

## **The Executive**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2009**

Councillor R Leese – In the Chair

Councillors Amesbury, Andrews, J Battle, Cowell, Curley, S Murphy, S Newman, and Stevens

Also present as Members of the Standing Advisory Panel:

Councillors: Ashley, Commons, Donaldson, Fairweather, Grant, Keegan, A Khan, Longsdon, N Murphy, Parkinson, Pearcey, Shannon, Shaw and Wheale

#### **Exe/09/01            Minutes**

##### **Decision**

To approve the minutes of the Executive meeting held on 17 December 2008 as a correct record.

#### **Exe/09/02            Call In**

Our decision of December 2008 on Economic Downturn – Sustaining the Strength of Manchester's Economy (Minute Exe/09/179) was called in for consideration and has been put to the Employment, Economy and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee. That Committee had met on 7 January 2009 and decided to endorse our decision and to ask for a further report to be presented to their next meeting.

##### **Decision**

To note the Committee's endorsement of our decision.

#### **Exe/09/03            Manchester International Festival (MIF)**

A report was submitted on the proposals for the Manchester International Festival in July 2009 and the arrangements for local people to be involved in the Festival. The biannual Manchester International Festival was launched in 2007 and is the world's first festival of original work. It is as an artist-led, commissioning festival presenting work from across the spectrum of performing arts, visual arts and popular culture. The 2007 Festival significantly enhanced Manchester's reputation as a leading cultural city, renowned for the successful delivery of major large scale events.

The Festival will run from Thursday 2nd July to Sunday 19th July 2009. The complete festival programme will be released in March 2009 but some shows have already been announced and have gone on sale.

To encourage local residents' involvement and participation in the Festival there will be a programme of free events, discount tickets and audience access programmes.

This will include a new community box office initiative delivered in partnership with Arts About Manchester, providing heavily discounted tickets for all Festival performances targeted at people across Manchester who have limited access to arts events. The major free events will include 'The Great Indoors', which attracted more than 10,000 people in 2007. This will take place in the Town Hall over five days and include a special schools programme.

The overall projected cost of the 2009 Festival is £9.6 million. Sponsorship is the most important source of funding, and there is an annual provision of £1 million in the Council's revenue budget.

Notwithstanding the current economic difficulties, significant progress has been made in securing private sponsorship and additional public sector partners and we thank the Festival Team for their success to date. There are now six confirmed top tier Official Sponsors for this year's Festival. Nevertheless there remains a shortfall of up to £500,000 in funding support which could partially impact on the programme for local participation. We remain confident that further sponsorship will be secured but we agree that a contingency is needed to allow the Festival programme to be delivered in the event of a funding shortfall. We are also aware that a further budget provision is needed to cover the Council's costs in supporting the Festival in 2009 which would ordinarily have been considered as part of next year's budget strategy. The alternative of cutting back on some of the free events in Festival programme is not preferred as it is likely to harm the integrity and quality of the Festival and reduce the participation and involvement of local residents. We have supported the additional provision of up to £700,000 to be met from across the current year's budget and the 2009/10 budget strategy that we will consider in February.

### **Decision**

1. To note the significant progress to date in confirming six top-tier official sponsors for the Festival in July 2009.
2. To request the Chief Executive and MIF team continue to address the current funding gap through engagement with mid-range sponsors.
3. To agree and support the scope and scale of the programme planned for 2009, which includes innovative and large-scale events that will engage and give greater access to local people.
4. To approve the inclusion of provision of £700,000 additional funding from the 2008/09 and draft 2009/10 budgets that we will be considered next month – up to £500,000 to be used by MIF as contingency funding in the event of a sponsorship shortfall and £200,000 towards additional overheads costs incurred by MCC in supporting MIF.

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## **Exe/09/4                      Manchester and Climate Change**

In February 2008 we approved 17 Principles of Tackling Climate Change in Manchester and committed the City to becoming low carbon by 2020 (Minute Exe/09/27).

Today the Council has launched its “Call to Action” on climate change in Manchester. We have considered a report giving us a summary of that document. The full Call to Action:

- sets out a new and distinctly Manchester way of thinking, grounded in Manchester’s Community Strategy, which focuses on the advantages Manchester could realise through early, decisive action to tackle and adapt to climate change and shift to a low carbon economy;
- describes the role of the City of Manchester in a global, national and city-regional context in leading the response to climate change and the specific areas of work Manchester needs to focus on to make early, telling inroads into the city’s carbon footprint; and
- proposes a programme of immediate action to demonstrate across different facets of city life how we can cut our carbon footprint and at the same time sustain and increase prosperity and quality of life for Manchester residents.

Through this Call to Action we aim to becoming a low carbon city, reducing Manchester’s annual carbon footprint by at least a million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> by 2020. What will now follow is a period of detailed action planning to develop and implement of a programme of ‘catalytic’ action will involve people from all parts of Manchester life. This will lead to the launch of a comprehensive climate change action plan for Manchester which will identify exactly how we will meet or exceed our target for reducing the City’s carbon footprint.

The Council’s role is to align the efforts and activities of people and organisations across Manchester behind a clear vision. We recognise that five areas of action are essential in developing a broad base of climate change action in Manchester:

- tackling and reducing the Council’s own carbon emissions;
- promoting business and the City Centre to demonstrate what can be achieved;
- physical development and regeneration that is tied in with driving forward economic opportunities for our communities, that secures a low carbon energy infrastructure and built environment for the city and demonstrates socially, economically and environmentally sustainable place-making;
- engaging different communities in the climate change actions; and
- ensuring that climate change action becomes an everyday part of the way we and our partners deliver services.

The Call to Action builds upon the extensive work undertaken by Manchester Airport on reducing emissions generated by its site as part of the future Masterplan and which incorporates ambitious targets including significant changes in modal shift in

favour of public transport for passengers and workers, recognising that surface transport represents over 60% of the emissions generated by the Airport.

The approach described in the Call to Action is one of inspiring and enabling stakeholders to become fully engaged in the need to undertake mainstream activities differently, in a way that will benefit themselves, their families, their communities and their businesses. The manifestation of this engagement and change in behaviour will be a low carbon city by 2020, emitting one million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> less than now.

### **Decision**

We agree:

1. to approve the Climate Change Call to Action and the implementation of the 'catalytic actions' set out in the report;
2. to support the engagement of residents, businesses and stakeholder organisations in wide ranging debates and actions to create a framework and level of support for the Climate Change Action Plan;
3. to ask officers to report on this Action Plan later in 2009, which will incorporate a full route-map to achieving a reduction in Manchester's carbon emissions of over one million tonnes a year by 2020;
4. to approve the establishment of an Environmental Strategy Programme Board chaired by the Chief Executive to oversee the work programmes and the development of a clear funding strategy; and
5. to note that the report will also be considered by the Communities and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee in February.

### **Exe/09/5                      Annual Performance assessment of Social Care for Adult services in Manchester 2007/08**

Each year the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) evaluates the Council's performance in relation to Adult Social Care. The assessment and subsequent Star Rating for 2007/08 have now been published.

We have noted that the Commission's overall judgment is that the Adult Social Care services have a:

- two star rating; and that there is
- promising capacity for improvement.

A report was submitted setting out details of the Commission's findings, including a copy of the Commission's decision letter of 27 October 2008. We can see that the Commission has recognised the key strengths of the Council's adult services and we are aware that many of the areas for development identified are being addressed and progress has already been made. The assessment relates to 2007/08 and much work has been done in 2008/09 to further improve the services.

We are aware that the Health and Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Committee also considered this report when they met on 8 January 2009 (Minute HWB/09/07). We note that the Committee is asking for further information from the Commission on how it has arrived at the assessment for Leadership, and we agree that the assessment does not seem to be based on the narrative in the decision letter.

## **Decision**

To note the report.

### **Exe/09/6                      Points4Life: Management and Governance Arrangements**

NHS Manchester and Manchester City Council had proposed the development of a health “loyalty card” scheme called Points4Life as part of the Healthy Communities Challenge Fund process led by Department of Health. The Secretary of State for Health announced on 11 November that this had been successful and so the city will receive £4.6 million over the period 2008/09 – 2010/11 to develop and implement Points4Life and will be one of nine designated “Healthy Towns”.

This will be a complex scheme to develop and implement. In order to deliver it, we and NHS Manchester will want to draw upon private sector expertise in work of this sort. It will also be necessary to establish a formal governance structure to ensure that the project is developed in line with local expectations and remains accountable to Manchester City Council and NHS Manchester.

A report was submitted proposing that a company limited by guarantee should be established for the Points4Life program, with NHS Manchester and Manchester City Council each being the members and controlling it on an equal basis. This company will then be in a position to procure the necessary private sector consortium to deliver the work on behalf of the Council and NHS Manchester. The report set out the legal issues involved and showed that we have the power to form and join such a company as it is clearly in the interests of promoting the social, economic or environmental well-being of the area to do so.

We considered and rejected the alternative approach of the Council and NHS Manchester entering into a contractual arrangement whereby they each accept certain rights and responsibilities as regards to the development and operation of Points4Life. This would have one of the public sector bodies primarily responsible for the programme with the other participating as a secondary partner although perhaps sharing in the risk. We felt this approach to be inappropriate for the Points4Life Project due to the need to give both partners equal participation and to provide a structure that was easily understood by the private sector.

We endorse the proposal for the Board of the new company to comprise four Executive Directors (chief officer/senior managers), two nominated by the Council and two by NHS Manchester. In addition there would be five Non Executive Directors: one city councillor; a non-executive of NHS Manchester; and three others

independently selected with the relevant range of skills. We are aware that the Resources and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the same report when they met on 8 January 2009 (Minute RG/09/05). The Committee had recommended to us that one of the non-executive directors of the new company should be a city councillor serving on the Health and Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Committee. We did not accept that recommendation as we saw it would create a conflict of interest for the councillor when the Committee was scrutinising the company's work. Rather, we agreed to delegate to the Chief Executive the appointment of the Council's representatives on the company's Board.

### **Decision**

1. To welcome the award of funding to the Council and NHS Manchester towards the Points4Life project.
2. To agree that the proposal for delivery of the project as described in the report is in the interests of promoting the social, economic or environmental well-being of the area.
3. To approve the establishment of a new company limited by guarantee to act as the social enterprise vehicle to take forward the Points4Life initiative.
4. To delegate to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Executive Member for Adult Services, the power to make appointments to the Board of the company on behalf of the Council.

### **Exe/09/7 Capital Programme – proposed increases**

A report concerning requests to increase the capital programme was submitted. We agreed to make six changes that together will increase the capital budget by £6,689,000 (£3,282,000 in 2008/09, £3,190,000 in 2009/10 and £217,000 in 2010/11), financed by £175,000 Section 106 contributions and £6,514,000 government grants.

### **Decision**

To approve the following:

1. Children's Services – Newall Green High School 6th Form Centre: to increase the capital budget by £4,100,000 (£2,392,000 in 2008/09 and £1,708,000 in 2009/10), funded by Learning Skills Council (LSC) grant.
2. Children's Services – Computers for Pupils (Tranche 4 - Hard to Reach Pupils): to increase the capital budget by £224,000 in 2009/10, funded by DCSF grant.
3. Chief Executive's Regeneration – Oxford Road Digitisation: to increase the capital budget by £487,000 (£50,000 in 2008/09, £250,000 in 2009/10 and £187,000 in 2010/11), funded by NWDA grant.

4. Chief Executive's Regeneration – Manchester City South (Oxford Road) Public Realm Improvements: to increase the capital budget by £1,718,000 (£815,000 in 2008/09, £873,000 in 2009/10 and £30,000 in 2010/11), funded by £1,703,000 NWDA grant and £15,000 Section 106 contribution.
5. Leisure Services – Hough End Improvement Scheme: to increase the capital budget by £160,000 (£25,000 in 2008/09 and £135,000 in 2009/10), funded by Section 106 contribution.
6. Children's Services – virement of £460,000 from Sure Start Phase 2 to Quality and Access for Young Children.

### **Exe/09/8 Capital Programme Monitoring**

A report concerning the latest capital spending and resources monitoring position for Capital Budget 2008/09 was submitted.

The latest collation of figures from individual project monitoring returns indicates a revised programme for 2008/09 of £324,755,000 which is a reduction of £5,918,000 since our last report in November 2008 (Minute Exe/09/158).

#### **Decision**

1. To note the inclusion of approved increases to the capital programme since the previous monitoring report in November.
2. To note that the national economic downturn is affecting the level of capital receipts that the City Council generates and that, as a consequence, a review of the current three year capital programme is being conducted.
3. To note the latest forecast spend based on departmental returns and approved additions is now £324,755,000. This is a reduction of £5,918,000 since the previous capital programme monitoring report in November 2008.
4. To note that the actual spend to date reported by departments is £169,668,000.
5. To note that capital resources will be managed to ensure the 2008/09 capital programme remains fully funded.

### **Exe/09/9 Transfer of Housing On Call Services**

A report was submitted proposing to transfer to Manchester Working Limited (MWL) the housing management services currently provided by Housing On Call. These services related to Northwards Housing and the Manchester City Council's housing stock retained after the proposed transfer of the East Manchester housing estates.

A Joint Venture Framework Contract exists between the Council and MWL. The Council and Northwards Housing have discussed with MWL a proposal to provide call centre services under this framework contract when the present arrangements end in March 2009.

The present Housing On Call service provides a repairs and estate management call centre service to tenants and, through Service Level Agreements, to the Council, Northwards Housing, Parkway Green, Southway and City South Manchester housing trusts. However, these agreements are due to expire on 31 March 2009 and Parkway Green, Southway and City South Manchester trusts have decided to provide these services internally from April 2009 onwards.

The fixed-price proposal from MWL will cost less to operate than at present. The cost is to be fixed for a three-year term, subject to annual review based on property numbers and call volumes. MWL will be required to provide housing management call centre services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. However, the corporate functions presently carried out by Housing On Call will not transfer and will instead be moved to the Council's Environment On Call service.

The staff transfer implications of these arrangements were explained. The Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations (TUPE) will apply to both the Council and its partners; to staff transferring to MWL and to those transferring to the Housing Trusts that will be setting up their own services from April 2009.

### **Decision**

1. To agree the proposal to move the provision of housing management call centre services to Manchester Working Limited.
2. To agree the proposal to incorporate corporate out-of-hours workloads to Environment On Call.
3. To note the TUPE transfer implications for existing Council staff within Housing On Call.
4. To note that there will be no capital receipt for the transfer of the service.
5. To delegate to the Director of Housing, in consultation with the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, authority to negotiate and conclude required agreements for services to transfer on 1 April 2009.

## **Exe/09/10            AGMA Executive Board – 19 December 2008**

### **Decision**

To receive the decision notice for the meeting of the AGMA Executive Board held on 19 December 2008.