

Audit Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2021

Present:

Councillor Ahmed Ali - In the Chair
Councillors Lanchbury and Hitchen

Also Present:

Karen Murray, Mazars (External Auditor)

Apologies:

Councillors Clay and Russell
Independent Co-opted member: Dr D Barker
Independent Co-opted member: Dr S Downs

AC/21/17 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2021 as a correct record.

AC/21/18 External Audit - update

The Committee received an oral update from Mazars the external auditor. Karen Murray stated that as previously reported to the Committee the external audit opinion would be submitted in November 2021.

Decision

To note the oral update.

AC/21/19 Annual Accounts 2021/21

The Committee received the 2020/21 Annual Accounts, which had been signed by the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer.

The Committee received an accompanying presentation entitled 'Annual Accounts 2021/21 – Overview of the Accounts and Key Issues' that was delivered by the Deputy City Treasurer.

Members of the Committee recognised the importance of the policy adopted by the Council over previous years to maintain a number of reserves, noting that the benefits of this had been realised during the pandemic.

In response to Members question the Deputy City Treasurer advised that the reduction in income to the Council as a result of the pandemic was experienced

nationally, however the Government had launched the Tax Income Guarantee Scheme which would allow local authorities to claim up to 75% of lost income from sales, fees and charges as well as Council Tax and Business Rates. He added that the financial impact of Covid would continue to be realised over the upcoming financial years and the Council would endeavour to collect all monies owed and grant funding would be used to support the most vulnerable residents in the city.

The Deputy City Treasurer further commented that the funding settlement was, as yet, unknown and a longer-term settlement, rather than an annual one was required to support the Council and enable longer term planning.

In response to Member's question regarding the underspend of £3.9m the Deputy City Treasurer advised that was transferred into general reserves and Directorates experiencing specific budgetary pressures had been supported and would be closely monitored.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer advised the Committee that despite the pandemic the two major Capital Programme schemes, the refurbishment of the Town Hall and the Factory had continued to be delivered and the use of prudent budgeting and planning would mitigate against some of the pressures and challenges arising as a result of the pandemic, however factors such as inflationary pressures and the rising costs of materials were potential areas of risk and would continue to be closely monitored.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer further informed the Committee of the agreed timescale for the reporting of the Group Accounts that were referred to in the presentation.

In conclusion the Committee, the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer and the Deputy City Treasurer paid tribute to all staff for their response in supporting the residents of the city during the pandemic. The Committee placed on record their appreciation to the Finance Team for preparing the accounts under such challenging circumstances.

Decisions

To note the unaudited 2020/21 Annual Account, signed by the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, including the narrative report.

AC/21/20 Capital Programme Outturn 2020/21

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer and the Head of Audit and Risk Management which informed Members of the outturn of capital expenditure for 2020/21; the financing of capital expenditure for 2020/21; the major variances between the 2020/21 outturn and the previous Capital Programme monitoring report submitted in February 2021 and the revised capital programme budget for 2021/22 and subsequent years as a result of the review of the programme following outturn.

Members commented that despite the pandemic significant progress had been made in delivering the Highways Capital Programme and programmes associated with decarbonisation. Members commented that this progress needed to be communicated to residents.

In response to comments from the Committee the Deputy City Treasurer advised that a rigorous system of contingency planning and oversight was provided by a number of mechanisms, including dedicated project boards and project management. He further commented that the Asset Management Plan assisted with the cyclical maintenance and management of assets.

The Head of Audit and Risk Management stated that a system of strong contract management also provided an ongoing level of assurance regarding early identification of risks associated with projects.

In response to a request for further information relating to the reported Fire Risk Assessments the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer stated that she would circulate this following the meeting.

Decision

To note the report.

AC/21/21 Revenue Outturn Report 2020/21

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that set out the final outturn position for the Council's revenue budget in 2020/21. It also highlighted the movements from the previous forecast for the year, which was reported to the Executive in February 2021, based on the position as at the end of December 2020.

In response to a comment from a Member regarding the numbers of Adult Social Care assessments the Executive Director of Adult Social Services stated that the number of referrals were beginning to increase, and these were to be managed through the Better Outcome Better Lives approach that adopted a strength-based approach to assessment. She added that increased staffing to deliver this important work had been achieved through grant funding and waiting lists were risk managed to prioritise those residents in most need. She further commented that a workstream to consider technology enabled care (TEC) to maximise a citizen's independence had been established as part of the Better Outcome Better Lives programme.

A Member commented that there was a potential for an increased demand on homelessness services as a result of the government's decision to remove the ban on the issuing Section 21 notices (notice to quit) that had been in place during the pandemic.

Decisions

To note the report.

AC/21/22 Treasury Management Outturn Report 2020/21

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided information in relation to Treasury Management activities of the Council 2020/21.

A Member enquired if there were risks identified to any existing projects that were funded via European Union (EU) Funding, to which the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer responded that existing funding such as that to deliver the zero carbon projects were secured, however the challenge and risk for future projects remained an issue. She advised that the Government had announced that a Shared Prosperity Fund had been established that was intended to replace EU Funding.

Decision

To note the report.

AC/21/23 Outstanding Audit Recommendations

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer and the Head of Audit and Risk Management that summarised the current implementation position and arrangements for monitoring and reporting internal and external audit recommendations.

The Committee welcomed the reported progress to date, in particular those in relation to Adult Social Care and transitions. The Head of Audit and Risk Management informed the Committee that he had been informed that the actions in response to the Planning for Permanence recommendations had been completed and that he had been provided with a description of progress made. He reassured the Committee that a follow up audit would be completed by the end of August 2021 and the outcome of this would be reported to Audit Committee in the next assurance update.

Decision

To note the report.

AC/21/24 Implications of the Redmond Review on External Audit

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that outlined the findings of the Independent Review into the Oversight of Local Audit and the Transparency of Local Authority Financial Reporting conducted by Tony Redmond which reported in September 2020.

The review was established in September 2019 by which time, it had become clear that there were problems in the local audit regime, specifically in relation to the audit of local government bodies such as councils, police bodies and this was evidenced by the fact that some 40% of audits were not completed in line with the 31 July reporting timetable set out in the Local Audit & Accountability Act 2014.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government (MHCLG) had subsequently responded to the findings of the review and proposed a number of measures to be adopted in relation to the external audit function in Local Government.

A Member asked the External Auditor if she had an opinion as to whether the current Audit Committee arrangements could be improved. The External Auditor replied that she was assured by the current arrangements, in particular the appointment of two independent co-opted members, noting that they provided an additional skill set and challenge to the Committee and contributed greatly to the meetings. She further commented that she was assured by the level of reporting in relation of partnership arrangements. She concluded by supporting a Member's suggestion that the External Auditor should reports annually to Council, commenting that this would assist in informing all Members of their collective responsibility in relation to the accounts.

A Member sought an assurance that Social Value continued to be included in all Council contracts to which the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer confirmed that this was the case.

Decision

To note the report.

AC/21/25 Committee Work Programme

Members were invited to agree the Committee's future work programme. A Member commented that she would notify the Chair of any items of business that she would like to have included.

Decision

To approve the Work Programme, noting the above comment.

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Health and Wellbeing Board

Minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2021

Present:

Councillor Leese, Leader of the Council – In the Chair
Councillor Midgley, Executive Member for Adults Health and Wellbeing
David Regan, Director of Public Health
Rupert Nichols, Chair, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Geeta Wadhwa, GP Member (South) Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Bernadette Enright, Director of Adult Social Services
Paul Marshall, Strategic Director of Children's Services
Dr Murugesan Raja, Manchester GP Forum
Vicky Szulist, Chair, Healthwatch
Dr Doug Jeffrey, (South) Primary Care Manchester Partnership
Dr Ruth Bromley, Chair Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Dr Shabbir Ahmad, Manchester GP Forum

Apologies:

Councillor Craig, Deputy Leader of the Council
Councillor Bridges, Executive Member for Children and Schools Services
Kathy Cowell, Chair, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Denis Colligan, GP Member (North) Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Dr Tracey Vell, Primary Care representative - Local Medical Committee
Katy Calvin-Thomas, Manchester Local Care Organisation
Dr Manisha Kumar, Medical Director, MHCC

Also in attendance:

Helen Ibbott, Manchester Local Care Organisation
Kate Proven, Quality Lead, MHCC
Sarah Perkins, Director of Operations, MHCC
James Binks, Director of Policy, Performance and Reform, MCC
Julie Taylor, Director of Strategy, MHCC

HWB/21/19 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2021 were submitted for approval.

Decision

To agree as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on 7 July 2021.

HWB/21/20 Public Health Annual Report

The Director of Public Health submitted a report containing the Public Health Annual Report. The Director of Public Health is required to produce an Annual Report on the health of the local population. The Board was informed that the report provides a legacy for future years and documents the City's co-ordinated response to Covid-19 and includes personal reflections of the Public Health Team and partner agencies

represented on the Health and Wellbeing Board. The report also provides a timeline on events since the start of the pandemic and the work undertaken to respond and plan public health provision at a very challenging time. The report referred to the expected continuance of the pandemic and included a recovery phase programme.

The Chair invited questions and comments from Members of the Board.

In welcoming the report Councillor Midgley acknowledged the record of the hard work that has taken place and the decisions that were made during that period that had protected people and saved lives. Thanks were given to everyone involved for ongoing work in tackling covid.

Members of the Board thanked the Director of Public Health for his work, leadership and dedication during the past year as well as paying tribute to all those involved.

In noting the report, the Chair paid tribute to those involved in working to address the pandemic, in particular the leadership shown and the collaboration of agencies across the health and care sectors was recognised. The close working arrangements during this time demonstrated what is possible and gave a vision of what will be achieved moving forward.

Decision

To note the report submitted.

HWB/21/21 COVID-19 Update and the 12 Point Plan

The Director of Public Health and the Medical Director, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning submitted a report presenting an update on Covid 19 and details of the 12 Point Plan.

Following on from Manchester's designation as an 'enhanced response area' that ended on 26 July 2021, Manchester has continued to implement the local enhanced response area action plan throughout August. The Board was informed that it is likely that Manchester and other areas with enduring higher transmission rates will be invited to be part of a longer-term national programme up to April 2022. In anticipation of this the Manchester COVID-19 12 Point Plan has been refreshed and a copy was submitted.

The Director of Public Health provided an update on the 12 Point Plan with the latest data, local and national infection rates, current intelligence and the update on the Citywide Vaccination Programme including the Winter Phase 3 Plans.

The Twelve Point Action Plan will focus on the following aims:

1. Support early years, schools and colleges to remain open and operate as safely as possible, using effective infection control measures, testing, management of outbreaks and vaccination where appropriate. Ensure universities and other higher education settings remain open and operate as safely as possible using effective infection control measures, testing,

- management of outbreaks in campuses and student accommodation and vaccination where appropriate.
2. Protect the city's most vulnerable residents by reducing and minimising outbreaks in care homes and other high risk residential settings, including prisons.
 3. Support workplaces and businesses to operate as safely as possible, using compliance measures and enforcement powers where necessary. Support work to keep our border safe at Manchester Airport.
 4. Facilitate the recovery of the city by supporting the shift from regulatory to voluntary guidance for events, leisure and religious celebrations.
 5. Ensure the needs of people and communities that are high risk, clinically vulnerable or marginalised are prioritised and addressed within the broader COVID response.
 6. Co-ordinate communications activity to enable Manchester residents to live safely with COVID and make informed decisions, including around vaccination.
 7. Deliver targeted community engagement that supports wider aims and objectives, ensuring that appropriate and culturally sensitive approaches are taken.
 8. Ensure that decisions in respect of the direct response to COVID-19 and the wider recovery programme are informed consistently by high quality data and intelligence.
 9. Continue to deliver the community testing model, with a focus on testing becoming part of 'living with COVID' and on underrepresented and disproportionately impacted Groups.
 10. Identify local cases of COVID early and provide a rapid response through effective contact tracing and outbreak management.
 11. Ensure residents comply with any legal instruction to self-isolate and have the support to enable them to do so.
 12. Work with the NHS locally to drive up vaccination rates among those groups with lower uptake, ensure second vaccinations are administered and support the roll out of booster vaccinations.

Reference was made to arrangements for the return of schools and university students and the contingency plans in place to address increases in infection and the offer of PCR testing to students to help prevent the need for isolation. Work would be ongoing at Manchester Airport with the Border Force for safety checking and quarantine arrangements. Thanks were given for the response from Manchester to help with the Afghan resettlement programme.

The work on events and planning in Manchester, in particular the Manchester Pride festival, had provided important data on the vaccination status of the 40,000 attendees at the event. The rates would be monitored, however the analysis so far had indicated the event to have been well managed.

The Director of Public reported that it was anticipated that the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) would make a decision on the vaccination of 12-16 year-olds and a booster programme in the near future. A plan would be required for close working with the Local Care Organisation and school nurses. It was reported that this would be a continuing challenge to meet demand with the

resources available. It was yet not clear where the priority would be on based levels of vulnerability, age group or frontline worker cohorts. It was reported that once a decision on priority groups is made it will inform the winter planning process.

The Chair invited questions and comments from Members of the Board.

Dr Bromley welcomed the presentation and noted that a lot of work is being undertaken across the city in preparation for the reopening of schools throughout the summer period. Reference was made to the physical and mental wellbeing of colleagues across all sectors as work on the recovery of the city progresses and importance to be mindful of individuals health.

Helen Ibbot thanked the Director Public Health for the framework the report provided and gave an outline of the work of the LCO moving forward. The board was informed that the LCO would concentrate on work within community services /voluntary sector to engage with communities. The guidance on the 12-16 year old age group was yet to be received, although it was recognised that work was required on the a short term response on immunisation. The importance of the continued work within care homes was also highlighted.

The Chair referred to media reports on the Delta Variant within India that suggested the infection rates of the variant had started to recede and asked the Director of Public Health to respond.

The Director of Public Health reported that there was a view that the Delta Variant may have started the recede in some countries and areas, but the Delta Variant had continued to be prevalent in others. The pandemic was not ending and modelling scenarios were being produced in preparation for the winter period.

The Chair referred to the return of students to the city and the approach being taken to provide a second vaccination to those who have received a first dose.

The meeting was informed that the vaccination would be made available across the city at various locations including pop up clinics and this would be actively promoted towards students.

Dr Jeffrey referred to the level of infection across Greater Manchester and asked if there was belief that there may be a degree of herd immunity taking place.

The Director of Public Health reported that the levels of infection in areas such as Bolton and Blackburn had indicated a levelling out, however it would be difficult to state with a level accuracy on there being herd immunity within sections of the population. This would be an issue for the Chief Medical Officer to provide a statement on.

The Chair commented on the movement of the covid infection across the city which now appeared be not be located in a middle band of wards across the centre of the city and is now moving in all areas. Reference was also made to contain and recover phase and the move towards the process of normalisation, although it was not clear yet how long this may take. With reference to the infection rates in school pupil and

teenagers, it is noted that although teenager infection rates had reduced it is still the highest rate in the city and this may be due to socialisation during the summer which could be repeated following a return to study during the autumn.

The Chair referred to the work of the Manchester partnership agencies for the reception provided for the arrival of Afghan asylum at Manchester Airport. The Chair thanked those involved for their work during this time to provide help and support to those people arriving in the UK under very difficult circumstances. The City of Manchester would work provide permanent accommodation to some of the families after a temporary period of quarantine and placement. The point was made that a large proportion of the Afghans speak English and have high levels of skills that will help them to work and contribute to society, once the Government has put arrangements in place.

Decisions

1. The Board endorsed the refreshed 12 Point Plan.
2. The Board noted the presentation.

HWB/21/22 Health and Social Care Recovery

The Board received a report from Dr Bromley, Chair, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning (MHCC). Dr Bromley introduced the report that provided updates on the current recovery of health and social care services as part of the system's response to the COVID-19 (Covid) pandemic, with a specific focus on Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust (MFT). The report also provided a description of the broader strategic recovery plans of the health and social care system. The Board noted that the MFT continues to experience operational pressures, as a result of the national pandemic that is impacting on delivery of NHS constitutional targets. Safety is being prioritised across emergency, urgent and elective pathways and system-wide improvement programmes are in place to support recovery. It is envisaged that progress will be made in reducing elective backlogs over the coming months, however this will be incremental and in the context of wider pressures. Demand for Mental Health, Community and Primary Care services has also significantly increased and out of hospital services are under equal levels of pressure. COVID-19 has had a much broader impact on the health and wellbeing on the people of Manchester. Some is evident now and some can be anticipated in the future and some may yet emerge. The development of a strategic recovery framework captures the breadth of the health and social care system's response within the recovery phase. The framework covers four themes with associated outcomes metrics. (i. the resumption of services to bring services back to their pre-pandemic levels. ii. addressing the disproportionate impact that Covid has had on some population groups, as well as addressing the long-term health inequalities that would have widened, as a result of the pandemic. iii. meeting the new needs of our population because of Covid, including physical and mental health impacts. iv. the broader contribution the health and social care sector can make to the wider City recovery).

It is important to note that there is an ongoing, significant response, to Covid as well as high levels of demand for urgent care services. There is an interdependency

between the level of demand within the system at a moment in time and implementation of recovery as it calls upon the same capacity and workforce.

The Board was addressed by officers from the agencies involved in the recovery process.

Sarah Perkins Director of Elective Recovery (MFT) addressed the Board on the work to re-engage with patients for a return to hospital services, post covid. Currently staff absence rates are between 9-10%, that presents resource issues to provide care across urgent care, paediatric care, mental health and elective services. The process of engaging patients is under a period of change from non-face to face to in-person attendance. A process of grading patients is in place to deliver care to the most urgent patients and work is ongoing to engage with those patients in lower categories of need. The Board was informed of the process for engaging patients from across different ethnic communities.

Kate Proven, Quality Lead, MHCC addressed the Board on the work of the LCO which has seen higher levels of need. Work is ongoing on the delivery of the vaccination programme, although levels of covid related sickness has impacted on service delivery, plans are in place to help and support staff members. There is a comprehensive recovery and reform work programme with eight priority areas. Work is also ongoing in the integrated neighbourhood team hubs with other support services through various programmes of support and care.

James Binks, Director Policy Performance and Reform addressed the Board on the Strategic Recovery Framework contained in Part 2 of the report. This is linked to four themes:

1. the resumption of services to bring services back to their pre-pandemic levels.
2. addressing the disproportionate impact that Covid has had on some population groups, as well as addressing the long-term health inequalities that would have widened as a result of the pandemic.
3. meeting the new needs of our population because of Covid, including physical and mental health impacts.
4. the broader contribution the health and social care sector can make to the wider City recovery.

Julie Taylor, Director of Strategy (MHCC) reported that the framework is currently under development and the focus is to find a deeper understanding of covid and how it has affected the residents of the city.

The Chair invited questions and comments from Members of the Board.

Dr Murugesan Raja welcomed the report and thanked officers for the work being done and referred to the importance of recognising staff welfare in the delivery of services and the challenge in addressing the increases in public contact being made with care services.

The Chair asked officers what within the programme is there to deal with the longer-term effects of covid and the effects on mental health which may not materialise for

some time such as young people who have lost a period of their developmental growth.

It was reported that there is a mental health services provision is available for university students. Details of other services would be provided in a later report.

Dr Bromley stated that as a GP in a high demand area of the city, there had been a shift over the past 18 months with mental health presentations taking up approximately 90% of work overall. This has included adolescents and younger children. GP's have been able to provide help and referrals to secondary services.

Dr Wadhwa referred to staff wellbeing and the impact on staff health as a result of negative reporting within the media and an increase in levels of abuse towards staff members.

The Chair commented that demand management and preventative approaches is important as part of a whole system care approach to providing early preventative treatment. The Chair acknowledged the importance of data collection to improve the provision of services to address health inequalities within sectors such as the acute services. Reference was also made to the subject of work force and work-load and the responses received through the GM Community covering health services. It was noted that staff shortages in some areas of services were noticeable and others were struggling to meet high levels of demand. Other primary care services were not as visible and the point raised on abuse towards staff due potentially in part to the frustration of patients is not an acceptable reason. It was important to provide a clear picture of the level of pressure the whole health care system is currently operating within and the plans required to ensure that services work differently to get through the challenges of the winter period. In noting the level of challenge this presented the health service, the Chair offered the support of the Health and Wellbeing Board where possible.

Dr Jeffreys thanked the Chair for the support offered and suggested that the opportunity presented itself to blur boundaries between hospital and primary care/community services which appear to oppose to each other. The position has started to change, and it was important for each side to learn to trust the other. This could be developed further through the sharing of IT systems and closer working for hospitals to understand what community services can offer to patients to take care away from the hospital and into the community.

The Chair noted the comments and referred to the Manchester Partnership Board where work had taken place on the discharge of patients with respiratory diseases to receive care in the community. The joint working approach of the LCO during the peak period of the pandemic had proved to be invaluable in keeping hospitals functioning. The interdependency that was highlighted will provide a way forward for a better and more efficient form of working.

Decision

The report was noted.

HWB/21/23 Work Programme

Decision

The Work Programme was received,

Licensing Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 19 July 2021

Present: Councillor Ludford – in the Chair

Councillors: Grimshaw, Andrews, Chambers, Connolly, Evans, Flanagan, Hassan, Hewitson, Hughes, Jeavons, Lynch, McHale and Reid

Apologies: Councillor S Judge

LHP/21/4 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2021 were submitted for approval.

Decision

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting held on 8 March 2021.

LHP/21/5 Update of Model Conditions Under the Licensing Act 2003 including incorporation of Martyn's Law

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Planning, Building Control & Licensing that provided the results of the public consultation and proposes the final model conditions for premises under the Licensing Act 2003, which incorporated the proposed new conditions in line with adopting the principles of Martyn's Law in Manchester.

The Principal Licensing Officer introduced the report and provided the Committee with a summary of the consultation process and the responses received. A copy of the Proposed Licensing Act 2003 Model Conditions was appended to the report that highlighted the proposed changes and amendments as a result of the consultation process.

The Chair invited members of the Committee to ask questions.

A member referred to an expected high level of business for licenced premises following the relaxation of covid rules and asked officers if training could be made mandatory for all new premises applications to ensure training for security staff was undertaken much sooner.

The Committee was advised that in consideration of a licencing application each application must be considered on an individual basis and any conditions would need to be proportionate based on the premises and type of premises licence involved. The Committee was informed that work on training for security staff is ongoing and will be introduced as soon as possible.

A member referred to Martyn's law and commented that the responsibility seemed to be being passed to the licence and away from the Council. An example of large

events taking place where it was unclear of where the licence premises ended and the event space started and the responsibility for controlling and protecting event attendees. Also, what were the cost implications and had any additional funding been identified for policing to cover the areas.

The Committee was advised that the Model Conditions focus on the licensed premises and so the responsibility for the event space is not within the scope, however the Council will consider those wider issues. The cost implications for the Council for the provision of training will be the officer time and venue cost and included in the delivery of the licensing function. The assessment of premises will be the responsibility of the licence holder through the completion of the risk and vulnerability assessments.

A member referred to the potential danger of a cumulative impact of multiple venues holding events at the same time and the area reaches saturation and requested the City Solicitor to provide advice.

The City Solicitor's representative reported that a Cumulative Impact Assessment addresses this situation and would require an assessment to be undertaken for an area of the City. This would require a review to be undertaken every three years.

A member requested that information and guidance on cumulative impact assessment be circulated to Committee members. The City Solicitor's representative undertook to circulate information to Members of the Committee.

A member of the Committee referred to the removal of Condition 51 and in noted the reasons put forward for the removal of the definition of a venue. Reference was made to use of the condition for licence applications to restrict the use of a venue as a vertical drinking venue and officers were asked if there were confidence that other conditions could be used in order to prevent vertical drinking establishments.

The Committee was advised that each application is considered on the basis of the proposal and officers are confident that an appropriate condition/s can be applied to a licence if it was considered that the proposed use was not appropriate for the premises.

A member referred to the process in producing the model conditions and the responses received. Officers were asked what funding maybe available and if this could be cost neutral to the Council. Also, what provision will be put in place to train staff and staff within premises and is this proportionate on the size of the premises..

The Committee was advised there is no proposed funding had been allocated although funding sources could be explored. Training can be explored as part of a review of the conditions.

A member asked for further clarification of the use of body worn video and how long would the cameras be switched on for and where would the footage be held.

The Committee was advised that guidance on the use of body video and CCTV systems will be produced for licence holders and the responsible authority's to

include best practice and changes in technology. The cost associated to the use and storage of CCTV and other footage would be included within the conditions of the licence to be the responsibility of the licence holder.

Decisions

1. The Committee noted the report and the responses received from the consultation process.
2. To approve the proposed Model Conditions, as detailed in the report submitted.

LHP/20/6 Proposed revision of Manchester City Council Gambling Policy

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing that presented a draft statement of the Council's revised Gambling Act Policy and information on the method of consultation proposed.

The Principal Licensing Officer introduced the report and explained that the Council has responsibilities under the Gambling Act to issue premises licences, permits and temporary use notices in respect of premises where it is proposed that gambling should take place (betting shops casinos tracks gaming machine permits). Additionally, the Council will continue to be responsible for the registration of Small Society Lotteries. The Gambling Policy must be republished every three years to include a statement of principles for gambling. The policy has been developed in conjunction with the other GM Authorities and reference was made to the GM Gambling Harm Reduction programme.

The draft policy has been prepared for public consultation. Subject to approval by the Licensing Policy Committee, a 8-week public consultation would begin. The final policy taking account of consultation responses will then be presented to the Licensing Policy Committee and would require approval of full Council.

The consultation strategy for the draft Gambling Policy is as follows:

The Gambling Act 2005 requires consultation with the following:

- The chief officer of police for Manchester
- One or more persons who represent the interests of gambling businesses in Manchester Page 53 Item 6
- One or more persons who appear to represent the interest of persons who are likely to be affected by the implementation of the Gambling Act in Manchester
- The Responsible Authorities who are consulted on Gambling applications in Manchester (Greater Manchester Police, Planning, Environmental Health, Child Safeguarding Board, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, HM Revenue and Customs, Gambling Commission)
- All Ward Councillors of Manchester City Council
- All Strategic Area Managers
- Gamcare
- All gambling premises in Manchester

- Gambling Trade Associations
- Cityco
- Public Health

The proposed revised policy will also be made available on the Public Consultations page of the council's website.

The draft policy has been prepared for public consultation. Subject to approval by the Licensing Policy Committee, 8-week public consultation would start. The final policy taking account of consultation responses will then be presented to the Licensing Policy Committee and then require the approval of full Council.

Decisions

1. To note draft Gambling Policy.
2. To endorse the consultation strategy as follows:

LHP/20/7 Remote attendance at hearings under the Licensing Act 2003

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing that sought approval to remote input by parties via video conferencing for hearings under the Licensing Act 2003.

The Committee was informed that the use of remote video conferencing to allow interested parties to input into a licensing hearing would be undertaken as and when required in accordance with requests received.

Members were reminded that elected member physical attendance at meetings is a requirement.

Decision

To approve the use of remote attendance at meetings of Licensing Sub-Committees via video conferencing.

Licensing and Appeals Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 13 September 2021

Present: Councillor Ludford – in the Chair

Councillors: Grimshaw, Andrews, Connolly, Evans, Flanagan, Hewitson, Hughes, Jeavons, McHale and Reid

Apologies: Councillors Lynch and McHale

LAP/21/3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2021 were submitted for approval.

Decision

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting held on 7 June 2021.

LAP/21/4 Greater Manchester Minimum Licensing Standards – Stage 1 Recommendations (Drivers, Operators and Local Authority)

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing regarding proposed Greater Manchester (GM) Minimum Licensing Standards for Taxis and Private Hire to help deliver a safer, more professional, and more environmentally friendly service across the whole of the GM region. The aim of licensing standards is to harmonise standards across the ten authorities, ensuring each authority work collaboratively on policies for these licensing functions that seek to support and not undermine each other, and are the preferred option for residents and visitors.

The Licensing Unit Manager presented information from the report that provided detailed consultation feedback and officer recommendations on the Drivers, Operator and Local Authority Standard elements at Stage 1. A Stage 2 report outlining the proposed Vehicle Standard recommendations will be provided later in the year.

The Committee was taken through each of the standards and invited to ask questions or comment.

Driver proposed Standard 1 - Enhanced Criminal Record Checks

It is proposed that all drivers will be required to undertake an enhanced disclosure check through the DBS to include barred lists (such as details of unspent convictions and police cautions). Drivers must also register to the DBS Update Service and maintain that registration to enable the licensing authority to routinely check for new information every 6 months as a minimum. NB. If a licence has not been issued within 6 months of a DBS certificate issue date, then a further enhanced DBS will be required (unless the applicant is registered with the Update Service) Licensing Authority to ensure sufficient background checks are conducted on applicants who have (from the age of 18) spent 3 continuous months or more living outside of the UK

– this includes requiring a certificate of good conduct authenticated by the relevant embassy as necessary.

MCC - Standard already met for DBS certificates and checks but don't currently conducted on overseas background checks.

The Committee was informed of the difficulty in making background checks on individuals that resided or had spent time in other countries. DBS checks are always made, but unless records are held on the Police National Computer then we may not know about conduct whilst abroad. The report outlined the flaws in the current processes for obtaining overseas certificates of good conduct, and the risks to this being made a mandatory requirement due to the costs involved (which would significantly increase the licence fees), and would likely deter licensees coming to GM authorities but working here anyway without having those checks conducted, unless it was a national mandatory requirement.

Members of the Committee referred to the importance of ensuring Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers are properly validated before being allowed to drive members of the public and requested that a further report be submitted on a overseas certificates of good conduct.

The Committee was informed that the Council has a policy to conduct DBS checks on all licensed drivers every six months. It was not always possible to validate certificates presented from other countries where records were either not maintained or may take months to arrive.

Driver proposed Standard 2 - Driver Medical Examinations

It is proposed that:

- Group 2 medical examinations are used to check drivers are medically fit to drive [the same examinations as applied by the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) for lorry and bus drivers]
- That the medical assessment is conducted by a registered GP or registered Doctor who has reviewed the applicant and has access to their full medical history
- That the medical certificate is no more than 4 months old on the date the licence is granted
- Medical certificates are required minimally (unless otherwise directed by a medical professional) on first application; at age 45; and every 5 years thereafter until the age of 65 when it is required annually

MCC - Standard currently met.

Driver proposed Standard 3 - Knowledge Tests

It is proposed that applicants undertake a knowledge test. Authorities will be able to determine what is included in the local test, but topics covered may include; local area knowledge, local conditions, licensing law, road safety, highway code, numeracy and safeguarding.

MCC - Standard currently met.

Driver proposed Standard 4 - English Language Test

It is proposed that new drivers undertake an assessment to ensure they are able to communicate in spoken English and in writing to a standard that is required to fulfil their duties, including in emergency and challenging situations.

Whilst the standard is not specified further and will be for authorities to determine, the expectation is that that all authorities have a test requirement that can demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively to:

- Establish the passenger(s) destination and provide answers to common passenger queries or requests.
- Be able to provide customers with correct change - Be able to provide a legibly written receipt upon request.

MCC - Standard currently met

Driver proposed Standard 5 - Driving Proficiency Tests

It is proposed that all new drivers will be required to pass a taxi/private hire on-road assessment with a GM approved supplier

MCC – Currently not required

A member of the Committee referred to the cost of a test and it was explained that the cost is met by the applicant. In view of the number of tests that will be required across GM, it may be possible to consider procuring this at a GM level in the future with a view to negotiating a lower rate with a test provider.

Driver proposed Standard 6 – Driver Training

It is proposed that all authorities require drivers to undertake training in the following areas as a minimum:

- Safeguarding
- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
- Human Trafficking and County Lines
- Disability and dementia awareness
- Licensing Law

MCC - Standard currently partially met

Training and test content is currently delivered on various matters including safeguarding and CSE for a number of years, however not all of areas suggested are covered under the proposal. Information has been issued to Manchester licensed drivers regarding to human trafficking and county lines activity for example, however specific training is not delivered on issues or topics like dementia awareness. The position on training content and its delivery more widely and considering further options post licence issue is under review. A separate report on the subject, will be submitted to the Committee.

Driver proposed Standard 7 - Dress Code

It is proposed that a dress code is introduced to promote an improved and

positive image of the licensed trade across the region. A proposed code is detailed in Appendix 1 of the report submitted.

MCC – The Standard has been proposed previously, but not yet implemented.

Driver proposed Standard 8 - Drug and Alcohol Testing

It is proposed that a policy is developed to introduce testing for drivers based on complaints or intelligence received.

MCC - No such policy currently exists in any district. A policy will be submitted in 2022.

Driver proposed Standard 9 - Private Hire Driver Licence Conditions

A set of proposed licence conditions for Private Hire Drivers are set out at Appendix 2 of the report submitted. The conditions cover a comprehensive set of expectations with regards to driver behaviour,

MCC – Standard has been proposed previously, but not yet implemented, including customer service and requirements on reporting.

Operator Proposed Standard 1 - Private Hire Operator Licence Conditions

A set of proposed licence conditions for Private Hire Operators is set out in Appendix 3 of the report submitted. The conditions set out expectation and responsibilities with regards to how records should be kept in relation to booking, vehicle and drivers working for their company.

MCC - Standard previously proposed but not yet implemented

Operator Proposed Standard 2 - Criminal Record Checks for Operators and Staff

To introduce a condition on the Operator licence requiring operators and their staff (paid or unpaid) who have access to bookings to be DBS checked annually to ensure that only safe and suitable people have access to operator records.

MCC - Standard partially in place Checks are conducted on Operator Licence holders but not staff at present.

Local Authority Proposed Standard 1 - Timescales for applications

It is proposed that authorities ensure processes are in place to allow customer licence holders to submit renewal applications up to 8 weeks prior to licence expiry; and to ensure that once any application has been determined, the licence will be issued to the customer within a maximum of 5 working days.

MCC – Standard already in place.

Local Authority Proposed Standard 2 - An agreed common enforcement approach

It is proposed that a common enforcement approach is developed and adopted to ensure that standards are adhered to in practice.

MCC - N/A as the proposal is for all 10 authorities are to work together to develop a new framework. Manchester has the only dedicated taxi and private hire enforcement service across GM and takes a very proactive approach to detecting criminal behaviour as well as ensuring compliance with policies and licence conditions.

Members of the Committee referred to the experience of the enforcement services provided by the Council and expressed concern at the loss of experience, if the role was to be managed at a GM level. The point was also made that Manchester licensed drivers are required to meet additional standards than those required by other authorities and this may result in drivers applying to authorities outside of GM for a driver licence.

The Committee was advised that no decisions had been made with regards to how compliance services would be delivered with GM colleagues. With reference to drivers licensed by non GM authorities, it was reported that if agreement is reached across GM on all of the standards proposed, a campaign will be launched to raise public awareness to ensure that passengers know that GM licensed drivers operate to high standards. Customers would be made aware of the driver and the local authority where the driver licence has been obtained.

Officers were asked to provide a report on what action GM is taking to lobby the Law Commission on the engagement of drivers by UBER and the checks made to ensure drivers are licensed and drivers licensed by non-GM authorities.

Local Authority Proposed Standard 3 - A Common Fee Setting Framework

It is proposed that a common methodology for setting the costs and calculating the taxi and private hire fees is agreed and adopted

MCC - N/A as the proposal is for all 10 authorities to work together to agree a common framework. Manchester already has a robust and transparent full cost recovery model.

Local Authority Proposed Standard 4 - Councillor Training

Most Councillors already receive training, but this proposal ensures that this is embedded as a consistent standard and confirms that those with responsibility for taxi and private hire licensing, receive relevant training.

MCC – Standard already met

Local Authority Proposed Standard 5 - Delegated powers for Licensing Managers

It is proposed that appropriate delegated decision-making powers will be in place for Licensing Managers and Heads of Service to suspend or revoke licences on the grounds of public safety when an urgent need arises.

MCC - Standard already in place

Local Authority Proposed Standard 6 - Excellence in Licensing Award

It is proposed that a scheme is introduced to allow members of the public to nominate

drivers and companies who they wish to be considered for an 'Excellence in Licensing award'.

MCC – No scheme or similar in place.

Decisions

1. The Committee agreed each of the proposed standards for implementation by 30 November 2021 with a 'go live' date of 1 December 2021 (or as soon thereafter, where procurement is required by any GM Authority).
2. The Committee requested further reports on the issues referred to relating to: enforcement, GM lobbying of the Law Commission on Uber drivers, overseas cpnduct checks and driver training.

LAP/21/5 Exclusion of the 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 outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

LAP/21/6 Allocation of Hackney Carriage Proprietor Licence HV434

The Committee was advised that the applicant was unable to attend the meeting due to illness and not currently being in the UK and had submitted a request via their family for the application be deferred to a later date.

The Committee considered the request to defer the application.

Decision

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the application to the next scheduled meeting to provide time for the applicant to recover from their illness and return to the UK.

Licensing Policy Committee

Minutes of a meeting held on 16 August 2021

Acting under Delegated Powers

Present: Councillor Grimshaw (Chair).
Councillors, Davies, and Rawlins

Apologies: Councillor Ludford

LPC/21/04 Minutes

Decision

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2021.

LPC/21/05 Revised Gambling Policy 2022 - 2025

The Committee considered a draft revised Gambling Policy report.

The recommendation within the report requested that the policy is approved for public consultation.

The Principal Licensing Officer presented the report, stating that the updated Policy was similar in nature to the previous version, with new inclusions aimed at tackling overall harm reduction from gambling. The Principal Licensing Officer stated that funding was received for a 3 year program of work concerning "Gambling Harm Reduction," that GMP had been closely involved in the consultation and that all Greater Manchester authorities had their Gambling Policies due for renewal at the same time and that there had been a collaborative approach across Greater Manchester. The Principal Licensing Officer referred to Section 2 of the report for information on a stronger link with public health and risk assessments and requested that the Committee approve the draft report for public consultation, adding that the version proper would come into effect in January 2022.

The Committee welcomed the report and the inclusion of the harm reduction aspect.

The Chair stated that he had concerns around the trade having input into the consultation for the matter to then be passed to Local Authorities to regulate and gave mention to the criminal element that can arise from gambling addiction.

Decision

The Committee approved the Revised Gambling Policy for public consultation.

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Planning and Highways Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 29 July 2021

Present: Councillor Curley (Chair)

Councillors: Shaukat Ali, Andrews, Y Dar, Davies, Hutchinson, Kamal, Lyons, Riasat, Richards and Stogia

Apologies:

Councillors Baker-Smith, Kirkpatrick and Lovecy

Also present:

Councillors Igbon, Strong and Wright

PH/21/44 National Planning Policy Framework - Update

The Director of Planning reported that the National Planning Policy Framework had been updated on 20 July 2021. Following a review of the changes made to the Framework, it was concluded that there would not be any amendments to planning applications or recommendations to be considered by the Committee.

PH/21/45 Supplementary Information on Applications Being Considered

A copy of the late representations received had been circulated in advance of the meeting regarding applications 129327/FO/2021, 129324/LO/2021, 128191/FO/2020, 130356/FO/2021, 130357/LO/2021, 129923/FO/2021, 129924/LO/2021 and 124335/JO/2019.

Decision

To receive and note the late representations.

PH/21/46 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2021 as a correct record.

PH/21/47 129327/FO/2021 129324/LO/202159 - 61 George Leigh Street, Manchester, M4 5DR - Ancoats and Beswick Ward

The application is for a change of use of a vacant unit to a bistro and associated internal and external alterations, including the installation of a retractable awning as well as the provision of an outside seating area. The application relates to a vacant corner unit at the junction of George Leigh Street and Sherratt Street. The shop front is currently boarded up to prevent vandalism and unauthorised access. The property comprises ground and basement accommodation. Original timber shop front and

doors are in situ along with other decorative internal and external features such as wood block flooring, cast iron columns, raised bench display window and terracotta.

The Planning Officer addressed the Committee on the application stating that a further five objections to the proposal had been received from residents. Members of the Committee were advised that the City Council has an interest in the site concerned as landowner and were reminded that this status must be disregarded and to exercise their duty as Local Planning Authority only. An amendment was also proposed to Condition 9 of the report to restrict amplified sound both internally and externally. An additional condition had been added within the late representations report for a condition to require that all windows and doors are to be shut from 19:00 onwards (daily) to reduce noise breakout.

A spokesperson representing objectors to the application addressed the Committee and summarised the list of objections to the application. Reference was made to the opening of the vacant unit as positive move for the area, however a wine bar was not considered an appropriate use for the unit, due to the negative impact that noise from the premises would have on residents who reside above the premises and the importance of protecting the character of Victoria Square. The Committee was informed that windows have to be left open by some residents due to the heating within the building that cannot be controlled by residents.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on the application.

The Planning Officer reported that there are other commercial units within Victoria Square building that include café uses. The unit had been vacant for a number of years and mitigation had been included in the report to protect the interests of residents including noise level reduction.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

A member of the Committee made reference to the history of Victoria Square and the importance of protecting the interests of current and future residents. The mitigation within the report referred in the main to the night time and not during the day when residents would have windows open and may be disturbed. Concern was also expressed on the disruption that maybe created by the external seating area.

The Planning Officer responded to the points raised stating that the unit is considered to be a low-key usage proposal and the mitigation proposed would adequately address noise. Also, Condition 10 would require the business to operate a dispersal programme for patrons.

A member of the Committee referred to the importance of ensuring that patrons using the outside element of the business, did not disturb residents in view of the need for windows to be left open.

The Planning Officer reported that the external management arrangements proposed were the same for licensed premises within the Ancoats area.

A member of the Committee referred to the heritage of Victoria Square and noted the length of time the unit has been left empty. Officers were asked to clarify the Ancoats and New Islington Neighbourhood Development Framework (NDF) and the 11pm time limit for premises opening. Reference was also made to the close proximity of the external seating area to the resident entrance to Victoria Square and officers were asked if consideration had been given to the possibility of shielding the entrance.

The Committee was advised that the NDF had been revised to ensure that licensing and planning considerations work in parallel with each other and following the revision of the arrangements, opening times of licensed premises in Ancoats and New Islington were made the same and are as detailed in the report. In response to a potential conflict of the seating area and the entrance to Victoria Square, the Committee was advised that an additional condition could be included for a screen to be installed between the entrance and the external seating area of the premises.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation for the Committee to Approve the application subject the conditions within the report and the amendment to Condition 9 and the additional conditions as outlined in the late representation report and inclusion of a condition for the installation of a screen between the seating area and entrance to Victoria Square. Councillor Richards seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee agreed the application, subject to the conditions included in the report, the amendment to Condition 9 and the additional conditions as outlined in the late representation report and inclusion of a condition for the installation of a screen/barrier between the premises seating area and entrance to Victoria Square.

PH/21/48 130627/FO/2021 - Land at Poland Street Manchester, M4 6BR - Ancoats and Beswick Ward

The application relates to the erection of an 8 storey building to form Mobility Hub including ground floor commercial unit (Use Class E(b)) (221 sqm), delivery hub, 150 cycle spaces and 408 car parking spaces with associated landscaping, access and other associated works following demolition of existing structures. The Mobility Hub would provide a key piece of infrastructure to support the new homes and population growth in this new neighbourhood. Located close to existing public transport, walking and cycle routes, the proposal would offer alternatives to owning a car with car club and car share facilities on offer together with access to 150 cycle spaces and e-bikes. The car parking provision would avoid the need for individual developments in the area have to accommodate car parking. In order to support shift away from petrol diesel cars, 25% electric car charging would be available on first use with the intention to increase this to 100%. A new delivery hub would consolidate delivery arrangement in the area. The effect of this would minimise car journeys through the Ancoats neighbourhood and make the surrounding streets pedestrian and cyclist friendly with active frontages.

The Planning Officer addressed the Committee on the application and advised that the application is part of a package of applications being considered at the meeting (130354/FO/2021, 130356/FO/2021, 130357/LO/2021 and 130390/FO/2021) and should be considered together as part of a Neighbourhood Development Framework. In considering each proposal the Committee was reminded that each application must be considered and voted on individually. The Committee was provided with an update from the late representations report including an amendment to Condition 21 of the report, an amendment relating to deliveries between 7.30am to 7.00am and an additional condition relating to the management strategy for resident and commuter parking arrangements.

An objector spoke against the application. It was stated that the proposal is a large car park and there are concerns on the proximity of the development to Ancoats Green. It was not considered the Mobility Hub is helpful for mobility and did not link up to any existing sustainable transport schemes. Car parking is already available at buildings across the Ancoats area. Air pollution would increase and the scheme did not help to reduce it. Section 106 payments needed to be collected from Manchester Life for the introduction of road safety schemes and consultation is required with residents on parking schemes.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on the application.

The Planning Officer reported that the report provides information and addresses the points raised. The proposal is a new concept and will provide parking for the community and is not just a car park. A transport plan is included and future connection is possible with mobility schemes. There would be a £200,000 landscaping strategy for the area and parking enforcement would be part of this.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

Members referred to the 408 parking spaces and how they were calculated and were they for residents. Reference was also made on changes to be introduced to the way residents live within the city centre and the move away from car use and the consideration of the mobility hub and the wider Ancoats area. Officers were asked if the hub could be developed for other uses if required.

It was reported that the spaces had been proposed based on expected need and it was expected that residents living in the city centre would be less likely to own a car. It was anticipated that commuter requirements for parking would reduce over time and this would be managed and will allow further resident parking. The scheme will also have little impact on air quality issues. It was expected that there is need for a parking hub but could be repurposed if required.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation to approve the application subject the conditions in the report submitted, the additional condition and the amended Condition 21 as referred to in the late representation report and the amendment to deliveries to allow deliveries between 7.30am to 7.00am. Councillor Riasat seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee agreed the application as detailed in the report submitted and subject to the conditions outlined and subject to the additional condition regarding car park management, the amendment to Condition 21 as referred to in the late representation report and the amendment to deliveries to allow deliveries between 7.30am to 7.00am .

(Councillor Hutchinson took no part in the consideration of vote on the application.)

PH/21/49 130354/FO/2021 - Land on The Corner of Poland Street and Jersey Street, Manchester, M4 6JW - Ancoats and Beswick Ward

The application related to 118 residential apartments and ground floor commercial floorspace (Class E) in an 8 storey building with hard and soft landscaping. This development would be one of the first residential developments in the Poland Street Zone alongside the Mobility Hub which would bring forward the infrastructure to support the new homes and population growth in this new neighbourhood. The proposal would provide one, two and three bedroom accommodation which meet the Council's space standards. The development would be car free and have an intrinsic link to the Hub. Two bays for disabled people would be provided on site and would be fitted with an electric car charging point. Active street frontages would be provided by commercial units as well as the provision of street trees

The Planning Officer added nothing further to the report submitted.

An objector spoke against the application. Reference was made to Section 106 payments for Eliza Yard, illegal and fly parking. Affordable housing is welcomed but not at the expense of building it on green space.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on the application.

The Planning Officer reported that the viability of the scheme had been tested and verified. Parking issues will be addressed with the landscape strategy.

A member asked how many affordable homes would be included in the application.

The Planning Officer reported that the affordable housing is 49% of the three linked developments.

Councillor Andrews moved the officer's recommendation of Approve for the application, subject to legal agreement. Councillor Richards seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee agreed the application as detailed in the report submitted, subject to the conditions included.

(Councillor Hutchinson declared a prejudicial interest and left the meeting and took no part in the consideration or the decision made on the application.)

PH/21/50 130356/FO/2021 and 130357/LO/2021 - Ancoats Dispensary Old Mill Street, Manchester, M4 6EB - Ancoats and Beswick Ward

The planning application relates to the creation of 39 residential apartments (Use Class C3a) within retained and refurbished facades of the former Ancoats Dispensary Building facilitated by partial demolition works and the erection of a ground plus 5 storey extension, re-instatement of the central tower, removal of the entrance steps and lowering of the ground floor together with associated external cycle and bin store, boundary treatment and other associated works. There is an application for Listed Building Consent for the creation of 39 residential apartments (Use Class C3a) within retained and refurbished facades of the former Ancoats Dispensary Building facilitated by partial demolition works and the erection of a ground plus 5 storey extension, re-instatement of the central tower, removal of the entrance steps and lowering of the ground floor together with associated external cycle and bin store, boundary treatment and other associated works

A member of the Committee requested a deferral of this item until the Committee's previous decision of Mind to Refuse had been assessed by the Secretary of State.

The Planning Officer provided an update on the application and informed the Committee that the report makes a recommendation of Mind to Approve in respect of planning application 130356/FO/2021. As there is no requirement to refer the decision of the Local Planning Authority to the Secretary of State, the recommendation had been amended to Approve. The Committee was advised that the report submitted refers to affordable housing, reference is made to 'social rent', this had been amended to 'affordable rent'.

An objector spoke against the application. Reference was made to criteria and definition of affordable housing in view of differing definitions currently used and if the definition is considered to be acceptable by the Committee.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on the application.

The Planning Officer advised the Committee that the proposal meets the MPPF definition of affordable rent.

Councillor Shaukat Ali moved the recommendation of Approve for application 130356/FO/2021 and Approve for application 130357/LO/2021. Councillor Riasat seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee approved application 130356/FO/2021 and approved application for Listed Building Consent 130357/LO/2021.

(Councillor Hutchinson declared a prejudicial interest and left the meeting and took no part in the consideration or the decision made on the application.)

PH/21/51 130390/FO/2021 - Land at Downley Drive, Manchester, M4 6BW - Ancoats and Beswick Ward

The application relates to the erection of 23, 3 storey dwellinghouses (Use Class C3a) and the erection of a 4 storey building to form 45 residential apartments (Use Class C3a) (68 new homes in total) with associated car and cycle parking provision, hard and soft landscaping, access, servicing, and other associated works. The Planning Officer stated that the frequency of the markets operations had previously increased but had now returned to regular trading days. The proposal is for 68 affordable homes within a mixture of tenures. 23, houses would be for affordable rent and shared ownership (11 and 12 respectively) whilst all 45 apartments would be for social rent.

The Planning Officer did not add anything further to the report submitted.

An objector spoke against the application and requested that Committee to seek 106 contributions from developers for parking schemes and road improvements. Concern was expressed that the affordable housing proposed is to be built on existing green space.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on the application.

The Planning Officer reported that the site is a brownfield site and had been subject to previous development and had been previously identified for regeneration. There is 100% onsite parking for town houses and 47% for apartments. There are improvements to the public realm as detailed in Condition 23 including footway improvement, tree planting and road schemes.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

A member referred to onsite affordable housing and the inclusion of section 106 contributions.

The Committee was advised that the scheme provides 100% affordable housing and as the Council has a land interest, this would be held in perpetuity and there would not be a section 106 included. There is a package of public realm works to be included in the scheme.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation of Approve the application.
Councillor Richards seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee agreed the application as detailed in the report submitted and subject to the conditions included.

PH/21/52 129273/FO/2021 - 34 Great Jackson Street, Manchester M15 4NG - Deansgate Ward

The application related to the demolition of existing structures and the construction of two residential buildings of 56 storeys (plus basement and roof plant) (use class C3), with ground floor commercial uses (use class E), car parking, cycle provision,

landscaping, access and other associated works. The proposal is for 1037 residential units in two 56 storey towers. There would be public and private amenity space, 236 parking spaces, 1040 internal cycle spaces and 40 visitor cycle spaces.

The Planning Officer made no further comments to the report submitted.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on the application.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

A member welcomed the application and commented on the proposed new access to Hulme Park. Reference was made to the height of the proposed towers but it was noted that the number of towers had been reduced and they would provide additional homes.

The Planning Officer reported that the access to Hulme footbridge will be an improvement to the existing access provision. The height increase of the towers and the increase in the number of homes was noted. The Committee was informed that the profit level of the developer is 10%, however the scheme is as a positive way forward for the area that is in need of development to compliment other local development schemes.

A member referred to the removal of existing trees and asked if the trees proposed would be planted in similar locations to ensure they are planted in the ground and not planters. It was reported that the proposal would look to plant as many trees as possible in the ground.

Councillor Shaukat Ali moved the recommendation of Minded to Approve the application, subject to a legal agreement for a financial contribution towards off site affordable housing. Councillor Stogia seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee was Minded to Approve the application, subject to a legal agreement for a financial contribution towards off site affordable housing.

(Councillor Andrews took no part in the consideration or the decision made on the application.)

PH/21/53 129923/FO/2021 and 129924/LO/2021 - Land Bound by the River Medlock, Bridgewater Canal, Hulme Lock Branch Canal and Egerton Street, Manchester, M15 4LE - Hulme Ward

Application 129923/FO/2021 related to a full planning permission for the creation of the Embassy Village (Sui Generis) comprising 40 single-occupancy residential accommodation pods; a site reception pod; a flexible multi use 'Village Hall' providing internal amenity space, and a staff accommodation pod, four car parking spaces and cycle parking provision; soft and hard landscaping; drainage arrangements; servicing and access arrangements; and other associated works.

Application 129924/LO/2021 related to Listed Building Consent for the installation of drainage infrastructure adjacent to and within the canal wall.

The Planning Officer reminded the Committee there were two recommendations for consideration relating to the proposed development and Listed Building Consent. The late representation report included an amendment to the recommendation for planning permission to move from a temporary approval to a permanent approval. The Committee was advised that all of the supporting information contained within the report was based on the application being a permanent facility.

No objector to the application attended the meeting.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on the application.

Councillor Igbon and Councillor Wright attended the meeting and addressed the Committee on the application. The Committee was informed that following initial concerns over the proposal, the subsequent consultations with the developer had answered the majority of the questions and concerns of local residents and elected members. The proposal has been welcomed for the support of homeless men and is located in an appropriate location.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

A member welcomed the application, the funding of the scheme and the triage process the residents of the accommodation would be involved with. The sustainability of the scheme was questioned and if the scheme is successful would there be a move towards another section of people who need support also.

The Planning Officer reported that the nature of the provision may change, Condition 25 addressed the possible change through a management strategy. Triage provision will look to address clients at different stages and that may be via other agencies. Consultation would be on going with residents and councillors. The facility is being provided in a unique setting where the cost is financially viable and sustainable.

Councillor Andrews moved the recommendation of Approve application 129923/FO/2021 for permanent planning permission (as amended) and to approve application 129924/LO/2021 for Listed Building Consent. Councillor Stogia seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee agreed to Approve application 129923/FO/2021 for permanent planning permission (as amended) subject to the conditions detailed in the report submitted and to approve application 129924/LO/2021 for Listed Building Consent

(Councillor Richards declared a prejudicial interest in the application and left the meeting and took no part in the consideration or the decision made on the application.)

**PH/21/54 129127/FO/2021 - Phoenix House, 17 Ellesmere Street,
Manchester, M15 4JY - Hulme Ward**

The application related to Demolition of the existing building on the site and the erection of a residential-led mixed use development within a part 11, part 13 storey building to accommodate 237 residential units (80 no. 1-bed apartments, 134 no. 2-bed apartments and 23 no. 2-bed townhouses - Use Class C3), 338 sq. m. of commercial floorspace (Use Class E), car parking (11 spaces) and cycle parking (237 spaces) at ground floor level, new public realm and landscaping, access and servicing arrangements and associated works.

The Planning Officer did not add anything further to the report submitted.

There was no objector present.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on the application.

Councillor Wright addressed the Committee on the application. The Committee was reminded of the ongoing developments in this area of Hulme and of concerns raised regarding the need to create a community, the lack of affordable housing and commercial units to benefit the area and the need to include outward facing homes to provide natural surveillance. It was acknowledged that further building would be forthcoming to complete the development of the area and it was be important for the developer to continue to listen to local residents. Tree planting is an issue and management strategy for planting was required.

Councillor Igbon welcomed the application and informed the Committee that a positive relationship had been developed with the developer that had helped to provide changes in line with local opinion through consultation. The developer had become embedded within the community and will also act as lead partner for the Hulme Climate Change Agency.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

A member expressed concern on the low level of contribution for S106 by the developer in view of the scale of the proposal.

The Planning Officer reported that affordable housing had been tested but did not provide a large enough profit (13.22%). A £250,000 is the appropriate level of contribution in view of the provide level for the scheme. This would be tested at a later stage and would be subject to reconciliation process if rent and sales are in excess of the construction costs.

Councillor Stoiga moved the recommendation of Minded to Approve, subject to S106 agreement for a commuted sum for Off Site Affordable Housing. Councillor Richards seconded the proposal.

Decision

The Committee agreed the recommendation of Minded to Approve, subject to S106 agreement for a commuted sum for Off Site Affordable Housing.

(Councillor Lyons took no part in the consideration or the decision made on the application.)

**PH/21/55 124335/JO/2019 - West Didsbury and Chorlton Football Club,
Brookburn Road, Manchester, M21 8FE - Chorlton Ward**

The application related to vary part b of Condition 3 attached to Decision Notice Reference 093164/FO/2010/S1 to have the floodlights operational for 24 occasions, in each period between 1 August and 31 May (relating to a football season) between the hours of 7pm and 10pm on weekdays. This application seeks to increase the number of times the existing floodlights at the West Didsbury and Chorlton AFC site on Brookburn Road can be used on week days from 12 occasions to 24 occasions during the football season (1 August to 31 May). The site is within the Chorltonville Conservation Area as well as the Mersey Valley which is part of the Greater Manchester Green Belt.

The Planning Officer reported that two additional comments had been received requesting the Committee agree to make a site visit.

An objector spoke against the application and stated that the report provided poor justification for the proposal other than the expansion of the football club. The local residents are concerned on the impact the football club going into tier 4 will have on them. The key issue is the nature of the noise and the language used by fans during matches and the close proximity of residential properties. Concern was expressed on the zoning given to the site and this should be reconsidered. The number of matches and teams associated with the club that is referred to in the report is irrelevant. The club has grown from being an amateur side and was now semi-professional. The proposal will cause additional noise and distress to local residents. A site visit was therefore requested.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee on the application.

Councillor Strong addressed the Committee on the application and stated that he was not opposing the football club because it provides benefits to the local community. There are concerns and these are light pollution close to residential houses, the increase in attendances as a result of the level of football played in tier 4 and the level of noise that will generate is a great concern, as did the movement of those attending matches. The increase in the footprint of the club is also a concern together with the level of consultation with local residents and the number of low level breaches of planning conditions that have taken place and have an impact on the local residents. A site visit was requested.

The Chair invited the Committee to ask questions and comment on the application.

Councillor Davies proposed that the Committee undertake a site visit to visualise the site. Councillor Andrews seconded the proposal.

Decision

To agree to defer consideration of the planning application to allow a site visit to be carried out by the members of the Committee.