

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Executive – 15 December 2021

Subject: COVID Progress update - Economic Recovery

Report of: The Director of Public Health and Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure

Summary

This note provides the Executive with a brief update on the COVID-19 situation and an update on the Economic Recovery situation.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Executive note the report.

Wards Affected: All

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

There had been a positive short-term impact on the city's carbon emissions, as a result of reduced travel during the road map period. There are opportunities to accelerate the medium term move towards the low carbon economy through, for example, supporting investment in green technology business opportunities and employment.

Our Manchester Strategy outcomes	Summary of how this report aligns to the Our Manchester Strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	This unprecedented national and international crisis impacts on all areas of our city. The Our Manchester approach has underpinned the planning and delivery of our response, working in partnership and identifying innovative ways to continue to deliver services and to establish new services as quickly as possible to support the most vulnerable in our city.
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	

A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

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

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 On Tuesday 23rd November a small number of cases of a new variant were identified in South Africa (named B.1.1.529) and shortly after designated as a Variant of Concern (VOC) by the World Health Organisation and the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and given the name Omicron. The Omicron variant is a stark reminder that the Covid pandemic is far from over and still requires a robust response.
- 1.2 While there is still a lot that is not yet known about this new variant, it does spread far more easily than other forms of the virus, and we are now seeing a doubling of cases every two days and very shortly it will overtake Delta as the dominant strain in the City.
- 1.3 Data is still being collated about how severe, in terms of disease progression, the Omicron variant will be. Whilst some of the news from South Africa appears to show less severe illness it is important to note that population profile is very different. Furthermore, even if the proportion of people who go on to develop serious illness is smaller than for Delta, if Omicron infects more people, then the number of potential hospitalisations will be considerable.
- 1.4 It was also unclear initially how effective vaccines would be against this new variant. It is now understood that two doses of vaccine are less effective than they were against previous forms of coronavirus which they were specifically designed to tackle. Data published last week suggests that two doses are less effective at protecting against an infection with symptoms, but a third dose boosts your protection back up to over 70%.
- 1.5 That is why nationally and locally the vaccine programme will be accelerated over the next three weeks, to ensure everyone who is eligible is offered a booster jab by 31 December 2021.
- 1.6 The Manchester 12 Point Plan has been updated and is attached as Appendix 1 and in addition the latest information on how to access vaccinations at different sites will be updated regularly on the City Council website.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Executive note the report.

Economic Recovery Workstream- Sitrep Summary

As at 18/11/2021 for meeting on 19/11/2021. Updated fortnightly. Latest updates shown in yellow.

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
General Overview	<p>ONS labour market figures (16 November):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the figures for the three months to September from the ONS shows that unemployment in quarter 3 fell to 4.3%, down from 4.5% for the previous quarter. September was the last month of furlough and the figures do not seem to suggest a spike in unemployment as a result of the scheme ending. the number of people on payroll increased by 163,000 in the same period. However, there were still record numbers of vacancies and the sectors with highest growth in vacancies were transport and storage, and construction. <p>ONS Real Time Indicators (11 November):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The total volume of online job adverts on 5 November 2021 increased by 4% from the previous 	<p><i>Powering Recovery: Manchester's Recovery and Investment Plan</i> launched in Nov. Four investment priorities around: innovation; city centre and urban realm; residential retrofit programme; and North Manchester regeneration. Seeking govt funding for over 50 projects of £798.8 m. The plan can be accessed here.</p> <p><i>United City</i> business-led campaign launched 22/11 and supported by MCC.</p> <p>Business Sounding Board and Real Estate subgroup continue to meet regularly to share intel across sectors and to help support MCC lobbying. Weekly MCC newsletter issued to over 9,000 businesses with updates.</p> <p>Comms update</p> <p>Link to the film: Manchester is back. Stronger than ever. - YouTube</p> <p>The film performed most well on Twitter with over 100k impressions, 13k view of the video and over 300 likes. Our Twitter followers tend to include partners and well as residents and businesses. It also did well on LinkedIn with 7k views and 367 likes.</p>

	<p>week, to 147% of its February 2020 average level (Adzuna)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The seven-day average estimate of UK seated diners in the week to 8 November 2021 was 116% of the level in the equivalent week of 2019, which is a 13 percentage point decrease from the previous week, and follows four consecutive weekly increases (OpenTable) • In Wave 43, 29% of businesses reported a decrease in turnover in the last month, compared with normal expectations for this time of year; this is a 5 percentage point increase from Wave 41 (initial results from Wave 43 of Business Insights and Conditions Survey (BICS)) <p>Environment Bill becomes law: the House of Lords has given its approval to the long-awaited Environment Bill so that it now becomes legislation. The Environment Act will deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term targets to improve air quality, biodiversity, water, and waste reduction and resource efficiency 	<p>The Welcome Back campaign moved into the next phase of lockdown messaging from the 17th May with emphasis on culture venues opening back up. We produced another film with the Contact Theatre on what opening up meant to them and how important it is to support our cultural venues. Manchester art & entertainment venues are opening 🎨 #WelcomeBackMCR - YouTube</p> <p>Alongside this, visitors to the city will see a raft of Welcome Back messaging from outdoor digital advertising, poster sites, shop windows and in taxis to name a few.</p> <p>The weekly Welcome Back ebulletin signposts to the events taking place, such as the flower show, along side key advice to ask that people continue to follow the advice and guidance so we can all return safely.</p> <p>Re-opening update</p> <p>c. 400 licences have been issued to the hospitality sector. Overall businesses have responded to all requirements positively, have engaged with authorities and are overwhelmingly compliant. However the impact does continue to be significant for them. The delayed lifting only delays their recovery and makes for continued higher operational costs. More widely than that because as a sector they are required to record customer contacts in a way that other sectors are not required to (retail/transport for example), they are harder hit when an individual tests positive – and isolations/temporary closures are required that are not mirrored in the retail sector.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A target on ambient PM2.5 concentrations, the most harmful pollutant to human health • A target to halt the decline of nature by 2030 • Environmental Improvement Plans, including interim targets • A cycle of environmental monitoring and reporting • Environmental Principles embedded in domestic policy making • Office for Environmental Protection to uphold environmental law <p>Retail recovery leading to Christmas: people shopping earlier in the year in preparation for Christmas amid the supply chain shortages, as well as increased spending on travel, digital entertainment and subscription services and cinema tickets all boosted sales. The research was conducted by the BRC and Barclaycard.</p> <p>PwC festive predictions: according to PwC's research, consumers will spend an average of £428 per person, which is up from £384 last year. Given the disruptions last year, the increased spend is driven in part by more people planning to spend</p>	<p>There has been a shift in employment within the sector as already reported, with many leaving it altogether and there is a real shortage of staff at the minute that is compounding all the aforementioned issues meaning some businesses also have to shut due to staff shortages.</p> <p>19th July- Several city centre nightclubs did a NYE's style countdown and one venue had a full capacity ticketed queue of 800. Most nightclubs operating a tickets only entry. Of the 650 hospitality venues, almost all will be open by the coming week end (only 6% were not operating in some form). Many night time venues had reinvented themselves during the pandemic to allow trading to continue and are now reverting back or upgrading to previous operating patterns.</p> <p>Prior to stage 4, additional opening and operating safely guidance has been issued to businesses and venues including for nightclubs and for weddings and funerals. Bulletins continue to encourage staff vaccination and regular use of Lateral Flow Tests with comms that protecting staff protects the business. The Licensing and Out of Hours Team is visiting all nightclub premises and engaging re risk assessments and now working until 04.30hrs; officers are also monitoring re noise levels (particularly with current ventilation advice) and waste from external operations. 'Pinging' is having impact on hospitality staff and on waste and cleansing staff availability.</p>
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	<p>Christmas with extended family, leading to more gifting opportunities, more celebratory food and drink and more Christmas socialising. Meanwhile, recent price inflation means people expect they will need to spend more. 87% of spend will be online.</p> <p>Lloyds Business Barometer October: the bank's business barometer was released on 1 November and it reported that business confidence dropped by three points to 43% from September. Confidence rose in manufacturing but fell in retail and services. Lloyds put the reduction in consumer confidence down to the fall in optimism about the wider economy, rising costs and the supply chain issues.</p> <p>Quarter of workers planning to quit: a report by recruitment company Randstad UK claims that 24% of 6,000 workers surveyed were planning on changing their jobs within three to six months, which is an increase on the expected 11% Randstad would usually expect to move in a year. Those in the construction, tech and logistics sectors were most confident about getting a new job.</p> <p>Games makers to create jobs: having recently announced their move to</p>	<p>14 September – temporary licences enabling use of outside space by hospitality will not be renewed in most cases over the winter. This will give the opportunity to look long term at use of space. Where licences are part of already approved schemes, these will continue. Comms going out this week.</p> <p>24 September – Christmas markets will return to the city centre for 2021. Piccadilly Gardens will be the site for an expanded 'winter gardens' featuring market stalls, lighting, food and drink, seating areas and entertainment space.</p> <p>12th October – security measures around the temporary outside space for hospitality will be removed 18/19th October. Consideration is being given to longer term options taking into account needs of all parties including residents and neighbouring businesses together with the city's overall objective to increase space available to pedestrians.</p> <p>12th November – Manchester's Christmas Markets opened including the new Winter Garden on Piccadilly Gardens which includes a large decked area with seating and tables, a stage and music and a fully accessible toilet facility with provision for adult changing. The opening weekend saw city centre footfall increase by 16% on the previous week. City Centre congestion was up 33% between 1600 and 1900 on the Saturday.</p> <p>NTE sales are strong, up 6% on the same week in 2019.</p>
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	<p>Enterprise City, Cloud Imperium Games have committed to creating more than 1,000 jobs in the city, 700 by 2023. The company is moving its headquarters from Wilmslow to Manchester and will be in their new studio by May 2022.</p>	<p>October 2021 saw an increase in city centre footfall with Halloween week end the busiest since pre-pandemic.</p> <p>Business support and engagement; the various networks are beginning to function again in person post-pandemic. In addition, interest is being assessed amongst stakeholders in some new place specific groups such as St Ann's Square and King Street. Options to address the challenge of empty premises are to be further considered- some 'pop-up' use by community or charity groups has proved successful.</p>																				
Footfall	<p>Footfall trends- City Centre (Springboard / CityCo)</p> <p>Week 44 31st October – 6th November</p> <table><tr><th></th><th>Week on week %</th><th>Year on year %</th><th>Pre Covid</th></tr><tr><td>St Ann's Sq</td><td>-10.7%</td><td>88.5%</td><td>38.3%</td></tr><tr><td>Exchange Sq</td><td>-16.9%</td><td>82%</td><td>-27%</td></tr><tr><td>King Street</td><td>-23.2%</td><td>41.8%</td><td>56.5%</td></tr><tr><td>Market Street</td><td>-19.8%</td><td>85.8%</td><td>20.7%</td></tr></table>		Week on week %	Year on year %	Pre Covid	St Ann's Sq	-10.7%	88.5%	38.3%	Exchange Sq	-16.9%	82%	-27%	King Street	-23.2%	41.8%	56.5%	Market Street	-19.8%	85.8%	20.7%	
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New Cathedral St	-39.8%	60.7%	-38%
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Footfall trends- District Centres
(Springboard)

Week 45 8th – 14th November

	Week on week %	Year on year %	Pre- Covid
Cheetham Hill	3.9%	19.1%	-5.4%
Chorlton	-5.7%	28.8%	-17%
Fallowfield	22.9%	32.1%	31.4%
Gorton	11.5%	13.8%	- 14.3%
Harpurhey	4.2%	27.5%	10.2%
Levenshulme	2.2%	11.8%	- 28.2%
Northenden	5%	41.3%	-7%
Rushholme	16.8%	46%	6.8%
Victoria Avenue	3.7%	22.4%	- 14.4%
Withington	9.8%	29.3%	-2.7%

Higher Education Institutions	<p>MMU - Teaching on campus commenced, testing and vacs taking place on campus. RNCM - 90% students back, 10% still online due to Covid.</p> <p>UoM - have 2k more students in the first year intake than in previous years, but had anticipated and planned for this. MECD and the Royce Institute opened this Sept. UoM reported at BSB that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student numbers remain high and are at 46,500 registered with a few still going through registration. 	
Aviation	<p>From 4am Monday 4 October 2021, the rules for international travel to England will change from the red, amber, green traffic light system to a single red list of countries and simplified travel measures for arrivals from the rest of the world. The rules for travel from countries and territories not on the red list will depend on your vaccination status.</p> <p>If you are fully vaccinated you will have to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • book and pay for a day 2 COVID-19 test – to be taken after arrival in England • complete your passenger locator form – any time in the 48 hours before you arrive in England 	<p>Manchester Airports Group (MAG) airports served 2.7 million passengers in October, which represented 51% of pre-pandemic traffic compared to the same month in October 2019.</p> <p>The total number of passengers in October for Manchester Airport was 1,205,230. The rolling total for the 12 months to October is at 4,621,601.</p> <p>The airport received a boost from the opening of the US borders on 8 November. Manchester Airport's Virgin Atlantic services to New York and Orlando restarted on the first day after the relaxation, with the Singapore Airlines service to Houston set to return in early December. Aer</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take a COVID-19 test on or before day 2 after you arrive in England <p>Under the new rules, you will not need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take a pre-departure test • take a day 8 COVID-19 test • quarantine at home or in the place you are staying for 10 days after you arrive in England <p>If you are not fully vaccinated from 4am Monday 4 October, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take a pre-departure COVID-19 test – to be taken in the 3 days before you travel to England • book and pay for day 2 and day 8 COVID-19 tests – to be taken after arrival in England • complete your passenger locator form – any time in the 48 hours before you arrive in England <p>After you arrive in England you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quarantine at home or in the place you are staying for 10 days • take a COVID-19 test on or before day 2 and on or after day 8 • You may be able to end quarantine early if you pay for a private 	<p>Lingus is also launching new services to New York, Orlando and Boston later this month</p> <p>Manchester Airport served 1.6 million passengers travelling direct to the US each year before the pandemic and is currently expecting to welcome back approximately half of its pre-pandemic routes to America in the first month of the transatlantic restart.</p> <p>Volumes of air freight traffic at Manchester Airport are up 23.6% in October from the same period last year.</p>
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	COVID-19 test through the Test to Release scheme.	
Culture	<p>Culture Recovery Fund CRF Round 3 announced 25/6 for the cultural, heritage and creative sectors. £218.5 million will be available through the Culture Recovery Fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRF Funds now closed to applications <p>The successful applicant to the ACE CRF3 fund were notified by Friday, 29/10. No public announcements have yet been made.</p>	<p>Marketing campaign #HereforCultureMcr Cultural organisations in Mcr jointly fundraised, though their individual Culture Recovery Fund bids, to deliver 2 joint projects - MADE - the Cultural Education Partnership programme and #HereforCultureMcr - a joint marketing campaign to communicate to residents and visitors to the city the cultural offer was open for business.</p> <p>Results of the #HereforCultureMcr campaign were shared this week. The report summarised that collectively, Manchester venues lost over 90% of total income when comparing 19/20 with 20/21 or 21/22 so far. Attendances were down by 97% = 3.5m lost attendances. Excluding MIF- 21/22 is currently at only 11% of pre-pandemic levels (NB. Partial year). In 20/21 compared to 19/20:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance income down by over £20m (-92%) • Secondary spend income down by £3.5m (-89%) • Donations down by £0.5m (-50%) <p>#HereForCultureMCR campaign Produced by a consortium of more than 20 arts organisations in the city. It went Live 17 May to end August 2021 with a poster, radio and digital</p>

		<p>campaign aimed at welcoming visitors back safely to culture in the city</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Raising awareness that venues had reopened o Communicating the summer programme o Reassuring on safety <p>Research on the campaign inc - 4280 respondents through an online questionnaire - 605 'population' members of the public weighted to match census data and 3675 people from venues' 'databases'</p> <p>Just over two in five in the 'population' survey recall the #HereForCultureMCR campaign – and this is also reflected amongst 'database' respondents.</p> <p>The campaign helped 75% of the 'population' group surveyed and 48% of the 'database' contacts surveyed "feel comfortable about visiting an arts or cultural venue or event in the near future". (Full report attached)</p>
Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued development interest in the city for both commercial and residential scheme. • All schemes are back on site, and construction levels increased since the beginning of the pandemic, although with some overall delays to programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEC searches for development partner: a strategic investment partner is being sought for the Victoria North's Red Bank neighbourhood, which will see around 1,500 build to rent homes built. • MMU buildings complete: both the Institute of Sport and the School of Digital Arts (SODA) have been handed over to Manchester Metropolitan University, and the

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Risks around supply chains/access to materials, with associated increases in costs.</i> • <i>Access to finance for hotel and retail schemes likely to be more challenging.</i> • <i>Economic Recovery & Investment Plan identifies key schemes which can drive recovery and create new jobs. Ongoing work to identify funding opportunities for schemes.</i> • <i>Long term impact on office demand being monitored on an ongoing basis, but positive indications from office agents and the Business Sounding Board, with recent reports of increased demand, especially for flexible, high quality office space.</i> 	<p>buildings are ready to welcome students this academic year.</p> <p>Plans for 50 Fountain Street: the owner M&G is looking to build a modern extension, creating seven storeys of commercial office space, while retaining the façade of the building.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renaissance/Ramada: a planning application for the residential element of the scheme has been submitted to the Council, which will feature a 27-storey tower and 300 apartments. • Bruntwood buys Pall Mall Court: the office block on King Street has been sold to Bruntwood and the building will become part of Bruntwood's Pioneer programme alongside Bloc and 111 Piccadilly. • Strong interest in Manchester property recorded: Manchester Apartments has experienced the highest level of interest in its history, with 21,000 enquiries for rental homes in the city made between July and September 2021.
Affordable Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to developer and investor confidence. • Working with RP's and other developers to understand current impact and forward plans. 	<p>Current forecasts suggest 497 new affordable homes will be built across Manchester in 2021-22 – 153 of which have already completed. This includes 278 social rent, 104 affordable rent, 113 shared ownership and 2 rent to buy homes.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing sources and levels of investment, and any obstacles • Investigating grant funding, financial and other support needed to enable early start of key projects • Understanding supply chain issues and identifying appropriate support measures. • Developing guidance/share good practice for safe operation of sites • Expediting design & planning phases of projects. • Risk of registered providers slowing down or pausing programmes to consolidate finances/liquidity • Ensure Zero Carbon and Fire safety provision are part of the programmes. • Potential flooding of the PRS sector as the short term let market shrinks. 	<p>In addition, there are currently over 900 new affordable homes currently under construction across the city and expected to complete over the next few years. This includes a number of large-scale developments including the Former Belle Vue Stadium Site (130 affordable homes) and Gorton Lane (109 affordable homes) and 2 city centre schemes delivering Affordable Private Rent at Swan Street (19 homes) and Addington Street (50 homes).</p> <p>Feedback from MHPP Growth is suggesting that problems with supply chains for products and materials are beginning to impact on delivery timescales and costs</p> <p>Updates on further key schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning has been approved for MCC's development of 69 social rent homes at Silk Street • Enabling works to facilitate the delivery of 130 new MCC social rent homes in Collyhurst are ongoing. • Alongside their purchase of the Former Boddingtons Brewery Site, Latimer - the development arm of Clarion – have acquired the final phase at Islington Wharf which will provide 54 shared ownership homes as part of a mixed tenure development • Mosscafe St Vincents are set to acquire the Boundary Lodge student accommodation block in Hulme and redevelop it into a
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		<p>supported living scheme for up to 30 young people to add to their existing accommodation on Booth St West</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Places secured planning consent for 68 new affordable homes at Downley Drive and 39 new affordable homes at Ancoats Dispensary at July Planning Committee. • Grey Mare Lane Estate – One Manchester have started construction on the first two phases of the Estate Regeneration programme (Blackrock Street & Windermere Close). The redevelopment is set to deliver c.290 new affordable homes (incl. 124 of reprovision) and the retrofit of 150 homes over the next 5 years. A Master Plan has been submitted to the November meeting of the Executive.
Transport and Infrastructure	<p>Bee Network Cycle Hire Scheme launch</p> <p>On 18 November the Scheme launched publicly with a road show event at All Saints Park in Manchester, and the opening of docking stations and cycles along Oxford Road from Piccadilly Station to Fallowfield. The scheme aims to remove one of the main barriers to increasing the take up of cycling, which is access to a cycle. 74% of GM households have no access to a cycle, and it is</p>	<p>Summary of transport activity for week ending 7 November (GM-wide)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were an estimated 50.3m trips made in Greater Manchester for the week ending 7 November. This is 1% above the previous week and 4% below the same week in 2019 (pre-pandemic). • Likely impacted by the end of October half term, weekday trips were up 2% compared to the previous week while weekend trips were down 1%.

	<p>198,000 people will live within 300m of a docking station once Phase 1 is rolled out.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The return of education trips saw weekday bus patronage increase 22% and highways volumes increase 2%. • The reduction in leisure trips saw weekday footfall at Piccadilly Station down 5%. • Compared to the same period in 2019, trip levels were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4% below the same week in 2019 • Weekday trips were down 5% • Weekend trips were up 1% • Public Transport trips were down 27% with Bus and Rail down 25% and Metrolink down 37% • Highway volumes were 2% below the same week in 2019. 3% below on weekdays 2% above on the weekend. • Regional centre and Manchester: The Regional Centre saw 9% fewer trips than the previous reporting week, which included 2.5m trips from GM and 964,000 from outside of GM. • Regional Centre trips are now at approximately 72% of the pre-pandemic baseline (November 2019). • Trips from within GM (74%) to the Regional Centre continue to remain closer to pre-pandemic levels than trips from outside of GM (68%).
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Skills, Labour Market and Business Support	Headlines include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In September 2021 there were 29,205 claimants of unemployment benefits in Manchester – down from 30,500 in August. Unemployment for women is falling much faster than it is for men across (trend across GM). JCP continue to report that they have not seen a significant uptake in claims in October. • The number of furloughed residents has continued to drop as COVID-19 restrictions on the economy have been lifted. 12,600 residents were furloughed on 31st August, down from 14,900 in June. The majority of residents that remain furloughed are employed in accommodation & food services or wholesale & retail. Final furlough figures available 4th November. There is no evidence, yet that formerly furloughed residents have moved onto UC, where the number of claimants has remained broadly stable at just under 80,000 since the start of the year. 	Newly Unemployed Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Mosely Street Jobcentre is now open supporting clients aged 24+ from Cheetham Hill, Rusholme, Newton Heath (these Jobcentres are focusing on 18-24 year olds). • Employment partnership focus is on re-training and job matching as no significant increase in redundancy notices has taken place. Partners reporting hospitality is still an issue as many SBWAs taking place, many at the Employer Suite, but with very poor attendance. Need to look at a different approach • Continue to work with several live and in development recruitment opportunities with business including Getir, BNY Mellon, Biffa, PWC, Boohoo. • Progress continues to be made on Skills development and bounce back of the Cultural Sector with partners co-ordinating a response led by The Factory. Expected relaunch of Factory Consortium in the new year.

- New national data shows that vacancies are at their highest point since the pandemic at 1.1m driven across all sectors with highest increases in hospitality.

Offer for 16-19 year olds
September CCIS DfE Submission:
NEET

NEET Known	1.5%
NEET Unknown	22.9%
NEET Combined	24.4%

September CCIS DfE Submission: EET

Offer for 16-19 year olds

- Career Connect are planning winter outreach sessions for NEET YP in North, Central and South. They will aim to use shopping venues in communities and not traditional youth hubs to engage parents and young people who may be 'unknown'.
- New Education Lead, Anthony Turner in post following on from Elaine Morrison's retirement.

	Post-16 Education	72.9%	
	Employment	1.8%	
	Training	0.9%	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NEET known figure has reduced from the same point in 2020/21 from 2.2%. - NEET known figure 2nd lowest/11 when compared to statistical neighbours. - NEET unknown figure has increased from the same point in 2020/21 from 14.1%. - NEET unknown figure is 5th highest/11 when compared to statistical neighbours. - September guarantee figure for Yr 11 was 92.8%, a decrease from 97.2% in 2020/21 and below North West average. - September guarantee figure for Yr 12 was 94.2%, an increase from 91.8% in 2020/21 and above North West average. - 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with GMCA to identify overlap / duplication in schools CEIAG activity. • Linking with Education team to identify employer/ career activities for Our Year • Careers Connect are actively tracking and updating NEET unknown, including phone calls and visits. Agreement has been made re: targeted ward approaches to local events in the coming weeks. Expected that a full review of figures will be available at the end of November. • Post-16 Reference Group agenda item of in-year admissions/January offer. • NEET Partnership Network – planned meeting in December, second of the academic year, with key item of targeted ward-based approach using the updated figures. • Internal Post-16 Education Network scoping session planned for November to align work across areas with a focus on NEET reduction and RONI development. • Longer-term planning re: Post-16 census and sufficiency, linking with Our Year plans and RONI – released, updating characteristics and consultation with Post-16 re: Yr 12 process and promotion of T-Level offer.

	<p>Youth unemployment Maximise the opportunities from and work with partners to roll out the Kickstart Scheme.</p> <p>Supporting youth employment programmes</p> <p>Developing a clear offer to support our graduates</p>	<p>MCC Kickstart opportunities – 5 Kickstart roles now filled. Working with DWP to hold weekly interviews at Mosley St JCP to fill remaining vacancies</p> <p>Planning underway with Reform Radio to provide work placements for NEET young people in MCC teams as part of the Manchester Futures programme.</p> <p>Traineeship providers session convened to discuss priorities for Manchester post Kickstart.</p> <p>Meeting held with University Academy 92. We are supporting the programme to connect to employers and provide positive opportunities for students.</p>
	<p>Skills and employment support for adults Challenges -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll out of phase 2 of the MCC Digital Device Scheme – reaching groups identified as most excluded via the Digital Exclusion Index. • Ensure that the City's learning provision is responding to new challenges as well as existing challenges. • Launching Let Get Digital work though Get Online week • Not a high enough percentage of referrals for device scheme are being found to be eligible. To tackle 	<p>W/C 8th Nov is Lifelong Learning Week – MCC comms and MAES will have a social media focus on the benefits of adult education.</p> <p>W/C 1st Nov - MAES delivered successful 2 day employer insight day for 10 residents in partnership with PWC. Feedback was excellent and this provides a model to scale up in future.</p> <p>MAES delivered Sector Based Work Academy programme in partnership with DWP for the Co-Op. There were 28 participants, and all roles were filled successfully having not been filled for several months previously. SWAPs are</p>

	<p>this the DIT are looking at the data to identify whether the scoring system which hasn't been changed since the initial trial scheme, needs to be adjusted based on the different challenges residents are now facing. The team are also looking for gaps where there is a shortage of key priority groups being referred and found eligible, in aim to work with partners to action.</p>	<p>proving to be an effective recruitment method – particularly for large employers.</p> <p>Refurbished Device Scheme – deadline for applications is this week. There have so far been 5 businesses who have informed the Digital Inclusion Team that they are going to apply. Interview to take place W/C 6th December.</p> <p>Let's Get Digital Manchester website launch – 1.4k page visits since October 18th to date. The website is to be handed over from the creator to the Digital Inclusion Team by W/C 22nd. Both Work and Skills and the DIT have had 2 training sessions to be able to make best use of the website and campaign assets.</p>
	<p>Social Value and Local Benefit</p> <p>Challenge: Many residents are not connecting to opportunities created in the city – how can we use social value internally to maximise creation of employment/skills/training opportunities targeted at our residents and use our influence to do the same with organisations externally?</p> <p>Ensure that MCC's approach to SV reflects current economic circumstances and <i>Think</i> recommendations.</p> <p>Coordinate employment and skills related social value "offers" from across MCC's</p>	<p>Social Value Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers are pulling together existing social value data and trackers for the Social Value Governance Board to build up a portfolio level view of social value delivery (i.e. at directorate / whole council level). • Additionally officers are appraising options for potential system solutions for social value monitoring, again for the Social Value Governance Board. • Elsewhere, work continues in North Manchester with ANTZ on detailed scoping of the ANTZ social value monitoring and brokerage platform.

	<p>largest suppliers and capital projects into a pipeline of opportunities that can be promoted to residents and employment/skills/training organisations.</p>	
	<p>Business Support, Sustainability & Growth</p> <p>Business Grants</p> <p>Growth Hub Monthly Business survey highlights</p> <p>GM businesses are holding up well in terms of financial stability, 80% of firms stating that they have cash reserves to last over 6 months (up 8% on the previous month)</p> <p>An increase in firms reporting increased sales (26% vs 19% previously).</p> <p>However, challenges and risks remain. These include</p> <p>minor supply chain issues (29% of businesses up 2% on the previous month)</p>	<p>Business Grants</p> <p>Business Grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Business grant scheme for businesses with last remaining ARG grant closed for applications on 1 November with almost 60 applications from a range of sectors. Officers are processing and assessing applications and dealing with enquiries. <p>Small Business Saturday Tour</p> <p>The Small Business Saturday Tour came to Manchester 11 November, Excellent day had by all, interviews were undertaken throughout the day with Manchester businesses, business support partners, the work and skills team and Councillor White. These have been promoted across social media channels. Further work to be undertaken to support Small Business Saturday 4th December – promotional information to be circulated.</p> <p>The next steps are to look at a plan to support a localised plan to include District Centre / High Street work working closely with partners and Neighbourhood teams.</p>

	<p>rising costs still affecting 20% of firms, albeit 7% lower than the previous report.</p> <p>comments from businesses focus on labour and raw material shortages, rising prices and inflation/pricing pressures (linked to the combined impacts of C19, Brexit and the opening up of the economy).</p> <p>These challenges are also reflected in terms of businesses' investment priorities and areas of support:</p> <p>41% expect capital expenditure to increase</p> <p>56% expect investment in workforce development (skills & training)</p> <p>45% in digital transformation showing the need to boost productivity in the workforce, systems and boosting sales through new platforms, innovation and digitalisation.</p>	<p>SME and District Centres Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning the next SME business support in person event 24th November – Digital Future for SMEs – Eventbrite link sent out - good response to sign up The Manchester Business Support group continues to meet every fortnight to drive this work forward <p>Meeting held with MIDAS and PWC and Bank of New York Mellons, GFA to discuss recruitment to 100 jobs within phase one of their expansion. Also linking PWC with various organisations to support their social value commitments.</p>
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	Business Grants LRSG, ARG are now closed, there are outstanding complaints / queries currently being reviewed. The EBSG is utilising the remaining £1.2M of the funding provided by Central Government	
	Equalities/ Disadvantaged Ensure that disadvantaged and underrepresented groups are supported by activity included in Workstreams 1-6. This would include Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups, young people, over 50's, homeless, veterans, survivors of DV&A, ESA claimants, and those experiencing family poverty. Covid has worsened the situation for many already experiencing inequality – the challenge is to ensure support is targeted to reach the communities in most need.	<p>The 2nd Uncertain Futures Employment & Skills webinar will be held on 16th November. National Careers Service will deliver the session on changing careers and labour market intelligence for women over 50 years.</p> <p>The Growth Company as part of the Our Manchester Disability Equality and Inclusion Partnership are delivering a series of workshops for employers to encourage and support them to attract more disabled people. The next online event will be held on 5th November.</p> <p>The W&S team will be reviewing the use of language in relation to race and will incorporate this into the activity around the refresh of the W&S strategy currently taking place.</p>
Funding	No specific known impacts on current external funding bids caused by C19 as yet. Known bids progressing through funding approval processes as expected.	Funding Announcements UK Shared Prosperity Fund 3 year of funding announced. 2022-3 0.4 billion 2023-4 0.8 billion (0.7 revenue, 0.1 capital)

		<p>2024-5 1.8 billion (1.5 revenue, 0.3 capital)</p> <p>As expected, this shows a “ramping up” to European levels of funding by year 3. Supporting local priorities, the UKSPF will include a new initiative (‘Multiply’) to help hundreds of thousands of adults across the UK improve their numeracy skills. All areas will receive access to a learning platform and funding to improve adult skills. £560 million is being allocated to this scheme as part of the SPF.</p> <p>Funding in Progress Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund Round 3 has been announced – MCC secured c.£19m from round 1 of the fund and delivery of that programme is our priority. A bid for £4.5 million to the latest round has been submitted.</p> <p>Funding Approved</p> <p>Energy Savings Trust’s (EST) eCargo Bike Grant Fund, Local Authority Scheme 2021/2022. . Confirmation of funding received.</p> <p>Levelling Up Fund Funding approved for Culture in the City Application (HOMEArches & Campfield) in Budget & Spending Review on 27th October. 105 projects funded across the UK, £1.7 billion in total, inc. In Manchester, Tameside, Salford, Bury (x2), and Bolton. Culture in the City will receive £19.8</p>
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		<p>million. We have now received details on the monitoring and evaluation framework for this bid.</p> <p>Community Renewal Fund - The Government announced successful bids on the 3 November 2021, with 8 coming from GM worth £4.36m. There are 2 bids exclusive to Manchester and 6 cover the City alongside other parts of GM. The 2 successful Manchester bids are One Manchester with Green Economy Employment project (£662k) and the Growth Company with The Good Jobs Project (£582k).</p>
External Lobbying	<p>Parliament returns from summer recess on 6 September 2021 with an announcement on the date of the 2021 Spending Review expected soon after. There is currently uncertainty surrounding the 2021 Spending Review period in relation to a 1 or 3 year settlement for local government. Direct lobbying of Government is needed as well as working via Greater Manchester and networks such as Core Cities UK, Convention of the North and the LGA.</p>	<p>Regular meetings with representatives from Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities, and Cabinet Office are continuing. The last meeting focussed on the proposed cityscale hydrogen fleet project with cross departmental attendance including the Department for Transport, BEIS and the Hydrogen Hub. Government representatives acknowledged the strength of the proposal and that existing funding was currently too fragmented. A specific follow up session is now being arranged to try and push departments to work together in a more joined up way to achieve the desired outcome. The next regular meeting will focus on Levelling Up and the North Manchester proposals following the Spending Review.</p>

		<p>UK Cities Climate Investment Commission events took place ahead of and during COP26. A joint declaration from Connected Places Catapult, London Councils and the UK's 11 Core Cities has now been published.</p> <p>Nations Pledge, Cities Deliver on Climate corecities.com</p>
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