

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Executive – 14 February 2024
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 Brownfield Housing Fund

2.1 Manchester City Council has secured £51.6m via GMCA's Brownfield Housing Fund to build thousands of new homes – more than half of them affordable.

2.2 The funding will support the development of 31 long-term underused sites over the next two years, helping to build 3,380 new homes, with 1,761 of them (52%) genuinely affordable.

2.3 The Brownfield Housing Fund is part of the trailblazing agreement between the Government and Greater Manchester over three years to unlock brownfield land to be used for new housing.

2.4 Housing developments which will be supported by funding include:

- Victoria North (Manchester City Council and FEC) - £6.9m
- Former Boddington's Brewery site (Latimer & Clarion) - £3.1m
- Jackson's Brickworks (Your Housing Group) - £5.3m
- One Cathedral Gardens (Property Alliance Group) - £6.3m
- 4 x This City sites (£10m)
- 5 x Project 500 Phase One sites (£1.8m)
- 6 x Project 500 Phase Two sites (1m)

2.5 These new homes are contributing to the target set in the Council's Housing Strategy to 2032 which aims to deliver 36,000 new homes across the city with 10,000 of these affordable and 3,000 of these affordable homes in the city centre.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Progressive and Equitable City
- Thriving and Sustainable City

3.0 Silk Street

3.1 The final homes in a 69-home low carbon development for social rent in Silk Street, Newton Heath, have been completed.

3.2 The long-term brownfield site overlooking the Rochdale Canal has been developed and brought back into use by the Council delivering 36 one-bedroom apartments, 12 two-bedroom apartments, 17 two-storey three-bedroom houses and four three-story, four-bedroom houses.

- 3.3 16 of the apartments are being made available to people over the age of 55 who are right-sizing from larger council properties in Newton Heath, and across North Manchester – freeing them up in turn for new families to move into.
- 3.4 Each of the townhouses feature solar panels, a new kitchen and bathroom, generous gardens and private driveways with electric charging points.
- 3.5 Each of the apartments has a balcony alongside shared outdoor space – and the building will have living walls and a living green roofs.
- 3.6 The properties will make use of Ground Source Heat Pumps and mechanical ventilation with heat recovery to keep utility costs down for residents.
- 3.7 The apartments have been built to HAPPI design principles that provide larger internal space as standard, which accommodate someone using a wheelchair, along with extra storage space. This means they can also be adapted to meet the needs of the tenants.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

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

4.0 Ancoats Green

- 4.1 Major investment in Ancoats Green is underway to create a much-improved city centre park space as part of the culmination of Ancoats' regeneration.
- 4.2 The Green will act as the focal point for the area as part of a wider public realm investment which will celebrate the industrial and manufacturing heritage of this part of the city centre.
- 4.3 The scheme will include new walking and cycling routes to encourage active travel through the neighbourhood, significant new planting – including new wildflower and wetland areas – and new trees to add colour throughout the year. At least 30% of new services will be made from reclaimed materials, including granite paving slabs removed from Albert Square as part of its transformation under the Our Town Hall project.
- 4.4 Features to encourage community use include new play areas with accessible equipment, open grassed areas, generous footpaths and a small space for holding events.
- 4.5 The transformed Ancoats Green will help underpin the development of 1,500 new homes in this part of Ancoats, supporting the creation of a low-traffic, pedestrian-friendly neighbourhood.

- 4.6 The Green will also create a seamless route from the Council's This City affordable housing scheme on Rodney Street (One Ancoats Green) from north Manchester through to the new Mobility Hub and city centre beyond.
- 4.7 Homes England has committed £28.1m to the overall project – along with the Mobility Hub – which, combined with the £4.7m allocated by Greater Manchester Combined Authority through the Brownfield Housing Fund, brings the total budget to £32.7m.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

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

5.0 Family Hubs

- 5.1 Preparations are taking place for Manchester's fourth Family Hub to open.
- 5.2 Family Hubs are Manchester's new community based 'one-stop shops' offering support and advice to families, children and young people through to early adulthood.
- 5.3 Hubs are already open in Longsight, Cheetham and Wythenshawe with a fourth due to open in Gorton this spring.
- 5.4 With more than 136,000 young people aged 0-19 in Manchester, the family hubs aim to make sure they and their families get the support they need at the time they need it, from birth to adulthood.
- 5.5 Unlike Sure Start Centres which largely provide support aimed at younger children, the age range of those supported through the hubs is from pre-birth, through the infant and toddler stage all the way up to age 19 years, or up to 25 for young adults who have special needs.
- 5.6 They also build on the enhanced early years work associated with the national Start for Life offer which provides support to parents and carers from a child's conception until their second birthday. This is because the first 1,001 days from conception up to the age of two are a critical time in the development of a baby's life.
- 5.7 The new Family Hubs have been set up to provide access to a wide range of services to help families navigate all aspects of family life – from health issues such as infant feeding, mental health support, and stopping smoking, to building

better relationships, accessing school and education support such as homework clubs, as well as providing advice on jobs, skills training and next steps post-18.

5.8 Manchester was one of 14 trailblazer areas in the country chosen earlier last year to receive additional funding from the Government's Family Hubs and Start for life programme to fast-track delivery of these new services.

5.9 Family hubs are part of the broader five-year Making Manchester Fairer action plan, which aims to address inequalities in the city that can start early on in life and even affect how long people live for and their opportunities around work and housing. The plan also includes work around tackling cost of living pressures and poverty, which are also integral to health and wellbeing.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Progressive and Equitable City
- Thriving and Sustainable City

6.0 Just Checking and Technology Enabled Care

6.1 Technology Enabled Care supports people to maintain their independence and remain living in their own home while also improving their personal safety. Small devices such as sensors, GPS trackers and personal alarms can enable support to be more accurately tailored, and the least restrictive while providing real value for safety, independence and reassurance.

6.2 Just Checking is an innovative piece of kit that has been piloted and evaluated for its contribution around supporting independence and more accurately, prescribing the right kinds of support for people. It is a web-based assessment tool with discrete wireless sensors that allow practitioners to impartially observe a person's movement and activity around their home. This provides evidence of an individual's support needs in the least intrusive and restrictive way.

6.3 Over a period of 10 months, the impact of Just Checking has been evaluated for 112 people discharged from Hospital with Reablement support. Compared with a control cohort, the people who received Just Checking as part of their support plan ended the reablement service more independent with a larger reduction in support hours. Modelling of the potential impact of using Just Checking for the year has highlighted a potential financial impact of saving just over £1m.

6.4 Evaluation feedback was gathered from people and staff about the use of Just Checking. Despite some initial reservations about the use of Technology Enabled Care, evaluation from family members and individuals after it had been used demonstrated an overall neutral response.

6.5 Based on this evaluation, the Reablement Service is exploring incorporating using Just Checking routinely as part of its pathway to better support Assessors

and provide a more accurate depiction of how someone moves around their own home.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Progressive and Equitable City

7.0 City centre pedestrian improvements

- 7.1 Consultation has been launched on plans to deliver pedestrian-friendly improvements to the A34 Salford-Cooper Street corridor.
- 7.2 The stretch of road – which comprises Bridge Street, John Dalton Street and Princess Street – runs from the beginning of the A34 in Salford to the Cooper Street adjacent to the Town Hall and Cenotaph in the city centre. It links key destinations including the Town Hall/Town Hall extension and Albert Square, Manchester Courts and Salford Central Railway Station.
- 7.3 As part of the Council’s ambition for 90% of peak morning trips into the city centre to be made by foot, cycle or public transport before 2040, options are being explored to help realise that ambition over the coming years.
- 7.4 Some of the suggested plans include:
- Providing more space on pavements for pedestrian
 - Widen pedestrian crossings
 - Improve pedestrian crossings on narrow side streets by raising the carriageway to slow turning vehicles
 - Provide new controlled crossings
 - Reduce road widths to reduce traffic speeds and encourage drivers to park and stop elsewhere
 - Help public transport flow more smoothly
 - Improve bus stops by increasing space for people to wait
 - Create pleasant spaces for people to spend time in and walk through to key city centre destinations
- 7.5 Measures are designed to ensure the city is welcoming and vibrant, improve air quality and encourage people to travel by more environmentally-friendly modes of travel.
- 7.6 The views of the public will be crucial in helping to shape the plans. The consultation runs until Friday 8 March at www.manchester.gov.uk/consultations
- 7.7 Any feedback taken will be used to inform the next stage of the design process before any further consultation takes place.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

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