

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Economy Scrutiny Committee – 14 January 2021

Subject: Update on COVID-19 Activity

Report of: Strategic Director (Growth and Development)

Summary

This report provides Committee Members with a further update summary of the current situation in the city in relation to COVID-19 and an update on the work progressing in Manchester in relation to areas within the remit of this Committee. Further detail on specific issues will be available as required.

Recommendations

The Committee is requested to note the update.

Wards Affected: All

Environmental Impact Assessment - the impact of the issues addressed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city

Manchester Strategy Outcomes	Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	This unprecedented national and international crisis impacts on all areas of our city. The 'Our Manchester' approach has underpinned the planning and delivery of our response, working in partnership and identifying innovative ways to continue to deliver services and to establish new services as quickly as possible to support the most vulnerable in our city. A reset of the Our Manchester Strategy is now underway following a meeting of the Our Manchester Forum on 16 June 2020. An extensive engagement exercise will take place to inform a draft document in late 2020 and a final version in February 2021.
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	

A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

None

Economic Recovery Workstream- Sitrep Summary

Economic Recovery Workstream- Sitrep Summary

As at 07/01/21 For Economic Scrutiny on 14/01/21 Updated fortnightly. Latest updates shown in yellow.

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
<p>General Overview</p>	<p>New national lockdown announced 04/01/21</p> <p>£4.6 bn new lockdown grants announced- 05/01/21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chancellor announces one-off top up grants for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses worth up to £9,000 per property to help businesses through to the Spring • £594 million discretionary fund also made available to support other impacted businesses • comes in addition to £1.1 billion further discretionary grant funding for Local Authorities, Local Restriction Support Grants worth up to £3,000 a month and extension of furlough scheme (gov.uk) <p>Concerns raised by various groups (CBI, BCC, Federation of Small Businesses) that additional support could be too late and new comprehensive response required. Particular concerns raised by BCC that</p>	<p>Powering Recovery: Manchester's Recovery and Investment Plan' launched in Nov. 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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spending Review Follow up: Work being undertaken jointly by City Centre Growth & Infrastructure and City Policy to gather intelligence and "map" potential sources of investment from the Spending Review to the projects within the Recovery & Investment Plan. This can inform the lobbying work with Government Departments. For the majority of funds announced, details are not yet available. The 3 immediate/known opportunities are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brownfield Land Fund (see Development section below) ➤ Transforming Cities Fund (launched 2017) for shovel ready transport schemes - to be followed by 5 year funding settlements for local transport in 8 city regions (including GM) from 2022/23,

this top up grant will not help smaller businesses with cashflow problems.

UK economic outlook- GDP was expected to grow by 5.5% (Office for Budget Responsibility forecasts in Nov). Economy not expected to return to its pre-pandemic peak until late 2022. Growth in 2021 could be lower than Nov projections.

Resolution Foundation now expects GDP could be as much as 6% smaller by Easter than forecast, cutting the 2021 growth rate to 4.3%.

Brexit- disruption is still expected as companies adapt to new EU arrangements. The OBR estimates a long-term loss of output of about 4% compared with remaining in the EU.

Unemployment- OBR estimates unemployment will peak at 7.5% in middle of 2021 once furlough closes at end April.

House prices- expected to fall sharply this year driven by rising unemployment and end of stamp duty holiday. Resolution Foundation/The Guardian 01/01/

with a further £50m revenue funding for CA's to prepare for the settlements.

- 2nd round of the Green Recovery Fund expected to be launched early this year.
- **United City** business-led campaign launched 22/11 and supported by MCC.
- **Business Sounding Board** and **Real Estate subgroup** continue to meet regularly to share intel across sectors and to help support MCC lobbying.
- Weekly MCC **newsletter** issued to over 9,000 businesses with updates.

FT survey of economists 03/01

Economists expect the UK recovery in 2021 to be slower than in peer countries, because of a lower starting point, a larger services sector, low business investment and the impact of Brexit. A survey of nearly 100 economists showed that most of them expect the size of the economy **not to return to pre-pandemic levels until the third quarter of 2022**, despite the expectation of a strong consumer-led rebound from the rollout of the coronavirus vaccine. Increased unemployment, bankruptcies and the impact of Brexit are expected to limit the pace of the recovery. Many economists say the government should not raise taxes at least until the economy has fully recovered, and others note that, given low interest rates, the pressure to reduce the burden of public debt is low.

Footfall trends- City Centre

(Springboard/Cityco 06/01/21)

Week – Sun 27th Dec to Sat 2nd Jan		
	Year %	Week %
Total	-55%	-30%
St Ann's Sq	-61%	-32%

Exchange Sq	-51%	-34%
King Street	-59%	-27%
Market Street	-54%	-26%
New Cathedral St	-50%	-34%

November footfall v last year down 82% (UK down 70%).

Manchester wide figures (excluding city centre)-

Week 53/ week commencing 28/12- 03/01

-12.5% week on week (UK -35.5%)

Footfall for the year to date is 23.9% down on the previous year.

District Centres Week on Week/ Year on Year

Cheetham Hill -24.2% -27.9%

Chorlton -12.9% -41.3%

Fallowfield 21.7% -47.6%

Gorton -9.5% -30.8%

Harphurhey -20.8% -21.2%

Levenshulme -6.7% -38.0%

Northenden -12.0% -43.2%

Rusholme -7% -44.0%

Victoria Avenue -16.2% -27.0%

Culture

Cultural organisations had been planning for some level of post-Christmas restrictions. Whilst they remain ready to reopen in a Covid-secure way at the earliest opportunity, much of the planning for programmes and activities has been carried out with digital/online options in mind and the organisations will therefore adapt as they need to. E.g. The Halle and Camerata are continuing to make recordings for broadcast (e.g.: BBC Radio 3's Manchester Week 16-22 Jan. - Ten live and pre-recorded performances -

<https://www.bbc.com/mediacentre/2020/bbc-radio-3->

Withington 10.7% -38.6%

Culture

Impact of Tier 4/National Lockdown: All cultural venues have now been closed since 5 November and activity is very restricted – with only rehearsal and filming (for broadcast) permitted. It is unlikely organisations will be able to reopen much before April.

Cultural Freelancers - impact of the pandemic on those more vulnerable in the supply chain includes artists and cultural producers

[manchester-week](#). The continued furlough scheme will assist with running costs.

Manchester Art Gallery Shop opened in the two weeks prior to Christmas. It received 224 visitors in the week beginning 7 December and 266 visitors in the week beginning 14 December.

GM Artists Hub (GMAH)- designed by a range of cultural orgs in GM (to provide support for independent artists & to inform future dev of artist development programmes. Offer includes 1-2-1 sessions, Group advisory sessions, hardship bursary and grant support for 8 x early careers artists. Currently running a call for 3 x £5,000 commissions for new work - EOI deadline 10/1. Activities since April include - 559 individual artists and creative freelancers benefitted from support, 51 applications for the hardship fund and 10 awards of £500 each. Plans for continued GMAH initiative into 2021.

Culture Recovery Fund 2 – Subject to any changes as a result of the national lockdown, the criteria allows for previous and new applicants. There is a reduced minimum amount (£25k from £50k) - which may enable additional and smaller companies to apply - and an upper limit of £3million (across all programme rounds). Requests can be for no more than 25% of annual turnover. The Culture Team is disseminating

information to cultural organisations and is planning a webinar.

Culture Recovery Fund - CRF 2

announced by DCMS on 11/12 allocation of the remainder of the £1.57 billion funding (comprising Arts Council England - £250m; Historic England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund - £36m; BFI - £14 million). In addition, Arts Council England has received £100 million in the form of repayable finance.

On 18/12 Arts Council England announced that applications for its grants would open from 6 January - 26 January 2021 to support cultural organisations as they transition back to a viable and sustainable operating model during April-June 2021

Extension of Film and TV Production Restart

Scheme – Government announced on 20/12 that the scheme which guarantees support to film & TV productions if they incur losses due to delays caused by Covid-19, would be extended to include cast and crew over the age of 70. In addition, the deadline for productions to register for the scheme has been extended

until April 2021, giving more film and high-end TV projects the security to start shooting in the spring.

Aviation

Brexit- teething problems reported with some flyers being refused access to Spain for not having the right documentation. As with Covid situation, there is the risk that UK travelers are locked out from the EU for pandemic reasons now as a third country. 05/01/21

Key issues: faster testing, travel corridors, greater transparency.

New testing facility at Man Airport went live on 3/12. Full range of tests will be available to all passengers in a new, purpose-built facility just outside of the main terminal building. First to give passengers the chance to book discounted pre-flight testing appointments on the high street at selected Boots UK stores.

'Test to Release' scheme launched 15/12. People arriving into the UK can halve their quarantine time in receipt of a negative test result.

Higher Education Institutions

Only students undertaking training and study for limited courses should return to face to face learning ie medicine, education, social work. Others to remain where they are and start new term online until at least mid-Feb. 1/1/21

City centre office market- Positive reaction to vaccine news. Second lockdown has helped occupiers with the view that the office is essential for many reasons. Rents are holding up and are robust. Not as much downsizing as expected. Some signs of larger businesses moving forward with relocations next year. (Sounding Board/OBI 09/12)

Development

Stimulating development & investor confidence, including:

- 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.

- **Planning reform consultation** underway on the building of public service infrastructure and the extension of permitted development rights - 10/12. To run in parallel to the recent White Paper on planning reforms- focussed on shorter term aspirations. The proposals would allow a greater number of use classes to be converted into residential, such as restaurants and indoor sports centres without planning permission. The Government aims to streamline the planning process for schools, hospitals and other infrastructure but creating a 10 week deadline

- Understanding supply chain issues and identifying appropriate support measures. It is becoming increasingly apparent that the appetite of contractors 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.
- 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.

for a decision and allowing buildings to be extended further without the need for permission.

- Construction at **Mayfield** has started. Publicity on the start of works on Mayfield Park being planned for December/January.
- 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.
- Closing date for 2nd round of Brownfield Fund on 8/12. 11 Manchester schemes were submitted, including Collyhurst Village, 3 Eastern Gateway schemes, Silk Street, former Manox site and Jackson's Brickworks. Decisions expected March 21, following appraisal by GMCA and presentation to Directors of Place, Chief Executives and Leaders.
- Community consultation on the first phase of the delivery of Collyhurst has been concluded 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. Planning applications are anticipated in early 2021. The scheme could commence in Spring 2021 subject to the outcome of the Brownfield Land Fund

		<p>application referenced in the bullet point above which is for enabling works.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three new leases have been confirmed for City Tower, including Oodle Car Finance, Coalfire (a cyber risk management advisory firm), and Amey who will be relocating within the building. • Capital & Centric have launched a consultation (23/12) on a scheme for c.120 homes on Swan Square, as part of the New Cross Regeneration initiative. The scheme also proposes a shared and private roof terraces for residents, as well as ground floor workspaces. • A revised planning application has been made for the ground floor and basement units at the Hanover building at NOMA, to reflect a change in the retail market from traditional retail store to more experience-led offers (23/12).
<p>Affordable Housing</p>	<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 • Expediting design & planning phases of projects. 	<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 Registered Providers (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.

- 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.

- 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

- Silk Street funding has been approved through the Capital Strategy Board. Contracts are being finalised with Rowlinson Construction before moving into the detailed design stage in January, and Homes England Affordable Housing Programme (AHP) grant application.

- Progressing the establishment of a Local delivery vehicle. Looking to start on site with key projects and novate across.
 - 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.

The sites have been broken down into 3 phases and the RP's are in the process of attending workshops with MCC to discuss the plans before submitting bids to Homes England AHP. All members have been

contacted to outline development plans in their wards and follow up meetings are being planned where necessary.

- The GMCA proposed partnership has been delayed so this will have a knock-on effect to the Manchester Collaboration.

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

- Ongoing intelligence gathering with developers to understand status of projects and support needed.
 - 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 reprovion 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

		<p>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.</p> <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.
<p>Transport and Infrastructure</p>	<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>Travel demand continues to be low, with 1/3 fewer journeys than to be expected at this time of year taking place across GM. Highest impact is on rail and Metrolink travel.</p> <p>Bus reform consultation closes on 29/21</p> <p>Manchester (LA) Transport Usage Data (for w/e 3/1)</p> <p>Bus Patronage, decreased by 22.2% on the previous week and was -75% on pre Covid levels.</p> <p>Metrolink Network patronage, decreased by 22.9% on the previous week and was -84.3% on pre Covid levels.</p> <p>Highway - Private vehicle trips, were -21.9% on the previous week and -46.4% on pre Covid levels.</p>

Rail - Passenger numbers, increased by 7.9% on the previous week and were -78.6% on the same period last year.

Cycling - Cycle volumes, (265,747), decreased by 25% on the previous week and were -69% on the same period last year.

GM Wide Data

○ 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
11/12/20	37,653
30/12/20	31,800

○ 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		
		11/12/20	
	315,223		
		30/12/20	
	177,038		
		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
		11/12/20	32,122
		30/12/20	31,533
		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		

		<p>20/11/20</p> <p>4,255,985</p> <p>11/12/20</p> <p>4,630,511</p> <p>30/12/20</p> <p>3,599,744</p> <p>Face Coverings- Face covering compliance is around 90% on buses, 83% on Metrolink and 80% on trains. (as at 3/1)</p> <p>City Centre Transport Strategy closed on 4/11/20. Analysis indicates overwhelming support for the proposals within the draft strategy. Report expected to be presented to Executive in February or March.</p> <p>Active Travel Fund (ATF) GM awarded £15.9m. Work underway to develop city centre 'triangle' and Wythenshawe schemes for pedestrian and cycling routes.</p> <p>Network Rail - Rail enhancements budget has been cut by £1bn – down nearly 10% from the £10.4bn previously calculated by the Office of Rail and Road (ORR). 16/12/20</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	Re-purposing of city centre streets and open spaces. Initial ideas are now being developed further in

	business reopening and procure necessary equipment to facilitate this.	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 • 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.

Furlough and newly unemployed

- The official unemployment rate (in the three months up to October) rose nationally and in the North West of England (to 4.9% and 4.7% respectively). In Manchester the rate of unemployment has remained at 6.1% however this data only covers the period up to June (data up to September released on the 26th January)

. - Claimant unemployment (unemployed people who claim benefits) also edged up. In November 2020 there were 34,790 claimants in Manchester – up from 33,915 in October.

- Older people are accounting for more claims. Since the autumn increasing numbers of claims from people in their 50s and 60s have become apparent while there has been some decline in the numbers of younger people (under 25s) receiving unemployment support.

- Claims for Universal Credit (UC) have continued to increase. In November 2020

Furlough and newly unemployed

Newly Unemployed Support Take up on the www.manchester.gov.uk/Help to get work scheme has been low with 65 residents requested support since offer went live. Anecdotally there is a sense that some residents are self-serving and using other offers of support/ agencies. There is a sense from DWP partners that those who have been made redundant were taking time out - becoming “economically inactive” in the run up to Christmas.

Eventbrite link to MAES training has been added to an extra Bulletin, to encourage enrolment. In addition, the bulletin will include sector skills intelligence to provide information to residents on growth areas and skills required to access them.

Meetings with partnership leads (DWP, Growth Company, CAB) to discuss what information they hold on this cohort, what can they share so we can assess the level of demand from residents that is not being requested via the Helptogetwork page.

there were 76,852 people on UC in Manchester. This compares with 42,120 in March.

- Redundancies slowed in November 2020. Employers issued just over 1,400 notifications compared with 3,200 in October. In the last six months 24,140 people have been notified of redundancy in Greater Manchester (GM).

- Vacancies have fallen in recent weeks but were still running at about 3,000 a week in December which is not far off the levels recorded at the start of the year before the pandemic hit.

Offer for 16-19 year olds

A brief summary of the figures show that there has been a reduction in the level of unknown NEET young people compared to last month, decreasing from 1178 (9.9%) in October to 649 (5.5%) for November. Although this is higher than in November last year, it is a smaller difference of 0.8 pts. Last November was submitted at 545 (4.7%). However, as destinations continue to be confirmed this has caused an increase in NEET. This has risen from 375 (3.2%) in October to 434

Offer for 16-19 year olds

Comms campaign for young people and parents highlighting key messages in relation to opportunities and high-level guidance particularly to support transition from School into an EET destination.

(3.7%) and is also higher than last year by 0.4 ppts.

Compared to last year, the numbers of young people that have settled in further education and training destinations is very similar at 10,385 (87.7%) this November and 10,065 (87.6%) last November. However, employment has remained significantly lower at 357 (3.0%) compared to 508 (4.4%) last year. This suggests that the pandemic

has had a larger impact on employment rather than education, where there have been fewer job opportunities resulting in an increase of young people becoming NEET.

Overall, the combined NEET and Unknown figures are 1083 (9.2%) compared to 919 (8.0%) last year. Due to similar numbers settling in education and training, there is less of a difference in young people meeting the duty to participate this year (90.2%) compared to last year (90.9%)

Youth unemployment

Maximise the opportunities from and work with partners to roll out the Kickstart Scheme Impact of lockdown 3.0 on HE

Youth unemployment

Ongoing work with Gateway organisations and employers to create Kickstart opportunities for Manchester young people; DWP and key partners including Growth Company will establish the impact on Kickstart placements as a result of lockdown 3.0.

Skills and employment support for adults

MCC Skills referral support via telephone

- Referrals for skills support were very low over December – 12. Total of 511 residents supported with their digital skills since May 2020.

Device Scheme

- Total of 480 residents supported to access the internet through MCC Scheme o 400 devices donated o 80 Sims with Internet donated to people with own devices but no Wifi

Coordinating the wider Manchester offer of support through the Digital Inclusion Action Plan

- MHCC recruiting Digital Inclusion Officer using same role profile as MCC DIO's.

student retention will continue to be a key area for focus.

Skills and employment support for adults

Digital exclusion as a key factor impacting on resident's ability to access services and support became more apparent during COVID-19.

Impact of further national lockdown on post-16 and adult education and training with a particular impact on learners with low skillsets.

Mobilising skills priorities action through the Manchester Adult Education and Skills Plan.

· Embedding a digital offer for VCSE through the Covid Winter Fund being rolled out as of Jan 2021

· Process of the Work and Skills team contacting providers to identify how learning is being provided and vulnerable learners supported during the current lockdown is ongoing. Most are in a better place and better equipped to meet needs, learning from what has worked or not during previous lockdowns.

Adult Learning Providers – impact on further restrictions and lockdown

· Adult learning providers now having to deliver the majority of their offer online. Although lots of learners have already adjusted to this model of learning since the first lockdown – many have not and many are digitally excluded. Those with lowest skill & qualification levels & furthest from the labour market are least likely to engage /sustain learning. Children at home from school also impacts on adult learners

· MAES have invested in 500 Google Chromebooks and 100 dongles for a loan scheme. This has not met all the demand and out of a total of 90 new requests only 50 devices are currently available.

· The vast majority of the MAES offer is now being delivered online, with exception for young vulnerable residents with an Education, Health & Care Plan

Social value and local benefit

Refresh SV policy to reflect Think recommendations and recovery plan - Draft agreed internally and awaiting sign off via scrutiny and Executive.

Refresh SV policy documentation - Documentation refresh in progress via Contract and Commissioning Leads Group

Refresh planning and local labour process and toolkit - Bulk of documentation complete and being rolled out with new planning applications. To revisit other large schemes and reconnect with main contractors/developers.

Develop pipeline of opportunities through large suppliers and capital projects where MCC is the client - Initial conversations have taken place with colleagues in Capital Programmes and Corporate Procurement. To assign resource to working through and collating offers.

Business support, sustainability and growth

Further work will be underway to establish the details of the new £4.6bn **National Lock down grant** and begin preparations to communicate this to businesses.

Business Grants

- LRSG Grants for businesses (open and closed) are continuing to be delivered.
- Council has allocated over £13.3m of support to 5,338 businesses through the LRSG and ARG (discretionary) schemes between 21 Dec to the 3 Jan: All LRSG Schemes Count Total: 5,154 Grant Total: £12,755,046

Social Value and Local Benefit

Ensure that MCC's approach to SV reflects current economic circumstances and Think recommendations. Coordinate employment and skills related social value "offers" from across MCC's largest suppliers and capital projects into a pipeline of opportunities that can be promoted to residents and employment/skills/training organisations.

Business Support, Sustainability & Growth

- 'Additional Restrictions Grant' (ARG) is a discretionary grant that went live on 27.11.2020 and will close for applications on 19 January for businesses not eligible for LRSG or for those without a Ratable value in a shared space. To date (5/1) grants have been paid to 184 businesses (total of £549,901), with a further 72 payments planned for this week (total of £207,394.28).
- Letters are being sent to pubs to promote the additional £1,000 wet pub grant alongside calls made to many of the main breweries, as there were fewer applications than anticipated.
- Targeted comms will continue to take 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.

Brexit- Now a deal is in place- Business Growth Hub and GM Chamber alongside Work and Skills Team will develop appropriate comms and support such as webinars for businesses. Will be somewhat challenging given the new lock down. Officers will update MCC's web pages with diverts/clicks through to Government and Business Growth Hub's pages.

Equalities/disadvantaged groups

Comms for newly unemployed reviewed to ensure inclusivity. Work club delivery monitored to provide insight on the characteristics of service users to make

	<p>Brexit Impacts.</p> <p>UK GDP is forecast to shrink further according to FT Survey of top economists suggesting - UK GDP would not regain its previous level until the second half of 2022, or later.</p> <p>- Suggesting political mismanagement of both the Covid-19 crisis and of Brexit had ensured the UK would underperform other richer countries</p> <p>Equalities/disadvantaged groups</p> <p>Ensure those most adversely affected and underrepresented are supported by activity included in workstreams. This would include Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups, young people, over 50's, homeless, veterans, survivors of DV&A, ESA claimants, and those experiencing family poverty.</p>	<p>sure all communities are being serviced. Digital support for over 50's being piloted in North Manchester.</p>
<p>Funding</p>	<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. MFT and RNCM have both joined the GM bid. To date, UofM and MMU have chosen not to bid.</p>

	<p>Team in City Policy developing a funding action plan based on C19 recovery and Corporate priorities</p> <p>Working with City Centre Growth to map funding opportunities through the 2020 Spending Review</p>	<p>Decisions from Salix on the bidding round expected week ending 15th January.</p> <p>2. GM bid to Environment Agency's £200m 'Coastal and Flood Resilience Innovation Funding' - there is £6m per applicant available to spend over 5 years. Must be led by a LA. Stockport are going to lead a GM bid, where MCC could get £1m with City of Trees to spend over 5 years on strategic tree planting for resilience. EOIs submitted by 15th Jan, led by colleagues in Highways.</p>
<p>Strategy & Economic Narrative Review</p>	<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Our Manchester Reset is being considered by all January Scrutiny Committees and will be introduced by the lead SMT officer with support from City Policy. The Strategy will then be redrafted ahead of February Executive & March Council. A formal launch event will also take place alongside publication of the final document and a short summary version aimed specifically at residents. • Powering Recovery: Manchester's Economic Recovery & Investment Plan launched and published- aligns to existing Our Manchester Industrial Strategy.
<p>External Influencing & Lobbying</p>	<p>The Government's economic response to C19 has been fast moving and feeding in Manchester's priorities has required a coordinated approach.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letters from senior Council officers have now been sent to senior Civil Servants at No10, Treasury, BEIS, MHCLG, Cities & Local Growth Unit, DWP, DfE, DfT & Homes England. The letters summarise relevant elements of the ER and request a follow up meeting. An electronic copy of the Plan has also been shared.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The work to map Spending Review announcements to the projects in the Economic Recovery & Investment Plan will help to inform the next stage of lobbying for Government investment.
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. 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, 12,900m2 retail, 27,900m2 industrial, 644 hotel beds, 140,000m2 other.

4. Latest output from MCCFM, W2020, was released w/c 14th Dec 2020 and is due to be discussed at SMT in Jan 2021. 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 so most growth is due to natural change (births and deaths) and any migration between July 2019 and February 2020. The estimated population for mid-2020 is 579,450.

5. Work on-hold due to analytical capacity issues, carried over into 2021 work programme.

6. Market appraisals (rents & sales values) for Phase 1 LDV sites shared with CBRE to inform rent settings and aid financial modelling work. Appraisal of demand and analysis of void rate shared with Project Board. Further work to understand future phasing of sites required.