

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Executive – 15 March 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	N/A
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - the impact of the issues addressed in this report in meeting our Public Sector Equality Duty and broader equality commitments	N/A

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 UNESCO City of Lifelong Learning

- 2.1 Manchester has been recognised by UNESCO (The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) as a City of Lifelong Learning.
- 2.2 The recognition means Manchester joins an international network of 356 cities around the world - the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities - that each successfully promote lifelong learning across their communities and share inspiration, know-how and best practice with each other.
- 2.3 Manchester was added to the network following a rigorous application process during which the city had to demonstrate a track record of good practices and policy initiatives.
- 2.4 Another key feature of all cities in the international network is the number and strength of connections forged within each city between education and skills, communities, employers and the public sector - connecting education, training and cultural institutions, and engaging a wide range of partners, including schools, colleges, universities and the wider skills sector, as well as employers and other organisations.
- 2.5 In Manchester the city's lifelong learning application to UNESCO was co-designed with 150+ organisations, with many more also contributing to the city's lifelong learning approach.
- 2.6 As a UNESCO City of Lifelong Learning Manchester has committed to mobilising resources in every sector of the city to promote inclusive and quality learning for all and at all levels, from basic through to higher education.
- 2.7 As part of this partners across the city will also now be looking to revitalise learning opportunities within families and across communities, as well as facilitating learning opportunities within workplaces.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Progressive and Equitable City
- Highly Skilled City

3.0 MTV EMAs

- 3.1 Manchester has been selected as the host of this year's prestigious MTV Europe Music Awards (the EMAs), billed by its organisers as "music's biggest global celebration."
- 3.2 The awards, which despite their name encompass music from around the world, will be held at Co-op Live which will become the UK's biggest indoor arena with a capacity of 23,500 when it opens next month.
- 3.3 The event on Sunday 10 November promises to attract international and home-grown stars and will be broadcast in 150 countries, boosting Manchester's visitor economy and providing another showcase for the city.
- 3.4 Organisers have cited the city's track record in successfully hosting major events alongside its proud musical heritage as key factors in their decision to bring the spectacle to the city.
- 3.5 Previous host cities for the awards, founded in 1994, include Berlin, Paris, Milan, Barcelona, Madrid, Bilbao and Budapest.
- 3.6 This autumn promises to be a memorable one for music in Manchester with the city also hosting the Worldwide Music Expo (WOMEX) and Beyond The Music Festival, both in October, in addition to the usual wealth of live shows.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Thriving and Sustainable City

4.0 Better Outcomes, Better Lives

- 4.1 Detailed evaluation is taking place of the impact of the strengths-based, practice-led Better Outcomes, Better Lives programme which concluded at the end of last year.
- 4.2 Work has taken place over three years to support behaviour and culture change around care practitioners working in a 'strengths-based' way, which means identifying the strengths of the person what is important to them and the strengths in their existing network and using shorter-term interventions such as reablement and TEC (technology enabled care – CHECK) before exploring longer-term support.
- 4.3 The programme has sought to expand the use of shorter term support that enables independence. This has been achieved through investing in and expanding the Reablement Service, increasing the number of people accessing the service, and promoting the use of TEC.

4.4 Last month as special Board meeting was held a4knowledge what has been delivered over the last three years.

4.5 Key successes include:

- A 34% increase in TEC referrals completed by staff, from 2,100 in 2021 to 2,900 in 2023.
- A 26% increase in the proportion of support plans that include TEC, up from 14% in 2021 to 40% in 2023.
- An 8% increase in the proportion of people leaving core reablement with reduced or no support requirements, up from 66% in 2021 to 74%
- Following the launch of the Adults Early Support Team, 55% of referrals have been resolved by the team without needing to be picked up by Integrated Neighbourhood Teams.

4.6 Learning from the programme, and the approaches used in it, is being incorporated into wider programmes of work within the Adults MLCO and planning for 2024 priorities.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Progressive and Equitable City

5.0 Generator enterprise hub

5.1 The Generator, a new enterprise hub in the city centre, opened last month to provide businesses and freelancers with affordable and flexible workspaces as well as free access to multi-faceted business information support.

5.2 The Generator hub is designed to help drive economic growth and innovation in Manchester by creating a space where pre-start and start-up businesses can work, learn, network, and grow.

5.3 It is situated in the Town Hall Extension on St Peter's Square, making it a convenient location for entrepreneurs, freelancers, and hybrid workers.

5.4 It includes breakout areas, collaborative and meeting spaces, workspaces, and private zones to meet the diverse needs of users. It will also host a wide range of social and business events to help plug members into a supportive and inspiring network, fostering a community of collaboration and creativity.

5.5 Located next to the Central Library, it leverages the library's resources and environment, providing a unique blend of traditional and modern workspaces.

5.6 Working closely with the Business and IP Centre (BIPC) Greater Manchester, Generator aims to be not only a co-working space but also a hive for business

growth. Members will benefit from expert advice, one-to-one business information support, and a pathway to £5 million worth of business resources via the BIPC.

- 5.7 Customers will also be able to find out about the Build A Business in GM Libraries business support programme, offering access to workshops and advice for start-ups and new businesses.
- 5.8 The project has been made possible by funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) working with Manchester City Council.
- 5.9 A further site will open in Ancoats later in spring. More details about Generator can be found at www.generatormcr.org.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

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

6.0 Ancoats Regeneration

- 6.1 Progress is being made on three key developments which together will help shape the final chapter of the remarkable transformation of Ancoats.
- 6.2 The inaugural development by This City, the council's own low-carbon housing company, has been on site for 10 months and is progressing well. The two apartment blocks are at their halfway point and work to create 10 townhouses is now underway.
- 6.3 Ultimately the development will deliver 129 new homes on a long-term brownfield site owned by the Council.
- 6.4 Some 30% of these will be capped at the Manchester Living Rent which is pegged at the same level as the Local Housing Allowance to ensure they are affordable to as many people as possible.
- 6.5 The development is being built to high sustainability standards, limiting heat loss through exemplar insulation, making the homes warm and cheaper to run – essential to support residents through the cost-of-living crisis.
- 6.6 The new homes will overlook Ancoats Green, a larger park space for the community which will connect seamlessly with the surrounding neighbourhood, acting as a green focal point.

- 6.7 Work to deliver the much-improved park has been on site since January this year. it will include new cycling and walking routes, play areas with accessible, open grassed areas as well as wildflower and wetland areas, and space for equipment hosting small events.
- 6.8 Meanwhile, development of the Ancoats Mobility Hub has reached its highest point and now celebrated its 'topping out.' The Mobility Hub is an innovative project which supports the aim for Ancoats to be a low-traffic, pedestrian-first neighbourhood.
- 6.9 The Hub will feature secure parking for 150 bikes alongside changing facilities, 102 electronic vehicle charging points and up to 30 spaces for car club and car share schemes as part of a car park which reduces the need for parking in nearby developments.
- 6.10 The building itself will feature 500 rooftop solar panels 400sqm of living green walls and 950sqm of open public space external areas featuring hard and soft landscaping – which is equivalent to the size of seven tennis courts.
- 6.11 A last-mile delivery hub and parcel lockers will centralise how local people can receive post and packages, vastly reducing delivery traffic in the area. A new commercial or hospitality space is also being explored.
- 6.12 The Mobility Hub, funded by a combination of Homes England and GMCA Brownfield Land Funding, is expected to be completed later this year.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

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

7.0 Chorlton Public Realm Plan

- 7.1 Residents and local businesses are being encouraged to give their views on a new plan to support a thriving Chorlton district centre.
- 7.2 The aim of the Public Realm Plan, part of the council's commitment to focus on district centres across the city, is to ensure the centre of Chorlton remains an attractive, welcoming and accessible space for local people and visitors to enjoy.
- 7.3 The draft plan will help guide investment in the area's public spaces in the coming years – and is part of a city-wide focus on local district centres to ensure they can benefit from emerging regeneration opportunities.

7.4 There are a number of development opportunities in the neighbourhood that will be brought forward in the years ahead – most immediately the new affordable older person’s housing at the former leisure centre site. It is therefore a timely opportunity to put in place a vision for how the public realm could be improved in the future.

7.5 An improved public realm will also benefit the local commercial, retail and food and drink offer – and the plan has been drafted to be flexible to ensure it remains relevant as new opportunities arise.

7.6 The plan looks to:

- Assess Chorlton’s existing public spaces and streets, how they are used now, and how they could be improved in the future.
- Create a distinct district centre plan to illustrate a range of possible projects that could be endorsed by the local community and be used as the basis for future funding bids.
- And finally, the plan proposes concept designs at three key locations: outside Chorlton Library, at Four Banks, and at High Lane Junction.

7.7 The public consultation is live until 19 March at www.manchester.gov.uk/consultations

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Thriving and Sustainable City
- Progressive and Equitable City

8.0 Heaton Park Orangery

8.1 A planning application to refurbish Heaton Park’s Orangery and bring it back to life has been submitted.

8.2 The plans will see the Orangery, last open in 2012, undergo refurbishment to bring the much loved building, steeped in history, back into use.

8.3 The planned works to the interior of the Orangery are the latest in the continued investment in the Hall which in 2018-19 saw the Council and Historic England invest over £2.1m in works to the external fabric of this Grade 1 listed building to ensure it remains wind and weathertight.

8.4 The work to the Orangery, which is part of the Grade 1 listed Heaton Hall, will focus on new flooring, a full redecoration, new doors, upgraded toilets and a full overhaul of the electrical and heating systems including a new low carbon air source heat pump in line with the council’s commitment to become zero carbon by 2038.

8.5 Manchester City Council would work with Construction partner Manchester and Cheshire Construction to fit out the building which would take approximately five months to complete, leaving a blank canvas for any future operating partner.

8.6 The work is the culmination of a process where the Council has engaged with the market to look at what how to realise the Orangery's potential. This will include identifying the right operational partner to help to deliver the ambition of a high-quality dining and event space right in the heart of Heaton Park.

Relates to Our Manchester Strategy themes:

- Liveable and Zero Carbon City
- Thriving and Sustainable City

9.0 Contributing to a Zero-Carbon City

9.1 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.

10.0 Contributing to the Our Manchester Strategy

10.1 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.

11.0 Key Policies and Considerations

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

12.0 Recommendations

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