

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

Residents and Communities Recovery Situation Report Summary

1.0 Residents at Risk

1.1 Shielded Residents and the Food Response:

- Since 31st December, 162 people have registered on the National Shielding Service website for support. Most have registered for a supermarket slot and information on support available. 24 people have asked for food support.
- A letter was sent to all CEV (clinically extremely vulnerable) in Manchester w/c 11th January with information on the local support offer.
- The third lockdown saw an initial increase in demand for food support, which has tapered off.
- Step down measures include: 337 referrals to community provision, 8 to universal provision, 115 referrals to CAB, and 58 referrals to Be Well service.
- Better links with Adult and Childrens' Social Care, and Early Help have been established for intelligence sharing and referral to statutory services.

1.2 Domestic Violence and Abuse:

- Analysis indicates that incident volumes recorded by Police have fallen back to pre-Christmas levels. Levels over Christmas and New Year were not untypical of year-on-year trends. Numbers of incidents with children present also fell back to pre-Christmas levels.
- Refuge referral volumes are broadly typical of those seen throughout the pandemic. The Priority Move-On Project has continuing support until 31st March and has enabled almost 90 victims and 50 children to move on.
- Community Safety Unit is allocating a fund of £50k over the next four to six weeks from Covid Impact monies to support DVA providers.

1.3 Poverty and Welfare Provision:

- Increase in demand for the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme - average number of new applications up from 31 a day (Mid Nov to end Dec) to 58 a day in the first three weeks of January.
- The T&TSP scheme has been extended until 31/3/21 with £63,828.64 confirmed in addition to the initial discretionary fund of £226,671.36 making a total discretionary budget of £290,500.
- Under the T&TSP scheme, as of 18/01/2021 we have:
 - Received 4,570 eligible applications
 - Paid £586,000 to 1,172 main scheme applications
 - Paid £151,000 to 302 discretionary cases
 - Declined 2,666 applications (1,100 main scheme and 1,566 discretionary)
 - 187 cases pending awaiting further information
 - 184 applications unallocated
 - 72% paid within three days

1.4 Homelessness:

- Numbers presenting as homeless have risen from the usual seasonal drop over Christmas:
- Moratorium on evictions continues to be in place.
- With the RPs, MCC is purchasing units of accommodation to move people on from housing related support into longer term accommodation.
- Additional funding from MHCLG to accommodate people who sleep rough until the end of March. A further 36 people are being accommodated in hotel accommodation during the lockdown.
- Plans to begin vaccinations of more entrenched people who sleep rough and sex workers next month.

2.0 Mitigating the Impacts of Covid 19 on Communities and Adults

2.1 **Team around the Neighbourhoods Engagement** continues to support the response, including residents engagement, contacting CEV and vaccination roll out.

3.0 Digital Inclusion

- Digital skills learning provision going back to remote / fully digitally – excluding low skilled residents not able to access/ fully utilise the internet.
- 400 chromebooks donated to digitally excluded residents – all receiving support from a digital champion.
- 600 residents provided with skills support via the digital support telephone service managed by libraries since May 2020.
- Waiting list for devices is over 300 residents.
- 50k GM LA Grant Funding – to be spent on providing data for those on the waiting list and those receiving a refurbished device that is given within data.
- £10k funding from The Reading Agency for devices and engaging people in online reading groups and reminiscence groups.
- Libraries designated as an essential service and remain open for some services.
- Adult learning providers are delivering online learning using a range of synchronous (live) asynchronous (flexible/independent) approaches.
- MAES has currently loaned circa 700 devices to learners.

4.0 Mitigating the Impacts of Covid 19 on children and young people

4.1 Schools and Education:

- Schools open for vulnerable children and critical worker's children – higher demand for places from critical workers in south Manchester.
- Overall places offered is 27% primary, 9% secondary, 72% special.
- Overall attendance 13.3% on site; 32.1% of EHCP cohort; 42% of children with SW.
- Secondary schools have paused daily testing until further notice.
- IT and internet access audit completed - MCC will match offers of IT to schools where there is a significant gap.
- Special school staff notified re vaccinations.

- Info on winter fuel offer provided.
- Expanding SEND offer for families.
- Ensuring all vulnerable pupils with an offer of a school place are attending.
- Recording all EHCP children who have an offer but have declined in place.

4.2 Children's Services and Early Help:

- Pre-existing roll-on roll-off arrangements re-instituted and working well.
- Ongoing monitoring of new referrals to social care which have plateaued
- Numbers of Early Help Assessments have increased, after dropping throughout 2019.
- Large increase in requests for support from the EH Hubs compared to 2019.
- Increase in need for referrals for food support and financial.
- Plans for fund to alleviate hardship during covid.

4.3 Youth:

- All open access centre-based provision ceased in line with regulations.
- All 4 hubs have continued daily provision for young people with high needs.
- Hubs have an offer for schools to refer to for young people who they are concerned about during lockdown - pre booked provision for 15 young people each day.
- Detached, outreach and virtual provision will be increased.
- Providers still offer 1:1 support & targeted group work to the most vulnerable.
- All providers are offering food support.

5.0 VCSE

- Covid Impact Fund (Mental Health & Wellbeing) went live at the start of Jan '21, with a focus on BAME communities, Disabled people, LGBTQ+ communities, North Manchester residents and Older People.
- Information on vaccinations and testing for VCSE sector frontline health and care staff are being communicated to VCSE organisations via Macc and the Covid Health Equity Manchester engagement.

6.0 Equalities

- The ONS Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (15/01/21) indicates a compounding effect of the pandemic on levels of poor mental health and social isolation.
- The Mental Health Foundation reports this is exacerbated for children and young people by school and higher education closures. Young carers and children living locked down in complex home settings are particularly high risk
- Across all identity groups, the adverse impact on mental wellbeing creates a pressure on support services and functions.
- The longer-term impacts on residents' mental health remain a concern.

Economic Recovery Workstream- Sitrep Summary

As at 4/2/21 For Economy Scrutiny on 11/2/21 & Executive on 17/2/21. Updated fortnightly. Latest updates shown in yellow.

Issue/theme/ activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
General Overview	<p>General UK Overview</p> <p>Economic outlook from ONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey results showed over 1 in 10 (12%) currently trading UK businesses said that turnover had decreased by more than 50% compared with what is normally expected for this time of year. • Debit and credit card spending rose sharply over the festive period, 4% greater in December 2020 than in February 2020 • 18% of the workforce of all UK businesses (excluding those permanently ceased trading) were furloughed. <p>Manchester's Dashboard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-million pound Research & Innovation Institute has been launched by a consortium led by the University of Manchester. • European travel company Awaze has chosen Manchester for its UK headquarters Bringing around 100 new jobs to the city 	<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 won't be available until 2021. 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, via the Intra City Transport Fund, with a further £50m revenue funding for CA's to prepare for the settlements. Officers are involved in groups working on the Greater Manchester Investment Programme (GMIP), which will form the basis of proposals to Government for the Intra City Fund. Work due to conclude in March. ➤ 2nd round of the Green Recovery Fund being launched in the new year.

- City centre rents 3.6% below pre Covid peak (compared to 12.4% fall in central London)
- Residential sales market activity remaining subdued across Manchester, quarterly change of -30.1%
- Total Business Rates charges have fallen by 39% since April and business rates collection rate c.18% below last year

Manchester Crane Survey 2021

General

- Construction activity continued during lock after an initial halt on sites, returned in April 2020.
- Office growth in the north region is stabilising albeit at a high level.
- Chief Finance Officers group optimism returned to a 12 year high in response to the mass vaccination programme. Sharp initial bounce back in the shorter-term post lockdown following the initial downturn.
- Activity has reduced generally since 2019 but still a high level of activity.
- Completions have increased – an illustration of how strong and resilient the region is and it continues to deliver.

- **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.

A proposal has been developed to extend the eligibility criteria for the existing Additional Restriction Grant scheme. The scheme to administer the Discretionary Grants to Business (ARF) was considered and approved at Council 03.02.21. The scheme will be launched from 10th February.

A webinar was hosted by KPMG on 1 Feb for the hospitality sector. Representatives from MCC attended (Head of Corporate Revenues at Manchester City Council), talked about the expanded retail discount and the Local Restrictions Support Grant scheme. The call was attended by 40+ people from the hospitality sector. The webinar was well received in terms of advice and general reassurance for operators.

MCC survey live to ascertain how we can improve methods of communications with businesses and residents and encourage use of online services. Link to survey here <https://surveys.manchester.gov.uk/s/OnlineServicesForBusinesses>

- Belief that death of the city is overexaggerated but there are inequalities that Covid has acted as a laser beam on.

Manchester 2020

- 35 schemes completed - 8 commercial.
- 2020 saw the largest amount of office floorspace delivered since 2008 at 1.2msqft.
- 72 schemes on site 8% fewer than the 77 in 2019 . 11 of these are office schemes, with 36% already pre-let.
- 28 of the schemes on site are retail/leisure, most taking up ground floor units in residential and commercial developments.
- 24 new starts, one fewer than 2019. Of these starts, 16 were residential and 3 commercial. The balance made up from hotel and education/research.
- We are also seeing signs of 'later living' and inter-generational products entering the Manchester city centre residential market.

MIDAS Report Summary

2020/21 April – November

Manchester Successes YTD – 12 businesses creating 240 jobs

- 3 were new to Manchester bringing 70 jobs, the remaining were existing businesses in GM.
- They were from a range of sectors including life sciences, manufacturing and energy.

Recent successes to Manchester– Q3 2020/21

- The most successful sector is Advanced Manufacturing
- Country of origin has included UK, US and Canada.
- Reasons for location to Manchester are
 - Access to highly skilled talent
 - Location that serves the North
 - Large talent pool
 - Business environment

There are still a significant number of projects considering Manchester from a wide range of sectors.

Manchester Office Agents Forum: confident that the Manchester office market will remain strong, with the forum reporting some signs of early recovery. Those companies that paused their search for office space early in 2020 started looking again towards the end of the year, with focus on flexibility and wellbeing.

Numbers of administrations fall: KPMG have reported that the number of firms in administration

fell last year in the North West, down by 22%, but warn of a 'hibernation' for companies affected by lockdown measures.

BSB - Real Estate Sub Group

Meeting on 02.02.21

- Construction sector continuing and not slowing down, evidenced by recent crane survey results. Too early to see if any change in specific sectors or across any cities in the region.
- Important to consider now the return to the city, when that will be and how we ensure a consistent approach across all sectors and areas.
- Need to understand what key things are needed to support those sectors hardest hit.

- MCC approved £2.3m of capital expenditure to commence the Northern Quarter cycling and walking improvements at Ducie Street, Dale Street and Thomas Street. This will make temporary road closures permanent at Thomas Street and part of Ducie Street in the Northern Quarter and widen footways and reduce on-street parking on Dale Street.
- The section of Ducie Street between London Road and Dale Street will be realigned to allow access to the rear of the station following the removal of the pedestrian crossing at the bottom of Piccadilly Approach.

- Point was raised about two things needed to allow a return to the city by workers:
- Schools – reopening will have an impact on releasing workers to come back into the city.
- Public Transport – perceptions could be a barrier to the return to the city.
- Hospitality - support needed to increase capacity externally.
- Man Life had 100 completions March – December 2020.

Football

Manchester United saw a 19% decrease in revenue (£118.1m).

Manchester City saw an 11% decrease in revenue (£481.6m).

Footfall

Footfall trends- City Centre (Springboard / CityCo)

Week 4 – Sun 24 Jan to Sat 30 Jan		
	Week on week %	Year on year %
St Ann's Sq	+4.6%	-79.7%
Exchange Sq	+29.2%	-83.2%
King Street	+14.6%	-81.9%
Market Street	+16.3%	-82.0%
New Cathedral St	+18.8%	-84.0%

NB Given the low level of current footfall, small increase in numbers can lead to relatively high

percentage increases. The reasons for the increase in the past week are not clear, but given low figures are not expected to be significant.

Manchester wide footfall (excluding city centre)

Week on week: +9.0%

Year on year: -41.6%

District Centres

	Week on week %	Year on year %
Cheetham Hill	7.2%	-32.4%
Chorlton	-0.3%	-47.0%
Fallowfield	19.3%	-47.9%
Gorton	-2.6%	-46.1%
Harpurhey	11.6%	-26.6%
Levenshulme	2.8%	-38.0%
Northenden	1.0%	-41.3%
Rushholme	13.7%	-49.0%
Victoria Avenue	11.1%	-48.4%
Withington	7.0%	-40.3%

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

Aviation

Closure of all travel corridors to the UK on Monday, until at least 15 February, which requires

all international travellers to the UK to provide proof of a negative Covid test and quarantine for up to 10 days.

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

Holiday bookings up: following news and the rollout of the coronavirus vaccines, travel companies are reporting an increase in take-up for holidays for later in 2021 and for 'once in a lifetime' holidays for 2022, despite the closure of travel corridors.

Manchester Airport currently seeing 1-2% of normal passenger volumes,

The Manchester Crane Survey reported that passenger numbers from Europe into Manchester dropped from 1.64million in October 2019 to 0.27 million in October 2020, a reduction of 83%. In the same month, passenger numbers into Manchester from other international destinations also fell by 86% compared to the previous year.

The UK government has announced it will implement a limited hotel quarantine policy for British citizens and residents travelling to England from high-risk countries. Arrivals from these countries will be met at the airport and transported to quarantine in government accommodation for 10 days.

There are 22 countries on this high-risk list, including South Africa, the United Arab Emirates, Portugal and Brazil, and the government has said it will add more if needed. There is already a travel

MAG lobbying DfT on plan for removal of restrictions and additional support.

	<p>ban in place for non-British citizens and residents who have been in or transited through these countries in the previous 10 days. The government has stated those affected will need to quarantine in government accommodation "without exception", but further details are due to be announced. The government has not yet announced a start date.</p> <p>https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-01-27/debates/6775A7DF-70AE-4198-8F00-57D12516675D/Covid-19Update</p>	
<p>Culture</p>	<p>Cultural Sector Freelancers -impact of the pandemic on those more vulnerable in the supply Chain includes artists and cultural producers has been particularly severe with lots of practitioners missing out on support from the Governments Self Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS)</p> <p>Continued business disruption for cultural businesses - Challenges being faced by companies in the cultural sector continue with the extended Lockdown in response to the second peak of the pandemic. Social distancing and continued disruption likely for many more months, companies that have been able to remain solvent, without government support are facing difficulties into the new financial year.</p>	<p>Culture</p> <p>Cultural Sector Hardship Fund for Freelancers</p> <p>£485k fund being supported by MCC in partnership with HOME on behalf of the Savannah Wisdom Foundation with funding from B&M Retail PLC. Awards of £1,500 for individual freelancers that are either Manchester residents or GM residents who can evidence that they work in the sector in Manchester. The fund allows for 323 awards to be made.</p> <p>Launched 25/1 with a very strong and positive comms reach. Online applications via MCC website went live 1 February for 4 weeks but may close early if high demand. 170 applications received on the first day demonstrating the high-level of need and hardship experienced in the sector.</p> <p>Colleagues at HOME are providing FAQ, email support, a telephone hotline and 1-2-1 assistance for disabled applicants.</p> <p>Support from DWP in place to ensure UC claimants can benefit from the scheme. (Other 'legacy' benefits may be affected).</p>

	<p>Culture Recovery Funds (£1.57b) released to date from the Government, inc via Arts Council England, have primarily focused on supporting businesses remain solvent until 31 March 21 with a smaller £250m Cultural Recovery Fund for England - CRF#2 supporting companies til 30th June 21</p>	<p>Culture Recovery Fund #2 (£250m) - Applications open 6/1 closed 26/1. Min grant £25k with Max grants across the whole CRF programme up to £1m or £3m (not-for-profit sector). MCC supported cultural organisations in the city with a webinar led by a fundraising consultant. We will report the outcomes of the funding round once allocations are announced. Outcome to be announced before 31/3.</p> <p>Weston Culture Fund (£30m) created by Garfield Western Foundation in response to Covid-19. The fund supports companies to restart their work, refresh activities and re-engage audiences following Covid-19 closures.</p> <p>3 Manchester organisations were successful applying to the fund;</p> <p>Hallé Concerts Society</p> <p>HOME</p> <p>Contact</p> <p>MCC Culture business survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCC Culture team has contacted its database of sector contacts (26/1) to undertake a new survey of the challenges businesses are facing. The deadline for responses is 10/2. 12 responses have been received so far. Summary findings will be reviewed following the deadline next week. The Culture Team will offer bespoke support to any organisations in particular need of assistance at this time.
<p>Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued development interest in the city for both commercial and residential scheme. All schemes are back on site, and construction levels increased since the 	<p>Planning reform consultation</p> <p>We have submitted our response to the consultation (it closed last Thursday - 28th Jan). Another consultation has just been launched on proposed amendments to the National Planning Policy Framework</p>

beginning of the pandemic, although with some overall delays to programmes.

- Risks around supply chains/access to materials, with associated increases in costs.
- Access to finance for hotel and retail schemes likely to be more challenging.
- Economic Recovery & Investment Plan identifies key schemes which can drive recovery and create new jobs. Ongoing work to identify funding opportunities for schemes.
- Long term impact on office demand being monitored on an ongoing basis, but positive indications from office agents and the Business Sounding Board.
- Government increased housing target by 35% in UK's 20 largest cities, including Manchester, in December 2020. The implications of this are currently being reviewed.

(NPPF) and the publication of a draft National Model Design Code for comment. The amendments in the NPPF reflect revisions as follows:

- Implements policy changes in response to the Building Better Building Beautiful Commission recommendations
- Makes a number of changes to strengthen environmental policies – including those arising from the review of flood risk with Defra
- Includes minor changes to clarify policy in order to address legal issues
- Includes changes to remove or amend out of date material
- Includes an update to reflect a recent change made in a Written Ministerial Statement about retaining and explaining statuses.
- Clarification on the use of Article 4 directions
- This consultation is also seeking views on the draft National Model Design Code, which provides detailed guidance on the production of design codes, guides and policies to promote successful design.
- 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. Initial report to Directors of Place on 28/1 – initial assessments now undertaken, with a further deliverability assessment to be carried out on a number of equally scoring projects. (Information on outcome for individual projects not yet shared). Decisions expected March 21, following appraisal by GMCA and presentation to Chief Executives and Leaders. GMCA has received an additional £15.8m funding as part of a 10% uplift in the previous round funding. 2 Manchester schemes are being considered – Ancoats Dispensary & Gould Street (N Gateway). List of projects recommended for 10% uplift approved by Directors of Place (28/1) and will go onto Chief Executives & 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

		<p>(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 February 2021 along with a report to Executive seeking budget approval for MCC element. The scheme could commence in Spring 2021 subject to the outcome of the Brownfield Land Fund application referenced in the bullet point above which is for enabling works.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hut Group have submitted a planning application to convert 3 buildings on Kennedy Street (no's 16,20, and 24), with the former to become office and training studios for ESPA, one of The Hut Group's brands, and the latter properties converted as part of King Street Townhouse, which THG also own. • Two St. Peter's Square is now fully let, with the final office space let to Cazenove Capital, the UK wealth management business of Schroeder's.
<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. 	<p>A total of 437 new affordable homes are expected to be built across the city in 2020-21 – 306 of which are already complete. Of the 437 homes there are 142 for social rent, 94 for affordable rent, 160 shared ownership and homes and 41 for Rent-to-Buy. This includes 162 new Extra Care units across 2 sites (Brunswick PFI & Elmswood Park)</p> <p>In addition, there are currently 771 new affordable homes currently under construction across the city and expected to complete over the next 3 years. This includes a number of large-scale developments which have begun construction this year including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grey Mare Lane Estate – One Manchester have started construction on the first two phases of the Estate Regeneration programme (Blackrock Street & Windermere Close) which are expected completed in 2021-22. The redevelopment is set to deliver c.290 new affordable homes (incl. 124 of reprovision) and the retrofit of 169 homes over the next 5 years • Gorton Lane – One Manchester have also begun construction on the scheme delivering 109 homes (18 for shared ownership & 91 for rent-to-buy) – expected to complete in 2022-23

- 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.

Alongside this, planning permission has been approved for 16 schemes delivering over 680 new affordable homes since the start of 2020 including:

- **Edge Lane Business Centre** (Your Housing Group) – 144 affordable homes (72 shared ownership / 72 affordable rent)
- **Dulverston Street** (One Manchester) – 139 affordable homes (100 social rent / 39 affordable rent)
- **Former Manox Works** (ENGIE Services Ltd) – 114 affordable homes (73 shared ownership / 41 affordable rent)
- **Store Street** (Clarion) – 66 shared ownership homes
- **Glenside Rd / Greenwood Rd** (ECS Capital Ltd) – 40 affordable homes
- **Victoria Riverside** (Far East Consortium) – 32 shared ownership homes
- **Dob Brook Close** (Guinness Partnership) – 24 social rent homes
- **Mayton St (Grey Mare Lane)** (One Manchester) – 23 affordable homes (17 social rent / 6 shared ownership)
- **Blackrock St (Grey Mare Lane)** (One Manchester) – 22 social rent homes
- **1-3 Domett Street** (Adactus) – 18 affordable rent homes
- **Abbey Hey Lane / Battersby Street** (Mosscares St Vincents) – 15 social rent homes
- **Linn Street** (Mosscares St Vincents) – 14 shared ownership homes
- **Nell Lane / Brookstone Close** (Southway) – 12 social rent homes
- **Ennerdale Avenue** (Southway) – 8 social rent homes
- **Gathurst Street** (One Manchester) – 6 social rent homes
- **Longley Lane** (WCHG) – 4 shared ownership homes

Updates on further key schemes:

- Funding has been approved by Capital Strategy Board for the development at **Silk Street** and work on the detailed designs and Affordable Housing Programme grant application – including discussions with Homes England - is planned for the first half of 2021
- Discussions are ongoing with an identified Registered Provider partner to bring forward the **Russell Road LGBT Extra Care** scheme
- Countryside / Great Places have agreed an increase in the provision of affordable homes on the **Former Belle Vue Stadium Site** from 35 to 130 (89 social rent, 29 shared ownership & 12 affordable rent)

There is also a large programme of work underway looking to significantly upscale the delivery of new affordable homes across the city:

- **Project 500** – Work continues with RPs to deliver c.600 new affordable homes as part of the Project 500 programme. A series of workshops with RPs, Planning, Neighbourhoods are Planning are currently underway alongside feasibility exercises and work to agree legal terms incl. disposal arrangements. A detailed list of potential sites will be put to the Executive later in the year.
- **This City** – Work continues to develop the detail of the first phase of housing development through This City – the Housing Delivery Vehicle. Initial focus is currently on bringing forward two city centre sites delivering a mix of tenures including one site at the Back of Ancoats working with Manchester Life Development Company.
- **Northern Gateway** – As announced in the March 2020 Budget, the scheme will benefit from the successful £51.6m Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) bid, which will help unlock key opportunities within the Red Bank and New Town neighbourhoods. Plans are also now progressing for some of the affordable housing components of the scheme including **Collyhurst Village** (130 affordable homes) and **Victoria**

Riverside (634 homes incl. 32 affordable). FEC have also announced that they have appointed Great Places, The Guinness Partnership & L&Q/Trafford Housing Trust as their RP Framework Partners for schemes within Redbank neighbourhood.

- **Miles Platting & Newton Heath** – Working with members to understand the context for delivery of c.1,000 new affordable homes across the ward over the next 10 years including on a number of large-scale mixed tenure schemes at the **Former Manox Works** (410 homes including 114 affordable), **Jacksons Brickworks** (c.1,100 homes incl. 550 affordable homes) and across the **Newton Heath District Centre** (c.300 affordable homes across 4 sites)
- **Hulme & Moss Side** – Work continues with Neighbourhoods to look at redevelopment in the area from a community perspective – including at **The Reno Site (Barnhill St)** which has the potential to deliver up to 200 new homes in a scheme recognizing the heritage and community value of the site

A number of bids have been made to the second round of Brownfield Land funding including 4 sites set to deliver affordable housing. Alongside this, MCC continues to work with RP partners to establish a portfolio of sites which will form the basis of the city's bid to the latest round of Affordable Homes Programme funding (2021-26) which will sit alongside the delivery through Project 500.

MCC has had agreement in principle from Registered Provider (RP) partners to take on the management of properties acquired through Empty Dwelling Management Orders. Neighbourhoods teams are currently in the process of making a business case for funding to be considered by the Executive. In addition to this, work continues with RPs to purchase larger homes for settled accommodation – as of December 2020, 29 larger properties have been acquired and 25 already let out to families.

		<p>Extra Care facilities in development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 schemes under construction 257 apartments 3 RP schemes 1 MCC (PFI scheme) <p>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.</p>
<p>Transport and Infrastructure</p>	<p>Transport Focus – industry summary report</p> <p>Two strands to where operators should place focus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring passengers can make essential journeys with confidence now. • Attracting passengers back when the time is right <p>Perceptions of safety – the majority of users feel safe. The ability to keep a distance from other users was the most important driver of users feeling of safety. As well as behaviours around mask wearing.</p>	<p>A feasibility study is currently being commissioned to consider the longer-term options for the city centre road closures introduced in the summer to support hospitality sector and increase traffic - free space.</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 closed on 29/1/21</p> <p>Manchester (LA) Transport Usage Data (for w/e 31/1)</p> <p>Bus Patronage, +4.1% on the previous week and -67.3% on pre-COVID levels.</p> <p>Metrolink Network patronage, +6.8% on the previous week and -84.3% on pre-COVID levels.</p>

Many who aren't using public transport say they wouldn't feel safe.

- Findings show that many felt travelling on public transport riskier than going to the pub.
- One in three agreed 'when Covid-19 no longer poses a significant risk (when there is a vaccine), I will drive more for journeys where I would have used public transport before the pandemic.
- These findings confirm we shouldn't expect a quick return to the 'old normal' for transport.
- The survey confirmed that while many former commuters expected to return to regular commuting, we can expect a significant shift towards more flexible working practices and greater working from home. We found that trend even when Covid-19 no longer poses a significant risk.

Immediate priorities:

- Social distancing through increased capacity on the networks

Highway - Private vehicle trips, +4.3% on the previous week and -29.3% on pre-COVID levels.

Rail - Passenger numbers, +3.7% on the previous week and -82.4% on the same period last year.

Cycling - Cycle journeys, +31.7% on the previous week and were -44.4% on the same period last year.

GM Wide Data

Metrolink

09/03/20	122,613
14/07/20	37,834
08/09/20	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
25/01/21	21,281
31/01/21	10,032

Bus

09/03/20	513,309
14/07/20	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

- Improved information to allow passengers to plan journeys – avoid busier times etc.
- Maintain increased cleanliness
- Drive up compliance – face coverings.

Future plans

- Flexible fares for less frequent commuters
- Encourage users to return with offers and promotions.

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.

30/12/20	177,038
25/01/21	173,621
31/01/21	61,638

Rail

09/03/20	104,795
14/07/20	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
25/01/21	20,853
01/02/21	21,532

GM Highway

09/03/20	5,082,000
14/07/20	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
11/12/20	4,630,511
30/12/20	3,599,744
25/01/21	3,642,843
01/02/21	2,555,012

Cycling

09/03/20	107,738
14/07/20	157,043
18/09/20	152,093
11/10/20	76,499
13/11/20	112,947
20/11/20	84,568
11/12/20	82,112
30/12/20	44,494
25/01/21	52,565
31/01/21	94,883

Walking

09/03/20	1,491,508
14/07/20	1,064,432
18/09/20	1,603,546
11/10/20	1,230,300
13/11/20	892,635
20/11/20	787,653
11/12/20	1,004,529
30/12/20	660,838
25/01/21	784,323
01/02/21	807,803

Face Coverings- Face covering compliance is around **90%** on buses, **83%** on Metrolink and **87%** on trains (as at 31/01/21)

City Centre Transport Strategy closed on 4/11/20. Analysis indicates overwhelming support for the proposals within the draft strategy. Report being presented to Executive in February with the final strategy to go in March.

	<p><u>Active Travel Fund (ATF)</u></p> <p>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> <p>To address the poor performance of the rail network around Manchester, DfT, Network Rail and TfN have launched a consultation on potential changes to passenger timetables, including the frequency and routing of some of the more congested routes. Any changes to timetables will be implemented in summer 2022. The consultation closes on 10 March 2021</p>
<p>Manchester Recovery Task Force Public Consultation</p> <p>The government have released a consultation for modifying the train services into and out of Manchester (using the “Castlefield Corridor”). The options proposed have a significant impact on the train service to Manchester Airport, which could reduce trips by up to 31%.</p> <p>The consultation explains that the delays around the Castlefield Corridor are impacting the railway’s reliability that needs fixing immediately (by 2022).</p>	<p>MCC officers are preparing a response to the consultation and liaising with colleagues in TfGM and Network Rail.</p>
<p>Analysis of businesses’ plans for reopening, working with TfGM, CA, Chamber, Growth Company</p>	<p>TfGM linked into Day Time Economy recovery group work</p>
<p>Identify and implement interventions that support social distancing and support business reopening and procure necessary equipment to facilitate this.</p>	<p>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.</p>

	<p>Continue with highway works that can be undertaken during lockdown</p>	<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.
<p>Skills, Labour Market and Business Support</p>	<p>Furlough and newly unemployed</p> <p>Headlines include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 decreased from 6.2% to 5.6% in the last three months up to September suggesting methodological problems with the Labour Force Survey modelling at Manchester level. - Claimant count - in December 2020 there were 34,565 claimants in Manchester – up slightly from 34,510 in November. - 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 	<p>Furlough and newly unemployed</p> <p>Newly Unemployed Support</p> <p>Take up on the www.manchester.gov.uk/Help to get work scheme has been low with 69 residents requested support since offer went live.</p> <p>Since the announcement that Debenhams staff will be made redundant officers continue to use proactively contact the Manchester store but not getting a response</p> <p>The Arcadia Group is being handled by Freshfields (administrator). They have been contacted by the partnership and are awaiting a response.</p> <p>The supporting comms campaign - #Helpto Get work – has continued LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook</p>

younger people (under 25s) receiving unemployment support.

- Claims for Universal Credit (UC) had continued to increase and as of November 2020 there were 74,479 people on UC in Manchester, this has since flattened out over the past few months.
- Since June 24,800 redundancy notifications were issued across Greater Manchester (GM).
- The number of online job postings for GM decreased 4,703 in the week ending 16th Jan from 6,444 the week prior.

Workclub monitoring has been completed with the analysis informing future provision to ensure that it is meeting the needs of residents across the city.

Offer for 16-19 year olds

The December submission to the DfE reported a combined NEET / Unknown of 8.2% (981 YP). This is a 0.9% decrease on the November submission.

The 8,2% divides into NEET 3.9% (463) and Unknown 4.3% (518). The unknown continues to decrease although Lockdown 3 has changed some of the ways we are able to track YP.

January 29th NEET / Unknown figures have decreased to 7.5% (3.6% Unknown and 3.9% NEET). Compared to our January submission last

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.

We have activated the Risk of NEET Indicator (RONI) tool and have sent to high schools the names of their year 11 students who are medium or high risk of becoming NEET. Levels are similar to last year. Schools will be encouraged to secure an offer for all these students and put transition plans in place for the high-risk learners. To support this, we will be sending a Post 16 Transition Guide out to all High Schools and Post 16 providers after the half term.

The MEET your Match website, commissioned by MCC and delivered by GMCVO is now live with over 40 pre-employment opportunities listed,

<p>year we are .6% behind in our combined NEET / UK figures.</p> <p>Schools and Colleges have increasing concerns about the current year 11, 12 and 13 who have experienced two years of disrupted education and how this will impact on their transition and progression.</p>	<p>including study programmes, employability courses, traineeships, entry level 1 / 2 apprenticeships and volunteering opportunities.</p> <p>MCC is working with schools and Colleges to identify other ways we can support this year's school and college leavers and mitigate against a rise in NEET numbers. This includes looking at more bespoke post 16 provision for our most at-risk students, working with NEET providers to improve progression routes that lead to employment.</p>
<p>Youth unemployment</p> <p>Maximise the opportunities from and work with partners to roll out the Kickstart Scheme. Two issues to note: delays with DWP nationally approving Kickstart opportunities and working from home means many businesses are reluctant to take young people on.</p> <p>Impact of lockdown 3.0 on HE student retention will continue to be a key area for focus.</p> <p>Promotion of Apprenticeships</p>	<p>Youth unemployment</p> <p>Kickstart: DWP has changed its policy in terms of Gateway Organisations and no new Gateway organisations will be registered although existing ones including the Growth Co can continue to provide a service. As here is no longer a limit of 30 of placements, employers can deal directly with DWP with just one Kickstart opportunity.</p> <p>MCC will directly deliver Kickstart placements and alongside HROD to will support a roll out with Council Depts and DWP.</p> <p>Working with DWP to establish funding for youth hubs in the City.</p> <p>Work has taken place over the last 3 weeks to prepare a strong Manchester Apprenticeship campaign for National Apprenticeship week on 8-14 Feb.</p>
<p>Skills and employment support for adults</p> <p>Further restrictions widening the digital skills divide.</p>	<p>Skills and employment support for adults</p> <p>MCC Telephone Digital Skills Support Service -</p>

Majority of providers continuing full remote/ online learning – need to identify providers who are struggling to meet need of access via existing and potential new learners.

MAES recruitment is running at around 70% of normal as a result of Covid and community learning harder hit

- Referrals for skills support are continuing to increase - now 620 referrals since May 2020

MCC Device Scheme -

- 124 digital volunteers - continuing to grow network and recruit volunteers represented of our excluded communities.
- A number of additional refurbishment device schemes growing - Digital Skills Network to develop a sub group led by TMC – to better coordinate/ centralise refurbishment schemes for the city. Building on the Lifeshare Manchester Digital Collective model and platform.
- BITC and Tech Nation are facilitating refurbished device schemes and connecting in with the council to reach young learners and adult learners most in need.
- There has been a call out to businesses for support with kit - very small numbers via MCC business networks – auto trader have offered 15 but have any more to come once they can access their estates.
- GM have worked with MEN to better promote the campaign through the GM Tech Fund - so far distributed 27 new Dell laptops to the Manchester College (funded by Boohoo) and 20 refurbished laptops/desktops to Xaverian College (donated by Stornergy).
- 50K GM LA Grant Funding – work and skills and libraries exploring data options to support residents to be more self-sustaining. A 3 stage model is being put in place.
- Adult learning provider survey circulated to identify digital access needs of learners – low take up so far but the survey is being pushed out again. So far the main trend is that providers similarly to schools are struggling to meet demand.
- 10k Reading Friends libraries project has allocated some funds for devices – these to be specifically used to engage people with reading groups.

Covid Impact Fund – this has now been rolled out – applications continue to roll in - Community Champions bid was accepted which will offer an additional 100k to the 300k of the impact fund – an additional 45k from the

	<p>Community Champions bid has been allocated for a digital resource. This funding will be used to recruit additional resource – a role that will be hosted via a VCSE organisation to build a more diverse volunteer network to ensure those not most impacted by covid and digital inclusion are supported.</p> <p>MAES -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circa 700 devices have been lent to adult learners for the purpose of learning at a distance. • MAES are currently delivering around 750 live online sessions a week. • The Make it Happen Retrain programme has now supported 9 individuals back into employment. • MAES is now running weekly webinars on a range of topics including the practicalities of applying for work (CV writing, interview technique etc.) and personal development topics (e.g. 'Motivation Matters' and 'Identifying Your Personal Strengths') This is becoming an effective approach to engagement.
<p>Social Value and Local Benefit</p> <p>Challenge: Many residents are not connecting to opportunities created in the city – how can we use social value internally to maximise creation of employment/skills/training opportunities targeted at our residents and use our influence to do the same with organisations externally?</p> <p>Ensure that MCC's approach to SV reflects current economic circumstances and <i>Think</i> recommendations.</p>	<p>Social value and local benefit</p> <p><i>Refresh SV policy to reflect Think recommendations and recovery plan -</i></p> <p>Draft agreed internally and awaiting sign off via scrutiny and Executive – timescales dependent on elections.</p> <p><i>Refresh SV policy documentation</i> - Documentation refresh in progress via Contract and Commissioning Leads Group. Risk of delay due to issues with implementing environmental weighting – to explore if we can work around this in the short term.</p>

<p>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.</p>	<p><i>Refresh planning and local labour process and toolkit -New planning and local labour process and documentation being rolled out, held session with Tier One contractors to discuss.</i></p> <p><i>Develop pipeline of opportunities through large suppliers and capital projects where MCC is the client – Resource allocated and work underway with Corporate Procurement to identify 20 suppliers with greatest opportunity.</i></p> <p><i>Reach a decision on supporting a bid of lottery funding to aid with co-ordination of social value commitments across contracts. Held session with internal stakeholders and agreed this bid and platform can add value. To finalise next steps with Peter Scholfield/Corporate Procurement and identify pilot projects.</i></p> <p><i>Maximise Social Value opportunities arising from Northern Gateway and North Manchester General Hospital developments – Agreed and submitted funding bid to the Health Foundation to pilot an approach to connecting local residents to opportunities on these projects and the wider economy. Agreed social value framework with Residential Growth & FEC. Social Value groups established for both NMGH and Northern Gateway. Agree social value ask on Collyhurst procurement with FEC.</i></p>
<p>Business Support, Sustainability & Growth</p> <p>Business Grants</p> <p>In summary the Council has allocated over £25,637,579 of support to 13,029 businesses through the LRSG and ARG (discretionary) schemes to date.</p>	<p>Business support, sustainability and growth</p> <p><u>Business Grants</u></p> <p>Scheme for expanding the existing ARG (discretionary grant) to widen the scope and support more businesses who have been affected agreed by Council on 3rd February and launched on 10th February.</p>

<p>All LRSG Schemes</p> <p>Count Total: 12,684</p> <p>Grant Total: £24,616,134</p> <p>All ARG Schemes</p> <p>Count Total: 345</p> <p>Grant Total: £1,021,445</p> <p>In addition the Council has also allocated £16,305,000 (3,091 payments) in Closed Business Lockdown Grants.</p>	<p>Work is ongoing with CC Regen and Work and Skills to continue to deal with existing ARG applications and deal with local enquiries</p>
<p>Brexit Impacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - According to Brexit Taskforce - the latest data shows that border traffic is increasing day by day and there is no disruption at UK ports. - The level of compliance is also very high with turnbacks (at the border) stable at less than 5% of total traffic - either for failing to meet customs requirements or lack of a negative COVID test. <p>GM Chamber continue to report a significant increase in the number of enquiries relating to Brexit, specifically in relation to advice around export documentation.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Officers will update MCC's web pages with diverts/clicks through to Government and Business Growth Hub's pages.</p>

Anecdotally some of the key issues being picked up are

- A lack of clarity about import/export documentation
- Unexpected Some are finding additional charges (tax) on imports/exports
- Still early days to fully assess the real impacts of Brexit – the true effects are likely to be highlighted as the economy opens up

Equalities

Ensure that disadvantaged and underrepresented groups are supported by activity included in Workstreams 1-6. 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.

Covid has worsened the situation for many already experiencing inequality – the challenge is to ensure support is targeted to reach the communities in most need.

Equalities

Specific 'all age' apprenticeship comms messages being developed for promotion during National Apprenticeship week

Covid Impact Fund circulated to neighbourhood networks and employment support groups

Manchester Employment Support Partnership promoted to work clubs and over 50's support group

Work & Skills employment priorities agreed to align with Age Friendly Recovery Action Plan to ensure a focus on the over 50's group

<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>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>1) Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) - £22.9m bid submitted by MCC into a combined GM bid of £80m Decision from Salix on the bidding round continues to be delayed. This is due to the fund being significantly oversubscribed and Salix pressing applicants to remove any items which cannot be contracted with suppliers by the end of March. GMCA now expect a final approval by 19th Feb and that the GM total allocation will be c.£70m from the original bid of £80m. A final MCC allocation is tbc.</p> <p>2. Recovery Plan Hydrogen Fueling / Fleet Opportunity - officers from Neighborhoods and City Policy are further developing this proposal The UK Government is planning to launch its Hydrogen Strategy in 2021 and we expect potential funding could be available as part of the Green Industrial Revolution announced in the Spending Review (details still to emerge).</p> <p>3. Horizon Europe – In addition to work with City Centre Growth & Infrastructure Team on the UK Govt Spending Review and our Recovery Plan, the City Policy team are reviewing the new 2021-27 EU Horizon Europe programme for potential funding opportunities that support our Recovery Plans and wider strategic objectives in the OMS refresh and our Climate Change Action Plan.</p> <p>The total budget for Horizon Europe is €95.5 billion. This is a 30% increase over the previous Horizon 2020 (runs 2014-22). The programme is focussed on research and innovation. The current H2020 programme funded MCC projects Triangulum and GrowGreen (inc. The West Gorton Sponge Park)</p>
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		<p>Access to this programme is good news for the City and our partners, particularly UofM and MMU. UofM were the fourth largest UK university beneficiary of Horizon 2020 funding.</p> <p>The programme opens in 2021 and realistically Manchester bids into that programme are likely to be possible from later in 2021 and into 2022. The City Policy team will include MCCA and Corridor Manchester in preparation for that over the coming months.</p> <p>5. 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"> • <i>Our Manchester Strategy Reset was discussed at all January Scrutiny Committees. Feedback has generally been positive and there are a small number of amendments to be made to the document. A final comms version is being produced alongside a simple 1 page document which will be resident facing. The Strategy will be considered for formal approval and adoption at February Executive and 31 March Council.</i> • <i>A piece of work to review the projects in the Economic Recovery and Investment Plan is underway which will help with prioritisation, further development of business cases and attracting funding for delivery.</i> • <i>Powering Recovery: Manchester's Economic Recovery & Investment Plan launched and published- aligns to existing Our Manchester Industrial Strategy.</i>

<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"> • Manchester City Council is represented on the Urban Centre Recovery Task Force by the Leader. Core Cities are also feeding into this work and will submit a formal paper. • Meetings with Cities & Local Growth Unit and BEIS North West & GM, DFT local representative, Homes England and Deputy Director Local Government & Reform have taken place. • Key messages from the meetings so far are that Government is interested in our Plan and recognise the transformational potential of North Manchester. They are also interested in the MHPP housing retrofit, St John's Enterprise Zone & hydrogen fleet project. • Meetings with MHCLG, DWP and DfE are also being scheduled.
<p>Economic Intelligence</p>	<p>Need to engage with Manchester Businesses and key sectors to understand current status re Covid related impacts.</p> <p>Understanding of businesses in rented spaces and analysis to support the Business Rates Discretionary Grants.</p> <p>Need to understand the status of the development pipeline across the city.</p> <p>Need to update population modelling (MCCFM), reflecting both the impacts on and from the economy.</p>	<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 February. 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>

	<p>Demand appraisal for residential lettings market in Manchester post pandemic.</p> <p>Provide economic intelligence to support the LDV</p>	<p>Residential pipeline (2020/21): Over 3,500 new homes expected to be completed including c.440 affordable homes</p> <p>Commercial pipeline (2020/21): 63,700m2 office space, 12,900m2 retail, 27,900m2 industrial, 644 hotel beds, 140,000m2 other.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>5. Work on-hold due to analytical capacity issues, carried over into 2021 work programme.</p> <p>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.</p>
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<p>Workforce Update</p>	<p>Latest Position</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of 27 January 2021 low overall but increasing levels of staff off sick at • 4.07% non Covid related (300 staff) and 1.42% staff absent with Covid 19 symptoms (105 staff). • 50.28% of workforce working on site BAU 3,708 staff • 41.13% of workforce working from home 3,033 staff • 0.96% redeployed 71 staff • 1.63% not in work but unable to work from home 120 staf
<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.</p>	<p>Latest Position</p> <p>All building and service risk assessments remain in place and new assessments are completed as the use of buildings and approach to service provision change to support covid response activity. These are shared with Trades Unions for consultation and input.</p> <p>Assurance in place that individual assessments have been completed where required by all services. Health and Safety to sample check approach with managers from February.</p> <p>Continuing to provide assurance via compliance visits by Estates and Health and Safety Teams. Updates and assurance also being provided following concerns raised, most of which relate to activity in district offices including with health staff that are escalated via MLCO. This does require ongoing management on site to ensure compliance with Covid secure arrangements. Challenges in respect of non-compliant customer behaviors also being addressed at New Smithfield Market. No other significant issues arising from compliance visits by Estates and Health and Safety Teams.</p> <p>Site on Council's intranet which contains all covid related guidance in one place. This is updated for changes in guidance (e.g use of face coverings) and from</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>February will include a further update of guidance and support for staff who continue to work from home.</p>
<p>Finance and Budget</p> <p>Overview</p> <p>COVID-19 Related costs - Overview as at round 9 January MHCLG Return data - submitted 29.1.21.</p> <p>Net impact of COVID-19 on MCC General Fund is £164m in 2020/21, made up of: £23m in costs, and £141m income loss (Council only) also: £0.6m HRA</p>	<p>Latest Position</p> <p>Spending Review 2020 (25 November) and Provisional Finance Settlement (17 December)</p> <p>Overall position - confirmed that the c£50m planned savings options are sufficient to deliver a balanced budget next year. The announcements only cover 2021/22 and are for one year only.</p> <p>Summary of Local Government finance announcements</p> <p>The main announcements impacting Local Government Funding can be summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmation that the national Core Spending Power (CSP) will increase by 4.5% (£2.2bn). This includes a Council Tax referendum threshold of 2% and social care precept of 3%. Revenue Support Grant inflation and business rates adjustments worth £1.1m, There is a further allocation of NHB Funding worth £4.1m and Government are inviting views on a replacement scheme. £1.2m lower tier services grant. • £6.2m one off Children’s and Adults Social Care grant. • £1.55bn Tranche 5 COVID-19 funding – Allocated based on the COVID RNF which was developed for Tranche 3 worth £22.2m. • Collection Fund - Local Council Tax Support grant (£670m) is a new grant outside core settlement which will fund authorities for the expected increase in local council tax support payments in 2021-22 (£5.7m). This is supporting Council's bottom line to compensate for reduced levels of Council Tax. Can also be used to provide further targeted support to those unable to pay. Also, the Local Tax Income guarantee scheme has been announced to fund 75% loss of income announced worth up to £8.6m. • Other Announcements:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Homelessness Prevention Grant - replaces Flexible Housing Support Grant and the Homelessness Reduction Grant, £310m for 2021/22 announced 21 December 2020 ○ Pay Awards - Pay freeze announced in the Spending Review alongside the lower than expected increase to the National Living Wage. ○ £165m is available for troubled families programme. ○ £15m has been allocated nationally to implement the Redmond Review.
<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 – All staff and members have now been migrated. All other google accounts have been deleted. Number of staff 365 accounts are increasing, and additional licences have had to be purchased. 1200 phones have still not migrated (number has increased) so owners are being contacted to see if a device is still required.</p> <p>EUD (End User Device) - End User Device-Business has been approved by the Capital Board and included in the Capital Update report to Executive. Roll out process and prioritisation being developed. Subgroups preparing to be established. Service redesign being planned and is critical. Concerns on supply chain.</p> <p>Data Centre Migration/ Additional Direct Access Capacity – All redundant equipment has now been removed. Decommissioning and returning to original states as co-op funding not been forthcoming.</p> <p>Telephony - Planning for migration of users to the new technology 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 contract has been awarded and mobilisation work is underway. This will improve capacity and connectivity on the Council's networks.</p>
<p>Our Transformation - Our Ways of Working</p> <p>Overview</p> <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.</p> <p>The Council's intranet is now live.</p>	<p>Latest Position</p> <p>Future Ways of Working (FWOW)</p> <p>FWOW Work is continuing to rescope the project, bringing the Estates, ICT and workforce elements together. Progress to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future estates proposals agreed at SMT which will release two leases. office moves planned including Revs and Bens (with the reopening of Alex House) Finance, Legal and Elections. • Research/ benchmarking to better understand how organisations will operate post pandemic, particularly public sector • Children's Services have established an OWOW Board which will develop permanent flexible ways of working across the Directorate; learning from arrangements during Covid, feedback from staff, health and wellbeing considerations – all of which will inform a new Workforce Development Plan (to include review of skills required for staff and managers to work in this way going forward) • Culture work led by HROD underway which will engage with a range of stakeholders across the organisation (at all grades) to understand what the culture is like currently, where we want to get to and to understand what steps and development are needed to get there – this will inform the Future Shape of the Council work.

<p>Revenues and Benefits</p> <p>Overview</p>	<p>Latest Position</p> <p>Welfare Provision @ 24-01-21</p> <p>Covid-19 support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,079 applications received and 3,054 processed • 970 requests (32%) approved, awarding 1,178 items* to a value of £62,361 (* bed / bedding / cash-grant / travel / utilities / white-goods) <p>Test and Trace Support Payments</p> <p>On 11 January 2021 the DWP advised an extension of the scheme and a further £63,828.64 was confirmed in addition to the initial discretionary fund of £226,671.36 making a total discretionary budget of £290,500.</p> <p>The demand for the scheme has risen sharply since early January and additional resources have been directed onto the team to ensure prompt processing of applications. Reported speed of processing is expected to improve next week.</p> <p>At 25 January we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received 4,861 eligible applications • Paid £624,000 to 1,248 main scheme applications • Paid £158,500 to 317 discretionary cases • Declined 2,967 applications (1,210 main scheme and 1,757 discretionary)* • 233cases pending awaiting further information • All applications allocated • 64% paid within three days <p>* In respect of the main scheme the main reasons for a claim being declined using the reason 'other' are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1. The start date of the self-isolation was prior to 28 September 2020 • 2. No loss of income for s/e people who are getting maximum Universal Credit • 3. No reply to request for information
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- 4. Live outside MCC area and need to claim from another council.

In respect of the discretionary scheme, reasons 1, 3, and 4 also apply however, the largest percentage of refusals are because they do not meet the criteria agreed with other GM authorities.