

Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2021

Present:

Councillor Hacking - In the Chair

Councillors Azra Ali, Shaukat Ali, Andrews, Chambers, Connolly, M Dar, Douglas, Evans, Grimshaw, Hilal, S Judge, Rawson, Whiston, Wills and Wilson

Also present:

Chief Superintendent Paul Savill, Greater Manchester Police (GMP)

Detective Superintendent Jamie Daniels, GMP

Damian Dallimore, Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)

Apologies:

Councillor Battle

CESC/21/17 Minutes

The Chair informed Members that the Committee would receive the report on the Peterloo Memorial at its next meeting on 22 June 2021.

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2021 as a correct record.

CESC/21/18 Community Safety Partnership Update

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) which provided an update on the work of the Community Safety Partnership with particular focus on serious and organised crime, including gun crime and knife crime.

Officers referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:

- Tackling crime and antisocial behaviour;
- Keeping children and young people safe;
- Protecting people from serious harm;
- Reducing the crime impact caused by alcohol and drugs;
- Changing and preventing adult offending behaviour; and
- Next steps.

Damian Dallimore from the GMCA informed the Committee about his role, heading the Violence Reduction Programme for Greater Manchester, managing the Violence Reduction Unit, working as Partnership Lead for Challenger, the partnership approach to tackling serious and organised crime, and working closely with colleagues in Children's Services on complex safeguarding. He highlighted the focus on early intervention, prevention and working with families to address the root causes of violence, and on partnership working and taking a community-led approach.

Detective Superintendent Jamie Daniels delivered a presentation on the current picture and activities to address firearms discharges and serious organised crime. The main points and themes within the presentation included:

- Summary of confirmed firearm discharges in 2020/21;
- Threat mitigation plan, including multi-agency work;
- Operation Haemus, which resulted in a reduction in serious criminality, particularly firearm discharges; and
- Other outcomes over the previous 12 months.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- Public perception of the police and the importance of residents seeing that action was being taken, noting that when people reported incidents such as break-ins, speeding or drug dealing in their area and had difficulty contacting the police on the 101 number or their report was not followed up, they felt it was not being taken seriously and were less likely to report further incidents;
- Issues within specific wards which had been reported to GMP but were still a problem;
- Request for more community police in local areas;
- Tackling antisocial behaviour, noting that this did not just relate to homelessness and street begging;
- How partner organisations worked together;
- To thank GMP officers for their work during the pandemic;
- Action to tackle modern slavery; and
- The forthcoming changes to probation services, supporting people leaving prison and the link between ex-offenders and homelessness.

The Community Safety Lead highlighted the importance of partnership working, particularly in relation to early intervention and prevention. She outlined the local partnership arrangements which were in place in each area, comprising of organisations such as GMP, different Council departments, housing providers and voluntary and community organisations, working together to solve problems in that area. She informed Members that the Community Safety Partnership worked across the whole city, bringing together the strategic leads from those organisations to ensure delivery of the strategy and that there were also strong links with the GMCA, working together and utilising good practice from across Greater Manchester.

The Community Safety Lead informed the Committee that tackling antisocial behaviour was a key priority for the Partnership and outlined some of the work taking place to address this, including encouraging reporting and a Day of Action, advising that a range of partners including GMP, the Council's Neighbourhood Teams and Antisocial Behaviour Team were working together to identify those responsible and action that could be taken in response to it. In response to requests for a breakdown of youth provision across the city and information on organisations funded to undertake preventative work, she advised that she could provide information on youth provision funded through the Community Safety Partnership, although this did not include all youth provision in the city. She advised that this provision was targeted at areas with high levels of antisocial behaviour and crime which impacted on children and young people. She also advised that youth provision was only one

element of this work and cited as other examples the Inclusion Strategy, which aimed to keep children and young people in school, and the Our Manchester Strategy, which she reported, addressed a lot of the underlying issues which led to crime.

Chief Superintendent Paul Savill informed the Committee about the expectations that the newly appointed Chief Constable of GMP was setting out for officers about responding effectively to crime, including the recording of crime, the investigation, safeguarding victims and the victim being satisfied at the end of the process. He reported that the Chief Constable had made clear that this included crimes such as burglaries, vehicle crime and drug supply which affected how safe people felt in their local area. He advised that the new Chief Constable would be looking to have some form of public consultation to enable local people and their representatives to contribute to their local and neighbourhood policing strategy. He highlighted the need to reduce other demands on GMP, particularly responding to reports of vulnerable people, where these were not crime-related, through working with partners to ensure that vulnerable people could access the support they needed while freeing up policing time to undertake the crime recording and investigating activity that the public wanted from GMP. He also referred to improvements in processes to increase efficiency, freeing up resources and officer time. In addition, he highlighted the intake of new police officers and the impact they would have.

In response to a Member's question about domestic abuse, the Community Safety Lead advised that her team produced a regular update for partners about the work taking place in this area and she offered to share this with Committee Members. A Member commented on the wide impact of domestic abuse and advised that it should be referenced within all five priorities of the Community Safety Partnership. The Community Safety Lead informed Members that a consultation was currently taking place about the new Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy, that feedback from Members was being taken into account and that a report on this would be brought to a future meeting when she could discuss further how this linked into other strategies. In response to a question about Prevent, she advised that she would check what information was available that could be shared with the Committee.

The Strategic Head of Early Help informed the Committee that community champions had been recruited to raise people's awareness of modern slavery and the signs to look out for, while work was also taking place with schools to make them aware of signs that children were at risk of exploitation. She advised that the work to tackle modern slavery had particularly focussed on sexual exploitation and criminal exploitation and outlined work that had taken place to disrupt this activity. She informed Members that the Complex Safeguarding Hub had a dedicated focus on the criminal exploitation of children and that two-thirds of requests for support related to children who were vulnerable or at risk of exploitation. She informed the Committee about the national referral mechanism for children who were vulnerable to and had experienced criminal exploitation and about work with partner organisations such as Barnardo's.

In response to a Member's question, Chief Superintendent Paul Savill advised that the firearms discharges in north Manchester were not a result of the migration of activity from south and central Manchester to north Manchester. He outlined some of the work that had been done in areas such as Moss Side, Hulme and Wythenshawe

to reduce firearms discharges and advised that GMP and its partners wanted to replicate this approach in north Manchester. In response to a Member's question about the number of organised crime gangs in areas of north Manchester, Chief Superintendent Paul Savill advised that he could provide this information outside of the meeting to Members. He also agreed for GMP to meet with north Manchester Councillors to discuss how the issues in their areas were being addressed.

The Community Safety Lead welcomed the opportunities presented by the forthcoming changes to probation services to improve services for people leaving prison, including a mentoring service. She advised that education, employment and accommodation were key issues for people leaving prison.

In response to a question from a Member, the Community Safety Lead reported that there had not been a decrease in the number of people accessing the Street Engagement Hub since the Everybody In scheme had ended.

The Chair thanked the guests for their contribution and thanked GMP for the work they did to keep Manchester residents safe.

Decision

To note the report.

[Councillor Azra Ali declared a personal interest as an employee of Change Grow Live.]

CESC/21/19 Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit was submitted. The overview report contained a list of key decisions yet to be taken within the Committee's remit, responses to previous recommendations and the Committee's work programme, which the Committee was asked to approve.

Decision

To note the report.

CESC/21/20 Exclusion of Press and Public

Decision

To exclude the public during consideration of the following item which involved consideration of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of particular persons and public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**CESC/21/21 Scrutiny Committees' work on cross-cutting themes of the
Our Manchester Strategy**

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided an overview of how cross-cutting themes in the *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025* reset document were to be covered by the scrutiny committees during the 2021/22 municipal year.

Decision

To note the report.

Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2021

Present:

Councillor Russell – in the Chair

Councillors Ahmed Ali, Clay, Hitchen, Lanchbury, B Priest, Robinson and A Simcock

Also present:

Councillor Craig, Deputy Leader

Apologies:

Councillors Davies, Rowles and Wheeler

RGSC/21/21 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2021 as a correct record.

RGSC/21/22 Updated Annual Property Report 2020/2021

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which provided an update on property activity since the last Annual Property Report to Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee in November 2019. The report was an updated version of a report that was prepared for the 9 March 2021 meeting and provided further information on activity across the Development Team and Investment Estate and the Operational Estate up to the current date. The report also included an update on the specific areas requested in the Scrutiny Committee's work programme, including Central Retail Park; future plans and performance of the investment estate in relation to potential income generation; estates rationalisation and work on reviewing the Council's operational estate; the Zero carbon agenda and future developments within the Capital Strategy.

Key points and themes in the report included:-

- Development Team and Investment Estate update, including commercial, city centre, other commercial and employment development, housing, district and town centre, leisure, sport and education development, capital receipts, investment estate, Jacobs contract and asset valuations; and
- Operational Estate and Facilities update, including operational estate activity, Facilities Management Service, Asset Management Programme update, Carbon Reduction Programme, systems and records update, Town Hall Project, future ways of working and estate rationalisation.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were:-

- Was there any update on the rent review of the airport;
- Press reports which had been critical of land deals made by the Council;
- The likely impact of the pandemic on the use of office buildings;

- When the plans for Wythenshawe Town Centre would be realised; and
- The importance of supporting Emerge/Fareshare in their re-location to a suitable property.

The Head of Development reported that the Council had received an initial response from the airport in relation to the rent review and that officers were working through the information provided and would respond to the airport in the next few weeks. In response to a further question, he clarified that this rent was reviewed on an annual basis.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer advised that the article in the Manchester Evening News had included the Council's response which explained the rationale behind the decisions taken. The Head of Development reported that there were compelling reasons for entering into the transactions referred to and that the research referred to in the press had not gone into sufficient detail, highlighting that in some cases the Council had legal obligations or was receiving a rent from the company concerned. A Member asked if officers would be willing to go through the detail of these transactions with any Members who wanted more information and explanation. The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer agreed and suggested that a session could be arranged for Members. The Deputy Leader highlighted the importance of communicating clearly to Members and the public what the Council was doing with its assets for the benefit of Manchester people. In response to a Member's question about the challenges for people trying to find out information about these transactions, the Head of Development advised that it was partly about the complexity of some of the transactions and the level of detail needed to understand it and also that the Council undertook a lot of transactions and the requests that people submitted for information could be quite generic.

In response to a Member's question about Heron House, the Head of Development informed the Committee that leases had already been completed for all tenancies with the exception of the Barclays Consortium. The Deputy Leader suggested that the Member could be provided with an indicative completion date to give her assurance.

The Director of Inclusive Growth reported that commercial development in the city centre had held up quite well during the pandemic and that, while office space could be configured differently in future, the indications for future growth were positive.

The Deputy Leader agreed to a Member's request that all Councillors be provided with details of how to obtain information in relation to different types of Corporate Property questions.

A Member asked whether the CPAD system would be able to provide some of the information that Committee Members were requesting about specific properties. The Head of Corporate Estates and Facilities reported that this was the case and that training sessions could be provided to Members on using this system; however, he advised that some of the information did require interpretation and that officers were happy to assist Members with this.

The Chair requested greater clarity in future reports on the original approved budgets, the current position on spending and income generated. A Member requested greater clarity in future reports on how “affordable housing” was being defined.

The Head of Development informed the Committee about plans for Wythenshawe Town Centre, including a round 2 Levelling Up bid, looking at how other investment could be leveraged in and recent land acquisitions nearby which provided more options for the area. He advised that, although like other areas it had been affected by the pandemic, it had held up well during this period and the Council was in discussions with the owners about future plans.

In response to a Member’s question about how many car parks the Council still had and how many had been disposed of, the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer advised that she would provide this information after the meeting.

In response to a Member’s question, the Head of Development reported that the rental support policy would be finalised within the next two or three weeks.

The Chair welcomed the range of work outlined in the report and the positive impact on Manchester residents. Regarding the carbon reduction programme, she advised that it would have been useful to see further information on the carbon reduction measures listed, including costs, who had funded them and cost savings. In response to a question from the Chair, the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer agreed that it would be challenging to complete the projects decarbonising heat in 11 Council buildings by September 2021 as the Council had only been informed in March 2021 that its bid for funding for these projects had been successful. The Head of Corporate Estates and Facilities advised that a delivery plan was in place to achieve this although the Greater Manchester Consortium was also working to understand what exactly had to be completed by this deadline. The Chair requested that officers report back on this at an appropriate time. In response to a Member’s question, the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer reported that the Council was working closely with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and Manchester Climate Change Partnership on climate change and highlighted that the successful bid referred to previously had been made as part of a Greater Manchester Consortium.

Decisions

1. To note the report.
2. To note that all Members of the Council will be provided with details of how to obtain information in relation to different types of Corporate Property questions.
3. To note that the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer will provide information on how many car parks the Council still has and how many have been disposed of.

4. To request that the Committee receive an update on the delivery of the projects funded through the Government Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme at an appropriate time.

RGSC/21/23 Re-establishment of the Human Resources Subgroup

The Committee received a report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which sought the Committee's approval to re-establish the Human Resources Subgroup for the 2021/22 Municipal Year and agree its terms of reference.

Decisions

1. To agree that the Chair of Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee chairs the HR Subgroup.
2. To appoint Councillors Ahmed Ali, A Simcock and Robinson to the Subgroup and to note that other Councillors who are not currently Members of this Committee have requested to be appointed to the Committee and also expressed an interest in joining the Subgroup.
3. To agree the terms of reference as set out in the report.
4. To agree the work programme as set out in the report and propose that each meeting has one thematic report and one departmental-based report.

RGSC/21/24 Re-establishment of the Ethical Procurement and Contract Management Subgroup

The Committee received a report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which sought the Committee's approval to re-establish the Ethical Procurement and Contract Management Subgroup for the 2021/22 Municipal Year and agree its terms of reference.

Decisions

1. To agree that the Chair of Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee chairs the Ethical Procurement and Contract Management Subgroup.
2. To appoint Councillors Clay, Lanchbury, B Priest and Robinson to the Subgroup.
3. To agree the terms of reference as set out in the report.
4. To request that the delivery of local employment and training opportunities be incorporated into the work programme.

RGSC/21/25 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations

was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

Decision

To note the report.

RGSC/21/26 Exclusion of Press and Public

Decision

To exclude the public during consideration of the following item which involved consideration of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of particular persons and public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

CESC/21/27 Scrutiny Committees' work on cross-cutting themes of the Our Manchester Strategy

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided an overview of how cross-cutting themes in the *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025* reset document were to be covered by the scrutiny committees during the 2021/22 municipal year.

Decision

To note the report.

Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 22 June 2021

Present:

Councillor Russell (Chair) – in the Chair
Councillors Clay, Davies, Hitchen, Kirkpatrick, Lanchbury, B Priest, Robinson, Rowles, A Simcock and Wheeler

Also present:

Councillor Bridges, Executive Member for Children's Services
Councillor Craig, Deputy Leader (Finance)

Apologies: Councillor Ahmed Ali

RGSC/19/28 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2021 were submitted for approval. A Member requested that the information that had been requested at that meeting in relation to Corporate Property (see ref. RGSC/21/22) be circulated to Members at the earliest opportunity. The Deputy Leader (Finance) stated that she would provide this following the meeting.

Decision

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2021

RGSC/19/29 Future Shape of the Council

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which set out the context and background for the Future Shape of the Council Programme, its priority areas of work and benefits to the Council and its residents and how the digital agenda formed a major workstream within the Future Shape programme and how ICT support would be integral to its successful delivery.

Key points and themes of the report included:-

- The Future Council programme objectives and overview of workstreams;
- A detailed introduction to the scope of the digitally integrated council workstream; and
- The role of ICT in the successful delivery of the programme

Some of the key points raised during the Committee's discussions were:-

- An understanding of how the figure of the number of residents who were digitally excluded was arrived at and how was this defined;
- Any digital service needed to be tested from the end user perspective to ensure it was fit for purpose prior to launching;

- The need to prioritise the most deprived wards in the city, noting the experience of residents during Covid;
- The need to work with large national providers to ensure residents were able to access data, noting the positive examples in response to barriers experienced by residents during the pandemic;
- An update was sought on the integration of both health systems and those used by Northwards;
- The CRM system needed to be reviewed to ensure residents could report issues, including the ability to upload photographs and consideration needed to be given to the automatic replies to ensure they were appropriate;
- Premises Licenses were previously available to view online, however they were no longer accessible and was there a reason for this; and
- An update on the timeline and budgets for the delivery of the replacement CRM and SAP systems was requested.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer explained that the report represented a significant programme of change to be delivered in a very challenging financial position. The Deputy Leader (Finance) commented that the report described the ambitions to deliver, noting that there were a number of workstreams to drive this ambition. She stated that this work was not a passive response to continued budget cuts but rather a proactive approach to drive improvements and efficiencies that met the needs of residents.

The Director of Customer Services and Transactions stated that the Digital Agenda was predicated on the needs of residents and improving their access and experience. She described that a Digital Index was being created that collated data from a range of sources that could then be provided at a ward level. She stated that the development of the Digital Index would then assist with the meaningful measurement of progress against an agreed set of criteria. She stated this work was being progressed by the Director of Inclusive Economy and the Manchester Digital Strategy would be reported to the Economy Scrutiny Committee.

The Director of Customer Services and Transactions acknowledged the comment raised by the Member regarding the need to adequately test systems from a user perspective, adding that a number of lessons had been learnt during the pandemic. She stated that it was recognised that systems needed to be appropriate and relevant to the service user and systems should be designed and purchased from the end user perspective. She advised that there was also the requirement to ensure that systems complied with all equalities duties to ensure they were fully accessible.

In response to the specific question relating to premises licenses being available to view online, the Director of Customer Services and Transactions stated that she would investigate this issue following the meeting.

The Deputy Leader (Finance) stated that the Manchester Digital Strategy would include consideration of digital inclusion and she advised that all Members would be consulted and specific ward issues and experiences, such as those raised during the discussion would be captured as part of that process.

The Director of ICT informed the Committee that a significant amount of work and testing was underway to ensure the safe integration of both Health systems and Northwards systems. Regarding the specific question relating to the timeline and budgets for the delivery of the replacement CRM and SAP systems he advised that this would be circulated to all Members of the Committee following the meeting.

The Director of ICT informed the Committee said that work continued to integrate systems across the Council, and IT analysts were working closely with Service Heads to review all systems with the aim of delivering a single view platform that would be device neutral. He advised that the IT department continued to work closely with the estates team, including libraries to ensure the technology and IT facilities were planned and appropriate.

Decision

The Committee note the report and the changes that will be required over the next few years to deliver this important agenda.

RGSC/19/30 Domestic Violence and Abuse Funding

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods), which set out the current funding arrangement for Domestic Violence and Abuse (DV&A) services across Manchester. It highlighted in particular, new investments that the Council was making in 2021/22 to help further support victims and children and tackle perpetrator behaviour.

Key points and themes in the report included:-

- Nationally and locally, it had been acknowledged that funding provision for DV&A services had historically been piecemeal and short term in nature;
- In total the Council funds £2,268,305 in 2021/22 for DV&A services which included contributions from Manchester Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and the Community Safety Partnership;
- In addition to this, it had recently been confirmed that the Council would receive a further £1,652,996 for 2021/22 from central government in relation to new burdens funding. The funding was guaranteed for three years, but funding allocations for 2022/23 and 2023/24 have not yet been set;
- Decisions on how DV&A funding is used going forward will be informed by the Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy Refresh; and
- A key aim of the new strategy would be to work with services, alongside schools, colleges and universities to support them in helping to prevent abuse, intervene earlier and change attitudes

Some of the key points that arose from the Committees discussions were:-

- Further clarification was requested regarding the accommodation that would be provided for males who were the victims of DV&A;
- Further information of the structure and function of the DV&A Partnership Board;

- Noting the ad hoc and piecemeal funding provided by central government to address DV&A was there strategic oversight of the various spending and funding bids across the city;
- Further information was requested in relation to the New Burdens Funding;
- Further information was requested on the Drive programme;
- Work needed to be undertaken with housing providers to ensure that it was the perpetrator of DV&A that was required to leave the family home; and
- What is the overall cost of DV&A to public services.

The Strategic Lead Integrated Commissioning explained that nationally funding to deliver DV&A services was piecemeal and short term and this approach was challenging when designing services. He advised that Manchester had remained committed to investing in DV&A services over the years of austerity which placed the city in a strong position to respond to the Domestic Abuse Act that placed a new duty on local authorities to provide support to victims in refuges and other safe accommodation. He stated that the new Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy for the city was being developed in partnership with the wider public services, communities and residents, and a draft would be available in the summer.

The Domestic Abuse Reduction Manager advised that the DV&A Partnership Board would replace the Domestic Violence Strategy Group and they would meet in July. She advised that the remit and governance arrangements of the Board would be agreed. She informed the Members that this Board would strengthen the existing relationships and develop new ones with a range of partners across the city. She advised that they were currently working with MACC to ensure that there was VCSE representation on the Board. She further advised that the Board would strengthen the understanding and coordination of funding streams across the city to address DV&A and would assist with reducing any duplication of funding bids.

The Domestic Abuse Reduction Manager stated that a recent report published by Safe Lives had calculated the cost of DV&A was £34k per victim and that she would share the report with the Committee for information. She stated that the New Burdens Funding was in addition to the homelessness fund and would be used to establish Domestic Abuse Specialist Support posts that would deliver an enhanced offer in refuge spaces. She stated that the exact details of these posts were still to be determined and that further information would be provided to the Committee at an appropriate time.

The Domestic Abuse Reduction Manager informed the Committee that as previously described the Domestic Abuse Act placed a new duty on local authorities to provide safe accommodation, and this included using dispersed accommodation that was provided through the homeless service. She further made reference to the DV&A project that was being delivered by the LGBT Foundation in collaboration with local housing providers across Greater Manchester. The Chair stated that the Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee would continue to consider and scrutinise the provision of DV&A services provided for different community groups.

In regard to the Drive programme the Domestic Abuse Reduction Manager informed the Committee that Manchester was participating in the national roll out of the programme in the South of the City. She stated that Drive was the Home Office

recommended approach for the management of high-risk high harm perpetrator work and followed a specified model using the Respect accredited standard. She stated this was a multi-agency approach and that an analysis of the impact and outcomes of this programme would be undertaken and the outcomes reported to Members via the appropriate scrutiny committee.

With regard to the issue and the specific case relating to perpetrators of DV&A remaining in the family home the Domestic Abuse Reduction Manager informed the Member that she would discuss this following the meeting.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer stated that she acknowledged the comments expressed by the Committee in relation to the challenges presented by short term funding for such important services. She stated that all options would be considered as part of the budget setting process.

The Chair in concluding this item of business paid tribute to staff and partners working to support all victims of DV&A.

Decision

The Committee notes the report

RGSC/19/31 Nursery Funding

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director for Children and Education Services, which outlined a set of proposals to support the continued provision of high quality Early Years settings across the City. The report specifically provided an overview of the impact of the current Early Years tendered day-care model (whereby providers offer day-care from a Council owned building), on the Council's duty to oversee sufficient day-care for preschool children across Manchester; the Early Years Budget and ongoing maintenance of Early Years buildings which remain part of the corporate estate.

Key points and themes of the report included:-

- Results of stock condition surveys;
- Review of early years buildings within the portfolio;
- Financial implications – revenue and capital;
- Further actions; and
- Support Provided to Early Years Settings During the Pandemic

The report was also being considered by the Children and Young Peoples Scrutiny Committee on 23 June 2021 and Executive on 30 June 2021.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committees discussions were:-

- Central Government had failed to adequately fund early years provision;
- This inadequate funding had resulted in instability across the sector and that was detrimental to both young people and their families;

- Recognising that the report proposed to bring a level of stability to the sector, across the whole of the city;
- Had the Council given consideration to providing direct provision using Invest to Save analysis, noting the importance of early years provision and the impact this had on other services if not adequately catered for;
- Noting that to deliver the required stability in the market a longer term plan was required and what metrics were considered to ensure the provision was adequate to meet the needs of the population;
- Was the reported time period for the retendering of a site commencing to the site being re-occupied typical; and
- Welcoming the proposal that the Council would have landlord responsibilities included within the Council's existing Asset Management Programme.

The Head of Corporate Estate and Facilities advised that the time period for the retendering of a site commencing to the site being re-occupied was typical. He commented that the decision to incorporate landlord responsibilities within the Council's existing Asset Management Programme would strengthen the inspection regime to ensure premises were safe and compliant with all required standards. He commented that this approach would also present the opportunity to invest in and facilitate the delivery of carbon reduction initiatives through the estates management and contribute to the city's carbon reduction ambitions. In response to a specific question regarding the future development of sites for purposes other than day care provision, he advised that there were mechanisms in place to protect those sites.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer referred to the budget decisions that had been taken in 2011 in relation to the delivery model of day care provision in the context of austerity. She added that nationally the direct provider model is not one that was adopted by Local Authorities.

The Executive Member for Children's Services explained that a range of metrics were used to understand the demand on the sector, including the census; the use of provision and where families accessed these from and birth rates. He commented that the report represented a significant amount of work over a period of years and represented an opportunity to strategically improve and strengthen upon the established relationships with providers across the whole of the city. He stated that the renegotiation of leases would provide an ideal opportunity to discuss and progress issues such as sustainability with providers and support the carbon reduction ambitions of the Council. In response to a specific question regarding a breakdown by use of day care he advised that this data was obtained and could be shared outside of the meeting.

Decision

The Committee endorses the recommendations proposed to the Executive, those being:-

Executive are recommended to:

- (1) Note 17 of 37 leases have been surrendered since December 2015 and the potential impact on the council's ability to meet its 'sufficiency duty'.

- (2) Note the continued negative budget implications on the Early Years budget which continues even if the status quo is maintained.
- (3) Approve the recommendation for the use of each building moving forward.
- (4) Approve the re-negotiation of the current leases by corporate estates with day care providers, making clear the responsibility of the lease holder and the corporate landlord in the re-negotiated lease.
- (5) Support the proposal to include the Early Years estate portfolio in the Council's future Asset Management Programme, at an estimated cost of £0.7m per year.
- (6) Approve a budget increase of £3m, funded by capital receipts, to fund the priority works.

RGSC/19/32 Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

A Member requested that the information relating to the Key Decision and Care Homes that had been requested previously be forwarded to the Committee at the earliest opportunity.

Decision

To note the report and agree the work programme subject to the above comment.

Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2021

Present:

Councillor Green – in the Chair
Councillors Curley, Newman, Riasat, Richards, Leech, Hussain and N.Ali

Apologies: Councillors Cooley, Monaghan and Reeves

Also present:

Councillor Midgley, Executive Member for Health and Care
Nick Gomm, Director of Corporate Affairs, Manchester Health and Care
Commissioning (MHCC)

HSC/21/18 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2021 as a correct record.

HSC/21/19 COVID-19 Update

The Committee considered the joint presentation of the Director of Public Health and the Executive Clinical Director Manchester Health and Care Commissioning that provided an update on COVID-19 activity that included the latest available information on data and intelligence.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- The Committee paid tribute to the Director of Public Health, his team, all health partners and volunteers for their response to the pandemic;
- Noting the prevalence of Variants of Concern in boroughs within Greater Manchester, did teams work collaboratively across borders to plan and respond to these events as and when they arose;
- A Member commented that government inaction had resulted in the spread of the Indian Variant;
- A view was sought as to the efficacy of Lateral Flow Tests (LFT);
- Why were the vaccination rates in the Piccadilly and Deansgate wards relatively low;
- What work was being done to ensure people with Learning Disabilities and other groups, such as travellers, were vaccinated;
- Information needed to be provided in all languages that were represented within the city; and
- Was data available relating to the number of hospital admissions for those that had not been vaccinated.

The Director of Public Health responded by informing the Committee that Public Health teams did work collaboratively across borders to respond to both existing and

emerging issues to deliver a coordinated response. He reassured Members that the supplies of vaccines remained sufficient across all wards.

The Director of Public Health stated that it was important for all members of the public to observe and adhere to Public Health guidance to mitigate the spread of infection. He further commented that it was the effectiveness of the UK laboratories that undertake genomic sequencing that quickly identified Variants of Concern. With regard to LFTs he stated that supervised tests were more reliable, however as people began to become more used to administering these themselves there was increased confidence that the testing was more effective. He stated that it remained the case that if an LFT provided a positive result the person should undertake a Laboratory PCR test and residents should continue to check for symptoms.

With regard to the relatively low vaccination rates for the Piccadilly and Deansgate wards the Director of Public Health commented that this could be explained due to a relatively high number of young, transient and often unregistered residents.

The Director of Public Health stated that hospitals were looking to collect data in relation to COVID-19 admissions to identify the numbers of those patients who had been vaccinated.

With regard to Learning Disabled citizens and the traveller community, the Director of Public Health stated that there were a number of initiatives that involved working with partners and across borders to engage with different groups and promote the take up of vaccination, similar to those described within the presentation.

The Executive Member for Health and Care reiterated the appreciation expressed by the Committee to the Public Health team, staff working across the NHS and all partners and volunteers in supporting the residents of the city during the pandemic. She stated that it was important to recognise that COVID-19 had not gone away and residents needed to adhere to Public Health advice and guidance to reduce the spread of COVID.

Decision

The Committee notes the report and presentation.

HSC/21/20 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

The Committee noted that it would be discussing the work programme for the forthcoming municipal year in further detail in a private session following the meeting, and that an updated work programme reflecting this discussion would be circulated as normal in the papers for the next meeting.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

HSC/21/21 Exclusion of Press and Public

Decision

To exclude the public during consideration of the following item which involved consideration of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of particular persons and public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

HSC/21/22 Scrutiny Committees' work on cross-cutting themes of the Our Manchester Strategy

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided an overview of how cross-cutting themes in the *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025* reset document were covered by MCC Scrutiny Committees during the 2021/22 municipal year.

Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025 had reset Manchester's priorities for the next five years to ensure we could achieve the city's ambitions set out in the *Our Manchester Strategy 2016 – 2025*.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2021

Present:

Councillor Green – in the Chair
Councillors Nasrin Ali, Cooley, Curley, Hussain, Newman, Reeves, Riasat and Richards

Apologies: Councillors Leech and Monaghan

Also present:

Councillor Midgley, Executive Member for Health and Care
Nick Gomm, Director of Corporate Affairs, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Dr Manisha Kumar, Executive Clinical Director Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Mark Edwards, Chief Operating Officer, Manchester Local Care Organisation

HSC/21/23 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2021 as a correct record.

HSC/21/24 COVID-19 Update

The Committee considered the joint presentation of the Director of Public Health and the Executive Clinical Director Manchester Health and Care Commissioning that provided an update on COVID-19 activity that included the latest available information on data and intelligence.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- Noting the importance of vaccination, especially for older residents to prevent them from becoming seriously ill if they contracted COVID-19;
- An assurance was sought that the supply of vaccines was sufficient to meet the increased numbers of people coming forward for vaccination;
- What were the reasons as to why the infection rates in Manchester were high;
- Noting that residents were being encouraged to obtain their second jab within eight weeks of having the first, what was being done to manage those who had a second appointment booked in twelve weeks and maybe reluctant to cancel that second prebooked appointment;
- An assurance was sought that Learning Disabled citizens were being supported and encouraged to have their vaccination, including those who may reside in a setting provided outside of Manchester;
- Further information was requested on the Community Champions Fund and how this had been allocated;
- Noting that the issue of trust was vital to ensure all communities access their vaccination;

- Noting that COVID deniers and vaccination hoaxers still existed and what was being done to address this; and
- Was planning underway to be able to deliver a seasonal vaccination booster.

In response, the Executive Clinical Director Manchester Health and Care Commissioning informed the Members that evidence showed that for those people contracting COVID following their second vaccination displayed much milder symptoms that could be safely managed at home. She advised that Manchester had enough vaccine to meet current demand and she encouraged all to obtain their second jab when offered. She described that people are being contacted directly to offer them their second jab with advice and information as to where and when this could be obtained, including the promotion of pop services in addition to the national system and that a helpline had been established to guide residents through this process if required. She advised that people should not delay in getting their second jab and then they can always cancel any prebooked second jab via the national NHS booking system.

In regard to Learning Disabled citizens, the Executive Clinical Director Manchester Health and Care Commissioning advised that all avenues of contact and support were being utilised to maximise and support the uptake of the vaccine. She said that General Practitioners records were being used and all relevant and appropriate teams experience knowledge was used to support this activity. She added that bespoke services such as taxis and specifically managed vaccination sessions in appropriate settings had been provided. The Consultant in Public Health Medicine stated that the Disabled Peoples Engagement Board had also helped coordinate and deliver appropriate key messages surrounding COVID-19.

The Consultant in Public Health stated that the high rates of infection rates in Manchester could be explained by a number of factors including structural inequalities, that Manchester was a densely populated city; larger and extended families living in the same household; a large student population and people struggling to self-isolate due to economic circumstances. She stated that the infection rates continued to be monitored and it was difficult to state if the figure had peaked yet, however she stressed that the vaccination was important to tackle COVID-19.

The Consultant in Public Health stated that initially assisted Lateral Flow Testing had been supported in schools with the results reported to the national recording system, however pupils were now being asked to undertake this at home and upload their own results. She stated that they had witnessed a decrease in the number of reported results which could indicate either the tests were not being undertaken or the results were not being reported. She said that to address this they were seeking to re-establish the supported testing in schools. Officers stated that it was vitally important for all residents to undertake a Lateral Flow Test twice a week and upload the results and to continue to observe all Public Health guidance regarding COVID-19.

In response to the specific question regarding the Community Champion Fund the Consultant in Public Health Medicine provided examples of what this fund had been used to support, such as the COVID chat programme and support for refugees and

asylum seekers and that she would share further information on this fund following the meeting.

The Consultant in Public Health advised the Committee that she was the co-chair of the Covid Health Equity Manchester (CHEM) group and consideration was given as to how different community groups were engaged with around the issue of COVID and the vaccination. She described that it was recognised and understood that the issue of trust and cultural competence was key to meaningful engagement and the use of trusted and credible people within communities helped support this activity. She continued by stating that access to vaccinations had been recognised as a barrier and as a result pop up events had been promoted and delivered in a range of settings, such as faith buildings. She further commented that it was important to listen to and value the views and concerns of people regarding the vaccination and not to meet this dismissively. She described that it was important to share facts and engage with people regarding their concerns, noting that people who had been resistant to the vaccination were beginning to come forward for these.

The Executive Clinical Director Manchester Health and Care Commissioning reported that she had also continued to engage with patients who were initially hesitant and had expressed concerns regarding the vaccination and she reported that she was witnessing patients now taking up the offer.

The Executive Member for Health and Care stated that if Members required any additional information regarding any the work discussed that they could contact her outside of the formal meetings.

The Chair concluded this item of business by thanking all involved with the vaccination programme for their continued hard work.

Decision

The Committee notes the report and presentation.

HSC/21/25 Strategic scene setting

The Committee considered the report and accompanying presentations of the Director of Public Health, the Executive Director Adult Social Services and the Deputy Director Adult Social Services that provided an overview of health inequalities and outcomes in Manchester; an overview of the system wide response with a focus on Manchester's Local Care Organisation and an update on Better Outcomes, Better Lives, the Manchester Local Care Organisation's transformation programme for Adult Social Care.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- Whilst welcoming the ambitions of Better Outcomes, Better Lives it was important to ensure that residents in need of care received the most appropriate levels of care;

- A Member provided a personal experience of a family member who received care and stressed the importance of appropriate care and support to enable people to live independently;
- Future update reports should include the voice of the patient experience;
- The role of Carers was very important;
- The COVID-19 vaccination programme had demonstrated the successful delivery of a service through collaborative working and this positive experience and learning should be built upon in other areas of service delivery;

The Executive Director of Adult Social Services stated that the ambition of Better Outcomes, Better Lives was to promote and enable independent living and support residents to continue living in their homes and communities. She stated this would be achieved through a strength based approach to the assessment and commissioning of services, with these were designed and delivered 'with' people as opposed to 'for' people. She stated that despite the budget Manchester had invested in this programme of improvement. She further recognised the comment made regarding the important role of carers and suggested that an update report on the Our Manchester Carers Strategy be submitted to the Committee for consideration at an appropriate time.

The Deputy Director of Adult Social Services noted the comments from the Member regarding the information provided in the slide pack regarding the Initial Impact Assessment and provided clarification on the examples and data provided. In response to a question regarding how the Better Outcomes, Better Lives programme connected to the Our Manchester strategy she stated that this information had been included in the report that had been considered by the Committee at the March 2021 meeting. She further stated that information relating to IMPOWER would be circulated outside of the meeting following comments by a Member.

The Chief Operating Officer, Manchester Local Care Organisation stated that the Local Care Organisation was predicated on Public Health ambitions and targets and Key Performance Indicators were agreed and monitored. He stated that the neighbourhood delivery approach of the Manchester Local Care Organisation built on partnerships and community based strengths and knowledge. He stated that Manchester was leading on this model of delivery when compared to other Local Authorities. He stated that he would share the details of the Neighbourhood Leads with the Committee following the meeting.

The Chair stated that the Committee would welcome the opportunity to further scrutinise the Performance Framework and Quality Impact Assessment and this would be considered when planning future agenda items. She commented that a report on the work of the Integrated Neighbourhood Teams would be included on the Committee's work programme. The Chair further added following comments from the Committee that consideration would be given as to the format and content of the reports.

The Executive Member for Health and Care stated that staff working within the integrated teams were the most valuable resource and key to the successful delivery of Better Outcomes, Better Lives work. She stated that feedback from staff was very positive that reflected improved services to residents. She stated that there were a

series of videos that could be shared with the Committee that highlighted the positive work that had been developed by developing integrated teams and the multi-agency working approach.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Note the report and presentations.
- (2) Recommend that items on the Our Manchester Carers Strategy and an update on the work of the Integrated Neighbourhood Teams be included on the Committee's work programme and these reports shall include the voice of the citizen.

HSC/21/26 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

The Chair recommended that the provision of NHS Dentistry, Primary Care access and NHS recovery that were currently listed as to be scheduled should be considered at the September meeting, and the update report on the work of Covid Health Equity Manchester would be considered at the October meeting.

The Chair stated that the July meeting would have a focus on mental health.

Decision

The Committee notes the report and agree the work programme subject to the above amendments.

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2021

Present:

Councillor Reid – in the Chair

Councillors Abdullatif, Sameem Ali, Alijah, Bano, Collins, Hewitson, Lovecy, McHale and Nunney

Co-opted Voting Members:

Ms Z Derraz, Parent Governor Representative

Co-opted Non Voting Members:

Mr L Duffy, Secondary Sector Teacher Representative

Also present:

Councillor Bridges, Executive Member for Children and Schools

Councillor Foley, Ward Councillor for Didsbury East

Dr Henri Giller, Independent Chair, Manchester Safeguarding Partnership (MSP)

Maria Slater, Director of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

Apologies:

Dr W Omara, Parent Governor Representative

CYP/21/17 Minutes

Decision

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2021.

CYP/21/18 Manchester Safeguarding Partnership (MSP) Annual Report 2019/2020

The Committee received a report of Dr Henri Giller, Independent Chair of the MSP, which detailed the strategic priorities and what MSP had achieved, reported on its annual assurance activity and what had been learnt from practice reviews undertaken where there was a serious incident.

Dr Henri Giller referred to the main points and themes within the report, which included:

- The Partnership Strategic Priorities and the action taken in relation to these;
- The Assurance Function;
- Learning from Practice Review and Improvement exercises; and
- Scrutinising the new MSP arrangements.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- Mental health and suicide prevention;
- Training for Members, including on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and on understanding exploitation;
- The importance of a joined-up approach between adult and children's services, where vulnerable adults were parents; and
- How the experiences of minoritised communities was embedded into the work of MSP.

Dr Giller advised that mental health was a priority area for MSP and that significant improvements had been put in place over the past 12 months to better meet the mental health needs of children and young people, citing the M Thrive and i-Thrive initiatives. He reported that one of the potential strengths of the new safeguarding arrangements was that they brought children's and adults' safeguarding under the same partnership and he advised that representatives of the Children's Executive Group and the Adult Executive Group were meeting together and discussing joint strategies and areas of common interest, such as the transition from children's to adult services and complex safeguarding. He outlined some of the challenges, such as the different legislative basis for children's and adults' safeguarding, the capacity of services to meet needs into adulthood and the level of continuity of support over time but he advised that there was an awareness of these issues and a commitment to working to improve them.

Dr Giller reported that there was an operational infrastructure behind the strategic groups referred to in the report and that this engaged with communities to understand the likely impact of proposals and changes. In response to a Member's question, he assured the Committee that work had taken place to look at the impact of the pandemic on working practices and that this learning would be taken forward.

In response to a question from the Chair, Dr Giller reported that the initial self-evaluation exercise had been intended to raise awareness of changes needed and for work with the organisations on how they could make and embed those changes. He advised that the next self-assessment would be followed by an audit of the changes that organisations had committed themselves to. In response to a further question, he reported that different organisations were subject to different regulatory mechanisms, further assurance structures would be available through the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and that MSP was keen to explore additional options such as peer reviews.

The Executive Member for Children and Schools advised that he and the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services arranged training for all Councillors each municipal year, covering topics such as corporate parenting responsibilities and safeguarding. He reported that dates would be sent round shortly for this and that, if Members then wanted further training on specific areas, this could be arranged.

Decision

That the Committee will receive regular reports on the work of the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership.

CYP/21/19 Impact of COVID-19 on children's services in Manchester, including schools, settings and the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)

The Committee received a report of the Deputy Director of Children's Services which detailed the impact and consequence management of COVID-19 across the Children's and Education Directorate. The report had a particular focus on the delivery arrangements and performance of children's services. Acknowledging the requirement to view the support to children as a partnership endeavour, the report also provided an update on schools and CAMHS's ongoing response to the pandemic.

Officers referred to the main points and themes within the report, which included:

- Schools update, including school attendance and Ofsted monitoring visits;
- Early Years update;
- Children's Services, including working practices during the pandemic, contacts with Children's Services, performance management and quality assurance;
- Early Help; and
- Managing the impact of COVID-19 on well-being and mental health.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- That individual schools were adopting different practices in response to the current situation;
- Reasons for the variations in school attendance levels;
- Concern that lockdown and learning at home had widened the gap between children from more and less advantaged backgrounds;
- The impact of the pandemic on babies' development; and
- How the Council would support schools if the Indian Variant spread within the city.

The Director of Education informed the Committee that all schools had initially completed risk assessments for COVID-19 which had been reviewed by the Council's Health and Safety Team. She advised that, despite recent changes in national guidelines, the Council was still strongly advising schools to keep the measures from their risk assessments in place, although they did not have any powers to enforce this. In response to a Member's question, she outlined some of the support being offered to Early Years settings and through additional activities to assist children with reaching developmental milestones, noting the impact that the pandemic would have had on the development of many young children, not only those who would have otherwise been identified as having Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). In response to another question, she advised that the strategy for supporting pupils with SEND had remained the same, although there had been a particular focus on school attendance during the pandemic.

The Deputy Director of Children's Services acknowledged the challenges facing new parents during the pandemic, highlighting the information in the report about some of the difficulties they were experiencing. He advised of the importance of providing

socialisation opportunities for children and opening Early Years settings, noting that the city's figures were good for this. He informed Members of a new evidence-based approach to supporting vulnerable people who were new parents or soon to become parents, recognising that having been isolated from support services during the pandemic would have added to their vulnerabilities.

The Executive Member for Children and Schools informed the Committee that, despite the challenges presented by the pandemic, the Council remained ambitious for the city's children. He informed Members about plans for a "Year of the Child" in 2022 and proposed that the Committee receive a report about this at a future meeting.

The Director of Education advised the Committee that school attendance was continuing to improve and was at about 94%. A Member commented that schools having different school holiday dates around Easter would have impacted on attendance levels. The Director of Education advised the Committee that the Council set schools holiday dates based on a set of principles agreed across Greater Manchester but that not all Greater Manchester councils were working to these principles and that this would be looked at again. She also reported that academies and Roman Catholic schools within Manchester did not have to follow the dates set down by the Council. She acknowledged the impact that the pandemic would have had on children's education, noting that pupils in Manchester had been particularly affected due to high infection rates in the city.

In response to a question from the Chair, the Director of Education reported that Ofsted were visiting schools to undertake monitoring visits, focusing on schools which were currently judged as Inadequate or Requires Improvement but would not be carrying out full inspections with new judgements until the autumn term.

The Chair praised the excellent work being carried out through Early Help and Sure Start and suggested that the police be invited to a future meeting, noting the references in the report to domestic abuse.

The Director of Education assured Members that there were already structures in place to support schools in the event of an outbreak of the Indian Variant within the city, due to the situation Manchester had been in in autumn 2020, when infection rates were high. She outlined how different services worked together, the processes in place and the support provided to schools.

Decision

To continue to receive regular update reports.

CYP/21/20 Children and Education Services – Overview and Key Issues

The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services highlighted the Directorate's priorities for the forthcoming year, which were set within the context of the previous year and the impact of the pandemic. He highlighted the impact of the pandemic on children and young people, while recognising the resilience they had demonstrated, in particular the educational gap between more and less fortunate

pupils, the anxiety felt by some young people, the risk of school exclusions as pupils returned to school, the long-term job opportunities for young people and support for children with additional needs. He also referred to the learning opportunities from the ways of working that had been adopted and the way the service has responded during the pandemic. He advised Members that other areas of focus for the forthcoming year were inequality, including the role of climate change, the voice of children and young people, the strengths of the school system, recovering from lost learning, reducing the number of young people Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET), Think Family work in collaboration with the Local Care Organisation, support for children with SEND and the transition of young people to adulthood or adult services. He reported that the Directorate was expecting an Ofsted inspection of its statutory children's services within the next year and was looking at its quality assurance framework, including what was being learnt from auditing activity, how that learning was being taken forward and informing practice and looking at the feedback from children and families. He advised that there would also be a focus on the impact of Troubled families and Early Help and that the service would be contributing to work on family poverty, homeless families and youth violence.

In response to a Member's question, the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services advised that the service had made progress since its last full Ofsted inspection and he proposed that he bring the Directorate's self-assessment of its statutory services to a future meeting. He also recognised the hard work of both Children's Services staff and schools staff during the pandemic. The Chair proposed that the Ofsted Subgroup consider the information in relation to the forthcoming Ofsted inspection. She noted that Members would be having a work programming session at the rise of this meeting where they would discuss further the areas which they wanted to scrutinise over the next year.

Decision

To note the oral report.

CYP/21/21 Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit was submitted. The overview report contained key decisions within the Committee's remit, responses to previous recommendations and the Committee's work programme, which the Committee was asked to approve.

Decision

To note the report.

CYP/21/22 Exclusion of Press and Public

Decision

To exclude the public during consideration of the following item which involved consideration of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of

particular persons and public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**CYP/21/23 Scrutiny Committees' work on cross-cutting themes of the
Our Manchester Strategy**

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided an overview of how cross-cutting themes in the *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025* reset document were to be covered by the scrutiny committees during the 2021/22 municipal year.

Decision

To note the report.

Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2021

Present:

Councillor Igbon – in the Chair
Councillors Appleby, Butt, Flanagan, Foley, Hassan, Holt, Jeavons, Lynch, Razaq, Sadler, Shilton Godwin and Wright

Apologies: Councillor Hughes and Lyons

Also present:

Councillor Rawlins, Executive Member for Environment
Councillor Akbar, Executive Member for Neighbourhoods
Jonny Sadler, Deputy Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency
Tom Flanagan, Interim Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency
Mike Wilton, Chair of the Climate Change Partnership

ECCSC/21/01 Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25: latest progress and priorities 2021/22+

The Committee considered the report and accompanying presentation of the Chair, Manchester Climate Change Partnership and the Deputy Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency that provided an overview of progress against the Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25 and priorities for 2021/22+.

The main points and themes within the report included: -

- Providing an introduction and background to the Our Manchester Strategy, the Manchester Climate Change Partnership and the Manchester Climate Change Agency;
- An overview of the Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25 and its four headline objectives and six priority areas for action;
- An overview of citywide progress 2019/20, noting that the latest report was published in July 2020;
- Providing an overview of the Partnership and Agency Progress Summary 2020/21; and
- Describing the various Partnership and Agency Priorities 2021/22+.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- Regular progress reports were required to enable the Committee to scrutinise progress against the ambitions to reduce emissions;
- Need to discuss climate change in the context of social justice and ensure that all communications supported the climate change agenda;
- Any communication strategy needed to be appropriate to maximise its reach and influence to all the diverse communities in Manchester;
- The need to articulate the urgency of this issue and that immediate action was required;

- Communities and young people needed to be supported to mobilise and take appropriate actions to tackle climate change;
- The importance of engaging with all communities and stakeholders on this important issue so that a collective response could be delivered;
- The need for the Council to use all levers and spheres of influence to prioritise climate change, including planning policy and enforcement;
- All information that was available to the public, including that available on the Council's website needed to be reviewed regularly to ensure it was accurate and current;
- Education and engagement with young people on the issue of climate change was key; and
- To recognise the need for meaningful and appropriate engagement with residents and communities, noting that those experiencing economic hardships might not prioritise climate change and the options and choices available to them could be limited.

In response to the comments raised by the Committee, the Deputy Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency advised that regular progress reports could be submitted for consideration, subject to the availability of data. However, he stated that as the team was relatively small there was a need to ensure the correct balance was drawn to ensure that they continued to deliver and progress actions. The Chair of the Climate Change Partnership stated that bimonthly RAG rating reports were produced against identified actions and these could be shared with the Committee for information. The Committee welcomed this suggestion.

The Chair of the Climate Change Partnership further commented that the focus on 2025 as a target date ensured that this remained an immediate issue and kept a focus on this important agenda.

The Deputy Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency, stated that he welcomed the role of scrutiny and commented that it provided an opportunity to engage with Members and encouraged them to use their existing knowledge of community groups and networks to drive and support activities and initiatives around this agenda. He further stated that he acknowledged and agreed with all of the comments made regarding communications. He further commented that he acknowledged the comments raised regarding the link between climate change and social justice, stating that work around this issue would be progressed.

The Deputy Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency, stated that the partnership model that had been developed in Manchester was recognised as good practice both nationally and internationally, in particular, he advised, the work to support the Manchester Climate Change Youth Board, whose Manifesto was to be launched in June 2021.

He stated that this partnership approach allowed for honest and constructive challenge to develop and articulate a collective response with a shared responsibility across the city.

The Strategic Director Neighbourhoods stated that it was important to recognise that it was a shared, partnership responsibility to deliver the climate change agenda,

noting that the Council was one of many partners and the Council was responsible for less than 4% of the city's overall direct emissions. She commented that the investment had been made in Climate Change Officers, whose role would be to support the local Neighbourhood Teams with climate change activities.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods further commented that the Neighbourhood Teams, in consultation with the local Members and Neighbourhood Managers, were encouraged to develop Ward Climate Change Plans.

The Chair of the Climate Change Partnership commented that work was always underway to engage and expand the partnership, stating that Age Friendly Manchester were currently in discussions to join. He reiterated the point that it was not the role of one organisation to tackle climate change, but rather a collective responsibility.

The Deputy Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency, acknowledged the comments made regarding the challenges when engaging with residents and he made reference to the Zero Carbon Communities Programme that was being piloted across six communities to deliver and support climate change activities. He added that this work would be a key feature of the 2.0 Framework Consultation and he would welcome all Members' input into that consultation to understand further the barriers experienced. He further commented that planning policy could be used to influence climate change and he made reference to a recent scheme to manage water that had been delivered in West Gorton as a good example.

The Chair thanked the invited guests for attending the meeting and delivering their presentation. She stated that it was everyone's personal responsibility to take action to tackle climate change and she paid tribute to the officers working in partnership in her ward to support and encourage her local community on this important issue. She stated that this and similar examples of good practice should be shared across all wards.

Decisions

The Committee recommend;

1. That all relevant information and data is shared with the Committee at the appropriate time, including the Climate Change Partnership bimonthly RAG rating against actions;
2. That information relating to good practice and climate change is shared across all Neighbourhood Teams; and
3. That the Chair discuss with the Chair of Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee the options for ensuring that climate change and young people was adequately addressed through the scrutiny process.

ECCSC/21/02 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations

was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

The Committee noted that it would be discussing the work programme for the forthcoming municipal year in further detail in a private session following the meeting, and that an updated work programme reflecting this discussion would be circulated as normal in the papers for the next meeting.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

ECCSC/21/03 Exclusion of Press and Public

Decision

To exclude the public during consideration of the following item which involved consideration of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of particular persons and public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

ECCSC /21/04 Scrutiny Committees' work on cross-cutting themes of the Our Manchester Strategy

The Committee considered the report of Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided an overview of how cross-cutting themes in the *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025* reset document were covered by MCC Scrutiny Committees during the 2021/22 municipal year.

Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025 had reset Manchester's priorities for the next five years to ensure we could achieve the city's ambitions set out in the *Our Manchester Strategy 2016 – 2025*.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2021

Present:

Councillor Igbon – in the Chair

Councillors Appleby, Butt, Flanagan, Foley, Hassan, Holt, Hughes, Jeavons, Lyons, Razaq, Sadler and Wright

Apologies: Councillors Chohan, Lynch and Shilton Godwin

Also present:

Councillor Rawlins, Executive Member for Environment

Councillor Akbar, Executive Member for Neighbourhoods

ECCSC/21/05 Minutes

The Chair requested that Councillor Chohan's apologies be recorded in the minutes of the previous meeting

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2021 as a correct record, subject to the above amendment.

ECCSC/21/06 Overview of the Parks Strategy

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) that provided an overview of Manchester's Park Strategy and the considerations for the Parks Service following the ongoing impacts of the global pandemic. The report set out the focus for the service over the next 6 months and outlined how momentum is being maintained on the delivery of the strategic themes despite the significant financial challenges caused by a reduction in permitted activity and trading.

The main points and themes within the report included: -

- Providing an introduction and background to the strategy, highlighting the four key themes of the ten-year strategy for Manchester's Parks;
- Noting that progress updates on the delivery of the Park Strategy had previously been reported to the Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee;
- Noting that during the last 15 months the priority for the service had been to maintain safe access to green space for the City's residents;
- An overview of the impact of the pandemic on service delivery;
- The financial impact of the pandemic;
- Information on the Parks Development Programme, that will see £12.5M of Manchester City Council funding utilised to attract new partnerships and support key stakeholder groups to continue to close the gap between operating costs and income raised through enhanced trading activity in parks;

- Plans and initiatives for the next six months; and
- Information relating to a Manchester Quality Standard and the Productive Parks in Partnership fund.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- The Committee thanked officers and staff working in parks for their work during the pandemic, noting that the service had undertaken a restructure during this period;
- Noting how important green space had been to residents' health and wellbeing during this challenging period;
- The parks offer needed to be standardised and consistent across all wards;
- Consideration needed to be given to advertising planned events in parks on notice boards at the entrance to parks;
- A report should be provided to the next meeting of the Committee that detailed all of the events planned in parks for the summer period;
- Welcoming the recent positive launch of the wellbeing garden in Didsbury and the positive contribution this would have for residents;
- Was the budget for parks increasing this year as a result of savings made in the previous year due to cancelled events;
- Noting The Year of Childhood, a year-long celebration of childhood running throughout 2021 events should be delivered in parks in those wards that experienced poverty and deprivation;
- Consideration needed to be given to installing individual recycling bins within parks;
- Clarification was sought as to the use of pesticides, particularly the use of glyphosate to manage weeds,
- Access and proximity to parks and green space should be mapped;
- Safety in parks needed to be appropriately considered;
- Sustainable travel to access green spaces should be encouraged and promoted;
- A register should be established that identified who owned and had responsibility for areas of land across the city;
- Cycle routes should be established to enable people to access cycling hubs and other cycling related facilities by bicycle;
- Planning policy should be used to maximise the delivery of green space, noting the successful delivery of the Mayfield scheme;
- Contractors should not use pesticides;
- What consideration had been given to introducing electric vehicles across the parks maintenance fleet;
- Information that was available on the Council's website needed to be regularly reviewed so that all relevant information relating to a ward, including park related information was current and correct; and
- A Member expressed his apologies, on behalf of himself and his fellow ward Councillors for the delays in delivering football pitches in his ward.

In response to discussion and questions the Parks Lead stated that the budget for parks was the same this year as in the previous year. She advised that there are approximately 100plus events per week delivered across parks in Manchester each

week, noting the impact that COVID has had on this programme of activity. She described that park plans had also continued to be developed throughout this period, engaging with residents and community groups. She stated that she welcomed Members comments and contribution to the development of park plans.

The Parks Lead described that The Year of Childhood was an opportunity to build up and deliver activities in parks and encourage young people's participation in park events. She described that a mapping exercise had been undertaken to consider access to parks, primarily around play areas and that Manchester was participating in a national study to understand access to green space. With regard to the issue of access to parks, she stated that generally this was very good however there was a commitment to engage with and work with local community groups and residents to address any barriers and find appropriate solutions. She made reference to the Community Renewal Fund Bid to support this and similar projects.

The Parks Lead continued by stating that one theme of the Park Planning process was to consider the promotion of active travel and how this could be supported such as by the provision of safe cycle parking and storage at correct locations. She further made reference to the Parks In Partnership Fund that allocated £30k per ward that could be bid for and if this was not an appropriate fund to bid for groups would be directed to other available sources of funding.

The Parks Lead stated that the Renewable Energy Team would use feasibility studies to consider all options and actions that could be taken to mitigate climate change, particularly around large scale events.

In response to the comment from a Member regarding his frustration and disappointment regarding the delivery of schemes in his ward, the Park Lead stated that she shared his disappointment and acknowledged that communications with local Councillors regarding the reasons for this needed to be improved, describing this had been as a result of challenges to the investment by external partners, adding further that delays could be experienced due to the complexities presented by specific sites. In regard to the issue of communications around parks and events more widely she stated that she acknowledged the comments raised by the Committee and would take that away from the meeting.

The Parks Lead stated that opportunities to increase the delivery and access to quality green space was considered when new schemes were being developed, making reference to the Mayfield and the Northern Gateway schemes and the positive contributions these would deliver.

In regard to the issue of identifying land ownership and responsibility the Parks Lead stated that access to this data needed to be accessible, adding that the CRM system should direct any enquiries submitted to the appropriate service and team for a response.

The Director of Commercial and Operations advised that glyphosate had not been used in parks since 2019, except in exceptional controlled circumstances when they were required to remove invasive species such as Japanese Knotweed. He stated that Grounds Maintenance who managed the street scene had minimal use of

pesticides and Biffa who were responsible for streets used glyphosate for weed control. He advised that cemeteries did use weed control and alternative methods of weed control were being considered an update report would be provided to the Committee later in the year. The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods stated that if residents in a neighbourhood stated they did not want Biffa to use glyphosate in their neighbourhood this request would be respected.

The Director of Commercial and Operations advised the Committee that currently there was no electric vehicle alternative to those that were required by the parks fleet, however as the market responded to this contracts and commissioning would be used to ensure that such vehicles were used.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods advised that the rubbish that was collected in parks was subsequently sorted for appropriate recycling and acknowledged that this fact needed to be communicated to residents so that they were aware that this was done. He commented that research had shown that where individual recycling bins were installed they had resulted in contamination so needed to be manually sorted in any event.

The Chair commented upon positive engagement in her ward regarding litter picking in parks and paid tribute to the officer who had led on this. She stated this and the many other examples of good practice should be shared across all wards via ward coordination and that she would liaise with the Executive Member to discuss how best this could be coordinated.

Decisions

The Committee recommend:-

1. All planned park events are advertised on notice boards at the entrance to parks;
2. That the Council website should be regularly reviewed to ensure that all information relating to a ward, including park related information was current and correct;
3. A report should be provided to the next meeting of the Committee that detailed all of the events planned in parks for the summer period.

ECCSC/21/07 Resident Engagement and Climate Change

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) that provided a summary of the progress since the three Climate Neighbourhood Officers were appointed in March and April 2021, how they were approaching their roles and initial areas which they had identified for development.

The main points and themes within the report included: -

- Providing an introduction and background, noting that the posts had been established on a 2-year fixed term basis;
- The Climate Change Officers would give advice and direction and ensure that both Councillors and communities had support and information to develop locally based climate change initiatives;

- Describing their key tasks and their approach to work with local Neighbourhood Teams;
- Noting the commitment to strong partnership working and building upon extensive relationships with internal and external stakeholders and residents on the climate change agenda; and
- Identified areas for development.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- Welcoming the new Climate Change Officers and wishing them well in their new role;
- Officers needed to engage with local schools to promote and support climate change projects, ideally with a Climate Change Officer allocated to each ward;
- The need to engage with businesses to develop plans and targets to tackle their own emissions and this should be incorporated and reported via the Climate Change Action Plan as this was key to delivering the city's emissions target;
- Were all of the individual ward climate change action plans established;
- There was a need to meaningfully measure the outcomes and impact of the individual ward climate change action plans;
- An update was sought in relation to Carbon Literacy training and could this be brought inhouse to progress and deliver as quickly as possible;
- Was the Neighbourhood Investment Fund sufficient to drive forward this important area of work, noting that the Lottery Fund was significantly higher however complex to access; and
- Examples of good practice and local initiatives related to climate change should be shared across all wards via ward coordination.

The Head of Neighbourhoods stated that the climate change officers would be working with local schools and were members of the Schools Network. She advised that the officers would also progress this work by engaging with local businesses, especially those operating at a neighbourhood level and would seek to establish links with local trader organisations to progress this agenda.

The Chair stated that following discussions at the May 2021 meeting she would be meeting with the Chair of Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to agree the options for ensuring that climate change and young people was adequately addressed through the scrutiny process.

The Head of Neighbourhoods advised that it was recognised that working with a range of partners across the city was vital to deliver the climate change ambitions for the city. She said that these new posts would seek to compliment existing programmes rather than duplicate any existing work. She advised that the work to deliver ward climate change action plans continued to be progressed, noting that some wards had progressed further than others and the Strategic Lead (South) commented that work was underway with the Tyndall Centre to establish metrics by which the impact of each ward plan could be measured and reported. He advised that Members would be kept informed as that work progressed.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods commented that the Neighbourhood Investment Fund was important to help raise awareness and deliver climate change

and environmental projects in wards and he encouraged community groups to apply to this.

The Executive Member for Environment stated that the work of the local Neighbourhood Teams was important to establish relationships and dialogue with a range of partners to progress the actions required to address climate change. She commented that Carbon Literacy had been offered to all Members and encouraged all who had not undertaken this training to do so at the earliest opportunity. A member commented that all members of this Committee should be offered the Carbon Literacy Training in advance of the next meeting of the Committee. The Committee were also informed that the delivery of Carbon Literacy Training would be reported in the Climate Change Action Plan updates.

Decisions

The Committee recommend that Carbon Literacy Training should be offered to all Members of the Committee in advance of the next meeting.

ECCSC/21/08 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

The Committee recommended that report titled 'Planning and its contribution to address climate change' should be brought forward to the earliest possible meeting and this should include consideration of the policy in relation to developers being required to install electric vehicle charging points and the delivery for suitable cycle storage facilities. A request was also made for an item that considered the actions taken to reduce carbon emissions at Manchester Airport including an update on the progress made to reduce aviation related carbon emissions was added to the Work Programme as an item "to be scheduled".

Decision

The Committee note the report and agree the work programme subject to the above comments.

Economy Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 27 May 2021

Present:

Councillor H Priest – in the Chair
Councillors Doswell, Farrell, Johns, Noor and Stanton

Also present:

Councillor Leese, Leader
Councillor White, Executive Member for Housing and Employment

Apologies: Councillor Baker-Smith, Bayunu, Moore and Raikes

ESC/21/23 Minutes

Decision

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2021 were approved as a correct record.

ESC/21/24 Economy COVID-19 Sit Rep Report

The Committee considered the report of the Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure that provided Members with a further update summary of the current situation in the city in relation to COVID-19 and an update on the work progressing in Manchester in relation to areas within the remit of this Committee.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussion were:-

- Were there plans in place to build upon the reported Post Pandemic Business Activity event that had been scheduled for 12 May 2021;
- Suggesting that some of the initiatives introduced as a result of the pandemic, such as the pedestrianisation of specific streets should be made permanent;
- What were the factors contributing to the reported high staff vacancy rates across the hospitality sector;
- Clarification was sought in relation to the planned Transport Hub identified for delivery in the Ancoats area, noting that there appeared to be a lot of misinformation relating to this scheme being circulated;
- Implications of the Queen's Speech in regard to local Planning controls;
- Had appropriate communication with local businesses been undertaken to ensure that they accessed all available support grants during the pandemic; and
- Was there a commitment that local people would benefit from the job opportunities that were created through the delivery of the Co Op Live development in east Manchester.

The Head of Environment, Planning and Infrastructure stated that the delivery of the Ancoats Mobility Hub was aligned to, and an element of, the City Centre Transport

Strategy and contributed to the delivery of Manchester's climate, transport and clean air commitments.

The Director of Inclusive Economy advised the Members that the delivery of the Co Op Live development would deliver employment opportunities for local residents and the developers would be attending a local recruitment event in July to promote this to promote this. In response to the question regarding the hospitality sector contributing factors were Brexit, some people finding alternative employment while venues have been closed, and a reduction in the number of students in the city as a result of the pandemic. She stated that work was underway to understand and assess the impact of these factors. She stated that influence was sought over the hospitality sector to improve terms and conditions with such initiatives as the Greater Manchester Good Employment Charter.

The Director of Inclusive Economy stated that direct contact had been made with local business to ensure that they accessed all means of grant support and local discretionary schemes available during the pandemic, adding this had been undertaken by telephone and letter using the information available on the Business Rates system and these contacts were followed up. In reply to a specific question relating to ESF 'Step Ahead' grants, the Director stated that she would circulate this information following the meeting.

The Leader stated that following the ending of the emergency legislation introduced in response to the pandemic, consideration would be given to making permanent some of the changes to remove traffic from streets and parking arrangements, adding that these would be subject to appropriate consultation. In response to the question regarding planning and the recent announcements in the Queen's speech, the Leader stated that Manchester would continue to retain influence and control over future developments across the city.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

ESC/21/25 Economy Dashboard 2019/20 - Introduction to new Members

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Performance, Research and Intelligence that provided the most up to date metrics on key aspects of the City's economic recovery.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussion were:-

- A contributing factor to the decline in property sales in the city centre could be attributed to the issue of external cladding;
- With regard to the journeys undertaken metrics, was data available for private vehicles; and
- Noting the number of licenses that had been provided to businesses in Manchester allowing them to increase outdoor seating in line with the latest Covid-19 protocols what would happen to these post Covid-19.

The Head of Performance, Research and Intelligence stated that there was a pipeline of schemes designed to deliver and support active travel and transport infrastructure.

The Leader stated that when the emergency legislation was lifted consideration could be given to businesses wishing to continue operating outdoor seating using the existing licensing regime. He further commented that Transport for Greater Manchester did compile data on the various vehicle usage, adding that the reported increased use of public transport was a positive indicator.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

[Cllr Johns declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in this item of business as he is an occupant of a property affected by the external cladding and fire safety issue.]

ESC/21/26 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

The Committee noted that it would be discussing the work programme for the forthcoming municipal year in further detail in a private session following the meeting, and that an updated work programme reflecting this discussion would be circulated as normal in the papers for the next meeting.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

ESC/21/27 Exclusion of Press and Public

Decision

To exclude the public during consideration of the following item which involved consideration of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of particular persons and public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

ESC/21/28 Scrutiny Committees' work on cross-cutting themes of the Our Manchester Strategy

The Committee considered the report of Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided an overview of how cross-cutting themes in the *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025* reset document were covered by MCC Scrutiny Committees during the 2021/22 municipal year.

Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025 had reset Manchester’s priorities for the next five years to ensure we could achieve the city’s ambitions set out in the *Our Manchester Strategy 2016 – 2025*.

Decision

The Committee note the report