

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Economy Scrutiny Committee – 8 October 2020

Subject: Update on COVID-19 Activity

Report of: Strategic Director (Growth and Development)

Summary

This report provides Committee Members with a further update summary of the current situation in the city in relation to COVID-19 and an update on the work progressing in Manchester in relation to areas within the remit of this Committee. Further detail on specific issues will be available as required.

Recommendations

The Committee is requested to note the update.

Wards Affected: All

Environmental Impact Assessment - the impact of the issues addressed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city

Manchester Strategy Outcomes	Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	This unprecedented national and international crisis impacts on all areas of our city. The 'Our Manchester' approach has underpinned the planning and delivery of our response, working in partnership and identifying innovative ways to continue to deliver services and to establish new services as quickly as possible to support the most vulnerable in our city. A reset of the Our Manchester Strategy is now underway following a meeting of the Our Manchester Forum on 16 June 2020. An extensive engagement exercise will take place to inform a draft document in late 2020 and a final version in February 2021.
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	

A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

None

Economic Recovery Workstream- Sitrep Summary

As at: 25/09/20 (updated fortnightly) Changes since last updated highlighted in yellow.

Issue/theme/activity area	Impact/ challenges experienced	Key planning and response activity being undertaken
<p>General overview</p>	<p>Chancellor statement 24/09:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Job Support Scheme. Guidance to be published shortly. 6 month scheme, starting 1 Nov. To be eligible, employees work a min of 33% of their hours. For remaining hours not worked, govt and employer pay a third of wages each. Mainly for SMEs. Only large businesses that can prove they've been adversely affected will be eligible. <i>(Initial concerns raised about support for those where partial working not possible ie aviation, music sector, live events and support for freelancers.)</i> ● Extension of self-employment scheme on similar terms to existing job support scheme. ● 'Pay as you grow' scheme for businesses which took govt guaranteed loans. Loans to be extended from 6 to 10 years, with move to interest only payments or suspension of payments if 'they are in real trouble; for up to 6 months. Business Interruption Loans to be extended for up to 10 years. Plus a new loan scheme in Jan. ● VAT deferral plan- 12 months interest free payment plan. ● Hospitality and tourism- planned VAT increase from 5% to 20% due from Jan cancelled. Lower rate of 5% to remain until March 31 next year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ipsos Mori carried out large scale business survey work of key sector impacts/business needs. Presentation of findings 25/09 ● Business Sounding Board- has been working on B2B viral campaign to build confidence in returning to city centre workplaces- was due to go live 24/9. MCC supporting BSB on dashboard of city centre performance data. Business views to be sought on impact of latest changes to understand support needed.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="443 209 1133 389">● Manchester Business Sounding Board 22/09- Major frustrations raised by businesses on latest restrictions, disruption, nuanced messaging on working from home and potential six month period of restrictions. <li data-bbox="443 432 1133 756">● CBI State of the Economy Report 20/09- UK among hardest hit in GDP terms, sector impacts (unsurprisingly hotels & restaurants, arts & entertainment and services), recovery in spending, recovery hinges on management of C19, near time cashflow constraints biting hard, poorest likely to be hit hardest, concerns re Brexit scenarios and major issue of business preparedness. 	

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<p>Sectoral Impact</p>	<p>Footfall figures- Footfall slowly increasing week on week. Week of Sun 12th- 19th Sept (Springboard) Year % week % Total -44% +1% St Ann's Square -50% +11% Exchange Square -50% +11% King Street -45% -5% Market Street -45% -5% New Cathedral Street -39% +1%</p> <p>UK comparison high street -29% +2% week Mancr monthly footfall v last year for August: -44.8 % (-38.3 % UK)</p> <p>Significant increases over 14-20 Sept in Fallowfield (41.1%), Withington (30.4%), Cheetham Hill (30.3%), Northenden (24.9%), Rusholme (24.6%). Lowest increase in Harpurhey (1.9%).</p> <p>Hospitality- Govt announcement 22/09 - pubs, bars, restaurants and other hospitality venues must close at 10 pm from Thursday. Table service only. Major concerns raised by the hospitality sector ie around viability of the sector, potential for restaurants to condense bookings, pinch points for movement of people.</p> <p>UKHospitality Chief Executive- <i>"These restrictions are a further, potentially fatal, blow for many hospitality businesses. In isolation, they may appear moderate, but the cumulative effect is going to be hugely damaging. The government must immediately announce an exhaustive package of financial support, otherwise our sector is facing ruin. Employment support must be extended."</i></p>	<p>Hospitality- Work engaging with representatives from the China town business community has commenced to support restaurants with use of outdoor space. Work to identify ways to support venues into the winter including use of eg gazebos is ongoing.</p> <p>NHS COVID App for businesses launches 24/09 enabling the public to automatically "check into" venues.. Designated businesses and organisations, including hospitality, close contact services and leisure venues, will be legally required to display an official NHS QR code poster.</p> <p>Recruitment of new Covid Response officers to work with Environmental Health team has commenced as well as new comms/branding for specific district centres</p>

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	<p>Whitbread (6,000 jobs at risk) 22/09 Revolution Bars Group has confirmed it is looking at various strategic options, including the possibility of reducing the size of its estate through a CVA (25/09)</p> <p>Visitor economy- Concerns re govt announcement to abolish tax free shopping to all international visitors after Dec 2020. Marketing Manchester urging Treasury to reconsider decision and instead extend tax free scheme to all international visitors. UK would now be the only country in Europe not to offer tax-free shopping to international visitors, which would put at risk £60 million of tax-free sales to GM visitor economy.</p> <p>NatWest Tourism Barometer- fortnightly report surveys 100 businesses in North. Urban/rural divide. Over 8 week period so far, recovery has been slower in urban destinations. Data shows concerning picture for Mancr. In Mancr the percentage of businesses trading with both lower revenue levels and lower visitor numbers are double the average figures for the north, at 60% and 62% respectively, compared to 31% and 30%. Picture also replicated in other northern cities. (23/09)</p> <p>Culture/Events/Sport sector- Live sports events- plans for phased return of fans paused. Business conferences and exhibitions will not reopen on 1st October. (22/09)</p> <p>Venues update: People's History Museum opened 01/09/ The Portico Library opened 01/09/ Centre of Contemporary Chinese Art - 02/09/ HOME opened 04/09 (cinemas, bars and restaurant)/ The International Anthony Burgess Foundation 08/09/</p>	<p>Visitor economy- <i>One Year Recovery plan</i> nearing completion (emerged from discussions with GM Tourism Industry Emergency Response Group).</p> <p>Mancr has won bid to host UKinbound 2021 annual convention- travel trade assn- Feb 21 at The Midland Hotel. #FindYourSpaceMCR (campaign targeted at tourism, hospitality, leisure and cultural sectors) 867,000 impressions on Twitter and 2.19 m impressions on Facebook. (09/09) Campaign to be expanded to wider regional and national audiences in the Autumn.</p> <p>Visit Britain launched UK wide 'Escape the everyday' campaign to boost domestic tourism through Autumn and Winter. 21/09</p> <p>Culture/Events/Sport:</p> <p>Food and Drink Festival rescheduled to April 21.. Wild in Art (who also curated Bee in the City) to lead <i>50 Windows of creativity</i> across city centre in Autumn- showcase work of local artists. (See also separate papers on events plan)</p> <p>Officers to meet with Cultural Leaders Group next week and venues sub group of Business Sounding Board to discuss impact of this week's measures on cultural sectors, plus measures to lobby govt, actions as a sector, and asks of GMCA and other funding partners.</p> <p>Cultural Recovery Board met 10/09 with focus on ACE Fund and reopening of venues.</p>

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	<p>The Whitworth - 14/09/ Manchester Museum - 14/09/ Castlefield Gallery 16/09/ ZArts planning to reopen for participatory activities - 28/09</p> <p>Visitor numbers- 14-20 Sept: Central Library: 3,112 (Mon- Sun) Slight rise on previous week. Art Gallery: 1,544 (Mon- Sun) (1,308 previous week) HOME 8,664 (Sun- Sat) previous week 7,188 (13-19/09)</p> <p>Cultural venues with operations including food and beverages offers will be impacted by govt announcement that curtails operating hours to 10pm and requires table service.</p>	<p>Cultural/ Creative Industries Training & Skills The Factory Academy (TFA) is positioned to respond to support cultural and creative industries sector employers & engage with the Kickstart programme.</p> <p>Factory Futures - launched 23/09 - The programme has been designed to align to the Government's 'Plan for Jobs' aims featuring traineeships and the Kickstart programme. It includes a five-year fully funded pre-employment training programme for 1,400 young people, aged 19-24, who are unemployed or on Universal Credit.</p> <p>Kickstart – TFA working with ACE, sector skills lead - Creative & Cultural Skills and youth arts company Curious Minds to develop a Kickstart bid on behalf of cultural and creative organisations in GM and the NW. With a system to manage the process with DWP supporting cohorts of employers access the programme.</p> <p>Training Academies - start on 28/10 & 18/11 – training for 40, unemployed, young people who would like to learn about the sector & develop vital employability skills. This will become a talent pool for paid internships/kickstart roles. Virtual open day on the 21/10</p> <p>GM Cultural Skills (employer) Consortium will have a virtual meet up in Oct.</p> <p>Music Venues- A survey is going out to music venues to assess the latest position and challenges being faced, current levels of operation in the city and to scope existing applications for govt support via the Culture Recovery Fund.</p>

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	<p data-bbox="392 710 1120 933">Aviation- The Government's announcement last week that it would reintroduce duty free after Brexit, was accompanied by a decision to scrap tax-free shopping for all tourists visiting the UK. Airport concerned this will have a major impact on its business but also on retail more generally.</p> <p data-bbox="392 970 1070 1043">Fears of further restrictions pushing down travel shares, esp. International Airlines Group.</p> <p data-bbox="392 1080 1113 1337">Regionalisation of travel corridors has now been confirmed and attention now moves onto testing, which will be necessary to reopen markets that are currently closed or at risk of closing. Pushing to reopen routes to New York is also in the news this week – Heathrow are leading campaign, also relevant to Manchester.</p> <p data-bbox="392 1374 1113 1481">Regionalisation of travel corridors has meant that only certain Greek islands rather than the whole of Greece were removed from the safe travel list, and</p>	<p data-bbox="1167 170 2011 574">DCMS announced £1.57 billion investment 'Culture Recovery Funding' and Culture Recovery Fund Grants - £500m for England Both rounds have closed. Announcement of funding decisions due: <i>Round 1</i> Under £1 million - from 30/9 & no later than 5/10 Over £1 million - 23/10 <i>Round 2</i> Under £1 million - 16/10 Over £1 million - 6/11 Capital Kickstart Fund. £120m to support existing arts & heritage capital projects that have experienced delays to build programmes. £55m to be distributed via ACE. Eligible projects that have applied will receive a decision by 10/11.</p> <p data-bbox="1167 611 1957 684">Invitation to Sec of State for Culture to visit Mancr made public.</p> <p data-bbox="1167 759 2016 943">Aviation- MA signed a letter to the Chancellor along with the Association of International Retail (AIR), Marks & Spencer, and Heathrow amongst others. The letter details a total expected impact across the UK of up to 70,000 jobs and £5.6 billion lost from the economy. (22/09)</p> <p data-bbox="1167 970 2004 1457">22/09- Airport pleased to welcome first cohorts of international student arrivals this week. Students arrived on Cathay Pacific and Hainan charter flights and marks the start of six weeks of daily flights from China, specifically for students. Airport been working closely with UK universities and the China Forum to ensure a safe system of travel in place for the students, as well as colleagues and partners supporting these flights. First weekend of flights went smoothly, ready for increased volumes of student arrivals from next week onwards. Still a long way from guest volumes this time last year when record numbers of international students arrived. Over the weekend there were 91,000 guests. Drop of 77% on same weekend last year.</p>

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	<p>Madeira and the Azores were kept on the safe travel list when Portugal was removed. Hungary, Slovenia and Guadeloupe have all also been removed from the safe travel list, though Sweden, Thailand and Singapore have all been added.</p> <p>easyJet, IAG and Cathay Pacific have joined Ryanair and Wizz Air in announcing reductions in previously stated capacity plans.</p> <p>Daily passenger volumes peaked in August and are now decreasing slowly as the end of summer approaches. As of 13 Sept, cumulative traffic at Manchester since 1 Feb 2020 has been 4.1million, 79% down from the same period in 2019. Weekly passengers as of 13 Sept fell 6% from the previous week.</p> <p>As of last week, total UK seat capacity had fallen to 35% of 2019 levels compared to European capacity of 41%. Scheduled capacity increases in the US for the end of Sept have now been scaled back.</p> <p>Thomas Cook brand has been resurrected as an online-only travel agent, owned by Chinese travel conglomerate, Fosun Tourism Group.</p> <p>The EU's 80/20 slot rule waiver (i.e. an airline has to use a slot 80% of the time to retain it) has been extended into the winter 20/21 season. MAG is opposed to this waiver in principle, and intend to respond to the EU's consultation accordingly, as it risks airlines holding slots but not using them, resulting in no revenue for the airport but also preventing other airlines using them. There is a risk of distortion, with airlines likely to restart London</p>	

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	<p>services before Manchester ones. However, the impact of the waiver is expected to be primarily concentrated on Heathrow and Gatwick, where slots are in very short supply, and the material impacts upon Manchester or other MAG airports are expected to be limited. (22/09)</p> <p>Higher Education Institutions- MMU- 20% more students than anticipated. Using additional space to deliver learning at ie Odeon/Great Northern. (18/09)</p> <p>Inward investment- Steady flow of new enquiries- majority are high quality projects with high end jobs across sectors: fintech, e-commerce, cyber security, adv man, life sciences & logistics. Increasing number of UK based relocation enquiries incl from London (primarily fintech/ financial and professional services). Legal sector increasingly regarded as an opportunity.</p> <p>World Investment Report 2020 (UNCTAD- global foreign direct investment projected to drop by 40% this year with recovery not expected by 2022. Challenge for Mancr is to lower the impact as much as possible. Pipeline of 500 projects, 250 live/ in active discussion (90 delayed).</p>	<p>UoM is working hard on visa applications, organising flights into Mancr and issuing regular messages to international students.</p> <p>Virtual fintech mission hosted last week involving 200 people and led to a number of new live enquiries. Forthcoming virtual events around e-commerce, innovation and life sciences. Targeted one to one programme aimed at legal sector north shoring opportunities, in conjunction with UofM (Law and Tech Initiative). MIDAS continuing contact with largest foreign owned companies in GM. (22/09)</p>
Development	<p>Stimulating development & investor confidence, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Understanding current impact through intelligence gathering. ● Assessing sources and levels of investment, and any obstacles (access to debt). ● Seeking financial and other support needed to enable early start of key projects. ● Understanding supply chain issues and identifying appropriate support measures. It is 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Planning Reforms- See separate papers on MCC responses. ● Announcement of Government approval on 04/08 for Getting Building Funding for BASE Manchester Innovation Activities Hub at MSP (£4M) and Mayfield (£23M). Draft offer letters received early September, with final terms being negotiated with GMCA. ● 3 Manchester approved in principle for Round 1(22/09) of the Brownfield Land Fund (for schemes due to start 2020-21) - New Cross Central, Mulbury

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	<p>becoming increasingly apparent that the appetite of contractors to bid for apartment led residential schemes has been significantly impacted in the short term due to issues in the supply chain (i.e. loss of subcontractors and access to materials). This concern has also been raised by developers of commercial schemes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Developing guidance/share good practice for safe operation of sites. ● Expediting design & planning phases of projects. ● Productivity increased across most major sites- 97% of infrastructure and construction sites now operating. Social distancing measures impacting on programmes. Issues re supply chain/access to materials. Infrastructure sites are now achieving 89% of pre-Covid productivity. Housing sites 93% of sites now open. Reports that contractors are planning to reduce workforce by 11 % within the next 3 months. 	<p>City - New Cross Zone A and Viadux. Prioritisation for the next round is expected to start in the next 2 months. Decision awaited on the bid for an additional 10% allocation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Key shovel ready schemes are included within Recovery Plan. ● Pre contract discussions have been held with Homes England on Northern Gateway, with a view to entering in a contract in September, securing £51.6m in Housing Investment Fund grant that must be fully expended by March 2024. ● Community consultation on the first phase of the delivery of Collyhurst will be restarted in advance of planning applications for the delivery of approximately 270 homes (including up to 130 new Council properties) in Collyhurst Village and Collyhurst South and the first phase of a new park. The intention is that this consultation exercise will lead to the submission of planning applications in the Autumn of 2020. Scheme could commence Spring 2021. ● NOMA and Central Retail Park live consultations on regeneration frameworks
Affordable Housing	<p>Risk to developer and investor confidence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Working with RP's and other developers to understand current impact and forward plans. ● Assessing sources and levels of investment, and any obstacles ● Investigating grant funding, financial and other support needed to enable early start of key projects ● Understanding supply chain issues and identifying appropriate support measures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Regulator for Social Housing (RSH) called for RP's to provide revisions of their business plans by September. This will identify any viability risks but should also identify progress on development programmes. ● Managing existing onsite, pipeline and planned development with RP's. These were referenced in the June Executive report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 398 homes under construction and anticipated in the 2020/21 year. Re-mobilization of sites now underway.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Developing guidance/share good practice for safe operation of sites ● Expediting design & planning phases of projects. ● Risk of registered providers slowing down or pausing programmes to consolidate finances/liquidity ● Ensure Zero Carbon and Fire safety provision are part of the programmes. ● Potential flooding of the PRS sector as the short term let market shrinks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 252 homes currently in the programme for 2021/22. ○ New projects emerging. ○ The scheme with Clarion has been finalised to deliver shared ownership homes for the full development ● Silk Street <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Silk Street funding has been approved and will be progressing through the Capital Strategy Board. The project team being established to take this through to delivery with Rowlinson Construction. ● Progressing the establishment of a Local delivery vehicle. Looking to start on site with key projects and novate across. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CBRE will be appointed on 31/07/2020 to undertake master planning and cost build up of the proposed sites for the vehicle. It is anticipated that this will take approx 4 weeks which will then feed into the financial modelling and business case scheduled to be included in the report to Oct Executive ● Project 500 progressing. Will deliver 500-600 homes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ward members will be contacted about the sites within their wards in Sept. (13/08) ● Entering into formal agreement with Homes England and signing an MOU to take a partnership approach to accelerated development. Complements similar arrangements with GMCA. Report to Oct Executive ● Ongoing intelligence gathering with developers to understand status of projects and support needed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MHPP Growth workstream capturing current position and plans. ● Prioritisation of land assembly and due diligence to allow acceleration of build programme.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with Your Housing Group to bring forward a 200+ newbuild scheme in East Manchester with 60% planned for affordable housing
Transport and Infrastructure	<p>Work with TfGM to agree a broad overall transport plan to support gradual opening up of the city with a focus on pedestrian movement and safe use of public transport linked to an agreed package of measures to support safe pedestrian access.</p>	<p><u>Recent Manchester Specific Transport Usage Data</u></p> <p><u>Bus Patronage</u> +1.6% (770,773) trips from the previous week (vs. +1.6% GM-wide). Network mileage -13.9% from the same month last year (vs. -17.2% GM-wide)</p> <p><u>Metrolink</u> Metrolink Network patronage had a week on week decrease of 1.3% GM-wide. East Didsbury line was -2.7% (848) trips</p> <p><u>Highway</u> In Manchester, the weekly average private vehicle trips was -16% from typical volumes during the same period last year. The Regional Centre figures are slightly lower -20% (The GM-wide figure is -16%)</p> <p><u>Rail</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Piccadilly footfall is now in excess of 50,000 per day (-50% from last year though) Victoria daily footfall around 5,000 per day (+30% from the start of month) <p>New national figures from train operators show 3 million fewer passengers on Tuesday 1st September than a year ago, with only a slight increase in commuters. The data indicated that total journeys were just 38% of the equivalent day in 2019, a proportion that had been steadily increasing over the last two months but is only marginally higher than last week.</p> <p><u>Cycling & Walking</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant drop in cycle volumes (GM) over first two weeks of Sept- around a third.

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		<p data-bbox="1167 209 1375 236">GM Wide Data</p> <p data-bbox="1167 244 1995 384">Data from the last week shows the following differences with the position on 09/03 showing a gradual but slow increase in public transport usage across GM, with car travel much closer to pre lockdown levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1312 392 1980 533">○ Metrolink patronage 9/3/20 = 122,613 14/7/20= 31884 4/9/20=53,215 18/09/20= 56,884 <li data-bbox="1312 541 1939 719">○ Bus 9/3/20 515,309 14/7/20 191,093 24/8//20 238,503 4/9/20 292,832 18/09/20 333,220 <li data-bbox="1391 727 1939 868">Rail 9/3/20 104,795 14/7/20 28,700 11/09/20 48,123 18/09/20 47,871 <li data-bbox="1379 876 1980 1051">GM Highway 9/3/20 5,082,000 14/7/20 4,032,000 25/8/20 4,370,915 8/9/20 4,528,836 18/09/20 4,838,128 <p data-bbox="1167 1098 1980 1350">Latest year on year data on car park usage across the NCP Joint Venture car parks shows a mixed picture. Generally those car parks that focus on retail or leisure markets (King St West and Arndale) are doing better in terms of recovery to last year's volumes, than those focussing on commuters or business related journeys (eg Spinningfields). 01/09</p> <p data-bbox="1167 1390 1980 1489">Face Coverings- Compliance across the transport network remains around 80% on bus and is now between 90-95% overall on rail. Compliance on Metrolink last week</p>

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		<p>was near 89% in the AM peak, but fell to just below 77% in the evening peak</p> <p><u>City Centre Transport Strategy consultation launched this week.</u></p> <p><u>Emergency Active Travel Fund</u> MCC has obtained £180k from the first phase of the Government's Emergency Active Travel Fund (EATF) to contribute to funding of work undertaken at Deansgate and Stevenson Square.</p> <p>Proposals have been submitted by TfGM for phase 2 of EATF. A bid to the value of £14 m was submitted on 7th Aug and £5.5 m of this was for proposals to support active travel within Mcr. Decision delayed and not expected until October.</p>
	Analysis of businesses' plans for reopening, working with TfGM, CA, Chamber, Growth Company	TfGM linked into Day Time Economy recovery group work
	Identify and implement interventions that support social distancing and support business reopening and procure necessary equipment to facilitate this.	A presentation on outline proposals for the re - purposing of more city centre streets and open spaces to support hospitality businesses was given to the City Centre Infrastructure Working Group on 23rd July. These initial ideas are now being developed further in consultation with members to support businesses over Autumn period. The proposals seek to draw on best practice from other cities in the UK and abroad.
	Continue with highway works that can be undertaken during lockdown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continuing with all our major projects that are on site and continuously monitoring government guidance about construction ● Finding ways to accelerate all our programme of walking and cycling schemes aiming to have early starts on all our programmed projects

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maintaining our roads at business as usual levels by inspecting them and making repairs ● Resurfacing and treating many more main roads than originally planned to take advantage of lower traffic levels ● Working with TfGM to review bus stops and increase pedestrian phasing at signalised crossings.
Skills, Labour Market and Business Support	<p>Significant growth in the number of Manchester residents claiming Universal Credit. Evidence base for THINK work shows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 89% rise in claimant count in Manchester during April & May - 33,825 claimants; ● affects every LSOA in the City & all age ranges; ● particular impact on young people which has seen an increase of 98% (national fig 109%) & over 50s (73%); ● concentrations in areas with large Black, Asian and ethnic minority communities e.g. Longsight, Moss Side, Cheetham ● 32% of Manchester residents are either furloughed (62,200) or receiving self-employment support (15,900); ● Job losses compounded by significant drop in levels of vacancies; ● 800 16-18 year olds who would normally pursue apprenticeships or move into employment at risk; ● 74% national decline in apprenticeships ● circa 10,000 graduates who would normally stay in the City will struggle to get graduate level work. <p>ONS release in September - Aug figs- for</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● THINK have produced their report on skills & labour market recommendations (shared with Scrutiny Committee Members at the last meeting) with 6 key priorities: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) minimise the number of Manchester residents moving from furlough to redundancy as the job retention scheme winds down; (2) support unemployed Manchester residents to re-enter work as quickly as possible especially young people, those aged over 50 and BAME; (3) maximise new job creation, increasing overall labour demand in the City; (4) minimise the number of young people who become unemployed after leaving education and training in Manchester; (5) support apprenticeships & other training opportunities to better equip employers with the skills to survive & grow, while helping more residents to progress & upskill in their careers; (6) improve the support available to unemployed, long-term inactive residents to reduce the risk that they are “crowded out” of the jobs market with the influx of new claimants ● Following the Kickstart launch we continue to work with MGC and GMCA, in addition to briefing

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	<p>Manchester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Claimant count: 35,275 all ages up from 34,255 in July; 7090- aged 16-24; 21870 up from 21,445 (July)-aged 25 to 49 and 6405 up from 6220 aged over 50. Of the 35,275, men account for 21,680 and women 13,595. The increase in claimant count numbers of 1,020 over the last month represents a large increase but not as sharp an increase as in April & May. It is expected that the next significant rise in unemployment will be in October when furlough comes to an end <p>4.4% of 16 & 17 year olds were NEET in July and 3.6% were unknown, giving a combined fig of 8% which is above national & GM averages.</p> <p>The majority of post-16 providers are registering on line this year which may impact on school leavers taking up their offer.</p> <p>UOM and MMU have raised concerns about the employment outcomes for their class of 2019 as well as 2020. Also an impact on students employability from the loss of work experience and internships.</p> <p>Digital exclusion correlates strongly with social exclusion and its effect on residents has been exacerbated by the Covid crisis.</p> <p>Latest Growth Company fortnightly survey- GM companies planning redundancies increased to 9% for period 29/09- 14/09- up from 2%. (23/09) Also reports: No of GM businesses reporting cashflow issues decreased by 1% to 29% (17/08- 14/09)</p>	<p>employers and partner organisations to gauge interest and understand opportunities and challenges. Work continues internally to develop models for The Council's approach as both an employer and advocate for the scheme, including how we can promote and influence the delivery to ensure maximum impact across the City.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kickstart briefing note has been produced and associated comms being developed. FSB (support organisation for SME's) has launched a national gateway for the Kickstart scheme, to provide an easy route for SME's to participate in the scheme. Return to post-16 colleges and 6th forms is going well. Enrolments on level 2 & 3 courses are up but fewer enrolling on level 1 courses Adult Education providers have also returned. Social distancing in class rooms, reduces capacity & efficiency and where possible online learning is being used to enable similar numbers of learners accessing learning. Early indications are that retention on online courses is lower than traditional approaches and a challenge for learners with low skill levels. Meetings have taken place with the career leads in UOM and MMU to identify gaps including the under-employment of graduates and link HEIs to more business & work opportunities Landing page is now live on the Council website. www.manchester.gov.uk/HelpToGetWork. Soft launch has taken place & 30 residents have registered support. Early intel is that 60% of those registering for support are aged between 25 and 44, most of whom are already unemployed. Further communications are being put in place to raise awareness.

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	<p>No. of businesses reporting less than 6 months reserves decreased by 5% to 27% (17/08- 14/09)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● An application to DWP's Flexible Support Fund is being explored to wrap around our existing work club offer to offer enhanced support in BAME communities. ● The Manchester Adult Education & Skills Partnership is working together on a Comms plan to better promote learning & skills opportunities to employers, residents & community organisations; ● Manchester Digital Device Scheme has been set up & a steering group established to manage the roll out and evaluation of the device scheme. ● 30 x £50K projects have been agreed with GMCA (one with a focus on digital access, one with a focus on adult education collaboration and promotion and one to extend the ESOL Advice Service) ● The ESOL Advice service will be developed as a cross GM project (excluding Wigan, Bolton and Stockport) which will bring with it efficiencies of scale and has already peaked the interest of other MCA areas. ● The Work & Skills, MAES & Commissioning teams are working with Manchester's home care providers to connect unemployed residents to the employment opportunities and agree future approaches to training & progression within the sector, delivery for the first cohort of learners starts in the next couple of weeks. ● Employ GM website has been developed to include a specific retail campaign. The site has seen over 25000 visitors and there were 1,454 unique visitors to the site in the last week. ● Grant funding payments to SMEs as at 30/08 MCC paid over £101.8 m (allocation £121 m). The W&S team is dealing with the final enquiries relating to the Discretionary Business Grants scheme with the final payments to go out by the end of September. To

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		<p>date the scheme has paid out £5.4m and will be fully spent by the end of September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● W&S team are working with the Business Growth Hub to provide additional support to tier one construction contractors to build local supply chains. Some initial meetings with contractors are scheduled to get this underway. ● GMCVO have a loan fund of £1.5m to support social enterprises to recover from the effects of Covid and are prioritising their support for organisations in the sector delivering employability & skills support and working with BAME communities ● The govt announced yesterday new funding to support businesses impacted by coronavirus. Businesses in England required to close due to local lockdowns or targeted restrictions will now be able to receive grants of either £1,000 or £1,500 every three weeks. To be eligible for the grant, a business must have been required to close due to local coronavirus restrictions. The Work & Skills Team is working with the Business rates team to promote the scheme. ● A new fund to support individuals on low income (UC or tax credit recipients) to self-isolate has been announced. Further details awaited. ● MCC will relaunch our Brexit web pages and actively promote webinars & sources of support to businesses in the City. ● Officers are finalising an ERDF bid which if successful would see an additional £2.6m to support business start-up & support services through GM libraries, delivered by the Manchester Business Library service through BIPC.
Funding	No specific known impacts on current external funding bids caused by C19 as yet. Known bids	The City Policy team is continuing to track new funding opportunities from a range of sources including

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	<p>progressing through funding approval processes as expected.</p> <p>Team in City Policy developing a funding action plan based on C19 recovery and Corporate priorities</p>	<p>Government and European programmes which remain open to UK applicants. The main funds of note this week are:</p> <p>1) Public Sector Decarbonisation £1 billion fund. Announced by the Chancellor in July. Further details of this are expected imminently.</p> <p>GMCA written to Chief Execs advising that a GM bid will be made and asking districts to join that bid. At this stage it is our view that we should do so. It is estimated the funding will be open from 17th October, and GM LA's will be able to apply for £20-40m of capital funding. Officers to progress with GMCA colleagues and through internal Zero Carbon Coordination group.</p> <p>2) Green Recovery Challenge Fund</p> <p>The Resources & Programmes team are supporting 2 GM bids, with EOIs submitted 24/9/20. Successful EOIs will have 3 weeks in which to submit a full application.</p> <p>Groundwork GM - looking to include Wythenshawe Woodlands & work to remove invasive species from river valleys in GM, inc. Irk, Mersey and Medlock.</p> <p>Lancashire Wildlife Trust - further greening of Rochdale Canal in city centre.</p> <p>3) Horizon 2020 Green Deal- opened on 22/09 with applications due by Jan 26th 21.</p> <p>Resource & Programmes team will be identifying any relevant calls and bringing to the Zero Carbon Coordination Group if any bidding opportunities found.</p>

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Strategy & Economic Narrative Review	C19 has necessitated a review of existing strategies to understand whether they are fit for purpose given the predicted exacerbation of existing inequalities. This will inform the Economic Recovery Plan & Our Manchester Strategy reset. Formal refreshes would not take place until 2021 when the Our Manchester Strategy has been reset and the full impact of C19 is known.	Economic Recovery Plan update- A summary version of the slides and projects has been submitted to Government with the CSR submission. (See separate attachments). The final version of the Plan will be finalised and professionally designed to allow use locally and nationally to build business and investor confidence and for lobbying.
External Influencing & Lobbying	The Government's economic response to C19 has been fast moving and feeding in Manchester's priorities has required a coordinated approach.	Comprehensive Spending Review- Submissions to Government have now been made by the Council, Greater Manchester, UK Core Cities and the Convention of the North. Final versions can be circulated to members. The submissions have been cross referenced to ensure consistency.
Economic Intelligence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Need to engage with Manchester Businesses and Key sectors to understand current status re Covid related impacts. 2. Understanding of businesses in rented spaces and analysis to support the Business Rates Discretionary Grants. 3. Need to understand status of development pipeline across the city. 4. Need to update population modelling (MCCFM), reflecting both the impacts on and from the economy. 5. Demand appraisal for residential lettings market in Manchester post pandemic. 6. Challenge re the scale of analytical capacity required to support this, other Covid-19 workstreams and Business as Usual activities. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ipsos Mori large scale survey of Manchester based businesses now closed. Interviews with over 700 businesses between 16/07 and 17/08. Headline findings presented to EMG Economic Recovery Group on 25/09. 2. Tracking underway - pipeline used to support Financial Resilience work - including forecasting potential council tax & business rates revenues - drafts for forecast CT / BR revenues from new development with Finance colleagues for comment 3. Update of the MCCFM is in progress, more difficult and time consuming than normal due to macro uncertainties. ONS Mid Year Estimates released recently to support this work. 4. Data sweep complete - work now underway to collate trends across sub-sectors (mainstream, students, short term lets) to contribute to overall appraisal. 5. Ongoing discussions to re-prioritise work areas and understand where the gaps may be. Risk we could run out of internal capacity. Future format for

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		economic monitoring currently being considered.