.</p> <p>Hospitality- many businesses planning for possibility of Tier 2 later in the month. Keeping in regular contact with businesses.</p> <p>Tourism and Leisure- Tourism and Hospitality Support Hub remains available to ensure that businesses have access to the most up to date information including reopening standards and guidance, as well as support services and practical advice.</p> <p>GM Tourism, Hospitality and Leisure Support and Recovery plan launched to provide a roadmap. (23/11 Marketing Manchester)</p>

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	<p>16-week survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Businesses expect revenue to recover in January 2022, compared to previous outlook of July 2021 at start of study, as a third of businesses report forward bookings for first quarter of 2021 are significantly down – A fifth of businesses surveyed unsure that they will be trading next summer – Roundtable event saw North West tourism board leaders and NatWest representatives discuss the 'tectonic shift' confirmed by the study and need for collaboration to ensure sector recovers (23/11 Marketing Manchester) <p>Culture</p> <p>Local Restrictions Support Grant & Discretionary Additional Restrictions Grant - Cultural sector companies are included in those that can benefit from the government support. The discretionary scheme has been made available to the wider supply chain.</p> <p>Entering Tier 3 and the restrictions on public use of cultural venues – Government requirements prohibit the reopening of cultural venues (excepts as a workplace inc rehearsals & pre-production). Entering 2nd National Lockdown 5/11 forced venues with productions that were about to start to cancel. Uncertainty about future likelihood of reopening combined with financial risks will delay the return of productions when they are permitted. It is especially frustrating that museums and arts galleries are unable to operate despite having highly Covid-safe measures in place. For the council this includes an extended delay to the opening of the Grayson Perry's Grayson Art Club Exhibition at Manchester Art Gallery which is being profiled on C4 on Friday. Details here https://manchesterartgallery.org/exhibitions-</p>	<p>Marketing Manchester and Manchester Central partner for the publication Conference News Government Edition- With GM business tourism sector worth £826 million to our local economy each year, the sector has been decimated by Covid-19 but has the power to lead the region's economic recovery. The latest edition aimed at MPs, sets out the case to help them understand and appreciate the value of the sector as we build back post-Covid. (23/11)</p> <p>Culture</p> <p>Culture Team officers doing a targeted reach-out and providing 1-2-1 support to cultural businesses applying to the Local Restrictions Support Grant & Discretionary Additional Restrictions Grant.</p> <p>Govt urged to rethink restrictions to cultural venues (26/11). Statement from Cllr Rahman and open letter from HOME Director to all GM MPs - on disappointment and frustration re Tier 3 and impact on cultural venues. Urges govt to rethink unjustifiable restriction. Combined impact on region's cultural venues is huge. It will leave organisations unable to recoup losses and will have a massive impact on freelance staff. View letter here</p> <p>Whilst museums and galleries are required to remain closed, the Manchester Art Gallery shop will be open from Saturday with a range of merchandise from the new Grayson Art Club Exhibition. The exhibition runs until early April and is installed ready for public visitors as soon permitted.</p> <p>HOME economic impact report released this week detailing the £26 m contribution it has made in the last economic year, including a £1 m saving to the NHS. 02/12</p>

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	<p>and-events/exhibition/graysons-art-club/</p> <p>Aviation- 1st Dec usually marks the start of busy Christmas period. Last weekend (Friday-Monday) the Airport welcomed 19,300 passengers, just 7% of the passengers on the same weekend last year (264,000). 02/12</p> <p>As the International Travel Ban is lifted at 00.01 on 02/12, the Airport hopes to see those numbers slowly start to increase. They also look forward to sharing further details later this week on the rollout of an airport testing programme. The ability to reduce quarantine time to five days will make travel easier and start to give people confidence to book trips in the weeks ahead.</p> <p>In terms of food and drink outlets, the Airport has been given an exemption for airside units thanks to a great deal of lobbying from colleagues across the business. This means that food and drink units can remain open for both sit in (table service only) and takeaway, and alcoholic drinks can be served if a substantial meal is ordered between 5am and 11pm.</p>	<p>Aviation Work and Skills alongside MAG, The Airport Academy, DWP and the Growth Company and other key partners are working behind the scenes to ensure there is a high quality offer and level of support for those people whose jobs are affected.</p> <p>Role of the Work and Skills Team (Manchester focus) In advance of MAG’s announcement re job losses, the team has been in discussion with the Communications Director at MAG, alongside colleagues in the Neighbourhood Team to prepare for this scenario. Local elected members have been fully briefed by MAG, in advance of the National news breaking. Work and Skills team has provided a summary of the support on offer to MAG</p> <p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers across work and skills, DWP and AA are liaising directly with MAG’s HR representatives to develop a better understanding of the roles and demography. • Officers will ensure Neighbourhood colleagues and local elected members are regularly appraised of the situation. • Working with MAG and the AA, the W&S team will support them to develop a plan to ensure all people affected are provided with a level of outplacement support including training, advice, guidance and support around employment, skills and financial support. • As part of these discussions the team hope to ascertain with MAG if there might be wider supply chain implications that the taskforce partnership could support with.

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	<p>Higher Education Institutions Relatively high numbers of students retained. Higher international student numbers than anticipated at UoM.</p> <p>Inward investment-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MIDAS responding to new enquiries and investment pipeline is strong (particularly in advanced manufacturing and tech sectors). Brexit becoming a key concern for some overseas investors particularly in relation to labour market access. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Hut Group has offered its support to do what it can to support as many people with the right skills to move them into opportunities. Work and Skills officers will continue to work in partnership with BGH, and their manufacturing and aviation advisers as a GM level who have links with many supply chain businesses to continually gain local intelligence. <p>Current focus for all three universities (Man Met; UoM and RNCM) is rolling out testing for students, and ensuring safe travel home for the holidays, and safe travel back for the new term.</p> <p>Inward investment-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MIDAS working closely with prospective investors with updates on Manchester's economic recovery plan and resilience messages- that we are very much open for business. Developing north shoring proposition ie messages around quality of life. Hosting a Managing Partners forum on 16/12 on north shoring within professional services. Aimed at senior leaders- messages around benefits of a Manchester hub. Working closely with govt depts on potential relocation projects.
Development	<p>Stimulating development & investor confidence, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding current impact through intelligence gathering. Assessing sources and levels of investment, and any obstacles (access to debt). Seeking financial and other support needed to enable early start of key projects. Understanding supply chain issues and identifying appropriate support measures. It is becoming increasingly apparent that the appetite of contractors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCC has now entered into contract with Homes England for £51.6m Housing Infrastructure Fund (Forward Fund) grant award for Northern Gateway and procurement processes are commencing to deliver civil engineering / core infrastructure works that will unlock development plots for c5,500 new homes in the Redbank neighbourhood. Infrastructure works must be delivered by March 2024 and housing delivery will commence from that point onwards. The framework for the £600m regeneration of North Manchester General Hospital was approved by the Executive on 11th November. The plans include investment in hospital

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	<p>to bid for apartment led residential schemes has been significantly impacted in the short term due to issues in the supply chain (i.e. loss of subcontractors and access to materials). This concern has also been raised by developers of commercial schemes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Developing guidance/share good practice for safe operation of sites. ● Expediting design & planning phases of projects. ● Productivity increased across most major sites- 97% of infrastructure and construction sites now operating. Social distancing measures impacting on programmes. Issues re supply chain/access to materials. Infrastructure sites are now achieving 89% of pre-Covid productivity. 	<p>facilities, improvements to training facilities and public realm and the creation of a wellbeing hub and residential accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Announcement of Government approval on 04/08 for Getting Building Funding for BASE Manchester Innovation Activities Hub at MSP (£4M) and Mayfield (£23M). Draft offer letters received early September, with final terms being negotiated with GMCA (hoping to conclude by 30/10) The final terms for Mayfield have now been agreed and initial works on the park started on 9th November. Publicity on the start of works on Mayfield Park being planned for December/January. ● 2 Manchester schemes approved in principle for Round 1(22/09) of the Brownfield Land Fund (for schemes due to start 2020-21) Mulbury City - New Cross Zone A and Viadux. Call for Round 2 now launched, with a revised closing date of 8/12. A number of schemes are being worked up with partners for submission, focusing on Northern Gateway, Eastern Gateway and affordable housing schemes. Decision awaited on the bid for an additional 10% allocation. ● Key shovel ready schemes are included within Economic Recovery Plan. Projects to be progressed against the recent Spending Review announcements. ● Community consultation on the first phase of the delivery of Collyhurst will be restarted in advance of planning applications for the delivery of approximately 270 homes (including up to 130 new Council properties) in Collyhurst Village and Collyhurst South and the first phase of a new park. The intention is that this consultation exercise will lead to the submission of planning applications in the Autumn of 2020. Scheme could commence Spring 2021. ● MCR Property Group have submitted plans for 1,200 new homes on the Former Gas Works Site (Gould Street), part of the New Town neighbourhood of The Northern Gateway

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Band on the Wall is progressing its plans for a £3.5m expansion. City Build have been appointed to deliver the plans to expand capacity to 500 people, with work expected to be completed by Autumn 2021. ● Renaker have completed 180 homes at Crown St & continue work on a further 1,500 homes across the Great Jackson Street Masterplan Area, including the final 2 towers at Owen St, a 51 storey tower at Crown Street and the 52 storey Blade & Cylinder towers. ● An additional 57,500m² of office space was signed off by Executive on 11 November as part of the updated Strategic Regeneration Framework for NOMA. The updated masterplan outlines proposals for a further 150,000m² of office space on a number of sites across the NOMA Campus. This includes 200k sq ft of net zero carbon speculative development at 4 Angel Square, which is now on site. Deloitte to take 35,000 sq ft. in the Hanover Building at NOMA. ● The Eastlands (Coop) Arena is due to start on site in January 2021.
Affordable Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk to developer and investor confidence. ● Working with RP's and other developers to understand current impact and forward plans. ● Assessing sources and levels of investment, and any obstacles ● Investigating grant funding, financial and other support needed to enable early start of key projects ● Understanding supply chain issues and identifying appropriate support measures. ● Developing guidance/share good practice for safe operation of sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Extra Care facilities in development: 4 schemes under construction 257 apartments 3 RP schemes 1 MCC (PFI scheme) ● Regulator for Social Housing (RSH) called for RP's to provide revisions of their business plans by September. This will identify any viability risks but should also identify progress on development programmes. ● Managing existing onsite, pipeline and planned development with RP's. These were referenced in the June Executive report.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expediting design & planning phases of projects. • Risk of registered providers slowing down or pausing programmes to consolidate finances/liquidity • Ensure Zero Carbon and Fire safety provision are part of the programmes. • Potential flooding of the PRS sector as the short term let market shrinks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 398 homes under construction and anticipated in the 2020/21 year. Re-mobilization of sites now underway. ○ 252 homes currently in the programme for 2021/22. ○ New projects emerging. ○ The scheme with Clarion has been finalised to deliver shared ownership homes for the full development • Silk Street <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Silk Street funding has been approved and is progressing through the Capital Strategy Board with the CP2 complete. The project team has been established to take this through to delivery with Rowlinson Construction. • Progressing the establishment of a Local delivery vehicle. Looking to start on site with key projects and novate across. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Site assessments have now been completed by CBRE and this work is now with PwC who are producing a financial model to ensure project viability. ○ The financial modelling will influence the final legal structure to be used and how future phases are going to be delivered. • Project 500 progressing. Will deliver 500-600 homes. <p>The sites have been broken down into 3 phases and RP's have been allocated to work up individual designs</p> <p>All members have been contacted to outline development plans in their wards and follow up meetings are being planned where necessary</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Entering into formal agreement with Homes England and signing an MOU to take a partnership approach to accelerated development. Complements similar arrangements with GMCA. <p data-bbox="1256 408 2000 472">The GMCA proposed partnership has been delayed so this will have a knock-on effect to the Manchester Collaboration.</p> <p data-bbox="1256 517 1912 616">Once the GMCA approach is signed off the Manchester collaboration will be agreed and a series of outputs and outcomes will be set out in a shared vision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ongoing intelligence gathering with developers to understand status of projects and support needed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MHPP Growth workstream capturing current position and plans. ● Prioritisation of land assembly and due diligence to allow acceleration of build programme. ● Working with Your Housing Group to bring forward a 200+ new build scheme in East Manchester with 60% planned for affordable housing ● Working with One Manchester to deliver the regeneration of the Grey Mare Lane Estate, which will lead to the reprovision of 124 existing homes, the retrofit of 169 homes and the delivery of 166 new homes. Masterplanning / community consultation currently underway and a masterplan will be taken to MCC Executive for endorsement in early 2021 in advance of the scheme commencing. ● Work progressing on a mixed tenure scheme on the former Manox site in East Manchester. This will provide over 400 new homes on a very complex site, proposed delivery of a net zero carbon scheme with just under 30% of affordable housing.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homes England recently announced a new Affordable Homes Programme Fund for 2021-2026. Officers are working with partners to maximise the funding for a Manchester Affordable Housing Programme that will include a substantial amount of specialist and supported housing. AHP submission is still proposed for December.
Transport and Infrastructure	<p>Work with TfGM to agree a broad overall transport plan to support gradual opening up of the city with a focus on pedestrian movement and safe use of public transport linked to an agreed package of measures to support safe pedestrian access.</p>	<p>TfGM guidance issued for Tier 3- Public transport services continue as normal and that people can and should travel in GM for work, to shop, to socialise outside in public spaces and for many other reasons. Advised to reduce number of journeys where possible. Avoid travelling out of or into GM except where necessary. Messaging about Christmas bubbles– re: longer travel/journeys, taking care and Student Travel – about returning home.</p> <p>Bus reform consultation opens 02/12 and closes 29/21</p> <p>University travel window- Students being asked to return home during 3 to 9 Dec. This excludes students who have tested positive or been notified by the NHS test and trace system.</p> <p>Manchester (LA) Transport Usage Data (for w/e 22/11)</p> <p>Bus Patronage, (955,690) reduced by 0.53% on the previous week and was -50% on pre Covid levels.</p> <p>Metrolink Network patronage, (195,242), increased by 0.86% on the previous week and was -76.9% on pre Covid levels.</p> <p>Highway - Private vehicle trips, (26,255,225), increased by 1.8% on the previous week and were -24.6% on pre Covid levels.</p>

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		<p data-bbox="1167 264 1933 331">Rail - Passenger numbers, (175,014), increased by 3.2% on the previous week and were -77.1% on the same period last year.</p> <p data-bbox="1167 371 1933 438">Cycling - Cycle volumes, 541,838), decreased by 12.9% on the previous week and were -36.8% on the same period last year.</p> <p data-bbox="1167 478 1344 507"><u>GM Wide Data</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1308 515 1805 719">○ Metrolink 9/3/20 122,613 14/7/20 37,834 18/09/20 57,144 11/10/20 27,197 13/11/20 33,714 17/11/20 33,622 <li data-bbox="1308 727 1805 932">○ Bus 9/3/20 515,309 14/7/20 192,181 18/09/20 333,220 11/10/20 119,760 10/11/20 274,267 17/11/20 273,394 <li data-bbox="1346 940 1805 1144">Rail 9/3/20 104,795 14/7/20 28,257 18/09/20 47,871 11/10/20 34,910 13/11/20 28,381 20/11/20 28,729 <li data-bbox="1339 1152 1839 1356">GM Highway 9/3/20 5,082,000 14/7/20 4,221,209 18/09/20 4,838,128 11/10/20 3,378,133 13/11/20 4,230,726 20/11/20 4,255,985

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		<p>Face Coverings- Face covering compliance is around 90% on buses, 83% on Metrolink and 87% on trains. (as at 22/11)</p> <p>NCP are offering £5 for 24 hours parking at central car parks to encourage shoppers.</p> <p><u>City Centre Transport Strategy</u> consultation launched 23/09 and closed on 4/11/20. Initial analysis indicates overwhelming support for the proposals within the draft strategy.</p> <p><u>Active Travel Fund (ATF)</u> GM awarded £15.9m. Manchester detail to follow. We submitted business cases for the city centre 'triangle' and Wythenshawe for pedestrian and cycling routes.</p>
	Analysis of businesses' plans for reopening, working with TfGM, CA, Chamber, Growth Company	TfGM linked into Day Time Economy recovery group work
	Identify and implement interventions that support social distancing and support business reopening and procure necessary equipment to facilitate this.	Re-purposing of city centre streets and open spaces. Initial ideas are now being developed further in consultation with members. The proposals seek to draw on best practice from other cities in the UK and abroad.
	Continue with highway works that can be undertaken during lockdown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continuing with all our major projects that are on site and continuously monitoring government guidance about construction ● Finding ways to accelerate all our programme of walking and cycling schemes aiming to have early starts on all our programmed projects ● Maintaining our roads at business as usual levels by inspecting them and making repairs

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Resurfacing and treating many more main roads than originally planned to take advantage of lower traffic levels ● Working with TfGM to review bus stops and increase pedestrian phasing at signalised crossings.
Skills, Labour Market and Business Support	<p>Significant growth in the number of Manchester residents claiming Universal Credit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 151% rise in claimant count in Manchester during from April to September – 73,709 claimants in September ● affects every LSOA in the City & all age ranges. The area with the highest number of claimants is Harpurhey with 3714. ● The city centre (Piccadilly & Deansgate) has seen an increase of 480% - 230 claimants in April;1334 claimants in September. ● Particular impact on young people which has seen an increase of 136% - 12,261 claimants in September. Highest levels are in Moss Side with 639 claimants. <p>Furlough and newly unemployed Extension of furlough to end of March will offer more protections to workers who would otherwise be at risk of redundancy.</p> <p>Arcadia announcement – Job Centre Plus are offering local support for Arcadia employees. HR1 submission has slowed down. Job postings remain buoyant, however seasonal vacancies are for shorter term contracts than previous years.</p> <p>Up to mid Nov the number of vacancies advertised across GM were approaching 29,000 (up 3,000) on the previous week</p>	<p>Furlough and newly unemployed Comms campaign is being expanded and a partner pack will be available to help disseminate the offer.</p> <p>We are experiencing a timelag in people wanting to take up support as they are taken through the redundancy process.</p> <p>Extra support is in place for all those being made redundant as part of large scale redundancies.</p> <p>An immediate access offer has been developed to allow residents to book directly onto training courses and webinars alongside the support</p>

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	<p>Sectors advertising the most openings are tech (particularly in the city of Manchester); healthcare and nursing; teaching. Logistics and warehousing vacancies are particularly prominent in areas such as Bolton, Oldham, Rochdale and Wigan.</p> <p>Offer for 16-19 year olds Social Mobility: The main challenge is that the universities are an ever changing situation and that they are likely to see the impact of retention after Christmas. Ongoing dialogue with universities.</p> <p>Risk of an increase in NEET and those unknown.</p> <p>Schools and colleges being able to continue to deliver a high quality offer for 16-18 year olds due to the numbers of days lost to Covid break outs and isolation</p>	<p>from Citizens Advice Bureau, National Careers Service and The Growth Company. Info on MCC website.</p> <p>Development of an immediate retail sector specific response is underway. This will include a webinar co-hosted by Cityco and retail transferability workshops. In addition a bespoke comms package is being pulled together and will be shared with colleagues in Arndale management and City Centre licencing.</p> <p>A bespoke resident facing e-bulletin is being disseminated as required to residents who have registered to help promote support available.</p> <p>Offer for 16-19 year olds Meeting took place 17/11 with Leads of Widening Participation at MMU/ UoM and GM Higher to understand current issues around recruitment and retention of WP students, issues around finance and digital and concerns re loss of work experience etc and impact on employment outcomes. Further mtgs scheduled to stay. Identified need to support HEIs with employer engagement opportunities.</p> <p>As at 26/11 Combined NEET / Unknown figures for academic years 16 /17 were 10.1% (6.4% Unknown, 3.7% NEET) this is approximately 2% higher than this time last year. Due to restrictions, methods of tracking young people have been adapted and there has been a greater reliance on social media and partners working with at risk young people.</p> <p>Colleges and schools all have an effective remote learning offer in place and students levels of engagement and attendance has remained high across the term. Robust systems in place to keep staff and students safe and to deal with outbreaks. Support services available for students experiencing poor mental health. Digital access and inclusion</p>

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	<p data-bbox="392 443 663 469">Youth unemployment</p> <p data-bbox="392 480 987 505">Work with partners to roll out the Kickstart Scheme</p> <p data-bbox="392 555 1122 612">Develop a range of quality Kickstart Gateway Organisations in the city.</p> <p data-bbox="392 662 1122 793">A key challenge is due to the pressures faced by the universities as a result of isolation of students and blended learning. We are taking time to build strong relationship for the future.</p> <p data-bbox="392 1018 913 1043">Skills and employment support for adults</p> <p data-bbox="392 1054 1122 1150">Tackling the digital divide during the second lockdown. Mobilising action through the Manchester Adult Education and Skills Plan.</p>	<p data-bbox="1164 268 1984 363">continues to be an issue. Schools and colleges making laptops available to loan or use at College, no or poor wifi / data is a barrier to some learners.</p> <p data-bbox="1164 408 1435 434">Youth unemployment</p> <p data-bbox="1164 445 1998 541">GM Kickstart Board recently convened. Board comprises partners from GM local authorities, in addition to public and private sector organisations.</p> <p data-bbox="1164 590 1977 686">Currently working closely with the BW3 committee and employers in South Manchester to develop both Kickstart placements and a robust wrap around support offer.</p> <p data-bbox="1164 735 1984 936">Planning underway to implement the recommendations to support graduate retention in the city: a 'Roundtable' event with HE partners and employers will lead some of the discussion on this work - working to establish the strong relationships with the best placed HE partners. Working in partnership with HE regional partners and GMCA to understand the labour market issues facing graduates.</p> <p data-bbox="1164 981 1686 1007">Skills and employment support for adults</p> <p data-bbox="1164 1051 2007 1329">400 digital devices have been distributed to residents. Over half of residents receiving a device have reported they have a disability or long-term health condition. Feedback has been hugely positive. MAES have also provided learners who have no access to digital devices, with Chromebooks and will have distributed 600 by the end of the week ahead of their online learning week. Manchester Adult Education and Skills Plan are planning a celebration/ awards ceremony event to celebrate learners and providers during a challenging time.</p>

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	<p data-bbox="389 603 779 628">Social Value and Local Benefit</p> <p data-bbox="389 639 1106 735">Change approach to Social Value to ensure Manchester residents most affected by economic consequences of Covid are able to access employment and training opportunities.</p> <p data-bbox="389 1011 936 1037">Business Support, Sustainability & Growth</p> <p data-bbox="389 1048 1128 1144">The 'Local Restrictions Support Grants' (LRSG) for businesses forced to close or have been severely impacted by local restrictions</p> <p data-bbox="389 1193 1115 1362">The 'Additional Restrictions Grant' (ARG) is provided by LAs on a discretionary basis and went live on 27/11 and will close for application on 9 Dec. For businesses not required to close but face hardship as a result of the closures or for those without a rateable value in a shared space.</p>	<p data-bbox="1162 268 1552 293">Total of 854 referrals for devices.</p> <p data-bbox="1162 341 1995 580">Reconnecting Manchester Adult Education and Skills Plan to providers - comms campaign launched Dec 2nd in partnership with NCS. New Skills New Future. Cultural Consortium - growing to expand reach into the wider creative and digital sector. Recruited a member of Business Growth Hub to be seconded to The Factory for one year and work directly with cultural creative and digital organisations on skills and business development.</p> <p data-bbox="1162 628 1541 654">Social Value and local benefit</p> <p data-bbox="1162 665 1986 799">While required policy changes are going through relevant governance processes officers have started work to update relevant guidance and documentation. There will be significant cross-departmental effort to update and implement changes.</p> <p data-bbox="1162 847 1991 981">The Work and Skills Team are reviewing local labour agreements on major developments to see where we can extract and pool an offer for residents. The team are also working with Capital Programmes to do the same for other MCC projects.</p> <p data-bbox="1162 1029 1736 1054">Business Support, Sustainability and Growth</p> <p data-bbox="1162 1066 1995 1161">Scenario and preparation work with Rates to ensure communication to Business reaches those that will be eligible for the Local Restriction grants.</p> <p data-bbox="1162 1209 2007 1343">Targeted comms is taking place using MCC key channels and key partners including – GM Chamber of Commerce, GC Growth Hub, FSB, Pro-Manchester, CityCo, local business networks to assist in getting key messages out.</p>

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
	<p>As at 02/12 a total of £4.7m has been paid out in business grants.</p> <p>Brexit- deal unlikely, implications in relation to trade is becoming an issue. MCC will continue work with GMCC/BGH to push messages around "Preparation for Brexit" but this could get lost with lockdown and businesses in survival mode. Feedback from businesses is that they still do not know what they are preparing for – not huge details about potential tariffs. BGH and GMCC will soon deliver webinars and will be fully promoted via MCC channels.</p> <p>Sectors at greatest risk in Mancr continue to be aviation, arts, cultural and creative industries and parts of the leisure and hospitality industry and associated supply chains.</p> <p>GM business outlook- The three main impacts facing businesses remain decreased sales (64% vs 43% previous report) cashflow problems (33% vs 31% previously) business travel to visit clients (25% vs 28%). 52% of firms report that they have cash reserves to last over 6 months, up from 51% previously. Sharp increase in firms reporting decreased sales over the last 2 weeks- most prevalent in hospitality/leisure/tourism, creative and cultural industries, parts of administrative professional services, and retail/wholesale. 85% of firms said they were not planning to make redundancies at all – this could be as a result of the Extension of the JRS Furlough scheme till March and resonates with the</p>	<p>W&S leading data / intel work with key stakeholders including Growth Company, The Business Growth Hub and GM Chamber of Commerce, GMCA and PRI to inform the development of a Manchester economy dashboard.</p> <p>Work and Skills officers will continue to work in partnership with BGH, and their manufacturing and aviation advisers and Cultural team at a GM level who have links with many supply chain businesses to continually gain local intelligence.</p> <p>MAG - Work and Skills alongside MAG, The Airport Academy, DWP and the Growth Company and other key partners are working behind the scenes to ensure there is a high quality offer and level of support for those people whose jobs are affected.</p>

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
	<p>number of HR1's being reported.</p> <p>8% of businesses said they have made redundancies but no more are planned</p> <p>48% of firms are continuing to trade at their usual workplace.</p> <p>17% are continuing to trade remotely and at the usual place of work.</p> <p>27% only trade remotely.</p> <p>The sectors most likely to report a temporary cease of trading are creative and hospitality/leisure/tourism.</p> <p>The main challenges are currently seen as: getting access to new domestic sales opportunities (68%, up from 60% previously), managing the overall finances of your businesses (32%, up from 23%) and developing new products and services (31%, down from 33%).</p> <p>20% of firms are currently recruiting new staff (17% previously), however, 3% of all respondents said they don't think they have the right skills to meet their business plan objectives for the year ahead.</p> <p>52% (52% previously) of firms said that the impact of transition and exit from EU had a 'neutral' effect on their business, 12% (13% previously) said 'negative', 34% are 'unsure'.</p> <p>Anecdotally, the extension of Furlough means that some businesses are refocusing /realigning their focus away from compulsory redundancies and looking at re-furloughing skilled staff with a view to reviewing staff structures post lockdown</p> <p>Furlough by Sector Arts, entertainment and recreation industry and</p>	<p>Retail is very likely to be severely affected given announcements about Arcadia Group. Alongside the newly unemployed workstream a concerted effort will aim to reach retail businesses and residents</p>

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
	<p>accommodation and food service activities industry had the highest proportions of their workforce on partial or full furlough (CJRS), at 34% and 22% respectively.</p> <p>The ICT and professional, scientific and technical activities industry had the highest proportions of their workforce working remotely instead of at their normal place of work, at 77% and 65% respectively. The ICT industry also had the lowest proportion of their workforce at their normal place of work, at 19%.</p> <p>UK Hospitality - Government lobbying continues around a rent moratorium extension, a VAT reduction extension beyond March 2021, and clarification on the CJRS bonus and grant support</p> <p>Insolvency Risk Data shows little change in risk in GM during the last fortnight. The highest volume of 1-3 red flags was prevalent in the retail and wholesale sector</p> <p>Growth Company Restart & Recovery and Kick-Start Tourism grant- 101 businesses have now progressed to application stage, with 42 applications now submitted</p>	<p>affected.</p> <p>Progress is still being made in contacting all those businesses that were not successful and offering supported to identify other options that could address their business needs. To date, contact has been made with 720 businesses of the 1,923 called, 201 of those businesses have now been referred for other support.</p>
Funding	<p>No specific known impacts on current external funding bids caused by C19 as yet. Known bids progressing through funding approval processes as expected.</p>	<p>1) Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) - £22.9m bid submitted by MCC into a combined GM bid of £80m Decisions expected from Salix before Christmas. MFT and RNCM have both joined the GM bid. To date, UofM and MMU have chosen not to bid.</p>

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
	<p>Team in City Policy developing a funding action plan based on C19 recovery and Corporate priorities</p>	<p>2) Green Recovery Fund - 2 bids successful with Manchester components. Groundwork GM (total bid: £1.5m) including work in Wythenshawe Woodlands (£205k) and Lancashire Wildlife Trust with work on greening Rochdale canal in the city centre (c. £100k)</p> <p>3) ERDF – our 3 projects have successfully completed the approvals process: GM Clean Energy (£17,233,000), Bio Health Accelerator (£5,523,516) and Build a Business in GM (£3,399,776). Resource and Programmes will be undertaking the financial management for these 3 projects.</p> <p>4) UKSPF - The Government has announced more details about the UK Shared Prosperity Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The government will ramp up funding, so that total domestic UK-wide funding will at least match current EU receipts, on average reaching around of £1.5 billion a year • A portion of the UKSPF will target places most in need across the UK, such as ex-industrial areas, deprived towns and rural and coastal communities. • The government will develop a UK-wide framework for investment in places receiving funding and prioritising. • A second portion of the UKSPF will be targeted differently: to people most in need through bespoke employment and skills programmes that are tailored to local need. • A framework will be published in the Spring. • To help local areas prepare over 2021-22 for the introduction of the UKSPF, the government will provide additional funding to support our communities to pilot programmes and new approaches. This additional funding will be delivered UK-wide, using the new financial assistance powers in the UK Internal Market Bill. Further details will be published in the New Year.

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
		<p>5) Government Green Industrial Revolution Government announced Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution. The ten point areas included in this plan are as follows -:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • advancing offshore wind • driving the growth of low carbon hydrogen • delivering new and advanced nuclear power • accelerating the shift to zero emission vehicles • green public transport, cycling and walking • 'jet zero' and green ships • greener buildings • investing in carbon capture, usage and storage • protecting our natural environment • green finance and innovation <p>We will seek additional details on what specific programmes and funding opportunities may emerge from this programme in 2021 as currently there is insufficient detail to suggest specific funding bidding opportunities at this time.</p>
Strategy & Economic Narrative Review	C19 has necessitated a review of existing strategies to understand whether they are fit for purpose given the predicted exacerbation of existing inequalities. This will inform the Economic Recovery Plan & Our Manchester Strategy reset. Formal refreshes would not take place until 2021 when the Our Manchester Strategy has been reset and the full impact of C19 is known.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Our Manchester Reset considered by SMT on 24 November and is being discussed at the Our Manchester Forum 9 December. • Draft Manchester Digital Strategy presentation discussed at Economy Scrutiny Committee 3 December. • Powering Recovery: Manchester's Economic Recovery & Investment Plan launched and published- aligns to existing Our Manchester Industrial Strategy.
External Influencing & Lobbying	The Government's economic response to C19 has been fast moving and feeding in Manchester's priorities has required a coordinated approach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letters from members of SMT to senior civil servants have been drafted to summarise the Economic Recovery &

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
		<p>Investment Plan specifically highlighting the 4 strategic themes and any projects which are relevant to their department.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key messages are about Manchester’s track record of delivering and the opportunities for Government to support the city’s economic recovery and levelling up. • Further influencing and lobbying will be done through ongoing conversations, meetings and speaking engagements using a pack of information containing key messages and a summary of the Plan and its outputs.
Economic Intelligence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Need to engage with Manchester Businesses and key sectors to understand current status re Covid related impacts. 2. Understanding of businesses in rented spaces and analysis to support the Business Rates Discretionary Grants. 3. Need to understand the status of the development pipeline across the city. 4. Need to update population modelling (MCCFM), reflecting both the impacts on and from the economy. 5. Demand appraisal for residential lettings market in Manchester post pandemic. 6. Provide economic intelligence to support the LDV 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On-going work for the Work & Skills Board to develop an integrated approach to economic monitoring. New quarterly sheet incorporates welfare and work & skills data to create a single, holistic product that responds to and better supports emerging priorities against the backdrop of Covid 19. Currently addressing key data gaps, working with colleagues at the Growth Company / GM Chamber of Commerce including jobs, inward investment, imports / exports and vacancies by sector. Dashboard going to Economy Scrutiny in December. 2. Supporting businesses to access all available grants at a national and local level - providing research and intelligence on businesses related to sector / size / rateable value / number of employees etc in order to better target grants / support SMT in their decision making around the delivery of grant schemes. 3. Pipeline tracking - used to support Financial Resilience work including forecasting potential council tax & business rates revenues. <p><u>Expected completions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential pipeline (2020/21): Over 3,500 new homes expected to be completed including c.440 affordable homes • Commercial pipeline (2020/21): 63,700m2 office space,

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
		<p>12,900m2 retail, 27,900m2 industrial, 644 hotel beds, 140,000m2 other.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Latest output from MCCFM, W2020, is due for release before December; it attempts to model for some of the likely impact on growth due to both Brexit and Covid19. For 2020, a zero net migration assumption has been made because of travel restrictions. 2. Work on-hold due to analytical capacity issues, carried over into 2021 work programme. 3. Market appraisals (rents & sales values) for Phase 1 LDV sites shared with CBRE to inform rent settings and aid financial modelling work. Maps of site boundaries for Phase 1 & 2 sites provided to Legal for use in collating title information. Work underway to understand demand for market and affordable housing in locations under considerations for Phase 1 schemes including an analysis of the void rate across the city - to be shared with the Project Board.

<p>Workforce Update</p>	<p>Latest Position Workforce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● As of 25 November, low overall levels of staff off sick 3.3% non covid related 243 staff and 1.26% staff absent with covid 19 symptoms 93 staff. ● 40.33% of workforce working from home 2,969 staff ● 51.55% of workforce on site BAU 3,795 staff ● 1.06% redeployed 78 staff ● 2.05% not in work but unable to work from home 151 staff
<p>Risk and Compliance Assurance Report</p> <p>Overview</p> <p>All building risk assessments have been completed and assurance checks are being carried out. Face coverings are now required in shared areas.</p> <p>Where service and risk assessments are outstanding staff cannot come into the office until completed.</p> <p>Requirements for individual risk assessments have been updated to include the new categories for vulnerable. The additional requirements will be completed asap but targeted at staff that are working on site.</p> <p>Guidance sets out that those who were previously shielded should be treated as clinically extremely vulnerable and not come into the workplace.</p>	<p>Latest Position</p> <p>All building and service risk assessments now in place. Assurance in place that individual assessments have been completed where required by all services.</p> <p>Positive response provided to Health and Safety Executive following anonymous concerns raised with them in respect of family contact (children’s services) – Health and Safety Service and Children’s Services are confident in the approach being taken. Updates to TUs on this also provided by HROD.</p> <p>Updates and assurance to be provided to MFT following concerns raised in respect of Gorton District Office – does require some remedial works and actions to improve Covid secure arrangements on site</p> <p>No other issues arising from compliance visits by Estates and Health and Safety Teams.</p> <p>Health and Safety Service designed management compliance self assessment surveys to be issued via Directorate Leadership Teams w/c 30 November to supplement Health and Safety audits of high risk premises / services.</p>

<p>Finance and Budget</p> <p>Overview</p> <p>NO CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS REPORT</p> <p>COVID-19 Related costs - Overview as at October MHCLG Return data - submitted 6.11.20.</p> <p>Net impact of COVID-19 on MCC General Fund is £152.8m in 2020/21, made up of: £23.8m in costs, and £129.0m income loss (Council only) also: £2m HRA</p>	<p><u>Latest Position</u></p> <p><u>Spending Review 2020 – Announced 25 November</u></p> <p><u>Local Government finance announcements from 2021/22</u></p> <p>It is not possible to provide an accurate assessment of the impact as the individual authority allocations will not be known until the Finance Settlement is released. The announcements could mean a further £8m to £9m support for adult social care and c£40m to £50m in other measures. This will be sufficient to remove the threat of S114 and should remove the need to come back for further cuts for 2021/22.</p> <p>The main announcements impacting Local Government Funding can be summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core spending power is to rise by 4.5% next year which equates to an estimated additional £2.2bn in funding as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3% increase in Council Tax Adult Social Care precept (the referendum limit for the Council Tax precept remains at 2%); ○ £300m social care grant (£150m of this is new funding); ○ New Homes Bonus scheme will continue for 2020/21 for additional homes delivered, this will not attract legacy payments; ○ An inflationary increase (0.55%) to Revenue Support Grant • All other existing social care funding will continue at 2020/21 level including IBCF. Better Care Fund will rise in line with NHS settlement 5.5% • Additional support for COVID-19 losses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ £1.5bn unringfenced grant for expenditure pressures (tranche 5) ○ Continuation of the Sales, fees and charges reimbursement scheme for first 3 months of next year • Council Tax and Business Rates
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- Unringfenced £670m in relation to Council tax losses including the impact of the increase in numbers receiving Council Tax Support
- 75% of irrecoverable 2020/21 Collection Fund losses will be reimbursed treasury resulting in a smaller deficit to be smoothed over three years. The details of this are not yet available, will be based on actual losses and not cover the whole Collection Fund deficit.
- The 100% Business Rate Pilots will continue for another year (including Greater Manchester).
- There will be no Business Rates reset in 201/22
- The Business Rates multiplier will be frozen with Local Authorities compensated through Section 31 grant.
- There are currently no plans to extend the Business Rates Extended retail relief scheme beyond this year.
- Pay rises in the public sector will be restrained and resources targeted as follows:
 - Approve a pay rise to nurses, doctors and others in NHS
 - Pay in the remainder of the Public Sector frozen next year
 - Public Sector workers earning less than median pay (£24,000) will see an increase of £250 in 2021/22
 - National Living Wage (NLW) to increase to £8.91 an hour (up 2.2%). previously expected to be £9.21
 - The LGA's view is that the Government cannot automatically impose a pay freeze in local government unless it uses a legislative route to do so.
- Other
 - Funding for Troubled families scheme of £165m will continue on a roll over basis
 - Funding of £254m was announced to reduce rough sleeping and homelessness. Of this £103m had been announced earlier this year for accommodation and substance misuse support.
 - Levelling up - this is a bidding process and must be spent within this parliament term.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The government will reform the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) lending terms, ending the use of the PWLB for investment property bought primarily for yield, which the paper states is a risk for both national and local taxpayers. The government will therefore PWLB lending rate cut back to 100 basis points from 26 November but with additional restrictions. ● Settlement target date - before Christmas recess on 17th December
<p>Our Transformation Digital Enablers</p> <p>Overview</p> <p>Digital Enablers Current ICT Position: 5,200 staff working remotely with c. 200 remote telephony users. Part way through data centre migration.</p> <p>Challenges: Parts of Infrastructure at capacity Reduced risk to live services including contact centre telephony and public computer access in Libraries, and not putting at risk current live services Capacity in key areas (servers and networks) is a particular issue.</p>	<p>Latest position</p> <p>Office 365 - User Migrations Completed. Shared mailboxes 50% complete. On course for Google and Lotus Notes to be fully decommissioned by end of December. A number of challenges with Microsoft</p> <p>EUD (End User Device) - End User Device-Business case to December Capital Board. Roll out process and prioritisation being developed. Subgroups preparing to be established. Service redesign being planned and is critical. Concern on supply chain.</p> <p>Data Centre Migration/ Additional Direct Access Capacity - All Telephony moved to UK Fast. All of Connections from remote organisations migrated. R2 remote access being migrated over next two weeks, delayed as issues identified. Internet cutover planned for 27th November. All services migrated by end of November. Decommissioning during December, option for space being considered</p> <p>Telephony - Planning for migration of users underway. Migration of all users planned during Jan to March. WAN and Wifi connectivity needs improving for some sites.</p> <p>Wifi / LAN /WAN - LAN/Wifi evaluation completed. WAN evaluation complete. WAN Business case being finalised</p>
<p>Our Transformation - Our Ways of Working</p> <p>Overview</p>	<p>Latest position</p> <p>Intranet</p>

Work is underway to reshape the Future Ways of Working plan. HR, Estates and ICT will support services to review their ways of working, learning from arrangements during Covid and tying together physical move, ICT projects including End User and Service Reviews.

The Council's intranet is now live.

The intranet is now live. 3,823 unique users (3,397) - 51% of all users have accessed intranet, up from 45% last week. Over 55 offline users have accessed the site with more work planned to encourage offline users to log on. At present Directorates are not doing any extra engagement with services around the Intranet until the issues around MS365 are resolved. Focus will then shift to promotion of the intranet in the next couple of weeks.

Future Ways of Working

Work is underway to reshape the Future Ways of Working plan with 2 main timeframes

Nov 20 – April 21 - Response to Covid:

- Work to support workforce in current arrangements (ie. 50% at home and 50% on site)
- Resilience to change ways of working to meet government guidance
- Support to staff working from home with money towards equipment
- Testing FWOW in line with Estates and Redesign timelines:

Key Timeline:

- **Now to March 21:** In order to deliver the exit of Universal Square (notice to be served 8th December), timescales are extremely tight. We are working with all impacted teams immediately (Legal, Finance, Elections in the Town Hall Extension as well as teams at Universal Square) to get all plans agreed and in place prior to Christmas for layout changes and moves to take place in the new year. This will be delivered alongside the move of staff from City Road East to Alexandra House.
- **By March 2021:** We know that bringing more teams into the Town Hall Extension will require more access to flexible space. A priority (by March) is to create bookable co-working space on level 7 Lloyd Street to enable teams to come together in a more flexible way than meeting rooms currently allow.
- **January to October 2021:** In the new year, we will also start to engage with teams impacted by Bridgewater House exit (teams across level 4 as well as those teams in Bridgewater House – Highways, MASH, MLCO).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 21 to March 22: All remaining teams across the Town Hall Extension will need to be rebalanced to support Future Ways of Working and to create additional flexible space, particularly for those who attend meetings in the Town Hall Extension but normally work elsewhere. This will include dedicated bookable space for focussed / individual working and additional dedicated group working space. • Future Projects include a review of district offices and creating HSQ HQ in THEx
<p>Revenues and Benefits</p> <p>Overview</p>	<p>Latest position</p> <p>Covid Winter Grant Scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DWP providing a budget of up to £2.6m to Manchester to deliver a Covid Winter Grant Scheme running from early December up to 31/3/21 • The primary focus is to provide food support for families with children during the Christmas and February 2021 half-term holiday periods • Flexibility is also offered to allow support for families without children and single people <p>Current thinking / activity to deliver the scheme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vouchers to a value of £15 per week provided to schools to allocate • Up to 34,000 vouchers available per holiday period to meet estimated need • A rapid tender process to identify partner supermarkets with a view to achieving an element of uplift to the value of the voucher • SMT colleagues are identifying and implementing options for providing support across other key groups that may include care leavers; homeless families; carers; college students: and may include food / utilities / other key needs support. <p>Housing Benefit / Council Tax Support:</p> <p>New claims received (includes Universal Credit New Claim Records indicating a possible new claim for CTS, not all result in a paid claim)</p> <p>W/E 24/11/19 = 551 Total received 1/4 - 24/11/19 = 21,877</p> <p>W/E 22/11/20 = 634 Total received 1/4 - 22/11/20 = 24,196</p> <p>Changes in Council Tax Support Scheme caseload:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Between 1/4/19 - 1/11/19 the overall CTS caseload fell by 2.08% · Between 1/4/20 - 1/11/20 the overall CTS caseload has risen by 5.28%

The latest estimated Collection Fund shortfall for 2020/21 is £15.9m, reflecting the expected 6% reduction in collection (from 96.5% in 2019/20) and increased CTS claimants.

Test and Trace Support Payments

The Test and Trace Support Payment scheme provides a lump sum payment of £500 to support those on low incomes if they cannot work while self-isolating for 14 days and will suffer a loss of income as a result. The scheme is available to people who meet the criteria from 28/9/2020 up to 31/1/2021. The core scheme is governed by strict criteria set by the government with a discretionary element incorporating government and AGMA level parameters.

As at 23 November we have:

- Received 2,971 eligible applications
- Paid £417,000 to 834 main scheme applications
- Paid £118,500 to 237 discretionary cases
- Declined 1,559 applications (617 main scheme and 942 discretionary)*
- 192 cases pending awaiting further information
- 108 applications awaiting allocation

*The main reasons for refusals are where the income is above the threshold based on the agreed AGMA model.

School Meals

The Welfare Provision Scheme Team administered the Council's Free School Meals replacement scheme for the half-term week.

- The scheme ran from 23/10/20 to 13/11/20.
- £15 per child paid into bank account or PayPoint
- Payments made for 6,616 children to a total cost of £99,240