

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Executive – 30 June 2021

Subject: Our Manchester Progress Update

Report of: The Chief Executive

Summary

The report provides an update on key areas of progress against the *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025* which resets Manchester’s priorities for the next five years to ensure we can still achieve the city’s ambition set out in the *Our Manchester Strategy 2016 – 2025*

Recommendations

The Executive is requested to note the update provided in the report.

Wards Affected: All

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

Our Manchester Strategy outcomes	Contribution to the strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	The work to reset the Our Manchester Strategy considered all five of the Strategy’s existing themes to ensure the city achieves its aims. The themes are retained within the final reset Strategy, Forward to 2025.
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city’s economic success	
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	

Full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

Financial Consequences – Revenue

None.

Financial Consequences – Capital

None.

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

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

Executive Report – 17th February 2021 - Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This is the first in a series of reports which will update Executive on progress against key Our Manchester strategy commitments at each meeting.
- 1.2 The intention is that these reports will outline progress against agreed outcomes throughout the year rather than being taken together in a set piece annual report.

2.0 Building future new social homes

- 2.1 A planning application has gone in this month (June) for 69 new social homes which will contribute to the Council's affordable housing and environmental commitments.
- 2.2 The 48 apartments and 21 houses, which will be managed by Northwards, boast a range of low carbon design features including ground source heat pumps, electric vehicle charging points and energy efficient mechanical ventilation.
- 2.3 The homes will have generous gardens and solar panels while the apartments will have living green roofs and a shared outdoor green space.
- 2.4 Some 16 of the apartments will be earmarked for people aged over 55, helping support housing options for older people in the city.
- 2.5 This flagship development, on a long-term brownfield site in Silk Street, Newton Heath, will contribute towards the at least 6,400 affordable homes for Manchester which the Council will oversee the delivery of 2015-2025 – at least 20 per cent of the total pipeline of 32,000 homes which are expected to built here during the same period.

*Relates to Our Manchester strategy themes:
Liveable and Zero Carbon City
Progressive and Equitable City*

3.0 More affordable housing agreed

- 3.1 Planning permission has been granted for 100 high quality new homes for social rent in the Collyhurst regeneration area.
- 3.2 They are an integral element of 244 new homes in a sustainable neighbourhood which will also have a new public green space at its heart. More than 450 trees will be planted across the development, with work due to start on site later this year.
- 3.3 It comes shortly after a planning application was submitted for 30 more new homes for social rent in South Collyhurst.

- 3.4 Both neighbourhoods form part of the £4bn Victoria North scheme which will deliver 15,000 new homes, and bring underused and derelict brownfield land back to life, over the next 15 years.

Relates to Our Manchester strategy themes:

Liveable and Zero Carbon City

Progressive and Equitable City

4.0 Climate change officers help communities cut carbon

- 4.1 Three neighbourhood climate change officers are now in post to help communities across Manchester reduce their carbon footprints.
- 4.2 The posts, part of the Council's commitment to the city becoming zero carbon by 2038, are intended to support the role everybody can play towards this goal.
- 4.3 Work is progressing to ensure that each of Manchester's 32 wards has its own climate change action plan and some Neighbourhood Investment Fund grants in each area will be allocated to support projects.
- 4.4 Based with the North, South and Central neighbourhood teams, the new officers will capture climate change activities across wards, engage with stakeholders, identify potential links between initiatives across wards to maximise benefits, help trial carbon reduction pilots and monitor the impact of actions.
- 4.5 While greening and growing projects are already proving popular, there is scope for a range of broader schemes, from tackling fast fashion to encouraging active travel and the use of renewable energy. The extension of selective licensing will also create the opportunity to work with landlords to improve energy efficiency in rented properties.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

Liveable and Zero Carbon city

5.0 Apprenticeship schemes

- 5.1 Manchester residents are being given the chance to launch careers in the construction industry while working on two key council-led schemes – the Our Town Hall project and The Factory arts venue.
- 5.2 The two-year multi-disciplinary apprenticeship PlanBEE scheme, announced this month (June) and starting in September, will give people living in the Manchester City Council area and aged over 18, the chance to earn while they learn.
- 5.3 Working with the council and its contractors, they will gain a range of experience and develop the flexible skills – including digital skills – which will help them succeed in this thriving industry.

- 5.4 Other major partners in the apprenticeship scheme are Manchester Life and Ryder Architects.
- 5.5 The apprenticeship programme is just one element of the social value being delivered by these two flagship schemes.

Our Manchester Strategy themes:

Highly Skilled City

Progressive and Equitable City

Thriving and Sustainable City

6.0 Year of the Child – supporting opportunities and celebrating strengths

- 6.1 Few demographic groups in Manchester have been as impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic as the city's children and young people – but few have shown as much resilience.
- 6.2 It is recognised that the period has interrupted education, increased anxiety and other mental health issues, caused financial hardship and reduced opportunities for young people leaving school and college.
- 6.3 A report to this Executive sets out the Council's plans to designate 2022 the Year of the Child and create a package of opportunities, training and opportunities to help young people emerge positively from the Covid-19 pandemic. Crucially it will also seek to celebrate their achievements.
- 6.4 The year is intended to be just the start of a wide-ranging and long-lasting commitment to build a safe, happy and secure future for children and young people which will help set Manchester apart.
- 6.5 Its content and priorities will be shaped by listening to young people's concerns and aspirations: What they want from the Council and its partners.
- 6.6 The Council also intends to submit an expression of interest to become part of UNICEF's child friendly city and communities programme.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

Highly Skilled City

Progressive and Equitable City

Thriving and Sustainable City

7.0 The Lodge - helping care leavers shape their future

- 7.1 Our commitment to supporting care leavers and our work with registered housing providers to help deliver affordable accommodation come together in The Lodge scheme.
- 7.2 Up to 30 care leavers at any one time will benefit from eight fully furnished apartments combined with a package of support to help them put them on the

pathway to independence, developing life and employment skills and confidence.

- 7.3 The apartments, originally built as high quality student accommodation, will be operated on behalf of the council by registered provider Mosscafe St Vincent's.
- 7.4 Each double bedroom is en suite. Communal facilities include kitchens, lounges and laundries.
- 7.5 Support workers will help the young people develop skills from cookery and nutrition to budgeting and money management, as well as providing employment and skills packages tailored to their individual needs.
- 7.6 The scheme will be for care leavers aged 16 to 18 and a half and will support them into their own permanent homes.

*Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:
Progressive and Equitable City*

8.0 Contributing to a Zero Carbon City

- 8.1 Achieving Manchester's zero carbon target has been reflected throughout the work on the Our Manchester Strategy reset, with sustainability being a key horizontal theme throughout. Forward to 2025 restates Manchester's commitment to achieving our zero carbon ambition by 2038 at the latest.

9.0 Contributing to the Our Manchester Strategy

- 9.1 The reset of the Our Manchester Strategy will ensure that the city achieves its vision. The five themes have been retained in the reset Strategy, with the new priorities streamlined under the themes.

10.0 Key Policies and Considerations

- 10.1 There are no particular equal opportunities issues, risk management issues, or legal issues that arise from the recommendations in this report.

11.0 Recommendations

- 11.1 The Executive is requested to note the update provided in the report.