

Manchester City Council Report for Information

Report to: Executive – 31 May 2023
Subject: Corporate Priorities 2023/24
Report of: Leader of the Council

Summary

This report sets out the City Council's Corporate Plan priorities for 2023/24, how these align with the Our Manchester Strategy and the pledges in the Manchester Labour Party Manifesto.

Recommendations

For Executive to:

- (1) note and comment on the report
 - (2) adopt the commitments made in the manifesto as corporate priorities for the Executive
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Wards Affected: All Wards

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

Zero carbon Manchester is one of the nine Corporate Plan priorities. A green, sustainable Manchester is one of the five pledges in the Manifesto. A liveable, low carbon city is one of the five themes of the Our Manchester Strategy.

Climate change and environmental issues are also embedded throughout the rest of the Our Manchester Strategy, Corporate Plan and Manifesto.

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

Equality, diversity and inclusion is one of the nine Corporate Plan priorities and is a key cross cutting theme in all of the Manifesto. Equality, diversity and inclusion was also one of the key cross-cutting issues in the 2021 reset of the Our Manchester Strategy, and is emphasised particularly in the progressive and equitable theme of the strategy.

Our Manchester Strategy themes	How this report aligns to the OMS
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	This report sets out how the five Our Manchester Strategy themes align with the nine Corporate Plan priorities and

A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	Labour Party Manifesto pledges.
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	

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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.

Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025 – Executive, February 2021

Manchester City Council Medium Term Financial Strategy and 2023/24 Revenue Budget – Executive, February 2023

A Fairer, Greener Future: People at the heart of everything we do – Manchester Labour Party Manifesto, March 2023 (see Appendix 1)

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report sets out how the City Council's Corporate Plan priorities align with the Our Manchester Strategy for the city and the pledges in the Manchester Labour Party Manifesto.

2.0 Our Manchester Strategy for the city of Manchester

2.1 The Our Manchester Strategy sets the ten-year ambition and priorities for the city and was launched in 2016. Over the first five years of the Strategy, Manchester made significant progress but significant challenges remain, as reported annually in State of the City.

2.2 In May 2020, Executive requested a review of the strategy to re-set the priorities for the next five years, given the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the complex challenges for the city.

2.3 The Strategy was re-set during 2020, engaging with over 3,800 people and overseen by the Our Manchester Forum, a partnership board of 35 leaders from Manchester's public, private and voluntary sectors. In March 2021, Full Council adopted the updated *Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025*.

2.4 To achieve the strategic vision of being a world-class city by 2025, our communities requested a renewed focus on:

- Our young people: investment, support, opportunity and hope for the future of the city
- Our economy: fulfilling opportunities for our residents to create and attract a talented, globally competitive and diverse workforce
- Our health: tackling physical and mental inequalities and ensuring fair access to integrated services
- Our housing: a choice of housing in liveable neighbourhoods across all of the city
- Our environment: pioneering zero carbon solutions and improving green space
- Our infrastructure: active, integrated, affordable and green transport system and improved digital connections

2.5 These findings were incorporated into the five themes of the strategy:

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

2.6 Each of these five themes now has two priority 'we will' actions that include a stronger focus on the cross-cutting priorities of equality, diversity and inclusion and sustainability. Progress will continue to be monitored by the Our Manchester Forum and reported through State of the City.

3.0 Corporate and Business Plan

3.1 The Corporate Plan describes the Council's roles in contributing to delivering the Our Manchester Strategy over the medium term. The nine themes of the Corporate Plan are intended to be corporate and cross-cutting priorities that all parts of the Council contribute to. These are:

- i. Zero carbon Manchester: Lead delivery of the target for Manchester to become a zero carbon city by 2038 at the latest, with the city's future emissions limited to 15 million tonnes of carbon dioxide
- ii. Growth that benefits everyone: Boost the city's productivity and create a more inclusive economy that all residents participate in and benefit from, and contributing to reductions in family poverty
- iii. Young people: From day one, support Manchester's children to be safe, happy, healthy and successful, fulfilling their potential, and making sure they attend a school graded 'good' or better
- iv. Healthy, cared-for people: Work with partners to enable all people to be healthy and well, narrowing the gaps between the healthiest and the least healthy. Support those who need it most, working with them to improve their lives
- v. Housing: Ensure delivery of the right mix of good-quality housing so that Mancunians have a good choice of quality homes
- vi. Delivering in Neighbourhoods: Work with our city's communities to create and maintain clean and vibrant neighbourhoods, with local services, that Mancunians can be proud of
- vii. Connections: Connect Manchester people and places through good quality roads, sustainable transport and better digital networks
- viii. Equality: Deliver on our equality, diversity and inclusion commitments to support Manchester's vision to be a progressive and equitable city.
- ix. Well-managed Council: Support our people to be the best and make the most of our resources

3.2 The Council's annual Business Plan was published alongside the Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget for 2023/24. The Business Plan sets out the more specific priorities for delivering each of the Corporate Plan themes. Key changes for 2023/24 from the 2022/23 plan include:

- Focus on cross-cutting action to support residents through the Cost-of-Living crisis and the new Anti-Poverty Strategy
- Highlighting the work on our next Economic Strategy which aims to ensure that the city's economy continues to grow and is more inclusive
- The implementation of the Housing Strategy for the next ten years
- Engaging children and young people and the work to become a UNICEF Child Friendly City
- All Council services taking steps to tackle inequalities, working with key partners, and delivering on our workforce equalities strategy.

3.3 The annual Business Plan for 2023/24 is shown below:

Corporate Plan themes	Business Plan priorities
<p>1. Zero carbon Manchester <i>Lead delivery of the target for Manchester to become a zero carbon city by 2038 at the latest, with the city's future emissions limited to 15 million tonnes of carbon dioxide</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver the Council's role in reducing citywide CO2 emissions, influence city-wide partners to take urgent action, and deliver specific Council owned actions within the Manchester Climate Change Framework. • Prepare for and support the delivery of the new GM Clean Air Plan. • Deliver activities to reduce the Council's own direct CO2 emissions by at least 50% by 2025.
<p>2. Growth that benefits everyone <i>Boost the city's productivity and create a more inclusive economy that all residents participate in and benefit from, and contributing to reductions in family poverty</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver key growth schemes and the protection and creation of good-quality jobs for residents, enhancing skills, and effective pathways into those jobs. Includes support to Manchester's businesses and residents affected by challenges to the international, national, and local economy. • Facilitate economic growth and recovery in different sectors of the economy, which supports the creation of a more inclusive economy. • Support more people to benefit from economic opportunities by equipping them with the skills to succeed and ensure that they are in good quality, secure work. • Help to mitigate the impact of poverty by taking actions to reduce the number of people experiencing poverty, in particular given the effects of the cost-of-living crisis. Including people in work on low incomes, young people, older people, those from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities, and people with long term health conditions and / or disabilities.
<p>3. Young people <i>From day one, support Manchester's children to be safe, happy, healthy and successful, fulfilling their potential, and making sure they attend a school graded 'good' or better</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children to have access to and be fully included in high-quality education, making sure they attend a school graded 'good' or better. • Support more Manchester children to have the best possible start in life and be ready for school and adulthood. This includes ensuring they are engaged, their views and needs are understood and responded to; increasing access to youth, play, leisure, employment, training, and cultural opportunities. • Reduce number of children needing a statutory service.
<p>4. Healthy, cared-for people <i>Work with partners to enable all people to be healthy and well, narrowing the gaps</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take actions to improve population health outcomes and tackle health inequalities across the city, including those exacerbated by factors such as the cost-of-living crisis.

<p><i>between the healthiest and the least healthy. Support those who need it most, working with them to improve their lives</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the next phase of health and social care integration in the city, including plans to enable the continued development of Manchester Local Care Organisation (MLCO). • Enable delivery through the MLCO of the Adult Social Care (ASC) transformation programme – ‘Better Outcomes, Better Lives’ – focused on taking a strengths-based approach, supporting independence and managing demand, building on the ASC improvement programme, and embedding this into how the MLCO operates • Reduce the number of people becoming homeless and enable better housing and better outcomes for those who are homeless.
<p>5. Housing <i>Ensure delivery of the right mix of good-quality housing so that Mancunians have a good choice of quality homes</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support delivery of significant new housing in the city. • Ensure inclusive access to housing by the provision of enough safe, secure, and affordable homes for those on low and average incomes and taking into account cost-of-living impacts. This includes strategically joining up provision, and the improved service to residents enabled by direct control of Council owned housing in the north of the city.
<p>6. Delivering in Neighbourhoods <i>Work with our city’s communities to create and maintain clean and vibrant neighbourhoods, with local services, that Mancunians can be proud of</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place a greater emphasis on getting the basics right and invest in improving service standards. • Bring services together for people in places, enabling an integrated model of neighbourhood working across core public sector services including Health and Social Care (through the Integrated Neighbourhood Teams), Greater Manchester Police, Housing, and Children's services.
<p>7. Connections <i>Connect Manchester people and places through good-quality roads, sustainable transport and better digital networks</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve public transport and highways, and make them more sustainable, whilst increasing walking and cycling. • Facilitate the development of the city’s digital infrastructure, to enable delivery of transformed public services and a more economically inclusive and resilient city.
<p>8. Equality <i>Deliver on our equality, diversity and inclusion commitments to support Manchester’s vision to be a progressive and equitable city.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective community involvement and engagement with our partners to understand our diverse communities, improve life chances, and celebrate diversity. • Greater accountability, partnership working and delivery of services that more closely meet the diverse needs of our communities and people. • As an employer, ensure a fair and inclusive working environment which recognises, values and responds to the dynamics and opportunities of a diverse workforce.

9. Well-managed council <i>Support our people to be the best and make the most of our resources</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the Corporate Peer Review action plan, transform the Corporate Core, deliver the Future Shape of the Council programme, along with budget reductions and savings.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively manage our resources via budget management and planning, within our legal framework, and to support managers and performance management.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the Council has the right capacity, capability, and diversity to deliver great services to residents, through strategic workforce planning.

4.0 Manchester Labour Party Manifesto

4.1 The Manchester Labour Party Manifesto 2023 is called 'A Fairer, Greener Future: People at the heart of everything we do'. It is available to read at Appendix 1. The table below shows how the five Manifesto pledges align with the Corporate Plan priorities. This is a selection of the Corporate Plan priorities that align most strongly and it should be noted that many of the Manifesto pledges are cross-cutting:

Manifesto pledges	Corporate Plan priorities
1. By your side through the cost of living crisis	2: Growth that benefits everyone 4: Healthy, cared for people 8: Equality
2. A great place to live: - Make Manchester cleaner - Make Manchester safer - Make Manchester healthier - Making sure culture is at the heart of everything we do	6: Delivering in Neighbourhoods 4: Healthy, cared for people 3: Young people
3. Build the homes we need: - Building council and social housing - Good quality, low carbon homes - Tackling homelessness	5: Housing 4: Healthy, cared for people 1: Zero carbon Manchester
4. A fairer economy for all: - Better jobs, pay and conditions - Helping children and young people succeed - Education and skills - Continue to fight for our libraries	2: Growth that benefits everyone 3: Young people 6: Delivering in Neighbourhoods
5. A green, sustainable Manchester: - Invest in parks and green spaces - A zero carbon city by 2038 - Continue to develop public transport, walking and cycling	1: Zero carbon Manchester 6: Delivering in Neighbourhoods 7: Connections

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 Executive are recommended to:

- (1) note and comment on the report
- (2) adopt the commitments made in the manifesto as corporate priorities for the Executive