

City Centre Campus – Phase 2

Education Statement

February 2023

Overview of the Estate Strategy

The Manchester College is part of the LTE Group, an integrated education and skills group comprising 5 key organisations:

- *The Manchester College* - Further & Higher Education from levels 1 to 4
- *UCEN Manchester* - Higher Education from levels 4-7
- *Total People* – Apprenticeship and work-based learning provider
- *Novus* – Major national training provider for the Justice Sector
- *MOL* – Provider of online and blended learning training and accreditations.

The Manchester College (with UCEN) is one of the largest FE colleges in the country and the largest provider of 16-19, HE and adult education in the Greater Manchester region.

The LTE group has set itself an ambitious plan to reshape its delivery to meet the changing educational and skills needs of Greater Manchester and the wider region. A key part of this has been the identification of an ambitious redevelopment and rationalisation strategy for the College's estate, with the aim to consolidate 14 campus locations onto just 5 main centres, whilst transforming the curriculum and accommodation to meet the specific economic and skills needs of the Greater Manchester area. In doing so, the College is also aiming to achieve significant space efficiency savings, reducing the total Gross Internal Floor Area (GIFA) occupied by the College from over 100,000m² to circa 70,000m².

The creation of a more sustainable and efficient College, with reduced operating costs, through the rationalisation of the Manchester College estate will lead to a more efficient, sustainable estate by reducing property related running costs and reducing energy costs. This contribution to CO₂ reduction will be increased by the increased use of public transport by students and staff, a result of the location of the new major campus as the heart of the conurbation's public transport network.

The five remaining centres will be:

New City Centre Campus

A major new build campus for The Manchester College and UCEN on Great Ducie Street creates Centres of Excellence for Digital and Creative Industries and Business and Professional Studies, with a total anticipated Gross Internal Floor Area of around 24,500m². This campus is to be delivered in two phases with Phase 1 being focused on Creative and Digital. Phase 2 will house Business and Professional Studies and English for Speakers of Other Languages.

This planning application focuses on Phase 2 only.

Remodelled Openshaw Campus

A major remodelling of the existing Openshaw Campus located to the South-East of the city centre to create two new Centres of Excellence focusing on: Health and Wellbeing, including health and social care, public services and Sport; Construction and Logistics, including automotive and electrical services. The Openshaw site is also home to the LTE Group support services such as HR, IT, finance, marketing etc

Retained Wythenshawe and Harpurhey Campus' (Northern and Southern Learning Hubs)

The existing sites of Wythenshawe and Harpurhey provide routes into specialisation at the Centres of Excellence. Pre-employment, IAG, as well as welfare, English/maths and work placements are delivered. Curriculum at level 1/2 is provided in Construction, Logistics and Motor Vehicle as well as Hair/Beauty/Hospitality and Travel/Tourism at Wythenshawe. Curriculum offer at level 1/2 is provided in Hair/Beauty/Hospitality, Travel/Tourism and ESOL at Harpurhey.

The learning hubs deliver a complex transitioning and support service, supporting significant volumes of learners at risk of becoming NEET. The learning hubs offer an engagement curriculum for harder to reach learners. Pre-employment, IAG and welfare, and vocational/academic mentoring support is provided.

Retained City Labs

Located in part of the refurbished former Royal Eye Hospital, this 810m² leased facility continues to provide a Centre of Excellence for Medical Sciences.

The new City Centre Campus

Phase 1 of the new City Centre campus was completed in July 2022 and opened to students in September 2022. The new phase 1 building provides best in class facilities for students to study:

- *Creative and Visual Arts/Photography/Music*
- *Film and TV production*
- *Digital technology, cyber security, ethical hacking, gaming, 3D modelling, animation and motion graphics, digital media, programming*
- *Make-up Artistry and Special Effects*
- *The Arden School of Theatre*
- *The School of Hospitality*

Phase 2 of the new City Centre campus provides 5,870m² of dedicated accommodation for the new Centre of Excellence for Business and Professional Services. This will be linked to the Centre of Excellence for Digital and Creative Industries (Phase 1), with a shared open atrium space. The project will provide a flexible teaching and learning accommodation suitable for innovative business and professional services

The new facility will support the need to create an industry-led/employer-hub facility for Business, Financial and Professional Services curriculum in line with the College's Vision 2025 Centre of Excellence/Industry Excellence Academy model, providing a series of classrooms, IT rich teaching rooms and science laboratory spaces to meet the demand for business training. The new building will provide high specification, modern teaching accommodation for students to study the following curriculum areas:

- *Access*
- *Business*
- *English & Maths*
- *ESOL*

The College's curriculum strategy is underpinned by the provision of industry-standard facilities, which provide high quality teaching and learning environments and deliver the skills strategy. The new Phase 2 facility will be industry-facing and represent the business and professional services sectors with which the curriculum is aligned. Students who attend the site will have the opportunity to study in a business /professional environment with Employer Hubs established within it, nurturing long-term, engaged co-creation and applied research relationships with employers. As part of the City's spatial strategy, the employment sectors linked to these curriculum areas are now heavily focused on the Spinningfields area which is the premier location for office space, and professions such as law, accountancy and business. This district and the design and aspiration associated with the office environments there, have a close and strong fit with Phase 2 curriculum plans and will help fulfil the objectives of the 2021 Skills for Jobs: Lifelong Learning for Opportunity and Growth.

As part of the Phase 2 project, the College will increase the scale, accessibility and the quality of L3 provision through vocational centres of excellence, a co-design /co-delivery model with employers, working closely with priority sectors to provide a more relevant/forward looking level 2/3/4 study programme built around the needs of GM industry. (ref. *GM Strategy 'Delivering an employer-led skills programme'*/GM *'Work and Skills Strategy 'Development of GM's work and skills infrastructure to meet needs of the economy'*/ *'Growing the quality and quantity of apprenticeships'*/*'Developing higher level skills'*). This will include a diverse range of specialist vocational curriculum areas, all targeting the Digital and Creative Industries.

Bringing all of the Phase 1 and Phase 2 curriculum areas together in a single location rather than across multiple sites will foster and support new modes of curriculum delivery, offering opportunities for departments to work together in ways that reflect the real work environment.

The further development of the City Centre campus will remove barriers to learning through
(a) locating the major campus in close proximity to the conurbation's public transport network
(b) providing improved accessibility in the new build facility, with accessibility and movement at the heart of design.

At what level would subjects be taught?

The City Centre campus will house both Further Education and Higher Education students under The Manchester College (TMC) and UCEN Manchester brands.

In line with the College's overarching strategy, the Centres of Excellence will focus on higher level learners at level 3/4/5, but with important routes through from level 1 to 2. For the TMC element, this will be Level 1, 2 and 3 learners. In turn the UCEN element of the campus will provide progression routes into Level 4 degrees/HNC and HNDs.

How many students would attend this facility in total? Additionally, how many students would be in each class, how many classes would take place at once and how many students would be in attendance in total at any one time?

It is envisaged that, in total, around 1,000 learners may be enrolled at the City Centre campus.

The number of students present on campus at any one time will vary significantly from month-to-month, day-to-day and hour-to-hour due to the nature of the courses, attendance at an average of 87% and the complexities of timetabling, including extensive work placements.

These students will be taught in teaching spaces, ranging in scale from classrooms to workshops/studios/science labs. The standard teaching rooms are typically planned for maximum class size of 22. The number of rooms in use and the number of learners in each room will vary significantly throughout each day.