

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Executive – 18 January 2023
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

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

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - the impact of the issues addressed in this report in meeting our Public Sector Equality Duty and broader equality commitments

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

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

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

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

Financial Consequences – Revenue

None

Financial Consequences – Capital

None

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

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

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

1.0 Introduction

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

2.0 Campfield

- 2.1 A £17.5m scheme to transform two historic Manchester city centre buildings into a modern hub for growing media and tech firms has taken a significant step forward.
- 2.2 The Council has entered into legal agreements with development partner Allied London for the Grade II-listed Upper Campfield Market and Lower Campfield Market buildings on Liverpool Road. Allied London will repair, refurbish and fit out these heritage buildings to create a new Campfield tech, media and creative industries hub within St. John's which will be operated by its managed workspace platform All Work & Social. A third building, Castlefield House owned by Allied London, will also be repositioned as part of the masterplan to provide complementary workspace for tech and media businesses.
- 2.3 Campfield is one of two schemes which together formed the Culture In The City project which the Council secured almost £20m of Government Levelling Up funding in autumn 2021. The remaining £2.2m will see three heritage railway arches, between arts venue HOME and Whitworth Street West, converted into a creative talent development centre to be operated by HOME. More details of this will be announced in the coming months.
- 2.4 Campfield will attract and support start-up, recovery and scale-up businesses in the tech, innovation and media sectors.
- 2.5 The Campfield market buildings will provide 83,000 sq. ft. of modern workspace including a minimum of 400 hot desks plus meeting rooms, event spaces and other facilities accessible on a permanent occupier or drop-in basis.
- 2.6 Over a 15-year period, it is anticipated that 1,600 jobs will be created and a further 2,400 jobs sustained.
- 2.7 The project will build on the success of the Exchange Tech Hub in the Bonded Warehouse and form part of wider plans for Enterprise City in St John's including the ABC Building, the Globe Building, and Manchester Goods Yard which is already the home of Booking.com and Cloud Imperium Games.
- 2.8 Work on Campfield will start later this year and be completed by spring 2024.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Thriving and Sustainable City
- Highly Skilled City

3.0 Crown Street Primary School

- 3.1 A Trust has been appointed to run what will be the first new primary school to open in the city centre in almost 20 years.
- 3.2 The Laurus Trust will run the 210-place Crown Street Primary School. Building work is now well underway on its location at the end of Deansgate, with the first pupils expected through its doors in September 2024.
- 3.3 The school forms an important part of the wider regenerations taking place in the Great Jackson Street area at the southern end of the city centre.
- 3.4 It will open with a 26-place pre-school class and a 30-place reception class and expand in size as pupils move through the school until it has pupils in each year group up to and including Year Six. There will also be an on-site daycare setting for children younger than three.
- 3.5 The new neighbourhood, currently being developed by Manchester-based Renaker, will comprise more than 6,300 new homes, a new park including children's play area, a medical facility and dental studio as well as a variety of independent eateries and bars.
- 3.6 The Laurus Trust already operates Didsbury High School and a number of other schools across Greater Manchester.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

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

4.0 Former Central Retail Park

- 4.1 A consultation is currently underway on regeneration plans for the former Central Retail Park.
- 4.2 There is a renewed commitment that the regeneration of the former Central Retail Park site will create a high quality, sustainable office district with attractive public realm at its heart. It will deliver significant new employment opportunities for the city and local community.

4.3 The draft Strategic Regeneration Framework sets out a new vision for the development of the site with a focus on:

- **New office and workspaces** - the site could be home to around 8,000 jobs and contribute to the continued regeneration of the Ancoats neighbourhood and help meet growing demand in this part of the city.
- **Green spaces** – Developing this site will create a new public link through to the adjacent Cotton Field Park and create a green space at the heart of the low-carbon commercial district. The new public realm, which would be open to all, could provide a range of spaces from terraced lawns and informal seating to lush planting.
- **Retail and leisure spaces** – the vision includes spaces for shops and cafés, providing attractive new facilities for local residents, visitors and the new working population on the site.
- **Connectivity** – the vision promotes new and improved links for pedestrians and cyclists in the area, making it easier, safer and more attractive to walk or cycle into the city or towards key transport hubs. The site’s proximity to Manchester’s main transport routes will make it a prime location for future business.

4.4 The Government Property Agency (GPA) is exploring options for delivering office solutions in Manchester, to meet the needs of various civil servant departments, which supports the Government's commitment to locate more civil servants outside of London and support levelling up. Therefore, the new framework also responds to potential interest from the GPA to locate government offices on the site.

4.5 The consultation is open until 14 February 2023 at

www.manchester.gov.uk/consultations

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

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

5.0 Decarbonisation of the Council’s estate

5.1 Strong progress in reducing carbon emissions from the council’s estate of more than 300 buildings was reported to the Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee earlier this month.

- 5.2 The estate consists of buildings of varying age, condition and function owned by the council – some of which are operated by council services while others are run by third parties.
- 5.3 Emissions from the Council's operational estate have reduced by 7,161 tonnes CO2 per annum – a 29.7% cut – since 2019/20.
- 5.4 Reduction from the estate is a key element of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25, which aims to halve the Council's direct emissions within this period.
- 5.5 This has been achieved through a Zero Carbon Estate Programme designed to oversee the delivery of a wide range of energy efficiency and renewable energy generation measures throughout the estate.
- 5.6 The decarbonisation of the National Grid and changes to ways of working have also contributed to this progress.
- 5.7 The first phase of the Zero Carbon Estate programme saw the Council undertake £6.6m of works on an invest-to-save basis to deliver a 1,400 tonnes CO2 per annum reduction across eight buildings: Wythenshawe Forum, East Manchester Leisure Centre, Hough End Leisure Centre, Arcadia Sports Centre, Moss Side Leisure Centre, North City Family and Fitness Centre, Belle Vue Sports Centre and Manchester Tennis and Football Centre.
- 5.8 Separately, lighting in the Town Hall Extension has been converted to LED with new control systems introduced to further improve energy efficiency and the large buildings at the Space Project and Sharp Project have also benefitted from improvements.
- 5.9 A second phase of works, funded through the Government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, completed in 2021/22 and delivered £18.2m of improvements including ground and air source heat pumps, saving 1,700 tonnes CO2 per annum to eleven buildings: Wythenshawe Forum, East Manchester Leisure Centre, Hough End Leisure Centre, Arcadia Sports Centre, Moss Side Leisure Centre, North City Family and Fitness Centre, Manchester Aquatic Centre, The National Cycling Centre, Space studios, the Sharp Project and Zion Arts Centre.
- 5.10 Other projects are underway. These include schemes being funded with a further £3.1m of Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme grant to save 512 tonnes of carbon emissions per annum across seven buildings: Arbeta (Manchester Creative Digital Assets), Harpurhey District Office, Denmark Road Active Lifestyle Centre, Claremont Resource Centre, Didsbury Library, Hall Lane Resource Centre and The Place at Platt Lane. These are all due to complete by the end of March 2023.

- 5.11 A £2.5m scheme to create a solar car port on one of the car parks at the National Cycling Centre – funded through £1.3m of Council budget and £850k of European Regional Development Fund award – is due to complete in June 2023.
- 5.12 The Council is also waiting for news on a further Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (Phase 3b) funding application. The bid is for £1.2m for energy efficiency schemes in the Town Hall Extension and Woodhouse Park Active Lifestyle Centre which would contribute another 650 tonnes CO2 per annum saving.
- 5.13 80 Energy Audits are being carried out by the Council's commissioned partners Equans to identify opportunities for estate decarbonisation schemes.
- 5.14 A rolling programme of LED lighting replacements across the corporate estate currently has £200k worth of schemes in development, with a total saving of 36 tonnes CO2 per annum.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Liveable and Zero Carbon City
- Thriving and Sustainable City

6.0 Voter ID application support

- 6.1 Manchester Libraries will be providing support for residents who need it to help navigate through new voter ID rules which will come into force ahead of the 4 May local elections.
- 6.2 The Elections Act 2022 introduces a requirement for voters to show an approved form of photo ID at polling stations before a ballot paper can be issued to them.
- 6.3 The list of approved forms of ID includes passports, drivers licenses and concessionary bus passes but people who do not have one of the approved forms of ID will need to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate confirming their identity in order to be able to vote.
- 6.4 All 22 libraries in the city offer free internet and wifi which residents can use if they need to apply for a VAC. Staff will be able to advise which forms of photo identification can be used at polling stations to avoid people applying for VACs unnecessarily.
- 6.5 Additional support sessions will also be available in all 22 libraries, up to the end of April, with staff on hand to help take photographs and submit VAC applications.
- 6.6 Telephone support will also be available for residents who have home internet access but need support with the VAC form. This will be provided through the

library services Digital Inclusion Team and can be accessed by texting 07860 064128.

- 6.7 A Greater Manchester-wide communications campaign to make people aware of the changes and the need to ensure they have voter ID to participate in elections will amplify and supplement a national campaign being led by the Electoral Commission.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Progressive and Equitable City

7.0 Contributing to a Zero-Carbon City

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

8.0 Contributing to the Our Manchester Strategy

- 8.1 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.

9.0 Key Policies and Considerations

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

10.0 Recommendations

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