

## **Manchester City Council Report for Information**

**Report to:** Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee - 13 October 2023

**Subject:** Youth, Play & Participation Service (YPPS) Commissioning Grants, Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) Programme and Youth Investment Fund (YIF)

**Report of:** Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods)

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### **Summary**

This report follows on from the update on the youth and play commissioning arrangements which were presented to the Children and Young Peoples Scrutiny Committee (7<sup>th</sup> December 2022) and the Executive Committee (14<sup>th</sup> December 2022). The purpose of this report is to update members on the outcome of the Commissioning process.

This report also provides an update on the highlights from the Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) Programme, which is seeking to support children and young people aged 5 to 16 who are in full-time education and in receipt of benefits-related free school meals. HAF programmes in Manchester provide enriching activities and food during the Easter, summer and Christmas school holidays.

In addition, this report provides an overview of the Department of Culture, Media & Sport's (DCMS) Youth Investment Fund Programme and provides an update on Manchester's Youth Investment Fund (YIF) capital programme, including the application procedure, processes undertaken to-date, and current programme management status.

Since the Covid-19 pandemic there has been a significant uplift in provision for youth and play activities across the city. Through a combination of council and external contributions the investment into these services has grown by £4.6M from base budget of c.£2.8M in 2020. Additional capital and revenue funding is bided for from the DCMS which if successful will result in a further £10.5m investment being secured.

### **Recommendations**

The Committee is recommended to: -

1. Consider and comment on the information in the report in relation to Commissioning/Grants, the HAF programme and YIF.
2. Support the Council led bid for YIF for seven projects totalling approximately £10.5 million. Should YIF be secured through DCMS, a paper will be presented to the Executive to seek acceptance of the funding and programme.

3. Note that the Council is supporting several stand-alone YIF applications. It should be noted that there are no financial implications with these projects.
  4. Note that the Youth Play and Participation Service will be embarking on a strategic review around youth provision across the north of the city, where it is considered that sector provision is more limited. This will include priorities for future work.
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**Wards Affected:** All

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

Funded providers are expected to directly deliver 10% of their work to help achieve the Council's zero carbon agenda and to make Manchester 'a healthy, green, socially just city where everyone can thrive'.

The direct delivery will substantially contribute the Council to achieve 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

Robust equality impact assessments were carried out in relation to the revised Grants Programme arrangements with consideration given to new small diverse and disadvantaged organisations.

| <b>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 | Through the city's newly commissioned providers and subsequently the refreshed youth offer, young people have opportunities and access to activities which contribute towards their personal, social and economic wellbeing. The HAF programmes is delivered in many local areas of Manchester that employs local people. The Council's YIF programme if successful will also seek to employ from the local community.   |
| A highly skilled city: world class and home-grown talent sustaining the city's economic success                   | Via the HAF activities and children and young people accessing renovated and new modular building will support the development of all participants. Developing and strengthening our commissioned providers to create opportunities for our young people to learn, be active and have fun in their free time. Through the city's varied youth & play offer young people have opportunities to develop their life skills to succeed in education and employment, and have opportunities to increase aspirations, achieve and gain economic independence. The new grants arrangements will continue to support children and young people have opportunities to develop key skills for life which include communication, problem solving, teamwork, self-belief, and self-management. A key focus of the grants programme will be enabling children and young people to strengthen their skills for life. |
| A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities    | <p>Accessing renovated buildings, via the HAF programme and through the city's newly commissioned providers and a subsequently refreshed youth offer, young people have opportunities to develop their life skills to succeed in education and employment, and have opportunities to increase aspirations, achieve and gain economic independence.</p> <p>Young people have opportunities to develop key skills for life which include communication, problem solving, teamwork, self-belief and self-management</p>   |
| A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work                                      | <p>Young people will have opportunities to live, lead and enjoy safe, active, and healthy lives.</p> <p>Young people understand the impact they can make within their neighbourhoods, and the wider community</p>  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth</p> | <p>Children and young people are listened to, valued and connected across their neighbourhoods, the city and beyond via residential and exchanges. They have been and will continue to inform continuous improvement and will be involved in service design, delivery, and governance. Children and young people receive the support they need to participate, ensuring representation of the full diversity of local people, and those who may not otherwise have a voice. Young people are making a substantial impact in achieving UNICEF's Child Friendly City (CFC) status.</p> |
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Full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for:

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

### **Financial Consequences – Revenue**

The grant funding decisions set out in the report are contained within the Youth and Play Commissioning budget.

### **Financial Consequences – Capital**

There are no immediate capital financial consequences for the Commissioning Grants and HAF. However, there is a fee of approximately £60,000 that is required to bring projects up to Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) stage 4, which is a prerequisite for the proposed capital projects to be at that stage to submit a YIF application.

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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 this report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting:

- Children's Scrutiny Committee Report – 13 October 2021
- Valuing Young People's Strategy 2016-2019
- Our Manchester Youth Strategy 2019-2023
- Young Manchester Review Executive Paper – 17 March 2020
- Youth and Play Commissioning Framework 2023/2025
- Youth and Play Assessment Framework 2023
- Guidance notes for HAF
- Guidance notes for YIF

## **1.0 Youth and Play Commissioning**

- 1.1 The current commissioning programme which was transferred from Young Manchester to the City Council on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2022, was scheduled to end on 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2023. Since transitioning youth and play commissioning back to the City Council, the end date was extended to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 at the request of the sector and in order to undertake robust assessments of applications. This has resulted in a proposal for the new commissioning arrangement to commence on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024.
- 1.2 The sections below provides an overview of the background, assessment process and the portfolio of grantees for the Youth, Play & Participation Service (YPPS) Commissioning Grant Funding Programme 2023-2025 (subject to due diligence).

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 At the very core of Manchester's development, its continued success, and long-term prosperity are its young people. Manchester recognises that to be in the top-tier of cities by 2025, young people are, and should be, at the heart of this ambitious vision.
- 2.2 Currently in Manchester, there are approximately 134,000 young people aged between 10 and 24. This represents nearly 25% of the whole population and projections estimate that the numbers of young people are increasing. Manchester is now widely recognised as one of the most attractive cities in the UK for young people to live, work and move to.
- 2.3 Manchester places great importance and emphasis on developing and growing an enriched youth offer outside of formal education, one which offers place, space and time for young people to have access to a variety of services and activities. The offer is underpinned by quality youth and play work practice, as well as quality working practices with young people in both universal or targeted settings, which powerfully contribute to the development of young people's personal, social and economic development.
- 2.4 Prior to 2021, the commissioning of youth and play services was carried out by Young Manchester. In December 2020, an independent review into Young Manchester was carried out with a report being submitted to the Executive in March 2021. The report considered the response to the review and resulting actions to build stronger and more effective arrangements.
- 2.5 An alternative delivery model was proposed, to be designed and developed in 2021 with a view to presenting the model in a report to the Executive in October 2021. The report proposed that the Council's role would be to administer, manage and provide continued support to all organisations involved in the delivery of the wider youth and play offer. In doing so, all commissioning arrangements and agreements were to return to the City Council from the financial year 2023 and beyond. On the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2021,

this report was presented to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee and was accepted.

2.6 In January 2022, novation of all arrangements from Young Manchester to Manchester City Council took place with the Council taking full responsibility of all commissioning arrangements from April 2022. During the financial year 2022 – 2023, the Youth, Play and Participation service maintained the arrangements as previously agreed with Young Manchester by facilitating a holding, one-year extension position.

2.7 From April 2022, the Youth, Play and Participation service developed the commissioning framework via city-wide ‘listening conversations’ with practitioners and young people themselves. A group of sector leaders and practitioners were then invited to co-create and co-design the commissioning framework along with officers from the service. The final element of developing the framework involved allowing leaders, practitioners and young people an opportunity to share their thoughts and views through an online survey.

### **3.0 Policy Context**

3.1 Statutory guidance states local authorities have a statutory duty to ‘secure, so far as is reasonably practicable, sufficient provision of educational and recreational leisure-time activities for young people, and to make sure young people have a say in the local offer’. This is often referred to as the ‘youth service duty’. This includes youth and play work and other provision that:

- Connects young people with their communities.
- Offers young people opportunities in safe environments to take part in a wide range of activities.
- Supports the personal, social and economic development of young people.
- Improves young people’s physical and mental health and emotional wellbeing, raises young people’s aspirations, builds their resilience, and informs their decision-making.

3.2 The Department for Digital, Media, Culture and Sport (DCMS) Sept 2023 - The Youth Review published in February 2022 highlights DCMS acknowledging the youth sector has faced challenges throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and the UK government is responding by wanting to make a significant impact by 2025 by achieving the following:

- A ‘Youth Guarantee’: by 2025, every young person will have access to regular clubs and activities, adventures away from home and volunteering opportunities.
- Three strategic aims:
  - A) “Levelling up” and expanding access to youth provision with £560 million investment over the next three years (delivered via the Youth Investment Fund)
  - B) Supporting the youth sector workforce.

C) Listening to young people's voices.

3.3 Several local strategies ensure specific needs and priorities are interlinked in key areas of development for children and young people, these range from Manchester's Children & Young People's Plan, Community Safety Partnership – Our Strategy to the Young Carers Strategy, the Warm Spaces Agenda and more.

3.4 Successfully funded VCS providers will plan and link these local and national priorities in their delivery of services. Local Authority officers, young ambassadors and staff from the VCS will monitor, quality assure and measure impact on children and young people in order for the Council to achieve its local agendas and fulfil its statutory 'youth service duty and the Youth Guarantee.'

#### **4.0 Decision-making processes**

4.1 There were three stages to the decision-making for the commissioning process:

- Young people's advisory panel: 3 – 5 young people from each district were trained to have an overview and provided feedback / guidance on applicant's responses related to young people's engagement and involvement.
- Officer recommendation – recommendations were prepared by officers from the service, namely the Commissioning Manager, the Youth, Play, the Participation Manager and the Quality Assurance, Impact and Monitoring Lead. Officers relied on feedback from young people in order to make the most informed recommendations.
- Ratification – the Executive Member for Early Years, Children, Young People and the Strategic Director for Neighbourhoods completed the decision-making process.

4.2 The officers, the Executive Member for Early Years, Children, Young People and the Strategic Director for Neighbourhoods collectively spent four months between March to August 2023 robustly reviewing and assessing all received bids. Applications were scored on the following six areas:

- Link to aims of the programme – 30% weighting.
- Demonstrating impact – 20%
- Well run – 20%
- Collaborative – 10%
- Strengths based approach – 10%
- Value for money – 10%

4.3 In making decisions on applications, the following was also considered:



- Geographical spread – it was imperative that successful applications were spread across the 3 districts and their respective wards as evenly as possible. This included consideration for wards where provision was not currently established.
- Value for money – consideration was given to the number of sessions to be delivered each week, the number of young people being reached by the proposed provision, a judgement of the organisation/partnership efficacy based on data returns from 22/23 commissioned provision and an element of evidence gained through practice observation. Consideration was also made for the additional cost associated with targeted provision such as mental health and outdoor activity..
- The importance of partnerships & collaboration – It was felt that partnerships should be prioritised in order to reach the greatest number of geographical areas, the greatest number of children and young people per area as well ensuring established infrastructural support for new and smaller partners (capacity building) from lead organisations and specifically how these are already interconnected across the VCS and other public sectors across the city.
- Demonstratable links to Manchester strategies – it was important that any successful applicants were able to demonstrate how their provision has a clear link to the priorities and aims of various Manchester strategies e.g. UNICEF Child Friendly City, Making Manchester Fairer.
- “New” organisations – one of the key drivers of this funding was to ensure organisations who had not previously accessed funding before had the opportunity to do so. This was achieved through a combination of partnerships (e.g., 5 newly partnered organisations in North Manchester) as well as individual applications.
- Open access youth & play – it was important that any proposed activities were universally accessible to all. Consideration and prioritisation were given to provisions which were solely youth work, play work and/or both.
- Local organisations – prioritisation was given to applicants registered and based in Manchester, acknowledging the importance of those embedded in their communities, with knowledge of local need.

## **5.0 Applications, funding awards & development**

- 5.1 Table 1 highlights the number of applications received and the amount applied for:

**Table 1**

|                       |                                    |                                     |  |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Applications received | Individual applications 48         | Partnership applications 13         | Total 61<br>(Only 20 currently funded) |
| Amount applied for    | Individual applications £4,204,561 | Partnership applications £2,183,769 | Total £6,388,230                       |
| Amount available      | For 2023                           | To 2025                             | £3,200,00                              |
| Variance              |                                    |                                     | £3,188,230                             |

- The table above explains the Council received applications seeking very nearly double the amount that was on offer to be awarded.
- Within each partnership applications there are on average between 3 to 6 organisations delivering in different venues.

5.2 Table 2 informs of the amount available and what is to be distributed to successful applicants. Although there is a deficit in Year 1, this will be reduced by being prudent with other budget headings within the Youth & Play Service:

**Table 2**

|                          |             |  |                          |               |
|--------------------------|-------------|--|--------------------------|---------------|
| Available Year 1         | £400,000.00 |  | Available Year 2         | £1,600,000.00 |
| Individual applications  | £141,086.69 |  | Individual applications  | £601,925.57   |
| Partnership applications | £230,222.76 |  | Partnership applications | £ 869,840.35  |
| DofE Award               | £27,000.00  |  | DofE Award               | £32,000.00    |
| Views/Substance          | £49,000.00  |  | Views/Substance          | £61,000.00    |
| Total                    | £447,309.45 |  | Total                    | £1,564,765    |
| Variance                 | £47,309.45  |  | Variance                 | £35,234.08    |

- Only £400,000 was made available for the last quarter of 2023 owing to the sector requesting an extension of funding to existing providers to 31st December 2023. which was funded with £800,000 investment.
- All funded organisations will commence delivery on 1st January 2024.
- The recommended list was approved by the Executive Member for Early Years, Children, Young People and the Strategic Director for Neighbourhoods as the delegated decision-makers. The approved list of successful applications (subject to approval of the annual budget and due diligence) is in table 3 below:

### 5.3 Individual applications

**Table 3**

| Organisation                      | Ward based in  | Wards delivering in   | Funding for 15 months |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|---|-----------------------|
| 42nd Street                       | Piccadilly     | Services available for children and young people from all wards                                       | £104,114              |
| Yellow Jigsaw (Media Cubs)        | Piccadilly     | All wards bar Didsbury East & West, Fallowfield, Old Moat, Sharston, Northenden                       | £20,700               |
| Manchester Youth Academy          | Levenshulme    | Hulme, Levenshulme, Longsight, Piccadilly, Rusholme, Ardwick, Deansgate, Gorton & Abbey Hey           | £52,614               |
| The Proud Trust                   | Hulme          | Services available for children and young people from all wards                                       | £106,123              |
| Z-Arts                            | Hulme          | Hulme, Rusholme,  | £41,089               |
| Northwest Media Ltd (Unity Radio) | Hulme          | All wards except Charlestown, Deansgate and few in the South  | £17,660               |
| Wythenshawe Community Initiative  | Woodhouse Park | Baguley, Brooklands, Northenden, Sharston, Woodhouse Park   | £36,264               |
| N-Gage                            | Burnage        | Baguley, Brooklands, Burnage, Didsbury East, Didsbury West, Fallowfield, Withington                   | £52,750               |
| Manchester Young Lives            | Sharston       | Sharston Wythenshawe Reach: Wythenshawe, Moss Side, Ardwick, Blackley                                 | £152,800              |
| Community On Solid Ground         | Whalley Range  | Burnage, Chorlton, Chorlton Park, Fallowfield, Whalley Range, Withington, Moss Side, Longsight, Hulme | £71,075               |
| Whalley Range Youth Opps Assoc    | Whalley Range  | Whalley Range, Chorlton, Rusholme   | £52,600               |
| Groundwork                        | Citywide       | All wards but concentrating at Crumpsall, Harpurhey, Gorton   | £35,220               |

#### 5.4 Partnership applications

**Table 4**

| Organisation | Ward based in | Wards delivering in                                     | Funding for 15 months |
|--------------|---------------|---|-----------------------|
| 4CT          | Beswick       | Ancoats & Beswick, Clayton & Openshaw, Harpurhey, Miles | £162,463              |

|                                     |                               |   |           |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------|
|                                     |                               | Platting & Newton Heath, Gorton & Abbey Hey   |           |
| YPAC                                | Miles Platting & Newton Heath | Ancoats & Beswick, Clayton & Openshaw, Harpurhey, Miles Platting & Newton Heath, Gorton & Abbey Hey   | £86,092   |
| Manchester Youth Zone               | Harpurhey                     | Charlestown, Crumpsall, Harpurhey, Higher Blakely, Moston   | £144,449  |
| Young Manchester                    | Deansgate                     | Cheetham & Crumpsall  | £46,704   |
| Rainbow Surprise                    | Crumpsall                     | Charlestown, Cheetham Hill, Crumpsall, Harpurhey, Higher Blackley, Moston   | £46,092   |
| Hideaway                            | Moss Side                     | Hulme, Moss Side, Rusholme  | £31,870   |
| M13 Youth Project                   | Ardwick                       | Ardwick, Gorton & Abbey Hey, Levenshulme, Longsight Rusholme  | £121,713. |
| Powerhouse                          | Moss Side                     | Moston, Ardwick, Gorton & Abbey Hey, Hulme, Longsight, Moss Side, Rusholme, Chorlton, Chorlton Park, Fallowfield, Whalley Range   | £100,689  |
| Highway Hope                        | Levenshulme                   | Services available for children and young people from all wards   | £36,526   |
| Barlow Moor Community Association   | Chorlton                      | Chorlton, Chorlton Park, Withington, Didsbury West  | £92,817   |
| Old Moat Outreach Project           | Old Moat                      | Chorlton, Chorlton Park, Old Moat, Withington   | £89,502   |
| Wythenshawe Community Housing Group | Sharston                      | Ancoats & Beswick, Clayton & Openshaw, Harpurhey, Ardwick, Gorton & Abbey Hey, Hulme, Longsight, Moss Side, Baguley, Brooklands, Burnage, Chorlton Park, Didsbury West, Fallowfield, Northenden, Old Moat, Sharston, Woodhouse Park | £141,138  |

- 5.5 In person discussions and online meetings for those who preferred this format have been taking place during September and October, with successful applicants to discuss their revised youth and play offer given that they did not receive the full amount requested.
- 5.6 In person discussions and online meetings for those who preferred this format are also taking place during September and October with unsuccessful applicants to provide support and to identify other sources of funding.

5.7 An additional £500k in 2023/24 has been set aside by the Council to support commissioning and sector development. Development fund monies will support small organisations that just missed out on the funding criteria but have future potential. Each organisation will receive up to £7,500 to support volunteer training, accredited training in youth & play work, capacity building, for collaboration work etc. The current organisations to receive this support are listed in the table 5 below, however, this number is likely to rise:

**Table 5**

|                |                       |                         |                                     |                  |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Aim 4 Hope     | Creative City England | Elevate Young Minds     | Revolution Youth                    | Know Africa      |
| Daring Diadems | Ensemble Partnership  | Children of Wythenshawe | Diamobi Children's Disability Trust | Alfurqan Academy |

**6.0 Quality Assurance**

6.1 The need for granting funds and the resulting procurement activity to be undertaken within a performance management framework is critical to achieving success and continuous improvement and to ensuring that resources are targeted effectively.

6.2 A standardised performance management framework for all funded youth and play providers has been agreed; this includes systematic and explicit benchmarking in relation to costs and outcomes. This will involve the use of a standardised Management Information (MI) system named Views (developed by local a company Substance) to monitor performance and measure impact. All successful organisations will be provided with training during November 2023 and be provided with the MI system without the need to purchase it. The MI system will provide both qualitative and quantitative data and case studies.

6.3 Quality assurance, impact and monitoring processes will be carried by using a supportive, transparent and a developmental approach with methods that will allow:

- ‘Sampling visits’ – informal process with the aim of collaborative learning. Samples may be from universal provision or targeted projects, it will be discussion based, to gather evidence from children and young people and youth & play workers.
- Drop ins – utilising a standard template which will be informal for the purposes of seeing organic provision.
- Young Ambassador visits – trained young people to conduct announced visits to learn about the provision and how welcoming it is, how supportive the staff team is and to gauge if there is a diverse programme on offer.

- Peer Reviews – trained workers to conduct announced visits. Mix of experienced, paid staff and volunteers to bring diverse perspectives. This will use a strengths-based approach, sharing best practice and if required collectively working on areas of development.
- Play work to be quality assured and monitored in a similar way with less constraints on outcomes but acknowledging the need for play provision to be driven by children and young people and that it is not restrictive.
- Play work visits to be aligned to England’s “Quality in Play” and the 8 principles of play.
- For the publication of each organisation’s youth and play offer to be advertised on the Council’s ‘Loads to Do’ website.

## **7.0 Holiday Activities Fund (HAF)**

7.1 The Youth, Play and Participation Team have adopted a collaborative approach to the delivery of holiday provision. Following the success of the summer offer in 2022, the team have continued to ensure work is undertaken across Directorates and Departments to maximise resources and provide a varied and sufficient offer for children and young people.

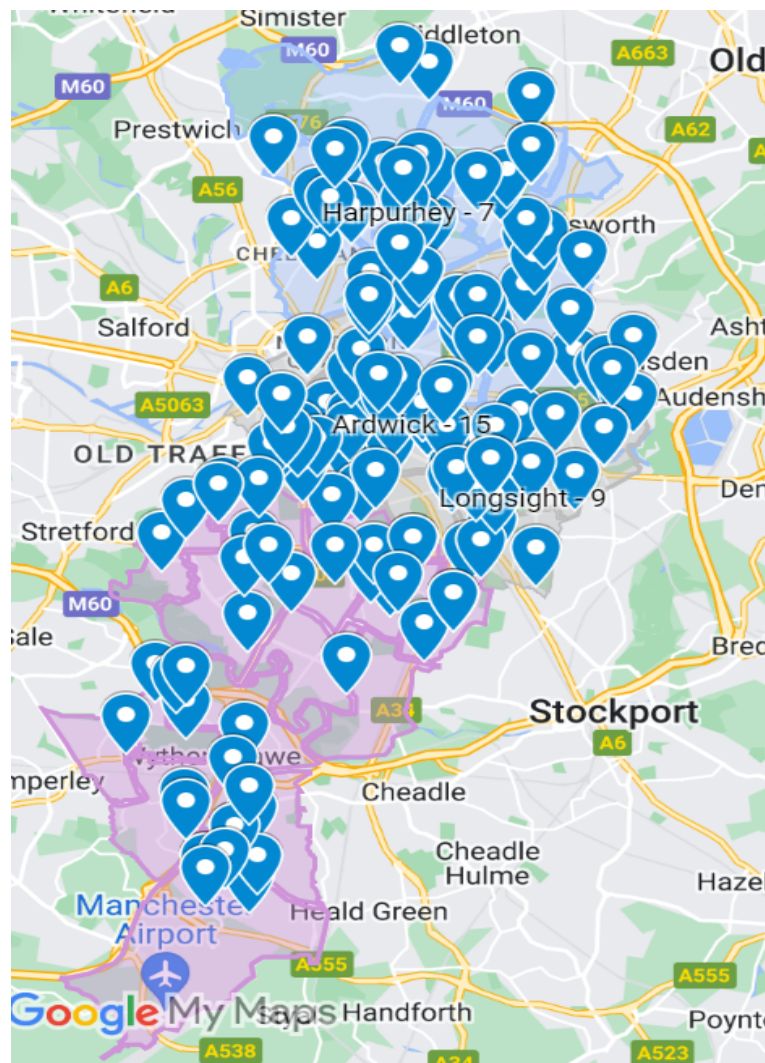
7.2 In December 2021, the DfE confirmed an additional £220m of funding for the Holiday Activity programme nationally for a period of three years. The Council has secured £4,140,240 for the year 2023/24. The funding is for targeted holiday provision at Easter, Summer, and Christmas periods. The confirmation of this extended funding and the associated financial stability has enabled services to expand the offer for all children and young people. Following successful delivery during 2022, the team now have an established mapping system in place which allows gaps in provision to be identified and to act accordingly if further or different provision needs to be commissioned.

7.3 In December 2021, following the announcement of the longer-term funding, a Manchester Holiday Activity Board was established, comprising of senior MCC staff as well as representation from MCRactive. The ambition for the holiday programme was then developed to:

- Provide a free, daily, inclusive programme of enriching holiday activities across Manchester.
- Providing every child with the opportunity to take part in hyper-local activity of their choice at the appropriate time and place.
- Support Manchester’s ambition for children to be happy, healthy, safe and successful; and
- Ensure all participants are given a hot meal based on their dietary requirements.
- This ambition was defined to work towards ensuring that provision meets the following requirements/ criteria: All eligible children in Manchester to have provision within a 15-minute walk of their home.

- A city-wide offer but paying due attention to Wards with high numbers of eligible children.
- A broad range of activities to be provided in several settings ranging from schools to sports clubs.
- All projects to provide each child with a nutritious lunch in line with government standards.
- A minimum of one hour's rigorous activity to be provided as part of the daily provision in line with Government guidelines.
- Young people will feel safe and secure in their chosen activity supervised by appropriately trained adults.
- All activities to be appropriate and at the right time and place.

7.4 The map below helps illustrate the mapping process and highlights the HAF provision across the city during the Easter holidays 2023.



- 7.5 All activities are commissioned and provided by other Council departments or external organisations including youth partnerships, charities, and other organisations from the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector. The current offer is wide-ranging and offers eligible young people activities ranging from sport to theatre. The Council’s teams for Parks, Culture, Galleries and Libraries all provide a range of activities. This offer is provided up to four days a week over the holiday periods, including Bank Holidays in many cases.
- 7.6 The longer-term nature of the funding has resulted in a significant uptake in grant applications from an ever-wider variety of providers across the city. To fully involve youth providers in the commissioning process, a series of seven ‘listening conversations’ were held across the city during 2022 at which providers were able to comment on all aspects of holiday provision. This feedback informed future Holiday activity and HAF strategy. Over and above the HAF programme, for Half Term provision during the 2023-24 financial year, £285K was allocated by the Council (95K per half term). Funded provision is run to the same standards, expectations and outcomes as HAF-funded provision during the major school holidays.
- 7.7 The table below provides an overview of uptake over the last 12 months:

**Table 6**

|                     | No. of Providers | Total Unique Participants | Total Engagements | Total Sessions | % on FSM   |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| <b>October 22</b>   | <b>33</b>        | 2780 (303 SEND)           | 7555              | 192            | 91%        |
| <b>Christmas 22</b> | <b>64</b>        | 5897 (546 SEND)           | 19999             | 516            | 90%        |
| <b>February 23</b>  | <b>19</b>        | 856 (55 SEND)             | 2056              | 108            | 100%       |
| <b>Easter 23</b>    | <b>95</b>        | 8277 (753 SEND)           | 33559             | 1386           | 88%        |
| <b>May/June 23</b>  | <b>27</b>        | 2065 (256 SEND)           | 5427              | 185            | 94%        |
| <b>Summer 23</b>    | <b>108</b>       | 15,114 (TBC SEND)         | 97,222            | 3017           | 94%        |
| <b>TOTALS</b>       | <b>346</b>       | <b>34,989</b>             | <b>165,818</b>    | <b>5,404</b>   | <b>93%</b> |

- 7.8 Significant progress has been made since the last update was provided to scrutiny in summer 2022, progress includes:
- Transitioned from Young Manchester to the new model of commissioning delivery.
  - Stabilising the sector with interim grant agreements.
  - Recruiting to new key posts within the team.
  - Undertaking, evaluating and acting upon a Needs Analysis.
  - Securing an uplift in HAF funding and establishing enhanced holiday provision.



7.9 Over the next 6 months the following next steps will be progressed:

- Decisions have now been made around which organisations have been commissioned to deliver universal youth and play services.
- The establishment, coordination and delivery of area youth forums.
- More support to groups and organisations so that they can access commissioning money and / or the Holiday Activity and Food Fund.

## 8.0 Youth Investment Fund (Capital) Programme

8.1 This section provides an overview of the Department of Culture, Media & Sport's (DCMS) Youth Investment Fund Programme and gives an update on Manchester's Youth Investment Fund (YIF) capital programme, including application procedure, process undertaken to-date, and current programme management status.

8.2 In August 2022, DCMS launched the 2nd phase of its YIF programme which forms an important part of the Government's Levelling Up agenda and its Youth Guarantee policy. YIF is primarily a capital investment programme targeted to deliver 300 new and refurbished youth facilities in the most deprived parts of England. Manchester is eligible to apply for YIF with funding to be spent by March 2025. In September 2022 Young Manchester and the Council designed and coordinated the initial EOI process, which allowed youth organisations to submit EOIs which were then panel assessed against criteria as those used by DCMS, and other criteria including feasibility, deliverability, cost, relevance, and geography to identify which projects would go through to the next stage of the full YIF application process.

8.3 In late January 2023 several challenges, changes and risks were identified in relation to the YIF programme. Consequently, this influenced several significant changes to the way the Council has had to manage and coordinate its YIF programme. These have included:

- The Council not being able to be the lead YIF applicant for all projects in the city owing to changes to how YIF investment could be applied for in relation to facility ownership and lease agreement status. This has meant a number of organisations have had to make stand-alone applications for YIF, where originally, they were to be included in the Council led portfolio application.
- There not being a specific funding allocation (ringfenced) for local authority areas. Each project within any portfolio, or consortium to be assessed and funded on its own merit.
- No funding available to bring projects up to Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) stage 4, which is a prerequisite for many projects to be at that stage to submit a YIF application.

- Impact upon the geographical spread of the YIF programme. Meaning less sites being identified in North Manchester owing to the YIF programme requiring readily available, suitable sites and facilities.
  - The impact of the above upon timescales for YIF applications to be completed in regard to securing application prerequisites such as having a planning application in place where required, and appropriate facility lease arrangements negotiated and agreed.
- 8.4 DCMS and its national and regional delivery partners (Social Investment Business and Key Fund respectively) assess YIF applications through the metrics of inclusivity, sustainability, additionality, value for money, and strategic awareness. The main deadline for submission of new applications was 2 June 2023. The Council submitted Expression of Interest (EOI's) for seven projects which are now in the application pipeline, with completed applications submitted in July 2023. Grant assessments are taking place with decisions expected September through October.
- 8.5 The Council has made a submission of approximately £10.5 million for Council-led YIF projects. Details are provided below of other stand-alone projects led by other organisations, which the Council is supporting.
- 8.6 Should the Council secure YIF through DCMS, a report will be submitted to the Executive later this year.
- 8.7 The Youth, Play & Participation Team (YPPT), on behalf of Manchester City Council and the VCSE youth and play sector are seeking to submit a funding application to DCMS's YIF programme. The Council is seeking to apply for an investment of approximately £10.5 million (high level estimated costs), which covers seven identified capital (youth offer) projects across the city. The Council are also supporting a number of individual, stand-alone YIF applications for youth organisations that are required to complete their own applications for YIF (See tables 7&8 below).
- 8.8 Extensive stakeholder engagement and management has required to manage the changes across the sector, more specifically for those organisations that were now required to standalone and directly apply for YIF. Where applicable, for mid to large scale projects, it has been highly recommended and encouraged that they utilise the expertise of the Council's Capital Programmes Service and its Minor Works Framework to deliver their project. It is worth noting that two stand-alone applicants were unsuccessful with their applications. Following these unsuccessful decisions, the Council has made several representations to DCMS to reverse these decisions and DCMS have agreed to reassess those applications.
- 8.9 A project board has been established to govern the approach and to support and provide oversight of the programme. The project board includes representation from YPPT to programme and project manage YIF, Capital Programmes – Minor Works, Corporate Estates, Parks Service, Legal

Services, Finance and Surveyor Development, including external support from Young Manchester and Manchester Active – Capital Projects.

8.10 It is acknowledged that due to the parameters of the external funding criteria and the short term decision making, there are challenges with ensuring a good geographic spread of applications which are shovel ready for investment. Following representation made by the Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People, it has been acknowledged that there is a need to review in greater detail the current provision within the north of the city, in terms of physical assets and the community and voluntary sector offer. With this in mind, work will be commencing shortly on a strategic review around youth provision across the north of the city, where it is considered that sector provision is more limited. This review will include drawing out priorities for future work.

8.11 **Site proposals** - Table 7 - highlights the organisations and sites which form part of the City Council-led YIF application:

**Table 7**

| <b>Organisation</b>  | <b>YIF Project Description</b>                         | <b>Project Address</b>   | <b>Approximate Cost</b> |
|--|--|--|-------------------------|
| Nacro - youth outdoor learning activity organisation based in Wythenshawe Park.  | New modular build in Wythenshawe Park.                 | Wythenshawe Park Horticultural & Learning Centre, Wythenshawe Road, Manchester, M23 0AB. | £1,900,000              |
| Groundwork - environmental, social action organisation that delivers youth work aligned to environment and climate agenda, city-wide. Rainbow Surprise - local youth and play organisation delivering youth and play activities in Crumpsall Ward. | New modular build in Crumpsall Park                    | Ash Tree Road, Crumpsall, M8 5RX   | £1,200,000              |
| N-Gage youth and work organisation delivering youth and play activities, including detached youth work in Burnage, Levenshulme and Newall Green Wards.   | Demolition and new modular build on Burnage Lane site. | 345 Burnage Lane, Burnage, M19 1EN.  | £2,940,000              |
| OMYOP - local youth and play organisation delivering youth and play activities in Withington / Old Moat Ward.  | Demolition and new modular build on the                | 306a Yew Tree Road, Old Moat, M20 3FG.   | £1,000,000              |

|  |  |   |                    |
|--|--|---|--------------------|
|  | Old Depot site in Old Moat.                                      |   |                    |
| Unity Arts - local youth and play organisation delivering youth and play activities in Chorlton and Chorlton Park Wards  | Medium-scale refurbishment of Brookfield House in Chorlton Park. | Chorlton Park, Nell Lane, Chorlton Park, M21 7UD. | £400,900           |
| Unity Arts - local youth and play organisation delivering youth and play activities in Chorlton and Chorlton Park Wards. | New modular build on the Field of Oz site in Chorlton.           | Oswald Road / Claridge Road, Chorlton, M21 9QD    | £1,200,000         |
| 4CT - Community Development organisation delivering a range of youth and play activities across East Manchester Wards.   | New modular build on Sterling Centre site.                       | Scotland Hall Road, Newton Heath, M49 2RE.        | £1,700,000         |
|  |  | <b>Total:</b>                                     | <b>£10,340,000</b> |

8.12 Table 8 highlights those external organisations and sites which were required to stand-alone and directly apply for YIF:

**Table 8**

| <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>YIF Project Description</b>  | <b>Project Address</b>                 | <b>Approximate Cost</b> |
|---|---|--|-------------------------|
| Powerhouse - community resource hub delivering a range of youth and play activities in Moss Side Ward.                                    | Large scale renovation and refurbishment of existing building.  | 140 Raby Street, Moss Side, M14 4SL.   | £2,320,000              |
| Manchester Youth Zone - youth and play organisation delivering youth and play work in Harpurhey Ward and across North Manchester.         | MYZ - youth and play organisation delivering youth and play work in Harpurhey Ward and across North Manchester. | 931 Rochdale Road, Harpurhey, M9 8EA.  | £1,000,000              |
| Community On Solid Ground - community development organisation delivering a range of youth and play work activities in Whalley Range Ward | Large scale renovation / extension to the existing building   | . York Avenue, Whalley Range, M16 0AS. | £750,000                |

|  |   |  |                       |
|--|---|--|-----------------------|
| 42nd Street - children's and young people's mental health charity delivering targeted youth work city wide.  | Mid-scale renovation to existing building.  | The Space, 87-91 Great Ancoats Street, M4 5AG.   | £300,000              |
| Anson Cabin - youth and play organisation delivering youth and play work in Rusholme and Longsight Wards.  | Small scale renovation to existing building or mid-scale new build.                         | 38 Meldon Road, Rusholme, M13 0TR.               | £100,000 - £1,000,000 |
| MYL - youth and play organisation delivering youth and play activities using their outdoor adventure playgrounds in Woodhouse Park, Moss Side and Ardwick Wards. | Mid-scale renovation or refurbishment to one or more of the existing adventure playgrounds. | Multi-site                                       | £250,000 - £1,000,000 |
| Z- Arts - local arts organisation delivering youth and play work activities.   | Small-scale refurbishment to existing building.   | 335 Stretford Road, Hulme, M15 5ZA.              | £100,000              |
| WRYOA - local youth and play organisation delivering youth and play work activities in Whalley Range Ward.   | Small-scale refurbishment to existing building.   | 82 Cromwell Avenue, Whalley Range, M16 0BG.      | £100,000              |
| BMCA - community resource hub delivering youth and play organisations in Chorlton Park Ward.   | Small-scale refurbishment to existing building.   | 23 Mersey Bank Avenue, Chorlton Park, M21 7NT.   | £50,000               |
| Trinity House - community resource hub delivering youth and play activities in Rusholme Ward.  | Small-scale refurbishment to existing building.   | Grove Close, Rusholme, M14 5AA.                  | £50,000               |
| Reform Radio - media / arts organisation delivering wellbeing related activities to young people.  | Small-scale refurbishment to existing building.   | Bonded Warehouse, 18 Lower Bryom Street, M3 4AP. | £30,000               |

**N.B.** Due to the nature of the programme it is recognised that most projects are situated in the central and south areas of the city.

### 8.13 Timescales

8.13.1 The following key dates and milestones include:

- Submission of Council led application: July 2023
- Expected outcome – October 2023 (Exact date to be confirmed by DCMS)
- Executive decision: To be confirmed in November/ December 2023

- Progress procurement process to appoint main contractor/s for individual projects: December 2023 – January 2024
- Project Board to review and approve projects: beginning 1 April 2024, through to the end of the YIF project lifecycle.