

Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2019

Present:

Councillor Farrell – in the Chair
Councillors Clay, Curley, Lynch, Mary Monaghan, Paul, Riasat, Wills and Wilson

Councillor Craig, Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Midgley, Assistant Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Ollerhead, Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources
Nick Gomm, Director of Corporate Affairs, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
Peter Blythin, Director Single Hospital Service
Professor Matthew Makin, Clinical Director at North Manchester General Hospital
Michael McCourt, Chief Executive, Manchester Local Care Organisation
Dr Sohail Munshi, Medical Director, Manchester Local Care Organisation
Mark Edwards, Chief Operating Officer, Manchester Local Care Organisation
Steve Wilson, Executive Lead for Finance and Investment, Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership
Ed Dyson, Executive Director of Planning and Operations, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning

Apologies: Councillor Holt, O'Neil and Reeves

HSC/19/06 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2019 as a correct record.

HSC/19/07 Single Hospital Service Progress Report

The Committee considered a report of the Director, Single Hospital Service that provided an update on the City of Manchester Single Hospital Service Programme. It set out the work that had taken place since the creation of Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust (MFT) on 1 October 2017 and described the approach used within MFT to track the anticipated benefits of the merger. It also outlined the part MFT was playing in the work being led by Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership to transfer North Manchester General Hospital (NMGH) into MFT.

The Director, Single Hospital Service referred to the main points of the report which were: -

- Providing a background and rationale for the SHS;
- Describing the work of the Integration Steering Group (ISG), chaired by the Director for the Single Hospital Service, that continued to oversee delivery of all

- integration work streams, providing resource and support to help work stream leads deliver their objectives;
- An update on the Integration Programme, noting the published Year One Post-Merger Report;
 - A description of the benefits realised for both staff and patients in relation to a range of services; and
 - An update on the proposed acquisition of North Manchester General Hospital.

The Committee were also shown two videos that demonstrated the improvements that had been achieved to date and how staff had been engaged throughout this process.

A Member sought clarification on the role of the Council of Governors and enquired if they would vote on the final decision to incorporate NMGH into the City of Manchester Single Hospital Service Programme. The Director Single Hospital Service reported that the Council of Governors had been established to review the probity and governance of the transition process and ensure that due diligence had been observed, however they would not have a vote on the final decision to transfer NMGH into MFT.

Members expressed their frustration at the length of time taken to incorporate NMGH into the City of Manchester Single Hospital Service Programme and asked what could be done to speed this process up. Members enquired if the recent senior management change at Salford Royal had any impact on this process. The Executive Lead for Finance and Investment, Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership acknowledged the frustrations expressed by the Committee. He commented that the process was complex and was dictated by national guidance and process, however the commitment was given at a Greater Manchester level to move NMGH into the SHS, stating that the strategic case would be completed by March 2019 and this would be followed by a national agreement to proceed to implementation phase. He said that all partners, both local and national, including NHS Improvement recognised the case to move NMGH into the SHS and were positively involved with delivering this programme. He further commented that risks associated with this programme were closely monitored and reviewed to support this transaction.

Members sought an assurance on how any financial deficit Pennine Acute Hospital Trust had would be apportioned to NMGH. The Executive Lead for Finance and Investment, Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership explained that this was being carefully considered. He further responded to a question regarding the suggestion that services would be disrupted or withdrawn at the NMGH site prior to the move to the SHS by giving an assurance to the Committee that the expectation was to maintain the current service at the site and any change would have to be considered by the Transaction Board.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing sought an assurance that had previously been given to the Committee that Members would be informed of any proposed changes to service prior to them being implemented would continue to be honoured. The Director Single Hospital Service said that he remained committed to this request.

A Member commented that rumours frequently circulated amongst residents in North Manchester regarding the removal of services at NMGH and recommended that the senior leadership team at NMGH provided the Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing and the Chair of the Health Scrutiny Committee with regular updates regarding the progress on the move of NMGH into the City of Manchester Single Hospital Service Programme.

The Director Single Hospital Service acknowledged the comment regarding rumours and stated that they sought to address this by holding monthly team meetings to address any concerns and answer any questions staff had. He said that these sessions were very well attended and had proved useful. He further commented that the staff were the Trusts strongest asset and the delivery of the SHS provided an opportunity to look at the terms and conditions of staff and pay grades to harmonise this across the estate. He said this was being undertaken with the full involvement from staff side.

In response to a question from a Member regarding the number of patients currently attending NMGH who would be diverted to other sites with Pennine Acute Trust the Clinical Director at North Manchester General Hospital said that this had been modelled and figures would be circulated following the meeting. He said that this activity needed to be considered in the context of other wider programmes, such as Healthier Together, noting that in addition to providing a service for local residents NMGH delivered specialised services, such as the Infectious Diseases Department. The Committee noted that the identity of each hospital would be retained as this was understood by the local population. He further commented that the recent change at Salford Royal would not have any impact to this programme of work.

In response to a question regarding patient and public engagement the Director of Corporate Affairs, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning said that a number of events had been delivered in North Manchester and the programme of delivering Health Checks in the area provided an opportunity for staff to engage with residents and make them aware of the proposals and obtain their views. In addition, regular meetings were held with Healthwatch and strong relationships had been established with local faith groups.

In response to a concern expressed by a Member regarding patient choice the Executive Director of Planning and Operations, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning said that the delivery of the SHS would not impact on the provision of patient pathways and patient choice would be maintained.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing said that she welcomed the discussion at the meeting and stressed the importance of bringing NMGH into the City of Manchester Single Hospital Service Programme as quickly and as safely as possible. She further welcomed the stated commitment given that any proposed changes to the services delivered at NMGH would be reported to the Committee.

Decision

The Committee;

1. Express their disappointment at the length of time taken to incorporate North Manchester General Hospital into the City of Manchester Single Hospital Service Programme;
2. Welcomes the commitment given that the Committee would be informed of and consulted with on any proposed changes to services at North Manchester General Hospital prior to them being implemented; and
3. Requests that a progress report be submitted for consideration at an appropriate time.

HSC/19/08 Manchester Local Care Organisation

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive, Manchester Local Care Organisation (MLCO) that provided Members with an update on the progress made across core business areas of MLCO.

The Chief Executive, MLCO referred to the main points of the report which were: -

- Describing the MLCO Delivery Priorities in 2018/19 that had been defined by the business plan which was approved by Partners at the MLCO Partnership Board in March 2018;
- High Impact Primary Care, the key new care model that had been designed as a response to the small percentage of the Manchester population that were very vulnerable and had such complex health and social care needs that they find it difficult to navigate and access the standard services offered across General Practice, community nursing and social care;
- An update on Integrated Neighbourhood Working;
- Manchester Community Response (MCR), a seven-day service that provided community based intermediate care, reablement and rehabilitation services to patients, often older people, after leaving hospital or when they are at risk of being sent to hospital;
- An update on the Adult Social Care Improvement Programme;
- Engagement activities with staff, partners and patients;
- Describing the MRI priority discharges and escalation work to support local people by working to prevent the need for admission to hospital wherever possible, and getting people home from hospital in a timely and safe manner when they do need hospital care; and
- MLCO Business Plan and Phase 2.

Members welcomed the report and the progress delivered to date, noting that some Members of the Committee had recently met the Neighbourhood Leads in their area. A Member commented that he was disappointed that the report did not mention any work or activities with Public Health. The Chief Executive, MLCO noted the comment, however reassured the Committee that addressing the social injustice of health inequalities and delivering preventative work was fundamental to the work and success of the MLCO.

A Member enquired what was being done to support the cohort of patients who had historically found it difficult to engage with services, such as drug and mental health services due to entrenched problems, or on occasion services had failed to support patients with complex needs appropriately due to services working in silos. The Chief Executive, MLCO commented that the MLCO brought teams of health professionals together, with the correct skills set to better coordinate and deliver care in a multi-disciplinary and collaborative manner.

The Director of Adult Social Care stated that the Complex Reablement Team had been established to engage with and offer the appropriate support and treatment for those patients with complex needs from staff with the appropriate skills set, as it was recognised that services had not previously addressed those patients needs in a coordinated way.

The Chief Operating Officer, MLCO advised that the leadership role within the Neighbourhood Teams would be responsible for coordinating services and care across those teams and the system would be flexible to respond to need so that the correct interventions could be delivered to support people appropriately. He further informed the Committee that a Mental Health Lead would be appointed to each Neighbourhood Team which was welcomed by the Members.

A Member noted that people often fell into difficulties with their housing provider as a consequence of their health and that had an impact on both them and their families. The Chief Executive, MLCO commented that the wider determinants of health were understood and that included housing. The Director of Adult Social Care advised that a dedicated post within the MLCO would be established to focus on the issue of housing.

In response to a question regarding the reported increase in Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards referrals the Director of Adult Social Care said that this reflected a national trend following a recent High Court Judgement ruling. She said that teams are currently being recruited to respond to this increase in demand.

Decision

To note the report.

HSC/19/09 Updated Financial Strategy and Directorate Business Plans 2019-20

Further to item HSC/18/50 the Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive and the City Treasurer that provided an update on the Council's financial position and set out next steps in the budget process, including scrutiny of the draft budget proposals and Directorate Business Plan reports by this Committee.

The Committee was invited to consider and make recommendations to the Executive on the budget proposals which are within the remit of this Committee and to comment on the Directorate Business Plans which had been designed to ensure the

Council invests in the services that are valued by its residents, achieving both high quality services and outcomes for residents as well as a balanced budget.

The Committee considered the Manchester Health and Care Commissioning - Adult Social Care Business Plan and Pooled Budget contribution 2019/20.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing commented that continued austerity and unfair local government funding settlements had a significant detrimental effect on the lives of Manchester residents and the provision of a range services. She said that the Council's financial planning and investment in the Airport Group had supported the delivery of services and further commented that an assumption and reliance on Council Tax to fund Adult Social Care was fundamentally flawed and was not sustainable long term.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing said that the Council remained committed to protecting vulnerable residents from the worst of these financial cuts and remained committed to improving services. She commented that the increase in the number of people who were homeless and rough sleeping could be linked to the imposition of welfare reform and the introduction of Universal Credit.

The Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources said that the funding allocation model was flawed and needed to change to ensure residents of the city received a fair settlement, noting that it did not take into account density or deprivation levels. He said that the budget that had been presented was designed to protect the most vulnerable in the city.

Members of the Committee commented that the decade of austerity that had been imposed on Manchester had been very unfair and had impacted on the lives of many Manchester residents. The Committee thanked the Executive Members and the officers for investing what money was available into protecting and improving those services that helped the most vulnerable in the city. Members further commented that government needed to invest appropriate funding into preventative activities and Public Health, in addition to delivering a fair financial settlement for Manchester.

Members discussed the need to consider the terms and conditions of those staff who deliver homecare, noting that staff were not paid for travel time. The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing said that Manchester City Council had pledged its support to the Ethical Care Charter and would use its influence through the commissioning and procurement process to drive improvements to the terms and conditions of those staff working in the care sector.

Decision

To note the reports and recommend that the comments of the Committee are submitted to the 13 February 2019 meeting of Executive for consideration.

HSC/19/10 Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

Decision

To note the report and approve the work programme.

Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2019

Present:

Councillor Farrell – in the Chair
Councillors Battle, Clay, Curley, Holt, Lynch, Mary Monaghan, O’Neil, Paul, Riasat, Reeves and Wills

Councillor Craig, Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Nick Gomm, Director of Corporate Affairs, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning

Dr Chris Ward, Consultant Physician Genitourinary Medicine, The Northern Integrated Contraception, Sexual Health & HIV Service

Matthew Swanborough, Director of Corporate Resilience, MFT

Marie Rowland, Associate Director of Performance, MFT

Paul Thomas, Urgent Care System Resilience Manager, MHCC

Mark Edwards, Chief Operating Officer, Manchester Local Care Organisation

Dr Rosemary Morton, Emergency Medical Consultant, MFT

Apologies: Councillors Paul and Wilson

HSC/19/11 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2019 as a correct record.

HSC/19/12 Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) National Trial Expansion

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Population Health and Wellbeing that provided information on the implications for Manchester following the announcement by NHS England in January 2019 of the plans to expand the Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Impact Trial to 26,000 participants by 2020. This represented a doubling of the current number of people on the trial nationally.

Dr Chris Ward, Consultant Physician Genitourinary Medicine, The Northern Integrated Contraception, Sexual Health & HIV Service referred to the main points of the report which were: -

- Providing a description of PrEP as a way for people who did not have HIV, but who were at substantial risk of HIV infection to reduce their risk of acquiring HIV;
- Information on the eligibility criteria for the PrEP Impact Trial;
- Information on the treatment pathway for trial participants;
- Data on the current trials across Greater Manchester clinics, noting that this was overseen by the PrEP Programme Oversight Board that was jointly chaired by Public Health England (PHE) and NHS England;

- At their meeting of 15 January 2019 the PrEP Oversight Board had supported in principle the recommendation to double the number of trial places so that it could address emerging questions from the trial and more robustly inform the design and rollout of a full national programme;
- Noting that the Board had asked that a rapid engagement exercise with local authority commissioners and research sites be undertaken to assess their capacity to accept additional places; and
- Information on the Manchester response to this announcement to expand the trial and a description of the next steps, including the consideration to be given to improving access and pre booking appointments.

Members of the Committee noted that whilst they fully supported the extension of the trial, even with a doubling of the size the demand and waiting lists remained significantly high. A Member further commented that in reality the number of people who would benefit from PrEP would be higher still. The Committee were unanimous in calling for the national roll out of PrEP, appropriately funded by the NHS.

Dr Ward responded to comments from the Committee by stating that it was recognised that many people were registered on more than one waiting list to be accepted onto the trial. He said that to address this, work was ongoing to establish one waiting list across Greater Manchester that could be centrally administrated to remove any duplication. He said that whilst people remained on the waiting list they were encouraged to purchase PrEP online, noting that regrettably there were cases where people had contracted HIV whilst on the waiting list. He said that for those people who could not afford to purchase PrEP at approximately £19 per week, applications could be submitted to the Terrence Higgins Trust hardship fund, and if successful the individual would be provided with a code that they could use to purchase PrEP online. Dr Ward further stated that consultants would support those smaller clinics to deliver any extended programme.

In response to a question from a Member regarding follow up appointments, Dr Ward informed the Committee that nobody was compelled to attend appointments, however national guidance recommended 3 monthly follow up appointments. He said part of the study was also to understand people's patterns of behaviour when taking PrEP, noting that people's attitude and understanding of risk changed depending on their relationship status.

Members noted that the number of trial places for people not in the category of 'Men who have sex with men' (MSM) were not recruited to in the majority of trial locations. Dr Ward commented that these places could not be reallocated to MSM patients, however work was ongoing with a range of partners to reach out to other groups identified as being of a high risk of contracting HIV, commenting that if a person came forward that met the criteria they could be allocated a place on the trial immediately as there were currently no waiting lists for this cohort. He further advised that MSM in central Manchester were aware of PrEP, however this was not always the case in other areas of Greater Manchester and work was ongoing to train health professionals on the subject of PrEP so they could raise awareness of this with patients identified as being at risk.

The Director of Population Health and Wellbeing stated that Sexual Health services were underfunded nationally and the contingency fund of £25k identified to support the additional trial clinics would invariably have an impact on the delivery of other services. He said that lobbying was ongoing to secure additional funding from NHS England. Members commented that the funding arrangements were grossly unfair, unsustainable and ultimately put peoples' lives at risk and made reference to the motion adopted by Council at their meeting of 30 January 2019.

The Executive Member for Adult Health and Wellbeing commented that lobbying of central government for adequate funding was also ongoing at a Greater Manchester level, commenting that the decision not to fund this service could be seen as an ideological decision by the government.

Decision

The Committee notes the report.

HSC/19/13 Winter Pressures

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Performance and Quality Improvement and the Integrated Commissioning and Chair of the Manchester / Trafford Urgent and Emergency Care Board that provided an overview of urgent care winter pressures for 2018/19.

Matthew Swanborough, Director of Corporate Resilience, MFT referred to the main points of the report which were: -

- Information on the joint system-wide planning taken across the Manchester urgent care system;
- The surge and escalation approach taken in order to manage periods of pressure; and
- The resulting impact on the 4 hour performance target in Accident and Emergency Departments (A&E).

Members noted that the report did not contain any comparative data which made it very difficult to assess any improvements in performance. Paul Thomas, Urgent Care System Resilience Manager, MHCC stated that in line with national reporting the performance against targets was reducing. He further informed the Committee that a full analysis of the 10 key interventions that had been agreed across the health and social care system for winter would be undertaken.

Dr Rosemary Morton, Emergency Medical Consultant, MFT stated that there had been a 7% increase in the number of attendees at A&E, stating that those patients attending A&E had higher medical needs. She described that patients would be assessed and treatment provided was based on the patients clinical need, which made the 4 hour performance target to a certain extent meaningless.

Dr Morton explained that the majority of problems experienced in hospitals could be attributed to patient flow throughout the whole hospital. She said that work was

ongoing to address this, stating that a discharge lounge had been established to facilitate patient discharge in the mornings to free up bed space. She commented that improved patient flow improved the overall efficiency of a hospital.

Dr Morton addressed a question from a Member regarding the number of patients attending A&E for non emergency issues. She said that whilst this was always subjective, initial analysis of the available data indicated that many people attended A&E as they were unable to secure an appointment with their GP. She said more needed to be done to make people aware of other sources of non emergency health advice and care, such as pharmacies.

Mark Edwards, Chief Operating Officer, Manchester Local Care Organisation (LCO) stated that the continued development and delivery of the LCO would significantly support the pressures experienced by A&E Departments, especially for frail and elderly patients who presented. He said that the emerging model of care, delivered in neighbourhoods would identify care needs and deliver support and care for people to help them remain in their own home and community, supported by a range of appropriate, multi-disciplinary health and social care teams.

Marie Rowland, Associate Director of Performance stated that improvements had been made in regard to the treatment of patients presenting at A&E with mental health issues. She said that feedback from patients, families and carers had been very positive. She said that the delivery of an improved patient care pathway demonstrated the commitment to responding to mental health in the same way as physical health.

Matthew Swanborough, Director of Corporate Resilience, MFT responded to a question regarding the number of readmissions following discharge by stating that this was actively monitored and the rates of readmissions across the MFT site were low. He further replied to a question by confirming that the winter period was defined as December to April.

The Executive Member for Adult Health and Wellbeing stated that the continued commitment to delivering a seven day GP service would help divert people away from attending A&E unnecessarily, noting that the pressures experienced at hospitals were not confined to a four month period but were experienced all year. She also stated that work was ongoing to address the issue of recruiting and retaining staff by promoting the profession and the place as an attractive career option. She described that work was being delivered at a GM level to address this national issue and made reference to the 'Be a Greater Manchester Nurse' campaign.

Decisions

1. The Committee notes the report.
2. Requests that an update report is submitted in a years time and that the report contains comparative performance data against previous years.

HSC/19/14 Care Homes

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Adult Services that highlighted the current Care Quality Commission (CQC) and Manchester Health and Care Commissioning (MHCC) quality compliance status of the nursing and residential care homes across Manchester and explained the efforts being made to support and improve the standard of care and quality for the residents in receipt of those services, noting that the Our Manchester ambition was for all care homes to achieve good or outstanding CQC ratings within the next 2 years.

The Director of Adult Services referred to the main points of the report which were: -

- Providing information on the current CQC rating of the nursing and residential care homes across Manchester and explaining the efforts being made to support and improve the standard of care and quality for the residents in receipt of those services;
- Describing the work undertaken by the performance and quality improvement (PQI) team with the inadequate care homes of Manchester since April 2017, had seen the reduction of the 7 providers we started with, to the current 1 that is in the City and was inspected in December 2018;
- Providing information on the PQI framework for adult social care (ASC). Describing that the framework brought health and social care colleagues closer together, and focused efforts in areas that needed it the most, such as care homes that were rated as “inadequate” or “requires improvement” with the CQC;
- All homes that had a “require improvement” rating from the CQC had been visited during 2018/19 in a prioritised order and were subject to a high level of scrutiny by the care home improvement group;
- The ASC PQI team were currently working with the two main tools within the framework to assess and monitor quality across the sector with care homes being the first cohort of providers;
- Information on the current CQC ratings for care homes in Manchester as of February 2019, noting that self-assessment used by the care homes rated as good and outstanding had also proven effective as services maintained their outcome following recent inspection;
- Describing the work undertaken at a Greater Manchester level to develop good practice;
- Describing the new models of care with future commissioning of care homes offering a more holistic approach to care placement and monitoring, in line with Our Manchester values; and
- Future improvement initiative.

Members welcomed the improvements reported to date and supported the stated ambition for all care homes to achieve good or outstanding CQC ratings within the next 2 years, noting that this demonstrated an Our Manchester approach to delivering improvements. A Member commented that consideration also needed to be given as to where Care Homes / Residential Homes were located as this was very important to people in receipt of care and their families.

A Member commented that it was very important to recognise that Care Home systems could be very difficult for families of those receiving care to navigate and it was important to remember at all times that it was people, who were potentially vulnerable who were in receipt of care in such places. The Director of Adult Services acknowledged and agreed with this comment.

The Director of Adult Services further referenced that the MLCO, MHCC and Manchester Metropolitan University had co-produced teaching care home packages which had prioritised the top 5-10 nursing and residential care settings that admitted the most number of patients into the Manchester Royal Infirmary, North Manchester General Hospital and Wythenshawe. The educational packages would be delivered by experts in subject areas such as catheter care, wound care, mobilisation, nutrition and hydration, dementia care and so forth.

The Performance and Quality Improvement Manager, Adult Social Care responded to questions from the Committee regarding sharing good practice and experience across care homes to help improve and maintain standards. He said that a 'buddy scheme' had been established to support homes identified as requiring improvement following inspection. A Member commented that those homes that had moved from a requires improvement rating to a good or outstanding CQC rating should be used as a 'Buddy' as these homes had successfully undertaken an improvement journey.

In response to a question from a Member, the Performance and Quality Improvement Manager, Adult Social Care informed the Committee that they actively worked with the CQC post inspection to address any issues identified and on occasion had successfully challenged ratings. He stated that the predominate issue identified for improvement by the CQC related to the category of 'Well Led' and work was ongoing across providers to address this.

The Executive Member for Adult Health and Wellbeing stated that a report on the ongoing Bed Based Review, that focused on the entire continuum of provision that was not either delivered within a person's home (e.g. homecare / domiciliary care) or within an acute setting and for which the person required a bed would be submitted to the Committee for consideration at an appropriate time.

Decision

The Committee notes the report.

HSC/19/15 Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

Decision

To note the report and approve the work programme.

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 5 February 2019

Present:

Councillor Stone – in the Chair
Councillors Hewitson, T Judge [CYP/19/09 - CYP/19/12], Lovecy and Sadler

Co-opted Voting Members:

Mrs J Miles, Representative of the Diocese of Salford
Dr W Omara, Parent Governor Representative
Ms Z Stepan, Parent Governor Representative

Councillor Bridges, Executive Member for Children's Services
Councillor Ollerhead, Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources
Councillor Rahman, Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure

Professor Craig Harris, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning (MHCC)

Apologies:

Councillors Alijah, McHale and Madeleine Monaghan
Mr A Arogundade, Parent Governor Representative
Mr L Duffy, Secondary sector teacher representative
Mrs B Kellner, Representative of the Diocese of Manchester
Mr R Lammam, Primary sector teacher representative

CYP/19/8 Minutes

The Chair informed Members that the session on the number of children becoming Looked After, which had taken place the previous week, had been very useful and that the presentation slides had been circulated to all Members.

Decision

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2019.

CYP/19/9 Updated Financial Strategy and Directorate Business Plans 2019-20

Further to item CYP/18/63, the Committee received a report of the Chief Executive and City Treasurer which provided an update on the Council's financial position and set out the next steps in the budget process, including scrutiny of the draft budget proposals and Directorate Business Plan reports by the Committee.

The Committee also received a report of the Strategic Director for Children's and Education Services which set out in broad terms the directorate's key priorities, key activities and revenue and capital strategy for 2019-20; within the context of the Directorate Business Plan for the period 2017-20 and proposed savings. In addition, the report set out both the progress made to date in delivering identified savings and

focus for the final year of the three-year plan; refreshing the Directorate's Business Plan for 2018-20 in the context of changing resources, challenges and opportunities.

The Committee also received a report of the Director of Education which provided a summary of the confirmed Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) grant allocation from the 2019-20 settlement announced on the 16 December 2018 and the budget allocation across individual school budgets (ISB) and Council retained schools budget (RSB) which was reported to Schools Forum on 14 January 2019.

The Committee was asked to consider and make recommendations to the Executive on the budget proposals which were within its remit and to comment on the Directorate Business Plans which have been designed to ensure the Council invested in the services that were valued by its residents, achieving both high quality services and outcomes for residents as well as a balanced budget.

The Executive Member for Children's Services, the Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources and the Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure outlined the context of the reports, in particular the financial challenges the Council was facing. The Strategic Director for Children's and Education Services and the Head of Finance provided Members with an overview of the reports.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- To welcome the additional funding for Children's Services and to note the importance of budget saving targets being realistic;
- How inclusion of pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) could be improved;
- To request information on how school funding per pupil had changed in recent years;
- That some schools had a significant underspend on their budgets, which could be utilised elsewhere; and
- To thank Executive Members and officers for their hard work in developing the draft budget proposals and business plans in difficult financial circumstances.

The Strategic Director for Children's and Education Services reported that there was an increased demand for school places for children with SEND and drew Members' attention to the work taking place to increase the number of places in special schools and alternative provision; however, he reported that the aim was that children with SEND be integrated into mainstream schools wherever possible. The Head of Finance reported that, while school funding had increased, the number of pupils had also risen. She informed Members that she would provide details of school funding per pupil in recent years.

The Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure reported that the Council had been working with schools which had a significant underspend on developing their plans for these funds and that, in some cases, schools had agreed to give the funds to the Council to re-allocate it to where it was needed.

Decisions

The Committee:-

1. Supports the draft budget proposals and the Children and Education Services Business Plan.
2. Supports the proposals set out in the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) report, while noting that more funding was needed for the DSG, the High Needs Block and the Early Years Block and that Members would continue to lobby and challenge the government on this.
3. Asks the Head of Finance to provide details of school funding per pupil in recent years.

CYP/19/10 Children's Services Proxy Targets

The Committee received a presentation from the Deputy Director of Children's Services which provided proxy indicators on progress to improve children's services.

Officers referred to the main points and themes within the presentation which included:

- Registrations for Early Help Assessments (EHAs);
- The reduction in referrals to children's social care;
- The reduction in the number of Children Missing from Home;
- The reduction in first time entrants to the Youth Justice System; and
- The formulation of the new Inclusion Strategy.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- That the way the information was provided in the scorecard was very useful;
- Request for clarification on the time period that the data related to;
- How children who were Missing From Education were tracked, particularly if they had left the city and their whereabouts was unknown;
- The capacity of the Early Help Hubs to expand to undertake more work; and
- When was the Inclusion Strategy due to be published.

The Deputy Director of Children's Services clarified that the data was a snapshot from a particular day, not aggregated figures. The Director of Children's and Education Services reported that the Council had a Casework Team which dealt with children who were Missing From Education. He informed Members that children who left the city remained on their caseload until the Council found out where they were, for example, if a new school requested their records or if it was confirmed that the

child had left the country. He reported that the team undertook enquiries with a range of bodies, including the UK Border Agency, other local authorities and the police to locate children. He suggested that the Committee might want to consider having a report on the strengthening of the safeguarding arrangements in relation to this. He informed Members that Early Help was not a service but a way of working and that the focus was on effective partnership working. The Executive Member for Children's Services informed Members about a recent school visit he had undertaken and advised Members that schools were already doing a lot of work to support families which was not currently recorded in the Early Help data. The Chair noted the value of visiting schools and reported that a date would be arranged for the Committee to visit St Brigid's RC Primary School.

The Strategic Director of Children's and Education Services reported that the Inclusion Strategy should be ready in time for the Committee's May 2019 meeting.

Decisions

1. To receive a report at a future meeting on the systems in place to safeguard children who are Missing From Education and whose whereabouts are unknown.
2. To receive the Inclusion Strategy at a future meeting.
3. To request that a visit be arranged to St Brigid's RC Primary School.

CYP/19/11 Edge of Care Services

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director of Children's Services which provided an update on the services and interventions supporting children on the edge of care (at risk of becoming 'looked after'). The report covered the range of approaches utilised and the impact achieved from the services and interventions, and outlined new innovations being developed in Greater Manchester. The report addressed challenges and provided evidence of impact and value for money from the interventions.

Officers referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:

- Governance and accountability arrangements;
- Value for money;
- The Edge of Care Panel;
- Edge of Care services and interventions;
- An analysis of admissions and discharges into the Looked After system;
- The impact from Edge of Care interventions; and
- New developments.

The Manager of Alonzi House outlined the services that Alonzi House provided to families whose children were at risk of becoming 'looked after' and provided anonymised examples of families that had been supported. She informed Members

how staff built relationships with the families, listened to the views of the child and the parents to understand what was going on within the family and supported them to work through their problems.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- To welcome the good work outlined in the report and to recognise the important role of Early Help in improving outcomes for children;
- Request to visit Alonzi House; and
- To ask for an update on the implementation of the "No Wrong Door" model.

The Strategic Head of Early Help reported that Alonzi House already had a lot of elements of the "No Wrong Door" model. She informed Members that the Council would retain the best parts of Alonzi House's current work but that this new model provided the opportunity to do more, for example, in relation to services for young people with complex mental health problems. She outlined the work taking place with partners to progress this and reported that this model was expected to be fully implemented by April 2019.

Decisions

1. To thank the Manager of Alonzi House for her hard work and to request that she and the Strategic Head of Early Help pass on the Committee's thanks to all staff working at Alonzi House and in Early Help.
2. To request a further report in the new municipal year to update Members on the progress and impact of this work.
3. To request that a visit be arranged to Alonzi House.

[Councillor Stone declared a personal interest as a Regulation 44 Visitor to Alonzi House.]

CYP/19/12 Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements

The Committee received a report and presentation of the Strategic Director of Children's Services. The report and presentation provided information on the outcome of work by Manchester City Council, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning (MHCC) and Greater Manchester Police (GMP), in consultation with partners and existing Safeguarding Children and Adult Board members, to review existing arrangements, taking into account strengths, areas for improvement and opportunities to align with wider strategic objectives and plans.

The main points and themes within the report and presentation included:

- The case for change;
- The context and statutory requirements;

- The arrangements;
- The capacity to deliver;
- The budget; and
- Transitional and implementation arrangements.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- To note that the proposed structure seemed quite complex and to request further clarification; and
- How GMP would be involved in this work.

Professor Craig Harris from MHCC reported that the proposed structure was simpler than the previous one. He reported that each Board had a lead organisation, with a lead officer assigned, and that the terms of reference and membership would be developed. He reported that the new arrangements brought together the Children's and Adults' Safeguarding Boards and would reduce duplication and enable members of these Boards to focus on strategic rather than operational work. He outlined the involvement of GMP in the new safeguarding arrangements. The Strategic Director of Children's and Education Services reported that GMP were aligning themselves to the Council's locality social work offices and would be building stronger relationships with the social work teams, which would have a positive impact in areas such as domestic abuse.

Decisions

1. To welcome the new safeguarding arrangements outlined in the report.
2. To request an annual report and an update report.

CYP/19/13 Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit was submitted. The overview report contained key decisions within the Committee's remit, responses to previous recommendations and the Committee's work programme, which the Committee was asked to approve.

Decision

To note the report and agree the work programme.

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2019

Present:

Councillor Stone – in the Chair

Councillors Sameem Ali, T Judge, Lovecy, McHale, Madeleine Monaghan and Sadler

Co-opted Voting Members:

Mr A Arogundade, Parent Governor Representative

Mrs B Kellner, Representative of the Diocese of Manchester

Mrs J Miles, Representative of the Diocese of Salford [CYP/19/14 - CYP/19/18]

Dr W Omara, Parent Governor Representative

Ms Z Stepan, Parent Governor Representative

Co-opted Non Voting Members:

Mr R Lammas, Primary sector teacher representative

Mr L Duffy, Secondary sector teacher representative

Councillor N Murphy, Deputy Leader

Councillor Bridges, Executive Member for Children's Services

Councillor Rahman, Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure

Apologies:

Councillors Alijah and Hewitson

CYP/19/14 Minutes

The Chair informed Members that the requested visit to Alonzi House would take place early in the next municipal year. A Member who was also the Chair of the Ofsted Subgroup reported that the Ofsted Subgroup would be receiving a progress update on Lily Lane Primary School at a future meeting in the new municipal year.

Decisions

1. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2019.
2. To receive the minutes of the Ofsted Subgroup meeting held on 29 January 2019.

CYP/19/15 School Governance Update

The Committee received a report of the Director of Education which outlined the support that the Council had provided to assist with the development of effective school governance across the city.

Officers referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:

- Governor recruitment;

- Governor training, development and support; and
- School quality assurance.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- How academies, which were not required to have a local authority governor, were engaged;
- What was being done to fill the school governor vacancies; and
- That Ofsted inspections considered the effectiveness of the governing body and what could be done to address any issues related to the governing body before schools were inspected.

The School Governance Lead reported that, while they were not legally required to have a local authority governor, some multi-academy trusts (MATs) had asked the Council to nominate someone to join their governing body. She reported that the Council had good connections with the MATs in the city and that MAT Chairs attended the Chair of Governors' briefings. She reported that addressing governor vacancies was a challenge as there was a turnover of governors for reasons outside of the Council's control, such as changing family circumstances. She also commented that it was important to ensure that suitably skilled individuals were recruited and were matched appropriately to the right school for them. She outlined the steps being taken to recruit to vacancies, including working with Governors for Schools, using the Manchester Jobs website and working with Manchester Metropolitan University to hold roadshows with their staff to promote the role of school governors. In response to a question from the Chair, she advised Members that most vacancies were in north Manchester but that most volunteers were from south Manchester.

The School Governance Lead reported that the Council's Quality Assurance Team visited schools' governing bodies and offered support where needed. She informed Members that the Council had also provided some schools with funding for an external review of their governing body and that this approach had been praised by Ofsted. The Director of Education outlined how the Support and Challenge Board was engaging with schools, including Chairs of Governors, particularly focusing on schools which were currently judged as "requires improvement" and which were due another inspection.

Decisions

1. To thank the School Governance Lead and the School Governance Unit for their valuable work.
2. To note that Members will consider how they can use their networks to encourage people to apply for governor vacancies, especially in north Manchester.
3. To note that the Committee has previously requested a briefing session on the new Ofsted Framework, to be arranged when the details of the Framework are known, and to request that an invitation to this be extended to all Members.

[Dr Omara declared a personal interest as the Chair of the Manchester Governors Association.]

CYP/19/16 Attainment and Progress 2018

The Committee received a report of the Director of Education which provided an analysis of the 2018 outcomes of statutory assessment at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4. The report also included a summary of performance according to groups by ethnicity.

Officers referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:

- The outcomes of all pupils at every key stage;
- Outcomes for disadvantaged children and those eligible for Free School Meals (FSM);
- Progress for pupils with English as an Additional Language (EAL);
- Outcomes for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND);
- Outcomes for Manchester pupils by ethnicity; and
- Next steps.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- To note that the education system in Manchester had improved in recent years, particularly the primary sector;
- Request for information on the Progress 8 measure;
- What was being done to address the gap in achievement between different groups of pupils;
- The impact of higher-achieving pupils from Wythenshawe choosing to attend secondary schools in neighbouring local authority areas; and
- How the outcomes for pupils with SEND who attended mainstream schools compared with those who attended special schools.

The Head of Schools Quality Assurance and Strategic SEND reported that Progress 8 measured pupils' progress between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 and compared it with the national average progress but did not take into account other factors, such as whether pupils were from a disadvantaged background. She reported that there was a gap between the outcomes of advantaged and disadvantaged pupils in the city, although it was smaller than the gap nationally. She outlined some of the work taking place to improve outcomes, for example, investment in Early Years and schools using their Pupil Premium Funding to improve outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. The Director of Education reported that the percentage of Early Years settings in Manchester which were judged as "good" or better by Ofsted had increased from 64% to 98% in recent years and that this should result in improvements in outcomes as this cohort of children progressed through the education system.

The Director of Education informed Members that children in Wythenshawe primary

schools achieved well but that a significant number of the higher achievers then went to secondary schools in neighbouring local authorities. She reported that work was taking place to support the four secondary schools in Wythenshawe and improve the educational outcomes for the pupils, using a whole community approach. She informed the Committee that this included working with a range of partners, such as housing providers, Manchester Airport, local businesses, youth providers and leisure centres, to promote the importance of education and that this would include positive messages about the local secondary schools.

The Head of Schools Quality Assurance and Strategic SEND reported that it was difficult to compare outcomes for pupils with SEND in mainstream schools to those in special schools as many special schools did not use the same measures; however, she reported that Manchester's special school sector was one of the city's strengths with National Leaders of Education working in the sector and that these Leaders would be providing support to mainstream schools on their provision and teaching for pupils with SEND.

Decisions

1. To thank staff and students for their hard work over the past year.
2. To request information in a future report on the performance of pupils with SEND in special schools compared to those in mainstream schools and further information on the progress and outcomes for children from ethnic groups which are currently performing less well, including white British children.
3. To receive a report on the work taking place to support the four secondary schools in Wythenshawe and improve the educational outcomes for the pupils, including any good practice which can be shared with other areas of the city.

CYP/19/17 Manchester Youth Justice Service

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services which provided an update on the work and strategic priorities of the Youth Justice Service including the findings of the recent inspection, the wider review of the service that was planned prior to the announcement of the inspection and the progress achieved in reducing re-offending rates.

Officers referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:

- Performance and impact in relation to the strategic objectives set by the national Youth Justice Board;
- The inspection of Manchester Youth Justice Service by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP);
- HMIP's findings and recommendations;
- The review of the Youth Justice Service; and
- Developments in Youth Justice Services across Greater Manchester.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee's discussions

were:

- The concerns raised by the HMIP inspectors about the service's premises in north Manchester;
- Whether progress had been made in filling vacancies;
- What was being done to address the number of young people with SEND who were in the Youth Justice System; and
- Work with partner agencies to reduce the over-representation of black and minority ethnic (BME) young people in custody.

The Strategic Lead for Early Help and Youth Justice outlined the incident at the service's north Manchester premises which took place during the inspection. She reported that some of the work with young people which had previously taken place at that premises had now been moved to a different venue and that, following a risk assessment and consultation with the Council's Health and Safety team, additional security had been put in place at the north Manchester building. She reported that the service was currently in the process of moving out of that premises. She informed Members that the level of staff vacancies was unrelated to this issue as they were in other parts of the service. She reported that the level of vacancies and staff caseloads had improved in recent months and that the service was working to speed up the recruitment process and get new staff in post more quickly.

The Head of Youth Justice informed Members that young people with SEND were over-represented in the Youth Justice System nationally. She reported that Manchester Metropolitan University had led a large piece of work on this and that Youth Justice Services across Greater Manchester were working in partnership with the university to use the research to influence practice. She reported that the Service worked closely with the Education Service to identify young people at risk of entering the Criminal Justice System and was raising awareness with other stakeholders such as the Pupil Referral Units and the police of the issues relating to young people with SEND and the Criminal Justice System.

The Head of Youth Justice reported that BME young people were over-represented in the custodial population both in Manchester and nationally. She reported that her service was looking for any evidence of unconscious bias in its own practices, including pre-sentencing reports, and was also raising awareness with and asking questions of other agencies. She reported that officers in her service would be receiving training on unconscious bias. She also informed Members that the Management Board and all partner agencies would monitor data and work together to address this issue.

Decisions

1. To receive an information report in July and a more detailed report later in the year, provisionally scheduled for September 2019.
2. To request that a future report include further information on what is being done to address the number of young people with SEND entering the Youth Justice System, including further information on the work with Manchester Metropolitan University.

CYP/19/18 Leaving Care Service

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services which provided an update on progress on the Leaving Care Service.

Officers referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:

- An update on the service, including the voice and influence of young people, the workforce and the flexibility and responsiveness of the service;
- An update on work to ensure suitable accommodation for Our Young People (care leavers); and
- Next steps.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- Concern that Our Young People were still facing many of the same challenges which previous generations leaving care had faced;
- To welcome the work to ensure suitable accommodation for Our Young People;
- The importance of access to education, employment and training for Our Young People; and
- What was the impact of extending the provision of support to Our Young People up to the age of 25.

The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services informed Members about work taking place to increase Our Young People's access to employment and training opportunities, including work with the private sector and programmes such as Mind The Gap, which supported young women to move into full-time work or education. He offered to provide further information on the work relating to education, employment and training in a future report to the Committee. The Service Manager emphasised the importance of early intervention and reported on work to ensure that Personal Advisers were able to support young people from aged 14 upwards to identify their career ambitions, including backup plans, and to plot pathways for achieving these.

The Service Manager acknowledged that supporting young people up to the age of 25 represented a challenge for the Leaving Care Service. He reported that the service provided to young people over the age of 21 was needs-led and young person-led, with the young person choosing the level of contact they wanted to maintain; however, he advised that they would be contacted at a minimum once a year. He informed Members that young people over the age of 21 should naturally start to disengage from the service but that the message to the young people was that the service was there if they needed it.

Decision

To request a further report in 6 months' time to monitor the progress being made to improve outcomes for Our Young People.

CYP/19/19 Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit was submitted. The overview report contained key decisions within the Committee's remit, responses to previous recommendations and the Committee's work programme, which the Committee was asked to approve.

The Chair informed Members that this was Mrs Kellner's last Committee meeting, as she was resigning from her post as Co-opted Member for the Diocese of Manchester. He thanked her for her contribution over the years, particularly on the Ofsted Subgroup, where her experience as a former headteacher had been invaluable.

Decision

To note the report and agree the work programme.

Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2019

Present:

Councillor Igbon – in the Chair

Councillors Appleby, Flanagan, Harland, Hassan, Hughes, Jeavons, Kilpatrick, Noor, Reid, Sadler, White and Wright

Councillor S Murphy, Deputy Leader

Councillor Akbar, Executive Member for Neighbourhoods

Councillor Stogia, Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport

Councillor Richards, Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration

Councillor Midgley, Ward Councillor for Chorlton Park

Councillor Shilton Godwin, Ward Councillor for Chorlton Park

Councillor A Simcock, Ward Councillor for Didsbury East

Peter Boulton, Head of Highways, Transport for Greater Manchester

Apologies: Councillors Azra Ali, Chohan, Hewitson, Lyons

NESC/19/07 Sara Todd and Fiona Worrall

In recognition that Sara Todd would be leaving Manchester City Council to take up the position of Chief Executive at Trafford Council, the Chair expressed thanks and appreciation on behalf of the residents of Manchester for all her dedication and hard work over the years and wished her every success in her new role.

The Committee also noted that Fiona Worrall had recently celebrated her thirty year anniversary of working for Manchester City Council. Members congratulated Fiona on this achievement and thanked her for her continued hard work and the support that she had offered the Committee.

NESC/19/08 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2019 as a correct record.

NESC/19/09 Updated Financial Strategy and Directorate Business Plan 2019/20

Further to item NESC/18/52 the Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive and the City Treasurer that provided an update on the Council's financial position and set out next steps in the budget process, including scrutiny of the draft budget proposals and Directorate Business Plan reports by this Committee.

The Committee was invited to consider and make recommendations to the Executive on the budget proposals which were within the remit of this Committee and to comment on the Directorate Business Plans which had been designed to ensure the Council invested in the services that were valued by its residents, achieving both high quality services and outcomes for residents as well as a balanced budget.

The Committee considered in turn the Neighbourhoods Budget and Business Plan, the Strategic Development Budget and Business Plan and the Homelessness Budget and Business Plan.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- Noting that despite continued austerity and years of unfair funding settlements the Council had remained committed to supporting the most vulnerable residents, and acknowledging that investments had been made in services to improve the lives of Manchester residents;
- Support was expressed for the call to regulate bus services across Manchester, noting that areas of the city were underserved and this had an impact on residents' opportunities to access jobs and engage in the city's cultural offer;
- An explanation was sought regarding the highways budget underspend;
- More needed to be done to tackle rogue landlords, noting that vulnerable tenants were often housed in premises that were not suitable;
- Was there an intention to extend the Selective Licensing Scheme for private landlords;
- Supporting the stated commitment given to building social and affordable housing, adding that this needed to be provided across the city;
- Was the funding for homelessness services sustainable in future years;
- Had there been an investment in staff within the homelessness teams to deal with the increased demand on this service;
- Consideration needed to be given to developing a policy to stop placing homeless families into hotels;
- Noting the programme to purchase houses to accommodate homeless families where would these properties be located and would those families be offered support;
- Noting the costs associated with homelessness it was important to acknowledge the wider additional costs to a range of services, including Children's and Health services, that resulted from homelessness;
- Was the number of asylum seekers placed in Manchester known and was the accommodation that they were provided with checked to ensure it was safe;
- Welcoming the support offered to the Lord Mayor's Homelessness Charity by Vincent Kompany whose testimonial dinner had raised £216K for good causes;
- Clarification was sought as to where the proposed additional investment of £0.5m identified within the Neighbourhoods Directorate Business Planning: 2019-20 would be spent and how the impact of this investment would be measured;
- What was the cost to the Council of removing fly tipping;
- Consideration should be given to introducing CCTV at household waste and recycling centres to monitor vehicles and help identify fly tippers;
- Consideration needed to be given to domestic bin sizes to support residents to dispose of their waste appropriately and encourage recycling; and

- The bulky waste collection service needed to be promoted amongst residents, such as applying information stickers on bins.

The Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport said that the budget proposals demonstrated that Manchester City Council was trying to mitigate the continued cuts to public services that had been experienced worst by Labour run authorities. She described that the city was growing with resulting demands on services, however funding had been reduced year on year. She described that the Council had listened to the views of residents throughout previous years' budget consultation exercises and had striven to keep neighbourhoods clean and invested in repairing the highways network, acknowledging the point raised regarding the importance of having a safe and reliable road network for all users. She explained the reasons for the Highways underspend in previous years and how this had been reprogrammed to deliver the programme of works.

The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration welcomed the support for the stated commitment to deliver social and affordable housing for Manchester residents and reiterated the points made regarding the unfair budget cuts year on year. She said that work was being developed to establish an enforcement team specifically for the Private Rented Sector, stating that they had issued over £1/4m in Civil Penalties to landlords to date and once recovered, this money would be reinvested back into the enforcement team. She further informed the Committee that the Council had been successful in a bid to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for further funding for work to address Rogue Landlords.

The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration further commented that an evaluation of the Selective Licensing scheme would be undertaken and this would inform discussions in regard to if this scheme would be extended into other areas and due to the broadening of HMO licencing the team would be expanded to cover the new properties now covered by HMO licencing.

The Deputy Leader responded to the comments regarding the Homelessness Budget paper and commented that the increased rates of homelessness and rough sleeping was a societal issue and the impact of continued welfare reform and that the introduction of Universal Credit had had a significant impact. She said that the budget proposed was designed to protect and invest in services for the most vulnerable people in the city. She said there was a move away from housing families in hotels and work was ongoing to improve temporary accommodation.

The Deputy Leader commented that the intention was to buy houses that were suitable for families and these would be bought where they were available. She said that support was available for families who were homeless and support would be provided as they moved into those properties. In response to the comments raised regarding a further breakdown of the homelessness budget she said this would be provided to the Committee. The Head of Finance commented that there were elements of the homelessness budget that were non-recurring.

The Strategic Lead for Homelessness said that in response to the increase in the number of people presenting as homeless the number of staff at the 'front door' had been increased to deal with the demand. She said that work was underway to deliver

this service in other locations, including developing options with the Local Care Organisation. She described that work was being progressed to increase homelessness prevention, this included a team to deal with Section 21 eviction notices and intervening on behalf of residents and working with Private Landlords to prevent evictions. In response to the question regarding asylum seekers she advised that there was a process in place whereby the location of properties was approved and Manchester was not above the 1:200 limit.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods stated that flytipping was increasingly associated with commercial waste and criminality and consideration was being given as to how interventions, such as CCTV and installing physical barriers could be implemented to address this. He said Manchester remained committed to identifying and prosecuting those responsible for flytipping, commenting that Manchester had been responsible for 10% of all prosecutions nationally.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods said that work would commence to review the size of different bins in passageways to ensure they were sufficient and to promote recycling. He further commented that he would circulate the cost of removing flytipping to the Committee.

In regard to the comments made about the bulky waste collection service the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods stated that a way of maximising the benefits of this would be for residents to 'pool' their allowance, noting that apartment blocks have one free collection allocated per apartment and consideration would be given to how this service could be further promoted amongst residents.

Decision

The Committee;

1. Note the reports and recommend that the comments of the Committee are submitted to the 13 February 2019 meeting of Executive for consideration.
2. Request that the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods provide the Committee with a breakdown of where the proposed additional investment of £0.5m described in the Neighbourhoods Directorate Business Planning: 2019-20 would be spent and how the impact of this investment would be measured;
3. Request that the Deputy Leader provide a further breakdown of the Homelessness Budget.

[Councillor Appleby declared a personal and non prejudicial interest as her partner is employed by Biffa and Councillor Hughes declared a personal and non prejudicial interest as he is employed as a bus driver.]

NESC/19/10 Action to address non-compliance in premises allowing shisha smoking

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Operating Officer, Neighbourhoods that provided an update on the work being carried out to address the issues of non-compliance in shisha cafes across the city.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods referred to the main points and themes within the report which included: -

- The legislative background and health background to tackling smoking, noting that Manchester had the highest premature mortality rates in the country for the three major smoking related conditions: lung cancer, heart disease and stroke;
- Describing the joint approach of the Population Health and Wellbeing Team and the Licensing and Out of Hours teams to address the breaches of the Health Act in some shisha premises, as well as the risks of smoking shisha generally;
- Information on the number of shisha premises per ward;
- Describing shisha smoking in the context of the premises licensing regime and planning legislation;
- The issues and concerns associated with such premises that included health implications, tax avoidance, breaches of planning legislation and immigration offences;
- The multi agency response to these concerns including an update on the Shisha Task Group that provided a forum for partners to share intelligence about these premises and plan multi agency operations;
- Describing the work undertaken to raise public awareness of the health impacts of smoking shisha, noting that recent analysis showed that smoking rates are now highest in age groups under 25; and
- Information on the enforcement activities undertaken by the Licensing and Out of Hours Team that included the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices and prosecutions, accompanied by case studies.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- Information regarding the health implications of smoking shisha should be published in a variety of languages;
- Information was sought regarding the laws relating to shisha premises; and
- What was being done to protect under 18's who attend such premises.

The Head of Planning, Building Control and Licensing informed the Committee that a Premises License was not required as shisha bars generally did not offer any regulated entertainment activities, such as serving hot food after 11pm and/or selling alcohol. However, the Development Compliance Team did investigate alleged breaches of planning control, including, but not limited to, non-compliance with planning permissions, unauthorised operational development, material changes of use of land or buildings and the display of advertisements.

The Head of Planning, Building Control and Licensing advised that in addition to the above, a multi agency approach had been developed with such partners as Greater Manchester Police, The Fire Service and HM Revenue and Customs so that a range

of powers could be exercised to address issues found at such premises in a coordinated and targeted manner.

In response to the comments made regarding the need to safeguard young people the Strategic Lead Compliance, Enforcement and Community Safety said that they did work closely with Children's Services and the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub to address any safeguarding concerns.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods described the significant health dangers associated with smoking shisha, stating that research studies had shown that smoking a shisha pipe for one hour was roughly equivalent to smoking one hundred cigarettes. He acknowledged the comment regarding the information leaflets being available in different languages, stating that this would be reviewed.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods said that whilst smoking shisha was in itself not illegal, it was however very difficult due to the weather to operate such a business legally. He further commented that the approach taken to tackling shisha premises was widely supported by local communities and that action would be taken against any premises who tried to obstruct officers in carrying out their lawful duties.

Decision

To note the report.

NESC/19/11 Scheme Review – Princess Road / Princess Parkway (Speed Limit Reduction)

The Committee considered the report of the Operational Director of Highways that provided a review of the speed limit reduction scheme that had been implemented on the A5103 Princess Road and the impact on two adjacent roads (Alexandra Road South and Nell Lane). The speed limit along Princess Road was recently reduced from 40 mph down to 30mph, implemented on the 30 April 2017 via the introduction of a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO). This temporary order was put in place as a safety precaution while the permanent order was progressed.

The scheme was developed in response to public concerns around road safety, and in particular the safety of pedestrians crossing Princess Road. The severity of the concerns had been heightened by two fatal collisions involving pedestrians at the Darley Avenue crossing in December 2015 and December 2016.

Officers referred to the main points and themes within the report which included: -

- Providing a background and rationale for introducing the speed limit;
- Data on traffic counts for periods prior to the introduction of the limit and post introduction;
- Comparative collision data analysis;
- Comparative data of vehicle volume and speed;

- Noting that the reduction in speed limit on Princess Parkway / Road, appeared to have had a positive effect in reducing the severity of collisions, which would correlate with a reduction in the overall speed of vehicles; and
- Overall there was a small reduction in the average vehicle speeds on Princess Parkway / Road, but generally these are not significant.

The Committee then heard from three local ward Councillors who had been invited to share their views and experience following the speed limit change. The three Members stated that the introduction of the speed limit had been very positive for local residents and shared with the Committee the comments received from residents. These included the reduced noise levels, a safer environment for pedestrians and safer crossings. The Members thanked officers for delivering the scheme and suggested that more should be done to publicise enforcement activity and that Greater Manchester Police should support residents undertaking speed watches in their communities.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- Thanking those residents and ward Members who had been instrumental in campaigning for the reduction in the speed limit;
- Members of the Committee whose wards had been affected by the change welcomed the reduction in the speed limit;
- Was consideration been given to implementing similar speed restrictions on other arterial roads in Manchester;
- Members would welcome the introduction of speed restrictions on roads that led off Princess Road;
- Had any analysis been undertaken to understand the levels of traffic displacement following the introduction of the speed restriction;
- Expressing disappointment that Greater Manchester Police were not in attendance, noting that enforcement of this scheme was important;
- Members identified a number of locations along the route that they suggested may need to be reviewed to ensure they remained safe and requested that officers undertook this review; and
- Was this work coordinated with Highways England and neighbouring authorities.

The Director of Operations (Highways) welcomed the positive comments received regarding the scheme. He advised that nationally funding for such schemes had reduced however consideration would be given to prioritising future schemes and that the Committee would be informed as these plans developed.

The Head of City Wide Highways responded to questions stating that analysis of displaced traffic would continue and be reported in future update reports, and this analysis would inform the design of future schemes. He commented that officers were working with ward members and residents in Hulme to deliver further road safety improvements. He confirmed that the department did work with other neighbouring authorities and Highways England. In regard to speed cameras the Committee were informed that there were strict criteria that had to be met before these could be installed, however mobile cameras could be deployed. In response to the areas identified for further inspection by Members he gave an assurance that these would be investigated.

The Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport informed the Committee that GMP had been invited to attend the meeting and contribute to the discussion, unfortunately however they had been unable to attend. She commented that she supported the call from Members for GMP to deliver targeted campaigns to address speeding and support residents organising speed watch campaigns.

Decision

The Committee;

1. Welcome the reported road safety improvements along the Princess Road / Princess Parkway;
2. Recommend that the displacement of traffic continues to be monitored and analysis of this data is provided in a future update report;
3. Recommend that officers explore the options for establishing an online resource to enable residents to provide feedback on this scheme and any future scheme;
4. Recommends that officers in consultation with Greater Manchester Police install road safety cameras where appropriate to improve road safety; and
5. To request an update report in 12 months' time.

NESC/19/12 Highways and the flow of traffic across the city

The Committee considered the presentation slide pack that had been submitted by Transport for Greater Manchester that described how traffic flow was managed and monitored through the city.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- Welcoming the continued development of the City, recognising that it demonstrated the success of the city, however noting that such development needed to be delivered in a managed and coordinated way so as to minimise disruption to residents;
- Consideration needed to be given as to how planned works were communicated to residents, noting that complaints arose when this failed to be done adequately and if appropriate a Task and Finish Group would be established, at an appropriate time to review this activity;
- Local residents needed to be involved at an early stage in discussions regarding planned works, noting that meetings with residents and developers had proven beneficial to minimise issues and prevented problems escalating;
- Major schemes, such as Hyde Road needed to involve neighbouring authorities to deliver this scheme with minimum disruption;
- Consideration needed to be given to suspending bus lanes to facilitate the flow of traffic;

- Legal advice should be obtained regarding Stopping Up Orders and the time limits contractors and developers were permitted to close the highway and a review of all Stopping Up Orders issued should be undertaken to establish if there had been any breaches of such orders;
- A minimum standard should be agreed for the provision of alternative footpaths during works, noting that alternative footpaths needed to be safe for all users and include the provision of lighting; and
- The Leader of the Council should be invited to any future meeting when this subject was discussed to explain how developments had been modelled; the timetable for the delivery of the various schemes; what assessment of traffic displacement had been undertaken and how this was to be managed to minimise disruption.

The Director of Operations (Highways) acknowledged the comments raised regarding the need to improve communications with residents regarding planned highway improvement work to minimise complaints from residents and local businesses. He advised that works are coordinated with TfGM and utilities companies to minimise disruption and programme meetings are regularly convened to manage larger schemes and events.

The Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport acknowledged that disruption did occur during development and roadworks, noting that developments would always be accompanied by utilities works and to highlight the scale of this challenge to manage the disruption she reported that 86 permits are issued per day to contractors. In addition, she commented that in addition to planned works utilities companies also responded to emergency works.

Decision

The Committee;

1. Recommend that legal advice is obtained in relation to Stopping Up Orders issued under provisions within the Town and Country Planning Act and the time limits contractors and developers are permitted to close the highway. Following this advice, a review of all Stopping Up Orders issued should be undertaken to establish if there had been any breaches of such orders;
2. Request that The Leader of the Council is invited to any future meeting when this subject is discussed to explain how developments had been modelled, the timetable for the delivery of the various schemes, what assessment of traffic displacement had been undertaken and how this was to be managed to minimise disruption;
3. To consider establishing a Task and Finish Group, at an appropriate time to consider the communications strategy for when planned major developments are to be delivered.

NESC/19/13 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

Decisions

The Committee notes the report and approve the work programme.

Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2019

Present:

Councillor Igbon – in the Chair

Councillors Azra Ali, Appleby, Chohan, Flanagan, Harland, Hassan, Hughes, Jeavons, Kilpatrick, Lyons, Noor, Reid, Sadler, White and Wright

Councillor S Murphy, Deputy Leader

Councillor Stogia, Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport

Councillor Richards, Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration

Councillor Paul, Ward Councillor for Withington

Jonny Sadler, Manchester Climate Change Agency

Apologies: Councillor Hewitson

NESC/19/14 Minutes

A recommendation was proposed and seconded to amend a section within item NESC/19/09 to the following:

The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration welcomed the support for the stated commitment to deliver social and affordable housing for Manchester residents and reiterated the points made regarding the unfair budget cuts year on year. She said the enforcement team had issued over £250,000 in Civil Penalties to landlords to date and once recovered, this money would be reinvested back into the enforcement team. She further informed the Committee that the Council had been successful in a bid to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for further funding for work to address Rogue Landlords.

The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration further commented that an evaluation of the Selective Licensing scheme would be undertaken and this would inform discussions in regard to if this scheme would be extended into other areas, and due to the broadening of HMO licencing the team would be expanded to cover the new properties now covered by HMO licencing.

Decisions

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2019 as a correct record subject to the above amendment.

To note the minutes of the Behaviour Change and Waste Task and Finish Group meeting of 21 January 2019.

NESC/19/15 Update on Homelessness and Housing

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Adult Services and the Strategic Director, Development that provided an update on the work that was taking place to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping in the City; the use of temporary accommodation within the homeless service, including the inspection regime; and an update on Manchester Move and the Social Housing Allocations Policy.

The Deputy Leader referred to the main points and themes within the report which included: -

- Homeless presentations had continued to rise compared to the previous financial year, in common with the growing picture across Greater Manchester and the UK;
- Describing the work that was taking place to support people who were sleeping rough in the city;
- An update on the Bed for Every Night initiative and the provision from April 2019;
- An update on the Rough Sleeping Initiative;
- The work progressed to work with the two Coroners for Manchester in order to improve the investigation and monitoring of homeless deaths;
- An update on dispersed temporary accommodation and the ongoing work to improve the standard of this accommodation;
- Information on the inspection of properties and the action plan that was being progressed;
- Describing the activities to safeguard families in dispersed accommodation;
- The approach taken to increase the number of large homes available for rehousing homeless families;
- An update on Bed and Breakfast Accommodation, noting there had been a significant increase in the number of single presentations occurring in January 2019;
- Describing the work to establish a hospital discharge protocol to reduce the number of people who present as homeless upon discharge from hospital;
- An update on Homeless Commissioned Services;
- The joint work with Children's Services to develop a new pathway model which will better meet the needs of all young people in the city, including care leavers and young people with complex needs;
- The work of the Section 21 team that had been established within the Housing Solutions service to work with households who had received a valid S.21 notice but remained in occupation of that property prior to eviction through the courts system;
- An update on the work of the Private Rented Sector team;
- Information on the Homefinder service and how this could be used as a resource to secure accommodation for homeless households;
- Describing the initiative to maximise Social Housing Stock;
- An update on Manchester Move, the Manchester Housing Allocation Scheme that set out the principles and rules by which people apply for social housing, including who qualified to join the housing register and how the Council prioritises who got a home;
- An update on Social Housing in Manchester, noting that there was currently under 68,000 social homes in Manchester; and

- Information on the Manchester Housing Register (MHR) and choice-based lettings (CBL) noting that the allocations scheme was currently being reviewed given the rising levels of homelessness and the cost of providing temporary and supported accommodation.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- Homelessness was an issue that was taken very seriously by the Council and despite the continued funding cuts remained committed to addressing;
- Did the Outreach Team work outside of the city centre area;
- What was the current case load for floating support workers;
- A visit for Committee Members to meet the Floating Support Teams and accompany them during visits should be arranged;
- Did people accessing services need to pay any fee and/or travel costs, as there was a conception amongst some members of the public that this was the case;
- Was data available on the age, gender and race of people who were homeless;
- What standards were applied when assessing temporary accommodation to ensure it was appropriate and safe for people;
- The numbers of Section 21 notices issued (notice to quit an assured short hold tenancy) appeared to be increasing and what was being done to support people who were issued with one by their landlord;
- What was being done to understand the lessons learnt following the death of a homeless person;
- Further information was sought on the progress to purchase properties to accommodate larger families;
- What support was offered to people who presented as homeless but did not have a Manchester connection;
- What support was being offered to pay for transport costs for travel to school for those families who were temporarily accommodated out of area;
- Were homeless people involved in the design of services and were homeless people being engaged with in the City Centre Public Space Protection Order consultation exercise;
- Noting that people could have to wait a long time to have their homeless assessments completed when attending the Town Hall and this could be stressful and intimidating for people and what was being done to improve this;
- What was being done to support those individuals and families who were homeless as a result of domestic violence and abuse; and
- What was the time scale to complete the reported action plan that had been put in place to work with emergency accommodation owners to improve standards in accommodation.

The Deputy Leader stated that the A Bed for Every Night (ABEN) had been designed to provide a bed every night for people sleeping rough in Greater Manchester from early November until the end of March and that funding had been secured to extend this service to the end of April. She stated that this service had proved to be very successful and that this had created further demands on the service that presented a challenge. She confirmed that people did not have to pay a fee to access this service and if referred, assistance with transport costs could be provided. She advised that an analysis of the people accessing this service would be undertaken

and this information would be provided in future reports.

The Deputy Leader recognised the comment regarding the increased use of Section 21 notices by landlords in the Private Rented Sector. She said that a dedicated team had been established to work with people who had been served with a notice and to date 58 households had been supported. She informed the Committee that it had been established that approximately half of the notices issued were invalid and, of the ones that weren't, officers negotiated with landlords to allow people to remain in the property whilst alternative, appropriate accommodation was secured. She stated that it was very important to refer people as early as possible for support from this service.

The Director of Housing and Residential Growth further informed the Committee that a wider review of how the Private Rented Sector could be managed and influenced would be undertaken. Members supported this and requested that they be kept informed of this work and consulted with.

The Deputy Leader informed the Committee that the service was working closely with Children's Services to find solutions to the challenges experienced by families who were placed temporarily outside of the area, such as meeting the costs incurred with travel to school. In addition, she reported that work was ongoing with Children's Services to develop a protocol to support young people who were leaving care to protect them from homelessness. She further commented that consideration was being given to commissioning specific housing support for victims of domestic violence and abuse.

The Deputy Leader noted the tragic deaths of homeless people in the city and commented that it was understood that there was a link nationally between deprivation and homeless deaths. She said it would be very difficult to provide analysis of deaths of homeless people by ward level, however there is a thematic Safeguarding Adults Review being undertaken to understand any lessons that could be learnt, noting that this was a very complex issue. Work was also progressing with the Coroner's office to review future any deaths to better understand every incident. She further informed the Committee that she was a member of The Manchester Homelessness Partnership that included people with personal experience of homelessness and Public Space Protection Order would also be discussed at that forum. She stated that the City Centre Public Space Protection Order was designed to address anti-social behaviours and not criminalise homeless people.

The Strategic Lead for Homelessness reported the case-load for floating support staff was currently 36. She said that work was being done to reduce this figure and an additional team had been established to support people moving on into affordable accommodation. She confirmed that the Floating Support Team was proactive and services were delivered in areas outside of the city centre with the same support offered. She supported the recommendation that Members of the Committee visit the Floating Support Team. In response to a request from a Member she confirmed that the Homelessness Prevention Strategy would be circulated to Members for information. She advised the Committee that the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS), a risk-based evaluation tool to help local authorities identify and protect against potential risks and hazards to health and safety from any deficiencies

identified in dwellings was used to assess properties and that information on this would be circulated. She further informed the Committee that a tender document was out for a Registered Housing Provider to take over the management of temporary accommodation, noting that this would allow for the maximum housing benefit to be awarded so the Council would be penalised for the move from the Government Temporary Management Fund to the Flexible Support Grant.

The Strategic Lead for Homelessness said that the Authority had a legal duty to provide advice and assistance to those people that did not have a local connection and that a reconnection service was offered whereby travel costs would be paid to allow people to return to their home area. In response to the comments regarding the requirement to present at the Town Hall for a homelessness assessment she acknowledged the concerns expressed by the Committee. She said that consideration was being given to identifying other appropriate locations where this service could be delivered and to simplify the process for applications as a way of better supporting people, commenting that Centrepoint provided a single point of contact for young people.

The Director for Housing and Residential Growth said that the process for purchasing the 62 homes to accommodate larger families had taken longer than expected due to the need to agree a legal mechanism to protect the Council's c£5m stake and legal agreements needing to be signed off by a number of Registered providers, however this was imminent. He said that it was recognised that this programme was a priority and he understood that Registered Providers had already acquired and identified for acquisition around 10 properties in anticipation of the agreement being signed. Additional properties would continue to be identified for possible purchase. He stated that Members would be kept informed of this progress and agreed to submit a written update to the next Committee meeting.

The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration informed the Committee that a review of the allocations policy would be undertaken that would involve consultation with Members. She said that this needed to be considered in conjunction with the Affordable Housing Policy that had been agreed the previous December. She described that the provision of social housing was being reviewed across Greater Manchester and stated that the Right To Buy scheme needed to end and grant funding was required to build new social housing and replace those properties lost through Right To Buy.

Decision

The Committee;

1. Note the report and support the response to the serious issue of homelessness in the city;
2. Recommend that a visit to the Floating Support Teams be arranged for Members of the Committee;
3. Request the Homelessness Prevention Strategy be circulated to Members; and

4. Request that information on the housing health and safety rating system (HHSRS) be circulated to Members.

[Councillor Azra Ali declared a personal and non prejudicial interest as she is employed by CGL Manchester and the Chair of Saheli Asian Women's Project.]

**NESC/19/16 Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan – Tackling Nitrogen
Oxide Exceedances at the Roadside – Outline Business
Case**

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Solicitor that summarised the key features of Greater Manchester's feasibility study and its Outline Business Case (OBC) to reduce nitrogen dioxide exceedances in Manchester and across Greater Manchester (GM) in the shortest possible time. This OBC had been developed by Manchester City Council collectively with all Greater Manchester local authorities and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), and co-ordinated by Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) in line with Government direction and guidance.

The main points and themes within the report included: -

- Describing the context and background to the report;
- Noting that poor air quality was the largest environmental risk to the public's health;
- The legal background;
- Information on the Government's UK Air Quality Plans;
- Noting that TfGM had been coordinating the GM feasibility study on behalf of the ten Greater Manchester local authorities, who remain legally responsible for reducing NO₂ to legal Limit Values; and
- Noting that the feasibility study process comprised a series of steps and processes, namely: Strategic Outline Case, Initial Evidence and Target Determination, Outline Business Case and Full Business Case.

The Committee had been invited to comment on this report prior to its submission to the Executive on the 13 March 2019.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- Consideration needed to be given to supporting small business through an appropriately funded vehicle replacement scheme;
- Members questioned the reason why private cars were not included in the vehicles affected by the proposed Clean Air Zone;
- Bus companies needed to take responsibility for their polluting vehicles that had a significant impact on the health outcomes of Manchester residents;
- Had social and economic impact assessments been undertaken;
- Priority should be given to supporting local taxi businesses to improve their fleet;
- Transport poverty was an issue and more investment was required in public transport infrastructure across all of the city to encourage people not to use their car and to link people to employment opportunities;

- Publicity campaigns should be targeted at people not using public transport;
- Electric vehicles remained expensive and there was a lack charging points; and
- The consultation exercise, when launched, should involve ward coordination to ensure that as many residents as possible were engaged with this agenda.

The Committee then heard from Councillor Paul, Ward Councillor for Withington. He stated that he was disappointed with the proposals and the outline timescales, commenting that immediate action was required to address the harmful effects of pollution caused by vehicles. He questioned why private cars had not been included in the proposed plan, commenting that the vast majority of vehicles on the road were private cars, and the many of these were not compliant with emission standards. He further suggested that consideration needed to be given to other courses of action, such as introducing car free days.

The Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport stated that buses were one of the biggest contributors to poor air quality, noting the recent press reports that had included statements from local bus companies and said that she had found these to be very disappointing. She described that the objective of any penalty in a Clean Air Zones was for all vehicles which drove within the area of a Clean Air Zone to have engines which complied with emissions standards. The objective of the Clean Air Zone was to bring about reductions in emissions from vehicles and not to raise money. The proposals did not amount to a congestion charge. In regard to the issue of private cars she said that that option would not have delivered compliance any faster than the proposed way forward, and would not perform effectively in terms of reducing human exposure. An important consideration in this respect was that the average private car was not used for 95% of the time whereas other vehicles were used much more intensively.

In response to the comments regarding support for sole traders and small businesses she said that Clean Air Zones would not be introduced without the correct funding package for such businesses being supported by central government.

The Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport said that a communications campaign had been launched before Christmas that had been well received and a further campaign would be launched from May to coincide with the public consultation exercise that would then inform the final plan.

The Head of City Policy informed the Committee that work was currently ongoing across Greater Manchester to consider standards for the taxi trade and this included discussions regarding emissions standards. He indicated that funding to help taxi and private hire drivers transition to cleaner vehicles would only be made available to vehicles registered in Greater Manchester. This may be one measure that will support efforts to reduce the number of vehicles that are registered with authorities outside Greater Manchester operating here. He further informed Members that an Equalities Impact Assessment of the proposals had been produced and that this was available as a background document to the report and had been circulated in advance of the meeting. In response to a question from a Member he acknowledged that there were other sources of pollution, however this report specifically dealt with Nitrogen Oxide Exceedances at the roadside, and other policies and strategies would address other sources of pollution.

Decision

The Committee note the report and endorse the recommendations that the Executive:

1. Note that the Council is legally obliged to produce a feasibility study to identify the option which will deliver compliance with the requirement to meet legal limits of nitrogen dioxide following the Secretary of State issuing a direction under the Environment Act 1995;
2. Adopt the feasibility study undertaken to date;
3. Approve the OBC (for submission to the government's Joint Air Quality Unit);
4. Note that further stakeholder engagement and public consultation is an essential part of the process to help inform and refine ongoing work to produce a Full Business Case by the end of the calendar year;
5. Approve the commencement of the public conversation and engagement activity from 15 May 2019;
6. Note that further reports will be submitted to Executive on:
 - a) the proposals for statutory consultation, informed by the outcome of the public conversation and engagement.
 - b) formal approval of the Full Business Case.
7. Agree that Transport for Greater Manchester continue with the activity to produce the Full Business Case on behalf of the ten Greater Manchester authorities, under the direction of the Greater Manchester Clean Air Steering Group; and
8. Delegate to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Executive Member for Transport, Planning and the Environment the approval of submission of supplementary information.

[Councillor Hughes declared a personal and non prejudicial interest as he is employed as a bus driver.]

NESC/19/17 Manchester Zero Carbon 2038 – Manchester City Council's Commitment

The Committee considered the report of the Head of City Policy, that noted that in November 2018, the Committee and Executive had agreed to the establishment of a science-based carbon reduction target for Manchester. This required the city to become zero carbon by 2038. Since then, the Manchester Climate Change Board, with the support of Anthesis, had developed a guide to support organisations in Manchester to play their full part in achieving this commitment. They had also developed a draft zero carbon framework 2020-2038 and started work to produce a draft action plan for 2020-25. This report set out a framework for future action, the citywide progress that had been made since November 2018 and the specific contribution being made by the Council.

The Committee had been invited to comment on this report prior to its submission to the Executive on the 13 March 2019.

Officers referred to the main points and themes within the report which included: -

- Noting that the Our Manchester Strategy set out the vision for Manchester to “be in the top flight of world-class cities by 2025” and committed the city to “playing our full part in limiting the impacts of climate change.”
- The Council supported the Manchester Climate Change Board (MCCB) to take forward work to engage partners in the city to address climate change;
- Noting that the Council had adopted a science-based carbon budget which was developed by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research and committed the city to becoming zero carbon by 2038;
- Manchester’s carbon budget was broken down into short, medium and long term allocations. Each carbon budget outlined the emissions not to be exceeded for each period, in order to ensure that Manchester met its overall emission reduction commitments to 2038;
- Information on the Draft Zero Carbon Framework 2020-2038 and Action Plan 2020-22;
- Information on the Council’s Draft Action Plan, noting the initial action plan which outlined the high level actions that the Council would undertake between April 2019 and March 2020 in order to produce a comprehensive action plan by March 2020;
- This topic should be a regular agenda item at ward coordination meetings to ensure that as many residents as possible were engaged with this agenda; and
- It was recognised that residents needed to be engaged in a meaningful way to ensure they are able to contribute to the ambitious targets.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee’s discussions were: -

- The importance of retrofitting domestic properties and what was being done to support this activity;
- Consideration needed to be given to developing green jobs that could then link into local colleges to develop green skills and employment;
- It was important to engage all sections of the community in this agenda to deliver the required outcomes and Ward Coordination meetings and Neighbourhood Teams should be utilised to raise awareness of this important issue;
- More needed to be done to raise awareness as to the urgency of this issue;
- Expressing concern that the Greater Manchester Pension Fund continued to invest in fossil fuels and what was being done to address this;
- Park and Ride schemes should be established to encourage people to use alternative forms of transport, rather than cars; and
- The Chair suggested that she would meet with the Executive Member to discuss options for progressing this work through neighbourhoods.

The Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport said that she welcomed the continued support and suggestions from the Committee to deliver this important commitment. She informed the Committee that a comprehensive delivery plan would be presented in 2020, however it was important that actions were taken straight away that involved all residents of Manchester in an ‘Our Manchester’ approach. She said the importance of achieving the carbon reductions could not be underestimated and all citizens of Manchester would play an active role in delivering

this. She said the bold and pioneering commitment given by Manchester to adopt a science based carbon budget was recognised both nationally and internationally.

The Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport said that discussions were ongoing with the Greater Manchester Pension Fund regarding their investment in fossil fuels and an announcement on this issue could be imminent. Further information is expected at the Greater Manchester Green Summit on 25 March 2019.

Jonny Sadler, Manchester Climate Change Agency set out the urgency of this agenda; Manchester has formally agreed a science based carbon budget of 15 million tonnes CO₂ for 2018-2100. Annual emissions are currently approximately 2 million tonnes, meaning that the carbon budget will be spent by 2025 unless urgent action is taken. Mr Sadler commented that the leadership in this area expressed by Manchester and the Council was widely recognised nationally and internationally; but that work was needed to maintain this leadership. He noted the carbon budget and the emissions against this to date, stating that actions needed to be implemented immediately to improve emissions and that it was important that Members, with their local knowledge engage with their local residents and businesses to promote this activity, raise awareness and influence behaviour change. In regard to retrofitting housing he advised that Social Housing providers were committed to delivering this, however challenges existed for home owners and those in the private rented sector. He said there were a number of small initiatives to support this but scaling this up is urgently needed, through working with MCC and partners.

Mr Sadler fully endorsed the comments regarding green skills and employment and said that there was an opportunity to ensure these important connections were made in the city's Industrial Strategy. He advised that the importance of reducing carbon emissions was recognised and incorporated into a range of wider policies, such as health, noting that this would also allow partners to think creatively regarding funding opportunities. In regard to comments made regarding the membership of the Manchester Climate Change Board he stated that all partners acted to reduce their own emissions (MCCB members are responsible for 20% of the city's total) and to influence behaviour change across the city. He said that he fully supported Members engaging with their communities to promote this activity and said he would be very keen to encourage them to do more by providing examples of community activities for Members to consider utilising or adapting. He further supported the recommendation proposed by the Chair that carbon reduction should be a standing item at ward coordination meetings.

Decision

The Committee note the report and endorse the recommendations that the Executive:

1. Endorse the draft Manchester Zero Carbon Framework as the city's overarching approach to meeting its science-based climate change targets over the period 2020-38, as part of the wider Our Manchester policy framework;

2. Commit to work with partners to develop the final Framework and Action Plan for 2020-22 by March 2020, at the latest;
3. Commit to implement the Council's actions for 2019/20, as set out in Appendix 2;
4. Commit to produce a detailed action plan for the Council's climate change work during 2020-22, in terms of both direct, organisational emissions; and the influencing and enabling role that the Council can play through its planning, procurement, regulatory and other powers.
5. Commit to work with partners to secure the resources the city requires to commence full implementation of the Framework 2020-38 and Action Plan 2020-22, from April 2020.

NESC/19/18 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

Member's noted that an Annual Work Programming Session was scheduled for the May meeting and requested that the following items should be scheduled for consideration at the appropriate time in the new municipal year; Section 21s, an update on the City Centre Public Space Protection Order consultation exercise, an update on the landlord licensing schemes, Highways Investment Programme update, Cycle Lanes and an update on waste and recycling.

Decisions

The Committee notes the report and approves the work programme subject to the above comments.

Economy Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 6 February 2019

Present:

Councillor H Priest (Chair) – in the Chair
Councillors Connolly, Davies, Douglas, Green, Hacking, Johns, Newman, Paul, Raikes, Razaq, Shilton Godwin and A Simcock

Also present:

Councillor Leese - Leader
Councillor Ollerhead - Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources
Councillor Richards - Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration
Councillor Stogia - Executive member for Highways, Planning and Transport

Apologies: Councillor K Simcock

ESC/19/8 Minutes

In relation to Minute ESC/19/1, Councillor Newman requested that the amendment he requested to the minutes of the meeting on 5 December 2018, be further amended to read as follows:-

- Why was the Local Housing Allowance lower in Wythenshawe in comparison to the rest of the city as this was proving problematic for Wythenshawe residents who were on low incomes.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2019 as a correct record; and
- (2) Requests that Minute ESC/18/56 be further amended as detailed above.

ESC/19/9 Northern Gateway Strategic Regeneration Framework Update

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director (Development), which provided an update of the outcome of the public consultation exercise carried out with local residents, businesses, landowners and key stakeholders, throughout August and September 2018, on the draft Strategic Regeneration Framework (SRF) for the Northern Gateway.

The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration referred to the main points and themes in the report which included:-

- Details of the SRF consultation process and communication methods used;

- A synopsis of the comments received via the consultation questionnaire and community representations, the majority of which were generally supportive of the proposals, and covered the following areas-
 - Housing and density
 - Community and social facilities
 - Accessibility and connectivity;
 - Green spaces and public realm;
 - Neighbourhood management
 - History and heritage of the Northern Gateway area;
- Comments from landowners and businesses received via written representation;
- An overview of statutory agency/stakeholder responses received via written representations; and
- Outcomes from a health stakeholder workshop which focussed specifically on the population health and care impacts of the draft SRF.

The Committee had been invited to comment on the report prior to its submission to the Executive on 13 February 2019.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committees discussions were:-

- It was not felt appropriate for a news bulletin to have been released advising of the Council's intentions in regards to the Northern Gateway prior to these proposals having been through the Scrutiny and Executive processes;
- When would local Ward Councillors be consulted on the content of the proposed consultation;
- Assurance was sought that communities and local councillors would be fully involved in the proposed creation of new communities with their views taken into account;
- Was the low response rate to the consultation considered satisfactory on proposals of this scale;
- The emphasis on the green and blue space within the proposals was welcomed;
- It was pleasing to see proposals for district centres which would be aligned with public facilities;
- Whilst the investment and vision was welcomed, a commitment was sought that the rehousing of any residents would be handled in an appropriate and sympathetic manner;
- Was there any more information on the consultation comments in relation to revenue considerations; and
- Had any conversations started with communities in regards to the development plans.

The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration affirmed her position that she did value the scrutiny process and apologised that the recent press release had not reflected that the proposals would be considered by Scrutiny to allow the Executive to take into consideration any recommendations prior to a decisions being made. She also commented that there had been a number of one to one consultations with each Ward, which took place before Christmas 2018., and the proposals had not changed

since then. It was acknowledged that the communities needed to be at the heart of these proposals, and there had been good attendance at the drop in session that had taken place. Strong feedback had been received from residents around the facilities and support needed, which would be incorporated into how the vision would be developed. A commitment was made to continue to consult with residents as proposals developed.

In terms of the response level to the consultation process, it was reported that a lot of the geography the proposals covered were unpopulated or had a low residential base. In comparison to consultations on other proposals of a similar size, the level of responses that had been received were similar and considered satisfactory. Furthermore, the Committee was advised that the Council had not started any detailed consultations yet on the proposals, what had taken place so far was based on the high level strategic framework, and what was needed next was consulting with residents on detailed phasing plans following Executive approval of phase one.

The Committee was advised that in relation to revenue considerations, it was reported that a place management plan would be critical to address these considerations in order to increase enforcement and tackle issues that were prevalent in the area.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Requests that the Executive ensure that there is continued conversations with local residents and ward councillors on the proposals;
- (2) Endorses the recommendations contained within the report that the Executive:-
 - Note the comments received on the draft SRF and the response to these comments;
 - Note the changes made to the SRF as set out within appendix 4; and
 - Approve the Northern Gateway SRF with the intention that it will become a material consideration in the Council's decision making process as Local Planning Authority.

[Councillor Johns declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in this item as his employer undertook the social economic vision for the Far East Consortium and left the meeting during consideration of this item].

ESC/19/10 Northern Gateway: Implementation and Delivery

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director (Development), which set out details of the Phase 1 Implementation Strategy for the Northern Gateway.

The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:-

- Governance arrangements for the Northern Gateway;

- Phase 1 development activity in years 1 to 5, which included Red Bank and New Town and development in Collyhurst;
- Tenure and typology mix and affordability of new housing;
- The infrastructure and funding required to deliver the Northern Gateway;
- Place management arrangements;
- The required land assembly to deliver Phase 1; and
- Emerging policy context.

The Committee had been invited to comment on the report prior to its submission to the Executive on 13 February 2019.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committees discussions were:-

- Consideration needed to be given as to how the city centre travel plan would impact on the Northern Gateway proposals;
- What role would Rochdale Road have in the proposals as there was a concern that within the Northern Gateway proposals, it was being referenced as an urban avenue but in the Transport Strategy 2040 it was referred to as an express bus corridor and what impact would the Bury and Rochdale allocations in the GMSF have in terms of the use of this road;
- Further details were requested on what were the other mechanisms being explored for the management of open spaces; and
- How was the Strategic Business Plan going to be scrutinised.

The Leader advised that to deliver the targets within the GMSF, there was a large dependence on central Manchester to achieve this and the number of housing units in this plan would be key to deliver these targets. A lot of the work taking place with TFGM at present was to see how a road system could be designed to accommodate public transport, cycling and walking whilst being liveable for those who lived on this route.

The Committee was advised that in terms of the mechanisms to manage open space, this would be dependent on how public open space was to be managed, whether it would be adopted or in some instances, part of private realm. What was recognised would be the need for a clear integrated strategy to place management.

The Leader advised that if this Committee was minded to, it could scrutinise the Strategic Business Plan, but added the caveat that this would need to be undertaken under a Part B item.

Councillors Karney and Flanagan were then invited to address the Committee with their views in regards to the proposals within the Northern Gateway. Both Councillors welcomed the development and regeneration proposals within the Framework. A request was made for Officers to provide more detail to local councillors on the outcome of the consultation that had taken place with local residents.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Requests that the Executive take into account the comments made by the Committee;
- (2) Requests that the outcome of the consultation with local residents is shared with local Councillors on a ward by ward basis; and
- (3) Endorses the recommendations contained within the report that the Executive:-
 - Note the contents of the report and the progress being made to establish appropriate governance and implementation arrangements to secure the delivery of the Northern Gateway initiative;
 - Note that the City Council has submitted an Expression of Interest for the Northern Gateway to be designated for inclusion within the Government's Garden Communities Programme and request that a further report is brought back to a future meeting once the outcome of this submission is known;
 - Note the update provided in relation to the progress being made in developing an application for Housing Infrastructure Fund to support the delivery of the Northern Gateway initiative and to delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer and the Strategic Director, Development to finalise and submit the application to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government by the deadline of 22 March 2019 and to request that a further report on the outcome of this bid is brought to a future meeting of the Executive, together with any proposals for the investment of any funding that is secured;
 - Note the intention to deliver an early phase of development within Collyhurst as well as on the edge of the City Centre and to delegate authority to the Strategic Director, Development in consultation with the Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration and local elected members to identify appropriate locations for the delivery of up to 530 new homes, including up to 130 new Council Houses, within the Collyhurst neighbourhood so that detailed consultations can be undertaken with the local community to draw up proposals for a detailed funding and delivery plan, for consideration by a future meeting of the Executive;
 - Note the intention to prepare a costed schedule of placemaking interventions for the Phase 1 development area which will be used by the Local Planning Authority as the basis for negotiating Section 106 developer contributions. All developments will be expected to provide Section 106 contributions towards the provision of identified placemaking activities;
 - Note the progress being made in assembling land to deliver the objectives of the Northern Gateway programme and to delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer and the City Solicitor, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources to agree and finalise the terms of a commercial loan between the Council and Far East Consortium (FEC) to support land acquisition as part of the Joint Venture programme. Note that approval of the loan would be subject to approval of full Council, requiring a Part B report at the appropriate time and

- Delegate authority to the City Solicitor to enter into and complete all documents or agreements necessary to give effect to the recommendations in this report.

[Councillor Johns declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in this item as his employer undertook the social economic vision for the Far East Consortium and left the meeting during consideration of this item].

ESC/19/11 Consultation on the draft Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) and Manchester Local Plan Review - Update

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director (Development), which provided an update on the progress that had been made with the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) Consultation and how this Framework would provide a context for the preparation by individual authorities of updated Local Plans.

The Head of City Policy referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:-

- The GMSF was currently being prepared as a document jointly 'owned' by the ten Greater Manchester districts;
- The intention was that in the future the GMSF would become the GM Mayor's Plan, called a Spatial Development Strategy (SDS);
- The Spatial Development Strategy would still need support from the leaders of all ten districts and the GM Mayor;
- Each Council Leader had indicated that they would seek the support of their council before giving their endorsement to the GMSF;
- Details of the 2019 Draft Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, which included:-
 - Overall Development Targets;
 - Key Policy Proposals; and
 - Development Proposals for Manchester
- The relationship between the GMSF and Manchester's Local Plan; and
- A timetable of next steps to be taken.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committees discussions were:-

- Was the Council convinced that the city's housing needs would be met within the housing targets;
- What would happen if unanimity across the 10 GM Councils was not achieved;
- What was the current status of the Council's housing vision;
- Were council houses or social housing included within the GMSF housing targets;
- Assurance was sought that the creation and implementation of a GMSF was not the start of centralisation of planning call to a GM regional level; and
- How was the different type of housing demands taken into consideration as part of the GMSF.

The Leader advised that the GMSF would set out the vision for housing across Greater Manchester but would not be a formal planning document and as such, would not permit the GMCA to dictate what the Council could agree to build. He added that the next draft of the GMSF was due in Summer 2019, which would allow for each local authority to comment on the current proposals or make suggested amendments. If the 10 Greater Manchester Councils did not unanimously support the final proposals a fall back option would be to establish a joint development plan which would be created between two or more local authorities.

The Committee was assured that the creation and implementation of the GMSF would not provide any facility for Greater Manchester to take over development control arrangements that currently rested within each local authority

The Leader advised that the total housing figure within the GMSF was an aggregated figure for all 10 GM local authorities, based on an assessment of need and the subsequent land allocation had been identified taking the level of need for each local authority into account. He added that the amount of housing need for Manchester had not altered from the first incarnation of the GMSF in comparison to other GM local authorities.

Decision

The Committee notes the report.

ESC/19/12 Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040: Draft Delivery Plan (2020-2025)

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director, Development and Deputy Chief Executive, which presented the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 Draft Delivery Plan (2020-2025). The Plan had been developed in conjunction with the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) and was an important document in demonstrating how it was intended to effectively integrate new and existing development with future transport investments.

The Head of City Policy referred to the main points and themes within the report, which included:-

- The purpose of the draft Delivery Plan;
- A summary of other GMSF supporting documents that had been prepared to support the proposals within the draft Delivery Plan;
- The content of the draft Delivery Plan;
- Implications for Manchester;
- Details of a proposed light touch consultation on the document which was being undertaken in parallel with the GMSF consultation; and
- Next steps and timescales

Some of the key points that arose from the Committees discussions were:-

- Members were keen to understand how the relationship of this strategy and the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) would develop;

- Had there been any discussions with government around further devolution as referenced in the delivery plan;
- How developed were the proposals for a Metrolink tunnel for the city centre;
- Was there any plans to bring back into use redundant train lines for new tram train provision proposals;
- Had there been any progress with the need to bring about suitable changes to rail capacity to reflect the increased demand in services;
- Did the capacity of the Metrolink provision need reviewing;
- In terms of making improvements to public transport, consideration needed to be given to comfort, safety and cost;
- Members welcomed the emphasis on active travel within the strategy;
- It was felt that critical to the success of the strategy would be the need to reform bus services in Manchester and across the region;
- What happened to the proposed West Wythenshawe Metrolink loop; and
- There was concern that there was barrier to engagement with the proposed consultation as not many people would be aware of the link of the Delivery Plan to the GMSF and it was suggested that consultation on this Delivery Plan should be undertaken alongside the consultation on the GMSF, rather than as a subset of it.

The Leader advised that one of the main aims of tram trains was to relieve congestion on the heavy rail network as it was about increasing Metrolink provision and would only work where there was a discreet railway line that could be taken out of the current rail network to operate exclusively in this way. He added that the Secretary of State for Transport and Department for Transport were in support for developing tram train options.

The Head of City Policy supported the views of Members of the need to deepen the relationships between land use and transport planning through this process. With this delivery plan and the GMSF, Greater Manchester had a holistic plan which enabled the region to demonstrate the need for more transport investment to support growth. He added that to deliver the scale of ambition within the Plan, a recommitment by government to a transport fund for Greater Manchester was needed. In terms of a proposed Metrolink tunnel, he advised that this was still at a conceptual stage.

The Executive Member for Highways, Planning and Transport reinforced the need for investment from government in order to deliver the ambitions within the Plan and committed to work with local councillors to identify innovative ideas for city centre transport.

In relation to railway capacity, the Leader advised that the outcome of a comprehensive review by Network Rail was expected in March 2019, which would fit into the next expenditure round. He advised that it was anticipated that the review would identify the continued need for platforms 13 and 14 at Piccadilly station and that the platforms at Deansgate station required extending. He added that the fundamental problems that existed on the rail network within the city centre where at either ends of the Castlefield corridor, which would need some form of substantial interventions. In terms of capacity on the Metrolink service and intensification of the network, he advised that viable routes were required and following completion of the

Trafford Park line, there would be no capacity to add additional on street services within the city centre on the current network.

Safety and security of public transport users was taken seriously by the Council and TFGM and the Head of City Policy agreed to provide Members with more details on this.

The Leader concluded by advising the Committee that the West Wythenshawe loop had been renamed as the Davenport Green extension and was being considered in conjunction with HS2 proposals.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Endorses the Draft Delivery Plan, particularly in terms of its implications for the city and plans to deliver an effective, inclusive and sustainable transport system;
- (2) Notes the timetable set out in the report for agreeing a final version of the Delivery Plan later in 2019; and
- (3) Requests that Officers relay the views of the Committee back to the GMCA.

ESC/19/13 City Centre Transport Strategy - Feedback from the Responses to the Conversation held in Autumn 2018

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director (Development) and Deputy Chief Executive, which set out the responses to a conversation and engagement exercise to support the development of a refreshed City Centre Transport Strategy. The report also described the proposed next steps in developing an updated transport strategy for the City Centre taking account of the plans for growth.

The Head of City Policy referred to the main points and themes within the report, which included:-

- The rationale as to why it was necessary to review the City Centre Transport Strategy;
- Highlights from the responses to the engagement exercise which included, but was not limited to:-
 - A total of 3700 responses had been received;
 - 90% of respondents identified air quality as an important issue;
 - 80% agreed that improving cycling, walking and public transport infrastructure would be the best way to improve air quality;
 - Congestion and traffic was identified as one of the biggest problems when travelling into and around the city centre;
 - Expanding the public transport network, cheaper and discounted travel and more frequent and reliable services were highlighted as being needed to encourage more people to use public transport to access the city centre;
 - Deansgate was highlighted as the main street in the city centre that had too little space for pedestrians; and

- Next steps, which involved the production of a draft strategy document for consultation that drew on the responses and identified specific schemes that would be needed to support future growth.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committees discussions were:-

- How representative were the findings of the engagement exercise in terms of the demographics of the city;
- A Member felt that the issue with the space available on Deansgate was more to do with the volume of pedestrians rather than the physical width of the pavements;
- There was concern about proposals to take traffic out of the city centre and the impact this could have on Wards on the periphery of the city centre;
- There was concern that the pedestrianisation of roads could lead to increase in ground rents on local businesses;
- There was concern that proposed alterations to networks were not being built with cyclists being taken into account;
- How robust was the data collected from the survey of daily trips into the city centre in morning peak periods and did this data take into account journeys of those people who already lived in the city centre
- A Ward by Ward breakdown of the consultation was requested for Committee Members; and
- How was this strategy going to align with other emerging strategies;

The Leader acknowledged the need to consider the impact in areas surrounding the city centre and referenced that the report had identified that it would be important to consider the complementary measures required in areas surrounding the centre to ensure that any transport impacts that arose from the continuing growth of the city centre were effectively managed. The Executive Member for Highways, Planning and Transport added that the Council was reviewing parking within the city centre and the impact of parking on the periphery of the city centre and agreed to share the findings of this with Members.

The Committee was advised that the main differences of the sample used in the engagement exercise compared to the representative of the city was a slight gender in-balance of responses from men compared to women and respondents aged 25-54 were overrepresented whereas respondents over 65 were underrepresented. Aside from this, the representation of the responses to the engagement exercise was expected.

The Leader commented that rent levels tended to sit alongside the economic success of the city and there was evidence that if undertaken in the right way, pedestrianisation often improved access to businesses. He also added that over the next planning period the dominant form of transport in the city centre should be walking.

The Head of City Policy advised that the survey of daily trips into the city centre in morning peak periods had been undertaken for a number of years now and was a consistent data set, which looked at all the crossing points of the inner ring road. He added that this strategy was seen as a sub strategy of the 2040 Transport Strategy,

which the Council was working alongside TFGM and Salford City Council on its development. The next stage would be to develop specific schemes and proposals.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Notes the report and in particular the responses received to the City Centre Transport Strategy conversation and the proposed next steps in the development of a draft strategy document;
- (2) Welcomes the offer from the Executive Member for Highways, Planning and Transport to share the findings of the review of parking within the city centre and the impact of parking on the periphery of the city centre with Committee Members;
- (3) Requests that Officers provide a ward breakdown of the consultation responses with the relevant Ward Members; and
- (4) Agrees to receive a further report prior to the draft document for consultation being considered by the Executive.

ESC/19/14 Updated Financial Strategy and Directorate Business Plans 2019-20

Further to Minute ESC/18/55, the Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive and the City Treasurer which provided a further update on the Council's financial position and set out the next steps in the budget process.

The Committee was invited to consider and make recommendations on the budget proposals which were within the remit of the Committee and to comment on the Directorate Business Plans, prior to their submission to the Executive on 13 February 2019.

The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration and the Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources outlined the context of the reports, in particular the challenges presented by funding reductions from the national government.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committees discussions were:-

- It was felt that there needed to be more detail within Business Plan as to how the Council's living wage policy was being developed and enforced through contracts;
- The Committee welcomed the investment in Adult Social Care which would hopefully help older resident stay in employment longer; and
- The Committee welcomed the increased budget for compliance on private landlords and waste management.

The Leader agreed that more detail would be included in the Business Plan in regards to the Council's living wage policy and how this was being applied within contracts. He also commented that the Council would be developing and action plan as to how the quality of life for those aged 50 to 64 could be improved.

The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration commented that there was also other areas of focus taking place in regards to the private sector rental market, which would include a review and extend the selective licensing schemes and also an increase in the team that deals with HMO licensing.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Notes that this is the final year of a three year budget; and
- (2) Requests that the Executive take into account the comments made by the Committee.

ESC/19/15 Overview Report

The Committee considered a report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

A Member requested that as part of next years work programme setting, consideration undertaking some work around the Greater Manchester Pankhurst Forces Scorecard as a number of areas related specifically to the economy.

A Member also suggested that the Committee also looked at housing wealth and ownership within the city, in order to consider if the wealth being generated through the rental of properties is remaining within the city

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) notes the report; and
- (2) agrees that if any Members have suggestions for inclusion in next year's work programme, they are to notify the Chair accordingly.

Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 7 February 2019

Present:

Councillor Hacking (Chair) – in the Chair [CESC/19/06, CESC/19/08 - CESC/19/11]
Councillors Andrews, M Dar, Douglas, Evans, Fletcher-Hackwood, Rawlins and Rawson

Also present:

Councillor N Murphy, Deputy Leader
Councillor S Murphy, Statutory Deputy Leader
Councillor Ollerhead, Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources
Councillor Rahman, Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure

Chief Inspector Cherie Buttle, Greater Manchester Police (GMP)
PC David Fisher, GMP

Apologies:

Councillors Collins, Cooley and Kirkpatrick

CESC/19/6 Minutes

The Chair informed Members that the Committee would receive the information it had requested on the Council resources being invested in core events in a report to its meeting on 7 March 2019.

Decisions

1. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2019 as a correct record.
2. To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Our Manchester Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Fund Task and Finish Group held on 3 January 2019.

CESC/19/7 Begging and people who beg in the city centre

[Councillor Hacking declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in this item, due to his partner being employed by Manchester Action on Street Health (MASH), left the room, and took no part in discussions. Councillor Evans was nominated Chair in his absence and chaired the meeting for this item only.]

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director (Strategic Development) and the Chief Operating Officer (Neighbourhoods) which provided information on the proactive partnership work that was being undertaken in relation to begging.

Officers referred to the main points and themes within the report, which included:

- The context;
- Begging in Manchester;
- The emerging intelligence picture; and
- Next steps.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- That the data on the age of people begging in the city centre focused on those between the ages of 26 and 45, whereas those outside that age range were likely to need more support, and to request further information on the younger and older age groups;
- What was being done to improve the way the Council and GMP supported and motivated individuals who were begging to seek support and change their lives;
- The difficulty of separating the issues of rough sleeping and begging and the importance of scrutinising these two issues together, even though they fell within the remit of different scrutiny committees;
- Whether there was evidence of organised begging run by gangmasters; and
- What was the impact of the Big Change initiative, which encouraged the public to donate to a fund which provided people facing homelessness with practical items to support a long-term change.

The City Centre Public Services Manager informed Members that approximately 10% of those begging were under the age of 26. She reported that numbers diminished after the age of 55 because of the range of support services available to older people. She informed the Committee that young people who were begging were asked what support they needed and signposted to services and that, where there were safeguarding concerns, appropriate referrals were made. She advised Members that most of the young people who were begging were already known to officers working in this area.

The City Centre Public Services Manager reported that the Council and GMP had already made significant progress in making their systems work more effectively and in an integrated way to address the issue of begging and how individuals could be supported to change their lives. She reported that the criminal justice system was used where individuals refused to accept offers of help to change their behaviour and that officers had been working with the Crown Prosecution Service and the Probation Service to encourage the use of sentencing options such as a requirement to attend drug rehabilitation services, which could positively change the individual's behaviour, rather than just issuing a fine. Chief Inspector Cherie Buttle from GMP reported that the police had four officers in the city centre dedicated to dealing with rough sleeping and begging and that all officers received training on this. She advised Members that the first approach was to signpost the individual to appropriate services. She reported that enforcement was also used where appropriate but that those brought into custody were also signposted to services and the focus was on breaking the cycle of begging.

The Community Safety Lead reported that there was not currently much evidence in relation to organised begging in Manchester but that work had recently started under

Programme Challenger, Greater Manchester's partnership approach to tackling serious organised crime, to gather information on this.

PC David Fisher from GMP reported that over £250,000 have been distributed so far by the Big Change. He reported that the public was being encouraged to donate to the Big Change, rather than giving money to beggars on the street, and that the money was used to help keep people at risk of homelessness off the streets, for example, providing clothing and other items they needed to gain and maintain employment. The Deputy Leader advised that more needed to be done to communicate the positive impact of Big Change to the public and that he would take this forward, in conjunction with the Council's Communications Team.

Decision

To request a further report on begging and rough sleeping, noting that this spans the remit of two scrutiny committees whose Members should have the opportunity to scrutinise it. To request that this report include further information in response to Members' comments, in particular further information on the work to gather evidence in relation to organised begging.

[Councillor S Murphy declared a personal interest as a trustee of MASH.]

CESC/19/8 Updated Financial Strategy and Directorate Business Plans 2019-20

Further to item CESC/18/54, the Committee received a report of the Chief Executive and the City Treasurer which provided an update on the Council's financial position and set out the next steps in the budget process, including scrutiny of the draft budget proposals and Directorate Business Plan reports by the Committee.

The Committee also received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive which set out in broad terms the Neighbourhoods Directorate's key priorities, key activities and both the revenue and capital strategy for 2019-20. In the Business Plan for the period 2017-2020, directorates had set out their proposed savings in the context of their objectives. This report set out both the progress made to date in delivering these savings and the directorate's focus over the final year of the three-year plan. This report was a refresh of the directorate's Business Plan for 2018-20 in the context of changing resources, challenges and opportunities.

The Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources outlined the context of the reports, in particular the challenges presented by funding reductions from the national government. The Chief Operating Officer (Neighbourhoods) provided Members with an overview of the reports. The Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure highlighted investments and improvements being made in areas within the Committee's remit.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- To welcome that the Council was investing in services which residents had stated were important to them, despite the current financial situation;
- Whether there were any plans for the returned £2.7 million from the unused central business rates levy surplus;
- How confident were officers that an additional £163,000 would be generated from parks in 2019-20;
- Request for further information on the Manchester Volunteer Inspired Programme (MCRVIP); and
- To thank officers and Executive Members for their hard work in developing the budget proposals and business plans.

The Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources reported that the £2.7 million was earmarked for addressing the budget pressures on the Children's Services budget. The Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure informed Members that the Council had already managed to increase the income generated from cafes and other facilities in the city's larger parks and that responses to the consultation on the Parks Strategy had indicated that residents wanted more amenities, such as cafes, in parks. He reported that the first 15 park plans were being implemented, with support from partners including volunteers, and that he was confident that the income targets could be achieved. The Strategic Lead (Parks, Leisure and Events) reported that 25% of the running costs for Manchester parks were funded by income generated through trading or secondary income from the parks. He informed the Committee that, based on benchmarking with other cities, he was confident that, with the right investment and approach, there was a lot of scope to increase the income generated from the city's parks.

In response to the question on the MCRVIP, the Strategic Lead (Parks, Leisure and Events) informed Members that many local people had volunteered to support the Commonwealth Games held in Manchester in 2002 and had expressed an interest in continuing to volunteer at future events. He reported that in 2006 the Council had secured funding to establish a volunteering bureau which was primarily focused on sport and leisure events and that this model had been successful and had subsequently been adopted by other cities. He informed the Committee that the Council was now working to expand the MCRVIP to encompass other types of volunteering opportunities. The Chief Operating Officer (Neighbourhoods) reported that officers were working with colleagues in HROD (Human Resources and Organisational Development) on how this platform could be used to link Council staff to volunteering opportunities, as Council employees were now eligible for three days of volunteering leave per year.

Decisions

The Committee:-

1. Supports the way the Council is working to continue to provide services in the face of challenging financial circumstances.
2. Requests that the report on Events, which is scheduled for the 7 March meeting, include further information on the Manchester Volunteer Inspired Programme and how it links into the events programme.

CESC/19/9 Refreshed Business Plans - Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs)

The Committee received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive which provided an overview of the role of Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) in the Council's business planning process for 2019/2020. It outlined the context of why the Council undertook EIAs and how this process was managed to support good quality analysis which informed decision making. It also described how the Council used Equality Delivery Plans as part of this process to highlight achievements on equality in the preceding year, as well as stating its commitments to equality activity and analysis over the remaining year of this budget cycle (2019-20).

Officers referred to the main points and themes within the report, which included:

- Equality analysis and business planning; and
- The schedule of EIAs.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- To note that some of the data in the EIA schedule table within the report was listed as 'to be confirmed' and to ask when this information would be available, particularly in relation to timescales;
- To request further information on the use of EIAs outside of the budget process;
- To welcome the inclusion of EIAs for the Strategic Development Directorate; and
- To note that the item in the EIA schedule table which referred to "all major residential and commercial developments" was very broad.

The Head of Workforce Strategy informed Members that some of the information which was listed as 'to be confirmed' had become available since the report was published. He advised that it was anticipated that, by the Committee's meeting on 7 March 2019, this information would be available for all the EIAs, or if there were any gaps, there would be a clear reason for this. He outlined the process for completing EIAs, reporting that the completion of EIAs was service-led with support and quality assurance from the Equalities Team. He informed Members that over the next 12 months' work would be taking place to strengthen the governance and quality assurance of EIAs, train staff and ensure that EIAs were easily accessible to the public. He acknowledged that the item on the EIA schedule relating to "all major residential and commercial developments" was very broad and advised Members that he would provide further information on this in the report to the Committee's next meeting on 7 March 2019.

Decision

To note that the Committee will want to look at some of the EIAs at a future meeting and that this will include the Affordable Housing Policy and others to be identified at a later point.

CESC/19/10 Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Infrastructure Service

The Committee received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive which provided information on the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Infrastructure Service, specifically on the co-design process and recommendations for a new VCS infrastructure service contract.

The Statutory Deputy Leader referred to the main points and themes within the report, which included:

- The co-design process;
- The co-design recommendations; and
- Next steps.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were:

- That the findings from the work of the Our Manchester VCS Fund Task and Finish Group were also relevant to this work, for example, in relation to communication with Members and clarity for VCS groups on what support and advice they could expect from the infrastructure provider and from the Council;
- How it would be ensured that organisations which were bidding for the contract did not have an advantage over others through having been involved in the co-design process;
- The need for clarity on what support the infrastructure provider could and could not provide so that Members knew when it was appropriate to signpost VCS groups to them and so that the groups were clear on what the offer was;
- Whether it was expected that the same amount of money would be invested in the infrastructure contract or whether the service would be reduced due to budget pressures;
- How the infrastructure provider was expected to facilitate the engagement of other suitable groups, such as disability-focused organisations, in fora where it was more appropriate for them to attend;
- How greater clarity could be provided on the support that the Council and the infrastructure provider each provided in relation to Community Asset Transfers and how support for Community Asset Transfers would be done differently in future; and
- The proposal that the contract could be awarded to more than one provider and how this would work.

The Statutory Deputy Leader advised Members that it was valuable to have the existing infrastructure provider involved in the co-design process so that they could share their experience but that it was important that they and other organisations which were interested in bidding for the contract were not involved in the later stages of making decisions about the content of the contract.

The Principal Resources and Programmes Officer advised Members that she would feed back to the Programme Lead the point about ensuring clarity on what the infrastructure provider could and could not provide. She informed Members that, as part of future funding rounds for the Our Manchester VCS Fund, a representative of

the Council's Programme Team would be present at meetings with the VCS groups to ensure consistency and clarity of information for the groups. She reported that, at the present time, officers were working on the basis that the amount of money invested in the infrastructure contract was expected to be similar to that under the previous contract.

The Statutory Deputy Leader informed Members that the Council had an ambition to increase the number of Community Asset Transfers but wanted to ensure that the groups involved were able to manage the properties they were taking over and that the details of the support to be provided through this process was still being developed. She reported that there would need to be greater clarity in the final contract of the role of the infrastructure provider in facilitating the engagement of other suitable organisations in fora, where appropriate.

The Programme Development Officer reported that, if more than one provider was awarded the contract, it would be expected that the providers would work in partnership and that the work could be divided based on their expertise. The Statutory Deputy Leader clarified that the Council would consider bids from individual organisations and joint bids from more than one provider.

Decision

To note the report.

CESC/19/11 Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit was submitted. The overview report contained a list of key decisions yet to be taken within the Committee's remit, responses to previous recommendations and the Committee's work programme, which the Committee was asked to approve.

Decision

To note the report and agree the work programme.

Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 7 February 2019

Present:

Councillor Russell (Chair) – in the Chair
Councillors Ahmed Ali, Andrews, Barrett, Clay, Davies, Lanchbury, Kilpatrick, Moore, B Priest, A Simcock, Watson and Wheeler

Also present:

Councillor Leese - Leader
Councillor N Murphy - Deputy Leader
Councillor Ollerhead - Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources

Apologies: Councillor Rowles

RGSC/19/8 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2019 as a correct record.

RGSC/19/9 Updated Financial Strategy and Directorate Business Plans 2019-20

Further to Minute RGSC/18/66, the Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive and the City Treasurer which provided a further update on the Council's financial position and set out the next steps in the budget process.

The Committee was invited to consider and make recommendations on the budget proposals which were within the remit of the Committee and to comment on the Directorate Business Plans, prior to their submission to the Executive on 13 February 2019.

The Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources outlined the context of the reports, in particular the challenges presented by funding reductions from the national government. The Leader commented that the cuts made to the Council's budget were now £10million more than when the three year budget was first set in 2017/18, and what was clearly evident was that the impact of austerity was becoming ever more visible, particular in those areas of high deprivation.

In relation to the Corporate Core Business plan, some of the key points that arose from the Committees discussions were:-

- With the uncertainty of Brexit, what would be the impact of the withdrawal of European Regional Development fund to the Council and what were the €3 million of approved grants that the Council currently had access to;
- Further clarification was requested on the leadership role of the Core in influencing outside of the organisation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality and improve public transport and highways and make them more sustainable;
- Why had staff absence levels increased within the Core;
- There was concern that Council average days absence was 12.1 days when compared to the private sector absence average of 6.1 days;
- Had the Age Friendly Board been involved in the arrangements to ensure residents were supported to live at home for as long as possible;
- Was there a correlation between staff absence levels and efficiency savings;
- Was the annual leave purchase scheme working well and if so was there any scope to achieve further savings than the identified £150,000;
- Was it anticipated that the level of savings through ICT would be achievable; and
- Reassurance was sought that the savings identified through the deletion of vacant posts was achievable and that these posts were not definitely not required.

The City Treasure advised that there had been a lot of work undertaken at a GM level on the impact assessment on the risk of withdrawal of European funding as a result of Brexit. The removal of this funding would not impact directly on the Council's core services, however, it would have some impact on programmes of work such as work with other European cities and climate change, were we would have reduced access to funding. The Leader added that the removal of this funding was a bigger risk at a Greater Manchester than it was to just the Council. The City Treasurer also agreed to provide a breakdown to Members of the €3million approved grants that was currently received.

In terms of the leadership role of the Core, the City Treasurer explained that this referred to work undertaken by the Council's Policy Unit which provided information and support to these areas both in terms of bringing together the support from within the Council and links to where this work was carried out at a GM level.

The City Treasurer advised that sickness absence levels had remained at a similar level over the past one to two years, which reflected a considerable amount of work that had been undertaken to reduce this level and improve performance.

The Leader advised that in terms of enabling the MLCO to proactively triage, monitor and respond to residents' circumstances in order to ensure they were supported to live at home for as long as possible, this was restating what was existing and long term policy, which the Age Friendly Board had been consulted on many times over a long period of time.

The Committee was advised that there was no direct correlation between staff absence levels and efficiency savings. The Leader acknowledged that there would be some impact on the delivery of savings as there had been a 40% reduction in the

workforce over the last nine years and Elected Members needed to be conscious of this.

The Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources confirmed that the annual leave purchase scheme was working well and had been well received by staff. He hoped that the policy could be enhanced further in the future. He also commented the Council had a comprehensive ICT strategy that would help to achieve the identified savings. In terms of staff vacancies, the Council's Senior Management Team had reviewed all current vacant posts to identify whether these were still required.

In relation to the Strategic Development Business Plan, some of the key points that arose from the Committees discussions were:-

- It was requested that that the word 'solutions', in reference to delivering housing for residents with additional needs, was removed from the Business Plan;
- More information was needed on how many income generating interests were run by volunteers as part of the Investment Estate and would the strengthening of this performance impact on these organisations;
- Why had there been a delay in the retendering of the repairs and maintenance contract and had this had any financial impact on the Council;
- How much funding was contained within the regeneration reserve;
- Could more be done in terms of the offer to apprentices from within the directorate; and
- Why was the Adult Education Budget (AEB) being devolved to the GMCA in the 2019/20 financial year.

The Deputy Leader agreed to provide Members with more information on the number of income generating interests that were run by volunteers and advised that the Council was looking to increase its income from its commercial arm as opposed to its voluntary arm. The Leader added that as part of the Council's Estates rationalisation, where properties had no operational use to the Council, community asset transfers would be supported where possible.

The Committee was advised that the delay in retendering of the repairs and maintenance contracts had occurred due to an effort to try and synchronise the renewal of these contracts in order to gain the most efficiency from the contracts and to also see what other organisations could provide. Existing contracts would continue until the bids for the new contracts had been received and evaluated. The Leader advised that the extension of existing contracts and the delay in the retendering of these contrast had not incurred any additional costs to the council.

The Leader advised that the it was national government who was devolving the funding from the Adult Skills Board to a Greater Manchester level and not Manchester's Adult Education budget that was being passed up to the GMCA. He advised that there was approximately £15m in the regeneration reserve, a third of which would be used for revenue purposes, with the remainder to be used for investment in housing purposes.

The Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources advised that excluding schools, the Council was exceeding its targets apprenticeship levy targets. It was acknowledged that more needed to be done with the schools element of the levy and the Council's social value policy aimed to provide more opportunities for apprentices.

Decision

The Committee

- (1) Notes that this is the final year of a three year budget;
- (2) Requests that the Executive take into account the comments made by the Committee;
- (3) Requests the City Treasurer to provide a briefing note on the €3million European approved grants that the Council currently had access to;
- (4) Agrees that a report is submitted to a future meeting of the HR Sub Group on the management of absence across the Council; and
- (5) Requests that the word 'solutions', in reference to delivering housing for residents with additional needs, is removed from the Strategic Development Business Plan

RGSC/19/10 The impact of welfare reform agenda on the Council's finances and its ability to provide support to residents of Manchester

The Committee considered a report of the City Treasurer, which detailed the impact of the welfare reform agenda on the Council's finances and its ability to provide support to residents of Manchester.

The main points and themes within the report included:-

- Budget implications, including the funding for temporary accommodation in connection to the rise in homelessness;
- The status of Universal Credit in Manchester, including details of the claim volumes of households;
- Details of Discretionary Housing Payment spend against agreed budget and associated budget pressures;
- The purpose and objectives of the Council's Welfare Provision Scheme;
- The impact of Universal Credit on the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme for 2019/20;
- The impact of Universal Credit on the Council's collection of Council Tax and rent collection;
- Detailed area analysis of the impact of Universal Credit on housing provider tenants, including feedback from Northwards, Grove Village and S4B; and
- The burden to the Council's Revenue and Benefits service to provide support for Universal Credit.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were:-

- The Committee was disheartened to see the compound effect that the removal of government funding to families, Schools and the Council itself was having on

- the city, and felt that the Government was in denial of the true impact austerity measures were having on Manchester's most vulnerable residents;
- The work of the staff in the Revenue and Benefits team was commended and it was asked whether staff within these teams were offered any form of support due to the distressing nature of some of cases they had to deal with;
 - To what level was the Council relaying to Government the serious challenges it was now having to face due to the continued cuts in funding;
 - It was suggested that the issue of rental arrears of tenants of Manchester's six housing providers, who were subject to Universal Credit, was referred to a future meeting of the most appropriate Scrutiny Committee for consideration; and
 - There was concern as to whether there would be enough funding in future years to support the level of demand

The Director of Customer Services and Transactions shared the Committee's concerns about the reduction in funding from Government and its impact on Manchester residents. She advised that staff within the Revenue and Benefits Team received comprehensive training prior to starting their roles. Staff had flexible working arrangements and were able to ask for support at any time. It was also reported that the ratio of Team Leaders to staff was 1:12 in order to ensure appropriate line management support and foster close working relationships.

The Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources echoed the Committee's praise of staff and commented that the work and support of the Director of Customer Services and Transactions and her managers had resulted in an improvement in the B'Heard 2018 survey results. He also suggested that Committee Members might benefit from undertaking a site visit to the Revenue and Benefits Team to get a true appreciation of the work undertaken by staff.

The City Treasurer advised that the Council had relayed its concerns as to the challenges Manchester faced in the responses to the consultations to the Fairer Funding Review and Business Rates. She confirmed that these responses would be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee for consideration.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Notes the report
- (2) Request that the Scrutiny Team Leader liaises with the Director of Customer Services and Transactions to arrange a site visit to the Revenue and Benefits department at a suitable time; and
- (3) Agrees to refer to the appropriate scrutiny committee consideration of rental arrears of tenants of Manchester's six housing providers, who were subject to Universal Credit

RGSC/19/11 Changes to the Council Tax charges levied for tax on empty properties

The Committee considered a report of the City Treasurer, which detailed the final proposals, following a consultation exercise, about whether to adopt these new discretionary powers, and whether to retain or remove the discounts relating to properties empty for one month or undergoing major works.

The Director of Customer Services and Transactions referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:-

- Background as to how the Council currently applied council tax charges to long term empty (LTE) properties;
- Government proposals for changing how Council could apply council tax charges to LTE properties;
- The financial impact of these proposed changes, including how it affected the New Homes Bonus;
- The impact of removing the current 100% discount (for up to one month) when a property became empty and unfurnished and the 50% discount (for up to one year) when a property was undergoing major repairs or structural alterations;
- The outcome of the consultation and engagement plan with Manchester residents; and
- Key policies and consideration in relation to risk management and legal considerations.

The Committee had been invited to comment on the report prior to its submission to the Executive on 13 February 2019.

The Committee unanimously supported the proposed changes to increase Council Tax charges relating to empty domestic properties, as this would have a positive impact for the Council by offering a financial incentive to avoid properties being empty and unoccupied and would increase revenue to the Council.

Decision

The Committee endorses the recommendations contained within the report that the Executive:-

- Note the outcomes of the consultation exercise and the Equality Relevance Assessment, both of which have informed the final recommendations;
- Adopt the discretionary powers to charge higher levels of Council Tax on properties that have been unoccupied and unfurnished for two, five and ten years;
- Remove the 100% discount currently available for up to one month when a property first becomes unoccupied and unfurnished; and
- Remove the 50% discount available for up to one year when a property is unoccupied due to major works or structural alterations.

RGSC/19/12 Changes to the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme - results of consultation and final proposals

The Committee considered a report of the City Treasurer, which detailed the final proposals for the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme (CTSS) from April 2019. The report proposed changes to ensure that the scheme remained fit for purpose as working age residents in receipt of welfare benefits were moved onto Universal Credit.

The Director of Customer Services and Transactions referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:-

- The background to the current local Council Tax Support Scheme for the Council;
- The impact of Universal Credit on Manchester residents and its impact on Council Tax Support;
- What impact the proposed changes would have on Manchester residents;
- The cost of the proposed changes;
- Financial modelling and impact of a banded scheme;
- The outcome of the consultation exercise with Manchester residents; and
- Key policies and considerations, including any legal considerations in relation to the proposed changes.

The Committee had been invited to comment on the report prior to its submission to the Executive on 13 February 2019.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committees discussions were:-

- Members unanimously supported the proposed changes to the Council's CTSS in order to continue to deliver a scheme that was cost effective and provided optimum support to low income households within the available budget;
- How much additional funding would be required to deliver the proposed changes to the Discretionary Council Tax Payment Scheme in order to support those families where the government changes have had the most significant impact;
- How would these additional families who required support be identified;
- How will the Council standardise this support and incorporate it into Council policy;
- What opportunity was there to present a case to the DWP to change their ICT system to flag those individuals and or families that were entitled to Council Tax Support;
- Was there a trend of larger families moving into Manchester;
- It was pleasing to see that the number of Band H properties in the city had doubled in number and only eight of these were empty, which would result in more Council Tax income for the Council; and
- Was it possible for the Council to ask the DWP to advise claimants to always claim Council Tax support.

The Director of Customer Services and Transactions advised that an additional £150,000 was being invested into Discretionary Council Tax Payment Scheme to provide support to those additional families where the government changes had had the most significant impact and that this funding would be requested to be maintained in future budgets. The Council will identify those households affected by the Government's two child limit legislation and the impact of moving to a banded scheme. It was estimated that the cost to provide this additional support would be £125,000 and a further £25,000 had been set aside to deal with any other cases that occurred which would be considered on their own merits. Everything that had been mapped had been based on the affordability of the scheme and the support available. Officers would identify cases from their systems and where households were identified as losing a set weekly amount, an adjustment would be made to make up their Council Tax Support. Residents would not be expected to apply for this support. Eligibility for the funding would be for those families that had a weekly loss of £1 or more in the new banded scheme and anyone who lost £2 or more in the two child limit. An initial number of families would be identified for receipt of this support from April 2019 and then officers would run regular reports throughout the year to identify other families who would be affected by the two child limit. It was also reported that the Council had updated its policy document relating to the Discretionary Council Tax Payment Scheme so that it specifically referenced these groups of people.

Officers advised that at a local level, there was a Universal Credit Partnership Manager who the Council was able to raise its preferences through. The Council had regular communication with the DWP, however, getting views considered by the DWP at a national level was challenging and there was also an issue of data sharing and data protection limiting the personal information of claimants the DWP can share.

It was reported that the Council's Revenues and Benefits team did not monitor where families moved into Manchester from and just dealt with families that they were presented with.

The Committee was advised that the Council could ask the DWP to advise claimants to always claim Council Tax Support but there was no guarantee that they would deliver this on a consistent basis.

Decision

The Committee endorses the recommendations contained within the report that the Executive:-

- Note the outcomes of the consultation process and the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) both of which have supported and informed the final recommendations.
- Agrees to make the following changes to the Council Tax Support Scheme from 1 April 2019 in respect of people entitled to Universal Credit.
- A person for whom the Council receives both an electronic notification of a new claim for, and subsequently a related first payment of, Universal Credit from the

Department for Work and Pensions shall be deemed to have made a claim for a reduction under this scheme on the first day of entitlement to Universal Credit to which that notification of first payment refers.

- The amount of an award in respect of a day under this scheme for a person entitled to Universal Credit shall be a percentage of the amount set by the authority as the Council Tax for the relevant financial year in respect of the dwelling in which he is a resident and for which he is liable. This is subject to any discount which may be appropriate to that dwelling under the 1992 Act, divided the number of days in that financial year, less the daily rate of any deductions in respect of non-dependants which fall to be made. That percentage shall be the percentage specified in the following table according to the band in which their excess income falls.

Excess weekly income greater than	Excess weekly income no more than	% reduction of Council Tax liability
£80.01	-	Nil
£75.01	£80.00	12%
£50.01	£75.00	30%
£25.01	£50.00	45%
£0.01	£25.00	70%
-	£0.00	82.5%

- People who have a temporary break in their Council Tax Support (up to six months) because an associated award of Universal Credit has ended or the amount of Universal Credit in payment rises to a level that ends entitlement to Council Tax Support and that award of Universal Credit is subsequently reinstated (whether at the same rate or at a different rate) or drops to a level that triggers eligibility for Council Tax Support, are required to make a new claim for Council Tax Support. A new claim in these circumstances shall be treated as made on the date on which entitlement to Universal Credit resumed / reduced or six months before the day on which the claim is actually received, whichever is the later.
- The Council will monitor and review the Council Tax Support Scheme to ensure that it continues to support the Council's policies. The Council Tax Support Scheme may be amended for subsequent years, but should this happen there will be further consultation. If no revised scheme is published, this scheme will continue to apply to subsequent years. However, the figures set out in the scheme in respect of applicable amounts, income and capital disregards and non-dependants deductions may still be uprated to allow for inflation. Any such uprating will take effect on 1 April each year. If the figures provided in the prescribed requirements change, the Council reserves the right to amend the figures quoted in the scheme without further consultation.
- Where the Council receives notification from the Department for Work and Pensions of a change to Universal Credit and the changed assessment does not result in an alteration to the amount of a reduction under this scheme, the Council is not required to notify the claimant of its recording of that change.

- Agree that the Council's Discretionary Council Tax Payment Scheme is used to support households during the transitional period of moving to the banded scheme and Universal Credit. The scheme would cover the current anomalous and exceptional circumstances as well as supporting those households disproportionately impacted by Universal Credit transfer including families with children.

RGSC/19/13 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

The Chair noted that the section of the report relating to Key Decisions included decisions that had already been taken. The City Solicitor advised the Committee that work was currently underway to review how these decisions were recorded and reported to the Committee. The Chair welcomed this development and requested that additional detail was incorporated within the Register of Key Decisions to make the nature of the decisions more apparent.

Decision

The Committee notes the report and approve the work programme.

RGSC/19/14 Exclusion of Press and Public

A Member moved a motion that agenda item 12 (Management of staff performance and misconduct) be taken as an open item. The motion did not receive a seconder.

A motion was then moved and seconded that the public be excluded during consideration of the next items of business.

Decision

To exclude the public during consideration of the following items which involved consideration of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of particular persons and public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

RGSC/19/15 Call In: The appointment of a Provider to deliver City Wide Advice Services (Public Excluded)

The Committee considered a call in of the decision taken by the Acting Executive Director Strategic Commissioning (with DASS responsibilities) relating to the appointment of a provider to deliver city wide advice services. The call in had been proposed by Councillor Clay and supported by Councillors Azra Ali Curley, Hughes, Reid and Wheeler.

Councillor Clay outlined to the Committee the reasons as to why he had called the decision in and the concerns he had, which centred around the contracting process and whether when only one bidder submits a tender, how could the process be seen as a robust test of efficiency and value.

The Acting Executive Director Strategic Commissioning (with DASS responsibilities) responded to comments and questions raised by the Committee.

After all questions were asked, the Chair invited Councillor Clay and the Acting Executive Director Strategic Commissioning (with DASS responsibilities) to add anything further to their presentations. No further information was added from either party.

The Committee then considered all the relevant matters.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Supports the decision taken by the Acting Executive Director Strategic Commissioning (with DASS responsibilities).
- (2) Recommends that the Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee establishes a Task and Finish Group to consider the availability of advice services across the City as soon as possible, with a view to producing recommendations to be considered in the budget in the next financial year.

RGSC/19/16 Management of staff performance and misconduct (Public Excluded)

The Committee considered the report of the Director of HROD, which provided Members with an overview of the Council's approach to managing staff performance and misconduct in line with the organisation's agreed policies. The report further provided case numbers, key issues and trends in relation to the Council's Disciplinary and Capability policies as well as broader information on the work of HROD to strengthen the organisation's approach to people management.

The Director of HROD referred to the main points and themes within the report and responded to questions from the Committee.

The Committee had considerable concerns about the amount of time it is taking to go through misconduct processes, and the relatively low numbers that are resulting in formal action of any type. They were also worried by the apparently very low numbers of active capability management processes.

The Committee had considerable concerns about the amount of time it was taking to go through misconduct processes, and the relatively low numbers that were resulting in formal action of any type. They were also worried by the apparently very low numbers of active capability management processes.

The Committee was very worried by the apparent disproportionate representation of the BAME population in the misconduct figures, although were reassured that further analysis was being done on these figures to understand them more fully. The Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources confirmed that there was going to be an independent review of the number of BAME staff who were subject to misconduct processes which would be carried out by the Head of Equalities at Manchester Foundation Trust.

Decision

The Committee: -

- (1) Notes the report; and
- (2) Places on record its thanks and appreciation to the Director of HROD for all her dedication and hard work over the years and wished her every success in her new role.