

**Manchester City Council  
Report for Information**

**Report to:** Executive – 16 November 2022  
**Subject:** Our Manchester Progress Update  
**Report of:** The Chief Executive

---

**Summary**

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

**Recommendations**

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

---

**Wards Affected - All**

<b>Environmental Impact Assessment</b> - the impact of the decisions proposed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city
N/A

<b>Equality, Diversity and Inclusion</b> - the impact of the issues addressed in this report in meeting our Public Sector Equality Duty and broader equality commitments
N/A

<b>Our Manchester Strategy outcomes</b>	<b>Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS/Contribution to the Strategy</b>
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	The work to reset the Our Manchester Strategy considered all five of the Strategy’s existing themes to ensure the city achieves its aims. The themes are retained within the final reset Strategy, Forward to 2025.
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city’s economic success	
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	

A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	

**Full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for**

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

### **Financial Consequences – Revenue**

None

### **Financial Consequences – Capital**

None

### **Contact Officers:**

Name: Joanne Roney OBE, Chief Executive  
Position: Chief Executive  
Telephone: 0161 2343006  
E-mail: Joanne.Roney@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Alun Ireland  
Position: Head of Strategic Communications  
Telephone: 0161 2343006  
E-mail: Alun.Ireland@manchester.gov.uk

### **Background documents (available for public inspection):**

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

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

## **1.0 Introduction**

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

## **2.0 Belle Vue affordable homes**

2.1 A development of 130 affordable homes in Belle Vue reached a milestone last week with the opening of show homes.

2.2 The homes are being delivered by developer Countryside and housing association partner Great Places.

2.3 A mix of houses and apartments, there will be 89 homes for social rent, 12 homes available for rent at the Manchester Living Rent and 29 for shared ownership. The development will also have 117 properties for sale on the open market.

2.4 All homes are being built to greener by design standards including electric charging points for every house. The development is bring a brownfield site, the location of the former Belle Vue greyhound stadium, back into use.

2.5 The site will be completed by June 2024.

### **Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:**

- Progressive and Equitable City
- Liveable and Zero Carbon City
- Thriving and Sustainable City

## **3.0 Gorton Hub**

3.1 Gorton's new community, integrated health and learning hub was set to open its doors for the first time on Tuesday 15 November.

3.2 The Gorton Hub, on Garrett Way, will bring together a range of local services under the same roof for the first time, creating a one-stop-shop for local people to access a GP, health and social care services, employment support, cafe and a new Gorton library – all in a purpose built, highly accessible development.

3.3 Currently these services are delivered in different parts of the local neighbourhood, while the new hub will allow residents to access different support services much more easily, while also creating a new welcoming community space within the building.

3.4 Each of the services will open to the public in a phased way through to January 2023.

- A vibrant and modern library and learning space (Tuesday 15 November)
- NHS community health teams, such as district nurses, health visitors and physios – and will include treatment rooms for both children and adults (Tuesday 15 November)
- Manchester Adult Education Service (MAES) (Tuesday 15 November)
- Jobcentre Plus (from Monday 21 November)

3.5 Further services moving into the hub, include:

- a new home for the Gorton Medical Centre GP practice
- a pharmacy
- A new café
- Working with One Manchester to bring a housing office to the Hub.
- Detailed opening information for these organisations will be confirmed shortly.

3.6 The Hub building will be open from 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 5pm on Saturdays, although different services will have different opening times.

For more information visit [www.manchester.gov.uk/gortonhub](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/gortonhub)

**Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:**

- Progressive and Equitable City
- Thriving and Sustainable City
- Highly Skilled City

**4.0 Homelessness additional winter provision**

4.1 From 1<sup>st</sup> November right through until spring 2023, the Council and fellow members of the Manchester Homelessness Partnership are providing extra support to help people sleeping on the streets move into accommodation through the coldest months.

4.2 The increased accommodation provision, over and above that which is available all year round, will be available for as long as people need it. Together with support, it will help people who have been sleeping on the streets to rebuild their lives until they are ready to move into more permanent accommodation. More difficult-to-reach people who have been sleeping on the streets can be more likely to accept support as temperatures drop.

4.3 This echoes the successful approach from last winter, but this year the extended accommodation began a whole month earlier. It includes space for more than 50 people with en-suite rooms in a former hotel outside the city centre.

4.4 The bed spaces are offered on a referral system to people who have been identified by partners and outreach teams as high priority. The Booth Centre, Cornerstone and Coffee 4 Craig will be providing support and managing referral hubs in the daytime and evening.

- 4.5 Other organisations will provide support to those people coming off the street into the additional accommodation – for example Urban Village Medical Practice will provide Covid and flu vaccinations.
- 4.6 The extra accommodation is being funded by the Council, alongside funding from Government.
- 4.7 The city's cold weather response is being delivered through an extensive public, voluntary and community/charity sector partnership involving Barnabus, The Booth Centre, Coffee 4 Craig, Centrepoin, The Men's Room, On the Out, Reach Out to the Community, MASH, Shelter, Boaz Trust, Change Grow Live, ABEN Providers, Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Urban Village Medical Practice, Street Engagement Hub, Caritas, Greater Manchester Police alongside the Council.
- 4.8 Anyone who is worried about someone sleeping rough can alert the Council via [www.streetlink.org.uk](http://www.streetlink.org.uk)

**Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:**

- Progressive and Equitable City

The Flu vaccine is being offered free to:

- people aged 50 and over
- those aged over six months to 49 with a specified health condition
- some secondary school-aged children
- 2 and 3 year olds
- pregnant women
- primary school-aged children
- those in care homes
- frontline health care workers
- frontline social care staff who do not have access to occupational health schemes
- household contacts of people with a weakened immune system

**5.0 Winter vaccination campaign**

- 5.1 Manchester residents are being encouraged to get vaccinated to avoid the 'twindemic' of Covid-19 and flu this winter.
- 5.2 Greater Manchester has launched an awareness campaign bringing both viruses to life in the form of over-sized monster characters. The characters – who are visible across the region – are causing chaos to highlight the disruption that both viruses bring, the health threat they pose, and what they can spoil for people.

5.3 The Monster Mayhem campaign is also accompanied by materials that embed both health messages and cost of living support in booklets that are being distributed throughout the city.

5.4 Free Covid-19 booster vaccine are available for people in the following categories:

- all adults aged 50 years and over
- those aged 5 to 49 years in a [clinical risk group](#), including pregnant women
- those aged 5 to 49 years who are household contacts of people with immunosuppression
- those aged 16 to 49 years who are carers
- residents in a care home for older adults and staff working in care homes for older adults
- frontline health and social care workers

5.5 The Flu vaccine is being offered free to:

- people aged 50 and over
- those aged over six months to 49 with a specified health condition
- some secondary school-aged children
- 2 and 3 year olds
- pregnant women
- primary school-aged children
- those in care homes
- frontline health care workers
- frontline social care staff who do not have access to occupational health schemes
- household contacts of people with a weakened immune system

**Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:**

- Thriving and Sustainable City
- Progressive and Equitable City

**6.0 National Geographic ‘Best of the World’**

6.1 Manchester has been named by National Geographic magazine as one its top 25 must-visit global destinations for 2023.

6.2 The city was the only UK city to be recognised in the publication’s influential ‘Best of the World’ list, joining destinations including New Zealand and San Francisco.

6.3 The accolade recognised the strength of Manchester’s post-pandemic revival and the raft of significant cultural openings in 2023 including Factory International and Manchester Museum after a £15m transformation including new galleries.

- 6.4 Manchester was featured in the ‘family’ category of the list, recognising destinations offering educational journeys for all generations.
- 6.5 Operating in over 170 countries, National Geographic’s titles are some of the best-known and most recognisable travel publications in the world, reaching over half a billion people on social media.

**Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:**

- Thriving and Sustainable City
- Liveable and Low Carbon City
- Connected City

**7.0 Victoria North Community Hub**

- 7.1 A new social benefit hub has opened at Red Bank – part of the Victoria North regeneration programme – to help people gain employment, training and digital access.
- 7.2 The Victoria North Community Hub has been set up by BAM Nuttall and Arup – the contractor working on the Red Bank phase of the regeneration project – as part of their social value commitment for the development.
- 7.3 Victoria North is one of the largest regeneration schemes in the UK and the community hub aims to demonstrate how projects such as this can be delivered in an inclusive way and positively impact nearby communities.
- 7.4 The Council has developed a programme of support to help residents in north Manchester, alongside a range of support services run by city-based voluntary organisations.
- 7.5 BAM Nuttall and Arup are providing the hub with access to laptops and free wi-fi allow residents to search for jobs, get support with applications and find training opportunities, as well as to access housing and income advice.
- 7.6 On-site staff are also providing computer literacy support – and the hub will be used to advertise job roles available as part of the Victoria North regeneration programme and wider employment opportunities in the contractor supply chain.
- 7.7 The hub, which will be available until spring 2024 at the BAM Nuttall site compound in Hargreaves Street, will be open to residents during pre-planned sessions with community organisations rather than on a drop-in basis.
- 7.8 Over the next 15 to 20 years, the Victoria North project will deliver more than 15,000 new homes (at least 20% of which will be affordable housing) using largely brownfield land, with each neighbourhood connected by high quality green spaces and a 46-hectare City River Park, opening up and celebrating the Irk River Valley for the first time in decades.

### **Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:**

- Progressive and Equitable City
- Liveable and Zero Carbon City
- Thriving and Sustainable City
- Highly Skilled City
- Connected City

## **8.0 Our Rivers, Our City**

- 8.1 The strategy to revitalise Manchester's rivers and put them at the heart of regeneration has been shortlisted for a prestigious award.
- 8.2 The Our Rivers, Our City strategy which covers a period up to 2030 aims to make Manchester's three rivers – the Irk in the north of the city, the Medlock in the centre and the Mersey in the south – a vital part of its future, not simply part of its heritage.
- 8.3 The strategy, co-ordinated by the Council, is a finalist in the Landscape Institute's annual awards on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November.
- 8.4 It is a vision for boosting the biodiversity and cleanliness of the rivers and other urban waterways, ensuring they are managed in a way which helps prevent and reduce flooding and contributes to the city's wider zero carbon goals. Rivers are recognised as an asset which can play a vital role in the character of new neighbourhoods such as Victoria North.
- 8.5 Its five main aims are to improve the quality and functioning of the city's river valleys and their catchments; to ensure river valleys and sustainable drainage are key components of new developments; improve the accessibility of river valley; promote the wider benefits of river valley and improve flood management and risk mitigation.
- 8.6 The strategy is funded by the GrowGreen project which is an EU Horizon 2020 programme for Research and Innovation.

### **Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:**

- Liveable and Low Carbon City
- Connected City
- Thriving and Sustainable City

## **9.0 Arts Council England National Portfolio funding**

- 9.1 Manchester-based arts organisations will benefit from almost £25m a year of Arts Council England national portfolio funding over the next three years.
- 9.2 New additions to the national portfolio include the National Football Museum, Brighter Sounds, Manchester Collective, Music Action International, Northern Lines, Reform Radio, Sheba Arts and Triple C.

- 9.3 Other organisations including arts and creative hub for children and young people Z-Arts, who will now receive £401k a year, have received an uplift in existing funding to expand their work. Comma Press, Commonsworld and Company Chameleon are other examples.
- 9.4 The Contact Theatre, Halle Concerts Society, HOME, Manchester Galleries, Manchester Jazz Festival, Manchester Jewish Museum and Manchester Literature Festival are among the other organisations to benefit from ongoing funding.
- 9.5 Collectively these organisations will create inspiration, jobs and skills for Manchester people both directly or indirectly through attracting visitors as well as playing a vital role in creating a liveable and inviting city.
- 9.6 The council continues a funding commitment to the arts and cultural sector and is inviting applications for its Cultural Partnership grants programme this autumn.
- 9.7 The funding runs from 2023 to 2026 for cultural organisations that contribute to making Manchester a thriving, equitable, vibrant and liveable city with high quality cultural and creative experiences that all Manchester people can benefit from.

**Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:**

- Liveable and Zero Carbon City
- Progressive and Equitable City
- Highly Skilled City
- Thriving and Sustainable City
- Connected City

**10.0 Our Year Legacy Fund**

- 10.1 National company IMPOWER has joined forces with the Council to launch a new Our Year Legacy Fund to provide ongoing opportunities for children and young people in Manchester.
- 10.2 The Fund has been set up as an ongoing legacy from the Council's year-long 2022 Our Year campaign through which the whole city has been asked to put children and young people first.
- 10.3 The year has already seen expanded opportunities for young people and mentoring from businesses across the city. The Council has invested an extra half a million pounds into additional youth and play services and expanded activities across Manchester including the city's first ever Baby Week and a bumper National Play Day.
- 10.4 The Our Year Legacy Fund, to which IMPOWER have made the first donation, will give children and young people access to social, cultural and educational

experiences which they might otherwise miss out on. Any Manchester based not-for-profit organisation or education setting will be able to apply for grants from the fund on behalf of individual young people or groups they work with.

- 10.5 IMPOWER's own work focuses on making a difference for children and young people by helping local areas to meet their needs and improve their life chances.
- 10.6 The Our Year Legacy Fund is being hosted and administered by the We Love MCR charity and the application process will be open to eligible settings from 7 November.
- 10.7 Organisations or individuals who are interested in supporting the Our Year Legacy Fund can email [ouryear@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:ouryear@manchester.gov.uk) or visit [ouryear.uk](http://ouryear.uk) to find out more.

**Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:**

- Progressive and Equitable City
- Thriving and Sustainable City
- Highly Skilled City

**11.0 Making Manchester Fairer Conference**

- 11.1 In October 2021 Manchester's Health Scrutiny Committee heard from Professor Sir Michael Marmot, University College London - author of 'Fair Society Healthy Lives' (The Marmot Review, 2010) and 'Health Equity in England: The Marmot Review 10 Years On' (2020). He discussed the key issues relating to health inequalities and the measures to be taken to address these in Manchester. It was agreed that in order for the activities that address the social determinants of health - the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age - to have maximum impact for individuals and communities, partners in the city would need to work as a collective system. Work began to bring together leaders from across Manchester's Population Health and Wellbeing System and this 'Marmot Task Group' collaborated to develop a clear plan for the city – now known as the Making Manchester Fairer Action Plan.
- 11.2 On 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 the five-year Making Manchester Fairer Action Plan was launched at a conference held at the Etihad Stadium. In recognition that the continual engagement of the workforce and services across the social determinants of health is critical to developing the detail and successful delivery of the plan, invitations were targeted at frontline workers, managers and leaders in organisations and services that make up the population health system including the VCSE sector, health and housing as well as key city council teams and directorates.
- 11.3 More than 200 delegates attended the full day event which was opened by the Council's Chief Executive and Leader, reflecting the priority of tackling inequalities for the city. Speakers included Prof Sir Michael Marmot himself,

who provided an inspirational keynote speech evidencing the challenges, and Nazir Afzal OBE who focused on the importance of listening to communities and recognising the impact of structural racism and discrimination. The context and key principles of the city's plan were provided by the Director and Deputy Director of Public Health and delegates were encouraged to begin to explore what the plan would mean for their work in delivering services.

- 11.4 Central to the development of the plan has been the voice of residents and this was reflected throughout the day in the form of specially commissioned short videos and a 'call to action' performance piece devised and performed by local young people. Delegates were able to put questions directly to the speakers, who were joined in a panel discussion by the Executive Member for Healthy Manchester and Adult Social Care, who also closed the conference.
- 11.5 Feedback from the event has been overwhelmingly positive and work has already begun to sustain this engagement, starting with the first of a number of regular planned bulletins to attendees who form the starting point for Making Manchester Fairer's emerging workforce engagement strategy – part of a wider plan to continually engage and communicate with stakeholders that will be rolled out in 2023.

**Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:**

- Liveable and Zero Carbon City
- Progressive and Equitable City
- Highly Skilled City
- Thriving and Sustainable City
- Connected City

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

**12.0 Contributing to the Our Manchester Strategy**

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

**13.0 Key Policies and Considerations**

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

**14.0 Recommendations**

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