

Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2018

Present:

Councillor Farrell – in the Chair
Councillors Battle, Clay, Curley, Holt, Lynch, Mary Monaghan, Reeves, Wills and Wilson

Councillor Craig, Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing

Professor Michael McCourt, Chief Executive, Manchester Local Care Organisation
Katy Calvin-Thomas, Director of Strategy & Deputy Chief Executive, Manchester Local Care Organisation
Julia Stephens Row, Independent Chair of Manchester Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards

Apologies: Councillor Paul

HSC/18/39 Minutes

The minutes of the Health Scrutiny Committee meeting of 4 September 2018 were submitted for approval. Councillor Lynch requested that her attendance be recorded.

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2018 as a correct record subject to the above amendment.

HSC/18/40 Support at home: Update on equipment, adaptations and reablement services

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Strategic Commissioning and Director of Adult Social Services that informed Members on the progress and development of a range of adult services to support people at home including the equipment and adaptations services, reablement services, physiotherapy services and housing options for older people. It included the progress made since the discussions at the last scrutiny meeting in December 2017.

Officers referred to the main points of the report which were:-

- Describing the background and description of the Manchester's Service for Independent Living (MSIL) and how this service is accessed;
- Current performance data on the Equipment and Adaptations Services in relation to both major and minor adaptations;
- Customer satisfaction performance was reported, currently recorded as 95%;
- Data on the performance of contractors;
- Information and data on the Housing Options for Older People service (HOOP);

- Reablement activity and progress, noting that reablement being defined as an evidence based approach to maximise people's ability to return to their optimum, stable level of independence, with the lowest appropriate level of ongoing support;
- The current challenges to the reablement service and the response to these;
- A description of different types of physiotherapy services across the city and the associated referral data; and
- The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment regarding Fuel Poverty, noting that Manchester contained the highest number and proportion of fuel poor households of any local authority within Greater Manchester.

Members discussed the issue of fuel poverty and asked what was being done to tackle this, especially as the funding streams designed to address this had ceased. Members noted that a lot of older housing stock in the city were poorly insulated and private landlords needed to take more responsibility to ensure that the properties that they were renting out were of a decent standard. Members asked what standards were applied to privately rented properties and could conditions be attached as part of the landlord licensing scheme.

A Member commented that improving fuel poverty would realise savings to the NHS and reduce carbon emissions. The Chair commented that consideration needed to be given to how this was evidenced so as to make the case for additional funding to support schemes to address fuel poverty.

Members noted the reported levels of customer satisfaction with the adaptations service, however asked what lessons were learnt from those residents who were not satisfied.

Members asked a question about the challenges presented to One Manchester, as the Council's delivery partner to deliver major adaptations in East and Central Manchester.

Members sought clarification regarding the recruitment of staff to deliver reablement services, noting that a recruitment exercise was underway. Members asked for an update on this exercise.

The Director of Population Health and Wellbeing acknowledged that a significant amount of funding that had previously been available to address fuel poverty had now ceased nationally. He said that the Local Care Organisation (LCO) would develop responses and interventions to tackle the wider determinants of health by using Social Prescribing.

The Programme Lead Health and Social Care Integration informed the Committee that the delivery of services had now been transferred to the LCO. She said this was a positive development presenting an opportunity to build strong relationships between health professionals and establish joint working practices that would ultimately benefit the citizens of Manchester. She further described that funding had been secured to recruit an additional 62 reablement workers and 8 occupational therapists that would help improve referral rates and address the issues of capacity.

In response to the comments raised regarding those cases that were not satisfied with the service, the Programme Lead Health and Social Care Integration said that a complaint would always be fully investigated and responded to appropriately. She said that any lessons learnt would also be reviewed. She further clarified that a Minor Adaptation was classified as costing under £1000 and Major Adaptions as works costing above £1000, and this definition is prescribed nationally. She explained that Major works could sometimes take longer to deliver due to the complexity of each individual job.

The Programme Lead Health and Social Care Integration advised that for those cases where major adaptions were refused in favour of rehousing those decisions were reached following consideration by a Panel in full compliance with agreed Council Policy. She said that for those individuals/families affected social workers would intervene to support any vulnerable people and alternative sources of support would be accessed.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing reported that a review of this policy would be undertaken and that she welcomed the views of Members on this issue.

The Head of Housing said that he acknowledged the comments made by Members in relation to the poor condition of properties in the Private Rented Sector. He informed the Committee that a strategy to look at this and other issues within the Private Rented Sector would be developed. He said that currently there was no funding to address fuel poverty, however there were limited grants and loans available that people could apply for. He commented that when a previous Right to Buy property became available to purchase the local Registered Provider would seek to buy back the property. He advised that he would refer the comments regarding property conditions contributing to fuel poverty being attached to licensing conditions to the appropriate team for consideration.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing advised that standards within the Private Rented Sector was an issue that contributed to the health and wellbeing of residents. She said more needed to be done to ensure that those landlords who were making a profit from renting homes should be made more responsible and accountable for the condition of their properties.

The Housing Programme Manager said that Registered Housing Providers had agreed to contribute 40% of costs associated with adaptations. He explained that 50% of the adaptations delivered by One Manchester were to other Registered Housing Providers in the city. He said that challenges arose as they had to coordinate this activity with a number of different providers who had their own agreements and systems for approving works, however the system was working well with good relationships and cooperation established between housing providers.

Decision

The Committee notes the report.

HSC/18/41 Manchester Local Care Organisation

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive, Manchester Local Care Organisation (MLCO). The report was provided as an update to the report that had been considered by the Committee at their 19 June 2018 meeting (See minute ref: HSC/18/25.)

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

- Background on the development and establishment of MLCO through the signing of the Partnering Agreement;
- The long term vision of MLCO;
- Update on Neighbourhood working; and,
- Update on progress against MLCO priorities including New Care Models and MLCO work to support system resilience.

In addition to the report the Committee were shown a short video presentation that articulated the above.

Members asked how they as local elected representatives could engage with their respective Neighbourhood Team and if they would be consulted on the design on the 12 bespoke Neighbourhood Plans.

Members further enquired about the recruitment of the Neighbourhood Team Leaders and what backgrounds they would be drawn from and discussed the wider issue of recruitment and retention of staff, in particular reference to GPs and Social Workers.

Members sought an explanation as why the referral rates for the High Impact Primary Care programme were lower than had been expected and what was being done to address this.

A Member commented that whilst he fully supported the ambitions of the MLCO he asked the Chief Executive, (MLCO) how confident was he that the ambitions would be realised.

The Chief Executive, (MLCO) said that the role of Councillors, with their local knowledge and experience will be invaluable to the success of Neighbourhood Teams and he acknowledged the comment made regarding arranging engagement events with local teams for Members.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing said that the Neighbourhood Team Leaders would be the main contact for Members in their wards and that the draft Neighbourhood Plans would be shared with Members so they could contribute and comment so Members were fully engaged with the shaping of these plans.

The Chief Executive, (MLCO) said that the recruitment of the Neighbourhood Team Leaders should be completed by the end of December and they would be drawn from a range of backgrounds with the correct skills set and that a briefing note would be provided to Members regarding the recruitment process to date. He also said that he

recognised the comments made regarding the recruitment and retention of GPs and Social Workers and said that the (MLCO) represented a new and exciting new model of working and delivering services that would become more attractive to staff.

The Director of Strategy and Deputy Chief Executive, (MLCO) informed the Committee that the High Impact Primary Care programme needed to increase the number of referrals and work was currently ongoing to review this programme, identify barriers and implement solutions with commissioners. She explained that one reason could be that it was a new scheme and work to address the culture amongst GPs needed to be addressed.

The Chief Executive, (MLCO) said that whilst it was a complex challenge he was confident that the ambitions of the MLCO would be realised. He advised that this was the first year of a ten year journey and the MLCO was a great foundation on which to progress. He explained that there was a genuine enthusiasm across all of the work force, recognising the benefits that could be achieved by co-locating staff into multidisciplinary teams under a single leadership to improve the health outcomes of Manchester citizens.

He described that previously Manchester health services had different providers and different commissioners and the MLCO would address the issue of variation of service across the city and deliver a standardised service. He informed Members that improvements had already been realised, making reference to improvements in the number of patients safely discharged from hospital. He described that working effectively, including the use of assistive technology in the future would also help achieve financial savings by reducing demand and made reference to similar models in New York and New Zealand where this had been implemented. He suggested that when future update reports were submitted to the Committee that they were thematic to describe how services were delivered.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing said that the MLCO was a ten year project that demonstrated a commitment to deliver public services by the public sector.

Decision

The Committee notes the report.

HSC/18/42 Annual Report of Manchester Safeguarding Adults Board April 2017 – March 2018

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Strategic Commissioning and Director of Adult Social Services and the Independent Chair of Manchester Safeguarding Adults Board. This document reported on the work of the partnership and presented the Committee with the annual report.

The Independent Chair of Manchester Safeguarding Adults Board introduced the report.

Members asked what was being done to address the issue of modern day slavery, noting that Council had passed a motion at their July meeting supporting the Charter against modern slavery.

Members sought an assurance that the Serious Incident Review subgroups were fit for purpose.

Members commented that in a time of austerity and cuts to public service funding it was important that safeguarding was maintained.

The Independent Chair of Manchester Safeguarding Adults Board said that Modern Day Slavery was recognised by the Board as a serious safeguarding issue both for adults and children. She said awareness of this was raised amongst front line staff, community groups and the Voluntary and Community Sector and each partner had been tasked with embedding this in their culture and reporting.

In regard to the Learning from Reviews Subgroup the Independent Chair of Manchester Safeguarding Adults Board said that a new Chair had been appointed, clarity as to action plans sought and received and improvements are being made and the group is working much better.

In response to the impact of new safeguarding arrangements for children the Independent Chair of Manchester Safeguarding Adults Board advised that a future, interim report could be submitted to the Committee in the new financial year, however an assurance had been obtained from partners that safeguarding would be maintained and the Board would continue to monitor this.

In response to specific questions regarding the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and safeguarding referrals to Adult Care the Independent Chair of Manchester Safeguarding Adults Board suggested that the Committee may wish to request a specific report on their activities for consideration from the Director of Adult Care.

Decisions

The Committee:

1. Notes the publication of the Manchester Safeguarding Adults Board (MSAB) annual report 2017/2018; and
2. Supports the promotion of the importance of adult safeguarding across all the partners and in the services they commission ensuring that safeguarding is at the heart of services going forward.

HSC/18/43 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.

A Member commented that the entry on the list of Care Quality Commission inspection report for Enterprise Care Group Ltd published 15 September 2018 was an overall rating of Requires Improvement and not Inadequate.

Decision

To note the report and approve the work programme.

Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2018

Present:

Councillor Farrell – in the Chair

Councillors Clay, Curley, Lynch, Mary Monaghan, O’Neil, Wills and Wilson

Councillor Craig, Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing

Councillor Midgley, Assistant Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing

Nick Gomm, Director of Corporate Affairs, Manchester Health and Care

Commissioning

Dr Matt Evison, Consultant in Respiratory Medicine Manchester University NHS
Foundation Trust

Neil Thwaite, Chief Executive, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Trust

Deborah Partington, Director of Operations, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS
Trust

Jane Thorpe, Acting Deputy Director of Commissioning for Mental Health and
Children Manchester Health and Care Commissioning

Apologies: Councillors Holt, Paul and Reeves

HSC/18/44 Minutes

Decision

1. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2018 as a correct record.
2. To note the minutes of the Public Health Task and Finish Group meeting held on 18 September 2018.

HSC/18/45 Discussion item with Dr Matt Evison, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

The Committee welcomed Dr Matt Evison, Consultant at Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust who had been invited to the meeting to discuss his involvement with the CURE programme, a service to prescribe medication to tackle patients’ addiction to tobacco and offer intensive support to help them stay smoke-free during their stay at hospital and once they go home and the lung cancer screening programme.

A Member introduced Dr Evison, informing the Committee that she had personal experience of the care and treatment provided by Dr Evison and his colleagues at the site following a referral by her own doctor to the RAPID (Rapid Access to Complex and Pulmonary Investigation Days) service.

Dr Evison described that the impact of smoking and tobacco addiction, with its associated health conditions, such as lung cancer were the biggest contributor to premature death, illness and economic inequality across the region.

Dr Evison described lung cancer as a particularly aggressive form of cancer that often presented without any symptoms to the patient, therefore detection and treatment at an early stage was very important to improve the chances of a full recovery. He then went onto describe the three initiatives that had been developed at the Wythenshawe Hospital site.

He described that the CURE programme represented a significant shift in the attitude amongst health professionals to the treatment of smoking. He said that for far too long smoking had been regarded as an individual's behaviour and lifestyle choice. He said that now smoking and tobacco dependency was regarded as physical disease and as such needed to be treated as a chronic physical illness with the use of prescription medication. He said that when a patient was admitted to the hospital, regardless of their condition staff were trained to discuss with the patient their smoking habits and their addiction was graded based upon their consumption. He said that this was then electronically recorded and the treatment would commence immediately with the issuing of nicotine patches. He said that following a patient's admission, staff from the CURE team would visit the patient within 48 hours to discuss the medical treatments available to them to assist with their addiction. He said that following discharge from hospital a patient would receive follow up contact and support from the CURE team and the patient's doctor would continue to administer any medication required.

He said that there was overwhelming robust medical evidence to support this approach to treating patients who were addicted to tobacco. He said that in addition to the health benefits to the individual there were significant financial savings to be made to the wider health economy due to a reduction in the number of hospital admissions each year and the pressures on primary care as a result of smoking related illness. He said hospitals needed to invest in medication and staff to realise these long term savings. He commented that the devolution of the health budget and the transformation fund had contributed to these initiatives and these were being closely monitored nationally.

With regard to the lung health checks pilot he said that these had been delivered in areas of the city where the levels of smoking amongst the population were very high. He said that for those citizens assessed as being at high risk of lung cancer they were offered an immediate CT scan. He said that this had resulted in 1 in 23 scans identifying lung cancer, with 80 of these being at stage 1 which meant they were treatable.

Dr Evison described how the RAPID service had been designed from a patient perspective that had brought specialist teams together in a reorganisation of care, rather than working in silos to facilitate the timely screening, diagnosis and treatment of patients. He said that with teams working collaboratively this removed system delays and improved patient diagnosis and care pathways. He said that the lessons of the RAPID programme would be learnt and reviewed with the ambition to scale up this service so that it could be delivered across the city.

In response to a comment from a Member regarding recent reports of a national shortage of radiologists he acknowledged that this was an issue and commented that the success of future schemes was reliant on qualified radiologists being able to undertake and correctly analyse scans and surgical teams able to accommodate the increased number of procedures required. He said that to successfully roll out the scheme more widely across the city this would also require partnership working between commissioners and primary care so that suitable care pathways were established.

Decisions

1. The Committee note the presentation by Dr Evison; and
2. Recommend that the Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing and the Director of Population Health and Wellbeing support this programme and the wider roll out of this service across the city.

HSC/18/46 Manchester Mental Health Transformation Programme

The Committee considered the report of the Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust and Manchester Health and Care Commissioning (MHCC) that provided the Members with a progress report on Manchester Mental Health Services, following the acquisition on the 1 January 2017 by Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust (GMMH). The report provided an update on progress made since January 2018, or 22 months since the acquisition, of the transformation programme, organisational change and development.

The Chief Executive, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Trust referred to the main points of the report which were: -

- A description of the different Transformation Working Groups that had been established to deliver the transformation programme;
- The activities to increase Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) and an analysis of the impact and outcomes;
- The activities to improve Acute Care Pathways (ACP) designed to improve access and moving health provision into the community, supporting care closer to home and providing the best treatment in the right place at the right time, accompanied with a summary of progress to date;
- Urgent Care and the development of a Section 136 Suite at the North Manchester General Hospital site;
- Activities to reduce the number of Out of Area Placements;
- An update on a range of community engagement activities;
- How performance was managed and reported;
- A description of the challenges in relation to the workforce and the recruitment of skilled mental health professionals; and
- A description of next steps.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing commented upon the high quality of the report that had been submitted to the Committee, noting the reported progress and improvements. She commented that the report was an honest report that also discussed the challenges. She said that she welcomed the commitment to delivering a seven day a week service and the reduction in the use of out of area placements, commenting that these were very important to both patients and their families. This view was also expressed by the Committee.

The Assistant Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing echoed the comments of the Executive Member and stated that she had received positive feedback from her constituents regarding the care and service provided by the Trust. She stated that there needed to be a parity of esteem between mental health and physical health and further commented on the national shortage of mental health workers and sought further clarification on the waiting times for IAPT therapy.

In response to a question from a Member regarding staff and the work force strategy the Chief Executive, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Trust said that it was very important to recruit and retain the correct staff. He acknowledged the challenges staff had experienced over the previous ten years and described that the work force strategy focused on promoting Manchester as a great place to work. He commented that the Trust appeared in the list of the top 100 NHS organisations to work at. He said staff were engaged with and their views sought so they were involved in the improvement process and involved in designing solutions. He further commented that a lot of work had been done to address the previous negative perceptions of Manchester as a place to work and a national recruitment campaign would be launched.

The Director of Operations, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Trust responded to a question asked by a Member about Care Coordinators by explaining that these were not new roles and were currently in place and that where any vacancies existed these would be recruited to. She further commented that the issue of Out of Area Placements was being looked at a Greater Manchester level. She also stated that the number of bed spaces in the city had increased and across GM by 10%.

The Director of Operations, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Trust responded to a question regarding the accreditation status as assessed by the Royal College of Psychiatrists. She stated that the application for accreditation was not done for each site at the same time and stated that the other two sites were working towards this.

A Member commented that he welcomed the establishment of the Section 136 Suite at the North Manchester General Hospital site, stating that this was an improvement in how people with mental health issues were treated and asked how common was it for a city like Manchester not to have had such a facility previously. The Director of Operations, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Trust stated that it was uncommon not to have one and stated that it was a very positive development for the care of patients.

The Acting Deputy Director of Commissioning for Mental Health and Children Manchester Health and Care Commissioning commented that the access to IAPTS therapy continued to increase and there were a number of sites across the city where

these were now delivered. She said there were both national and internal targets for receiving therapy. She commented that work was also underway at a GM level to review the levels of access and to also look at the issue of delayed transfer of care that had been raised by Members.

Members discussed the issue of safe guarding in relation to community engagement and sought an assurance that the safeguarding of patients would always be considered. The Director of Operations, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Trust said that the 'Be Well' service, a social prescribing service in north Manchester worked closely with local community groups and the voluntary sector and gave the assurance that safeguarding was always considered.

Decision

The Committee note the report.

HSC/18/47 Prepaid Financial Cards - Adult social care (MLCO)

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Strategic Commissioning and Director of Adult Social Services that provided Members with some background information regarding Prepaid cards, an update on the Procurement process and an outline of the Implementation process of Prepaid Financial Cards within adult social care, now delivered through the Manchester Local Care Organisation.

The Strategic Lead referred to the main points of the report which were: -

- A description of the rationale for the introduction of Prepaid Financial Cards in the context of The Care Act;
- A description of how the cards would work and what they could be used for;
- A list of benefits to both the Council and to the citizen;
- An update on the procurement process and the implementation process;
- Information on citizen engagement and communication ;
- How pre-paid financial cards were important enablers for moving to a broader strength-based model of social care, noting that the Personalisation of Adult Social Care Services was vital to ensure that Manchester citizens could exercise choice and control over how their care and support needs could be met.

A Member commented that an individual on occasion may wish to purchase a costly one off item, and gave an example of a season ticket for a favourite football team and enquired if the payment cards would be flexible enough to accommodate this type of purchase. The Strategic Lead acknowledged the comment from the Member and said that this type of purchase was acknowledged and it was important that the citizen had improved choices. She said that this would also help address social isolation and that the scheme was flexible to accommodate that type of request.

In response to a question from a Member who asked if the money that was paid weekly onto the card was not spent would that be clawed back, the Strategic Lead said this would not be done immediately, however if there was a pattern of money not

spent over a period of time this would prompt a conversation with the citizen to review what their level of award was.

The Strategic Lead informed the Members that the prepayment card would be offered to 'new' users of the service and it was envisaged that this would be approximately 500 citizens in the first year, with a view to rolling this offer out once it was embedded. She said that consideration also needed to be given to ensuring that the market place was aware of this system and work was underway to address this. She said that the company who had been procured to deliver the card service had a lot of experience with other Local Authorities and commented that the delays with introducing the scheme had been as a result of GDPR requirements. She further commented that Manchester had worked closely with other Authorities who had successfully introduced prepayment cards to share their knowledge and understand the lessons they had learnt.

A Member commented upon the important issue of safeguarding and sought an assurance that this was being addressed. The Strategic Lead informed the Members that work had been done with safeguarding colleagues to ensure that this was embedded in the approach and the Cards offered a new feature around tackling suspected financial abuse. She said that spending was audited to identify any anomalies and that she would provide the Committee with information on the Risk Register that had been developed that highlighted any associated risk around implementation.

Decisions

1. The Committee note the report; and
2. Request that information on the Risk Register be circulated to the Committee.

HSC/18/48 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 9 October 2018

Present:

Councillor Stone – in the Chair

Councillors Hewitson, T Judge, Lovecy, Madeleine Monaghan and Sadler

Co-opted Voting Members:

Mr A Arogundade, Parent Governor Representative

Mrs B Kellner, Representative of the Diocese of Manchester

Dr W Omara, Parent Governor Representative

Ms Z Stepan, Parent Governor Representative

Co-opted Non Voting Members:

Mr L Duffy, Secondary sector teacher representative

Mr R Lammas, Primary sector teacher representative

Councillor Bridges, Executive Member for Children's Services

Councillor Rahman, Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure

Julia Stephens Row, Independent Chair of Manchester Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards

Apologies:

Councillors Alijah and McHale

Mrs J Miles, Representative of the Diocese of Salford

CYP/18/47 Minutes

The Chair updated Members on the invitation to Damian Hines, Secretary of State for Education, and Vicky Beer, Regional Schools Commissioner, to attend a meeting of the Committee. He advised Members that no response had been received from Damian Hines. He reported that Vicky Beer had advised that it was not appropriate for her to attend a scrutiny committee meeting but that she was working with Council officers.

Decision

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2018.

CYP/18/48 Annual Report of Manchester Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB) April 2017 – March 2018

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director of Children's and Education Services and Julia Stephens Row, the Independent Chair of Manchester Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB) which provided an overview of MSCB's Annual Report for the period from April 2017 - March 2018. The full report was appended.

Julia Stephens Row referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:

- MSCB's business priorities;
- Challenges and improvements; and
- Future arrangements for safeguarding.

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

- Whether the number of school pupils with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs was under-reported;
- Concern that the Neglect Strategy had not yet been fully embedded;
- When the new safeguarding arrangements would be in place and how a smooth transition would be ensured;
- Whether there was any learning which could be shared from the Home Office's National Prevent Peer Review process; and
- What was being done to improve the response to children who went missing from care.

Julia Stephens Row reported that it was not clear whether the number of pupils with SEMH needs was under-reported, however given the circumstances in the city that she might expect it to be higher and would raise this point with education partners. She advised Members that a lot of work was taking place in schools to support children and young people's mental well-being. She outlined work taking place to embed the Neglect Strategy including training and awareness-raising events and the establishment of lead officers within partner organisations; however, she acknowledged that more work was needed to fully embed the strategy and it remained a high priority. She outlined the work taking place to transition to the new safeguarding arrangements, advising that it was essential to maintain the focus on safeguarding work during the transition period. She advised Members that the new safeguarding arrangements had to be in place by September 2019 and that the plan for these had to be in place by June 2019. She suggested that the Committee receive an update report on the new safeguarding arrangements at an appropriate time, to which the Chair agreed.

The Strategic Director of Children's and Education Services reported that the full report from the Home Office's National Prevent Peer Review was not yet available but that the Council would use this review as an opportunity to learn. He suggested that, when the full report was available, feedback could be provided to the relevant scrutiny committees. He informed Members that the Children's Society carried out return interviews and follow-up interventions in relation to children missing from care and outlined the work of the Missing from Home and Care Panels in monitoring this issue and in taking action in relation to individual children where there were particular concerns.

Decision

To receive an update report on the new safeguarding arrangements at an appropriate time.

CYP/18/49 Leaving Care Service

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director of Children's and Education Services which provided an update on the progress of activity to reform the delivery of Leaving Care Services.

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

- The decision to bring the service in-house and to postpone the establishment of a Wholly Owned Trading Company (WOTC);
- Consultation and engagement with young people; and
- Human Resources (HR), financial, estates and ICT issues.

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

- The employment and training opportunities available for young people leaving care (our young people);
- The importance of suitable accommodation for our young people; and
- To welcome the appointment of specialist staff.

The Strategic Lead for Leaving Care updated Members on work to recruit to the specialist posts within the service, confirming that these would be permanent posts. The Strategic Director of Children's and Education Services outlined some of opportunities for our young people to enter employment and training. He confirmed that this included apprenticeships but advised that some young people were not yet ready to enter into employment so required additional support to be put in place to enable them to access these opportunities. He also reported that some of our young people went into higher education. He informed Members that Children's Services also worked with the Work and Skills Team to ensure that there was an appropriate offer for our young people. The Chair welcomed the work that Barclays Bank was doing with some of our young people, including those who were Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) and requested that more information on this be included in a future report.

The Executive Member for Children's Services confirmed that ensuring our young people had suitable accommodation was a priority for the Council. He added that he and officers would be able to provide an update on the work taking place to address this when they next reported back to the Committee on the Leaving Care Service.

Decision

To receive an update report in the next municipal year, to include further information on the work that Barclays Bank is doing to support our young people. To note that this report will also include an update on work to ensure suitable accommodation for our young people.

CYP/18/50 Draft Independent Reviewing Officer Annual Report 2017 – 2018

The Committee received a report of the Head of Quality Assurance for Safeguarding which introduced the draft Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Annual Report 2017 - 2018. The report provided an account of the activity of the Independent Reviewing Service between 1 April 2017 and the 31 March 2018.

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

- An evaluation of the practice, plans and arrangements for Looked After Children (Our Children);
- An evaluation of the effectiveness of the IRO service in ensuring the Council as a corporate parent was discharging its statutory duties towards Our Children; and
- Evidence from the views of children and young people, carers and professionals.

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

- A request for clarification of the timescales for the final report to be produced;
- That some of the terminology used in the report (for example, Looked After Children rather than Our Children) was not in line with the terminology that young people had asked to be used and to request that this be amended in the final version of the report;
- Discussion of the figures in some of the graphs, in particular why the number of Our Children had decreased and then increased again;
- To question the validity of the IRO survey referred to in the report as only 16% of Our Children had responded and to ask whether an alternative format, for example, an app could result in a higher response rate; and
- To ask how the learning from young people's complaints was taken forward.

The Head of Quality Assurance for Safeguarding informed Members that the draft report would be considered at the Corporate Parenting Panel's meeting on 21 November 2018 and then, following any amendments, a final version would be published on the Council's website. She agreed that the terminology used would be amended in the final version of the report, to use the terms which Our Children had requested be used to describe them and their circumstances. She also advised that officers would strengthen the commentary around some of the graphs to make the information clearer. The Strategic Director of Children's and Education Services informed Members that the number of children who were looked after had decreased in 2016 – 2017 following the establishment of a permanent, stable leadership team. He advised that, at that time, there were children who were looked after but did not need to be and the service had focused on permanence planning and in ensuring that only those children for whom it was necessary entered the looked after system; however, he acknowledged that the numbers had risen again and informed Members that the numbers had risen nationally, regionally and locally. He suggested that the Committee might want to look at this in more detail at a later date. The Chair suggested that Members could look at this during a less formal session, outside of the Scrutiny Committee meetings.

The Head of Quality Assurance for Safeguarding reported that, while the service would have liked a higher response to the survey, the responses received were still important. She advised Members that it had been a short paper survey but that officers would look at using technology, including the Mind Of My Own (MOMO) app, in future. She outlined how complaints from children and young people were dealt with, advising Members that they were offered an advocate to support them through the complaints process. She assured Members that learning from complaints was acted on, which could involve incorporating learning into the development programme for staff or reviewing procedures.

Decision

To request that a session be arranged outside of the formal Scrutiny Committee meetings for Members to examine the number of children becoming Looked After and the reasons for the changes in the numbers.

CYP/18/51 Manchester Curriculum for Life

The Committee received an oral report of the Director of Education which updated Members on the pilot of the Manchester Curriculum for Life.

The Director of Education informed Members that the pilot had been launched in July 2018 and that over 30 schools, settings and youth providers were involved in testing the framework. She reported that the Council was also working with some foster carers who were interested in piloting the framework at home and advised that her team was developing challenges which children and young people could complete at home. She outlined work that had taken place since the Committee considered a report on the Curriculum for Life in July 2018, including developing the branding and creating a toolkit, and reported that these were now being tested as part of the pilot. She advised the Committee that her team was now arranging visits to the schools and other settings taking part in the pilot. She informed Members about the summer holiday reading challenge, linked to Read Manchester. She also reported that her team was working with the Assistant Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure on how the Curriculum for Life could link in with the city's cultural offer.

Decisions

1. To request that examples of the branded materials being tested in the pilot be circulated to Committee Members.
2. To request a further report in approximately 12 months' time.

CYP/18/52 Attainment Headline Outcomes 2018 (provisional)

The Committee received a report of the Director of Education which provided a summary of the 2018 provisional outcomes of statutory assessment at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2, Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5.

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

- The context of the outcomes at each key stage;
- The outcomes; and
- Next steps.

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

- Work being undertaken to address the gap between EYFS outcomes in Manchester and the national average, including how the take-up of Health Visitor assessments through the Early Years Delivery Model (EYDM) could be improved;
- Concern that some Key Stage 2 results had been annulled due to maladministration of the assessments in two schools and whether schools were under too much pressure to achieve results, leading to children not receiving a broad, rich education;
- That the figures suggested that children performed well in some subjects, such as mathematics, earlier in their school life but that this had declined by Key Stage 4 and what were the reasons for this; and
- To recognise the progress that had been made and to commend the work of staff in Manchester schools and the Council's Education Service under challenging circumstances.

The Director of Education informed Members that colleagues in Manchester Health and Care Commissioning (MHCC) were producing a business case to their Board on whether health visiting in the city could be increased. She reported that the Council was looking at whether other staff within the EYDM such as Outreach Workers could do more to encourage families to take up the health visitor assessments and how Early Years and Early Help could work more closely together to address this. She reported that the EYDM was introduced in April 2015 so the first cohort of children under this model hadn't started school yet and that the Council would need to see what the outcomes were for these children. She informed Members that 95% of Early Years settings in Manchester were now judged by Ofsted to be good or better and that there would now be a focus on working with them, in partnership with schools, on areas like literacy so that children were school ready.

The Director of Education reported that Ofsted had now acknowledged that there was too much focus on results and that a broad, balanced curriculum was important. She informed Members that Ofsted was reviewing its framework in light of this. She advised the Committee that those children currently at primary school and those at Key Stage 4 were different cohorts of pupils who were being educated under different curricula so it was hoped that positive outcomes in mathematics would be reflected at Key Stage 4 as this cohort of pupils made their way through the education system.

Decisions

1. To recognise the progress that has been made, to commend the work of staff in Manchester schools and the Council's Education Service under challenging circumstances and to ask the Director of Education to pass this message on to headteachers.

2. To note that the Committee will receive a further report with the final, confirmed results.

CYP/18/53 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 confirmed that he would discuss with officers a suitable date for the Committee to consider the Annual Adoption and Fostering Report.

Decision

To note the report and agree the work programme.

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2018

Present:

Councillor Stone – in the Chair
Councillors Hewitson, T Judge, Lovecy and McHale

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
Dr W Omara, Parent Governor Representative
Ms Z Stepan, Parent Governor Representative

Co-opted Non Voting Members:

Mr L Duffy, Secondary sector teacher representative

Councillor Rahman, Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure
Professor Yaron Matras, University of Manchester

Apologies:

Councillors Alijah and Sadler
Mr R Lammas, Primary sector teacher representative

CYP/18/54 Minutes

The Chair noted that, as requested at the Ofsted Subgroup meeting on 2 October 2018, Ofsted's letter on their recent focus visit had been circulated to Members of the Committee. He welcomed the progress made so far.

Decisions

1. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2018.
2. To receive the minutes of the Ofsted Subgroup meeting held on 2 October 2018.

CYP/18/55 Promoting Inclusion and Preventing Exclusion

The Committee received a presentation of the Director of Education which provided information on work to reduce the number of school exclusions, including the National Review.

The main points and themes within the presentation included:

- The National Review of Exclusions;
- Information gathered from multi-agency consultations;
- The four strands of the draft strategy (universal, early intervention, alternative

provision or specialist support and ensuring best practice in the use of exclusion; and

- Next steps.

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

- Whether a breakdown of the types of schools which were excluding children was available;
- The allocation of financial resources and how much was being allocated to support children attending Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) and children at risk of permanent exclusion;
- Concern about the level of exclusion and the percentage of those being excluded who had Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND);
- The importance of identifying and supporting children with challenging behaviour at primary level, even if their behaviour was more manageable at that age;
- Whether it was difficult for pupils attending a PRU to return to mainstream education and how many secondary school children who were permanently excluded returned to mainstream schools and how many were in long-term alternative provision; and
- The new Ofsted Framework due to be introduced in September 2019.

The Director of Education reported that a breakdown of data on school exclusions could risk identifying individual children and, therefore, could not be shared widely; however, she advised that this information had been provided to the Chair previously and could be provided again. She advised Members that it was difficult to draw conclusions on the types of school which were more likely to exclude pupils as most exclusions took place at the secondary school level and most secondary schools in Manchester were academies. She informed Members that the Executive had approved plans to allocate £20 million of basic needs funding to invest in SEND provision and alternative provision. She reported that the Council had also invested significantly in the Primary PRU, which had now moved to its new purpose-built premises at Plymouth Grove, and she suggested that the Committee might want to visit this. She also outlined other possible sources of funding, including an application for additional funding from central government, discussions with schools which had a significant under-spend and consultation with schools on whether 0.5% of the schools budget could be allocated to the high needs budget.

The Virtual School Head Teacher advised the Committee that it was important to ensure schools had the knowledge and skills to recognise what pupils' behaviour might be communicating about their unmet needs and what adjustments schools could make. She outlined how the Virtual School had worked with a number of schools to prevent Our Children (Looked After Children) from being excluded, including identifying underlying Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs, making reasonable adjustments and putting in place additional resources, where necessary. She advised Members that schools wanted more training on the impact of adverse childhood experiences, trauma and attachment and informed Members of a current pilot scheme taking place to train schools in this. She confirmed that high schools, primary schools, special schools and PRUs were involved in this pilot.

The Director of Education confirmed that children did return to mainstream schools after attending a PRU. She reported that, where the PRU was confident that the child was able to return to mainstream education, a school was identified for the child via the In-Year Fair Access Protocol. She informed Members that the PRU would continue to support the child, with the child often being dual rolled at the school and the PRU for a period of time until they were confident that the placement was working out. She reported that the situation for primary school children was more challenging, advising that permanent exclusions at primary school age were unusual and the excluded children often had very complex needs and ended up attending specialist provision.

Decisions

1. To request that a visit be arranged to the Primary PRU at its new premises.
2. To request that the Director of Education share school-level data on exclusions with the Chair.
3. To request that information on the final destination of pupils who attended the Secondary PRU following permanent exclusion be circulated to Members of the Committee.
4. To note that the Committee has previously requested a training session on the Ofsted Framework and that, as a new Framework is due to be introduced, this training will be held once details of the new Framework are known.

[Councillor Stone declared a personal interest as a member of the governing body of the Secondary Pupil Referral Unit.]

CYP/18/56 Supplementary Schools

The Committee received a report of Children and Education Services which provided an update on the work in the city to engage with and support Supplementary Schools.

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

- Legislation and statutory guidance;
- Successes of Manchester's supplementary schools;
- Safeguarding;
- Ongoing challenges;
- New initiatives and developments; and
- Planned actions.

The Chair invited Professor Yaron Matras from the University of Manchester to address the Committee. Professor Matras informed Members that he led a unit at the University called Multilingual Manchester, which he advised, was a teaching and research unit which was also involved in public engagement and outreach with a range of stakeholders including the Council and supplementary schools. He informed Members about some of the work his unit did with supplementary schools,

particularly those teaching heritage languages. Some of the key work he highlighted included:

- Publishing a report on supplementary schools in Manchester in 2015;
- A two-year consultation with staff and parents at supplementary schools to identify priorities and needs;
- Launching a Supplementary Schools Support Platform;
- Facilitating teacher training sessions;
- Advising on curriculum design;
- Providing curriculum enrichment sessions; and
- Showcasing the work of supplementary schools.

Professor Matras also outlined some of the future activities the unit had planned and some of the challenges facing supplementary schools including staff training, access to learning resources, curriculum design, premises, motivating parents and children to take part in language classes and counteracting negative images about supplementary schools.

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

- What monitoring was in place for supplementary schools;
- Recognising the excellent work that some supplementary schools were doing; and
- Recognising the work of the Council and the university in this area, noting that most Councils did not have this level of partnership working with supplementary schools.

The Head of School Quality Assurance and Strategic SEND acknowledged that this was a challenging area as supplementary schools did not fall under any inspection regime unless they provided over 15 hours of education, which few did. She reported that the only approach which could be taken was positive engagement. She advised Members that the Council had developed good relationships with supplementary schools which had enabled officers to have challenging conversations, where necessary, and also to provide support, for example, with Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks and first aid and safeguarding training.

The Director of Education informed Members that, due to the Council's previous work in this area, the Department for Education (DfE) had invited the Council to participate in its Out of Schools (OOS) Pilot. She reported that the Council had received funding from the DfE to further develop and build on this work.

Decisions

1. To thank Professor Matras for his contribution.
2. To request that the information Professor Matras provided to the Chair be circulated to all Members of the Committee.
3. To receive a further report on supplementary schools at an appropriate time.

CYP/18/57 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.

Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2018

Present:

Councillor Igbon – in the Chair

Councillors Appleby, Harland, Hewitson, Hughes, Jeavons, Kilpatrick, Lyons, Reid, Sadler, White and Wright

Councillor Akbar, Executive Member for Neighbourhoods

Councillor Stogia, Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport

Councillor Davies, Member for Deansgate ward

Clare Benson, Hulme resident

Apologies: Councillors Azra Ali and Noor

NESC/18/40 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2018 as a correct record.

NESC/18/41 Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Update

The Committee heard from a resident of Hulme, Clare Benson who had been invited to inform Members of her experience in her neighbourhood in relation to waste. She said that she had become concerned about the levels of debris accumulating in her neighbourhood and had decided to take action. She explained that she had set up a local campaign, including the use of social media to organise communal clean ups to improve the local environment.

The Committee then considered the report of the Chief Operating Officer which provided an update on progress in delivering waste, recycling and street cleansing services (including ward level cleansing), cycle lane cleansing, weed control and the apartment service change. The report also included information on flytipping, and the role of planning to address issues of waste associated with both domestic and commercial properties; permitted development and its impact on waste and the impact of short term lets on flytipping.

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

- The financial context in which all of these services were delivered;
- Operational performance of Biffa, following commencement of their contract in July 2015, noting that Biffa were responsible for providing domestic residual and recycling waste collection services; planned and reactive street cleansing services for defined land types;

- Information on the Service Improvement Plan implemented by Biffa in February 2017;
- Performance data measured across a range of activities that included bin collection; cleaning of communal passageways; street cleaning services; district centres and city centre cleaning; litter bins and flytipping;
- Leaf removal activity noting that the leaf removal programme in 2017/18 delivered an improved leaf removal plan, compared to 2016/17;
- Weed removal services, noting that the standard required Biffa to complete two cycles of weed treatment across the City on an annual basis. This included all highways for which the City has maintenance responsibilities;
- The approach adopted to the cleansing and leaf removal in cycle lanes;
- The approach to the gritting of highways;
- An update on the first phase of apartment service changes and the lessons learnt;
- The approach adopted to the education, engagement and enforcement to improve levels of recycling, including information on the partnership work with the national charity WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme) to deliver a range of campaigns with residents;
- Activities undertaken to address issues associated with commercial waste and flytipping on private land;
- The waste management considerations when assessing planning applications; and
- Planning legislation in relation to short term lets and permitted development.

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

- The Biffa contact and how this was monitored and their use of agency staff and zero hour contracts;
- How effective was the monitoring of the service provided by Biffa and who undertook this;
- Who was responsible for removing side waste;
- Could the scheduling of road sweeping be coordinated to follow bin collections;
- The problems associated with flytipping and the response to this issue;
- The cleaning of communal bin areas and lighting of these areas;
- The cleansing of gated alleys and the associated difficulties;
- The removal of contaminated bins;
- The cleaning of public litter bins;
- Leaf cleaning of both pavement and cycle lanes;
- What was being done to address the issue of commercial waste including litter and debris, such as discarded cigarette butts and takeaway cartons associated with the night time economy;
- Recycling rates in apartments;
- The importance of behaviour change and education to improve rates of recycling across this city; and
- The need to publicise widely when prosecutions had taken place to act as a deterrent.

The Committee heard from Councillor Davies, Member for Deansgate ward who commented on the good relationships she and other ward Members had established with the managers at Biffa and that the Biffa operatives she had engaged with had

been very professional. However she expressed concern that the cleanliness of the on street bins was inconsistent, stating that poorly maintained and dirty bins gave a very poor impression to residents; visitors to the city and people working in the city. She further commented that bins were not emptied on a daily basis and sought clarification as to what the agreement was for emptying on street bins and asked if inspectors just looked at the waste or did they consider what the cause of any waste was.

The Strategic Lead: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services responded to the questions and comments from the Committee by informing them that Biffa were responsible for removing any side waste that was presented when bins were collected, however it was stated that if residents recycled effectively this would reduce the need for additional side waste to be collected. In regard to road sweeping she said that this did generally occur after bin collection however encouraged Members to contact the relevant Neighbourhood Team if they experienced persistent problems.

In regard to Bulky Waste collections the Strategic Lead: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services advised that teams would only collect what had been requested for collection, stating that this avoided any counter claims against operatives taking items that they should not have. She said that if operatives witnessed any flytipping they should then report it to be collected. The same applied to contaminated bins, stating that if crews were unable to accept a bin because it was contaminated this should be reported immediately to the correct team who should then arrange for the collection of the bin. Members were asked to report any issues if this was not happening and it would be pursued with Biffa.

In response to the discussion around the Biffa contract the Strategic Lead: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services informed Members that Biffa did not use zero hour contracts and the agencies used by Biffa to cover any staffing capacity issues at times would be subject to Biffa's procurement process. To reassure the Committee she advised that the contract would be checked to ensure this was the case. The Chair recommended that a referral should be made to the Ethical Procurement and Contract Management Subgroup to review the Biffa contract to ensure that zero hour contracts are not used.

With regard to the monitoring of staff and their behaviour following observations of Members the Strategic Lead: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services confirmed that it was Biffa who were responsible for this. She said that Biffa's vehicles were now equipped with CCTV cameras that could be used to monitor staff activities and practices as a way of improving performance and standards.

In response to performance monitoring the Strategic Lead: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services described that inspections were undertaken by both City Council and Biffa staff to provide an assurance that standards were maintained; areas for improvement identified and solutions implemented. In addition to this the cleanliness of streets was also independently assessed and reported by Keep Britain Tidy noting that Manchester compared favourably to other core cities.

With regard to the cleaning of alley ways and communal bins the Strategic Lead: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services reported that a deep clean of alley ways was to be undertaken every quarter and Biffa were responsible for quality inspection checks following a clean. In addition these areas were expected to be cleared of any rubbish that may occur following a bin collection. She said an assurance and evidence of this was being requested of Biffa to ensure this was routinely undertaken. She further confirmed that Biffa were responsible for ensuring that any gated alley was locked following a collection and if any locks were faulty they should be immediately reported. She also advised that a bespoke review of the cleaning of communal bins and passageways would be undertaken to address the issues associated with these areas.

The Strategic Lead: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services informed Members that the cleaning of on street litter bins should be undertaken once per year and accepted that bins in certain locations were problematic as a result of continued vandalism and graffiti. She clarified that bins would be emptied when they are full as assessed by Biffa operatives and continued by commenting that the location of bins could be reviewed to ensure they were being used most effectively noting that the number of complaints received about on street bins was low, clarifying how complaints were counted.

The Neighbourhood Compliance Manager (Citywide) responded to the comments regarding flytipping by informing the Committee that cases were investigated and pursued for prosecution. He said that following prosecution press releases were prepared and that had made both local and national news. In addition to this social media was utilised to promote the message that this antisocial behaviour would not be tolerated and perpetrators would be pursued. He also advised that targeted work had been undertaken to address the issue of commercial waste, describing that premises had been required to provide evidence of their waste management contacts and where these had not been in place formal notices had been served. He said a successful exercise had been undertaken in the China Town area of the city centre following complaints raised by residents and local Members regarding commercial waste and he also described an exercise undertaken to address builder's waste that had resulted in prosecutions and vehicle seizure.

The Strategic Lead: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services said that work was ongoing with Biffa to address concerns raised about cleanliness and commercial waste in the city centre. She said that discussions were underway with CityCo to develop links with local businesses to address issues that were raised. She said that a number of workshops would be organised to facilitate this and an input from Members would be welcomed. In response to a specific question she confirmed that the Northern Quarter area of the city centre was routinely inspected and solutions to problems identified, such as spillage caused when collecting rubbish would be addressed.

The Section Planning Manager commented that commercial waste management was a condition of planning consent and if a premises were found to be in breach of these enforcement action could be taken. The Chair requested that the planning conditions relating to waste management be circulate to Members of the Committee for information.

In regard to recycling rates in apartment blocks the Strategic Lead: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services said that the capacity of collections remained unchanged and if the Member wished to discuss specific concerns outside of the meeting she would be happy to meet with him. She said that in the initial stages of Phase One additional collections had been arranged to support tenants during the changes.

The Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport responded to the comments regarding the lighting of communal bin areas by saying that if there were specific areas of concern these could be looked at with a view to finding solutions. In response to the issue of leaf clearing and gullies she said that although this remained a challenge work was ongoing with teams to work smarter to deliver this service. The Strategic Lead: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services said that in segregated cycle lanes liquid de-icer would be used rather than using grit.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods stated that despite of the financial cuts imposed on the Council improvements across the city in rates of recycling had been achieved over the previous eight years, and he was confident that this would continue to improve. He said that the rates of recycling activity was different across different types of tenure and behaviour change amongst residents was important to increase levels of this activity and commended the positive approach demonstrated by the resident who had addressed the Committee. He said by adopting the Our Manchester approach residents would be empowered to initiate local solutions and community projects. He said that a lot of proactive work was undertaken by officers to address and prosecute those responsible for flytipping and he encouraged all Members to retweet those messages when action was successfully taken, stating that this would give residents confidence that this issue was taken very seriously by the Council and would also act as a deterrent.

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods further gave an assurance that the Biffa contract was continually monitored to ensure improvements were made, noting that when issues had been identified previously improvement plans had been agreed and implemented. In response to a suggestion that the bulky waste collections policy should be changed he said that this would need to be discussed further.

Decisions

The Committee:-

1. Requests that the planning conditions relating to waste management be circulated to Members of the Committee;
2. Requests that the leaf clearing and gritting schedule be circulated to Members of the Committee;
3. Recommends that gulley cleaners are deployed in a timely manner to address the issue of blocked gullies;

4. Suggests that positive stories regarding resident engagement and community activities to improve their local neighbourhoods should to be promoted, and Members need to engage with residents in these activities.

5. Recommends that the Ethical Procurement and Contract Management Subgroup review the Biffa contract to ensure that zero hour contracts are not used.

[Councillor Appleby declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in this item as her partner is an employee of Biffa]

NESC/18/42 Keep Manchester Tidy Update

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Operating Officer that provided Members with an update on the Keep Manchester Tidy campaign.

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

- Providing a background to Keep Manchester Tidy following feedback from the Manchester Strategy consultation exercise;
- A schedule of activities planned for 2018/19; and
- Information on how the impact of these activities are to be collected and measured;

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

- The need to reduce the use of single use plastics, noting that this contributed to litter in the immediate areas and contributed to wider, global issues of pollution and this impact this had on the environment and wildlife;
- Schools needed to be supported to undertake activities, education and campaigns around this issue;
- Licensing conditions needed to be used to address the issue of litter association with takeaways; and
- Why was Manchester not engaging with the campaign to tackle discarded chewing gum.

The Strategic Lead: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services agreed that schools played an important role in promoting this area of activity, in addition to other important areas such air quality and road safety, however it was recognised that teachers needed support to deliver this and this was being looked into.

In response to the issue of takeaways the Strategic Lead: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services said that good relationships had been established with the national brands and they had supported local campaigns around this issue of litter.

The Strategic Lead: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services noted the comments regarding chewing gum, commenting that currently this was removed using steam cleaning. She said that whilst this was not a current campaign, consideration could be given to future campaigns to specifically address this issue.

Members gave examples of resident and community groups in their respective wards who arranged regular litter picks and clean ups, noting that a lot of litter in district centres was related to the night time economy, such as discarded cigarette butts and broken glass. The Chair recommended that a Task and Finish Group should be established to look at good practice, hear from resident groups of their experience and how this could be used to support groups in other areas of the city. The Members supported this recommendation.

Decision

The Committee recommends that a Task and Finish Group be established to look at good practice, hear from resident groups of their experience and how this could be used to support groups in other areas of the city.

NESC/18/43 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.

A Member requested that an update report on Improving Road Safety Around Schools that had been considered at the July meeting be added to the Work Programme. The Chair said that she would speak with the relevant Executive Member and schedule this report for an appropriate meeting.

Decisions

The Committee notes the report and approve the work programme.

Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2018

Present:

Councillor Igbon – in the Chair

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

Councillor Akbar, Executive Member for Neighbourhoods

Councillor Rahman, Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure

Councillor Richards, Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration

Councillor Stogia, Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport

Robin Lawler, Chief Executive Northwards Housing

Jenni Seex, Legal Support Officer, Greater Manchester Fire Service

Jonny Sadler, Programme Director Manchester Climate Change Agency

Apologies: Councillors Appleby and Sadler

NESC/18/44 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2018 as a correct record.

NESC/18/45 Highways Reactive Maintenance Programme

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Operations (Highways) that provided Members with information on the Highways Reactive Maintenance Programme.

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

- An update on the process to comply with the statutory duty to maintain the highway network under Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980;
- Information on highway safety inspections of roads and footways in order to identify all defects likely to create danger or serious inconvenience to users of the network or the wider community;
- Information on the materials used to undertake repairs;
- Utility works and how these were planned;
- Cyclical Drainage Programme;
- Performance Monitoring;
- Customer satisfaction survey results and comparisons to the national average, and
- The new code of practice “Well Managed Highway Infrastructure”

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

- Was there a schedule for the inspection of gullies;
- Was there enough staff to undertake inspections;
- Whilst noting the reported 90% of highways repairs were completed to the agreed standard what happened to the remaining 10%;
- What action was taken against Utility Companies if the repair work to the highway was not satisfactory;
- What was the timescale for repairs to potholes, commenting that this often took a long time following the initial inspection;
- Noting that Members received a lot of enquiries from residents regarding the time scale for repair works it would be beneficial if the schedule for repairs was shared with Members;
- How was the standard of pothole repairs monitored;
- How were 'hot spots areas' dealt with in terms of repairs and clearing of gullies and commenting that the timing of repair work had to be considered to ensure gullies could be accessed;
- Welcoming the production of the monthly ward performance data and requested that this be shared via ward coordination;
- Major arterial roads should be prioritised for highways repairs over side streets;
- The use of contractors and the arrangements for paying them for the work they undertook; and
- Was the cleaning of gullies coordinated with the leaf sweeping schedule to maximise efficiencies and impact.

The Head of Citywide Highways informed the Committee that the cleansing of gullies was a city wide programme that had commenced in September of this year. He said that the report provided a snap shot of those wards that had been visited to date. He said all wards would be visited as part of this programme and the schedule for this activity would be shared with the Members. He further commented that the team worked closely with colleagues in the leaf sweeping teams to coordinate this activity.

In response to the issue of pothole repairs he said that there was a Service Level Agreement for these to be undertaken, however acknowledged that there were times this was not met due to the backlog of repairs. He described that contractors were paid for the work they undertook. He said that all works were recorded and photographed and the work was checked following completion. He said that if the works were not completed to the required standard the contractor was required to rectify this at no extra charge and if a job was to fail following a repair the contractor could be required to re attend depending on the reasons for the failure, explaining this was why it was important to document and photograph each repair job. He commented that they also undertook inspections of the repair works undertaken by utility companies.

The Director of Operations (Highways) informed the Committee that there were currently 88 staff employed by Manchester Contracts and four subcontractors. He said that preference was given to using this in house team, however due to the scale and volume of the works required it was necessary to use subcontractors. He stated that subcontractors were expected to adhere to the standards required by the

Council in relation to the use of zero hour contracts and social value, and this would be reported to the Ethical Procurement and Contract Monitoring Sub Group. He further commented that a team was available to respond to any highway repair emergencies that may occur.

With regard to the issue of highway repairs and side roads the Head of Citywide Highways informed the Committee that an inspection of all highways was undertaken every two years. He said that defects were graded and then prioritised for repair work explaining that when these works were undertaken an assessment would be made as to the efficiency of delivering repairs to side roads at the same time.

The Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport said that she welcomed the positive feedback from Members regarding the production of performance reports and commented that these could be shared with ward coordinators. She said that information would be submitted to the Committee regarding the drainage repair contract stating that every gully would be visited and assessed so repair works could be prioritised. She said that Members would be informed as to when their wards were to be visited and encouraged all Members to take the opportunity to attend inspections with officers from the team to witness the work they undertake. She said that Highways investment was a five-year programme and Members would be consulted with as this investment progressed.

Decisions

The Committee: -

1. Recommend that future update reports include more information and data at a ward level;
2. Recommend that the highways and gully maintenance schedules be shared with ward coordination; and
3. Recommend that the schedule for pot hole repairs be shared with ward coordination.

NESC/18/46 Highways and the Flow of Traffic in the City Centre

The Committee received the report of the Director of Operations (Highways) that provided Members with information on Highways and the flow of traffic in the City Centre.

Members expressed their dissatisfaction with the content of the report and commented that it was not suitable to scrutinise. The Chair recommended that a report be submitted to the December meeting that provided the Committee with information on how traffic flow was monitored, managed and facilitated across the city. The Committee supported this recommendation.

Decision

The Committee recommend that this report be withdrawn from the agenda and a report be submitted to the December meeting that provides information on how traffic flow is monitored, managed and facilitated across the city.

NESC/18/47 Improving Road Safety around Schools

The Committee considered the report of the Operational Director of Highways that provided Members with an update to the report that was considered by the Committee at their July meeting.

The Chair opened this item by apologising to the residents of Manchester that this item continued to be brought back to the Committee. She explained that this was an important subject to ensure the safety of all children across the city, and to date the Committee had not been satisfied with the information that they had been provided with.

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

- A response to the inaccuracies and comments sent by Members following the July meeting and whether these have these been implemented in the plans;
- A full list of work programmed and the associated timescales in phase 1; and
- Information on what consultation with members, schools and residents would happen and the time frame for this activity.

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

- Members expressed their dissatisfaction with the lack of consultation with schools regarding any proposals;
- Dissatisfaction with the lack of responses to enquires raised with Officers when seeking clarification on proposed schemes;
- Questions were raised as to how policy and assessment criteria had been applied, commenting that there was no confidence that these had been applied correctly or consistently;
- Frustration that this work still had yet to be implemented, commenting that the safety of children needed to be prioritised;
- There appeared to be a failure in communications between the Highways Department and the Education Department that had contributed to delays in delivering road safety improvements;
- A question was raised as to why one school had been identified for works, commenting that it was not felt to be appropriate.

The Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport said that she took full responsibility for the lateness of the report and for it not coming back to the September meeting, and accepted that the Highways Department needed to work more closely with the Education Department. She said that a Project Lead had been appointed to oversee this work and the Council was fully committed to improving the

safety of our school children as they travelled to and from school. She said she remained committed to delivering the schemes identified by the end of January 2019.

The Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure said that whilst ultimately this was a highways project he remained committed to working with his Executive colleague to successfully implement these improvements.

The Director of Operations (Highways) responded to a request from a Member for timely and regular updates on the progress of this programme by offering to provide a weekly update to Members and gave an assurance that this work would be progressed.

Having discussed the item Members stated that they were not confident with the process and moved a recommendation that the Chair raise the concerns expressed by the Committee with the Leader and the Chief Executive.

Decision

The Committee recommend that the Chair raise the concerns expressed by the Committee with the Leader and the Chief Executive.

NESC/18/48 Sprinkler and fire safety works update

The Chair introduced this item of business by stating that the Committee condemned the recent deplorable actions of individuals on bonfire night. She said the Committee extended their solidarity and condolences to the victims and families of the Grenfell tragedy. This sentiment was supported by the Committee and all those present. The Committee then considered the report of the Strategic Director (Development) that described that following the Grenfell Tower tragedy, the Executive had considered reports at their June, September and December 2017 meetings. The Committee was advised that the Council had committed to installing sprinklers, subject to surveys, consultation and receiving updated costs, in all Council-owned tower blocks as well as to implement fire safety works recommended by Type 4 Fire Risk Assessments.

This report provided an update and recommended additional approvals in relation to the 24 Council-owned tower blocks managed by Northwards Housing, 11 tower blocks managed by two PFI-funded contractors and Woodward Court managed by homelessness.

It did not cover in detail those blocks managed by PFI contractors in Miles Platting (7) and Brunswick (4), nor did it include privately owned blocks.

The Committee had been invited to comment on the report prior to its submission to the Executive on 14 November 2018.

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

- The rationale for the decision previously taken by the Executive at their meeting of 13 December 2017;
- A description of the budget approval, procurement, technical approval and risk assessments; and
- Information on the consultation exercise undertaken by Northwards Housing.

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

- Welcoming the comprehensive report, noting that it demonstrated the 'Our Manchester' approach to engaging with residents;
- Every effort should be taken to challenge the myths around sprinkler systems and encourage all residents to have sprinklers installed in their flats, including the use of communal spaces, social media, resident's groups and one to one discussions with residents and experienced firefighters;
- Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) needed to be undertaken, especially with the increase in second hand sales of appliances;
- What was being done to influence owners of private blocks to introduce safety measures and reassure the tenants;
- Would a sprinkler system be installed if a tenant who refused one subsequently moved out; and
- What impact would the installation of sprinklers have on insurance premiums.

The Chief Executive Northwards Housing stated that if a tenant was to move out of a property a sprinkler system would be installed prior to the property being re-let. He said that he respected the decisions taken by individuals not to have a sprinkler system installed but wanted to ensure that this was an informed decision. He said that Manchester was pioneering in the approach taken to this issue.

The Greater Manchester Fire Service Officer commented that a lot of myths surrounded the issue of sprinkler systems, in particular the concern around faulty activation. She commented that the occurrence of such events were very low, stating that evidence had shown that the chances were 16m to 1, and the priority was to ensure all residents were safe and protected in their homes. She said awareness and engagement events had been arranged for residents and this had included 1 to 1 meetings. The Chief Executive Northwards Housing commented that a sprinkler system had been installed seven years ago in a block without failure, he further commented that 'safe and well' visits were all routinely undertaken with vulnerable residents.

The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration stated that she recognised the concerns expressed by both Members and residents about the issue of safety in privately owned blocks. She informed the Committee that both herself and the Director of Housing and Residential Growth had been appointed to the Ministerial Task Force that had been established to influence the private sector. She said that she also worked closely with the Fire Service in Manchester to engage with and influence private owners for the benefit of residents. With regard to those tenants who opted not to have sprinklers installed she said that whilst every effort was taken to educate and inform people as to the benefits of these, ultimately the decision not have them would be respected.

The Head of Housing said that if sprinklers were installed in all apartment blocks the cost of the insurance premium to the Council would remain the same however the excess that would be charged would be dramatically reduced.

The Director of Housing and Residential Growth commented that he was fully aware of the safety concerns expressed by residents living in private blocks. He said that a moral position had been taken with developers and owners to influence them into taking action to address any issues. He said he remained committed to working with apartment block owners to influence change and would update the Committee at a future date.

The Director of Housing and Residential Growth further paid tribute to the resident who had contacted the council to raise their concerns regarding the installation of sprinkler systems.

In response to the issues raised regarding white goods and PAT testing the Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration acknowledged the concerns expressed and noted the cost to families of replacing broken or faulty white goods and the potential dangers of purchasing second hand white goods. She stated that Northwards were currently reviewing their options for offering an affordable scheme to tenants to purchase white goods. The Chief Executive Northwards Housing stated that currently they did not offer a PAT testing service however he was mindful that the Grenfell enquiry may consider recommendations around this issue following conclusion on their investigation.

Decisions

The Committee endorse the recommendations contained within the report that the Executive:

- Is requested to note the progress made since December 2017.
- Is requested to note that the consultation undertaken demonstrated significant support for sprinklers but also that a minority of residents were strongly opposed.
- Is requested to note the support for sprinklers from Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service and National Fire Chiefs Council. The Prime Minister has also recently endorsed retrospective fitting of sprinklers to publicly-owned tower blocks.
- Is recommended to continue to proceed with fitting sprinklers, but give residents the ability to decline having sprinklers installed in their flat as long as they have first been given the opportunity to understand the benefits and risks as outlined in paragraph 3.8.
- Is requested to note that the overall budget for sprinkler installation across 35 tower blocks (Whitebeck Court extra care scheme already has a sprinkler system) remains, as estimated, £10.5m approved by Executive in December 2017 and that these systems will have a 30-year life. These costs are being

met within the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) through the rephrasing of the Public Sector Capital Programme.

- Is recommended to approve that the initial installation of sprinklers is offered to leaseholders free of charge at an estimated cost of £240k (to include Miles Platting and Brunswick PFI leaseholders) from the Council's General Fund Housing Private Sector Capital Programme as detailed in paragraph 4.4. This is in addition to the £10.5m sprinkler budget identified above, and will require an increase of £240k to the Private Sector Housing capital budget. However, leaseholders will be required to meet the estimated £167 annual repair and maintenance costs.
- Is requested to note that the fire safety works recommended by the fire risk assessor, Savills, are mandatory and is asked to recommend to Council that the budget for these fire safety works should be increased from £4.0m to £5.2m as the budget request to Executive in February 2018 did not include the tower blocks managed by PFI contractors in Miles Platting and Brunswick and Woodward Court. This will require an increase of £1.2m to the Public Sector Capital Programme from revenue contributions from the HRA.
- Is requested to note that the contracts for sprinklers and fire safety works (plus the other works included in those contracts) include contingency but otherwise place cost risk on the Council, with Northwards Housing managing these contracts on the Council's behalf to mitigate against further costs. Further costs are, however, possible as the sample surveys undertaken may not have identified the full extent of works.
- Is recommended to approve the revenue costs associated with maintaining sprinkler systems as outlined in the revenue consequences section of this report and in paragraph 4.3. Negotiations will be held with Northwards and the PFI providers with regard to the additional revenue funding required, and any subsequent increase in the budget will be met from the Housing Revenue Account.
- Is requested, where access is denied by tenants or leaseholders to implement fire safety works, to delegate authority to take legal action, where required, to the City Solicitor in discussion with the City Treasurer, Director of Housing and Residential Growth, Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration and Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources.

And note that Executive recommend that Council

- is asked to approve a capital budget increase for these fire safety works of £1.2m (from £4.0m to £5.2m) to include the tower blocks managed by PFI contractors in Miles Platting and Brunswick and Woodward Court in the capital programme. This will require an increase of £1.2m to the Public Sector Housing Capital Programme funded from revenue contributions from the HRA.

[Councillor Hassan declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in this item as he is a member of the Northwards Housing board.]

**NESC/18/49 Playing Our Full Part on Climate Change – Updating
Manchester’s Commitment**

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive that provided Members with an update on the recent work undertaken by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Research which recommended the establishment of a carbon budget for Manchester. Adopting this carbon budget would mean committing the city to a target of becoming zero carbon by 2038 rather than the existing 2050 target. The report detailed that the Manchester Climate Change Board had developed an outline proposal setting out how all partners and residents in the city might play their full part in achieving this ambition and this was provided with the report.

The Committee had been invited to comment on the report prior to its submission to the Executive on 14 November 2018.

The Programme Director Manchester Climate Change Agency referred to the main points and themes within the report which included: -

- Information demonstrating the impact of global warming and the local response to this;
- Information on the work of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Research at the University of Manchester and its recommendations that the city adopt a carbon budget and emit only a maximum of 15 million tonnes CO₂ for the period 2018-2100; commit to a 13% year-on-year reduction in citywide CO₂ emissions from 2018 to achieve this carbon budget; and for the city to be zero carbon by 2038;
- The role of the Council in both leadership and influencing partners across the city; and
- Anticipated timescale for work.

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

- Support for the roll out of Carbon Literacy Training to schools and registered provider residents;
- More detail was required regarding the plans and timescales to deliver this programme;
- Aviation emissions and Manchester Airport needed to be addressed within the climate change action plan;
- The impact on health and the wider determinants of health needed to be addressed such as fuel poverty and what options were available for retrofitting homes so they were energy efficient; and
- How could the Council use its existing policies, such as planning to influence climate change and mitigate against extreme weather conditions.

The Programme Director Manchester Climate Change Agency informed the Committee that Manchester would be one of a small number of cities across the world to commit to becoming a zero carbon city in line with the Paris Agreement. He stated that the health and wellbeing benefits to citizens of this activity were also

understood noting that significant savings could be realised to the health economy through, for example better insulation of homes. He also referred to the economic opportunities that this presented to the city which were significant as green technology businesses could be attracted into the city.

In response to the comments regarding how this ambitious programme would be delivered he advised that this report presented a platform for the development of a more detailed draft plan that would be reported to the Committee in February 2019, with the target of launching the full plan in April 2020. He said the report in February 2019 would detail the various activities and work streams identified and the partners identified to deliver this plan and begin to address the questions that Members had.

The Programme Director Manchester Climate Change Agency further commented that he welcomed the proposals circulated by the resident from Gorton who had attended the meeting that called for closer working with young people, schools and school's governors to achieve the ambitions described within the report.

Decisions

The Committee endorsed the recommendations contained within the report that the Executive:

- Adopt the Tyndall Centre's proposed targets and definition of zero carbon on behalf of the city.
- Commit to developing a draft action plan by March 2019 and a final detailed plan by March 2020 setting out how the city will ensure that it stays within the proposed carbon budget.
- To recognise that by taking urgent action to become a zero carbon city, starting in 2018, we will achieve more benefits for Manchester's residents and businesses up to 2025 and beyond.
- Work with partners to ensure that Manchester accelerates its efforts to encourage all residents, businesses and other stakeholders to take action on climate change, starting in 2018.

NESC/18/50 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 informed the Committee that she would be meeting with Officers at the rise of this meeting to discuss the Work Programme and agree the items that were to be scheduled.

Decisions

The Committee notes the report and approve the work programme.

Economy Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 10 October 2018

Present:

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

Also present:

Councillor Leese - Leader
Councillor N Murphy - Deputy Leader
Councillor Stogia - Executive Member for Highways, Planning and Transport

Apologies: Councillor Noor

ESC/18/42 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2018 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

Further to minute ESC/18/40 (Greater Manchester Mayor's Good Employer Charter), Councillor Johns requested that the point he made in relation to the inclusion of Trade Union representatives on the Independent Panel which would be set up to oversee the running of the Charter and its development be included in the minute.

Decision

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2018 subject to the above amendment.

ESC/18/43 Minutes of the District Centres Sub Group

Decision

To note the minutes of the District Centres Sub Group held on 11 September 2018

ESC/18/44 Manchester and Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategies

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive, which provided an update on the development of the Manchester and Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategies and their respective engagement approaches. The Strategies would support the delivery of the Our Manchester Strategy and the Greater Manchester Strategy by setting out a set of priorities which would deliver a more inclusive city and city region.

The Strategic Lead, Policy and Strategy referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:-

- The Manchester Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) would support the delivery of the Our Manchester Strategy by producing a delivery plan that would help to create a more inclusive economy;
- The Strategy would be aligned to both the existing UK Government Industrial Strategy and also the Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategy (GM LIS) which was also currently under development;
- The Manchester LIS engagement approach would include a wide ranging listening exercise with young people, residents, workers and businesses across the city to provide an evidence base to inform citywide and neighbourhood actions to address the fundamental issues of low pay and productivity;
- A particular target group to engage with were people over 50, as an ageing society was identified specifically as one of the four main challenges in the Government's Industrial Strategy;
- The draft timeline for the development of the Strategy, with formal adoption taking pace in summer 2019;
- The GM LIS would reflect the main themes of the national Industrial Strategy, but also take a place-based approach that built on the area's unique strengths and ensured all people in Greater Manchester could contribute to, and benefit from, enhanced productivity, earnings and economic growth;
- Greater Manchester already had a strong evidence base, however, to enable the GM LIS process to drive forward the next phase of devolution and partnership working with Government, there would be a need to build on this evidence and co-produce additional analysis with HMG;
- An Independent Advisory review was being progressed and a high-profile expert panel had been formed, who had identified a select number of research commissions that they had recommend be taken forward to support the GM LIS; and
- The views of industry would be brought into the analysis through a number of challenge sessions which would bring together businesses, policy makers, and academics to discuss the research findings.

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

- There was concern that it did not appear that the proposed engagement approach would collect any new information that had not already been collected following the previous consultation on the Our Manchester Strategy;
- Was it considered that the investment in the consultation on the Manchester LIS was worthwhile;
- What questions would be asked in the GM LIS engagement process;
- There was a view that there were important organisations missing, such as the NHS and Mental Health Providers, from the identified key strategic boards that were to be consulted with to help shape the development of the LIS;
- There was concern that the makeup of the high profile expert panel undertaking the Independent Review did not include any representation from Manchester;
- How would the strategy reflect back to residents to show their views had been included;
- How would the Manchester LIS relate to existing Council Strategies;
- What type of interventions would be part of the scope of the delivery plan;

- How would the strategy influence major employers within the city to progress their workforce;
- There was concern that the institutions represented on the expert panel all shared similar views on economic growth and the potential impact that this might have on Manchester's LIS;
- How comprehensive did the GM LIS need to be in order to obtain government funding and likewise Manchester's LIS to ensure Manchester received an appropriate amount of this funding to deliver the aspirations of the city;
- Could the LIS look to address the gaps that exist within the green jobs sector; and
- Would it be appropriate to invite comments on the proposals from external bodies who perhaps had different views from those that were currently represented on the expert panel

The Leader advised that in relation to the membership of the expert panel, the Chair of the Panel, Diane Coyle, had detailed knowledge of Manchester as she had recently left her position as a professor at Manchester University and had also led on the Manchester Independent Economic Review. The rest of the panel all had strong reputations within their respective fields which would ensure that the findings of the review would have credibility with Government.. He agreed that the link to the GM consultation would be shared with all Committee Members so they were aware of the questions that were to be asked. The Leader also informed the Committee that the Council did not currently have a coherent economic development strategy and it was envisaged that the LIS would deliver this for the Council.

John Holden, Assistant Director, Strategy & Research (GMCA) added that the detailed research work undertaken as part of the work of the expert panel was being carried out in part by academics belonging to local universities., referencing the Inclusive Growth Analysis Unit. The Strategic Lead, Policy and Strategy advised that in terms of engagement on the Manchester LIS, there would be different approaches for different cohorts and gave examples of what this would look like. He acknowledged the point made around the inclusion of NHS and Mental Health Providers on the key strategic boards and agreed that this would be picked up. In terms of the value of undertaking the consultation, it was considered a worthwhile exercise as there a lot of quantitative information obtained would be made available by the GM review, which now needed matching with qualitative data to help identify the different needs across the city. The Deputy Leader noted the point made about the membership of the Strategic Boards and gave a commitment to ensure that those organisations identified by Committee Members were made aware of the consultation.

The Leader reported that the Council had a lot of policies on economic development but no strategy that linked them all together and it was envisaged that the LIS would link all these together, addressing the 'Thriving and Sustainable' economic theme within the Our Manchester Strategy. The Leader did not share the same concerns in relation to the institutions represented on the expert panel and it would be their role to provide a body of evidence which the Council would be able to utilise. The Assistant Director, Strategy & Research (GMCA) advised that the GM Good Employment Charter would look to influence major employers within the city to progress their workforce.

The Leader welcomed the comments made in relation to the green jobs sector and advised that at a Combined Authority Level, it was an ambition for the city region to become a UK leader within this sector. In terms of the process, it was explained that the expert panel would not be informing the Council what its LIS should be but rather it would provide an evidence base the Council needed to form its LIS. It was noted that economic growth would require infrastructure investment and it was envisaged that the LIS would establish a base with government to prevent the need for resubmitting funding needs.

The Chair then invited Committee Members to highlight a number of areas that Members felt the GM and Manchester LIS should address.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) endorses approaches being developed in Manchester and Greater Manchester and the links between the two pieces of work;
- (2) suggests the following issues/topics as the most significant issues that need to be addressed by the two Strategies:-
 - the development of the green jobs sector;
 - addressing the disparity in wages and those earning the real living wage between employees and residents of Manchester;
 - to have an inclusive economic view of employment within social care;
 - a pragmatic approach to ensuring large employers within Manchester take a more serious approach to the employment of Manchester residents;
 - how the self-employed and those working within the gig economy can benefit from the city's economy; and
 - a commitment to improving the wage share of income and that all Manchester residents benefit from increased GVA; and
- (3) supports the Manchester engagement process as detailed in the report.

ESC/18/45 Gap analysis of the City's Bus network service

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director (Development) and the Deputy Chief Executive, which provided a brief overview of the operation of the current bus service network and gaps and issues relating to these services. The report also provides a summary of the powers brought about by the recent introduction of the Bus Services Act.

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

- The role of buses in Manchester;
- Public transport journeys across Greater Manchester (GM);
- How people travelled into the City Centre during morning peak hours;
- How bus services were currently delivered in Manchester;
- The provisions of the Bus Services Act (2017) and Bus Reform, which included;
- Advanced Quality Partnerships (AQP)

- Enhanced Partnerships (EP)
- Bus franchising; and
- Advanced Ticketing Scheme and Information Availability.
- Key issues and opportunities for Manchester's bus services, which included a GM wide review of bus services, identifying key gaps in the overall provision of services that should be addressed through any form of bus service reform.

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

- It was felt that the Committee should be included in any future debate around the possible model of bus reform in the city and that as part of this debate, the Committee needed to look at the demographics of people who used buses and the reasons why they use them;
- As part of the review of bus service networks, it would be useful to look at routes that have either been removed or reduced in frequency in recent years to the detriment of service levels previously enjoyed by local residents;
- It was felt that public authorities should have the ability to specify ticket prices and compel operators to provide particular services;
- Was it necessary to identify/explore AQP's and EP's before considering the franchising of bus services;
- There was a need to consider the types of buses in operation and whether they were suitable on all routes;
- There was also a need to consider appropriate ticketing and fare levels and provide better value for Manchester residents, especially those who lived on the periphery of the city centre, in the poorest communities, who often faced higher per mile bus fares;
- The issue of "over – bussing" of some services within the city centre needed addressing;
- There was a need to understand bus users' origins and destinations when building a suitable bus network;
- There was concern that current bus operators had not always operated in good faith and it was questioned, in light of this, whether AQP's or EP's would work or provide any advantages;
- How could Elected Members raise specific concerns and contribute to the proposed consultation;
- There was a degree of surprise amongst Members that TfGM did not already have some form of plan in mind for the future delivery of bus services;
- Had consideration been given to collecting real time data in relation to the timeliness and reliability of bus services;
- It was suggested that TFGM should be looking at a similar way of travel across Greater Manchester for bus services akin to the Metrolink network; and
- While routes on main radial routes in and out of the city centre were generally well provided for it was apparent that there was gap in the current bus network service if residents were trying to make east to west and vice versa across the city.

The Head of Policy for Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) explained the process that the Bus Service Act required Greater Manchester to go through and in doing so advised that TfGM were preparing a Business Case for bus reform which

required obtaining a large amount of data from current operators. As this was the first time the powers of the Act had been implemented, there was a need to proceed in a careful and steady manner through the process that the Act set out. The Business Case would need approval by the Combined Authority (CA) before it was subject to public consultation. It was commented that it would probably be appropriate following approval by the CA, that the overall case for reform be re – considered by the Scrutiny Committee.

It was reported that in terms of the decline of bus services and the loss of routes, Greater Manchester was not alone in this with a lot of other Local Authorities experiencing similar cuts, to the extent that the service in London provided the same number of bus trips than the rest of the country combined. This decline had been as a result of a number of factors, including congestion, the bus network and complexity of the fare offer in Greater Manchester. It was commented that the AQP and EP proposals would require negotiation and reaching mutual agreements with operators but these would not be binding and it would not possible to enforce these arrangements. Bus franchising provided more certainty in terms of outcome.

The Head of City Policy acknowledged the issues that had been raised by Members. He explained that the Council was being asked by TfGM to identify the areas that it felt needed improving in the current bus service provision and network, in order to provide some key principles that needed to be included within the business case for change.

The Head of Policy (TfGM) reported that in relation to farer ticketing prices a franchising model could deliver a simpler pricing system for residents across Greater Manchester.

The Executive Member of Highways Planning and Transport noted the valid comments that had been made by Committee Members. She proposed that as all Elected Members would likely have a view on the areas that needed improving in the current bus service provision and network she would arrange for meetings in the North, South and Central areas of the city for Members to raise their concerns/ issues. She also added that TFGM had a wealth of data on current bus services, but in order to form suitable proposals, Members were being asked to identify what was important to them and their residents

The Head of Policy (TfGM) advised that the proposed consultation needed more assessment work before a date could be identified for its launch and the Committee would be advised as soon as possible. In relation to origin and destination data he reminded the Committee that TfGM was not a network specifier and its purpose was to fill gaps in the network which was largely defined by the bus operators at present.

Officers also advised that TfGM did collect data on the punctuality of services but did not collect real time data at present. It was also reported that TFGM were not able to affect commercial services that were delivering poor performance, as this was outside the organisation's remit.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Notes the options that the Bus Services Act present to Combined Authorities with an elected mayor;
- (2) Welcomes the offer from the Executive Member of Environment and Transport to arrange meetings in the North, South and Central areas of the city for Members to raise their concerns/ issues and that these be arranged in areas that are and are not served by the Metrolink.
- (3) Suggests the following issues be considered by TfGM in developing its business case for the reform of bus services:-
 - Concerns that assessments are being undertaken based on existing service levels and that this should also include an assessment of where enhanced levels of service are required;
 - An more detailed assessment should be undertaken of the demographics of bus users and a fuller analysis of the journey purposes of users and potential users;
 - The future procurement options of services and a concern that bus operators needed to show good faith in negotiations;
 - The need to develop imaginative solutions to serve neighbourhoods away from main radial routes and address current concerns about the excessive numbers of buses on some city centre streets; and
 - Consideration be given to an integrated ticketing offer and greater equality of fares provision across the city.
- (4) Requests information including a summary of data that has been used to date to underpin current findings, including information on frequencies of services and services that have been removed or reduced in the last three years.

ESC/18/46 Economy Dashboard - Quarter 1 2018/19

The Committee considered the Quarterly Economy Dashboard for quarter 1 of 2018/19, which provided statistical data on economic development, housing and the visitor economy.

The Performance Analyst and Governance Lead presented the report to the Committee.

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

- Members welcomed the wealth and breadth of data that the dashboard provided;
- Was it possible to undertake further comparisons of performance with other core cities;
- What data source had been used in relation to house price and rental price information and was it possible to have data on median house price and price per square foot;
- Clarification was sought as to what Officers defined as the area of the city centre and what neighbourhoods were included within the definition;

- What was the scope and definition of empty properties;
- It was felt that further information could be included in future reports on the difference in wages of residents of the city and those who worked in the city, the increase in house prices and rental costs across wards and the number of new build properties bought by foreign investors and this impact on the housing market;
- The slight increase in the percentage of Manchester residents with no qualifications could possibly be attributed to the impact of austerity measures;
- Why had the number of apprenticeship starts decreased; and
- Was there any data available on how people previously travelled to financial centres prior to the expansion of flights from Manchester Airport

The Performance Analyst and Governance Lead explained that there was an online version of the dashboard that provided a wider range of data sets compared to the printed version before Members as this version only contained the most recent data. He agreed that if further data sets were felt necessary these could be included in future dashboards or as a bespoke data provision. He confirmed that it would be possible to compare any data set provided by a local authority or at a core city level.

The Committee was advised that the housing data was obtained from Land Registry data and was point based data which was not constrained by boundaries such as Low Super Output Areas or ward boundaries. The area referred to as the City Centre was considered to be broader than Deansgate and Piccadilly wards and the Performance Analyst and Governance Lead agreed to circulate a map as to what was considered the boundary of the City Centre. It was reported that in terms of empty properties, the volume was at a record low and short term empty data fluctuated due to supply. The Performance Analyst and Governance Lead agreed to provide median house and rental prices across the city to Committee Members.

The Performance Analyst and Governance Lead advised that in terms of the NVQ data this was subject to confidence intervals of plus/minus 2.5%, and changes year on year were usually within this tolerance which made it difficult to identify any specific issues. He advised that the Apprenticeship starts had registered a decline prior to the introduction the Apprenticeship Levy and the figures had not yet been released following its introduction to undertake a comparison. Further analysis on this would be undertaken when the 2017/18 figures became available. He advised that it was unlikely to obtain the necessary data on how people previously travelled to financial centres.

Decision

The Committee

- (1) Notes the report; and
- (2) Request the Performance Analyst and Governance Lead to provide further information to Committee Members on the mean housing and rental prices in with a specific focus on the Wythenshawe area and the similar data on price per square foot if possible.

ESC/18/47 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.

The Chair informed the Committee that a request had been made to change the scheduling of some of the items listed on the Work Programme. In the main this resulted in the current scheduled items being moved on by one month

A result of this request now meant that the following items would be added onto the work programme for consideration at the Committee's November meeting:-

- LTE Group (formerly Manchester College) Performance update;
- An update on Manchester College's Estates Strategy; and
- Consideration of the HS2 Working Draft Environmental Statement

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) notes the report; and
- (2) agrees the proposed changes to the Work Programme as detailed above.

Economy Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 7 November 2018

Present:

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

Also present:

Councillor Leese - Leader
Councillor N Murphy - Deputy Leader
Councillor Rahman- Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure

Apologies: Councillor Douglas, Noor, C Paul, Raikes and K Simcock

ESC/18/48 Minutes

Decision

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 October were agreed as a correct record.

ESC/18/49 HS2 Working Draft Environmental Statement

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director (Development), which informed Members of the consultation being held by HS2 Ltd. on the recently published Working Draft Environmental Statement (WDES) in relation to the construction of HS2 Phase 2b, with a specific focus on the proposals within Manchester.

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

- The working draft Environmental Statement (WDES) described the potential environmental effects of building and operating Phase 2b of HS2 as well as proposed ways to avoid, reduce, mitigate and monitor the effects;
- Within the City Council administrative boundary, the WDES covered land and roads at the Airport and M56, a 7.5 mile tunnel under South Manchester to Ardwick Depot, four vent shaft locations and tunnel portal, a viaduct and the HS2 station at Piccadilly;
- The locations of the four proposed vent shafts, their diameter and height;
- Detail of the Council's concerns about some of the proposed locations of the ventilation shafts, including considerable transport movements arising from the movement of materials to and from the sites, associated with the construction process;
- Details of the consultation process that HS2 Ltd. would be holding from late October to early December 2018;

- there would be an overall response to the consultation from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority. In addition, Manchester City Council, Trafford Council and Wigan Council (where a HS2 depot will be located) would all submit individual responses, which would feed into the overall GMCA response; and
- Given that the Working Draft was based on a superceded design, it was intended that the Council's response would cover the major issues of concern highlighted in previous consultation responses, and during the ongoing design work with HS2 Ltd.

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

- How were general discussions between the Council and HS2 Ltd going;
- What discussions were taking place around the proposals for the HS2 station at Piccadilly;
- It was felt that there was a lack of detail in HS2's proposals for Members to effectively contribute to;
- How confident was the Council that alternative appropriate locations for the ventilation shafts could be located and what would happen if an agreement could not be reached;
- There was concern of the potential disruption that would be caused to Manchester residents and the impact to businesses from the current proposed locations of the ventilation shafts;
- What was the timescale for the construction of the ventilation shafts and was the route of HS2 now fixed; and
- Did HS2's proposed route and locations for the ventilation shafts contradict what the Council envisaged for HS2 in the city.

The Head of City Centre Growth and Regeneration advised that discussion to date with HS2 Ltd had been challenging but the Council was hopeful that these would improve. It was reported that the WDES that had been produced by HS2 Ltd was based on an initial design had been amended on two further occasions. As such HS2 would be revising the WDES and the planned consultation would take place on the revised version.

The Leader agreed that the Council needed HS2 Ltd to provide more detail on their proposals in order to effectively provide valid comments. He advised that the Council did not currently agree with the proposals for some of the ventilation shafts due to their proposed locations and also the fact that the size of some of these shafts would in effect make them access shafts,

The Committee was advised that the final decision of the proposed route and ventilation shafts would be taken by Parliament but it would preferable to reach a mutual agreement between the Council and HS2 Ltd. The Strategic Director (Development) commented that the Council was influencing the design through ongoing discussions and was able to make representations throughout the whole process, however, he did acknowledge that the process was complex.

The Leader advised that the route for HS2 was not yet finalised and the construction period would be lengthy and commence around 2028. The current plans still had the proposals around Piccadilly wrongly located and the configuration of the station had not yet been resolved. If the station proposals were to accord with what the Council wanted it would require the current proposal for one of the ventilation shafts to be relocated.

Resolved: The Committee:-

- (1) Notes the report; and
- (2) Notes a report outlining the Council's response to the consultation on the WDES will be taken to the Executive on 12 December 2018, prior to its submission on 21 December and in doing so requests that the Executive observes the Committee's views:-
 - that the proposed locations for the ventilation shafts, specifically those at Withington Golf Course and MEA Central, are inappropriate; and
 - the concerns in relation to the potential disruption that would be caused to Manchester residents and the impact to businesses from the current proposed locations of the ventilation shafts.

ESC/18/50 LTE Group Performance update

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive – LTE Group, which provided a progress update on the broader work in education and skills performed by LTE Group in support of the Manchester and Greater Manchester skills strategy. The report also included an update for The Manchester College together with an overview and performance update for Total People and provision of apprenticeships.

The Committee received a presentation from Officers from the LTE Group which included the following main points and:-

- The strategic aims of the Manchester College 2020 strategy;
- The challenges that faced both the 16-18 and post 19 learners markets;
- Study programme expectations for Manchester College students;
- Performance details of the College's 2018/19 Ofsted self-assessment;
- ALPS performance across BTEC, A-Levels and AS Levels;
- Work experience offer performance;
- The performance of Total People, which continued to perform well above national achievement rates for training providers in terms of performance of apprentices and employers;
- The contribution to professional learning of MOL, providing high level online only programmes;
- The work of the Novus Works initiative which had engaged with more than 600 ex-offenders in helping them into full time employment on release; and
- The launch and first year performance of UCEN, which was a study offer specifically to address the needs of local residents who were not able to study in higher education through the normal channels.

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

- Was there any financial pressure on the College to keep students on courses;
- How would the College compare if its ALPs performance was benchmarked amongst comparator institutions;
- Was there any specific reasons as to what was driving the College's performance improvements;
- Clarification was sought as to what the self-assessment teaching and learning percentages referred to;
- Why was there no data around destinations;
- Was there any specific reasons as to why A Level intake was showing the least value added in the ALPS performance;
- Despite the positive performance of Total People, less than 1% of apprenticeships were being delivered by Total People services, as such who was delivering the remaining apprenticeships and how was the quality of these apprenticeships being ensured; and
- Did Manchester College work with other colleges outside of Manchester to improve the level of education for Manchester residents

The Committee was advised that the College was under no financial pressure to retain students on courses. The Committee was assured that the College was the only organisation within the Association of Colleges to have delivered its financial targets consistently for the last six years and although the College did have a zero tolerance approach to certain issues that would result in the removal of students from courses if these were breached, the College looked to engage with all students in a positive manner. In order to do this, it was reported that the College had established campus support teams to help re-engage students into their studies.

Officers explained that benchmarking of ALPS was not published nationally but the College was starting to pull this information together in order to compare itself to similar institutions. In terms of the College's pace of improved performance, it was explained that improvements were being made at the time of its last Ofsted inspection but due to the size of the campus this had taken time to become demonstrable.

The Committee was advised that the College had established its own self-assessment framework for teaching and learning as a move away from graded observations, to a more observational based form of assessment for tutors. This was based on the advice of inspectors at the last Ofsted inspection. The self-assessment teaching and learning percentages referred to the results from second round of observations of tutors. It was also reported that the destination figures for the College overall was 94% positive destinations, with the most significant increase in positive destinations within Adults.

The Head of Work and Skills explained that some employers had their own training providers to provide their own apprenticeship programmes. There was also a vast amount of other providers that delivered programmes for employers across the country. The only way it was possible to evaluate the quality of these providers was through Ofsted reporting, employee feedback and achievement rate for apprentices in the city. The Council had no leverage over apprenticeship providers in the city or across Greater Manchester.

Officers advised that from a Total People perspective, they would work in partnership with any other GM or North West college where that was the requirement of the employer, as the apprenticeship programme was employer led. There was also a Greater Manchester Colleges group which included nine colleges which looked to develop collaborative partnerships, which included looking at ways to improve the level of education provided.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) notes the update; and
- (2) requests that Officers present the information contained within the presentation in a report format for future reports.

[Councillor Hacking declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in this item due to being a Director of the LTE Group and a Governor of Manchester College. He left the meeting during consideration of this item.]

ESC/18/51 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 commented that he felt that the Committee should have received the Annual Property report which was to be scrutinised by the Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee on 8 November 2018 as it contained reference to areas that fell within this committee's remit. The Chair suggested that this report be circulated to Committee Members for information.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Notes the report;
- (2) Agrees the work programme; and
- (3) Requests that the Scrutiny Team Leader circulates the Annual Property report to all Committee Members for information.

ESC/18/52 Manchester College Estates Strategy update (Part A)

This item was withdrawn.

ESC/18/53 Manchester College Estates Strategy update (Part B)

This item was withdrawn.

Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2018

Present:

Councillor Hacking - In the Chair

Councillors Andrews, Cooley, M Dar, Evans, Fletcher-Hackwood, Kirkpatrick, Rawlins and Rawson

Councillor S Murphy, Deputy Leader

Councillor Rahman, Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure

Councillor Richards, Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration

Councillor Taylor, Assistant Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure

Councillor Holt, Lead Member for Intergenerational Issues

John Haines, Project Skate Park

Phil Murphy, Levenshulme Old Library

Steve Conway, Community Asset Transfer Specialist

Martin Preston, Macc

Sarah Whitelegg, Macc

Dave Moutrey, Director and Chief Executive of HOME and Director of Culture for Manchester City Council

John McGrath, Manchester International Festival

Jennifer Cleary, Manchester International Festival

Claire Tomkinson, Macc

CESC/18/37 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2018 as a correct record.

CESC/18/38 Community Asset Transfer

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director (Development), the Head of Corporate Estates and Facilities, the Strategic Lead (Parks, Leisure and Events), the Strategic Lead (Neighbourhoods - South) and the Community Asset Transfer Manager on Community Asset Transfers. It provided information on the Community Asset Transfer activity during 2017/18, a background to the scheme and the process for progressing a Community Asset Transfer, and the support that was provided to groups by the Council.

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

- The programme of support available to groups;
- The process for Community Asset Transfers;
- Potential future improvements; and
- Case studies.

The Committee also received a report of Martin Preston and Sarah Whitelegg from Macc on Community Asset Transfers.

Sarah Whitelegg referred to the main points and themes within Macc's report, which included:

- Macc's observations of the process, as the organisation contracted to provide support to Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) groups in Manchester;
- Macc's initial recommendations for improving and supporting Community Asset Transfers in Manchester; and
- Good practice in other parts of the country.

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

- At what point Ward Councillors were involved in the process;
- What the savings were for the Council due to no longer being responsible for the maintenance costs of the buildings and to request a cost benefit analysis;
- How it was determined which groups paid a peppercorn rent and which paid a reduced commercial rent;
- To request further information on situations where groups did not proceed with a Community Asset Transfer as they felt they lacked the capacity to continue;
- Whether the Council had a list of its assets; and
- What information the Council had on the condition of its assets.

The Community Asset Transfer Manager outlined the process, advising that it typically took about 18 months and that his team recognised the importance of involving Ward Councillors at an early stage. He advised that the Council had created a formula to assess the average saving per building and that this had showed that the savings were approximately £28,000 per building but he reported that this varied greatly depending on the individual building. Martin Preston informed the Committee that Bradford City Council had developed a cost benefit analysis of Community Asset Transfers. The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration advised that she and officers would look into the cost benefit analysis and come back with further information.

The Community Asset Transfer Manager advised that VCS organisations which were delivering commissioned services on behalf of the Council paid a reduced commercial rent (usually about 30% of the full commercial rate) and that groups which were not delivering commissioned services paid a peppercorn rent. He advised that some of the issues which influenced organisations not to proceed included the time it would take to administer the asset and the condition of the building, for example, if major work was required. He reported that the decision not to proceed was usually made by mutual consent between the VCS group and the Council as the challenges became clear while the business plan was being developed.

The Head of Corporate Estates and Facilities updated Members on the ongoing work to assess and record the condition of the Council's building assets, which, she advised, should be completed within two years. She informed Members that the Council held a list of all its assets electronically and that Members could be provided

with training to be able to use this database to see details of assets in their ward. The Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration reported that the Members Development service had emailed Members regarding training on the database.

Phil Murphy outlined the process for the Community Asset Transfer of Levenshulme Old Library, including the costs involved and the benefits to the community.

John Haines informed Members about his experience of the Community Asset Transfer of the skate park. He described the problems his organisation had previously encountered in obtaining funding because it did not have a lease on the land used for the skate park. He reported that, following the Community Asset Transfer, this was now a sustainable skate park, that usage had tripled and that having the lease had enabled them to obtain significant further funding to expand. He informed Members that, when undertaking a cost benefit analysis, it was important to consider other benefits such as community cohesion and additional spending in the city from people travelling from elsewhere to use the skate park.

Decision

To note the report.

[Councillor M Dar declared a disclosable pecuniary interest as an employee of Community on Solid Ground and withdrew from the room for this item.]

[Councillor Fletcher-Hackwood declared a personal interest as an unpaid Trustee of Fallowfield Library.]

CESC/18/39 Widening Access and Participation, Leisure, Libraries, Galleries and Culture – Update

The Committee received a report of the Chief Operating Officer (Neighbourhoods) which provided an update on work to understand resident engagement in services provided by Leisure, Libraries, Galleries and Culture and to explore routes to increase participation among groups or communities that might be less engaged. The report also provided information about leisure's approach to 'poverty proofing'.

The Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure referred to the main points and themes within the report, which included:

- Data improvement;
- Wider access for under-represented groups;
- Examples of recent initiatives in the different service areas;
- Communication and resident engagement; and
- Next steps.

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

- The work of Age Friendly Manchester (AFM) Culture Champions;
- The condition of playing fields in parks;

- Request for further information on the conversations which were due to take place with Manchester Health and Care Commissioning (MHCC) in relation to Arts and Leisure;
- Request for ward level data of the people obtaining MCR Active cards and using the leisure facilities;
- That poverty proofing services was not just about the cost of tickets for events or activities but also the cost of transport to venues; and
- Barriers affecting disabled people's access to leisure facilities and to request a further report focusing on protected characteristics.

The Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure recognised the value of the work of AFM and its Culture Champions in ensuring older people were aware of what was going on in the city and felt welcome to participate. The Sport and Leisure Lead updated Members on work to improve playing pitches and the Manchester Playing Pitch Strategy, which the Committee was due to receive an update report on at its 8 November meeting. He reported that the MCR Active card had been successful in enabling the Council to gather data on the people using leisure facilities, including casual users. He advised Members that he could provide data on which wards the users of individual leisure facilities lived in. He informed Members that the data showed that some groups were under-represented, which included women and girls, disabled people and people over the age of 50, which reflected a national trend, but that Manchester was performing better than the national average on people from BAME (black and minority ethnic) groups accessing leisure facilities.

The Strategic Lead (Libraries, Galleries and Culture) informed Members that the Council had now started the conversation with MHCC on the contribution of Arts and Leisure to the Our Healthier Manchester Strategy and he offered to provide further information to the Committee at a future date. The Culture Lead (Libraries, Galleries and Culture) acknowledged that transport was a big issue and outlined some of the approaches being taken to address this such as basing activity in local places and cultural organisations negotiating with transport companies to put in place transport schemes to enable cheaper travel to their events. The Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure advised that the Council needed to work with Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) to address this.

Decisions

1. To request a further report on Widening Access and Participation focusing specifically on protected characteristics.
2. To request that data on which wards the users of individual leisure facilities lived in be circulated to Members.
3. To note that further information on the conversations with MHCC on the contribution of Arts and Leisure to the Our Healthier Manchester Strategy will be provided in a future report.

CESC/18/40 Cultural Ambition

The Committee received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive which provided an overview of work undertaken to develop and deliver the Cultural Ambition.

Dave Moutrey, Director and Chief Executive of HOME and Director of Culture for Manchester City Council, referred to the main points and themes within the report, which included:

- The background to the Cultural Ambition strategy;
- The priorities within the strategy; and
- Working groups and joint strategic initiatives.

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

- That Manchester had an excellent cultural offer but that local residents in some areas were not connected with this;
- That the focus needed to be not just on enabling access but also developing residents' interest in the cultural offer; and
- That this should include bringing cultural events to local venues.

The Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure acknowledged that many people had limited experience of the cultural offer and reported that the Council and partner organisations were working to address this through the Cultural Ambition strategy and the work of the Manchester International Festival. He outlined some of the work taking place to bring culture closer to local people, including "Fun Palace" events taking place in local libraries, and advised that it was important to have a diverse offer to appeal to a wider audience.

Dave Moutrey informed Members that work was taking place to create a resident-facing website about what was available but that it was also important to get out in communities and build relationships with people. He informed Members about the work of the Cold-Spots Working Group which was identifying communities which the cultural organisations were not engaging with so that their limited resources could be better targeted at these communities.

Decision

To note the report.

CESC/18/41 Manchester International Festival

The Committee received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive which provided a picture of work carried out by Manchester International Festival (MIF) to widen participation since the last Festival in July 2017.

John McGrath from MIF referred to the main points and themes within the report, which included:

- Organisational development;

- Audience development;
- Creative engagement; and
- Skills and training.

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

- How young people from Manchester, including those from schools specialising in the arts, could access high quality, well-paid jobs in the sector;
- To welcome the new initiatives and diverse activity; and
- To request further information on Festival in My House.

John McGrath informed Members that MIF had starting running jobs drives in their offices to help people to find out about the jobs available and was working to ensure that there were career pathways from entry level jobs to senior roles. He advised that most jobs in the sector were behind the scenes and, as there were other organisations in Manchester focusing on developing performers, MIF was focusing on these other roles. Jennifer Cleary from MIF reported that Festival in My House had first taken place at MIF 2017 and was about local people planning a micro-international festival for their neighbours in their home, with support from MIF.

Decision

To note the report.

CESC/18/42 Volunteering and Timebanking Update

The Committee received a report of the Chief Operating Officer (Neighbourhoods) on volunteering and timebanking which provided a brief update on progress and the ongoing work programme since the previous report presented to the Committee in December 2017. It also included an overview of the work that was underway on identifying and working with community-based assets (people, buildings, spaces).

The main points and themes within the report included:

- Progress on encouraging more volunteering activity within the city;
- Timebanking; and
- Community asset mapping.

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

- To welcome the progress made; and
- To ask how timebanking could be introduced in other wards.

Claire Tomkinson from Macc advised that, where there was an interest in introducing timebanking to an area of the city, her organisation would bring together existing timebanks and organisations which had expressed an interest in timebanks to look at how they could be used to build the network across the city. She advised that timebanking attracted people who would not take part in traditional volunteering.

Decision

To note the report.

CESC/18/43 Improving Life Chances: Generations Together (Improving the Life Chances of Manchester Residents)

The Committee received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive which highlighted the Council's commitment to Improving Life Chances for all Manchester communities, one of its strategic equality objectives.

The Lead Member for Intergenerational Issues referred to the main points and themes within the report, which included:

- An update on the Council's equality objectives;
- Work to improve life chances; and
- Intergenerational work.

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

- How much involvement the Age Friendly Manchester (AFM) Older People's Board had had in this work and whether an event could be held to jointly re-launch the Older People's Charter and the manifesto for young people;
- Whether this work included any work to address social isolation; and
- To suggest that the next Equality Lead Members' meeting look at how this work could be linked up with work on other protected characteristics.

The Lead Member for Intergenerational Issues confirmed that she had been in contact with representatives from AFM and advised that she would take forward the suggestion regarding the Older People's Charter and the manifesto for young people. She informed Members of intergenerational work which was taking place in some areas to tackle social isolation, which, she advised, brought benefits for both the young people and the older people involved. She advised that there was a lot of great work taking place on a piecemeal basis across the city and it was important to have a strategy to scale this up. The Deputy Leader advised that young people could also be socially isolated. She informed Members about a forthcoming report from the organisation Greater Manchester Talent Match called "Still Hidden" which focused on isolated young people who were not engaged in training, employment or with public services. She offered to circulate the link to Committee Members.

Decision

To note report.

CESC/18/44 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.

The Chair commented that the report on the Strategic Plan for Events had been withdrawn from the agenda of today's meeting and would be considered at the next meeting on 8 November 2018.

Decision

To note the report and agree the work programme.

Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2018

Present:

Councillor Hacking - In the Chair

Councillors Andrews, Cooley, M Dar, Kirkpatrick, Rawlins and Rawson

Councillor N Murphy, Deputy Leader

Councillor S Murphy, Statutory Deputy Leader

Councillor Rahman, Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure

Apologies:

Councillor Fletcher-Hackwood

CESC/18/45 Minutes

Decisions

1. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2018 as a correct record.
2. To receive the minutes of the Our Manchester Voluntary and Community Sector Fund Task and Finish Group meeting on 27 September 2018.

CESC/18/46 Community Safety Partnership Update

The Committee received a report of the Chief Operating Officer (Neighbourhoods) which provided an update on the work of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

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

- Key priorities of the Community Safety Strategy 2018 – 2021;
- Work to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB);
- Work to protect people from serious harm;
- Work to change and prevent adult offender behaviour;
- Standing Together funding; and
- Next steps.

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

- The links and distinctions between rough sleeping and begging and how many of those engaged in aggressive begging in the city centre were from Manchester and how many travelled into the city to beg;
- The Greater Manchester Mayor's campaign to end rough sleeping;
- What the initial response was to the Positive Engagement Programme (PEP) and what could be done in areas which had problems with ASB but where the PEP was not running; and

- The challenges of providing accommodation for offenders and supporting them to maintain tenancies.

The Community Safety Lead informed Members that some beggars were Manchester residents while others travelled in from Greater Manchester and further afield. She advised that she could provide a breakdown of the figures. She reported that it was too early to tell how successful the PEP was as it took time to build relationships with young people. She advised that the CSP and its partners wanted to assess how successful and sustainable it was over the longer-term before trying to obtain more funding to expand the programme to other areas of the city. She reported that other work could be done to tackle ASB in areas not currently covered by the PEP, including work with the ASB Team, housing providers, youth workers and Early Help Hubs. She outlined the work taking place to support offenders to maintain tenancies but advised that it was challenging work and more still needed to be done.

Decisions

1. To request that, when the Committee considers the issue of rough sleeping and begging, this item include the input of those involved in related work at a Greater Manchester level.
2. To request that the Committee receive regular updates on work in relation to accommodation for offenders.

CESC/18/47 Recording Misogyny as a Hate Crime

The Chair reminded Members that, following a previous recommendation, the report on Nottinghamshire's experience of recording misogyny as a hate crime had been circulated to Members and that the Committee was invited to consider how it wanted to take this issue forward.

A Member asked whether this might be introduced in Greater Manchester, following its success in Nottinghamshire.

The Deputy Leader informed Members that offences motivated by misogyny were not currently recorded as hate crimes in Greater Manchester but that GMP had expanded its recording of hate crime to include offences motivated by membership of alternative subcultures, which was not one of the nationally monitored hate crime strands. He informed Members that the Law Commission was currently carrying out a review into hate crime and that any proposals to add misogyny as a recorded hate crime strand in Greater Manchester should be considered in relation to the Law Commission's work in this area.

The Community Safety Lead reported that there were some challenges in relation to this, for example, the most appropriate terminology to use. She advised Members that both the Law Commission and the National Police Chiefs' Council were looking into this issue and that GMP might decide to wait for the outcomes of these reviews before determining the best course of action.

Decision

To request an update at a future meeting on what actions GMP is taking in relation to recording misogyny as a hate crime.

CESC/18/48 Manchester Playing Pitch Strategy Update

The Committee received a report of the Chief Operating Officer (Neighbourhoods) which provided an update on the progress being made on the development of the action plan, which underpinned Manchester Playing Pitch Strategy (MPPS).

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

- The MPPS's vision, strategic aims and conclusions;
- The MPPS Action Plan;
- The sports specific analysis; and
- Next steps.

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

- How Ward Councillors would be consulted and whether Members could see a map of the pitches across the whole city;
- That this work should include improving the associated changing facilities;
- What progress had been made in seeking alternative management arrangements for the Powerleague South (Whalley Range);
- The difficulty league football teams experienced in booking pitches at peak times for league matches and training sessions;
- How more people could be recruited to bowling clubs; and
- How perceptions of different sports deterred some people from participating.

The Strategic Lead (Parks, Leisure and Events) reported that Ward Councillors would be consulted through their ward plans within the next three months, advising that this information had also been shared in the previous municipal year but that ward boundaries and the membership of the Council had changed since then. He reported that the document showing the pitches across the city would be added to the Council website and the link shared with Members. He informed Members that the Strategy included a review of the quality of changing facilities and agreed that some of these needed to be updated. He advised that discussions were taking place with relevant partners to take this forward. He informed Members that the Council was in discussions with Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL) about potentially taking over the management of the Powerleague South and that the Council was confident that it would find a solution to ensure the site's continued operation. He acknowledged the challenges for football teams in trying to book pitches at peak times and advised that the Council was in discussions with the Manchester Football Association regarding introducing staggered kick-off times to alleviate this. He advised Members that the Council needed to work with partners to find a way to spread demand rather than build more pitches. He acknowledged that the Council had not invested in developing bowls in the past but reported that, over the next 12 months, officers would be looking at how they could support bowling clubs to increase their membership and how they could be incentivised to do this, as the

current charging structure meant that bowling clubs had to pay higher fees if they had more members.

The Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure reported that the Council's ambition was to tackle the perceptions around sport and physical activity and who could participate. He reported that the Council wanted to work with sports clubs and other local groups to tackle these perceptions and advised that further information on this work would be included in a future report.

Decision

To note the report.

CESC/18/49 Sport and Leisure Update

The Committee received a report of the Chief Operating Officer (Neighbourhoods) which provided an update on the activity levels of Manchester residents and the numbers involved in schemes to encourage greater physical activity. The report set out the role and development of Manchester Active (MCRActive), including an update on the membership of the Manchester Active Board and the roll-out of the MCRActive card. The report also provided details of the role of the Community Activators and how they would link into sports clubs.

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

- Physical activity levels in Manchester;
- The roll-out of MCRActive;
- The MCRActive card;
- The role of Community Activators; and
- Next steps.

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

- To congratulate the team on the roll-out of MCRActive;
- The Committee's previous recommendation that the MCRActive Board include a representative from sports clubs;
- The use of the This Girl Can Campaign in Manchester;
- Concern that only 5.3% of MCRActive card holders were disabled and the need for equalities to be embedded into this area of work, linked to other work such as the Our Manchester Disability Plan;
- How data about people participating in sport and physical activity through private clubs, such as running clubs, could be captured; and
- Whether indoor leisure facilities had the capacity to cope with increased demand, if people in areas with lower participation levels were encouraged to take up physical activity.

The Strategic Lead (Parks, Leisure and Events) informed Members of how it was proposed to implement their previous recommendation. He reported that the intention was to establish an Advisory Board, made up of representatives of sports and community organisations, and for one representative from this Board to sit on the

main MCRactive Board. He informed Members that This Girl Can was a national campaign which had been activated across Manchester in a range of ways. He outlined some of the work which had taken place, highlighting the introduction of women-only provision to encourage more Muslim women to participate in physical activity, which he reported had been successful. He reported that fear of judgement was one of the biggest barriers for women who were inactive and that this was being addressed through training leisure centre staff and holding events in local community settings. He informed Members that, while not all physical activity was captured by the MCRactive card, disabled people were half as likely to participate in sport as non-disabled people and that addressing this was a priority. He reported that Michelle Scattergood from Breakthrough UK would be sitting on the Steering Group to advise on adopting a joined-up approach to encouraging and enabling more disabled people to participate in sport and physical activity. He reported that sports clubs generally provided data on the number of members they had but it was difficult to obtain more detailed information, such as where members lived or what percentage were disabled. He advised Members that the MCRactive card would be used to incentivise people to provide additional data but that, for activities which were already free such as running, there was no incentive for participants to provide additional data. He reported that the Council's Indoor Leisure Facilities Strategy focused on identifying and addressing capacity issues.

Decision

To receive an update report at an appropriate time.

CESC/18/50 Equality Update

The Committee received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive which provided an update on the Council's accreditation against the Equality Framework for Local Government (EFLG). The report outlined the approach taken to its EFLG review and summarised some of the main points arising from it, with an indication of how these matters were being progressed. It also provided an update on the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) activity linked to the 2018 - 2019 budget and business planning process.

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

- The findings of the 2018 EFLG Peer Review;
- The Council's EFLG Action Plan for 2018 – 2021; and
- EIAs.

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

- To welcome that the Council had maintained its Excellent level in the EFLG re-accreditation process;
- To ask why no EIAs had taken place in the Strategic Development Directorate;
- A request for a plan on a page with timescales to address workforce equality issues raised in the report;

- Whether anything was being done to increase the number of BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) employees at a senior level; and
- What the Council could do to employ skilled people over the age of 50 who sometimes faced barriers in finding work.

The Head of Workforce Strategy informed Members that the EIAs referred to in the report were those identified from the budget savings proposals which were considered by the Committee in the previous municipal year and that it was not a list of all the EIAs which were being carried out. He reported that Equality Action Plans for each directorate would be provided to a future meeting of the Committee. He agreed to provide a summary of the action plan for workforce equality. He reported that the Council was currently developing its approach to increasing the number of BME staff at a senior level. He advised that this included reviewing the model of the equality staff groups, developing a holistic learning and development model for equalities for staff and managers and developing a progression strategy for BME and disabled staff. The Statutory Deputy Leader informed Members that new equality training for Members was also being developed.

The Head of Workforce Strategy informed Members that the Council had a number of social value priority groups and that one of these related to age. He outlined how his team was working in partnership with other areas of the Council such as the Work and Skills Team and reviewing its approach to work experience and apprenticeships but advised that further work was needed to build on this.

Decisions

1. To note that the Head of Workforce Strategy will provide Members with a summary of the action plan for workforce equality.
2. To seek assurance that the Strategic Development Directorate will produce EIAs where relevant, especially in relation to its housing activities.

CESC/18/51 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.

A Member requested that a report on the Greater Manchester Ageing Strategy and how this related to the work at a Manchester level be added to the work programme, to which the Chair agreed.

The Chair informed Members that the Committee would receive a report on the Our Manchester Disability Plan at its meeting on 10 January 2019. A Member who was also the Lead Member for Disabled People requested that the leads for some of the workstreams within the Plan be invited to this meeting to tell the Committee about their experience of being engaged in the Plan. The Chair requested that the Member inform the Scrutiny Support Officer of the relevant people to invite.

Decision

To note the report and agree the work programme, subject to the above amendments.

Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 11 October 2018

Present:

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

Also present:

Councillor Leese - Leader
Councillor Bridges - Executive Member for Children's
Councillor N Murphy - Deputy Leader
Councillor Ollerhead - Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources

Apologies: Councillor Rowles

RGSC/18/50 Minutes

Decision

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2018.

RGSC/18/51 Ethical Procurement Sub Group minutes

Decision

To note the minutes of the Ethical Procurement Sub Group held on 13 September 2018

RGSC/18/52 Our Integrated Annual report 2017/18

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive, detailing the Council's Integrated Annual Report 2017/18, which contained funding, key activities and performance during 2017/18 data, to illustrate what the Council had achieved and how it had been achieved as worked towards its goal of happier, healthier and wealthier lives for Manchester residents.

The Directorate Performance, Research and Intelligence Officer referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:-

- The progress made throughout the year in addressing key governance challenges;
- Where the Council's funding had come from and how this funding had been spent;
- Details on various operational models which transformed inputs through business activities, into outputs and outcomes;

- Key performance indicators that were being used to monitor the delivery of strategic objectives; and
- A high level analysis of our financial performance within 2017/18;
- The approach to risk management to ensure that the Council had robust processes in place to support the delivery of its strategic goals, including those contained within the Our Manchester Strategy.

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

- Why was there no reference within the report to Manchester's Age Friendly Strategy;
- It was commented that it would have been preferable for Scrutiny to have had sight of the report prior to its final form in order to have some influence over the content;
- How did the report link into the State of the City report; and
- It was queried as to the purpose, necessity and cost of producing this report if similar information was contained within the State of the City report.

The Directorate Performance, Research and Intelligence Officer acknowledged the omission of Manchester's Age Friendly Strategy from the report and advised that as the report had not yet been published on the Council's website, it could be amended to incorporate reference to the Strategy. It was also commented that in future years, the Committee would be sighted of the production timetable and Officers will look to incorporate Scrutiny's views before it was finalised.

The Leader advised that the State of the City Report was the Council's key annual report which monitored the delivery of the Our Manchester strategy and contained the most up to date statistics for each financial year. It was a more detailed and thorough analysis and included relevant comparator data in comparison to the report before Committee. It was also reported that the State of the City report would be submitted to Scrutiny for comment before it was published.

The Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources advised that he would ask Officers to cross reference the content of the Integrated Annual report with that of the State of the City report to identify if there was duplication of information. The City Treasurer added that the Council was required to produce a document that set out the Council's Annual Accounts in a format that was simple to understand and the Integrated Annual Report fulfilled this requirement.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Notes the report;
- (2) Welcomes the offer from the Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources to request Officers to cross reference the content of the Integrated Annual Report with that of the State of the City report to identify if there was duplication of information; and

- (3) Requests that if duplication of information does exist, Officers investigate if there is a future requirement to continue producing the Integrated Annual Report.

RGSC/18/53 Review of Children's Services Budget

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director Children and Education Services, which set out the impact of Council resources to support Children's Services to improve outcomes for Manchester's children who required additional support. The report also provided an outline of the issues driving the current overspend in the Children's Services budget in 2018/19 and summarised the success in delivering the planned workforce changes and reducing reliance on use of agency staff.

The Strategic Director Children and Education Services referred to the main points and themes within the report which included:-

- The reduction in the Children's Services budget position between 2011/12 to 2018/19;
- The investment into Children's Services since 2015/16 from non-recurrent resources to support new working arrangements, early help/intervention, evidence based practice, increased social work capacity to reduce the size of social workers caseloads and fostering and adoption services;
- The projected level of need for children and young people from 2018 to 2020 including associated costs;
- Comparisons with other core cities had identified that Manchester was now a lower than average user of residential care but a higher user of external foster care compared to internal foster care;
- Demographic trends for child population at a local, regional and national level, including the increase in the number of looked after children per 100,000 of the population and the disproportionate rise in complexity of the young person's population;
- The performance, improvement and impact of schemes such as Troubled Families and Families First;
- Practice improvements and the impact on outcomes; and
- The current budget management strategy.

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

- How many agency staff were in interim management positions and what was the impact of this in the delivery of efficiencies due to a potential lack of continuity at a management level;
- Was it possible to have any detail on the number of social workers currently on suspension from work;
- What was the ratio of frontline social workers to managers;
- Was the anticipated reduction in the number of external placements for children a realistic target;
- How much of domestic violence costs were related to supporting children and young people;

- Was Manchester's direction of travel viewed by its peers as positive;
- What was planned to achieve the targeted savings in Looked After Children;
- What did it cost the Council to place a child in different types of care;
- Clarification was sought as to whether it was correct that 1 in every 100 children in Manchester was in the care of the local authority;
- It was noted that early intervention made the most significant difference and helped prevent children being placed into residential care;
- There was concern that budgetary challenges would still exist beyond the current saving plans based on the increase in child population, complexity of needs and the increase costs of services.

The Chair of the Children and Young Peoples Scrutiny Committee had been invited to the meeting for this item and commented on the work being done by his committee to address some of the concerns that had been raised by Members.

The Strategic Director Children and Education Services reported that there were approximately 5 out of 52 posts filled by interim managers and commented that this was often due to the posts being difficult to recruit to. He advised that the current ratio of staff to managers was eight FTE's to one manager but that this on occasions could vary. The Committee was informed that there were currently seven members of staff suspended due to allegations of gross misconduct. These investigations often took time to complete but progress was tracked and monitored on a monthly basis. He reassured Committee that suspension was only undertaken where there was no other viable option. The importance of a stable workforce in delivering efficiencies was recognised and the service now only had 53 agency staff employed. The Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources commented that he had raised the issue of the length of time some staff had been on suspension with officers in HR and this was being looked into.

The Committee was advised that the budget pressure for Looked After Children related to the costs of placements, with some placements currently costing significant amounts. The Strategic Director advised that the service was committed to safely reducing the number of Looked After Children in Manchester in order to achieve the identified savings but acknowledged that there were challenges that needed to be overcome. The Head of Finance (Adult Services, Children's Services and Homelessness) commented that whilst there had been a reduction in the number of Looked After Children, this had not been at the anticipated pace and as such the resulting overspend would be revisited to look at how best this could be addressed. In terms of domestic violence resources, specific support for children formed part of the social work intervention, delivered in partnership; as such it was not possible to place a specific cost on this.

The Strategic Director Children and Education Services commented that in his opinion, the Council's peers would say that the Council's direction of travel was positive, however, challenges still existed due to the complexity of children's needs, the service is still in transition and the demographic of the city's population. It was recognised that whilst the Council did not have difficulties in recruiting to social worker positions, it did have difficulties like many councils in retaining experienced frontline staff, however, it was noted that there had been a slowdown in the turnover of staff.

The Committee was advised that comparatively, the Council looked after 104 per 10k population and the costs associated with this varied. An external foster care placement could cost in the region of £1000 per week, compared to an internal placement which would cost circa £500 per week. The high cost placements related to complex residential placement which in some instances could cost circa £4000 per week. The Strategic Director added that whilst there had been a significant shift and increase in the number of internal foster care placements and Special Guardianship Orders, any slight movement, often made a significant difference to the budget for Looked After Children.

The Strategic Director Children and Education Services and Executive Members for Children's Services acknowledged that there would be challenges ahead, but reassured the Committee that the first priority would always be the safety of Manchester's children. It was stressed that early intervention was key to making the financial savings needed.

Decision

The Committee notes the report.

RGSC/18/54 Budget and Global Monitoring and the Council's proposed recovery plan

The Committee considered a report of the City Treasurer, which provided a summary of the Council's revenue budget and forecast outturn position for 2018/19. This was based on an assessment of income and expenditure to the end of August 2018 and financial profiling to 31 March 2019. The report also contained details of the recovery plans which had been drawn up to offset the overspend previously reported and to work towards a sustainable position from 2019/20.

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

- A summary of the Council overall budget position for 2018/19 ;
- The progress that had been with saving achievements;
- Details of budget recovery plans which had been drawn up to offset the overspend previously reported and to work towards a sustainable position from 2019/20;
- An evaluation of Invest to Save Initiatives;
- Details of budget virements, budgets to be allocated and use of reserves;
- Prudential Indicator figures;
- Future budget considerations for 2019/20 and a five year forward view beyond the current Government settlement period; and
- The proposed budget setting process and timeline for 2019/20.

The report was to be considered by the Executive at its meeting on 17 October 2018.

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

- Had the Council or the Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources contributed to the LGA Autumn Statement submission as it had been estimated that further £1.3billion cuts were to be made from to the 2019/20 grant;
- Was it envisaged that the Council would be looking to set another long term budget strategy, taking into account Business Rates retention and the outcome of Brexit;
- Was the Council considering lobbying government for a local taxation reform in relation to Council Tax bandings;
- How could backbench Members be made aware, or involved in, the conversations that were taking place at national level in regards to local government funding;
- There was a need to be mindful in the use of the term 'savings' when referring to Mental Health overspend and in particular early intervention;
- How many agency staff were employed in the care sector and had consideration been given to the potential impact of Brexit of those employed in this sector;
- How much was spent on bed and breakfast provision outside of Manchester and did this include transport;
- Given the dependence of Business Rate growth retention on future Council budgets and the proposal to reduce this retention to 75%, had there been any impact assessment of this proposal;
- Was there any further information available in relation to the purchasing of temporary accommodation for housing Manchester's homeless;
- Why was there an underspend in the Council's Corporate Core Directorate;
- Why had there been an overspend in the Coroner's Service;
- Why was there still a high level of unfilled vacancies across a number of departments;
- Was all the identified funding for demographic growth required as only a third had been released;
- A better explanation was requested as to why some of the identified savings within Adult Services had not yet been delivered and consideration needed to be given to invest to save opportunities within the service in order to deliver the required savings in a more timely manner;
- Would the proposed virements as detailed in the report have any impact on delivering statutory services next year; and
- Clarification was sought on the prudential borrowing indicators and why the Airport Strategic Investment, which was included in the budget over two financial years, had been incurred this year, resulting in a breach over the set target.

The Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources advised that the LGA Autumn Statement submission was formed following consultation with all local authorities which had received a high level of responses, including a response from Manchester City Council. He commented that in relation to local taxation reforms and specifically Council Tax banding, no Government had attempted to address this, and suggested that caution was needed in looking at Council Tax bandings as any change could result in making some of the poorest Manchester residents poorer. The Deputy City Treasurer added that the Council did not know yet what its financial settlement would be past 2019/20 so it was not possible at the current moment to

determine whether another long term budget strategy would or could be set. In terms of involvement of backbench Members, the City Treasure agreed to pick this up with the Chair of the Committee and the Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources as to how best this could be enacted upon.

The City Treasurer acknowledged that there were some risks around the use of agency staff and the impact of Brexit, and the Council was looking at the potential impact of this and how services were commissioned. In terms of Business Rates retention the City Treasure explained that the Council had undertaken modelling scenarios of both 100% retention and 75% retention so this could be taken into account when planning beyond 2019/20. The Deputy City Treasurer advised that it was temporary dispersed accommodation that was used more outside of Manchester rather than bed and breakfast. The latest figures the Council had in relation to this was 1,364 families and single people in temporary accommodation, with 1,009 located within Manchester and the remaining 355 outside of Manchester.

The Head of Finance (Adult Services, Children's Services and Homelessness) advised that the Council was looking to purchase 60 large properties to help address the levels of homeless families in need of larger accommodation, but it was acknowledged that this would not solve anything like the whole problem based on the high number of individuals and families presenting as homeless. The Deputy City Treasurer advised that the Council was working with the Combined Authority in regards to the total cost of enacting the Greater Manchester Mayor's pledge to tackle rough sleeping, and it was acknowledged that Manchester would have the most significant element across Greater Manchester. The Committee was advised that the Coroner's Service overspend was in relation an increase in the number of complex cases, which required expert witnesses. The City Solicitor added that none of the extra expenditure had been in relation to the Arena bombing but did advise that the Council would need to pay these costs which would then be claimed back from the Ministry of Justice. The City Treasurer confirmed that the relocation of the Coroner's Service was fully funded within the Town Hall decant budget. The Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources advised that there was no freeze on filling vacancies, but there was a review taking place on long term vacancies and whether they were still required. It was explained that the underspend in Corporate Core was in the main as a result from a number of one-off initiatives, including a reduction in bad debt provision within Revenue and Benefits and a release of a disaster recovery provision. The remaining underspend was due to staffing and general underspends across the service.

The City Treasure confirmed that all the funding for demographic growth had been projected as needed by the end of the financial year. It was explained that the Council held this funding corporately and then released based on business cases that demonstrated the demand was needed.

The Deputy City Treasurer commented that the Council had undertaken a number of Invest to Save opportunities within Adult Services and Health in order to reduce the demand on services. This had been done through the Greater Manchester Transformation Fund. It was acknowledged that there had been some delays in delivering some of these initiatives.

The Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources reported that the proposed virements would not have any impact on delivering statutory services next year. The City Treasurer advised that a report was submitted to full Council in December 2017 which detailed proposed an additional share holder loan to support the airport expansion, which would result in a significant rate of return. The payment of these loans was to be split across two financial years, but a decision had been taken to make this payment in this financial year, resulting in the adjustment to the prudential indicator.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) Notes the report; and
- (2) Endorses the following recommendations to the Executive:-
 - To approve the proposed virements in paragraph 7.
 - To approve the use of budgets to be allocated and contingency in paragraph 8.
 - To approve the use of reserves as set out in paragraph 9.
 - Recommend to Council that the revised Prudential Indicator for non HRA Capital Expenditure (2) as set out in paragraph 10 is approved.
 - That Council is requested to approve the revised Prudential Indicator for non HRA Capital Expenditure (2) as set out in paragraph 10.

RGSC/18/55 Delivering Equalities through the Council's spending decisions, decision making and monitoring processes

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer, which provided Members with an overview of the Council's governance arrangements for equalities as part of its planning and decision making processes. The report also set out a schedule of ongoing work to further strengthen the Council's approaches in this area.

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

- The Council has developed a clear governance model to ensure that equality considerations formed an integral part of its spending decisions;
- An annual report summarising the Council's equality considerations in the budget and business planning process and the associated Equality Impact Assessments (EIA) was considered by the Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee;
- Examples of equitable decision making in practice which demonstrated the extent to which an embedded approach to equality considerations had been instrumental in informing planning and decision making processes within the Learning and development opportunities for Council staff in relation to equality considerations in the decision making process;
- The monitoring and analysis of the equality of outcomes in terms of quality of life and access to opportunities; and

- The next steps in relation to governance and data analysis

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

- The report did not appear to cover all of the protected characteristics;
- Members expressed that the report did not fully cover how equality decisions were taken into account when determining and setting budgets;
- There was a lack of reference to communication with communities in terms of how equalities had been taken into consideration in the Council's decision making process; and
- Members would have benefitted from having sight of a completed EIA.

The Equalities Team Leader thanked the Committee for their feedback on the content of the report. He acknowledged that in terms of engagement and communication measures there was a need to provide more qualitative information and not just quantitative information. He reassured the Committee that Officers were working with Services to make improvements in this area.

It was proposed by the Chair that the Committee should be provided with a completed EIA as part of the budget reports planned for the Committees meeting in December as this would help the Committee determine if any further scrutiny on this subject was required.

Decision

The Committee requests that a completed EIA is submitted as part of the budget reports planned for the Committees meeting in December in order to help determine if any further scrutiny on this subject is required

RGSC/18/56 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 request was made that either an update be provided at the next meeting in relation to the Outstanding Recommendation from the Committee's meeting in January 2018 or if an update was not possible, that this item be removed to the list of Outstanding Recommendations.

Decision

The Committee

- (1) Notes the report; and
- (2) Agrees the future work programmes of the Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year.