

Council

Minutes of the meeting on 11 July 2018

Present: The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor Councillor June Hitchen – in the Chair

Councillors –

Akbar, Ahmed Ali, Azra Ali, N. Ali, Shaukat Ali, Andrews, Appleby, Barrett, Battle, Bridges, Chohan, Clay, Collins, Connolly, Cooley, Craig, Curley, M Dar, Y Dar, Davies, Douglas, Ellison, Evans, Farrell, Flanagan, Green, Grimshaw, Harland, Hassan, Hewitson, Holt, Hughes, Igbon, Ilyas, Jeavons, Johns, S Judge, T Judge, Kamal, Karney, Kilpatrick, Kirkpatrick, Lanchbury, Leech, Leese, Lovecy, Lynch, Lyons, Midgley, Madeleine Monaghan, Mary Monaghan, Moore, N. Murphy, S. Murphy, Newman, Noor, Ollerhead, Paul, B Priest, H Priest, Rahman, Raikes, Rawlins, Razaq, Reeves, Reid, Riasat, Richards, Rowles, Russell, Sadler, Sharif Mahamed, Sheikh, Shilton Godwin, A Simcock, K Simcock, Stogia, Stone, Strong, Taylor, Wheeler, White, Wills, Wilson and Wright.

CC/18/53 Urgent Business

The Lord Mayor informed the Council that she had consented to the minutes of the Constitutional and Nomination Committee on 9 July 2018 and the minutes of the Executive held on 11 July 2018 being submitted for consideration as urgent business.

CC/18/54 Lord Mayor's Special Business – City Solicitor

The Lord Mayor welcomed Fiona Ledden to her first Council meeting as City Solicitor.

CC/18/55 Lord Mayor's Special Business – National Health Service 70th Anniversary

The Lord Mayor paid tribute to the NHS which had reached its 70th Anniversary on 5 July 2018. The Lord Mayor expressed her gratitude to those working within the NHS for their dedication in providing the vital health and support services the Country relies on.

CC/18/56 Lord Mayor's Special Business – Presentation – Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy

The Lord Mayor informed to the Council that the Authority's Green Blue Infrastructure Strategy had won the coveted Knowledge Exchange Category at the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environment awards event that had taken place in London on 21 June 2018.

The Lord Mayor presented the award to Katrina Holt and Dave Barlow from the Council's Planning and Infrastructure Environment Team and congratulated the Team for their success.

The Mayor reported that two other projects were highly commended by judges by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environment relating to:

- The Citywide Clean Streams Urban Watercourse Reclamation Project, within the Stakeholder Engagement category; and
- Bridgewater Basin Floating Ecosystems, within the Small Conservation Project category.

CC/18/57 Lord Mayor's Special Business – One Minute Silence

The Lord Mayor invited those present at the meeting to observe a minute's silence in memory of the lives lost in the Srebrenica genocide which took place in 1985.

CC/18/58 Lord Mayor's Special Business – Bee of Hope

The Lord Mayor received a silver and gold metal "Bee of Hope" on behalf of the City from Councillor Carmine Grimshaw who had personally handcrafted the unique piece of art work in tribute to the memory of the 22 victims of the Manchester Arena attack.

CC/18/59 Lord Mayor's Special Business – Town Hall Project RIBA Stage 2 - Presentation

The Council received a presentation on the Town Hall Project from Sean McGonigle (Director of Trading Services), Fran Toms (Design and Heritage Lead) and Paul Candulent (Project Director). At the end of the presentation the Lord Mayor invited members to ask questions or make comment.

The Mayor thanked the officers for the presentation and Councillor Bernard Priest for his work and involvement in the Town Hall Project.

CC/18/60 Minutes

Decision

To agree the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 16 May 2018 as a correct record.

CC/18/61 Proceedings of the Executive

The proceedings of the Executive on 30 May, 27 June and 11 July 2018 were submitted. The Council was asked to give particular consideration to the following recommendations:

Exe/18/059 Capital Programme – Proposed Increases Council to approve:

Highways – Mancunian Way Junction with Princess Road. A virement of £3.212million from the Highways Investment Fund, funded by borrowing.

Corporate Property – Hulme District Office. A virement of £1.228million from the Estates Transformation Fund, funded by borrowing.

Corporate Property - Estate Transformation Decant Budget. A virement from the capital budget to revenue of £3million, funded via Capital Fund.

Exe/18/064 Capital Programme – Proposed Increases Council to approve:

Parks and Leisure – Abraham Moss Leisure Centre. A decrease in the capital budget of £0.076million in 2018/19, £0.448million in 2019/20, £0.620million in 2020/21 and £0.206million in future years and the transfer of these values to the revenue budget, funded by capital fund.

Housing – Housing Affordability Fund - Empty Homes Scheme and Rent to Purchase. An increase to the capital budget of £1.6million funded by external contributions and a virement from the Equity Loans of £0.603million.

ICT – Communications Room Replacement Phase 2. A capital budget allocation and transfer of £4.197million in 2018/19, £0.758m in 2019/20 and £0.069million in 2020/21 from the ICT Investment Fund, funded by borrowing.

Strategic Development – Civic Quarter Heat Network. A capital budget increase of £3million in 2019/20 and £2million in 2020/21, funded by borrowing on an invest to save basis

Exe/18/069 Capital Programme – Proposed Increases Council to approve:

Strategic Development – Heron House Refurbishment. A capital budget increase of £2.0m in 2018/19, funded by borrowing.

Exe/18/072 Biomedical Investment - the translation and industrialisation of diagnostic biomarkers in Manchester (Part B) (Public Excluded) Council to approve:

An increase to the capital programme by £4m funded by borrowing for the Council to buy a £4m equity stake in the business, in return for 19.9% equity. This sum together with the associated financing costs of £0.7m is to be funded from Council resources in advance of receipt of the Oxford Road Life Sciences Enterprise Zone business rates income;

An increase to the capital programme by £7.3m through borrowing to provide a loan facility of up to £7.3m to the new vehicle on the terms set out in the report. This will be funded from Council resources in advance of receipt of the Oxford Road Life Sciences Enterprise Zone business rates; and

An increase to the capital programme by £10m to be met from Council resources funded by borrowing in advance of the Enterprise Zone business rates income being received to meet the above grant payment, noting that this element is not repayable to the Enterprise Zone as the grant itself is not repayable.

Decisions

1. To receive the minutes of the Executive held on 30 May, 27 June and 11 July 2018.
2. To approve the following changes to the Manchester City Council (MCC) capital programme:
 - a) Highways – Mancunian Way Junction with Princess Road. A virement of £3.212million from the Highways Investment Fund, funded by borrowing.
 - b) Corporate Property – Hulme District Office. A virement of £1.228million from the Estates Transformation Fund, funded by borrowing.
 - c) Corporate Property - Estate Transformation Decant Budget. A virement from the capital budget to revenue of £3million, funded via Capital Fund.
 - d) Parks and Leisure – Abraham Moss Leisure Centre. A decrease in the capital budget of £0.076million in 2018/19, £0.448million in 2019/20, £0.620million in 2020/21 and £0.206million in future years and the transfer of these values to the revenue budget, funded by capital fund.
 - e) Housing – Housing Affordability Fund - Empty Homes Scheme and Rent to Purchase. An increase to the capital budget of £1.6million funded by external contributions and a virement from the Equity Loans of £0.603million.
 - f) ICT – Communications Room Replacement Phase 2. A capital budget allocation and transfer of £4.197million in 2018/19, £0.758m in 2019/20 and £0.069million in 2020/21 from the ICT Investment Fund, funded by borrowing.
 - g) Strategic Development – Civic Quarter Heat Network. A capital budget increase of £3million in 2019/20 and £2million in 2020/21, funded by borrowing on an invest to save basis
 - h) Strategic Development – Heron House Refurbishment. A capital budget increase of £2.0m in 2018/19, funded by borrowing.

- i) Increase the capital programme by £4m funded by borrowing for the Council to buy a £4m equity stake in the business, in return for 19.9% equity. This sum together with the associated financing costs of £0.7m is to be funded from Council resources in advance of receipt of the Oxford Road Life Sciences Enterprise Zone business rates income;
- j) Increase the capital programme by £7.3m through borrowing to provide a loan facility of up to £7.3m to the new vehicle on the terms set out in the report. This will be funded from Council resources in advance of receipt of the Oxford Road Life Sciences Enterprise Zone business rates; and
- k) Increase the capital programme by £10m to be met from Council resources funded by borrowing in advance of the Enterprise Zone business rates income being received to meet the above grant payment, noting that this element is not repayable to the Enterprise Zone as the grant itself is not repayable.

CC/18/62 Questions to Executive Members under Procedural Rule 23

Councillor Akbar responded to a question from Councillor Moore relating to the actions taken in addressing litter and fly tipping in student areas at the end of the academic year.

Councillor Craig responded to a Question Councillor K Simcock regarding support those seeking asylum and refuge in the city.

Councillor N Murphy responded to a question from Councillor Kilpatrick on progress made in tackling crime since the publication of the Manchester Community Safety Partnership's Strategy.

Councillor Stogia provided a response to a Question from Cllr Kilpatrick relating to instances where the Council has withheld 5% of the fee for contractors resulting from the standard of road maintenance work.

Councillor Richards responded to a Question from Councillor Kilpatrick regarding affordable housing.

Councillor Akbar responded to a question from Councillor Kilpatrick concerning the response time of the council's arbor team following receipt of a report of a dangerous tree.

Councillor Bridges responded to a question from Councillor Kilpatrick regarding the Council's provision for care leavers.

Councillor Craig replied to a question from Councillor Leech regarding the impact the reduction in the sexual health budget has had on the provision of services in south Manchester.

Councillor Akbar replied to a Question from Councillor Leech concerning fly-tipping.

In response to a question from Councillor Leech regarding complaints received relating to elected members of the Council, the Monitoring Officer advised that the subject of the question related to the functions of the Standards Committee and not to an Executive function. A response could not be provided from an Executive Member.

Councillor Stogia replied to a question from Councillor Leech regarding the number of complaints received in respect of the quality of work during the 2017/2018 resurfacing programme.

Councillor S Murphy responded to a question from Councillor Leech regarding the Council's support for the Every Month campaign.

Councillor Stogia responded to a question from Councillor Leech regarding the start of red-line trials outside of schools.

Councillor Leese replied to a question from Councillor Leech regarding responses to requests made under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and Freedom of Information Act 2000.

CC/18/63 Scrutiny Minutes

The minutes of the following Scrutiny Committee meetings were submitted:

Health – 22 May and 19 June 2018
Children and Young People – 21 May and 19 June 2018
Neighbourhoods and Environment – 23 May and 20 June 2018
Economy – 23 May and 20 June 2018
Communities and Equalities – 24 May and 21 June 2018
Resources and Governance – 24 May and 21 June 2018

Councillor Newman spoke in respect of minute ESC/18/26 Delivering the Our Manchester Strategy from the meeting of the Economy Scrutiny Committee held on 20 June 2108 regarding anti-social parking in residential areas of the Woodhouse Park.

Decision

To receive those minutes.

CC/18/64 Proceedings of Committees

The minutes of the following meetings were submitted:

Audit Committee – 11 June 2018
Constitutional and Nomination Committee – 9 July 2018
Health and Wellbeing Board – 4 July 2018
Licensing and Appeals Committee – 4 June 2018

Licensing Policy Committee – 5 July 2018
Planning and Highways Committee – 31 May and 28 June 2018
Standards Committee – 4 June 2018
Personnel Committee – 30 May and 27 June 2018

In moving the minutes of the Constitution and Nomination Committee held on 9 July 2018 the Councillor Curley requested the Council to approve the appointment of Councillor H Priest as Chair of the Economy Scrutiny Committee.

The Council was asked to give particular consideration to the following recommendations:

PE/18/12 Corporate Services City Treasurer's Senior Management

To recommend to Council the regrade of the role of Head of Revenues and Benefits, Customer and SSC to Director of Customer Services and Transactions, SS4 (£90,419 - £101,826).

PE/18/13 Greater Manchester Continuity of Service Protocol

To recommend that Council adopts the Greater Manchester Continuity of Service Protocol on a discretionary basis to allow continuity of service with the specified organisations to be extended to individuals in respect of service-based workforce terms, conditions and policies to support flexibility of movement and/or recruitment to difficult to fill posts.

CN/18/09 Proposed Revisions to the Constitution

To recommend that the Council approves the following:

Amendment of Rule 13.3 of the Council Procedure Rules in Part 4, Section A of the Constitution, by the deletion of paragraphs (h), (i), (j), (m) and (n) to ensure that the business of the annual meeting of the Council is restricted to ceremonial business, business necessary following the local government election of Members earlier in the month and constitutional matters;

Amendment of Article 11.3(b), in Part 2 of the Constitution, by the addition of the words "(or an officer with relevant delegated authority)" after the word "Council";

Delegation to the Head of Planning, Building Control and Licensing – "In consultation with the Chair of the Planning and Highways Committee, to make arrangements with another local authority for the Council to discharge that other authority's non-executive functions relating to cross-boundary planning matters affecting the local authority areas of both the Council and that other authority."

CN/18/10 Membership of Council Committees and Representation on Joint Boards and Joint Committees

To suspend Procedural Rule 25.1 to allow the following decisions which involve reconsideration of a decision taken by the Council within the previous six months.

To make the following changes in appointments to Committees and Joint Committees of the Council:

Chairs and Deputies

To recommend to Council the appointment of the following members as chairs of committees and scrutiny committees for the next municipal year:

Audit Committee	Cllr Ahmed Ali
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Membership of Committees

Decision

To recommend to Council the following changes in appointments to Committees and Joint Committees of the Council:

Committee	Member removed	Member appointed
Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee		Councillor Andrews
Health Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Karney	Councillor Clay
Economy Scrutiny Committee		Councillor Davies Councillor Hacking Councillor Noor
Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee		Councillor Hewitson
Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee		Councillor Sadler
Licensing Policy Committee		Councillor McHale
Personnel Committee		Councillor Sheikh

Decisions

1. To agree to regrade of the role of Head of Revenues and Benefits, Customer and SSC to Director of Customer Services and Transactions, SS4 (£90,419 - £101,826).
2. To agree to adopt the Greater Manchester Continuity of Service Protocol on a discretionary basis to allow continuity of service, with the specified organisations, to be extended to individuals in respect of service-based

workforce terms, conditions and policies to support flexibility of movement and/or recruitment to difficult to fill posts.

3. To accept and approve the amendment made to the minutes of the Constitutional and Nomination Committee held on 9 July 2017 recommending the appointment of Councillor H Priest as Chair of the Economy Scrutiny Committee.
4. To approve the amendment of Rule 13.3 of the Council Procedure Rules in Part 4, Section A of the Constitution, by the deletion of paragraphs (h), (i), (j), (m) and (n) to ensure that the business of the annual meeting of the Council is restricted to ceremonial business, business necessary following the local government election of Members earlier in the month and constitutional matters.
5. To approve the Amendment of Article 11.3(b), in Part 2 of the Constitution, by the addition of the words “(or an officer with relevant delegated authority)” after the word “Council”.
6. To approve the delegation to the Head of Planning, Building Control and Licensing – “In consultation with the Chair of the Planning and Highways Committee, to make arrangements with another local authority for the Council to discharge that other authority’s non-executive functions relating to cross-boundary planning matters affecting the local authority areas of both the Council and that other authority”.
7. To approve the suspension of Procedural Rule 25.1, to allow the decisions which involve reconsideration of a decision taken by the Council within the previous six months.
8. To approve the appointment of Councillor Ahmed Ali as Chair of Audit Committee.
9. To approve the changes to the membership of Committee’s as detailed above.

[Councillor Evans declared a personal interest in minute PH/18/51 of the Planning and Highways Committee held on 31 May 2018, for the reason his son is the chair of Norbrook Youth Club]

CC/18/65 Business of the Combined Authority, Joint Authorities and Joint Committees

The Lord Mayor reported that a question had been received regarding business of the Combined Authority, Joint Authorities and Joint Committees.

The Leader of the Council responded to a question from Councillor Leech regarding bus franchising.

CC/18/66 Urgent Key Decisions

The Council noted the report of the City Solicitor on key decisions that had been exempted from call-in.

Decision

To note the report.

CC/18/67 Motion – Child Criminal Exploitation

Motion proposed and seconded:

This council notes the work done by the course run by the Factory Youth Zone called Junior Choices funded and supported by the Rank Foundation and Onside. Two fundamentally vital children's supporters and charities enabling youth zones like the one in Harpurhey to be built in collaboration with Local councils all over the country.

The term 'County Lines' has been coined to represent the movement of drugs, guns and money. Vulnerable children are moved around the city and the country from as young as 11 years old used and abused. It is estimated there are a thousand highly organised groups estimating to be delivering drugs across the UK. Each line it is estimated uses children and generates £5,000 per day. Crime pays at the cost of these vulnerable children. This is an issue we have seen across Greater Manchester/ North Manchester and is a clear example of what we now are calling Child Criminal exploitation.

The government insists that it is tackling the problem and earlier this year pledged £3.6M to develop a new 'County Lines' initiative. In contrast the Children's society has a lottery bid of £3m to spend over the next 3 years in Greater Manchester alone to fight against Child Criminal exploitation.

Factory Youth Zone has taken the lead so far in Manchester flagging up how serious this issue is organising a conference at F.C. United 3 years ago. We know poverty is the main driving force especially in Harpurhey and Wythenshawe. Communities know this is happening and accept it. Deprived poor children are targets for the people behind Child Criminal Exploitation. It is a massive safeguarding issue now for MCC. Much needs to be done, a working group chaired jointly by Manchester City Council and GMP has been set up this year and is working with other agencies and partners. Early help are working with families at crisis point. Joined up working is crucial.

Junior Choices has been piloted and successful in North Manchester, heads of local primary schools have been asked for names of children to attend the course age 9 to 12. It runs for 12 weeks. Demand outweighs availability. Great work has been done. Paintings produced and displayed being just one positive outcome.

Questionnaires from the Junior Choices families, children and schools have been evaluated by Manchester Metropolitan University, this shows an 86% success rate of the children not being exploited by criminals, with their behaviour improving both at school and at home.

1. Council ask that we work with partners to find solutions to tackle the criminal activity.
2. Council commits to engage with Greater Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham to use MCC lead and work across GM to eradicate Child Criminal Exploitation from GM.
3. Council call on the government for funding to stop Child Criminal Exploitation, we need funding to protect and safeguard our children and young people.
4. Council recognises that we need a strategy and initiative in all areas of the City to protect our children.

Resolution

The motion was put to Council and voted on and the Lord Mayor declared that is was carried.

Decision:

1. To ask that we work with partners to find solutions to tackle the criminal activity.
2. To commit to engage with Greater Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham to use Manchester City Council lead and work across Greater Manchester to eradicate Child Criminal Exploitation from Greater Manchester.
3. To call on the government for funding to stop Child Criminal Exploitation, we need funding to protect and safeguard our children and young people.
4. To recognise that a strategy and initiative is needed in all areas of the City to protect our children.

[Councillor Collins declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item for the reason that she serves as a board member of Manchester Youth Zone, Northwards Housing and the Foster Care Association and took no part in consideration of the item.]

CC/18/68 Motion – Charter against modern slavery

Motion proposed and seconded:

This council notes although Slavery was abolished in the UK in 1833, there are more slaves today than ever before in human history. Figures from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) suggest that there are more than 40 million people in modern slavery across the world, with nearly 25 million held in forced labour. There were 3805 victims of modern slavery identified in the UK in 2016. A rising number but still well below the 10,000 and 13,000 potential victims estimated by the Home Office.

Modern Slavery is happening nationwide. Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhuman treatment. This can include sexual and criminal exploitation.

This council believes that action needs to be taken to raise awareness of modern slavery and the fact that it is happening all over the UK. That the current support for victims is not sufficient and needs to go beyond the 45 days they are currently given by the government. That council s have an important role to play in ensuring their contracts and supplies don't contribute to modern day slavery and exploitation.

Manchester City Council will:

1. Ensure its corporate procurement team is trained to understand modern slavery through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply's (CIPS) online course on Ethical Procurement and Supply.
2. Require its contractors to comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance.
3. Challenge any abnormally low-cost tenders to ensure they do not rely upon the potential contractor practising modern slavery.
4. Highlight to its suppliers that contracted workers are free to join a trade union and are not be treated unfairly for belonging to one.
5. Publicise its whistle-blowing system for staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
6. Require its tendered contractors to adopt a whistle-blowing policy which enables their staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
7. Review its contractual spending regularly to identify any potential issues with modern slavery.
8. Highlight for its suppliers any risks identified concerning modern slavery and refer them to the relevant agencies to be addressed.

9. Refer for investigation via the National Crime Agency's national referral mechanism any of its contractors identified as a cause for concern regarding modern slavery.
10. Report publicly on the implementation of this policy annually.

Resolution

The motion was put to Council and voted on and the Lord Mayor declared that it was carried.

Decision:

Manchester City Council will:

1. Ensure its corporate procurement team is trained to understand modern slavery through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply's (CIPS) online course on Ethical Procurement and Supply.
2. Require its contractors to comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance.
3. Challenge any abnormally low-cost tenders to ensure they do not rely upon the potential contractor practising modern slavery.
4. Highlight to its suppliers that contracted workers are free to join a trade union and are not to be treated unfairly for belonging to one.
5. Publicise its whistle-blowing system for staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
6. Require its tendered contractors to adopt a whistle-blowing policy which enables their staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
7. Review its contractual spending regularly to identify any potential issues with modern slavery.
8. Highlight for its suppliers any risks identified concerning modern slavery and refer them to the relevant agencies to be addressed.
9. Refer for investigation via the National Crime Agency's national referral mechanism any of its contractors identified as a cause for concern regarding modern slavery.
10. Report publicly on the implementation of this policy annually.