

**Manchester City Council  
Report for Resolution**

**Report To:** Resources and Governance Overview and Scrutiny  
Committee - 16 July 2009

**Subject:** Manchester's State of the City, State of the Wards and  
Communities of Interest reports, 2009

**Report of:** The Chief Executive

---

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to present the third State of the City, the second State of the Wards and the new Communities of Interest reports for Manchester.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The committee is asked to note the reports.

**FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES FOR THE REVENUE AND CAPITAL  
BUDGETS**

None

**CONTACT OFFICERS**

Geoff Little, Deputy Chief Executive Performance 0161 234 3317

[g.little@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:g.little@manchester.gov.uk)

Sarah Henry, Head of Research and Intelligence 0161 234 3769

[s.henry@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:s.henry@manchester.gov.uk)

James Hand, Research Manager 0161 234 3678

[j.hand@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:j.hand@manchester.gov.uk)

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None

**WARDS AFFECTED**

All

**IMPLICATIONS FOR:**

Anti-Poverty – Yes

Equal Opportunities – Yes

Environment – Yes

Employment - Yes

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Manchester's State of the City suite of Reports 2009 is one of the components of the planning and delivery framework for the Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement.
- 1.2 The reports are intended to be used by all Council departments and the Manchester Partnership. Their primary purpose is to provide a crosscutting evidence base to inform decision-making and service improvement. The reports provide a progress report on the State of the City indicator framework within the Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement (LAA). The State of the City reports provide an account of performance at a city level highlighting performance over time where trend data is available. The State of the Wards report looks at available performance information at a ward and neighborhood level.
- 1.3 The reports are updated annually. Overtime, the evidence base will improve as more information is collected and analysed to provide a greater insight into the changes taking place across the city. Wherever possible the reports compare data from Manchester over time and against Greater Manchester, Core Cities and national averages.
- 1.4 Within the Council, the reports are being used to improve business planning by ensuring that all Heads of Service have a common understanding of how the city is changing. This helps managers to examine and challenge what impact their services are having within the city and that they are delivering services in line with corporate and partnership priorities. The Manchester Partnership has used the report to help other public service agencies understand this contribution to the delivery of the Community Strategy and the LAA and in setting priorities for the coming year. The reports have been used this year in support of the Comprehensive Area Assessment.
- 1.5 The State of the Wards Report assists with planning and service improvement at neighbourhood level. The report will be discussed at the next round of Ward Service Coordination meetings and will assist with updating local ward plans and in the choice of proposals for the Neighbourhood Funding Strategy. The findings will be discussed with ward coordinators and Members in more detail. Committee members are asked to note that there is now a dedicated research officer for each of the wards in the city to help support the Neighbourhood focus strategy.
- 1.6 The Communities of Interest report is a first attempt to present statistics and performance by equality groups. The report was developed in partnership with equality groups representatives and the lead Member for each group. The process has highlighted that there is significant gaps in data about some equality groups which the council will try to address in the future where possible.
- 1.7 The reports are being presented to the Public Service Board, the Manchester Partnership and the Council's Executive throughout July 2009. Comments from the Resource and Governance Overview and Scrutiny committee will be reported back to the Executive.

## **2. Conclusion**

- 2.1 This report is part of an approach to improve the evidence base for the Community Strategy and the LAA. It will continue to develop and improve as our understanding of the city and its neighbourhoods in order to drive continuous improvements.