

Manchester City Council Report for Information

Report to: Executive – 1 June 2022

Subject: Our Manchester Progress Update

Report of: Chief Executive

Summary

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

Recommendations

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

Wards Affected - All

Environmental Impact Assessment - the impact of the decisions proposed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city
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Our Manchester Strategy outcomes	Contribution to the strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	The work to reset the Our Manchester Strategy considered all five of the Strategy's existing themes to ensure the city achieves its aims. The themes are retained within the final reset Strategy, Forward to 2025.
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	-
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	-
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	-

A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	-
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Full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

Financial Consequences – Revenue - None

Financial Consequences – Capital – None

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

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

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

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This is the latest in an ongoing series of reports highlighting examples of areas where strong progress is being made against key strategic themes identified in the Our Manchester Strategy.

2.0 Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme funding

- 2.1 Manchester City Council has scored £4.9m in Government funding for further work to reduce carbon emissions from more council-owned buildings.
- 2.2 A further Council contribution of £1m will deliver an almost £6m scheme to cut emissions from seven buildings.
- 2.3 The move is another step towards the Council's goal of halving its direct carbon emissions by 2025 as it works towards becoming zero by 2028 – in line with the citywide target.
- 2.4 The money has been awarded in the latest round of the Government (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, which is being delivered by Salix Finance, as part of a joint bid administered by Greater Manchester Combined Authority. A previous £19.1m award under the scheme has already seen work to reduce emissions in 13 council buildings including the National Aquatics Centre, National Cycling Centre and Town Hall Extension.
- 2.5 The latest scheme will predominantly be used for the installation of air source heat pumps, with additional funding for the use of solar photovoltaic panels and LED lights where appropriate.
- 2.6 The buildings which benefit from the improvements are: The National Football Museum; Wythenshawe Active Lifestyle Centre; Claremont Resource Centre in Hulme; Harpurhey district social services offices; Hall Lane Resource Centre in Wythenshawe; The Place at Platt Lane in Fallowfield and One Central Park (Arbeta) in east Manchester.
*Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:
Liveable and Low Carbon City*

3.0 Active travel investment

- 3.1 A consultation is underway on proposed walking and cycling improvements in the city centre.
- 3.2 The proposals aim to support the ambition set out in the Council's City Centre Transport Strategy for 90 per cent of morning peak time journeys into the city centre to be made on foot, by cycle or using public transport by 2040.

- 3.3 Changes are being proposed to the road layout in key locations across the city centre. These include Chester Road, Bridgewater Viaduct, Deansgate and Whitworth Street West.
- 3.4 Improvements being consulted on include the construction of new footways and traffic islands; new controlled pedestrian crossings and crossing points; a new segregated cycleway and an upgraded junction at Deansgate/Liverpool Road/Great Bridgewater Street with pedestrian and cycling facilities.
- 3.5 Changes are also being proposed for Whitworth Street, Fairfield Street, Aytoun Street and London Road.
- 3.6 These would include construction of new footways and traffic islands; new controlled pedestrian crossing and crossing points; new segregated cycleways on Whitworth Street, Fairfield Street and London Road; new loading bays; 20mph zone signs and road markings.
- 3.7 The consultation runs until Monday 19 June. For further information, and to take part in the consultation, visit www.manchester.gov.uk/consultations
Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:
Connected City
Liveable and Low Carbon City

4.0 Former Jackson's Brickworks site

- 4.1 A planning application has been submitted for more than 700 new homes – around half of them to be affordable – on a disused brownfield site in east Manchester.
- 4.2 Subject to planning approval, the proposed development will also deliver a new secondary school, parks and a community hub on the 47-acre former Jackson's Brickworks site in Newton Heath.
- 4.3 It is intended to deliver the development in two phases, the first consisting of 378 homes (134 apartments and 244 houses) and community parks.
- 4.4 The application also includes an outline application for the second phase which consists of a new state-of-the-art secondary school, sports facilities and up to 338 more homes.
- 4.5 Electric vehicle charging facilities will also feature extensively in the development.
- 4.6 The brownfield site, off Ten Acres Lane, was previously used for landfill.
- 4.7 The application can be viewed on the Council's planning portal using the reference number 133700/FO/2022

*Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:
Progressive and Equitable City
Thriving and Sustainable City
Liveable and Low Carbon City*

5.0 This City: Rodney Street development

- 5.1 Local people and businesses are being asked for their views about the first planned development by the Council's new housing delivery company This City.
- 5.2 Plans have been developed for 128 new homes – all of which will be built to low carbon standards.
- 5.3 Some 30% of the new homes, which will range from one-bedroom apartments to four-bedroom town houses, will be available at the Manchester Living Rent, meaning that rents will be set at or below the Local Housing Allowance level set by national government and therefore accessible to people on full housing benefit.
- 5.4 High quality public realm, including improved walking and cycling routes across the site and biodiversity-encouraging planting will support the development's environmental credentials. The neighbouring Ancoats Green will also see significant improvements as part of the wider Back of Ancoats Public Realm Strategy.
- 5.5 The consultation concludes on Tuesday 7 June and can be accessed at www.manchester.gov.uk
- 5.6 A planning application for the Rodney Street site will be submitted later this month and, subject to planning approval, works will start on site later this year.
*Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:
Progressive and Equitable City
Liveable and Low Carbon City*

6.0 Our Year

- 6.1 2022 Our Year is a year-long campaign to create an array of activities, opportunities and experiences for the city's children and young people and help create a lasting legacy which makes Manchester one of the best places to grow up in.
- 6.2 One of its objectives is to encourage businesses, organisations and individuals across Manchester to get involved in the campaign by pledging their support – in the form of resource, time, money or space – to share in the collective endeavour of improving the lives of Manchester's young people.

- 6.3 So far more than 40 organisations have pledged their support. Examples include:
Fresh Walks: a series of walking careers coaching days where business leaders, employers and youth workers join groups of youngsters on a hike to talk through their career aspirations and offer guidance and advice to help them reach their goals.

BW3: Providing mentoring and work experience for schools across Wythenshawe

One Education: Offering free members for children to their music centres across the city

Aviva: Donating computers and books to eight Manchester schools and youth facilities

Electra: Making a £20k contribution to eco-schools and climate change projects

Manchester Evening News: Pledging to cover the campaign and help highlight the opportunities available.

- 6.4 As we approach the halfway point of the year, a packed programme of events, activities and opportunities is well underway. Forthcoming highlights include:
- 6.5 Manchester Day (June): Participating community groups are being encouraged to prioritise young people's engagement to ensure they play a central role in the parade. A planning group has also been set up with Manchester Youth Council to design a youth festival element to the event.
- 6.6 Baby Week (July): To raise awareness of the importance of the first 1,000 days in an infant's life with events and activities across Sure Start centres, and in the city centre.
- 6.7 Enhanced summer holiday activity campaign (July): Ensuring there is more stimulating activity on offer than ever on offer over the long summer break.
Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:
Progressive and Equitable City
Thriving and Sustainable City
Highly Skilled City

7.0 Support for Ukrainian evacuees

- 7.1 Manchester City Council and partner organisations are continuing to provide support for any Ukrainians escaping the invasion of their country.
- 7.2 A meet and greet point staffed by a council duty officer and volunteers from across the authority has been established at Manchester Airport, with the British Red Cross on call if further support is required. Staff at the meet and greet point

signpost to advice and support available and can also provide basic items such as nappies, SIM cards and chargers.

- 7.3 More than £60,000 has been raised by the MCR Ukraine Welcome Fund, set up by the We Love Manchester charity in partnership with Manchester City Council, to help assist arriving Ukrainians. The first grant - £30,000 - has been awarded to Ardwick-based charity Europia. It will fund a dedicated support worker to co-ordinate advice and practical support for arrivals and contribute towards a hardship fund which the support worker will help administer.
- 7.4 Where people living in the city have volunteered as sponsors, the Council is inspecting their properties to ensure they are suitable. Information and support is also being provided for sponsors, with a webpage set up at www.manchester.gov.uk/SupportUkraine
- 7.5 As of May 16 2022, 177 would-be sponsors under the government's Homes For Ukraine scheme have come forward and 42 of a potential 449 beneficiaries had arrived in the city. The Council does not receive data for those who have arrived under the Family scheme.
- 7.6 Also as of May 16, some 36 Ukrainians have applied for ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages) support and are currently being assessed. Work is being undertaken to see how existing provision can be bolstered.
- 7.7 Manchester Growth Company, working with business leaders across the north of England has set up a new online platform www.unitedforukraine.org.uk to help arriving Ukrainians seeking work to find good opportunities in suitable environments and share information about organisations providing practical support.
- 7.8 Home Office-led information sessions for arrivals and sponsors have also taken place at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre in Cheetham Hill.
*Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:
Progressive and Equitable City*

8.0 Parks in Partnership

- 8.1 The £960k Parks in Partnership Fund is working with friends groups, registered housing providers, local ward members and other partners to deliver small scale but significant to parks and open spaces across the city.
- 8.2 To date there have been more than 100 applications through rounds one and two of the fund, with some £732k allocated to a wide range of projects since the fund was launched in summer 2021.

8.3 The fund is part of an Our Manchester approach to community engagement which actively seeks to gather and implement ideas from local stakeholders such as the parks friends groups who between them provide around 1,400 hours of volunteering time a year for activities such as litter picking, weeding and running events.

8.4 Almost £100k of the grants have been paid directly to community and friends groups for improvements to support their works.

8.5 These include:
Friends of Marie Louise Gardens, West Didsbury: Creating a new water connection to the park to help them maintain specimen trees they had planted rather than having to heft water containers to the site.

Friends of Chorlton Ees: Funding a new shipping container and hand tools to help them carry out planting, litter picking and other maintenance.

Friends of Alexandra Park: Providing new playground equipment for the toddlers' area.

Friends of Peel Hall Park: Funding new outdoor calisthenics gym equipment.

Relates to Our Manchester themes:

Liveable and Low Carbon City

Thriving and Sustainable City

Progressive and Equitable City

9.0 Contributing to a Zero-Carbon City

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

10.0 Contributing to the Our Manchester Strategy

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

11.0 Key Policies and Considerations

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

12.0 Recommendations

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