

## **Council**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 31 March 2021**

**This meeting of Council meeting was a meeting conducted via Zoom, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.**

#### **Present:**

The Right Worshipful, the Lord Mayor Councillor T Judge - in the Chair

#### **Councillors:**

Abdullatif, Akbar, Ahmed Ali, Azra Ali, Nasrin Ali, Sameem Ali, Shaukat Ali, Alijah, Andrews, Appleby, Battle, Bridges, Butt, Chambers, Clay, Cooley, Craig, Curley, M Dar, Y Dar, Davies, Doswell, Douglas, Evans, Farrell, Flanagan, Grimshaw, Hacking, Hassan, Hewitson, Hitchen, Holt, Hughes, Igbon, Jeavons, Johns, S Judge, Kamal, Karney, Kilpatrick, Kirkpatrick, Lanchbury, Leech, Leese, Lovecy, Ludford, Lynch, Lyons, Midgley, Madeleine Monaghan, Mary Monaghan, Moore, N Murphy, Newman, Noor, O'Neil, B Priest, H Priest, Rahman, Raikes, Rawlins, Rawson, Razaq, Reeves, Reid, Riasat, Richards, Rowles, Russell, Sadler, M Sharif Mahamed, Sheikh, Shilton Godwin, A Simcock, K Simcock, Stanton, Stogia, Stone, Strong, Taylor, Watson, Wheeler, White, Wills, Wilson and Wright

#### **CC/21/16 Lord Mayor's Special Business**

The Lord Mayor announced that he had agreed to the submission of the minutes of the meeting of the Constitutional and Nominations Committee held on 31 March 2021. The minutes had been circulated electronically in advance of the meeting.

#### **CC/21/17 Lord Mayor's Special Business – Retiring Members**

The Lord Mayor informed the Council that six Councillors would not be seeking re-election in May 2019 and thanked them for their contribution to the Council and the residents they represent. The Councillors not seeking re-election were:

Madeleine Monaghan;  
Kelly Simcock;  
Nigel Murphy;  
Bernard Stone;  
Mary Watson; and  
Carl Ollerhead

#### **CC/21/18 Lord Mayor's Special Business – Presentation Manchester's COVID-19 Vaccination Programme**

The Lord Mayor invited David Regan (Director of Public Health), Dr Manisha Kumar (Medical Director and Manchester Health and Care Commissioning) and Dr Cordelle Ofori (Consultant in Public Health Medicine) to provide an update on Manchester's COVID-19 Vaccination Programme. Members were invited to ask questions following the presentation.

Reference was made to the take up of the vaccine across communities, in particular within, the central south ward areas of Manchester. The Council was advised that work is ongoing to provide community-based solutions to directly engage and better inform residents in order to improve trust and increase take up of the vaccine within communities.

The Lord Mayor thanked the volunteers and NHS staff involved in the vaccination programme for their work and dedication to help protect the citizens of Manchester.

Officers were thanked for the updates and the informative presentation.

### **CC/21/19 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **CC/21/20 Notice of Motion - End Misogyny and Violence against Women and Girls**

#### **Motion proposed and seconded:**

#### **The Council notes:**

- Across the UK misogyny, harassment and violence towards women and girls is endemic.
- That like women and girls across the country our residents suffer harassment and abuse every single day. A 2021 YouGov national survey on behalf of UN Women UK found that among women aged 18-24, 97% said they had been sexually harassed, while 80% of women of all ages said they had experienced sexual harassment in public spaces.
- The ONS reported that last year alone 618,000 women were victims of a sexual assault or an attempted sexual assault by a man.
- In the year to March 2020, just 1.4% of rape cases recorded by police resulted in a suspect being charged (or receiving a summons).
- That the Law Commission is currently reviewing all current hate crime legislation to consider whether any additional characteristics, including misogyny, should be granted legal protection, and is due to report back to Parliament in 2021.
- The Government announced in March that from Autumn

Police Forces will record misogyny as a hate crime on an 'experimental basis', following years of Campaigning from Women's Groups and campaigners.

- In Manchester, the home of the Pankhurst and the Women's rights movement, we are proud as a city to have active campaigning and support organisations who have continually fought for the safety and protection of women.
- Studies have shown that the intersectional nature of discrimination means that women with additional protected characteristics, such as those who are from Black, Asian or Ethnic Minority communities, disabled or LGBT+, are even more likely to experience harassment, discrimination and abuse.

### **The Council resolves:**

- To ensure that Manchester City Council continues to do everything in its power to build a city free from misogyny and violence against women and girls.
- That it is vital that women's and girl's voices are heard; and that the Council will bring forward a process that proactively encourages and listens to women's voices across the city. This task force will involve all women Councillors.
- To call on the Government to listen to the lived experience of women and girls across our country and to urgently act on any recommendations the commission makes to strengthen the law on hate crime, and to reform legislation around harassment to recognise as an offence a 'course of conduct' which targets women and girls in their community.
- To call on the Government to provide the resource and funding for police forces across the UK to effectively tackle harassment, misogyny and domestic abuse.
- To call on Greater Manchester Police to record harassment of women as a hate crime as soon as possible, not to wait until Autumn.
- To work alongside Greater Manchester's recently announced 10 Year Strategy to tackle Violence against Women and Girls.
- To become a White Ribbon Accredited Organisation.

The motion was then put to the Council. It was voted upon and the Lord Mayor declared that it was **CARRIED**.

### **Decision**

### **The Council notes:**

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- The Government announced in March that from Autumn Police Forces will record misogyny as a hate crime on an 'experimental basis', following years of Campaigning from Women's Groups and campaigners.
- In Manchester, the home of the Pankhurst and the Women's rights movement, we are proud as a city to have active campaigning and support organisations who have continually fought for the safety and protection of women.
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(Councillor Watson declared a personal interest as a Pankhurst Trust (incorporating Manchester Women's Aid) Trustee.)

(At this point the Lord Mayor adjourned the meeting for 10 minutes. The meeting resumed at 11.50am).

## **CC/21/21 Notice of Motion: Thank you Manchester**

### **Motion proposed and seconded**

Council notes with pride the amazing contributions of Mancunians since the start of the pandemic just over 12 months ago. Across the city we have seen people come together to support the most vulnerable in our communities.

As a council we have provided 41,000 free school meal vouchers for children in the school holidays and distributed over 3,000 laptops to help with learning from home. We have delivered food supplies to 110,000 households and provided an extra £1million to voluntary and community groups. We have paid out over £2.5million in winter grants to our poorest residents as well as administering £42million in grants to businesses to help protect jobs. While the Government wasted billions of £'s on a failed track & trace system we have been supporting foodbanks and our staff have been volunteering at health centres to help deliver vaccines. Council.

None of this would have been possible without the efforts of our hard working and dedicated key workers - our bin collectors and our bus drivers, our shop workers and our delivery drivers, our care home staff and our cleaners, our police and our social workers alongside the amazing teams in education and the NHS. Council wishes to place on record its appreciation to all those who went the extra mile. The last 12 months have been tough but as a

city we have pulled together to get through it.

Thank you.

The motion was then put to the Council. It was voted upon and the Lord Mayor declared that it was **CARRIED**.

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Thank you.

### **CC/21/22 Notice of Motion: Stop Fire and Rehire**

#### **Motion proposed and seconded**

UK companies are using the cover of Covid-19 to embark upon a concerted attack on employee pay and benefits. A poll published by the TUC reveals that nearly one in 10 (9%) workers have been told to reapply for their jobs on worse terms and conditions since the first lockdown in March.

'Fire and Rehire' strategies are being put into operation by some of the UK's biggest employers to reduce workers' pay, overtime

and holiday benefits. Thousands of British workers are facing a 'levelling down' in pay and working conditions, in stark contrast to the Government's stated promises.

Workers are being given an ultimatum to either accept reduced pay and benefits or face the sack. The whole Trade Union movement, TUC leader Frances O'Grady, The Labour Party, and Keir Starmer have united in condemning this disgraceful attack on key workers.

### **Stop Fire and Rehire Motion:**

This council condemns all companies that use fire and rehire attacks on workers.

We resolve to support Unite and GMB in their strike action against fire and rehire, and call on the companies to instead enter into meaningful negotiations with the unions.

To support Unite and GMB this council resolves to:

- To refuse to enter into contracts doing business with companies using these tactics, in so far as this is legally possible, utilising and updating our ethical procurement and social value policy to achieve this.
- Call upon Andy Burnham, and the GMCA, to refuse to support doing business with companies using these tactics, in so far as this is legally possible, utilising and updating the GM Good Employment Charter to achieve this.

The motion was then put to the Council. It was voted upon and the Lord Mayor declared that it was **CARRIED**.

### **Decision**

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(The following members declared a personal interest for the reason that they are a member of the Unite Union: Councillors Azra Ali, Nasrin Ali (Councillor Nasrin Ali did not take part in the vote), Shaukat Ali, Doswell, Farrell, Karney, Lanchbury, Newman, Rawlins, Russell and White.)

### **CC/21/23 Proceedings of the Executive**

The part proceedings of the Executive held on 17 February 2021 and proceedings of the Executive held on 17 March 2021 were submitted. The Council was asked to give particular consideration to the following recommendations:

#### **Exe/21/32 Our Manchester Strategy - Forward to 2025**

To recommend that Council consider Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025 with a view to adopting it as part of the Council's formal policy framework. (The Our Manchester Strategy was submitted as a separate item of business (see minute number CC/21/27).)

#### **Exe/21/34 Northern Gateway: Progress Update & Delivery Arrangements for Collyhurst Phase 1**

To recommend to Council an increase in the capital budget for Collyhurst of £6.39m, funded from Housing Revenue Account reserves, noting that grant funding will be sought to refinance.



### **Exe/21/41 Spring budget statement and Manchester City Council revenue budget impact**

Support the recommendation for the Council to adopt the discretionary business rates scheme and apply the extended Retail Discount and the Nurseries Discount to the appropriate Businesses.

### **Exe/21/42 Capital Programme Update**

To recommend that the Council approve the following changes to Manchester City Council's capital programme:

1. Neighbourhoods – Chorlton Library Refurbishment. A capital budget increase of £0.600m is requested, funded by borrowing, and a capital budget virement of £0.105m, funded by Open Libraries Project.
2. Growth and Development – Campfield Redevelopment Acquisition of Castlefield House. A capital budget virement of £3.735m is requested, funded by Sustaining Key Initiatives budget.
3. Growth and Development – Hammerstone Road Additional Funding. A capital budget increase of £4.969m is requested, funded by borrowing.
4. Highways Services - Accident Reduction and Local Community Safety Schemes. A capital budget virement of £2m is requested, funded by Other Improvement Works budget.

### **Decisions**

1. To receive the minutes of the Executive held on 17 February 2021 (part proceedings) and 17 March 2021.
2. To approve an increase in the capital budget for Collyhurst of £6.39m, funded from Housing Revenue Account reserves, noting that grant funding will be sought to refinance.
3. To adopt the discretionary business rates scheme and apply the extended Retail Discount and the Nurseries Discount to the appropriate Businesses.
4. To approve the following changes to the Manchester City Council's Capital Programme:
  1. Neighbourhoods – Chorlton Library Refurbishment. A capital budget increase of £0.600m is requested, funded by borrowing, and a capital budget virement of £0.105m, funded by Open Libraries Project.
  2. Growth and Development – Campfield Redevelopment Acquisition of Castlefield House. A capital budget virement of £3.735m is requested, funded by Sustaining Key Initiatives budget.
  3. Growth and Development – Hammerstone Road Additional Funding. A capital budget increase of £4.969m is requested, funded by borrowing.
  4. Highways Services - Accident Reduction and Local Community Safety Schemes. A capital budget virement of £2m is requested, funded by Other Improvement Works budget.

## **CC/21/24 Questions to Executive Members and Others under Procedural Rule 23**

Councillor Stogia responded to a question from Councillor Wright regarding residents parking scheme in St Georges in Hulme and Britannia Basin area.

Councillor Rahman responded to a question from Councillor White regarding the importance of parks and green spaces for the wellbeing of Manchester residents and recognising the work of those who maintain the spaces.

Councillor Rahman responded to Councillor Kilpatrick regarding the school meal packages.

Councillor Stogia responded to a question from Kilpatrick regarding air pollution levels in the city.

Councillor Leese responded to a question from Councillor Kilpatrick regarding the whistleblower policy.

Councillor Richards responded to a question from Councillor Leech regarding the provision of Council housing.

Councillor Leese responded to a question from Councillor Leech regarding the lobby of the government.

Councillor Stogia responded to a question from Councillor Leech regarding the Highway renewal programme.

Councillor Murphy responded to a question from Councillor Stanton regarding resources to deliver neighbourhood led policing.

Councillor Rahman responded to a question from Councillor A Simcock regarding responses to the Histories, Stories and Voices consultation on artworks in Manchester's public spaces. (Councillor A Simcock declared an interest on his follow-up question relating to statues, for the reason that, he is Chair of the campaign for the Emily Williamson Statue.)

Councillor Rahman responded to a question from Councillor A Simcock regarding action taken to reduce the levels of homelessness and rough sleeping in the City.

Councillor Akbar was unable to respond to a question from Councillor Wills regarding bin containers and undertook to do so separately.

## **CC/21/25 Scrutiny Committees**

The minutes of the following Scrutiny Committee meetings were submitted:

Resources and Governance – 9 February 2021 and 9 March 2021  
Health - 9 February 2021 and 9 March 2021

Children and Young People – 10 February 2021 and 10 March 2021  
Neighbourhoods and Environment – 10 February 2021 and 10 March 2021  
Economy – 11 February 2021 and 11 March 2021  
Communities and Equalities – 11 February 2021 11 March 2021

## **Decision**

To receive those minutes.

## **CC/21/26 Proceedings of Committees**

The minutes of the following meetings had been submitted:

Audit Committee – 16 March 2021  
Health and Wellbeing Board – 24 March 2021  
Licensing Committee - 8 March 2021  
Licensing and Appeals Committee - 8 March 2021  
Licensing Policy Committee – 19 March 2021  
Planning and Highways Committee - 18 February 2021 and 18 March 2021  
Standards Committee – 18 March 2021

Personnel Committee 17 March 2021, and in particular, to consider:

### **PE/21/08 Draft Pay Policy Statement 2021/22**

To note the organisation's Pay and Grading Structure for the financial year 2021/22 appended to the Pay Policy Statement and recommend it for approval by the Council at its meeting on 31 March 2021.

Constitutional and Nomination Committee - 12 March 2021 and 31 March 2021.

The Council was asked to give particular consideration to the following recommendation:

### **CN/21/07 Proposed changes to the remit of Scrutiny Committees**

Recommend that Council agree the proposed changes to the remits of the Council's Scrutiny Committees.

(The report was submitted for consideration as a separate item of business.)

## **Decisions**

1. To receive those minutes submitted.
2. To approve the Pay and Grading Structure for the financial year 2021/2022 and Pay Policy Statement, as detailed in the report submitted.
3. To note the Standards Committee Annual Report.

## **CC/21/27 Our Manchester Strategy - Forward to 2025**

The Council considered a report of the Chief Executive that sought the approval and adoption of Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report submitted. The Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025 resets Manchester’s priorities for the next five years to ensure the Council can still achieve the city’s ambition set out in the Our Manchester Strategy 2016 – 2025.

### **Decision**

To adopt Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025 as part of the Council’s formal policy framework.

## **CC/21/28 Places for Everyone - A Proposed Joint Development Plan Document of Nine GM Districts**

The Council considered the report of the Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing and the Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure, that summarised the key elements of the AGMA Executive Board report (12 February 2021) and identifies a number of approvals that are asked of Council and the Executive. As a result, on 11 December 2020, following the withdrawal of Stockport Council from the production of the Greater Manchester Plan for Jobs, Homes and the Environment, the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, the AGMA Executive Board agreed to consider producing a joint Development Plan Document (DPD) of the nine remaining Greater Manchester (GM) districts and asked for a report on the implications of this. At its meeting on 12 February 2021, the AGMA Executive Board considered the next steps in relation to that joint plan of the nine GM districts, to be known as “Places for Everyone”, including the required decisions by individual Districts to initiate this process.

### **Decisions**

1. Note the making of an agreement with the other 8 Greater Manchester councils (Bolton, Bury, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford, Wigan) to prepare a joint development plan document to cover strategic policies including housing and employment land requirements and, as appropriate, strategic site allocations and Green Belt boundary amendments and associated infrastructure across the nine districts.
2. Note the nomination of the district lead Member for the joint committee and a nominated deputy to attend and vote as necessary.
3. Note that Executive agreed to delegate the formulation and preparation of the draft joint development plan document to a joint committee of the nine GM authorities at their meeting on 17 March 2021.
4. Note that a further report will be brought to full Council seeking approval to submit the joint development plan document to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

### **CC/21/29 Proposed changes to the remit of Scrutiny Committees**

The Council considered a report of the City Solicitor that detailed proposed changes to the remits of the Council's Scrutiny Committees following consideration of a petition entitled "Respond to climate change with more democracy and more money" by the Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee in February 2021.

#### **Decisions**

1. Agree and adopt the proposed changes to the remits of the Council's Scrutiny Committees, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report submitted, with immediate effect.
2. Authorise the City Solicitor to make any amendments to the Council's Constitution that are consequential to the changes to the remits of the Council's Scrutiny Committees.

### **CC/21/30 Urgent Key Decisions**

The Council considered the report of the City Solicitor on key decisions that have been taken in accordance with the urgency provisions in the Council's Constitution.

#### **Decision**

To note the report.