

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Executive – 17 January 2024
Subject: Our Manchester Progress Update
Report of: 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 issues addressed 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 Adult Early Support Team

- 2.1 A new, multi-agency team called the Adults Early Support Team (AEST) has been established to work alongside the Contact Centre. This Team includes Adults Social Workers, Occupational Health Therapists, Manchester MIND and Adults Early Support Co-Ordinator's.
- 2.2 This team has been established as part of developing the Adults Early Help offer in the city, working alongside Contact Centre colleagues to identify appropriate support for adults in the city. The Team will identify appropriate short-term interventions to enable residents to live well, providing low-level technology or equipment, signposting to information, advice, guidance and community assets, or referring to appropriate services.
- 2.3 The team works to enable more people to independently access place-based resources within their communities and to achieve their own goals without Council intervention. Where residents do need care and support from Adult Social Care (ASC) this response is delivered in a timely, efficient and least restrictive way by promoting choice, resilience and wellbeing.
- 2.4 Working with partners, this team are maximising people's independence, improving their outcomes and reducing social care dependence by meeting needs in alternative ways.
- 2.5 Through the impact of the Team, more calls are being resolved at the front door as more appropriate support is being identified earlier. Around 68% of new calls to the Contact Centre are now resolved through the work of the Adults Early Support Team. In November 2023, this equated to 1183 new referrals being resolved. The number of repeat calls to the Contact Centre is also starting to decrease, which could indicate that the right support, advice and guidance is being provided to avoid multiple calls. Following the launch of the team, positive impacts have also been reported from Integrated Neighbourhood Teams who saw the impact on their duty lines, freeing up capacity for good quality Social Work.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Progressive and Equitable City

3.0 Visitor accolades

- 3.1 Manchester continues to win accolades as an outstanding place to visit, featuring on two prestigious lists of the best places to visit in 2024.
- 3.2 The city was named at number 12 in the New York Times' 52 Places To Go In 2024 list – the only place in England to feature. Major news venues such as Aviva Studios, the home of Factory International, and Co-op Live were cited as reasons to visit this “music-mad city” as well as smaller established venues such as Band On The Wall and New Century Hall.
- 3.3 Music events such as WOMEX – the Worldwide Music Expo – which the city hosts this October and the Beyond The Music conference and festival were also highlighted.
- 3.4 Manchester also featured in Time Out's 15 Best Places To Visit in 2024 list for destinations in the UK. The publication described Manchester as “a cultural banquet”, again citing Aviva Studios and Co-op Live among the factors making the city a must-visit. Manchester Museum, the Mackie Mayor and National Football Museum were among the other venues referenced.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Thriving and Sustainable City

4.0 European Capital of Cycling

- 4.1 Manchester has been named as 2024's ACES European Capital of Cycling following a successful bid led by the Council.
- 4.2 It is intended that the accolade will act as a springboard for further investment and participation across the city.
- 4.3 Ahead of the final decision, the Council welcomed a delegation from ACES to Manchester to showcase the city's cycling credentials. From the National Cycling Centre and Manchester playing host to some of the biggest cycling events to the miles and miles of new cycleways being built in the city to encourage active travel, a compelling case was made.
- 4.4 The support of partner organisations including British Cycling, Marketing Manchester, Mcr Active and TfGM, as well as the voluntary and community sector, was also crucial in securing the title.
- 4.5 Work is being undertaken to add events to the calendar and ensure that local community groups and organisations can get involved, how local cycling clubs can grow and how access to cycling for everyone can be improved.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Progressive and Equitable City
- Liveable and Zero Carbon City
- Connected City

5.0 Holt Town

- 5.1 The Council has shortlisted six multi-disciplinary teams to submit tenders to develop a new Neighbourhood Development Framework for Holt Town.
- 5.2 Teams have until the end of the month to put forward their submissions for an area which has been described as the 'missing piece of the jigsaw' between major investment in the city centre and East Manchester. The Council is seeking to create an ambitious mixed-use city centre neighbourhood.
- 5.3 It is anticipated the successful team will be announced in the spring, with work to deliver the proposals commencing immediately once consultation and the necessary planning approvals have been completed.
- 5.4 The shortlisted teams are: Allies and Morrison, Gensler, Macreanor Lavington, Plan-It, Prior and Partners and Studio Egret West.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Thriving and Sustainable City
- Connected City

6.0 Library On

- 6.1 Manchester Libraries have secured funding to create 3D walkthrough tours of all 22 city libraries.
- 6.2 The £20,250 grant was awarded by the Library On programme, and funded by Arts Council England, to allow the creation of virtual tours of all the venues for the first time.
- 6.3 Viewers are promised an immersive experience, enabling them to explore our libraries' broad and diverse sections, historical nuances and architecture from the comfort of their own screens.
- 6.4 The Library On programme not only celebrates libraries but works to improve digital access to information and services which in turn aims to increase visits to public libraries by making their offers and services easier to discover and use.

- 6.5 The project is rooted in the need to make Manchester Libraries' 22 sites easier to discover and access, physically and online. It addresses national research, and feedback from service users, that some neurodivergent people, particularly those with autism, are not comfortable visiting locations unless they know exactly what to expect.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Progressive and Equitable City
- Highly Skilled City

7.0 Festive programme

- 7.1 Manchester is reflecting on another successful programme of events and attractions over the festive period 2023 as the city reinforced its reputation as a place to enjoy the season.
- 7.2 Thousands took to the streets on Sunday 3 December for the city's second ever Christmas Parade, a spectacular involving more than 400 participants. The event was delivered in partnership with Hits Radio.
- 7.3 The Christmas Markets celebrated 25 years since they were first introduced in 1998 in style with 225 stalls over nine sites and record visitor numbers. The markets also won numerous accolades including being named as the best in the UK in research by cinch and the best in Europe by Heald's.
- 7.4 Skate Manchester's ice rink in Cathedral Gardens was another popular returning attraction and by using mains power rather than generators it saved tonnes of carbon emissions.
- 7.5 A New Year's Eve fireworks display took place for the first time since before the Covid pandemic and attracted 10,000 people to Castlefield Bowl to welcome in 2024.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Thriving and Sustainable City

8.0 Contributing to a Zero-Carbon City

- 8.1 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.

9.0 Contributing to the Our Manchester Strategy

9.1 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.

10.0 Key Policies and Considerations

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

11.0 Recommendations

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