

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee –
9 January 2018

Subject: Delivering the Our Manchester Strategy

Report of: Executive Member for Environment, Planning & Transport

Summary

This report provides an overview of work undertaken and progress towards the delivery of the Council's priorities as set out in the Our Manchester strategy for those areas within the portfolio of the Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to note and comment on the report.

Wards Affected: All

Contact:

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

- Manchester Strategy 2016-2025 as approved by Executive 6 Jan 2016
- Building Together – Manchester Labour's promise to Manchester

1. Introduction

1.1 The Our Manchester Strategy was formally adopted by the Council in January 2016 and sets the ambitions for the city for the next ten years, to 2025, for Manchester to be:

- Thriving – creating great jobs and healthy businesses
- Filled with talent – both home-grown talent and attracting the best in the world
- Fair – with equal chances for all to unlock their potential
- A great place to live – with lots of things to do
- Buzzing with connections – including world-class transport and broadband

1.2 Executive Members are collectively and individually responsible for supporting the delivery of the Our Manchester Strategy and for providing political oversight and direction to officers for the better outcomes for Manchester residents. In October, the Executive also published its collective political priorities and those of individual Executive Members, all of which are aligned to the Our Manchester Strategy. On 30 May 2018, the Executive also agreed the executive priorities for 2018/19.

1.3 This report is written by Cllr Angeliki Stogia, Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport and sets out a summary of the work undertaken over the past 6 months and looks at what will be delivered in the next 12 months.

2. Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport Portfolio

2.1 As Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport my portfolio includes:

- Highways
- Planning and Building Control
- Transport
- Climate Change

2.2 The priorities I am responsible to deliver on are:

Transport

- Continue the £100m investment in our roads and pavements that began last year, reduce the blight of potholes and over time get all our roads to a good standard and keep them there.
- Develop a comprehensive set of parking policies that prioritise the needs of local residents and businesses, controlling and discouraging commuter and non-resident parking in residential areas, improving road safety and the local environment.
- Work with Chris Boardman and the Combined Authority to implement the Made to Move report, making cycling safer, getting more people walking and cycling.

- Ensure the Mayor and the Combined Authority make public transport serve the public, by extending democratic control over bus services with straightforward smart ticketing covering bus, train and tram.

Environment

- A cleaner, greener environmentally sustainable city.
- Prioritise ongoing reductions in our emission of greenhouse gases.
- Take action to make the air we breathe clean.

3. Progress and Outcomes June 2018 – January 2019

3.1 £100m highways investment

Delivery of the second year of investment has progressed. A range of maintenance scheme across various programme areas have been delivered throughout the year. These included: 104 roads were resurfaced, this equates to 26 miles in linear measurement 588 roads were surface treated to protect them from further deterioration, this equates to 76 miles in linear measurement 17 footway schemes were completed, comprising of 2.5 miles in linear measurement reconstructed, the rest having preventative treatment. In 2017/18 around 11,300 gullies on roads that have been resurfaced or had preventative treatments were cleaned and tested with around 2% of them requiring repairs. On top of the resurfacing and surface dressing works a substantial patching programme is repairing our potholes and in year we have commenced a programme to clean out all our gullies and then make any necessary repairs.

I have undertaken a number of visits with ward members to review the extent of work that is taking place across the city. I have also undertaken a number of visits to see how work is delivered and progresses made on the ground and had the opportunity to meet the contractors, observe the crews while they worked to deliver the improvements across Manchester.

Planning is underway now for the years 3,4 and 5 programmes which will be shared with members for comment and feedback in due course.

3.2 Highways service improvement

In the last six months, our service have been concentrating on reviewing and refining long-standing processes and procedures around work allocation and repair. These include:

- the deployment of additional resource (both internally and externally procured);
- utilising more efficient and cost-effective methods of repair in particular circumstances (for example, jet patching where appropriate);
- rolling-out enhanced monitoring and management of performance investment is also being made in drainage repairs as part of the £100 million investment.

Given the scale and scope of the Highways programme there is a requirement for a service specific approach to identifying, monitoring and evaluating social value opportunities and benefits. In the last six months the service transformed to one of the best in its approach to this important area - the significant progress has been recognised by the Ethical Procurement Sub Group and the Social Value Strategic Working Group. Highways are now being recognised as a service that is actively transforming their approach to social value, for more information on the significant progress made in the last six months and to view case studies shared from highways suppliers actively demonstrating positive social value outcomes and commitments as well as the ongoing work programme to further improve the services delivery of social value benefits, please see the report which was submitted to the Ethical Procurement Sub Group on the 29th November 2018.

In the last six months as with social value the service has transformed to one of the best services in relation to its approach to health and safety. A new Health and Safety Board has been established including with trade union representation, a focused action plan is being implemented and new policies have been drafted and being implemented. External reviews have been carried out of some areas and additional training delivered to our Manchester Contracts workforce. Our External Health and Safety training provider has recently confirmed our design team as being Construction Design and Management compliant and competent to undertake the Principal Designer role.

3.3 Residents Parking schemes

Activity has been taking place to develop parking policies which will see four residents parking schemes delivered in Manchester. These include schemes in Rusholme/Moss Side, the North Manchester General scheme, St Georges in Hulme and Ardwick Green North.

While these schemes will bring much needed improvements in these local areas and help control and discourage commuter and non-resident parking, we will need to build on this work and agree an approach seeking ways to bring more schemes forward.

The principle that schemes coming forward should be no cost to residents benefiting from resident parking schemes was agreed for these schemes and that contributions to meet revenue costs for schemes should be sought by the organisation/development causing parking problems e.g. airport, hospitals, stadiums, universities in the first instance. Work is currently being undertaken to seek funding from organisations identified as causing commuter parking issues.

3.4 Implementing Made to Move

The Mayor's Cycling Commissioner, Chris Boardman, has recently published his "Made to Move" document which sets out ambitious plans to increase

levels of walking and cycling across Greater Manchester. The Combined Authority has agreed a £165 million budget to support this work.

A lot of work has taken place to engage with members and feed into the Beelines consultation. The majority of comments to the Beelines consultation have been submitted by Manchester residents and Cllrs have taken an active role in organising and promoting events for residents to feed their comments. We have secured £9.5m funding for the Mayor's challenge fund in order to bring proposals forward for a more ambitious scheme for the Chorlton cycleway which is currently being consulted on.

Further work with the Commissioner has resulted in securing funding for a cycle safety scheme to improve safety for cyclists using the junction of Ashton New Road and Alan Turing Way. The scheme, costing £1.5m, will be funded by the Department for Transport's Cycle Safety Fund and will be consulted on in the New Year.

We are working to bring forward an improved scheme for the cycling link between Piccadilly Station with Victoria Station via the Northern Quarter. The Cycling and Walking Commissioner has also supported our activities around the Road Safety Week which aims to inspire thousands of schools, organisations and communities to take action on road safety and promote life-saving messages.

The design of the Oxford Road cycling and bus corridor scheme won a national transport award in October 2018. Judges were impressed with the Wilmslow Road and Oxford Road Cycleway – one of the most innovative UK cycling schemes outside London – which was deemed the best entry in the Excellence in Cycling and Walking category. The highways team are working positively with the cycling commissioner to develop a pipeline of active travel projects that we will make Manchester a better place to walk and cycle.

3.5 Zero Carbon 2038

In November the Council agreed to adopt, on behalf of the city, an updated science based target to ensure that Manchester plays its full part in responding to the challenge of climate change and in meeting the requirements of the Paris Agreement.

The Council has therefore agreed to:

- a) Adopt the Tyndall Centre's proposed targets and definition of zero carbon on behalf of the city.
- b) Commit to developing a draft action plan by March 2019 and a final detailed plan by March 2020 setting out how the city will ensure that it stays within the proposed carbon budget.
- c) To recognise that by taking urgent action to become a zero carbon city, starting in 2018, we will achieve more benefits for Manchester's residents and businesses up to 2025 and beyond.

- d) Work with partners to ensure that Manchester accelerates its efforts to encourage all residents, businesses and other stakeholders to take action on climate change, starting in 2018.

This commitment puts the city in a leading position on a global level as one of the relatively few places that is committed to adopt such a science based target.

3.6 Clean Air

Manchester City Council is working with the other nine Greater Manchester authorities and Transport for Greater Manchester to develop a Clean Air Plan to address the serious problem of air pollution that affects the city along with many other large urban areas throughout Europe.

The air quality problem is largely caused by road traffic. The Council is required to submit an Outline Plan to Government setting out the measures that it is proposed to take to bring the levels of nitrogen oxide pollution within legal limits in the shortest possible time. In developing the plan we are working to ensure that we spend time explaining the nature of the current problem to our residents and businesses and encourage them to take measures on a voluntary basis that can improve the air that we breathe. We are also working to ensure that the Plan is developed in a way that supports the Council's wider social and economic objectives.

Officers have therefore been commissioned to undertake further work on options to address GM's NO₂ exceedances across Greater Manchester alongside a detailed analysis of their socio- economic impact. To allow time for this detailed analysis to be completed, the draft Outline Business Case will not be brought forward in January as scheduled, however it is still the intention to publish the full business case by the end of 2019 as originally planned. The Greater Manchester Combined Authority will receive an update on the Clean Air Plan when it meets on 11 January 2019.

3.7 Green and Blue Infrastructure

Working to improve the city's natural environment is a key part of working to make the city a more attractive place to live, work and visit. We continue to work to implement our Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy "Manchester's Great Outdoors" along with residents and other partners across the city. The strategy itself won a prestigious award at the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management Awards. There is a report elsewhere on the agenda on the progress that has been made in improving the city's green and blue spaces.

3.8 Single Use Plastics

My deputy Councillor Ali Ilyas has been leading on this issue on my behalf. Following a Council motion on the issue, the Council has undertaken work to look at the use of Single Use Plastics (SUP) within procurement and

commissioning, events, markets and licensing. This work has demonstrated that there is existing good practice within Manchester Central and Manchester Art Gallery but that further work is required. The Council are now in the process of developing a formal Single Use Plastics (SUP) policy which will commit to reducing the use of SUP and being as SUP free as possible in all operations.

A communications campaign is also underway and a video has been produced which promotes the fact that Manchester Christmas Markets are being SUP free. Further videos will also be considered to showcase activity across the city focusing on different organisations such as Manchester Central and the cafes in the library, the airport and leisure centres. The Council are also promoting and participating in the #PlasticfreeGM campaign.