

Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 July 2022

Present:

Councillor Hitchen - In the Chair

Councillors Azra Ali, Benham, Chambers, Connolly, M Dar, Evans, Hilal, Hussain, Iqbal, Johnson, Ogunbambo, H Priest, Rawson and Wilson

Also present:

Councillor Midgley, Deputy Leader

Councillor Hacking, Executive Member for Skills, Employment and Leisure

Francess Tagoe, Tree of Life Centre

Mike Wild, Macc

Apologies:

Councillors Whiston and Wills

CESC/22/24 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2022 as a correct record.

CESC/22/25 Our Manchester Voluntary and Community Sector (OMVCS) Fund Refreshed Funding Programme

The Committee received a report of the Director of Policy, Performance and Reform which outlined the engagement and co-design processes that had informed the refresh of the funding programme and provided an initial overview of proposed adaptations. The report also outlined work to review the City's Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) support offer, that was running concurrently, which would be an important point of support for the groups supported by this fund from 2023 onwards.

The main points and themes within the report included:

- Background to the VCSE sector in Manchester;
- Background to VCSE sector funding;
- Refreshing the OMVCS Fund;
- OMVCS Fund engagement and co-design contributors;
- Outcomes of the engagement and co-design processes;
- Purpose, aims and objectives;
- Principles and eligibility;
- Funding amounts;
- Ways of working;
- Next steps; and
- VCSE support review.

The Deputy Leader expressed her thanks for the valuable work of the VSCE sector during the pandemic.

Francess Tagoe, the Chief Executive of the Tree of Life Centre, informed Members about her involvement in the co-design process for the refresh of the OMCVCS Fund programme. Mike Wild, the Chief Executive of Macc, the support organisation for Manchester's VCSE sector, thanked the Council for continuing to prioritise this in the face of budget pressures. He welcomed the strategic approach to target resources at organisations which were making a real difference in communities and strengthening their ability to respond. He highlighted how core funding from the Council enabled organisations to then draw in additional funding from other sources. He highlighted some of the areas that the refresh hoped to address including a more equitable geographical spread of organisations, greater diversity, particularly in relation to race, and requiring groups which received funding to demonstrate what they were doing to address climate change.

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

- To request a breakdown of the type and size of organisations which were being funded;
- Social groups which had previously been excluded from funding and what was being done to address this;
- The geographical spread of organisations which were receiving funding, noting areas of deprivation;
- Concern that organisations who had been doing valuable work in their communities had previously not been successful in obtaining funding because they did not have the capacity to complete the funding applications as well as some of the larger organisations and that this needed to be mitigated in future funding processes;
- How to support small organisations on how they could contribute to addressing climate change; and
- That it should be a condition of receiving funding that the organisations pay staff the Manchester Living Wage.

The Policy and Programmes Manager reported that his team had a good dataset about the organisations currently being funded and that at the end of the current funding period would be producing a report which contained this information. He advised that an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) of the previous round of funding applications had identified under-representation in relation to race, as well as organisations in the north of the city. He reported that the work currently taking place was underpinned by an EIA, which covered both the protected characteristics within the Equality Act 2010 and broader inequality. He advised that this work would include consideration of the geographical spread, promoting the fund and providing support to VCSE groups equitably. The Chair advised that this work should include consideration of east Manchester, as well as north Manchester. A Member requested that the EIA which had identified the issues in relation to race and north Manchester be circulated to Members of the Committee, to which the Policy and Programmes Manager agreed. A Member commented that the South Asian community was the largest ethnic community in the city and that more needed to be done to ensure fair representation. The Policy and Programmes Manager confirmed

that under-representation in relation to race was acknowledged and that work was taking place to address this.

The Policy and Programmes Manager informed Members that, while all funded organisations would be expected to take action in relation to the climate crisis, the expectations would be proportionate to the size, capability and funds of the organisation, that there would be ongoing support in relation to this and that organisations would be expected to develop and mature their approach over the funding period rather than have a fully developed approach from the start. Mike Wild informed Members that Macc would put together resources for VCS organisations on taking climate action.

In response to Members' comments, Francess Tagoe advised that those involved in the co-design wanted to be remove the perception that this fund was the answer to every funding need of every VCS organisation in the city. She highlighted the issues which arose when organisations collaborated solely for the purpose of getting funding and stated that the Fund wanted to encourage the strengthening of natural links and collaboration between organisations rather than making it a prerequisite of funding.

In response to a question from the Chair, the Policy and Programmes Manager offered to provide further information on the Greater Manchester Health and Wellbeing Partnership Fund at a later date, to which the Chair agreed. In response to a question about the VCSE Support Review, he informed Members that he would be providing a report on this to a Committee meeting later in the year, when more information was available. In response to the Member's comments about the Manchester Living Wage, he reported that this had been raised as a key issue during the co-design process, along with getting organisations to commit to work to address climate change, and that now, in the final stages of the design of the refreshed programme, those involved were looking at how to build these factors into the programme for all organisations.

The Chair thanked the guests for their attendance and for their work.

Decisions

1. To note that the Committee will receive a further report on this work at an appropriate time.
2. To note that the Policy and Programmes Manager will circulate the EIA which identified the issues in relation to race and north Manchester to Committee Members.
3. To note that the Policy and Programmes Manager will provide the Committee with further information on the Greater Manchester Health and Wellbeing Partnership Fund at an appropriate time, when more information is available.

[Councillor Johnson declared a personal interest as, prior to becoming a Councillor, she had run a design business which had worked with VCS organisations, some of which had received funding from the Council.]

[Councillor H Priest declared a personal interest as volunteer for North Manchester FM, which had previously received funding from the Council.]

[Councillor Ogunbambo declared a personal interest as his football club Blackley FC had previously received funding from the Council.]

CESC/22/26 Wynnstay Grove Public Spaces Protection Order - Update

The Committee received a report of the Head of Compliance, Enforcement and Community Safety and the Community Safety Lead which provided an update on the implementation of the Wynnstay Grove Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO).

The main points and themes within the report included:

- Background information;
- Update regarding the implementation of the PSPO;
- Duration of PSPOs; and
- Review of the Wynnstay Grove PSPO.

A Member who was also a Lead Member for Women advised that she had requested this report after the Roe vs Wade judgement was overturned in the USA. She affirmed the Council's support for women's right to access healthcare to which they were entitled without harassment or intimidation. She welcomed the plans to evaluate the evidence to consider whether the PSPO should be extended and advised that the evaluation should take into account that the pandemic would have affected protest activity during the period of the PSPO. Other Members voiced their support for the PSPO.

A Member reported that the PSPO appeared to have achieved what it set out to do and asked whether, if the evidence supported this, there were alternatives to carrying out consultations every 3 years in order to extend the PSPO. The Community Safety Lead explained that the legislation required that the PSPO be reviewed every 3 years, including carrying out a consultation. In response to a question from the Chair, she confirmed that any impact from the pandemic would be taken into account when reviewing the evidence. In response to a Member's question, she advised that the feedback from the Marie Stopes clinic on the impact of the PSPO had been positive and that there had not been any reports of issues from other providers across the city. In response to a further question on ensuring compliance with the PSPO, the Community Safety Lead advised that, when it was first introduced, engagement had taken place with those outside the clinic and the protest groups involved to ensure that they were aware of the introduction of the PSPO but that now officers relied on the clinic informing them of any breaches of the PSPO which needed to be responded to.

Decision

To note that the Committee would receive an update after the consultation period.

CESC/22/27 Recommendation for the Extension and Variation of the Public Spaces Protection Orders Relating to Dog Control

The Committee received a report of the Head of Compliance, Enforcement and Community Safety which provided the Committee with the outcomes of the recent consultation exercise in respect of the PSPOs relating to the control of dogs, which was undertaken between 19 May and 16 June 2022.

The main points and themes within the report included:

- Risks associated with poor dog control;
- Legal issues;
- Review of the on-lead/exclusion PSPOs;
- Supporting evidence;
- Consultation;
- Changes to the proposed PSPOs arising from the consultation;
- Equality Impact Assessment and the European Convention on Human Rights;
- Final proposed PSPOs; and
- Next steps.

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

- The enforcement of the restrictions by officers and whether the public could report breaches;
- Public education, the importance of clearly displaying this information in parks and concerns that this was not always the case at all entrances; and
- Was there evidence that the PSPOs had led to a reduction in dog fouling.

The Head of Compliance, Enforcement and Community Safety advised that officers undertook patrols and, if there were known issues in a particular area, then targeted enforcement activity would take place. She confirmed that members of the public could report breaches and that reports from the public and Ward Councillors would be taken into account when deciding where targeted enforcement activity was needed. She advised that signage was already in place as the PSPOs relating to dog control had been introduced in 2019. The Compliance and Enforcement Specialist (Environmental Crimes) explained that there was signage at each park entrance and in areas where particular restrictions were in place, such as play areas; however, he took on board Members' concerns that signage needed to be improved and advised that this would be reviewed if the PSPOs were extended. In response to further comments about how dog owners could be made aware of the PSPOs, the Head of Compliance, Enforcement and Community Safety advised that all the information was on the Council's website and that dog organisations had been consulted on the PSPOs.

In response to a Member's question, the Compliance and Enforcement Specialist (Environmental Crimes) reported that, if a new area needed to be added to the exclusion order during the term of the PSPO, this could be done as a variation of the order, although there was a process which needed to be followed for this, which included a consultation.

In response to the Member's question about the impact of the existing PSPOs, the Head of Compliance, Enforcement and Community Safety reported that she would circulate figures from before the PSPOs had been introduced for comparison. She advised that it could be challenging to catch people failing to pick up after their dogs but that areas which had a particular problem would be targeted and she highlighted that the offence of not being able to demonstrate possession of appropriate means to pick up faeces when in a public place was included in the PSPOs.

In response to questions from the Chair, the Parks Operations Manager advised that she would look into the specific details of the PSPOs in relation to Orford Road Playing Fields, Brookdale Park and Victoria Mill Park outside of the meeting. In response to a further question, the Compliance and Enforcement Specialist (Environmental Crimes) reported that the term "when in use" relating to playing pitches referred to organised practice sessions or matches.

The Chair thanked officers for their work on this and welcomed its implementation.

Decision

To note the report.

CESC/22/28 Community Events

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) which summarised the ongoing challenges facing the event sector as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic, the subsequent impact on community event remobilisation through the 2022-23 recovery period in Manchester and how the City Council was supporting community event partners to rebuild and reconnect with their communities. The paper outlined the current funding arrangements in place through the Community Event Fund (CEF) and identified additional areas for development and improvement that were being targeted throughout the 2022-23 financial year to strengthen the capabilities of event partners and reset the baseline against which future funding should be assigned.

The main points and themes within the report included:

- Post Covid 19 overview of the UK events sector;
- Manchester's event recovery response;
- Community Events Funding 2022/23;
- Strengthening capabilities relating to community events;
- Event sustainability;
- Protect Duty;
- Equalities and diversity; and
- Economic and social impact measurement.

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

- The success of the Wythenshawe Games, the challenge each year with securing funding for it and that events funding should be provided for the Wythenshawe Games;

- Concern that the same groups were being funded each year and that new groups should be able to access the funding;
- The re-distribution of funds generated by large, commercial events to help fund community events;
- To recognise the important role of volunteers in running events and concern that there were lower volunteer numbers after lockdown; and
- The impact of the Protect Duty.

The Events Lead reported that the Council would like to increase its community events budget and that one way of doing this would be to bring more commercial activities into a park such as Wythenshawe Park and then use that money to fund other local, community activities. He advised that the Council would also like to reduce the amount of funding provided to existing partners but that this had been impacted by the pandemic. He reported that the Wythenshawe Games did not submit a funding application in the current year so could not have been considered and that he was aware that it had been funded through other routes previously; however, if an application was submitted in the future, it would be considered against the criteria. In response to a question from the Chair, he advised that the criteria was published when the funding was advertised and applications were evaluated against that but that the applications for funding normally outstripped the amount of funding available. The Executive Member for Skills, Employment and Leisure reported that he would discuss with officers how to ensure that the publicity about the funding scheme was shared with different groups.

The Chair requested that the Committee receive a further report at an appropriate time which included the criteria for funding, the Manchester Events Strategy and an update on work on the additional areas for development and improvement which were referred to in the report. The Executive Member for Skills, Employment and Leisure offered to circulate the criteria for the fund to Members of the Committee. Members requested that the timetable for the scheme and the Equality Impact Assessment also be circulated. In response to a Member's question on the sports programme across the city, the Executive Member for Skills, Employment and Leisure agreed to circulate information on sports activities that were being funded across the city. In response to a Member's question about event sustainability, he referred Members to a report on Climate Change and Events which had been submitted to the Committee's meeting on 11 January 2022 and asked the Scrutiny Support Officer to circulate this to the Committee Members. The Commercial Lead outlined some of the work taking place to improve sustainability and advised that information on the impact of this would be included in the next report.

The Events Lead acknowledged the Member's comments about volunteers, stating that the number of volunteers had decreased but that, as many events had not taken place yet, the extent of this impact was not yet known. In response to a Member's request, he advised that information on the geographic spread of the funded events could be included in the next report. He reported that the Protect Duty was forthcoming legislation which would put additional responsibilities on community event organisers to provide better protection from terrorism. In response to a question from the Chair, he advised that this was likely to lead to increased security costs for event organisers but that, as the legislation was not published yet, this could not be confirmed.

Decisions

1. To receive a further report at an appropriate time which includes the Manchester Events Strategy, information on the geographic spread of the funded events and an update on work on the additional areas for development and improvement referred to in the report.
2. To request that the Executive Member for Skills, Employment and Leisure circulate the criteria and timetable for the Community Events Fund, along with the Equality Impact Assessment and information on sports activities that are currently being funded across the city.
3. To ask the Scrutiny Support Officer to circulate the report on Climate Change and Events, which was considered at the Committee's meeting on 11 January 2022, to Members of the Committee.

CESC/22/29 Overview Report

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

Decision

To note the report and agree the work programme.

Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2022

Present:

Councillor Hitchen - In the Chair
Councillors Benham, M Dar, Evans, Hilal, Hussain, Iqbal, Ogunbambo, H Priest, Rawson, Whiston, Wills and Wilson

Also present:

Councillor Midgley, Deputy Leader
Councillor Rahman, Statutory Deputy Leader
Councillor Hacking, Executive Member for Skills, Employment and Leisure
Councillor Lynch, Lead Member for Women
Rebecca Livesey, MCRactive
Yawar Abbas, MCRactive
Chief Superintendent Rob Cousen, Greater Manchester Police (GMP)
Chief Inspector Adam Wignall, GMP
Andrew Roberts, Probation Service
Stuart Tasker, Probation Service
Spencer Davies, The University of Manchester
Superintendent Chris Downey, GMP
Phil Hoyland, City of Manchester Learning Partnership

Apologies:

Councillors Azra Ali, Chambers, Connolly and Johnson

CESC/22/30 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19 July 2022 as a correct record.

CESC/22/31 Minute's Silence – Pakistan Floods

The Committee held a minute's silence for the people affected by the floods in Pakistan. A Member informed the Committee about work taking place in Manchester to support those affected, including containers of items donated by Manchester residents which would be shipped to those affected. He reported that the Leader had met with the Consul General of Pakistan and MP Afzal Khan to discuss what other support Manchester could provide.

CESC/22/32 Manchester Sport and Physical Activity Strategy Update and Proposed Refresh

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) which highlighted the progress that had been made to date in delivering Manchester's Sport and Physical Strategy and the amendments that were proposed to ensure the city remained on target to deliver a sustained increase in participation levels and how the city built back fairer from the impacts of the virus. The Committee was invited to

comment on this report before its submission to the Executive on 14 September 2022.

The main points and themes within the report included:

- Progress on the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy in relation to the seven strategic themes;
- Refresh of the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy to 2028; and
- Next steps.

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

- To welcome the shift to recognising the need for different approaches for different places and communities;
- The cost of living rise and the affordability of leisure activities, including what could be done for young people who could not afford to pay for leisure activities;
- That the most important element of the strategy was to encourage people who were currently inactive to start becoming active;
- Noting the importance of free sports activity and the ability to try a sport for free and that upgrading of sport facilities should not involve the introduction of a small fee for using them as that would deter people from trying out these activities;
- The installation of non-turf cricket wickets in parks and the need for the activation programme so that they were used;
- To welcome the Active Streets programme but could any follow-up work be done to continue to engage the residents;
- Concern that some areas did not have adequate sports facilities as having to travel to facilities was a deterrent to taking part;
- The importance of women-only activities to encourage increased participation;
- To request an increased equality focus in future reports, including recognition of invisible disabilities;
- To welcome that the report had differentiated between leisure facility membership and usage in terms of gender and that it would be useful to have this breakdown for the other equality categories; and
- That it would be useful to have more data on the progress made in relation to usage by people from Black, Asian, and other Minority Ethnic backgrounds.

Rebecca Livesey, Chief Operating Officer of MCRactive, informed the Committee about work to understand communities better and work differently, highlighting the Sport England Greater Manchester Local Pilot and the Winning Hearts and Minds programme. She advised that the funding for these would end in 2024 and that plans were already being discussed for how the lessons learnt would be used beyond this date to work differently, embedding them in a neighbourhoods delivery model. She reported that the programmes had a focus on people who were currently inactive and getting them to become engaged in some level of activity and that this included engagement with women, different ethnic minority groups and age groups. She provided an example of a women's cycling group aimed at women who had not learnt

to ride a bicycle when younger and advised that there were many other examples and Members could contact her for further information.

The Commercial Lead (Neighbourhoods) outlined changes that had been made to leisure facilities to make them more accessible for disabled people. She advised that this had so far not resulted in the expected level of increase in use by disabled residents so further work was needed, consulting with relevant groups to find out what kind of leisure sessions they wanted. She acknowledged the cost of living crisis affecting Manchester residents, including children and young people, and reported that the Council and its partners were responding with an increase in free, accessible facilities, including localised, targeted provision. In response to a Member's comments, she advised that more work would be done to improve communication, including non-digital communication, so that residents were aware of what was available in their area. In response to the comments about the equality data in the report, she advised that she would provide the additional data requested to Committee Members. She reported that more women-only sessions were being provided, although there had been challenges in recruiting female lifeguards in some areas which they were working to address.

Yawar Abbas, Head of Sport and Events, MCRactive advised that he and his colleagues were happy to meet with individual Members to discuss the issues they had raised, including activities for young people and the follow-up to Active Streets. He acknowledged the Member's point about introducing charges for facilities, saying that this was a complex issue as the provision had to be sustainable. He outlined how this was being achieved in relation to tennis and also highlighted the Holiday Activity Fund, which was targeting free provision where it was most needed. Rebecca Livesey drew Members' attention to the free swimming offer for those aged 16 and under and those aged 60 and over. Yawar Abbas advised that the launch of the activation programme for the non-turf cricket wickets was due to take place the following day.

Decisions

1. To request a further report including place-based activity across the wards, comparison of different areas of the city, coaching opportunities, the impact of the cost-of-living rise, work to engage people with different protected characteristics, including women, and providing activities to engage young people.
2. To note that the Commercial Lead (Neighbourhoods) will provide the data requested.
3. To endorse the recommendation to the Executive that:
 - (1) The Executive is recommended to approve the refresh of the Strategy.

CESC/22/33 Community Safety Strategy 2022-25

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) and Chair of the Community Safety Partnership which introduced the Community Safety

Strategy 2022-25 for Manchester and highlighted the Community Safety Partnership's priorities for the next three years.

The main points and themes within the report included:

- The legislative context of the Strategy;
- Consultation with residents, businesses and community groups;
- Other factors taken into account in developing the Strategy;
- The Greater Manchester Police and Crime Plan 2022-25; and
- Community Safety Partnership Priorities and a summary of some of the actions that would be carried out to meet these priorities.

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

- Preventing re-offending, including the impact of mental health issues, drugs and alcohol and issues relating to housing, skills and employment and what more could be done, noting that some drug and alcohol services had been closed down;
- Residents' concerns about anti-social behaviour, burglaries and speeding, noting that, while GMP's response to burglaries seemed to have improved, residents still did not feel that there was enough action in response to speeding;
- Residents' perception that it was difficult to report crimes to GMP;
- The need for innovative and holistic collaborations to address some of the issues in communities;
- Sharing positive experiences of specific neighbourhood police officers in Members' wards; and
- Young people, noting that they could often be the victims of crime or be perpetrators, including ensuring that their views were taken into account, improving the relationship between young people and the police and responding to issues relating to the behaviour of some young people directly after the end of the school day.

Stuart Tasker from the Probation Service advised that acquisitive crime was now central to the Integrated Offender Management strategy and that the Probation Service, GMP and drug services were working together to address the underlying causes of offending. He informed Members about his service's tailored approach for working with young offenders between the ages of 18 and 25.

The Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) outlined work taking place with GMP and health partners through the Bringing Services Together programme to identify where high levels of demand for their services were coming from and putting together joint plans for particular individuals.

Chief Superintendent Rob Cousen from GMP informed the Committee that GMP had made a commitment to visit every victim of burglary and that the level achieved at present was about 94%. He advised that GMP had a focus on neighbourhood crime including burglary, robbery, vehicle crime and theft from the person. He advised he had established three neighbourhood crime teams in Manchester to focus on these areas. He outlined work taking place to address speeding, advising that more speed

watch operations would be taking place and that GMP was also encouraging community speed watch. He asked Members to inform GMP of areas where this was a particular issue of concern. He informed Members of improvements in the reporting of crime, advising that the average length of time for a 999 call to be answered was now 9 seconds and for the non-emergency 101 number it was now one to one-and-a-half minutes, a reduction from 5 minutes. In response to a question from the Chair, he confirmed that the key priority areas outlined in the Police and Crime Plan were all of equal priority.

Chief Inspector Adam Wignall from GMP informed the Committee about work taking place with partners, including the business community, to address crimes such as theft from the person related to the night time economy, including a focus on prevention.

The Statutory Deputy Leader welcomed the approach of the new Chief Constable Stephen Watson and Chief Superintendent Rob Cousen, which focussed on neighbourhood policing, while also highlighting the challenges faced by the city, due to austerity and funding cuts, both in GMP and in areas such as drug and alcohol services, and he advised that, therefore, an innovative approach was required.

Chief Superintendent Rob Cousen reported that GMP's School Engagement Officers were working with the city's young people and that there was also other engagement work with young people, for example, sports activity to build trust and confidence with young people. He reported that neighbourhood police officers had previously been used to respond to emergency incidents but that they would now be ringfenced for neighbourhood policing work, patrolling in the local area and addressing local concerns, such as anti-social behaviour, before they developed into larger issues.

The Community Safety Lead informed the Committee that, although there had been cuts to drug and alcohol services over a long period, there had recently been some investment in this area and this had been linked in with the Bringing Services Together work and adopting a trauma-informed approach. She reported that the Community Safety Partnership was working with Manchester Metropolitan University who were carrying out a regular survey to understand the trends and prevalence of drugs in communities. In response to comments about young people and crime, she drew Members' attention to a piece of work commissioned through Reclaim, which had been used to inform this Strategy and the Serious Violence Strategy. She outlined the partnership approach to addressing anti-social behaviour and preventing its escalation.

In response to a question from the Chair about designing the physical environment to reduce crime, including street lighting and the use of alleygating, the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) offered to provide a further report which included information on this. She advised that Community Safety Specialists were involved in the design of new neighbourhoods and had been involved in the re-design of Piccadilly Gardens. She reported that alleygating was part of Public Space Protection Orders and advised that further information on this could be included in a future report. A Member requested that a future report include further information from the Probation Service on preventing re-offending, including addressing mental health issues, drugs and alcohol issues and housing, skills and employment. The

Chair requested that information on hotspot areas where people on probation were housed be included in a future report. She also requested that a future report include information on links with the youth service.

Decision

To receive a further report at an appropriate time, including the information requested by Members.

CESC/22/34 Manchester's approach to achieving the Safety of Women and Girls

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) which introduced Manchester's approach for the safety of women and girls in the city.

The main points and themes within the report included:

- The Greater Manchester response;
- Manchester's approach;
- White Ribbon Accreditation; and
- Governance.

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

- That some of this work should focus on older women and the issues they face;
- To welcome the Women's Night-time Safety Charter and could this be incorporated into Licensing Policy;
- The need to tackle violence against trans women; and
- Attacks on new female students in September in wards such Fallowfield and Withington.

Spencer Davies, Head of Advice and Response at the University of Manchester outlined how the University was working with partners to respond to the issues relating to the Safety of Women and Girls. He highlighted the recently established Sexual Violence Action Network for students, and improved information-sharing between universities to identify patterns and trends and provide a targeted response. He outlined the role of the University's Advice and Response Team, which included supporting female students in relation to domestic abuse and sexual assault and other violence.

The Lead Member for Women welcomed that the Council had been awarded White Ribbon Accreditation and advised that the Council should encourage other organisations to do the same. She welcomed the progress in addressing the spiking of drinks. She advised that there should be a focus on prevention, including educating men and boys.

The Community Safety Lead confirmed that colleagues from Education were part of the steering group and that work in schools would form part of this work. She advised that there were a lot of crosscutting themes within this work. She reported that the Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy had included a focus on older

women and that work was taking place to address the gap in provision in relation to this group. She assured Members that older women not been forgotten as part of the work on the Safety of Women and Girls and that she would ensure that this was reflected in the Equality Impact Assessment and the Reference Group. She confirmed that her team were working with Licensing colleagues in relation to the Women's Night-time Safety Charter and standards for licensed premises. She acknowledged the Member's point about trans women and that the safety of trans women needed to be part of this work. In response to a Member's question about the women's groups involved in this work, she stated that she would welcome Members' suggestions of any other groups who could be involved. She stated that there was a comprehensive plan in place for the return of students in September.

In response to a Member's suggestion that a subgroup be established with female Members only to look at the different areas and issues within this work, the Chair advised that she would discuss this proposal with the Deputy Leader and then provide an update to the Committee.

The Chair welcomed that the Council had been awarded White Ribbon Accreditation and recommended that all male Councillors undertake the White Ribbon training.

Decision

To recommend that all male Councillors undertake the White Ribbon training.

CESC/22/35 Serious Violence Draft Strategy

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) which provided an overview of progress made on developing Manchester's Serious Violence Strategy. The draft strategy explained the strategic partnership approach to serious violence for Manchester.

The main points and themes within the report included:

- Background information;
- The Serious Violence Duty; and
- Manchester's approach – key priorities and principles for delivery.

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

- How would the success of the Strategy be measured and could the Committee receive regular information on this;
- Examples of violence and anti-social behaviour from young people in some wards and concerns of this escalating without intervention;
- That more needed to be done to get children out of Pupil Referral Units back into mainstream schools and provide support to parents; and
- Issues of disproportionality in the criminal justice system affecting the level of trust young people had in the police and other authorities which could prevent them from seeking support.

The Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) advised that the Committee received a regular update report on Community Safety priorities so officers could look to incorporate data relating to this strategy.

The Community Safety Lead advised that there were a range of outcomes which would be measured, for example, crime statistics, school inclusion, first time entrants to the criminal justice system and support provided to young people, and that young people had been consulted on the outcomes that should be measured. She agreed with a Member's comment about the importance of involving families affected by serious violence in the work taking place and acknowledged issues of disproportionately in the criminal justice system, particularly in relation to black young men and people with Special Educational Needs and Disability, which were recognised within the Strategy.

The Head of Youth Justice informed the Committee that additional funding from the Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit and the Community Safety Partnership was enabling his service to use the trusted relationship model, which had previously been used to work with and build relationships with young people who had entered the criminal justice system, to work with young people who had not entered the criminal justice system, providing specialist intervention at an earlier stage.

In response to a Member's question, Phil Hoyland, Partnership Development Lead, City of Manchester Learning Partnership provided further information on the SAFE Taskforce, highlighting work to identify and work with children struggling with the transition from primary school to high school.

The Chair requested that the Committee receive a further report, including information on measuring the outcomes of the Strategy. She requested that the report also include information on work to tackle the increase in youth violence in north Manchester and disparities across different areas of the city.

Decision

To request a further report, including information on measuring the outcomes of the Strategy, work to tackle the increase in youth violence in north Manchester and disparities across different areas of the city.

CESC/22/36 Overview Report

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

Decision

To note the report and agree the work programme.

Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 19 July 2022

Present:

Councillor Simcock (Chair) – in the Chair
Councillors Andrews, Davies, Good, Kirkpatrick, Lanchbury, Rowles and Akbar

Also present:

Councillor Akbar (Executive Member for Finance and Resources)

Apologies: Councillors B Priest and Wheeler

RGSC/22/25 Minutes

Decision

That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

RGSC/22/26 Call In - Capital Expenditure to fit out levels 5 and 6 of Manchester Town Hall

In line with Council procedures, at the commencement of the meeting, the Chair took as the first item an Executive Decision that had been called in. This had been requested by five members of the Council for the Committee to consider. The Committee would look at whether the decision made complied with the Council's decision-making process. If the Committee believed that this had not been complied with, it could then refer the matter back to the decision-maker for reconsideration.

On behalf of those who had signed the request, Councillor John Leech was invited by the Chair to explain the reasons for calling in the decision to approve capital expenditure of £1,170,000 for the fit out of levels 5 and 6 of Manchester Town Hall.

Councillor Leech explained that a response to his enquiries was only provided 24 hours before the deadline for call-in and that this did not allow opportunity to ask further questions relating to the viability of renting out the office space, and whether moving Town Hall staff into the space was good value for money before the decision was implemented.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, the Director of Capital Programmes and the Head of Corporate Property were in attendance to answer questions of the Committee.

In response to member queries, it was explained that external advisors had been consulted on value-for-money and a report outlining the financial benefits of the decision had been considered by the Strategic Board.

Decision:

That the decision taken by the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer on 7 July 2022 relating to the approval of capital expenditure of £1,170,000 for the fit out of levels 5 and 6 of Manchester Town Hall, should stand.

RGSC/22/27 HROD Update

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development (HROD), which provided an overview on HROD activity within the Council.

Key point and themes of the report included:-

- Updates on Our Ways of Working, Service Design and the Performance Management framework and approach;
- An overview of the Workforce Equality Strategy and its aims;
- An update on recruitment, including a proposed refresh of the Recruitment and Selection policy; and
- An update on casework with a focus on the organisations handling of suspensions.

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

- What the acronym EDI referred to in the report meant;
- No reference to the Talent and Diversity team working with care leavers to strengthen employment pathways to the Council;
- How difficult it was for the Work and Skills team to engage with young people NEET through the pilot programme to subsidise and support young people's participation in training direct and whether this work was undertaken on a ward-to-ward basis;
- The frequency of Equality Employee Network meetings and how we can ensure these meetings are meaningful;
- How are challenges within the Equality Employee Network resolved and evidenced;
- The inclusion of transgender employees within the Equality Employee Network and Workforce Equality Strategy;
- Potential solutions to the lack of system in place for recording and monitoring About You performance development meetings;
- Satisfaction at the decrease in number of safeguarding-related conduct cases;
- What the Council was doing to continue improving safeguarding and to prevent the abuse of power within Children and Adult Services; and
- The length of time taken to recruit staff and what was being done to improve this.

The Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development advised that EDI was short for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and that this would be referenced in full in future reports.

The Talent and Diversity Lead provided assurances that the work of his team focused on strengthening employment pathways for all residents and that this encompassed care leavers. It was also explained that the Work and Skills and Education teams were responsible for identifying new cohorts for the pilot programme to engage with young people NEET and that the Talent and Diversity team were involved in connecting young people to opportunities within the Council.

Members were advised that the Employee Equality Networks met monthly with Network members involved in work between meetings in areas such as OD and performance. The Networks also have a governance structure – the Corporate Equalities, Diversity, Inclusion Leadership Group - in place, chaired by the Strategic Lead Member for Race and made up of directorate members and Chairs of the Networks, which meets bi-monthly.

Disputes within the Networks would initially be approached within the monthly meetings or escalated to the Strategic Lead for Race or the Corporate Equalities, Diversity, Inclusion Leadership Group.

The Talent and Diversity Lead also provided assurances that both the LGBT group and transgender employees were engaged throughout the development of the Workforce Equality Strategy and the 'Tell Us Once' programme was cited as an example of this collaborative work.

The Head of Workforce Strategy acknowledged issues around being unable to document and monitor 'About You' sessions and explained that a corporate system with oversight of performance reviews was proposed and that staff would be consulted on this for ideas.

It was also clarified by the Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development that HROD were responsible for the outcome of a safeguarding inquiry and advised that the length of suspensions within Children's and Adults Services had recently been reduced by not awaiting the outcome of a police inquiry.

In response to queries regarding the time taken to recruit, the Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development highlighted that the Recruitment team had evaluated the process, consulted with candidates and recruiting managers and redesigned the process to improve the time taken to recruit and appoint. A new recruitment system had been procured to further improve this.

A commitment was also provided to include feedback from staff about their experiences of working at the Council in a future HROD update report.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) notes the report and
- (2) requests that feedback from staff about their experiences of working at the Council be included in a future HROD update report.

RGSC/22/28 Ethical Procurement and Forthcoming Changes to Government Procurement Rules

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Integrated Commissioning and Procurement, which provided an update on the council's approach to ethical procurement with a focus on workforce considerations including blacklisting and provided an update on changes in Government procurement rules and their potential impact.

Key point and themes of the report included:-

- The Council had a long track record of promoting ethical procurement and social value;
- Over the years the Council had refined its policies and expanded its efforts, introducing, for example, the 20% social value weighting in the evaluation of all tenders;
- The Council's procurement approach was guided by two key policies – the Ethical Procurement Policy and the Social Value Policy;
- The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012, gave the Council the freedom, and certain legal duties in relation to its procurement arrangements but there were some limitations
- Changes to UK Procurement Regulations were currently under consideration as the Local Government Procurement Bill was considered by Parliament during the current term with the new regulations resulting from the Act, once passed, likely to be in force from mid 2023 onwards' and
- In parallel, the Health and Care Act 2022 included provision that would establish a "Provider Selection Regime" ("PSR") which would be a new set of rules replacing the existing procurement rules for arranging healthcare services in England

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

- How prepared the Council is with regards to directly awarding contracts to VCSEs (Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise organisations) in certain limited circumstances for up to 5 years instead of the 3 years under the current regulations;
- A need to include homeless people on the list of priority cohorts for the Social Value Policy as it was recognised that the term rough sleepers does not encompass all homeless people;
- Clarification on the procurement rules where company beneficiaries include the governments of countries with a poor human rights record;
- How the Council excludes bidders from the procurement process if they have committed serious violations; and
- If the Council had any plans to resume face-to-face Meet the Buyer and Ethical Procurement Conference meetings;

The Head of Integrated Commissioning and Procurement highlighted that the current procurement regulations permit the award of contracts to VCSEs in certain circumstances but acknowledged that these were limited. Changes to these regulations were anticipated by the end of July 2022 but the detail was not yet known. It was also confirmed that forward planning for this change would be undertaken to identify those contracts up for renewal and opportunities for new initiatives.

It was acknowledged that the definition of homeless people is wider than “rough sleepers” and would be built into the guidance to support the Ethical Procurement Policy.

Whilst the Head of Integrated Commissioning and Procurement acknowledged that reference to local small and medium-size enterprise (SMEs) was not included in current procurement documentation, although the detail was not yet known, there was an indication that the new regulations would allow local authorities to adopt specific award criteria that may contribute toward the Council’s own objectives.

The Strategic Lead for Integrated Commissioning advised that the Local Government Act 1988 stipulated that local authorities were unable to refuse award of a contract due to non-commercial considerations, such as country of origin. He explained, however, that central government could issue statutory instruments to provide authorities with the legal power to refuse a contract on the basis of country of origin and any embargoes, such as those currently imposed on Russia and Belarus, although the authority would still need to ensure best value-for-money.

The Committee was also advised that the standard questionnaire developed by the Cabinet Office for local authorities to use when inviting contractors to tender included a question on whether the applicant or any company directors had previously been convicted of any serious offences.

The Head of Integrated Commissioning and Procurement commented that face-to-face meetings were recommencing following the Covid pandemic and explained that many Meet the Buyer events had been held virtually, with social value and ethical procurement principles emphasised in these meeting.

Decision

That the Committee note the report.

RGSC/22/29 Management of Major Contracts

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Integrated Commissioning and Procurement and Strategic Lead Integrated Commissioning, which provided information on how major contracts were managed and the key considerations for the Council when looking at future commissioning options.

Key points and theme of the report included:-

- The approach to contract management of major contracts;
- Key considerations for future commissioning;
- Main and current issues connected to contract management and commissioning, including:-
 - Policy changes;
 - Market risk;
 - Inflation and financial management;
 - Contract management skill development;
 - Complex procurements should include an appraisal of delivery options including insourcing;
 - Implementation complications;
 - Retention of expertise;
 - Back-office support requirements; and
 - Urgent insourcing as a result of supplier or market failure

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

- The impact of inflation on services such as school meals and care work and how other costs besides rising fuel prices will impact these;
- Sought assurance that the Council would support local SMEs at risk of closure;
- If detailed analysis of the delivery models which formed part of the decision to let the waste collection and street cleaning services to a contractor could be shared, with specific reference to the contract with Biffa Waste Management
- Whether there was any learning from other authorities that have insourced services that the Council could benefit from; and
- Whether an officer Major Contracts Oversight Board should be established with the Executive Member for Finance chairing the Board and the ability to co-opt other Executive Members to chair where contracts fall within their portfolio.

The Strategic Lead for Integrated Commissioning explained that the Council recognised the pressures currently experienced by suppliers and were willing to consider contract variations due to any price increase and not exclusively as a result of fuel price increase. Suppliers would be expected to keep costs under review and, should fuel prices decrease, it could be possible to renegotiate prices downwards. He advised that, as part of a national "true cost of care" exercise, the Manchester Local Care Organisation was working with the social care market to understand the costs of care, including food, energy, transport and wages.

It was explained that the Council would support SMEs with the focus of continuing to provide vital public services for residents and that they would expect services to have business continuity plans in place. Assurances were also provided that the Council would work with suppliers at risk of closure to understand the nature of the issue and to help with potential solutions.

The Director of Commercial and Operations advised that the details of the Biffa Waste Management contract had been shared with members previously but that he would provide a response to the member outside of the meeting.

The Executive Member for Finance and resources welcomed the recommendation to establish a Major Contracts Oversight Board and commented that this would help to ensure the Council provides good services and value-for-money for residents.

Decision

That the Committee

- (1) notes the report and
- (2) recommends the creation of a Major Contracts Oversight Board to be made up of officers and chaired by the Executive Member for Finance. The proposed purpose of this Board would be to evaluate all major contracts with the potential to co-opt other Executive Members to chair the board where a contract falls within their portfolio.
- (3) recommends that the City Council establishes which other councils are working on projects to bring services back 'in-house' and to learn from their experiences.

RGSC/22/30 Overview Report

The Committee considered the report by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which provided details of key decisions that fall within the Committee's remit and an update on actions resulting from the Committee's recommendations. The report also included the Committee's work programme, which the Committee was asked to amend as appropriate and agree.

Decision

The Committee note the report and agreed the work programme.

Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 6 September 2022

Present:

Councillor Simcock (Chair) – in the Chair
Councillors Davies, Good, Lanchbury, B Priest and Wheeler

Also present:

Councillor Akbar (Executive Member for Finance and Resources)
Councillor Rahman (Deputy Leader (Statutory))
Councillor White (Executive Member for Housing and Development)

Apologies: Councillor Andrews, Kirkpatrick and Rowles

RGSC/22/31 Interests

Councillor Lanchbury declared a personal interest in item 7 – Property Annual Report.

RGSC/22/32 Minutes

Decision:

That the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as a correct record.

RGSC/22/33 Call In - Capital Expenditure Hough End Master Plan

In line with Council procedures, at the commencement of the meeting, the Chair took as the first item an Executive Decision that had been called in. This had been requested by five members of the Council for the Committee to consider. The Committee would look at whether the decision made complied with the Council's decision-making process. If the Committee believed that this had not been complied with, it could then refer the matter back to the decision-maker for reconsideration.

On behalf of those who had signed the request, Councillor John Leech was invited by the Chair to explain the reasons for calling in the decision to approve capital expenditure of £11,905,000 in relation to the Hough End Masterplan.

Councillor Leech explained that he did not believe there was a demonstrable need to improve sports pitches at Hough End Playing Fields and that no evidence had been provided to show that local schools and sports clubs who had invested in artificial pitches to generate income would not be detrimentally affected by the decision.

Councillor Leech also queried the financial return from the investment and whether the cost of replacing pitch surfaces after 10 years would outweigh the total profit

made. He also felt that the works approved in the decision would not contribute to the Council's zero-carbon ambition, contrary to information in the report.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods and the Capital and Facilities Strategy Manager – MCR Active were in attendance to answer questions of the Committee.

In response to Councillor Leech, the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer advised that the decision constituted the final stage in the decision-making process and was the drawdown of funding to support the scheme approved by Planning Committee, the Executive and Full Council. It was explained that a viable business plan had been created with a financial return, which the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer was satisfied with.

It was stated that a broader environmental impact assessment was not required for a development of this scale and that the scheme had been designed with the needs of two local schools in mind.

The Strategic Director Neighbourhoods explained that stakeholder engagement had taken place with organisations and this had assessed the development and growth of clubs and identified a need for new pitch provisions.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer and the Strategic Director Neighbourhoods both expressed their confidence that the correct decision-making processes had been followed.

Decision: (4:1)

That the decision taken by the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer on 3 August 2022 relating to the approval of capital expenditure of £11,905,000 in relation to the Hough End Masterplan, should stand.

RGSC/22/34 Annual Section 106 Monitoring

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director Growth and Development, which provided an update on the Council's Section 106 (s106) activity for 2021/22 and to date.

Key themes in the report included:

- Planning application numbers having remained relatively stable over the years but there had been a slight downturn during 2021/22. It remained too early to predict activity for the current financial year;
- 16 S106 agreements were signed during the 2021/22 financial year and a further 7 agreements had been signed to date for the 2022/23 financial year;
- A higher proportion of contributions related to affordable housing and other key areas include leisure and environmental improvements;
- A schedule of completed agreements for 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 including values and number of units where applicable;

- A working group had been established to ensure that money received is available for spend, that there are no unnecessary delays in the spending of financial contributions and that project managers are in place to oversee individual projects; and
- The balance of funds in the S106 capital accounts and how this money is split and examples of spend, including affordable housing, highway-related works and tree-planting.

Some of the key points and queries that arose from the committee's discussions included:

- Figures indicated a reduction in the number of major applications, which would impact the amount of S106 contributions received;
- If using the Section 278 process was more sufficient in generating funding for highways-related works than S106;
- Where Members involvement would be on the end-to-end process map for planning applications;
- An update on benchmarking with other Local Planning Authorities was requested;
- Whether S106 monies could be placed into the Council's wholly-owned housing delivery vehicle;
- The possibility of members observing the officer working group which ensures money received is available for spend;
- Request for a record of how many and where trees had been planted;
- What was meant by 'land value' and 'market forces'; and
- Expressed thanks for the ward-by-ward breakdown of applications.

The Section Planning Manager explained that increased construction costs had resulted in a reduction in major applications being received but provided assurances that officers would continue to negotiate section 106 contracts where appropriate.

The Section Planning Manager also explained that off-site highways works were often agreed through a condition and relevant agreement and this helps to embed issues through planning permission.

It was explained that members would be involved in discussions regarding applications as soon as they are registered with the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and that confidentiality between the LPA and developers restricted these conversations from taking place before applications were registered. It was acknowledged, however, that some developers hold pre-application consultations.

The Section Planning Manager acknowledged that difficulties in making contact with other Core Cities to undertake benchmarking had led to a delay but informed members that a meeting had been scheduled for late September.

It was also explained that information on the number of trees planted was difficult to quantify for every approved application. The Section Planning Manager advised that this could be undertaken on individual ward levels.

In response to members' requests, the Section Planning Manager agreed to look into whether S106 monies could be used to fund the Council's wholly-owned housing delivery vehicle and how members could be involved in the officer working group. Definitions of the terms 'land values' and 'market forces' would also be provided outside of the meeting.

The Executive Member for Housing and Development welcomed the committee's comments and reiterated the importance of engaging with members on planning applications.

Decision:

That

1. the Committee notes the report;
2. the Committee requests that a further update report is provided to the committee in 12 months; and
3. the Committee requests future reports reference the extent to which Section 278 monies can be utilised.

RGSC/22/35 Property Annual Report

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer and the Director of Strategic Development which provided an update on property activity since the last Annual Property Report to Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee in May 2021.

Key points and themes of the report included:

- The development of the Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP) to set out key priorities for the Council's property and land asset base and the approach to the management of it over a 5 year period;
- An update on the work of the Development team, Estates and Facilities Service and Investment Estate;
- The emergence of the Levelling Up fund, Shared Prosperity Fund and other initiatives had been a focus for the Development Team;
- The creation of a multi-disciplinary team to renew the vision for Wythenshawe Town Centre, with a view to submission of a comprehensive Levelling Up round 2 bid;
- City Centre development and commercial development;
- Housing development and major regeneration projects; and
- Social value work as a result of commitments by the Council's main maintenance contractor, including 755 volunteering hours, 99 hours of school-based support, 76 hours of community support, two energy workshops, five helping hands projects and two charity events.

Some of the key points and queries that arose from the Committee's discussions included:

- How much income had been generated by Central Retail Park being used as a COVID testing site;
- Potential issues with attracting investors to Central Retail Park;
- Commended and recognised work on social value;
- A need for greater working between corporate property and local councillors to link community groups with available venues and space;
- A need for the contracted provider of the Council's property management services, asset valuations, landlord and tenant services to recognise the uniqueness and individualism of some of the Council's assets; and
- How organisations and asset management companies which the Council works with can be 'good neighbours' to residents.

The Head of Development advised members that discussions with a specific party regarding a major opportunity at Central Retail Park had been undertaken and that this remained confidential. It was felt that this opportunity would be appropriate for the development and was progressing positively.

Figures on the income generated from the testing centre at Central Retail Park would be provided outside of the meeting.

The Head of Development acknowledged the Committee's comments on the Council's outsourcing contract and agreed that the scope and provider of the this needed to be appropriate.

Decision:

That the Committee note the report.

RGSC/22/36 Ownership of Assets

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Estates and Facilities and the Head of Development which provided an overview of the Council's Property Asset Database (CPAD), the training available for Councillors on the system, and the role of the Records team in supporting ownership queries.

Key themes and points of the report included:

- CPAD helps Councillors to determine who owns what within their wards;
- Members have been able to access CPAD since January 2017 and training and access has been offered to all new Members, with refresher training available as required. Any Member requiring new or refresher training should contact CPAD@manchester.gov.uk.
- Members who have received training are provided with read-only access to operational, investment and school site records within their wards; and
- Work was underway to update records and develop a strategic asset management plan.

A live demonstration of using CPAD was also provided at the meeting.

Some of the key points and queries that arose from the Committee's discussions included:

- If land is classified by department and if this information is available through CPAD;
- How the Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP) would improve the decision-making process around land, property, investment and development decision making;
- Encouraging members to take up the offer of training on CPAD;
- If land disposal is recorded on the system;

The Estates Information Manager (Systems) explained that work was underway as part of the 10-year anniversary of CPAD to update some historic records to ensure relevance. It was also confirmed that the CPAD system provides information as to which council department owns an asset.

It was also explained that enquiries as to ownership of land are primarily received through the Council's CRM system which are then directed to Corporate Estates for triage.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer encouraged members and residents to continue to use the CRM system to report issues such as fly tipping and waste.

The Head of Estates and Facilities provided assurances that the SAMP, which was being developed, would provide a clear process for making decisions around ownership of land.

The Director of Development reiterated these comments and explained that the SAMP would be an open and transparent evaluation tool which would bring together the Council's strategic priorities, planning policy and consultation with partners to evaluate the potential of land to provide a supply of homes, work and skills opportunities and community uses. The SAMP would be a public document and engagement would be undertaken with ward members.

The Committee was also advised that officers were working with Members Services to introduce training on CPAD as part of the wider induction programme.

Assurances were provided that records were not deleted from the system and that disposed land would be recorded as an archived site.

The Deputy Leader (Statutory) advised members that work remained underway on the SAMP to ensure robustness and that training could be arranged for after this work is completed.

Decision:

That

1. the Committee notes the report;

2. the Committee recommends increasing efforts to have members of the Council trained on the CPAD system; and
3. the Committee recommends that training on the CPAD system be included as part of the wider induction programme for members.

RGSC/22/37 Global Monitoring and Budget Position

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer which outlined the projected outturn position for 2022/23, based on the latest expenditure and income activity and future projections, and the updated forecast position for 2023/24 and beyond.

Key themes and points of the report included:

- An overspend of £20.1 million was forecasted for 2022/23;
- The overspend was mainly due to the announcement of a higher than expected one year pay award offer for 2022/23 (£9.5m), additional utilities inflation (£3.9m), higher than expected price inflation (£3.6m) and other pressures, largely relating to income shortfalls (£3.4m);
- The pay offer proposed from the National Employers is a flat £1,925 per employee regardless of where they are on the salary structure;
- The implications of COVID-19 and record levels of inflation on the Council's cost base would have a significant impact on the Council's finances for a number of years;
- The main demand-led services of Adults, Children's and Homelessness were projecting to outturn at or below budget;
- The Council was working to reduce the pressures where possible and mitigate the position by:
 - Daily monitoring of wholesale prices for gas and electricity to inform the best time to take up new contracts
 - Rigorous procurement practices and ongoing discussions with suppliers to contain inflationary increases where possible
 - Review of Sales, Fees and Charges income to reflect increased pay awards and other costs where possible.
 - All directorates to review budgets and identify in year savings and mitigations ;
- Development of a parking strategy was underway to support the overall city centre transport strategy and rebase budgets to reflect the reduced level of off-street parking income; and
- The Medium-Term Financial Statement (MTFS) forecasted the Council's budget gap at £37m in 2023/24, increasing to £58m by 2024/25.

Some of the key points and queries that arose from the Committee's discussions included:

- Acknowledged the rapidly-moving situation within the budget process;
- The increased workload anticipated in Revenues and Benefits this winter;

- Potential difficulties in receiving council tax and business rates as the cost of living crisis escalates;
- Whether any modelling had been undertaken regarding the local government pay offer, which was still under negotiation; and
- Any additional measures the Council could provide to help residents living in socially-rented properties.

The Deputy City Treasurer advised that the current pay offer was a flat-rate £1925 per employee, irrespective of position on the pay scale. This meant that employees on the lowest pay would see the greatest increase in their pay. This constituted an average increase of 7% to the Council's pay bill, amounting to £16.5 million in comparison to £7 million which was budgeted for.

The Deputy City Treasurer also advised members that this figure was still under negotiation and that the pay offer could amount to higher if the flat £1925 increase was rejected.

It was explained that the inflation rate was 3% when the budget was set in February 2022 and was projected to peak at 5%.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer explained that a further Household Support Scheme had been announced and further guidance on this was expected. The provisional figure for the scheme was £6.5 million and the Council would work to identify how this funding could be best used.

It was acknowledged that the Council was unable to mitigate every consequence of the cost of living crisis but work was underway to assess how the Council makes best use of its resources and discussions were ongoing between the Council and landlords on how to support residents. Discussions were also taking place regarding housing revenue accounts and the level of rent increases.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer also informed members of a reserve which had been set aside and the Council was assessing proposals on how this could be used.

The Executive Member for Finance and Resources commented that the Council was experiencing difficulty in absorbing inflationary pressures given the impact of COVID and the cost of living crisis and called on the government to recognise the severe and unprecedented pressures that local authorities are facing.

The Executive Member encouraged the government to commit additional funding in the fiscal event, which was anticipated in late September, to mitigate against soaring inflation so that essential services provided by local authorities are supported.

Decision:

That

1. the Committee notes the report and

2. the Committee endorses any efforts made by the Council to secure additional funding from the government.

RGSC/22/38 Overview Report

The Committee considered the report by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which provided details of key decisions that fall within the Committee's remit and an update on actions resulting from the Committee's recommendations. The report also included the Committee's work programme, which the Committee was asked to amend as appropriate and agree.

Members reiterated their desire for all reports to be published on time and requested that a response be provided to the outstanding recommendation on the Recommendations Monitor.

Decision:

The Committee note the report and agreed the work programme.

Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2022

Present:

Councillor Green – in the Chair
Councillors Appleby, Bayunu, Curley, Karney, Newman, Reeves, Riasat, Richards and Russell

Apologies: None received

Also present:

Councillor T. Robinson, Executive Member for Healthy Manchester and Adult Social Care
Councillor Rawlins, Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Councillor Shilton Godwin, Chair of Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee
Sir Richard Leese, Chair, Greater Manchester Integrated Care
Mark Fisher CBE, Chief Executive Designate, Greater Manchester Integrated Care
Ed Dyson, Executive Director of Strategy & Deputy Chief Accountable Officer, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Jemma Hynes, FoodSync
Julie Taylor, Director of Strategy (Manchester), NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care
Lee Hay, Director of Strategy, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust
Catherine Hollingsworth, Partnership Account Manager, Slimming World

HSC/22/27 Urgent Business – The Recent Heatwave

The Chair introduced an item of urgent business by inviting the Director of Public Health, the Executive Director of Adult Social Services and the Chief Operating Officer of the MLCO to address the Committee on the response to the unprecedented recent heatwave.

Officers reported that across the wider health system, all services had worked together and planned for the imminent heatwave following the announcements from the Met Office. An update was provided that described the measures taken to support both residents and staff in a range of settings, noting that despite the additional pressures experienced the system had coped.

The Executive Member for Healthy Manchester and Adult Social Care thanked all staff involved in protecting and supporting residents. He further thanked the residents of Manchester for adhering to the public health messages during the heatwave.

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

- That the impact of climate change could not be ignored and the Government needed to do more immediately to address this;
- Recognising the invaluable service that the public sector provided at such times of crisis;

- More information was sought on the approach to communications with vulnerable groups;
- Noting the impact of Covid and people's reluctance to access medical assistance it was important to reiterate that if residents were experiencing symptoms, they should seek appropriate medical assistance; and
- Noting that the impact of the heatwave on people's health would be felt in the coming weeks and months.

The Chair stated that the Committee had given a commitment to regularly consider the relationship between climate change and health and recommended that the next quarterly report focused on the impact of the heatwave and resilience building across the system. The Chair further commented upon the impact of the heatwave on mental health, noting that this was in the context of other global existential threats.

Decision

To note the update and recommend that the next report that considers the relationship between health and climate change focuses on the impact of the heatwave, including physical and mental health and resilience building across the system.

HSC/22/28 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2022 as a correct record.

HSC/22/29 Manchester University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Strategy (Manchester), NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care and the Director of Strategy, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust (MFT) that described service change proposals for Clinical Haematology and Fetal Medicine that formed part of the agreed plans to disaggregate services for the legacy Pennine Acute Hospital Trust (PAHT) and integrate North Manchester General Hospital (NMGH) services into Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Providing an overview of the strategic context for change;
- The approach to developing and assuring service change proposals;
- An overview of the service change proposals; and
- Key areas of focus highlighted during the engagement process.

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

- The importance of considering public transport costs incurred by residents when proposing changes to the location of the delivery of services;
- An assurance was sought that the proposals reported did not amount to asset stripping from North Manchester General Hospital;

- Consideration needed to be given to the language within the reports submitted to the Committee to ensure that plain English was used throughout so that they were accessible to the lay reader;
- Did the proposals in regard to Fetal Medicine represent a wider reorganisation of maternity services or was it a more discrete proposal; and
- Noting that the Health Scrutiny Committee retained the right to refer any proposed substantial variation to the Secretary of State if satisfied that the criteria had been met.

The Executive Member for Healthy Manchester and Adult Social Care stated that NHS partners were aware of the rights of the Health Scrutiny Committee to refer any proposed substantial variation to the Secretary of State, however he reassured the Committee that NHS partners did consult with him on a regular basis, and this provided political oversight and input. He advised that he further pressed and challenged NHS partners to explicitly report the considerations given to the impacts on residents. He further noted the comments regarding the use of plain English.

The Director of Strategy, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust reassured the Committee that the Fetal Medicine service were currently delivered at the Royal Oldham hospital site and did not represent any asset stripping from the North Manchester General Hospital. He further advised that this was not part of a systematic redesign of the delivery of maternity services.

The Chair stated that she was reassured by the statement provided by the Executive Member for Healthy Manchester and Adult Social Care and was satisfied with the reported consideration given to travel and digital inclusion. She asked that any future proposals were submitted to the Committee at the earliest opportunity so that the Committee could comment on these.

Decision

To note the report.

HSC/22/30 Climate Change - Food and Health

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Public Health that described the strategy and actions of the Manchester Food Board (MFB) to achieve a positive alteration in the food system within the city and, at the same time, address climate change, alongside an update of recent actions and priorities for 2022.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Providing an introduction and background, noting that the current MFB was set up in 2019 as a multi-sectoral partnership capable of driving systemic, strategic change in the food system for Manchester;
- The key over-arching priority for MFB was now addressing the environmental and climate change issues related to food production and consumption;
- Describing the specific aim to reduce environmental impacts throughout the food system with a focus on food waste and a shift to more ecological practices;

- Noting that the Food for the Planet Strategy is aligned with the Manchester Climate Change Framework;
- Describing the action for 2022; and
- Describing future actions.

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

- Noting the impact of the cost of living crisis, more needed to be done with supermarkets in deprived wards to ensure people had access to healthy food options;
- Discussing the provision of school meals and how providers could be influenced;
- What was the relationship between the Food Board and local community providers;
- Business Rates should be used to encourage businesses providing healthy food options;
- What consideration had been given to the provision of free drinking water access points across the city to reduce people purchasing bottled water;
- The need to engage young people on the issue of fast food and healthy choices; and
- Council owned land should be released to community groups to support the planting and growing of food.

The Committee welcomed Councillor Shilton Godwin, Chair of the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee who discussed the relationship between food consumption, particularly meat, food production and carbon emissions. She stated that the National Food Strategy for England had failed to address the issue of supermarket practices.

Jemma Hynes, FoodSync discussed the challenges experienced when attempting to engage with supermarkets. She stated that local branches of supermarkets had little or no autonomy to make decisions. She contextualised the issue by explaining that food was traded globally as a commodity with complex supply chains, adding that the full implications of the war in the Ukraine on global food supplies was yet to be realised. She further commented that the greatest profits to supermarkets were achieved through the sale of processed foods, not fruit and vegetables. However, despite this they continued to lobby at a national level to influence change with regard to national chains. She stated that they focused a lot of their limited resources on working with the local independent food sector. With regard to the discussion regarding the cost of living crisis she commented that the Food Board did contribute to the Council's Family Poverty Strategy. She further commented that the distribution of free food also needed to consider the quality of the food, noting that the priority during the pandemic had correctly been to ensure that people were fed, however consideration now had to be given to the nutritional value of the food that was distributed to families in crisis.

Jemma Hynes, FoodSync stated that they did advocate bringing the provision of school meals back into the control of local authorities and advised that the Food Board did work closely with the Council's Education Department. She described that school budgets were pressured, noting that the increased costs of fuel bills would add to this situation. She commented that a consequence of this would potentially be

for providers of school meals to source produce from other countries where this was cheaper, however the associated food miles contributed to carbon emissions. She further added that Business Rates was a complex system and they advocated a change to this, including the establishment of a grants system to support local, sustainable businesses.

Jemma Hynes, FoodSync stated that the issue of releasing council owned land to community groups to grow food was not as simple as it first appeared, noting that issues of soil toxicity, the required initial capital investment in infrastructure and ongoing maintenance funding all had to be considered, noting that competition for land was very fierce across the city. She stated that 'grow your own' work with community groups and residents was delivered, often through working with partners such as local housing providers, adding that a one size fits all approach was not appropriate.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport advised the Committee that the Manchester Food Board were represented and contributed to the Manchester Climate Change Framework, noting that the Manchester Climate Change Framework (2020-25) was the city's high-level strategy for tackling climate change. She supported the call for behaviour change regarding food choices and the need for meaningful engagement with all residents on this important issue. She encouraged all Members that this should be included in each respective ward's Climate Change Action Plans. She further advised that she would circulate the latest Food Board Newsletter and encouraged all Members to subscribe to this.

The Chair stated that she would speak with the Executive Member for Environment and Transport to agree how the Committee could contribute to and comment on the refresh of the Manchester Food Board Strategy.

A Member recommended that a future update report be provided that informed Members on the actions and initiatives undertaken by the Manchester Food Board to engage with local supermarkets in the most deprived wards in the city.

Decisions

1. The Committee note the report and the Manchester Food Board strategy and action plans.
2. The Committee recommend that a future update report is provided that informs Members on the actions and initiatives undertaken by the Manchester Food Board to engage with local supermarkets in the most deprived wards in the city.

HSC/22/31 Adult Weight Management Services

The Committee considered the report of Director of Public Health that provided an update on the delivery of weight management services in the city and introduced the *Food Active!* Healthy Weight Declaration. It provided evidence of the work delivered by commissioned weight management service providers and wider system partners such as physical activity providers.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Noting that in Manchester 63% of adults (Active Lives Survey 2018) and 41% of children aged 10-11 years (National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) 2020) were overweight or obese even prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, higher than the national average;
- The Population Health Team was responsible for the overall Healthy Weight Strategy and the commissioning of services that delivered obesity prevention in Adults and Children;
- The strategy took a whole system, partnership approach to tackling obesity in the city and was developed across four key themes; Food & Culture, Physical Activity, Environment & Neighbourhoods and Support & Prevention;
- The Strategy was launched in September 2021 following the pandemic;
- Describing the commissioning of services at Tier Two and Tier Three;
- Describing the role of the Project Manager who had been appointed to work across neighbourhoods to support the delivery of the Healthy Weight Strategy and embed referral pathways for weight management support; and
- Describing the Food Active! Healthy Weight Declaration and the key pledges.

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

- With reference to the discussion on the previous agenda item, it was important to recognise the impact of the cost of living crisis on residents and the food options that were available to them;
- Whilst noting the work of Slimming World, it was important to recognise that a one size fits all approach was not appropriate;
- The need to engage with, and ensure services were appropriate for the diverse population and communities across Manchester;
- Consideration should be given to the use of Council owned buildings and lease arrangements to support community groups to support and build upon the activities described;
- Appropriate consideration needed to be given to the support and interventions for the different types of diabetes, noting that they were distinctly different; and
- How the impact of the services described was measured.

The Director of Public Health described that despite the challenges described in relation to the grant funding, a range of free services had been provided for residents. The Commissioning Manager advised that Slimming World was an example of the offer provided and quality assurance monitoring of this service was undertaken. He described that the Slimming World offer was part of a wider suite of services designed to support people, making reference to the work of the Parks Team, local neighbourhood activities and Manchester Active.

Catherine Hollingsworth, Partnership Account Manager, Slimming World provided an overview of the service offered by Slimming World, noting that this would be tailored to the individual needs of the person as it was recognised that a 'one size fits all' approach was not appropriate. She described that the programme encouraged and supported a person to develop a healthy and positive relationship to food.

The Director of Public Health advised that the need to deliver appropriate, inclusive services, delivered in a safe environment was understood and taken into consideration, noting that culturally appropriate and tailored interventions had been delivered and the success and learning from these would be built upon to maximise their reach across all communities. A Member requested that any future update report should include information relating to the quality assurance and monitoring of those commissioned services that delivered obesity prevention in neighbourhoods.

Decisions

1. The Committee note the report and support the Food Active! Healthy Weight Declaration.
2. Recommend that any future update report should include information relating to the quality assurance and monitoring of those commissioned services that delivered obesity prevention in neighbourhoods.

HSC/22/32 Integrated Care Systems

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Member for Healthy Manchester and Adult Social Care that provided an update on the UK Government's reforms to health and social care to establish Integrated Care Systems, including at the level of Greater Manchester.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Integrated Care Systems (ICS) were being established nationally as part of the next phase of health and social care integration;
- The national aims for ICS, noting that ICS included a strong focus on place-based partnership working;
- From 1 July 2022, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) would be disestablished across England, and ICSs would be established in line with legislation set out in the Health and Care Act 2022;
- In Manchester, the statutory responsibilities of NHS Manchester CCG would transfer to Greater Manchester Integrated Care (NHS GM) alongside those of the other nine Greater Manchester (GM) CCGs;
- The Manchester Partnership Board would lead the development of Manchester's future operating model for health and social care integration;
- Joanne Roney OBE had been appointed by NHS GM as the Place-Based Lead for Manchester, in addition to her role as Chief Executive of Manchester City Council; and
- Next steps, noting that Manchester and the other nine GM localities were developing their own place-specific locality models.

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

- Were the Board and related structures within the organisation reflecting the diversity of the city;
- Were local health professionals supportive of the new arrangements;
- What influence would the new structural arrangement have at a national level;

- A visual representation of the new structure should be provided;
- Had staff been supported during the transition to the new arrangements;
- An assurance was sought that the issue of safeguarding remained; and
- What examples could be provided to articulate the benefits of the new arrangements for Manchester residents.

Sir Richard Leese, Chair, Greater Manchester Integrated Care stated that the organisation did reflect the diversity of the city. He advised that the Integrated Care Systems would have a mechanism to feed directly into Government and meetings with Ministers would also be convened. Mark Fisher CBE, Chief Executive Designate, Greater Manchester Integrated Care stated that the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Systems was the second largest in the country, that gave it the responsibility and authority to articulate the needs and ask of Greater Manchester.

Sir Richard Leese, Chair, Greater Manchester Integrated Care stated that in Manchester health professionals were supportive of the new arrangements, adding that this had been achieved as a result of the existing strong relationships that had been developed over the previous years through the devolution process. In response to the issue raised regarding safeguarding he commented that the existing arrangements would remain.

Sir Richard Leese, Chair, Greater Manchester Integrated Care provided examples of the benefits that would be realised as a result of the new arrangements. He described that this would enable providers to work collaboratively across Greater Manchester to address strains on the system, using all resources and capacity efficiently and effectively. It provided the opportunity to manage the health system as a whole and the Integrated Neighbourhood working model that had been initiated in Manchester to great success could be rolled out and implemented across Greater Manchester.

Mark Fisher CBE, Chief Executive Designate, Greater Manchester Integrated Care stated that the new arrangements had come into effect from 1 July 2022 and he was satisfied that staff and teams were fully informed of the new arrangements and the transition had been successful, with all functions operating. He said that this had been achieved through rigorous planning and communications with all staff. He further commented that a diagram that visually described the new organisation could be circulated to the Committee for information following the meeting.

The Chair stated that any future update report should include how success was to be measured, including Key Performance Indicators, and particularly the work to address health inequalities. The Chair noted that the Committee would be considering health inequalities at the Marmot themed October meeting and asked that officers include information in the reports to be considered at that meeting that considered how the Greater Manchester Integrated Care arrangements contributed to this important area of work.

The Chair further noted that when this item was to be considered again an invitation would be sent to Joanne Roney Chief Executive of Manchester City Council who had been appointed by NHS GM as the Place-Based Lead for Manchester.

Decision

To note the report.

HSC/22/33 Overview Report

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

A Member commented that consideration should be given to scheduling the item listed as 'Health Inequalities and Older People'. The Chair stated that she would consider this.

In response to a question regarding a vaccination for monkeypox the Director of Public Health stated that information on this would be provided in the next update. He further advised that negotiations were ongoing as to the future of the community vaccination facility in Wythenshawe and an update on this would be provided when available.

A Member of the Committee described his recent positive experience of accessing the Virtual Covid Ward following testing positive for Covid. He stated that access had been predicated on testing and registering his results. Noting that that the provision of free testing had been removed he reiterated the call, made previously by the Committee for the immediate reintroduction of free Covid tests.

The Chair welcomed the updates that had been provided to the Committee's previous recommendations.

Decision

The Committee notes the report and agrees the work programme.

Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 7 September 2022

Present:

Councillor Green (Chair) – in the Chair

Councillors Bayunu, Curley, Karney, Reeves, Riasat, Richards and Russell

Apologies: Councillors Nasrin Ali, Appleby, McHale and Newman

Also present:

Councillor T. Robinson, Executive Member for Healthy Manchester and Adult Social Care

Councillor Collins, Deputy Executive Member for Healthy Manchester and Adult Social Care

Councillor Doswell, Trauma Informed Lead Member

Adam Young, Associate Director of Operations, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust

Nishan Bhandary, Associate Medical Director, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Lucie Donlan, GP partner, West Gorton Medical Centre

Juanita Margerison, Director, The Resonance Centre

HSC/22/89 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2022 as a correct record.

HSC/22/90 Greater Manchester Mental Health - Manchester Services Summary Report

The Committee considered the report of the Associate Director of Operations, Greater Manchester Mental Health, NHS Foundation Trust that provided a summary of the services provided by Greater Manchester Mental Health and provided an overview of the activity across the footprint in Manchester.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- An overview of Mental Health Crisis Services;
- An overview of Community Services, including the actions taken from a recent CQC inspection and regulation 29a notice within two Community Mental Health Teams.
- Inpatient Service provision; and
- An update on the Healthier Patient Pathways Programme.

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

- What work was being done with Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to support people who were experiencing a mental health crisis;
- Was the 24/7 Helpline monitored and what was done to ensure any missed calls were responded to;
- Was the Helpline available for family and carers to access;
- What support was offered to families and carers of residents experiencing mental health issues;
- Noting that the building was to commence at South Manchester, Wythenshawe Hospital Site to support replication of the North Manchester General Hospital (NMGH) site Mental Health urgent care area with completion expected December 2022;
- Would there be a bespoke 'Green Room' at the Wythenshawe site, similar to that at North Manchester General Hospital;
- Calling for an appropriate urgent care "Green Room" to be initiated at the Manchester Royal Infirmary site as a priority;
- Where would Wythenshawe residents experiencing a mental health episode currently receive treatment, adding that transferring patients to North Manchester General Hospital was not appropriate for patients and their families;
- What quality assurance measures were undertaken of those Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) groups working in community settings;
- What was being done in regard to staff recruitment and retention;
- What was being done to address barriers arising across services in relation to data sharing; and
- Who were responsible for arranging who accessed the crisis beds for Manchester residents.

In response the Associate Director of Operations, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust advised that the Trust remained committed to working with GMP to offer the most appropriate response to an individual in crisis. He stated that a pilot scheme with staff seconded to support GMP was currently underway over the winter period and this pilot would be evaluated in March 2023. He advised that this approach was a demonstrable commitment to delivering the Long Term NHS Plan. He stated that in addition to this pilot regular meetings were convened with GMP and there were mechanisms established for escalating issues.

The Associate Director of Operations, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust stated that, contrary to national figures, Manchester had witnessed a reduction in the numbers of people attending A&E when experiencing a mental health crisis. He advised that Wythenshawe patients would be treated at Wythenshawe Hospital as they had an inpatient facility, however on the occasions beds were full they would be transferred to NMGH. He advised that at the time of addressing the Committee there were no patients outside of their locality. The Associate Medical Director, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust added that this situation was reviewed on a daily basis and every effort was made to relocate a patient closer to their home address when it was appropriate to do so. He added that partners worked closely across all systems to improve the patient experience and reduce system created barriers.

The Associate Director of Operations, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust stated that the Helpline answer machine was routinely monitored. He added that the Helpline had been audited by the NHS and the Trust had received very positive feedback on this provision. He stated that friends and carers could also use the Helpline and if appropriate people would be signposted to other sources of appropriate support and advice. He noted the comment regarding additional support for families and carers and added that it was recognised that more needed to be done in regard to this. He noted the issues experienced by some Members in relation to the Helpline and commented that if they contacted him outside of the meeting he would look into the specific cases.

The Associate Director of Operations, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust advised that the monitoring of VCSE groups in communities was achieved through the standard contract management arrangements, and these were complemented by visits and regular meetings with providers.

The Associate Director of Operations, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust commented that the issue of staff recruitment and retention was a national issue, however work was ongoing with their Human Resources department and a working group had been established to address this. In addition, work was underway with Health Education England to encourage students and existing health professionals to consider alternative roles in the health service. He further referred to the recent Staff Survey that had improved significantly since previously reported to the Committee, and the intention was to build upon this to support staff retention. The Associate Medical Director, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust stated that five Consultants had recently been recruited and there were a range of initiatives to support retention of staff.

The Associate Director of Operations, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust informed the Members that the Home Based Treatment Teams would make referrals to the crisis beds. He stated that the Home Based Treatment Teams were important as they prevented hospital admissions and supported people to leave acute settings in a managed way with the appropriate planning and support. He advised that people could self refer to the Crisis Cafes, noting that there was one in Harpurhey and another in the city centre, adding that these were staffed by VCSE groups and a Mental Health Practitioner.

In response to a question regarding managing demand he reiterated that delivery of both the NHS Long Term Plan and Living Well models of care across all GMMH localities was key to managing demand. He further advised that a business case had been prepared to support the Primary Care Network, again adding that this partnership approach was key to managing demand. In response to comments from the Chair he stated that Trauma Informed Practice was embedded in the Living Well models of care and was also included in staff training.

The Executive Member for Healthy Manchester and Adult Social Care noted that the report and answers provided had been honest and open and had contributed to a constructive conversation with the Committee. He made reference to the point raised by the need for a partnership approach and made reference to the support offered by Manchester City Council following the CQC inspection.

The Committee requested that, following the meeting, information be circulated that described the referral system to Crisis Cafes and analysis by ward and ethnicity of those accessing the service; information in relation to the cultural diversity training provided to the Home Based Treatment Teams; that the Community Mental Health Team resilience plan agreed in September 2022 in response to the CQC inspection be shared; the terms of reference for the Clinical Risk Assessment workshop and any outcomes be shared; the terms of reference of the task and finish group that had been established to progress further areas identified for improvement in telephony systems and processes within Manchester be shared, and information on the recruitment and role of admiral nurses be provided.

Decisions

1. The Committee support the call for an appropriate urgent care “Green Room” to be initiated at the Manchester Royal Infirmary site as a priority.
2. The Committee recommend that the additional supplementary information requested at the meeting is provided to the Scrutiny Support Officer so this can be circulated to all Members of the Committee.

HSC/22/91 Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma Informed Practice

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Public Health that updated the Members to the report considered at the meeting of the Committee on 21 July 2021 on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Trauma Informed Practice. The report covered the wide range of activities to deliver the stated ambition of Manchester being an ACE aware, trauma informed and trauma responsive City.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Providing an introduction and background;
- An update on progress and initiatives across a range of settings;
- Case studies;
- Responses to the strategy consultation; and
- Next steps.

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

- Welcoming the progress reported, noting the importance and value of Trauma Informed Practice;
- Noting that the report was very accessible and well presented;
- What more could the Council do to support this programme;
- Those Members who had undertaken the training spoke positively of their experience and the benefits realised as a result;
- How could Members support the establishment of Community Hubs in their respective wards;
- The need to represent the diversity of all Manchester residents in the strategy refresh consultation; especially BAME communities;

- The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee should consider an item on Adverse Childhood Experiences & Trauma Informed Practice and Education;
- All Councillors should undertake the ACE Training;
- How would progress and outcomes of the programme be measured and reported;
- Training should be delivered as widely as possible; and
- A break down by ward and ethnicity of the training delivered to date was requested.

The Programme Lead responded by saying that Members could support the programme by keeping this subject on their agenda, keep talking about the programme and continue the conversations on the subject. He advised that they were keen to increase the number of Community Hubs and would pick up the offer of support from the Member outside of the meeting, adding that the intention was to have one in each neighbourhood. In terms of groups to be included in the consultation exercise again he would speak with the Member outside of the meeting.

The Programme Lead advised that they did engage with the Healthy Schools Programme and this activity was regularly reported to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee. He commented that the programme had been well received in Primary Schools settings; however, he acknowledged the challenges and pressures experienced in Secondary School settings.

In terms of measuring the impact of the work, both quantitative and qualitative, the Programme Lead advised that resource has been acquired from the City Council research team to support this and an outcomes framework was being developed. He added that Liverpool John Moores University were also assisting with the agreeing of the metrics for this purpose. The Director of Public Health added that outcomes would also be captured in the Build Back Fairer reports that were considered by the Committee.

The Committee then heard from Dr Lucie Donlan, GP partner, West Gorton Medical Centre and Juanita Margerison, Director, the Resonance Centre who both spoke of how they used Trauma Informed Practice in their respective settings and the many benefits that this achieved for residents.

The Committee then heard from Councillor Doswell, Trauma Informed Lead Member who described her personal experience of ACE and the importance of Trauma Informed Practice. She described the actions she had taken since being recently appointed as Lead Member, including attending workshops and reading extensively on this subject area. She stated that she would be calling for all Council Youth and Play commissioned services to be trained in Adverse Childhood Experiences & Trauma Informed Practice, all Neighbourhood Teams staff to be fully trained and she supported the call for all Councillors to be fully trained. She concluded by paying tribute to all staff working on this important programme.

The Executive Member for Healthy Manchester and Adult Social Care supported the call for all Councillors to undertake the Adverse Childhood Experiences & Trauma Informed Practice training. He further thanked the Committee for championing this programme.

Decision

Recommend that the Adverse Childhood Experiences & Trauma Informed Practice training is mandatory for all Councillors.

HSC/22/92 Better Outcomes, Better Lives

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director of Adult Social Services that provided an update on progress and the impact of the programme since November 2021, when the Committee last had an update.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Providing an introduction and background to the programme;
- Examples of the impact of this programme, including feedback from people it was working with and staff;
- Noting that the impact of the work delivered had been shortlisted for an LCG award in recognition of the innovation in health and social care;
- How the independence of our people through improving the social work practice was being achieved, including case studies;
- Information on Community Practice, the weekly meetings that provided space for front line teams to come together, learn and reflect on their experiences of working in a strengths-based way;
- Describing the My VIEWS engagement tool to support front line staff;
- Information in relation to Strengths Based, Focused Reviews, designed to support review conversations to focus on independence and choice;
- The approach to improving our short-term offer;
- Better use of Technology Enabled Care;
- Improvements to reablement;
- An update on the testing of small scale pilots;
- Improving how and what was commissioned, including how the Commissioning Plan would set out how the approach to commissioning would support integration between health and social care services in the coming year;
- The approach to improving the use of data, noting this was a priority in Better Outcomes, Better Lives and this supports the understanding of the impact both in terms of the programme and as a service;
- Early help;
- Information on the Equality Impact Assessment of the programme; and
- Conclusions.

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

- An update on the Adaptations service was requested;
- Would there be specific commissioned services for autistic women;
- Any future update report should include the voice of the Citizen Commissioning Committee, with representatives invited to contribute to the meeting;
- Welcoming the approach to commissioning;

- Welcoming the front line workers who had attended the meeting to provide examples of this work in practice; and
- What work was being done to support front line workers in the context of the Cost of Living Crisis.

The Committee then heard from front line staff who had been invited to speak of their experience of delivering services and the methods of working using this improved delivery model. They spoke of the benefits and improved outcomes for residents and the satisfaction from a professional perspective. The Committee welcomed the voice of the practitioner at the meeting.

The Executive Director of Adult Social Services opened her response by placing on record her continued appreciation to all her staff delivering services on behalf of Manchester residents. She stated that despite the challenges presented by COVID, the adult social care transformation programme had been launched successfully and that had resulted in improved outcomes for residents and better working practices for staff, making further reference to the shortlisting for an LCG award and the positive feedback from the staff satisfaction survey.

The Executive Director of Adult Social Services commented that the adaptations service had experienced challenges as a result of COVID and the recruitment of Occupational Therapists; however, work was underway to address these and she proposed an update report to that which was considered at the 22 June 2022 meeting be provided to the Committee for consideration at an appropriate time.

The Executive Director of Adult Social Services acknowledged the concerns expressed by the Committee regarding the impact of the Cost of Living Crisis on front line workers. She stated Management Teams were discussing this and how this could be mitigated, supplemented by regular supervision and communication with all staff.

The Head of Commissioning advised the Committee that the Autism service would be an inclusive service and the business case that had been used to secure the funding for this would be circulated for information.

The Executive Member for Healthy Manchester and Adult Social Care reiterated the importance of the staff delivering Adult Social Care and paid tribute to the positive relationships and culture that had been developed by the Executive Director of Adult Social Services within the Directorate. He further highlighted the positive impact the programme was achieving for Manchester residents, with particular reference to sections 3.1, 4.1, 5.7 and 6.3 of the report.

Decision

To note the report.

HSC/22/93 Overview Report

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

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

Decision

The Committee notes the report and agrees the work programme.

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2022

Present:

Councillor Reid – in the Chair
Councillors Cooley, Gartside, Lovecy and Sadler

Co-opted Voting Members:

Mr G Cleworth, Parent Governor Representative

Co-opted Non-Voting Members:

Miss S Iltaf, Secondary Sector Teacher Representative

Also present:

Councillor Bridges, Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People
Al Ford, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
Michael Devine, Manchester Integrated Care Partnership
Vicky Smith, Manchester Integrated Care Partnership

Apologies:

Councillor Alijah, Amin, Bano, Hewitson, Johnson and Judge
Dr W Omara, Parent Governor Representative
Ms L Smith, Primary Sector Teacher Representative

CYP/22/33 Minutes

Decision

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2022.

CYP/22/34 Re-establishment of the Ofsted Subgroup

The Committee received a report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which provided Members with the terms of reference and current work programme for the Ofsted Subgroup. The Committee was asked to re-establish the Ofsted Subgroup for the municipal year 2022 - 2023 and agree the terms of reference, work programme and membership of the Subgroup.

Decisions

1. To re-establish the Ofsted Subgroup for the 2022 - 2023 municipal year and agree the terms of reference and work programme.
2. That Councillor Lovecy be appointed as Chair of the Ofsted Subgroup and that Councillors Gartside, Reid and Sadler and Miss Iltaf be appointed to the Subgroup.

CYP/22/35 Our Year

The Committee received a report and presentation of the Strategic Director (Children and Education Services) which provided an overview of the activities and work against the six themes of Our Year and outlined the next steps.

The main points and themes within the presentation included:

- Highlights since the launch of Our Year, outlining activities in relation to the six main themes, which had been based on feedback from children and young people, specifically:
 - Equal and included
 - Play and activity
 - Climate
 - Health and wellbeing
 - Connected
 - Safe and secure
- Pledges from the Council, businesses and partner organisations;
- Activity planned for the rest of the year; and
- The journey towards becoming a UNICEF UK Child Friendly City.

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

- To welcome the work taking place, in particular that this was being done with young people, listening to their voices;
- What would be put in place to ensure that, once UNICEF UK Child Friendly City was achieved, the work would continue to progress and children and young people's voices would continue to be heard; and
- What was being done to reach the young people, and the areas of the city, that had not yet been reached by this work.

The Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People advised that the programme of work to become a UNICEF UK Child Friendly City was likely to take three or four years and he agreed that this work needed to be embedded permanently and referenced the way that structures had been put in place to embed an Age Friendly approach. He suggested that more information on this be included next time the Committee received an update on Our Year. The Year of the Child Coordinator explained that part of the application process was consideration of the governance arrangements and how this work would be progressed.

In response to a Member's question, the Executive Member informed the Committee about the climate change summit which had taken place in June, recognised the importance that young people placed on tackling climate change and emphasised the Council's commitment to acting on this. He advised that more information on this would be included in the next report on Our Year. The Director of Education described some of the positive feedback from the summit and advised that there was a lot to build on and that this would be an ongoing piece of work beyond 2022.

In response to a question from the Chair, the Director of Education advised that the music activities provided by One Education which were included in the presentation were not funded by the Council. She reported that One Education had been running these activities for some time with a small charge to the children who attended but, as part of Our Year, had decided to remove the charge.

The Director of Education outlined the work to reach as many children and young people as possible, engaging with different groups and contacts, including those for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND), Young Carers, Looked After Children and Care Leavers. The Year of the Child Coordinator explained how more young people were being reached through commissioned youth and play providers. The Chair emphasised the importance of commissioning outreach work through the new area panels.

In response to a question from the Chair about Our Year funding, the Executive Member advised that there was a limited amount of funding available to help support events but that the Council could assist in other ways, for example, with venues. The Chair commented on the importance of utilising social value. She also welcomed the inclusion of Baby Week in the programme of events and suggested that this was something which could be continued.

Decision

That the Committee will monitor the progress and legacy of Our Year.

CYP/22/36 The impact of COVID-19 on children and young people's mental health and well-being

The Committee received a report of Al Ford, the Director of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) which explored the impact of COVID-19 on children and young people's mental health and well-being.

The main points and themes within the report included:

- The impact of the pandemic and lockdown on children and young people's mental health;
- Manchester CAMHS waiting time and demand; and
- CAMHS response under the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

- To recognise the way that CAMHS had adapted and provided services differently during the pandemic and to thank them for their work;
- Concern about outcomes for young people who were referred to CAMHS but told that they did not meet the threshold;
- How the M-Thrive Hubs were developing;
- The roll-out of Manchester Thrive in Education (Mental Health Support Teams in schools); and

- Variations in referral levels across different parts of the city.

Al Ford reported that the clinical threshold for CAMHS was defined nationally and that the service responded based on clinical priority, with the most unwell children seen first. He advised Members that one of the reasons for mobilising the M-Thrive offer was for the children and young people who did not meet the clinical threshold, who could then be directed to the M-Thrive Hubs, which could identify the right service to meet the needs of the child or young person. He explained that the first Hub had been established in north Manchester, with two further Hubs opening this year. Therefore, he advised, the greatest impact so far had been in the north of the city, where the model had had time to mature. This, he reported, included fewer inappropriate referrals to CAMHS, which meant that children and young people were being referred to a service which was appropriate for their needs in a more timely fashion. He informed Members that this would be monitored and evaluated as the M-Thrive model embedded. He outlined the work taking place to roll out Manchester Thrive in Schools, advising that it was hoped that this would be expanded in the autumn term and reach more schools but that his service did not have control over the rate of coverage and which schools were involved. He advised that this was not intended to replace any existing provision individual schools might have, such as school counsellors.

In response to requests for data about the ethnicity and geographical spread of CAMHS referrals, Al Ford informed Members that he would provide this information at a later date. He outlined how the service was trying to move from a westernised clinical model to a needs-based model and how Equality Diversity and Inclusion were incorporated into the service, including making the workforce more diverse and providing opportunities for progression. He recognised comments from the Chair that there had been some benefits for autistic young people when lockdown was first introduced; however, he reported that the emotional health of this cohort had subsequently declined and outlined how the service had responded to this. In response to a Member's question, he advised that the service was aware of the impact of working during the pandemic on staff and outlined the programmes introduced to support staff welfare. In response to a question from the Chair, he reported that the service was seeing more asylum-seeking children and young people, including those who were fleeing wars across the world. In response to a question from the Chair, he outlined the funding arrangements for his service, advising that there was now increased investment in children and young people's mental health and the challenge was in putting in place a sustainable workforce.

Members discussed receiving a further report on CAMHS or children's mental health at a future meeting.

Decisions

1. To request data on the ethnicity and geographical spread of CAMHS referrals, in order to be able to identify any gaps.
2. That the Committee will continue to monitor children and young people's mental health services.

[Councillor Reid declared a personal interest as a Governor of Manchester Central Foundation NHS Trust.]

CYP/22/37 Review of Home to School Travel Support

The Committee received a report of the Director of Education and the Head of Access and Sufficiency which set out the proposal for two home to school travel support policies, one for children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) who were between the ages of 5 and 16 and one for young people with an EHCP who were between the ages of 16 and 25. The Committee was invited to comment on the report prior to its submission to the Executive on 22 July 2022.

The main points and themes within the report included:

- Background information;
- Main issues;
- Details of the proposed policies; and
- Wider service improvement.

The Chair highlighted the review of school buses which was currently taking place. She outlined how she had been made aware that there was not an equitable system in place for the provision of school buses across the Greater Manchester area and had raised this with relevant stakeholders. She reported that she was working with the Chair of the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee on how the two Committees could address this issue and that the Committee would receive a report on this at a future meeting. She informed Members that, although the report the Committee was considering at today's meeting related specifically to children with an EHCP, some children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) who were not able to use public transport might be able to travel to school using a school bus if that was available.

In response to a Member's question, the Head of Access and Sufficiency confirmed that if a Looked After Child was entitled to Home to School Transport this would automatically continue if they were moved to a new foster care placement. She confirmed that the policy applied to children in both mainstream and special schools who had an EHCP. In response to a question from the Chair, she confirmed that the transport provision would continue up to the age of 25, as long as the young person was still accessing education. The Chair highlighted the increasing focus on promoting independence for young people with SEND, including teaching them how to use public transport independently. The Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People highlighted that funded driving lessons were included in the policy as another way to promote independence.

The Chair highlighted the issues facing homeless families who had been placed outside of the city, further away from their child's school. The Director of Education reported that Home to School Transport arrangements for a child with an EHCP would continue if they were placed in accommodation outside of the city. She advised that, if the child did not have an EHCP, they would be entitled to a free school travel pass but acknowledged that it could be difficult for families who were housed some distance from their child's school.

In response to a Member's question, the Head of Access and Sufficiency outlined how parents and young people were being consulted on the development of these policies.

Decision

To endorse the recommendations to the Executive that:

The Executive is recommended to: -

- (1) Consider the recommendations of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.
- (2) Agree in principle the following documents appended to this report, and to authorise the Director of Education to consult on the proposed implementation of them:
 - a) Home to School Travel support policy for 5–16-year-olds
 - b) Home to School Travel support policy for post 16
 - c) Home to School Travel support summary document
- (3) Authorise the Director of Education to consider any responses received to the consultation and to agree to the implementation of the proposed policies appended to this report if she considers it appropriate to do so.
- (4) Consider the work to date on the wider service improvement programme and agree to progress the identified areas of improvement.

CYP/22/38 Overview Report

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

A Member proposed that the Committee receive a report on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. The Chair suggested that this could form part of a wider report and that she would discuss outside of the meeting how this should be scrutinised.

Decision

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

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2022

Present:

Councillor Reid – in the Chair
Councillors Amin, Bano, Gartside, Hewitson, Lovecy and Sadler

Co-opted Voting Members:

Mr G Cleworth, Parent Governor Representative

Co-opted Non-Voting Members:

Miss S Iltaf, Secondary Sector Teacher Representative
Ms L Smith, Primary Sector Teacher Representative

Also present:

Councillor Bridges, Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People

Apologies:

Councillors Abdullatif, Alijah, Cooley, Johnson and Judge

CYP/22/39 Minutes

Decisions

1. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2022.
2. To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Ofsted Subgroup held on 27 July 2022.

CYP/22/40 Manchester Our Children Sufficiency Strategy

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services which provided the progress of the implementation of the 2020 – 22 Our Children Sufficiency Strategy and shared the new 2022 – 27 Our Children Sufficiency Strategy. It stated that the aim of the 2022 – 27 Strategy would be to continue to embed the developed practice, sustaining and progressing the partnership approach to deliver innovate models of accommodation.

The main points and themes within the report included:

- Background information;
- Main issues; and
- Looking to the future.

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

- To welcome the innovative work taking place;
- The not-for-profit sector;
- The Mockingbird model; and
- That the Council had closed a number of its in-house children's homes and would it need to establish any more.

The Strategic Commissioning Lead reported that in-house foster carers delivered a significant proportion of the provision but that the Council also worked with other providers, including profit and not-for-profit organisations and charitable organisations. She informed Members about work taking place to develop different models, in particular for the post-16 offer, including Staying Close and the House Project, which were enabling young people to move into housing before they were 18, which was taking pressure of the commissioned resource. She advised that decisions on placements were based on the assessed needs of the young person but making the right decisions first time also led to efficiencies. The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services described how the service developed relationships with providers to ensure that they had confidence in each other which meant that they were more likely to provide the range and choice to meet the different needs of individual children and young people and prevent them from moving from placement to placement.

The Strategic Commissioning Lead explained that the Mockingbird model involved a cluster group of foster carers supporting each other with an experienced foster carer, who might not have a child placed with them at the time, as a hub home carer, at the centre. In response to a question from the Chair about the Take a Breath model, she advised that this was for young people who should not be in secure accommodation but who could not currently be found suitable placements in the community because of the level of their needs so models needed to be developed with health partners. The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services advised that this related to young people who did not need to be in hospital but needed a bespoke specialist provision for a presenting need and that, if the correct provision was not put in place, it could lead to a cycle of re-admissions. He advised that a Key Decision would need to be taken in relation to this at a future date and the Committee might receive a further report at that stage.

In relation to the previous decision to close a number of the city's in-house children's homes, the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services advised that this represented a shift towards focusing on children's needs rather than seeing children's homes as the default option. He advised that family-based care was usually best for children. He reported that the number of Looked After Children in Manchester was not increasing but the complexity of need was and that it was more bespoke and specialist provision that was needed, rather than more children's homes.

In response to a question from the Chair, the Strategic Commissioning Lead reported that Ghyll Head was used for short breaks and that the Council was also looking for other locations which could be used.

Decision

To note the report.

CYP/22/41 School Attendance in Manchester

The Committee received a report and presentation of the Director of Education which reviewed school attendance in Manchester in 2021/2022 and summarised Manchester's strategic approach to improve school attendance in 2022/23.

The main points and themes within the presentation included:

- The importance of school attendance;
- The current climate in Manchester in 2021/2022;
- National policy context and new guidance;
- Local context;
- Strategic approach; and
- Next steps.

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

- To welcome the positive attendance data;
- Variation in absence levels across different wards and whether the data was also broken down by age and different communities;
- Children with anxiety about attending school;
- Families where absence was part of a wider picture of family problems which needed to be addressed;
- Whether additional funding was available to tackle persistent absence;
- The cost-of-living crisis and the cost of school uniforms; and
- That childhood illnesses would be increasing now that people were mixing more again.

In response to a Member's question on the extent to which persistent absence was condoned by the parents, the Statutory Lead (Attendance and Exclusions) informed Members that data was not available on this. He highlighted that children could still be off school with COVID-19 and that this was still affecting attendance levels. He advised that attendance data was broken down by sector and by Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) and that work would be taking place over the next year to analyse the data by gender, ethnicity and whether the child had a social worker. He advised that the data was available broken down by school. He outlined some of the help available for children who were missing school due to anxiety, including Early Help, THRIVE Hubs and the anxiety-based school avoidance pathway.

The Director of Education reported that there was a lower percentage of children with SEND and special school pupils returning to school and higher levels of anxiety within this group. She advised that, although her service was pleased with the attendance levels last year, these had still not returned to pre-pandemic levels and that they wanted to get them back to the level that they were before the pandemic.

She advised that it was important to use all the resources available to tackle persistent absence, engaging with all the different organisations which had a relationship with the child and their family and working together to get them attending school regularly. She also informed Members that additional funding of just over £1 million a year was being provided by the Department for Education (DfE) for the SAFE Project, to intervene with secondary age children who were at risk of entering the criminal justice system.

The Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People stated that he shared Members' concerns about the cost-of-living crisis and the impact on children and families. He advised that the Deputy Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People was working with the Education Business Partner on making schools more poverty-proof. He advised that schools had a responsibility to make uniforms available as cheaply and easily accessible as possible and to help families who could not afford them and that an audit was taking place of how well different Manchester schools were doing on this.

In response to a Member's question, the Statutory Lead (Attendance and Exclusions) reported that schools were good at identifying patterns of absence and understanding and working with local communities, for example, having their inset days on dates of religious festivals. He advised that the additional breakdown of data which would be available next year would also assist with identifying patterns. The Director of Education informed Members that targeted meetings between her service and individual schools provided the opportunity to look at the data, identify patterns of absence and challenge schools on their response. The Senior Schools Quality Assurance Officer outlined how her service worked with schools to improve attendance, reduce persistent absence and provide early intervention for the most vulnerable pupils, including access to wider services.

The Chair expressed concern about absence rates for children with SEND and Looked After Children. She also highlighted that some children had not returned to school after the pandemic, with families opting for Elective Home Education. She expressed concern about homeless families being placed a long distance from their children's school and the impact of this on school attendance. She outlined some of the ways that families could be supported, for example, through Sure Start, and stated that billboards could be used to advise families how to access support. She noted that the Committee periodically received reports on school exclusions.

Decision

To request that a breakdown of attendance data by school be circulated to Members of the Committee.

CYP/22/42 Information and Update on Schools White Paper

The Committee received a report and presentation of the Director of Education which summarised the content of the Government's White Paper on Schools titled 'Opportunity for all: Strong schools with great teachers for your child' which was published in April 2022. It included contextual information on Manchester's current

school system and set out the opportunities and challenges presented by these changes, a proposed approach and next steps to implementation.

The main points and themes within the report and presentation included:

- The strategy set out in the White Paper which included:
 - Teachers;
 - Standards;
 - Targeted support; and
 - The school system;
- The Manchester context, the approach to implementation and challenges for the city; and
- Next steps.

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

- Concern that there would be a loss of accountability and whether the Council would be able to ensure that the Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs) shared its vision, values and priorities;
- Concern about the timescale for these changes;
- Whether assets used by the community would still be available for use post-academisation; and
- Would teachers be involved in the discussions about how schools moved to MATs.

The Assistant Director of Education reported that Manchester schools could be run by smaller MATs which were already operating and working well within Manchester, rather than national chains, and that the Council would be having discussions with those MATs. She advised that decisions around academisation would be made by the governing body but that staff would be consulted as part of the TUPE (Transfer of Undertakings – Protection of Employment) process and that there was staff representation on governing bodies. She advised that the Council would be working with schools to help them identify which MAT was best for them, based on the school's needs.

The Director of Education advised Members that she believed that Manchester schools and MATs would continue to support the Council's vision, values and priorities and that the Council would continue to work with them on priorities for the city, such as climate change and community use of facilities. She reported that the Council had a good relationship with the schools in the city and that the MATs currently operating in the city had engaged positively with them.

The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services highlighted that 40% of Manchester schools were already academies, that the Council was already working with all of its schools and that the Council would try to shape and influence how these changes were implemented to the best of its ability.

The Chair expressed serious concern about the proposals in the White Paper, including the future role of the Council and its education staff and that she felt the

education system was being privatised. She advised that Councillors should lobby government about these changes and that Members would be discussing this further outside of this meeting.

Decision

To note the report.

CYP/22/43 Overview Report

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

Decisions

1. To note the report and agree the work programme.
2. To add Councillor Bano to the membership of the Ofsted Subgroup

Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2022

Present:

Councillor Shilton Godwin – in the Chair

Councillors Chohan, Doswell, Holt, Hughes, Lyons, Nunney, Sheikh and Wright

Apologies: Councillor Razaq

Also present:

Councillor Rawlins, Executive Member for Environment and Transport

Councillor Foley, Deputy Executive Member for Environment and Transport

Councillor A. Ali, Deputy Executive Member for Vibrant Neighbourhoods

Samantha Nicholson, Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency

Mike Wilton, Chair, Manchester Climate Change Partnership

Simon Warburton, Transport Strategy Director, TfGM (Transport for Greater Manchester)

ECCSC/22/22 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2022 as a correct record.

ECCSC/22/23 Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan Review

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive & City Treasurer and the City Solicitor that provided an update on progress made on the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan (GM CAP) policy review and sought comments from Members to inform finalisation of the review submission to government.

The Committee had been invited to comment on the report prior to it being considered by the Executive.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Providing an introduction and background;
- An overview of the impacts of poor air quality, noting that improving air quality was a key objective for Manchester City Council;
- The rationale for the new plan;
- The core objectives of the new Clean Air Plan, noting that the new GM CAP would target investment in vehicle upgrades rather than imposing daily charges;
- Describing that the primary focus of the new plan was to achieve compliance in a way that considered the current cost of living crisis and associated economic challenges faced by businesses and residents;
- Describing the approach to the development of the new plan;
- NO₂ exceedances forecast for the period 2023-2026 and monitoring data;
- An overview of the changes in economic context since Summer 2021 and the emerging conclusions to changes in an economic context;

- The changed conditions within the vehicle market;
- Equality considerations;
- The asks of Government, particularly the specific new 'ask' to remove out-of-area operation by private hire drivers/vehicles;
- Feedback for targeted engagement undertaken to test support for the case for a new GM CAP; and
- Next steps.

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

- Continuing the call for an Ultra Low Emissions Zone, particularly in the city centre area;
- Recognising the cost of compliant taxi vehicles;
- Noting the levels of emissions from the bus fleet what was the timescale for the roll out of replacement vehicles;
- Was the £115m earmarked for a third of the bus fleet in GM to be zero emission by 2027 sufficient;
- What work was being done to address the issues associated with the strategic road network;
- Fully supporting the 'ask' to remove out-of-area operation by private hire drivers/vehicles;
- Clarification was sought as to the proposed use of the ANPR cameras;
- Information was sought as to the provision of electric vehicle charging points;
- The importance of considering this topic through the lens of public health; and
- The importance of capturing the existing creativity and enthusiasm in the city, particularly amongst young people to inform plans to address emissions and climate change.

The Transport Strategy Director, TfGM (Transport for Greater Manchester) advised that the greater control of the regional bus fleet that would be achieved through the franchising of this service would allow for granular control of the service. He stated that the ability to control this network would address the issues associated with buses, particularly in the city centre area. He advised that the £115m referred to by the Member was additional funding above the core funding proposition.

The Transport Strategy Director, TfGM described the work underway to address the issues associated with the strategic road network. He gave the example of the work to understand the flow of commercial traffic on Regent Road and the options available to address this. He advised that this analysis was being undertaken with Highways England. Members welcomed this and advised that the lessons learnt from previous schemes involving Regent Road needed be used to inform any proposals, particularly in regard to communications with local residents and elected Members. The Transport Strategy Director, TfGM stated that this was fully understood, and the approach would be to capture views and comments to inform any formal consultation exercise.

The Chair noted that it was important to recognise that Regent Road was only one strategic road network route that impacted significantly on the city. She commented that it was important to consider all road users, including promoting active travel

when considering alternative options for these routes. She commented that a report on the Active Travel Strategy would be considered by the Committee later in the municipal year.

The Transport Strategy Director, TfGM commented that the issues associated with the wider strategic road network across Greater Manchester was understood and they continued to make representations to the Government on this issue.

The Transport Strategy Director, TfGM addressed the issue of the cost of replacement vehicles for business and advised that they were working closely with business representatives to map the inflationary pressures experienced by businesses and this would inform the funding ask from government. With reference to taxis, he advised that the funding available would be used to target the worst polluting vehicles, using an evidenced based approach.

The Transport Strategy Director, TfGM described that the proposed use of the ANPR cameras would help identify directed marketing possibilities with business and Greater Manchester Police had expressed an interest in the wider use of ANPR.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport advised that a report on the provision of electric vehicle charging points would be submitted to the Committee for consideration in the new year.

In concluding this item of business, a Member suggested that an additional recommendation be added. The Member noted that the report discussed measures to address NO2 emissions with no reference to carbon emissions. She recommended that the Executive consider all emissions, including carbon when considering future transport and active travel strategies so that they contribute to the Council's stated zero carbon ambitions by 2038.

Decisions

1. The Committee recommend that the Executive consider all emissions, including carbon when considering future transport and active travel strategies so that they contribute to the Council's stated zero carbon ambitions by 2038.
2. The Committee endorse the recommendations that the Executive:
 - (1) Note the 'Case for a new Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan' document attached as Appendix 1 and associated appendices 2 to 6 has been submitted to the Secretary of State as a draft document subject to any comments from Manchester City Council ahead of the next Air Quality Administration Committee.
 - (2) Note that Cllr Tracey Rawlins as the Manchester City Council appointed representative on the Air Quality Administration Committee will represent Manchester City Council's comments.
 - (3) Note the initial screening undertaken to assess which protected characteristics are likely to be impacted by the new GM Clean Air Plan, and in scope for the Equalities Impact Assessment.

- (4) Note the updated Do Minimum position for 2023 and 2025 and the forecasted points of exceedance in GM in 2023 and 2025; and
- (5) Note the participatory policy development approach and the next steps for the GM CAP.
- (6) Note the new 'ask' from Government to remove out-of-area operation by private hire drivers/vehicles to support the new GM Clean Air Plan.
- (7) Note feedback from early engagement activity with vehicle owner representative groups.
- (8) Note the NO₂ monitoring results and the exceedances of the annual mean across sites set up for GM CAP purposes between 2018 and 2021.

**ECCSC/22/24 Manchester Climate Change Agency / Partnership
Framework 2.0**

The Committee considered the report of the Manchester Climate Change Partnership and Agency that described the key contents of the 2022 Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework (2020–2025).

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Providing an introduction and background, noting that The Manchester Climate Change Framework (2020-25) was the city's high-level strategy for tackling climate change;
- Manchester's Climate Change Framework 2020-25 (the Framework) sets a science-based target for the city to reach zero carbon emissions by 2038 and sets a total carbon budget for our direct emissions, noting that the first milestone on this pathway was for the city to reduce its direct emissions by 50% by 2025;
- The Framework was being updated to ensure it remained responsive to a changing city and evolving local and national policy, to improving data and modelling, plus to the increasing need for urgent action to tackle the climate emergency;
- The update would include an overview of research to move the city forwards on climate adaptation and resilience; and Health and Wellbeing;
- Information in relation to direct and indirect emissions;
- Information on the approach to the proposed engagement with stakeholders; and
- Next steps, noting that comments and feedback would be collated from this Committee, Manchester Climate Change Partnership members and wider city stakeholders, including residents and business and feed into the final publication, due for release in September.

To accompany the report the Committee also received a presentation that summarised the key themes of the report.

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

- The Committee welcomed the report and accompanying presentation, noting the content was clear and concise;
- The importance of the communications strategy to residents on the issue of climate change, particularly the use of appropriate language and terminology;
- What was being done to engage those private sector businesses who were not currently signed up to the Partnership;
- Had any consideration been given to enforcement activity;
- What lessons had been learnt to date;
- What could be done to influence the Greater Manchester Pension Fund to divest from fossil fuels;
- Was there a Green Work and Skills strategy;
- Had consideration been given to develop an action plan to accompany the Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework (2020–2025); and
- The report did not address the issues of food sustainability or biodiversity;

The Chair, Manchester Climate Change Partnership described the importance of partnership working to deliver the changes required to address climate change and keep the city with the agreed carbon budget. He stated that in Manchester there were many good practices and examples of businesses actively enacting strategies to reduce their carbon emissions, particularly in the construction industry. He stated that these examples of good practice could influence other businesses.

The Head of City Policy informed the Committee that a significant amount of work had been delivered around the issue of green skills and training and this was regularly reported to the Economy Scrutiny Committee, adding that an update report on this topic was scheduled to be considered at their September meeting.

The Chair, Manchester Climate Change Partnership stated that many lessons had been learnt over previous years, and he made particular reference to the ineffective national domestic retrofitting scheme. He advised that following this, a Greater Manchester initiative was being developed on this important issue, making reference to the Your Home Better scheme and the work done to engage directly with the supply chain. The Committee noted that a report on this subject was scheduled for consideration at the September meeting. With regard to the issue of enforcement he made reference to the work that was being undertaken across Manchester to work with landlords in the private rented sector to improve property standards.

The Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency stated that the need for immediate action to address the climate crisis was acutely understood, she further commented on the scale of the issue and called for a national and global systematic change to address carbon emissions. With regard to wider engagement with the private sector she stated that Manchester, and Greater Manchester had a strong track record in supporting and developing green businesses, particularly in regard to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

The Chair, Manchester Climate Change Partnership advised that businesses were recognising the threat to their business that climate change represented, and this increased awareness across different sectors was accelerating change, he further commented that this increased realisation amongst shareholders would also support the argument and act as a lever to influence the Greater Manchester Pension Fund

to divest from fossil fuels, recognising that the Committee had continued to call for this.

The Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency stated that the issue of meaningful communications with residents on the issue of climate change was understood and advised that whilst the strategy document was written in a particular 'high level' style, the language used in all communications would be appropriate and accessible. She described that a bespoke communications strategy, addressing a range of issues would be devised and delivered to accompany the launch of the updated framework, and this would also include a questionnaire to capture feedback.

The Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency commented on the challenges of reporting outcomes and progress due the time lags in the availability of the range of data sets and metrics used to report against. She advised that a comprehensive annual report was produced and would continue to be submitted to the Committee for consideration. She commented that the Partnership comprised of different sectors from across the city to ensure a range of voices were captured.

The Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency stated that the Manchester Food Board were represented on the Partnership and the updated Framework would include consideration of food and biodiversity.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer commented that the city had a stated and explicit ambition to address climate change, adding that it was one of the first cities to establish a carbon budget. She advised that the Partnership was the lead for the city on this issue. She further added that the refreshed Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan would be aligned to the refreshed Manchester Climate Change Framework.

The Deputy Executive Member for Vibrant Neighbourhoods spoke in support of the report and the importance of addressing climate change.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport welcomed the comments from the Committee and recognised the points raised regarding the need for appropriate language to be used in all communications on the issue of climate change. She advised that regular communications would be provided to Members that contained useful links and sign posting that could be shared with interested residents and groups in their respective wards. She reiterated that it was everyone's responsibility to adopt behaviours to address climate change. She recognised the comments made by Members on the importance of active travel and improved public transport, noting the importance of the need to address climate change was implicit across all Council decision making considerations.

Decision

To note the report.

**ECCSC/22/25 MCC Climate Change Action Plan: Quarterly Progress
Report, Quarter 1 April – June 2022**

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that provided an update on progress in delivery of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) in Quarter 1 2022-23 (April – June 2022).

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Providing an introduction and background;
- Describing Quarter 1 Progress against individual actions within the CCAP during the first quarter of 2022-23, with the Council's direct carbon emissions data covering the previous quarter, in this case, January – March 2022, due to the availability of billing and data monitoring which was drawn from billing information from the previous quarter;
- Describing key achievements; and
- Next steps.

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

- Information was sought on the approach to decarbonising Council owned buildings that had been leased to community groups;
- What type of projects had been proposed to the UK Cities Climate Investment Commission;
- Noting the recent heatwave and the importance of foliage cover and shade provided by trees, what was the policy for ensuring trees were suitable maintained during periods of extreme weather events;
- An update was sought on the plans to deliver Large Scale Renewable Energy Generation;
- Welcoming the appointment of a Sustainability Project Manager to deliver the Council's commitment to be Single Use Plastic Free by 2024;
- Recognising and welcoming the Staff Travel Policy that was referred to in the report, and asking if it was appropriate to offer free city centre parking for Councillors;
- An explanation was sought as to the reasons for the reported flight to Ireland; and
- Why had some Councillors still not completed the Carbon Literacy Training.

The Strategic Lead, Resources & Programmes advised that there were a range of projects submitted to UK Cities Climate Investment Commission that reflected and supported the range of activities described within the action plan, these included, but not restricted to retrofitting and energy generation. He stated that the plans to deliver Large Scale Renewable Energy Generation were still ongoing and viable options were being considered, and an update would be provided to the Committee at an appropriate time.

The Strategic Lead Policy and Partnerships advised the Committee that he would enquire with the Corporate Property Team on the approach to the retrofitting of those Council owned properties leased to community groups and a briefing note would be circulated to the Committee.

The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer paid tribute to all of the team involved in delivering the Climate Change Action Plan, advising that this work had been recognised nationally as an example of good practice. The Chair on behalf of the Committee supported this acknowledgement and appreciation of all staff involved in this important area of work.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport welcomed the ongoing support and challenge of the Committee on this important area of work. She advised that a note would be provided following the meeting that described the approach to maintaining trees during periods of extreme weather events, noting her appreciation to those residents who had watered trees during the recent heatwave.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport advised that all Councillors, like every resident needed to take personal responsibility for their travel choices and stated that individual circumstances needed to be considered, and it would be inappropriate for her to comment any further. She advised that Councillor Foley, Deputy Executive Member for Environment and Transport would be looking into Councillor take up of the Carbon Literacy Training to understand any barriers experienced so that these could be addressed with a view to maximising take up of this training. With regard to the reported flight to Ireland an explanation was provided, however recognising the need for the reporting of context was required in future updates if this occurred again.

Decision

To note the report.

ECCSC/22/26 Overview Report

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

The Chair informed the Committee that following discussions between herself and Cllr Reid, Chair of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee it had been agreed to remove the item that was listed on the Work Programme for the November meeting as 'Working with Schools - To receive a report on the Council's work to support schools in relation to the climate emergency.'

The Chair was satisfied that this report sat within the remit of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee (CYPS), further noting that the CYPS Committee had recently considered this item at their 12 January 2022 meeting.

Decision

The Committee notes the report and agrees the work programme, noting the comments above.

Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2022

Present:

Councillor Shilton Godwin – in the Chair
Councillors Chohan, Doswell, Holt, Hughes, Ilyas, Lyons, Nunney, Razaq, Sheikh and Wright

Apologies: Councillor Jeavons

Also present:

Councillor Rawlins, Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Councillor Foley, Deputy Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Councillor White, Executive Member for Employment and Development
Samantha Nicholson, Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency

ECCSC/22/27 Urgent Business – Flooding in Pakistan

The Chair introduced an item of urgent business by advising the Committee that she had invited Councillor Razaq to speak on the recent flooding in Pakistan. Noting that this extreme weather event was a result of the climate crisis, the Chair also noted that Bangladesh and Madagascar, amongst many other places, had also experienced disasters as a result of climate change in recent years.

Councillor Razaq spoke on the devastating events that have impacted thousands of citizens in Pakistan. Noting that it was reported that at least 1,136 people had been killed since June and roads, crops, homes and bridges washed away across the country due to the flooding. Officials had estimated that more than 33 million Pakistanis, one in seven people had been affected by the flooding. He encouraged all to donate to the humanitarian response.

The statement was accompanied by a short video submitted by Councillor Razaq's nephew who was currently living in Pakistan.

The Committee and all those present observed a period of silence for all victims of the recent flooding in Pakistan.

Decision

To note the item of urgent business.

ECCSC/22/28 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2022 as a correct record.

ECCSC/22/29 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework

The Committee considered the report of the Manchester Climate Change Agency that described that the 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework (2020-25) and presented the findings of the detailed modelling done to identify granular targets for reducing the city's direct emissions by 50%, that would be necessary for the whole city to stay within its carbon budget.

The Committee had been invited to comment on the report prior to it being considered by the Executive.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Providing an introduction and background, noting that the Manchester Climate Change Partnership (MCCP) and Agency (MCCA) had been given the responsibility to set the city's strategy for tackling the climate emergency;
- Articulating the purpose and rationale for the 2022 Update;
- Providing an overview of the ongoing work on the Framework's other headline objectives;
- The Update incorporated over 150 recommended actions organised into four categories according to where there was direct control to deliver, affect or influence the required change or outcome;
- Noting that the Council's delivery of the Climate Change Action Plan would make a substantial contribution to the implementation of the 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework (2020-25); and
- Key messages and next steps.

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

- Recognising the amount of work that had gone into producing the report and noting that the views of the Committee had been taken into consideration;
- What methodology was used to produce the carbon budget figures reported throughout the report;
- Recognising the scale of funding and resources required to deliver retrofitting and the need to access private sources of funding;
- The complexity of the sources of funding that were made available to support retrofitting activity;
- Planning policy should be developed to ensure all new developments were energy efficient so that they would not require retrofitting in future years;
- Planning policy needed to consider carbon emissions at all stages of a buildings life, including the construction stage;
- The need to promote and encourage sustainable travel policies for staff;
- The need to use this report to communicate to all residents and promote this regionally and nationally;
- The need to consider the use of appropriate language when engaging with residents on the subject of carbon budgets;
- The need to develop the action points with those responsible for delivering them identified so this could be reported on and progress monitored;

- Noting that in future update reports the Committee would seek reports on specific key areas of activity;
- Welcoming consideration being given to introducing a Work Place Levy and Ultra Low Emissions Zones; and
- Recommending that the Climate Change Partnership engage with the Greater Manchester Pension Fund to encourage them to divest from fossil fuels.

In response to the comments and questions from Members, the Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency advised that the SCATTER tool was used to model the scale of action needed for the city to reduce its emissions by 50%. She advised that there was information on this tool available on the Agencies' website.

The Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency further recognised the comment in relation to the need to access private finance to support the scale of retrofit work required. She added that it was an action to track and report progress on this activity. In terms of reporting funding streams, she advised that the financial modelling provided had informed the business case to Government to support this activity. She also advised that analysis of some of the investment into housing retrofit in Manchester should be possible via schemes like the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, Green Home Grant and Your Home Better scheme and therefore could be reported to the Committee in future updates.

The Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency stated that the need to consider all carbon emissions related to the construction industry was understood and conversations with the industry that included all relevant stakeholders across Greater Manchester were ongoing to understand and address barriers to delivering on this.

The Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency acknowledged the comment made regarding the use of the term carbon budget and advised that consideration would be given as to how this message was communicated to residents to ensure it was meaningful. She advised that a targeted communications strategy would be used to promote this Framework.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport commented that the Local Plan was a lever for the Council to drive change across the construction industry, noting that a report on planning policy and climate change was scheduled for the Committee's February 2023 meeting. She further commented that the Council's staff travel policy had been updated and communicated to all staff, adding that it was everyone's responsibility to make informed decisions in relation to their travel choices. She advised that there were a number of positive examples of other organisations developing staff active travel policies that included lease schemes for bikes and subsidised travel passes and she further referenced the recent capping of bus fares.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport further advised that consideration continued to be given to introducing Ultra Low Emissions Zones. She noted the comments regarding the need for appropriate language in all messaging on this important issue and advised that all communications on this would be sense checked with Members to ensure they were appropriate for their residents.

The Chair concluded the item by reiterating the urgency of responding to the climate change crisis, noting this also needed to be considered in the context of the cost-of-living crisis and social justice.

Decision

The Committee

1. Recommend that the Climate Change Partnership engage with the Greater Manchester Pension Fund to encourage them to divest from fossil fuels;
2. Recommend that the 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework is circulated to all Members of the Council.

The Committee further endorse the recommendations that the Executive:

1. Formally adopt the 2022 Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework's aim, vision, objectives, and targets as the definition of what Manchester needs to achieve to 'play its full part in limiting the impacts of climate change';
2. On behalf of the city, endorse the 2022 Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework (2020 – 25) as Manchester's high-level strategy for achieving the aim, vision, objectives, and targets; and
3. Support the delivery of the refreshed 2020-25 Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan to contribute towards the successful implementation of the citywide Framework.

ECCSC/22/30 MCC Climate Change Action Plan: Refreshed Climate Change Action Plan 2020-2025 and Annual Report 2021-22

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that presented the refreshed action plan for delivery between September 2022 – March 2025 and the latest Annual Report for the year 2021-22 of the Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25.

The Committee had been invited to comment on the report prior to it being considered by the Executive.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- The refreshed Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) set out new actions, building on existing ambitions;
- Key messages of the Action Plan; and
- The Annual Report bringing together the CCAP updates provided over the last 12 months (2021-22) into a single annual report and highlighting the progress which had been made during this time in terms of individual actions within the CCAP.

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

- Welcoming the introduction and reporting of SMART objectives and milestones;
- More information was sought on the Sustainable Events Guide and calling for Environmental Impact Assessments to be undertaken before and after large events;
- Can carbon data be provided at a ward level data;
- Plant based alternative food options needed to be provided at all Council events where catering was provided;
- How could the Manchester Airport Group's ambitions to reduce aviation emissions reconcile with their ambition to increase passenger numbers;
- An update was sought on the delivery of Carbon Literacy Training, and more granular detail was requested on this activity in future updates;
- The need to promote and enable active travel including walking and public transport;
- The need to consider more nature based solutions;
- The need for relevant departments, such as highways, neighbourhood teams and Arbor to collectively consider tree planting to mitigate the Urban Heat Island effect; and
- The continued call to stop using Glyphosate weed killer.

The Zero Carbon Manager advised that the post of Sustainable Events Lead had recently been recruited and more information on this post and wider activity would be reported to the Committee in future updates. She further directed Members to the online tools that they could use to obtain local data.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport advised that she would follow up the issue raised regarding plant based alternatives outside of the meeting. She further advised that the issue of local data and how this could be accessed would be included in the report 'Neighbourhood Teams and Community Engagement' scheduled for the December meeting, however prior to this the links to the tools would be circulated following this meeting. She further commented that she would raise the issue of Glyphosate weed killer with Councillor Igbon.

The Head of City Policy advised the Committee that Manchester Airport Group had provided a response to the government's Jet Zero Strategy and this would be circulated to Members following the meeting. He added that a substantive item on Manchester Airport and Aviation Emissions was scheduled to be considered by the Committee at their January 2023 meeting.

In response to a question from a Member regarding Green Skills the Chair advised that the Economy Scrutiny Committee would be considering a report on this item later the same day. She stated that Members of this Committee would be attending and contributing to the meeting. The Chair noted the comments from the Members regarding specific asks to be included in future report and that she would discuss this with the Executive Member for Environment and Transport to agree the scope of the reports scheduled on the Committee's work programme.

Decision

The Committee note the report and endorse the recommendation that the Executive approve the report and accompanying appendices.

ECCSC/22/31 Manchester Retrofit Plan – Emerging Proposals

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Housing Services that described that the Manchester Housing Strategy, launched in June 2022 outlined the commitment to developing a Retrofit Plan for all the housing in the city. This report is the first step towards developing the plan and provides an opportunity for the Scrutiny Committee and Members to consider the emerging proposals and influence the policy in its early stages.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Why a Retrofit Plan was needed, noting that Manchester was committed to becoming a zero carbon city by 2038;
- Noting that over a fifth of the city's carbon emissions were generated by residential properties;
- Analysis of the housing stock following a modelling exercise undertaken in 2021 by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority;
- Noting that the majority of all Manchester homes will need to be retrofitted in order to decarbonise our housing stock;
- Key issues for developing and delivering a large-scale decarbonisation programme in Manchester;
- Stakeholders who will need to be involved in the development and delivery of the plan; and
- The programme for delivering the plan, recognising that the plan was likely to evolve over time as we learnt from experience and new approaches, funding opportunities and best practice emerging from other areas of the UK.

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

- The need to use all tools to improve residents' housing conditions, including the Landlord Licensing schemes;
- Recommend the establishment of a Member and Officer working group, led by the Executive Member for Employment and Development to progress this work, noting that all relevant departments should be included;
- All tools and resources, such as Council Tax and Land Registry records should be utilised to identify all private landlords in Manchester;
- The need to use the data presented within the report to inform the funding ask of government to deliver the scale of retrofit work required;
- Noting that adequate funding was required from government;
- Noting that an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) was not comparable with retrofit standards;
- Noting that those residents who had not benefited from the Building Safety Fund to address the issue of cladding would also incur the additional cost to retrofit their properties; and

- The need to share good practice on measures taken by residents to retrofit their properties, noting that the Your Homes Better GMCA web page contained a lot of useful information.

The Executive Member for Employment and Development made reference to the scale of the challenge to deliver retrofitting, however the report described the progress to date. He stated that the issue of retrofitting was essential both in terms of addressing carbon emissions and as a social justice issue, especially in the context of the cost-of-living crisis. He stated that he would continue to lobby government for appropriate funding for Manchester to deliver this important work.

The Head of Housing Services advised that all available resources would be used to improve energy efficiency and address carbon emissions. He commented that Social Housing Providers had led on this programme, and this was an example of the city leading by example. He commented that this programme also presented an opportunity to support the Work and Skills Strategy. In response to a specific question regarding concerns relating to the PFI schemes he advised that a meeting was scheduled for October with the developer to discuss this further.

The Deputy Executive Member for Environment and Transport stated that education on energy saving was important, noting that there were many charities that could provide advice and guidance on this subject. She advised that information on the Energyworks Green Doctors would be provided to all Members in the next Members' Newsletter.

Decision

The Committee recommend that a Member and Officer working group, led by the Executive Member for Employment and Development be established to progress the Manchester Retrofit Plan, noting that all relevant departments should be included.

ECCSC/22/32 Overview Report

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

The Chair stated that following discussion on the previous agenda items she would discuss and agree the remit of the Active Travel report scheduled for the December 2022 meeting and the detail required within the Embedding Carbon Literacy within the Council report scheduled for November 2022. She further advised that the Retrofit Plan would also be scheduled for consideration before it was submitted to the Executive for approval.

Decision

The Committee notes the report and agrees the work programme, noting the above comments.

Economy Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 21 July 2022

Present:

Councillor Johns (Chair) – in the Chair

Councillors Bell, Good, Noor, Raikes, I Robinson, Shilton Godwin and Taylor

Also present:

Councillor Craig, Leader of the Council

Councillor Holt

Councillor Rawlins, Executive Member for Environment and Transport

Apologies: Councillor Moran

ESC/22/27 Minutes

In moving the minutes, the Chair took the opportunity to commend the Council on being awarded Council of the Year at the recent Local Government Chronicle (LGC) Awards.

The Chair also advised that Councillors Holt and Wright were in attendance at the meeting in an observational capacity.

Decision

That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2022 be approved as a correct record.

ESC/22/28 Update on Manchester Active Travel Strategy and Investment Plan

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director (Growth and Development) which provided an update on the production of an Active Travel Strategy and Investment Plan (MATSIP) for Manchester City Centre.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- The proposed vision and objectives for the MATSIP;
- The planned work programme and investment plans to develop strategy and to continue improving walking and cycling for all pedestrian users;
- A collaborative approach between the Council and Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) to deliver schemes to implement the Bee Network vision;
- Some of the £325,000 received from the 2021-22 DfT Active Travel Capability Fund was directed to produce the strategy and investment plans. Expert analysis and advice had been commissioned from transport and urban design consultants Sweco;
- How the MATSIP would recommend investment priorities and schemes for the immediate and medium terms with a long-term horizon of 2040 to match the GM2040 Strategy and the City Centre Transport Strategy;

- Five place-based workshops in each area of focus (North, Central, East, South and Wythenshawe) and digital engagement would be undertaken to facilitate stakeholder and resident engagement.

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

- A need to ensure active travel routes are accessible and safe to encourage usage;
- Routes needed to be well-connected, particularly to schools, hospitals and district centres;
- Clarification about revenue and capital expenditure;
- Whether stakeholder and resident engagement would be organised by consultants and if the scoping of this had already been undertaken;
- Concern over a lack of docking stations for Beryl Bikes in Wythenshawe;
- Parking on pavements and overgrown hedges and the safety issues these cause;
- How the MATSIP will tie in with public transport;
- Welcomed recent consultation outcomes being used to inform the strategy; and
- Could feedback from consultation on Beelines be incorporated into the strategy;

The Principal Policy Officer acknowledged the need for safe junctions to ensure that the active travel network is accessible, and this would be addressed through the development of the strategy. It was hoped that the MATSIP would tie together the different Council initiatives and early engagement was underway between partners in Neighbourhoods and Manchester Active.

The Principal Policy Officer reiterated the importance of the split between capital and revenue expenditure and further assessment of this was required to understand funding requirements. He explained that increased revenue allocation in the DfT Active Travel Capability Fund was anticipated, although the detail of this had not been confirmed.

In response to a query regarding the engagement programme, it was explained that this would be delivered by the Council with an intention to utilise the expertise of Neighbourhood Officers and Sweco consultants. Stakeholder mapping was ongoing and the wider details on consultation and engagement were not yet finalised.

With regards to Beryl bikes and the Greater Manchester Cycle Hire scheme, the Principal Policy Officer advised that funding for the initiative from the Mayor's Challenge Fund (MCF) was limited but the Council was working with TfGM to identify areas to extend the scheme to, although there was no exact timescale for this.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport reiterated the need for the active travel network to be accessible for all residents and to encourage a modal shift to alternative transport methods. She also commented that member engagement in the scheme was key.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport explained that the Growth and Development directorate could create a flowchart for the public to demonstrate how the MATSIP and national policy fit together and what will be delivered.

Concern over on-pavement parking was reiterated by the Executive Member and she explained that the Council was considering what powers it had to address the issue, with the possibility of launching pilot programmes.

The Interim Head of Infrastructure and Environment confirmed that outcomes from the Beelines consultation were available and could be used in a place-based way to look at land use and trip trends.

Decision:

That the Committee

- (1) notes the report and
- (2) notes that a further report setting out progress would be brought to a future Committee for consideration.

ESC/22/29 HS2 Update and Petition

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director (Growth and Development) which provided an update on the progress of the High Speed (Crewe – Manchester) Bill (known as ‘HS2 Phase 2b’) in Parliament and outlined the key issues which the Council intended to petition against.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- The Bill for Phase 2b would secure powers to implement new HS2 stations at Manchester Piccadilly and Manchester Airport, and a railway tunnel from Davenport Green to Ardwick with ventilation shafts at Junction 3A of the M56, Withington Golf Club (Palatine Road), a site near the Christie Hospital (Wilmslow Road), and Fallowfield retail park (Birchfield Road) in addition to more specific powers;
- The different stages that the Bill had been through in Parliament, including an Independent Assessors Report on consultations, a second reading of the Bill in the House of Commons and an Additional Provision 1 which made amendments outside of Manchester;
- The most commonly raised issues, as summarised by the Independent Assessors Report, related to matters such as traffic and transport, ecology and biodiversity and community;
- A possibility of a second Additional Provision being deposited to make changes within and the city, which the Council may need to petition against;
- The Council’s petition against the proposed scheme must be submitted to Parliament on or before 4th August 2022;

- The Council was reviewing the first Additional Provision to identify whether it should also submit a petition on that and would appear before the Select Committee once the petition is submitted;
- It was expected that HS2 Ltd may negotiate with the Council during the petitioning process, and the Council would seek measures to remedy the concerns and issues outlined.

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

- The Committee welcomed the report and Council's position;
- HS2 was an integral part of levelling-up in the North;
- Closing the Ashton Metrolink line to enable the construction of a HS2 station at Piccadilly would create significant transport issues, particularly once the Co-op Live arena is open;
- Had any feedback been received regarding the suggestion of constructing a Metrolink depot at Ashton Moss to enable the existing Ashton Metrolink line to remain open during construction of the station at Piccadilly;
- Concern over plans to construct a 2000-space car park at Piccadilly station and the impact this would have on congestion and carbon neutral targets;
- What the potential funding mechanism would be for Manchester Airport should the government be unable to provide funding;
- The tram turnback facility should be located at Velopark instead of New Islington as proposed by the Bill; and
- The importance and history of rail travel in Manchester.

The Leader of the Council provided assurances that the Council had a strong case with their petition and that the Council would continue to make its case for significant investment in the rail network. She also confirmed that there was no clarity on the funding mechanism for the Airport station, which was currently the only unfunded proposition, despite having suggested the possibility of private equity investment to government.

The Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure explained that specific analysis on the economic impact of closing the Ashton Metrolink line had not yet been undertaken but would be assessed. The government had noted the Council's position on this.

The Director of City Centre Growth and Infrastructure commented that the government were continuing with the proposal to build a 2000-space car park at Piccadilly despite the Council's argument that this contradicts the policy position on climate change, sustainable transport, and carbon neutrality.

It was advised that the Ashton Metrolink line would need to be closed as the construction of HS2 required severing the track and inserting a pile.

Members' view that the tram turnback facility should be located at Velopark was reiterated by officers, who explained that this would improve network efficiency particularly when events were scheduled at the Etihad Stadium or the Co-op Live arena.

Decision:

That the Committee

- (1) noted the report and
- (2) endorse the recommendations for the Executive.

ESC/22/30 Northern Powerhouse Rail

This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

ESC/22/31 Moving Traffic Offences Enforcement

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Highways which provided an overview of changes in legislation which allowed local highways authorities to enforce moving traffic offences such as no entry, yellow boxes, banned turns, traffic restrictions and environmental weight limits.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- The benefits of enforcement of moving traffic offences such as
 - Improved road safety including pedestrian and cyclist safety, supporting modal shift to sustainable transport options
 - Reduced highway congestion
 - Improved journey times for public transport and emergency service vehicles
 - Improved air quality, reduction in transport related emissions contributing to carbon net zero targets
 - Reallocation and saving of police time
- Local authorities have power to take on civil enforcement of certain moving traffic and parking contraventions by decriminalising the offences;
- Enforcement by CCTV cameras has proven to improve levels of compliance with road traffic regulations;
- The initial implementation programme and trial sites from January 2023;
- A future proposal for enforcement of parking on school Keep Clear markings.

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

- Welcomed the changes to regulations;
- Why a trial period was necessary;
- What did moving traffic offences and the acronym CEA refer to;

- The future proposal for enforcement of parking on school Keep Clear markings understated the benefit this would have on road safety;
- A speedy roll out of measures following the trial period was encouraged;
- Whether enforcement would apply to right-turning vehicles in a yellow box where oncoming traffic is congested;
- Could the Council ask developers to partially fund ANPR cameras in future schemes; and
- The possibility of including other contraventions and sites in the trial;

The Director of Highways clarified that moving traffic offences referred to any offence against signs or traffic regulations and that CEA was an acronym for civil enforcement area, which was the whole of city in this instance.

It was explained that a trial period was necessary to ascertain what the level of adherence may be and exactly how much enforcement would be required. It would also allow the Council to learn lessons before imposing regulations city-wide. The Director of Highways advised that each yellow box would have between 2 and 4 ANPR cameras, which would record all types of contraventions within the box and that the measures were intended to reduce the likelihood of congestion in yellow boxes. The Director of Highways confirmed that the Council could ask would developers for contributions to fund ANPR cameras as part of the approval process for development schemes. He stated that he would ask the Development Control team in the Highways department to consider the suggestion further.

In response to a query as to why enforcement for parking on zigzags was not included in the trial, the Director of Highways explained that there was an ongoing shortage of mobile cameras typically used to enforce this and the Council was trying to find a solution which can be located at various school sites across the city. Enforcement Officers will continue to patrol and monitor sites where zigzags are in use.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport reiterated the Committee's comment that the future proposal for enforcement of parking on school Keep Clear markings needed to emphasise the benefit this would have on road safety and that this would be a key message when communicating the new powers. This would be shared with the Council's Communications team.

The Director of Highways noted the Committee's suggestion of including other contraventions and sites in the trial and stated that he would discuss the possibility of including an additional site in the trial with the Executive Member, depending on availability of funding. The expenditure involved with running the trial period had been taken from the parking reserves, which was acknowledged as a valid use of funds, and the income generated from enforcement would be repositied into the parking budget for future activity and investment.

Decision:

That the Committee notes the report and endorses in principle the proposal to begin enforcement of moving traffic offences.

ESC/22/32 Overview Report

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

Decision

That the Committee note the report.

Economy Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 8 September 2022

Present:

Councillor Johns (Chair) – in the Chair
Councillors Good, Moran, Raikes, I Robinson and Shilton Godwin

Also present:

Councillor Akbar (Executive Member for Finance and Resources)
Councillor Hacking (Executive Member for Skills, Employment and Leisure)
Councillor White (Executive Member for Housing and Development)
Councillor Doswell
Councillor Wright
Joe Crolla (Industry Skills Intelligence Lead - GMCA)
Chris Wright (Assistant Principal – The Manchester College)

Apologies: Councillor Bell, Noor and Taylor

ESC/22/33 Minutes

The Chair requested that item 8 of the minutes of the previous meeting be amended to reflect that the committee endorsed in principle the proposal to begin enforcement of moving traffic offences.

Decision:

That the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as a correct record subject to the amendment outlined above.

ESC/22/34 Green Skills and Jobs

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Inclusive Economy which provided an update on the opportunities and challenges faced by Manchester as the city makes the transition to a zero-carbon future.

Key points and themes of the report included:

- Challenges and opportunities in the skills system and implications for the city's clean and economic growth;
- Green skills, low carbon employment opportunities and business growth and innovation were fundamental components of Manchester's growth and were crucial to ensuring an inclusive economy for all residents;
- How skills reforms would support more people into green jobs and help to grow future talent pipelines; and
- Initiatives that the Council is involved in to enable development of skills.

Some of the key points and queries that arose from the Committee's discussions included:

- The impact of the cost of living crisis on the need to address the skills and jobs gap in Manchester;
- Whether leadership and management training was offered within courses;
- The inflexibility of qualifications and how colleges respond to need from industry;
- Whether large-scale funding would help to facilitate retrofitting or whether demand was required first;
- Engagement with businesses to improve carbon literacy; and
- The ability of the Green Skills programme to help eligible candidates get into work.

The Executive Member for Skills, Employment and Leisure acknowledged the impact of the cost of living crisis as vital on the need to address the skills and jobs gap in Manchester and explained that the Council's strategy was to increase household incomes and lower costs and green jobs and retrofitting would help with these aims.

The Director of Inclusive Economy commented that work was needed to emphasise STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and the value of trade. The Growth Company was opening a centre in Trafford Park with a focus on these areas and to work with employers.

In response to a query regarding leadership and management training, the Director of Inclusive Economy explained that the Council works with universities on this subject and particularly those which offer MBA courses. The Growth Company are also involved in a wider leadership programmes in co-operation with universities and Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA).

The Industry Skills Intelligence Lead (GMCA) acknowledged challenges in upskilling and explained that less than 1% of the construction workforce in Manchester were fully qualified in retrofitting. An increase in the workforce was required to encourage competition and specialisation and to ensure the workforce is better prepared for the scale of retrofitting.

Members were also informed that GMCA had received funding for upskilling and that this had recently been reissued.

Regarding supply and demand for retrofitting and how large-scale funding would help with this, the Industry Skills Intelligence Lead (GMCA) explained that conversations have taken place with the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy within central government about requirements and challenges surrounding retrofit. Issues around materials, equipment, capacity and deliverability of organisations, and functions within local authorities and housing providers were cited as potential challenges to large-scale retrofitting.

It was stated, however, that the amount of time taken to pay for green equipment, such as solar panels and heat pumps, had decreased which improved accessibility to green infrastructure. As demand for this increases, employers would also need to employ additional staff to deal with the scale of demand.

Members were advised that authorities were able to apply for additional funding for social housing decarbonisation and this had been undertaken in coordination with housing providers with Greater Manchester expecting to receive £90 million.

The Director of Inclusive Economy explained that Manchester Adult Education Service (MAES) was working to embed carbon literacy into their work as an added qualification within their offer. Carbon literacy training was also taking place in work clubs to upskill club leaders.

In response to the member query regarding how the Green Skills programme would help candidates get into work, the Director of Inclusive Economy explained that the example provided in the report was the Community Renewal Fund which had created a programme with a number of partners including the Council to provide work placements and progress candidates into permanent roles.

The programme was due to be completed in December 2022. Further information could be provided after this and members were assured that the Council anticipated more than 50 people would be in jobs at the end of the programme.

Decision:

That the Committee notes the report and endorses the proposed approach.

ESC/22/35 Green Skills and Housing Retrofit

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Inclusive Economy which provided an update on the skills, opportunities and challenges faced by Manchester City Council to deliver large-scale housing retrofit programmes to achieve low carbon standards.

Key points and themes of the report included:

- In 2019, the Council set a target to become a zero-carbon city by 2038, with a challenging reduction of at least 50% of our direct CO2 emissions by 2025;
- By 2032 over 85% of the homes Manchester residents will be living in will have already been built and a large-scale retrofitting programme is, therefore, essential;
- Large scale investment in retrofit programmes will drive the demand for green skills and provide the foundations to develop a local skills, employment, and business support offer;
- Challenges in funding to undertake retrofit programmes and the costs involved in retrofitting; and
- The work of colleges and the GM Low Carbon Academy in delivering retrofit training.

Some of the key points and queries that arose from the Committee's discussions included:

- Responding to needs of the industry given the inflexibility of green skills qualifications and how The Manchester College navigates this;

- Lack of incentives for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to take up green skills training and how this could be improved;
- How much funding in total had been provided for retrofitting by the government;
- If the Council could prioritise contracts for retrofitting with companies who employ local people; and
- Addressing the gender imbalance within the construction industry;
- The scale and number of jobs needed to meet retrofitting targets; and
- Welcomed the sentiment that “every job is a green job”.

The Assistant Principal of The Manchester College explained that green skills qualifications are structured by the awarding organisations and may not be up-to-date in terms of the current needs and practices of the industry. The Manchester College works with contractors in Manchester to develop bespoke modules to complement the curriculum and deliver additional skillsets, thereby responding to the needs of the industry.

Access to skills for SMEs was acknowledged as an issue and The Manchester College had recently been involved in delivering free solar thermal training which provided existing plumbers an upskilling opportunity. This training was delivered to 58 students, 9% of whom were female, and a number of students were able to get work in retrofitting upon completion.

The Assistant Principal of The Manchester College commented that a single Green Skills Academy for Greater Manchester may be useful as a single point of access and information for SMEs. Discussions were also underway with One Manchester and the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education (IFATE) to develop programmes.

The Executive Member for Housing and Development confirmed that there is a funding shortfall for retrofit although some social housing pilots had taken place in past years and the Council would continue to apply for relevant funding. The Executive Member also stated that the Council had spent £83 million on housing stock in North Manchester since 2005, which had resulted in a 49% reduction in carbon emissions.

The Work and Skills Lead and the Assistant Principal at The Manchester College explained that diversity within green jobs and the construction industry was encouraged through work in schools, careers advice and guidance and myth-busting sessions. Members were also advised that the female demographic with The Manchester College’s Transition and T-Level courses in construction had increased to 12% and the new intake of the Construction and Built Environment T-Level course was a 50:50 gender split.

The Committee was informed that between 8000 and 12,000 new jobs were required to meet retrofit needs. Approximately 3000 learners complete construction courses each year from all further education colleges in Greater Manchester and around 1000 begin construction apprenticeships each year. Other schemes such as skills bootcamps were also being held to increase the number of people in the construction industry.

With regards to whether the Council could prioritise contracts for retrofitting with companies who employ local people, the Director of Inclusive Economy explained that where the Council has levers, such as in procurement, it will seek organisations which employ local people but there was no capacity to monitor this. There were varying degrees of influence in other areas, such as joint contracts and land, and this could be requested through the planning process.

Members felt that retrofitting was a significant piece of work for the Council which needed to be developed collaboratively between the Economy Scrutiny Committee and the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee. Councillor Irene Robinson proposed that a working group on housing retrofit be established, seconded by Councillor Mandie Shilton Godwin.

Decision:

That the Committee

1. notes the report and
2. recommends that a working group be established and made up of members of the Economy Scrutiny Committee and the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee to support the delivery of the housing retrofit plan.

ESC/22/36 Social Value and Climate Change

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Integrated Commissioning and Procurement which provided an update on how the Council's Social Value Policy, adopted by Executive in 2021, was being used to contribute economically to the Council's ambition to be zero-carbon by 2038, supporting green jobs and skills.

Key points and themes of the report included:

- The objectives and approach of the Social Value policy;
- Outcomes of a review of the Social Value policy in 2021 which included a commitment to a reduction in emissions associated with the goods, services and works contracts that the council procures;
- Priority cohorts had been identified and tenderers were requested to outline how Social Value proposals would benefit these specific groups;
- The introduction of a 10% weighting in the evaluation of tenders specifically in relation to climate change and the environment to ensure that the council's suppliers recognise the climate emergency and share the council's commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2038 or sooner; and
- Work was underway with authorities across Greater Manchester to establish a more harmonised set of social value measures, whilst retaining flexibility for measures in relation to local priorities.

Some of the key points and queries that arose from the Committee's discussions included:

- The number of people supported through the procurement process and are they carbon literate;
- A request for case studies on what social value means in practice;
- Whether contractors are required to pay the Living Wage and how this can be monitored and enforced;
- A need to increase public communications on social value work to inform and celebrate progress; and
- If and how social value policy applies to arms-length management organisations (ALMO) and social landlords.

The Head of Integrated Commissioning and Procurement agreed to provide case studies of what social value means in practice outside of the meeting and explained that although figures on the number of people supported through the procurement process were unavailable, an annual survey of the top 300 suppliers was undertaken to analyse trends and showcased at an annual event with suppliers.

Members were informed that provisions for carbon literacy training within the supply chain would be covered by the 10% carbon reduction weighting required through the process. Suppliers are expected to outline their current position towards carbon zero, proposals on improving this position, and their target date for achieving net carbon zero as part of the tendering process.

The Head of Integrated Commissioning and Procurement confirmed that as the Council is a Living Wage-accredited organisation, suppliers are also expected to pay the Living Wage. Where suppliers already have a contract with the Council and do not pay the Living Wage, officers would work with the supplier to plan how this could be achieved.

In response to a query regarding how this is monitored and enforced, it was stated that the Council was investing in a Contracts Management System and looking into dedicated social value measurement tools to capture information from suppliers and harmonise monitoring of social value across the council. Suppliers would be expected to upload their own data into the Contracts Management System which would encourage self-service and enable officers to generate data reports quickly. Recruitment was also underway for two posts to monitor the effectiveness of the 10% carbon reduction weighting and these would be funded by the zero carbon programme.

Members were advised that events celebrating social value achievements had been held in the past but became virtual during lockdown. A face-to-face event was held in February 2022 and was well-received with the event for 2023 currently being planned. It was acknowledged that this was an opportunity to publicise social value in the procurement process more widely. The Head of Integrated Commissioning and Procurement confirmed that feedback as to how and where social value funding had been spent would be provided to those contributing to the funding.

The Committee was also informed that social value policies apply to the maintenance contract for the Council's housing management company, Northwards. Social housing providers are included in the Council's action group to become a Living

Wage City and it was acknowledged that many social landlords in Manchester employ local companies and employees.

The Executive Member for Finance and Resources reiterated the Council's encouragement for suppliers to invest in Manchester, commended the Council for reviewing social value policy to maximise social value across all areas and recognised the need to publicise social value work.

Decision:

That the Committee

1. notes the report and
2. recommends that the Council improves the public promotion of its social value work and achievements.

ESC/22/37 Overview Report

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

Decision:

That the Committee note the report.