

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee – 26 June 2024
Executive - 24 July 2024

Subject: Review and Refresh of Children & Young People’s Plan (CYPP)

Report of: Acting Strategic Director (Children and Education Services)

Summary

The purpose of this report is to inform Executive of the work that has taken place by Manchester Children and Young People’s Board to review the Children & Young People’s Plan 2021-2024 and to refresh the Children & Young People’s Plan for 2024-2027. The Children & Young People’s Plan is the strategic plan of the Children and Young People’s Board, one of the key partnership boards that underpins the Our Manchester Strategy.

Recommendations

The Committee and the Executive are recommended to:

- (1) Consider and comment on the Review of the Children & Young People’s Plan 2021-2024 (Annex A);
 - (2) Consider and comment on the refreshed CYPP 2024-2027 (Annex B).
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Wards Affected: All

<p>Environmental Impact Assessment -the impact of the issues addressed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city</p>	<p>The Children & Young People’s Plan 2021-2024 had as one of its priorities “ Be able to live in a society where environmental issues are intrinsic to decision making” and made progress in a number of areas, particularly in Education and Schools through initiatives such as the Education Services Climate Change Action Plan 2022 – 2024, Bee Green Summit for pupils and a Bee Green Assembly. The refreshed Children & Young People’s Plan 2024-2027 is informed by the consultation work with 11,000 children and young people conducted for the UNICEF Child Friendly City bid, in which the importance of environmental issues and achieving zero carbon to young people was strongly voiced. The Children & Young People’s Plan 2024-2027 has identified ‘Environment: Meeting the Ambition of Zero Carbon’ as a cross-cutting theme that underpins all priorities.</p>
<p>Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - the impact of the issues addressed in this report in meeting our Public Sector Equality Duty and broader equality commitments</p>	<p>Our ambitions as reflected in the Children and Young People’s Plan 2024-2027 is to build a safe, happy, healthy, successful, and independent future for the city’s children and young people. Underpinning all the priorities are a number of cross cutting themes aimed at equality, diversity and inclusion, which include: Addressing Poverty, Equity, Inclusion and Children’s Rights and we will do that through a number of Strategies identified in the Plan.</p>

Manchester Strategy outcomes	Summary of how this report aligns to the Our Manchester Strategy/Contribution to the Strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	A new priority in the refreshed plan is “to enable every child to be confident and thrive in a city that strives to meet their needs” which is aimed at enabling all children and young people to succeed and to play a fair and rewarding part in the jobs and opportunities created by the economy of our city.
A highly skilled city: world class and home-grown talent sustaining the city’s economic success	The refreshed plan aims to ensure that children have the best start in life, receive help at the right time if help is needed, have access to a good education and are safe and that they have the confidence and skills to play a part in sustaining the city’s success.
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	Equity is identified as an important cross cutting theme in the plan, underpinning all priorities and the Plan also includes a specific priority to challenge and work together to mitigate the things that can hold children back such as: poverty, lack of equity or family circumstances.
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	The Children & Young People’s Plan 2024-2027 has identified ‘Environment: Meeting the Ambition of Zero Carbon’ as a cross-cutting theme that underpins all priorities and will be looking to build on the progress achieved during 2021-2024.
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	By ensuring a good start in life and a good education at a school judged good or better, the Plan aims to equip all young people with the skills and confidence to enable them to be part of what builds a connected city, world class infrastructure and 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

Not applicable

Financial Consequences – Capital

Not applicable

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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.

- *Children and Young People's Plan 2021-2024 Outcomes Framework – Trends Analysis (available on request)*
- *Children and Young People's Plan 2021-2024 (available on request)*
- *Review of Children and Young People's Plan 2021-2024 (Annex A to this report)*
- *Children and Young People's Plan 2024-2027 (Annex B to this report)*

1.0 Introduction

1.0.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Executive of the work that has recently been undertaken by Manchester Children & Young People's Board to:

- I. **Review the Children & Young People's Plan 2021-2024** in order to assess progress and impact during the last 12 – 18 months;
- II. **Refresh the Children & Young People's Plan 2024-2027** setting out future priorities.

2.0 Background

2.0.1 The Children's Board provides overall leadership for the shaping and delivering the vision for children, young people and their families which is 'Our Manchester – building a safe, happy, healthy and successful future for children and young people'.

2.0.2 It brings together senior representatives from across the city, who are committed to supporting Manchester to be a 'child friendly' city delivering the aforementioned vision and addressing institutional, budgetary, cultural and linguistic barriers to working together across traditional agency boundaries.

2.0.3 Its primary terms of reference are to:

- i. Oversee and guide the direction for children services in order to deliver the vision for children, young people and their families. As part of this, the Board works together and with children and young people to identify the key priorities and target outcomes for the city.
- ii. Monitor and review the city's progress and performance against the vision and key outcomes. The Board listens to and responds to the voices of 'our' children and young people, and provide robust, effective and respectful challenge and support to services.
- iii. Ensures a coherent overall plan for services, and contributes to the development of sub-plans, such as the commissioning strategy, and secure improvement reviews ensuring strategic alignment.
- iv. Identifies opportunities for innovation and cross-partner working to improve outcomes. Through the integration of strategic planning and provision of services the Children's Board is able to effectively respond to national and local policy/legislation and emerging needs to explore and develop new and innovative ways of working that make a positive difference and impact in the lives and experiences of Manchester's children and young people,

2.0.4 The children and young people of Manchester are at the heart of 'Our Manchester' the Manchester Strategy. Subsequently the Children's Board operates on the premise that it is fundamental that the work of the board oversee the continuum of services provided to Manchester's children from universal prevention programmes for all children and young people to very targeted programmes aiming to divert children from the care system or other very specialist services. 'Where children and their families need more support,

partners will work together to intervene in the right way, at the right time and as early as possible to avoid escalation to statutory services.

3.0 Review and Refresh of the Children & Young People's Plan

3.0.1 The strategic plan of the Children and Young People's Board is the Children & Young People's Plan. The Manchester Children and Young People's Plan 2021-2024 captured the Vision, Priorities, Values and Behaviours of the Children and Young People's Partnership and informed the work plan of the Partnership for the period 2021- 2024. As the Children and Young People's Board approached the end of this period, work took place by the Partnership to:

- I. Review progress and impact made against the priorities set out in the Children & Young People's Plan 2021-2024. The findings of this review are set out in ***Annex A – Children and Young People's Board – Review of CYPP 2021-2024***;
- II. Refresh the Children & Young People's Plan 2024-2027 setting out the priorities for the Children and Young People's Board going forward. The resulting 'plan in a page' can be found at ***Annex B – Children and Young People's Plan 2024-2027***.

3.1 Review of Children & Young People's Plan 2021-2024

3.1.1 The previous Children and Young People's Plan 2021-2024 set out a number of priorities for children and young people, that they should:

- Priority 1: Feel Safe in their community and have trusted adults they can speak to;
- Priority 2: Be able to access affordable, cultural, leisure, youth and sports activities;
- Priority 3: Have their voices heard and be recognised for their contributions and achievements;
- Priority 4: Be able to have quick and accessible access to emotional and mental health support;
- Priority 5: Have better education around physical and mental health issues;
- Priority 6: Be able to live in a society where environmental issues are intrinsic to decision making; and
- Priority 7: Be able to live in a society where environmental issues are intrinsic to decision making.

3.1.2 The Review of the CYPP 2021-2024 (Annex A) explored what progress has been made against each of the priorities and what the impact was. In doing so, it conducted a trend analysis of the Children & Young People's Plan Outcomes Framework to assess the direction of travel on key indicators associated with each priority since inception of the plan to the end of the plan period.

3.2 UNICEF Child Friendly City bid

3.2.1 Also informing the review and refresh of the CYPP are the findings from the UNICEF Child Friendly City Discovery Phase. CYPB has brought a multi agency focus towards achieving UNICEF Child Friendly City status and this is a standing agenda item at every CYPB meeting. The journey towards achieving Child Friendly City status is a four-part journey through Discovery, Development, Delivery and Recognition. The Discovery phase was completed towards the end of 2023 and Manchester’s badges were chosen after a **record breaking consultation which saw over 11,000 children and young people take part.**

3.2.2 The top three badges identified by Manchester’s children and young people for the city to focus on are: **Safe and Secure, Place and Healthy.** In addition to these the city will focus on a further three core badges: **Culture, Communication and Co-operation and Leadership.** We have also committed to ensuring that the **Equal and Included** badge is a cross-cutting golden thread across all badges.

3.3 Refresh of the CYPP 2024-2027

3.3.1 In determining Priorities going forward, the review identified that the following should inform the work of the Board and the refresh of the CYPP 2024-2027:

- Areas indicated by the CYPP Outcomes Framework and the review that remain as areas for improvement or static:
- Areas of need indicated by other data/information on need, such as the Health Outcomes Framework; and
- Priority areas identified by the consultation work around UNICEF Child Friendly City where the Partnership can make a difference, as well as from other engagement and consultation work such as the Greater Manchester Bee Well Surveys.

3.3.2 Bringing together these findings, the Children and Young People’s Board have identified the following Priorities as being the right priorities going forward, and the CYPP 2024-2027 Plan in a Page sets these out, alongside the Values, Behaviours, and links to other Strategies that will help us achieve the priorities, and the cross-cutting themes that will underpin all activities. The table below sets out the refreshed Priorities for the Children & Young People’s Plan 2024-2027, and lists some of the contextual ambitions for each Priority:

Table 1: Children and Young People’s Plan Priorities 2024 – 2027

<p>PRIORITY 1: We will make sure children and young people are kept safe and feel safe in their communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYP (Children and Young People) are safe and cared for in their homes by the people who care for them. • CYP feel safer in their communities including on public transport, in public spaces and at school

- CYP are not exploited or harmed, are less likely to offend and do not become victims of crime

PRIORITY 2: We are committed to prevention and early intervention, providing the right service at the right time and in the right place:

- Families have access to coordinated early help in accordance with need as soon as difficulties are identified
- Families receive support that is personalised, multi-agency and has a 'Whole Family' approach
- Families' needs are assessed via a strengths based universal Early Help Assessment
- Interventions are evaluated to identify what works best
- Strong multi agency working reflects that *Early Help is Everybody's Business*

PRIORITY 3: We will challenge and work together to mitigate the things that can hold children back, like poverty, lack of equity or family circumstances:

- The impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) are recognised and trauma informed practice addresses them in all settings
- People with lived experience of trauma and adversity have a voice
- Children caring for family members (Young Carers) are identified, supported by all agencies working with them
- Challenging poverty and inequality by ensuring everyone has the same opportunities and life chances no matter where they are born, live or their ethnicity
- Increasing opportunities for sustainable work and boosting resilience

PRIORITY 4: Our schools and settings will be supported to be inclusive and will deliver high-quality education for every child:

- High rates of children continue to attend highly performing schools and settings judged as good and better
- Children continue to attain higher than national averages
- Less children are excluded from school
- More children have good attendance rates at school
- Children with SEN/D are supported and access the Local Offer
- CYP have the skills that allow them to participate in opportunities offered by the city and local economy

PRIORITY 5: We will enable every child to be confident and to thrive in a city that strives to meet their needs:

- Aspiration and ambition will apply to every child, no matter their background or circumstances
- The city, the Partnership and we as individuals will always consider 'what can we do to make sure our children and young people can succeed' into planning and decision making
- Quality supportive services that empower children, adults, and families so that they can successfully accomplish their goals
- A culture of aim high, reach high, achieve highly in a city that looks to provide opportunities for our young people.

PRIORITY 6: We will improve health outcomes for CYP so that they have the best possible health and wellbeing:

- Improvements in the emotional and mental health and wellbeing of CYP at population level

- Improvements in areas identified in the Health Outcomes Framework: Infant Mortality, Dental Health, Obesity, Asthma, Hospital Admissions for Injury (aged 0-14), Infants receiving breast milk as first feed
- Increased opportunities for and participation in physical activities
- JSNA provides a clearer understanding around the needs associated with Complex Safeguarding and Emotional Health & Wellbeing

Underpinning everything, we will **be a Child Friendly City and their voice will influence the place and culture in which they live**

- CYP are listened to, respected and their views have power and influence
- CYP live in a rights respecting City
- We will be guided and influenced by what CYP tell us they need and what they say works
- The channels of communication and feedback with CYP are improved
- CYP influence and co-produce services that meet their needs
- CYP have access to enriching social, cultural and leisure opportunities
- The city will move closer to its ambition of being Zero Carbon

3.4 Next Steps

3.4.1 Next steps for the Children & Young People's Board in implementing the refreshed CYPP 2024-2027 will be to:

- *Implement a communications drive, including production of a video with members of the Children and Young People's Board being interviewed by young people about the refreshed priorities;*
- *Develop a refreshed Outcomes Framework to support the refreshed Plan;*
- *Discuss and agree a Work Plan for the Children & Young People's Board setting the agenda for the next 12 months.*

3.4.2 A Development Session is planned for 2nd July 2024 to progress the Outcomes Framework and the Work Plan elements of this.

4.0 Recommendations

Executive are asked to consider and comment on the Review of the Children and Young People's Plan 2021-2024 and the refreshed Children and Young People's Plan 2024-2027.

5.0 Equal Opportunities Policy

There are no implications for Equal Opportunities Policy, although it should be noted that equity is at the heart of the Children and Young People's Plan 2024-2027.

6.0 Risk Management

There are no implications for Risk Management, and it should be noted that the Children and Young People's Board is not a statutory partnership

7.0 Legal Considerations

There are no legal considerations.

8.0 Appendices

- *Annex A – Review of the Children & Young People’s Plan 2021-2024*
- *Annex B – Refreshed Children & Young People’s Plan 2024-2027*