Overview of the Data Fellowship

During my data fellowship at Manchester City Council, I worked on developing a Prosperity Index aimed at supporting Manchester's economic strategy. This index intends to provide a comprehensive view of economic and social well-being across the city's wards, helping policymakers track local progress and address socio-economic disparities. My role involved defining what prosperity means for Manchester, identifying key metrics, and developing a methodology for measuring and analysing prosperity at a granular level.

Data Analysis

I analysed a combination of quantitative and qualitative data, including economic indicators (income, employment), social metrics (health outcomes, crime rates), and environmental factors (air quality, green space access). Using GIS and Excel, I created a database of indicators, mapping them to Manchester's wards and ensuring the index was accurate, current, and relevant to the city's unique socio-economic landscape.

Findings

- Socio-Economic Disparities: The index revealed significant variations in prosperity across Manchester's wards, with disparities in income levels, employment rates, and access to essential services. Wards with lower prosperity scores often correlated with higher crime rates and lower educational attainment.
- Environmental Indicators: Air quality and green space access emerged as critical factors in determining overall well-being. Areas with greater environmental resources tended to score higher on the index, highlighting the importance of sustainable urban planning

- Health and Social Cohesion: Health outcomes and social factors, such as community engagement and crime rates, were strong predictors of ward-level prosperity. Wards with stronger community networks generally displayed higher levels of prosperity, underscoring the role of social cohesion in economic well-being.
- Guidance for Policy: The index serves as a tool for targeted interventions, providing city officials with a clearer picture of which wards require specific resources and support to bridge socio-economic gaps.

These findings underline the interconnected nature of economic, social, and environmental factors in shaping a community's prosperity and offer actionable insights for Manchester's economic strategy.

Key Skills Learnt

This fellowship enhanced my analytical and professional skills, especially in real-world data application for policy-making. I developed a nuanced understanding of socio-economic metrics, improved my data visualization capabilities, and gained valuable insights into the workings of local government. Engaging in council meetings and workshops, I saw firsthand how data influences decision-making, shaping my career ambitions towards economic strategy and policy analysis.



metrics				•		•		•										
Relationships Equality	Tracking everybodyequallys of hat everybodyhas an equal and fair opportunity to prosper, regardless of their ethnicky, region, race, age, abity, sexuality, gender, income etc. People who are potentially excluded are acknowledged, supported and retrate with digity. Where there are differences in people's opportunities and outcomes they are moderate rather than extreme and		1			1			Proximity to independent schools									
eople - ducation and	ensuring services, infrastructure and efforts are in place to promote equality, equity and Maximising educational and learning outcomes of people in a community across all age groups, d with the aim of promoting employability as well as personal growth and fulfilment. The provision of accessible, affordable and quality services and infrastructure to enable lifelong learning		~			1			Access to schools									
	Il tracks three environmental measures. Air quaity, CO2 Emissions and levels of recycling.	1					•		Household waste sent for re-use/recycling	Percentage of Household waste sent for recycling.	t DEFRA: Household Waste Recyling Rates	2016				DEFRA: Household Waste Recyling Rates	2016	LA
	It tracks three environmental measures. Air quality, CO2 Emissions and levels of recycling.	~					4		Per Capita C62 emission	Tonnes of CO2 per capita. Z-scores for inverted so that high scores represent positive outcomes.	London Datastore:	2014			LA		2014	LA
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lationships	Treating even/body-equally to that even/body/has an equal and fair opportunitry to prosper, regardless of their ethnicity, religion, race, age, ably, sexually, gender, income etc. People who are potentially excluded are acknowledged, supported and treated which dignty. Where there are differences in people's opportunities and outcomes theyare moderate rather than externe and ensuring senders, infrastructure and efforts are inplace to promote equality, equity and		1			•			Long-term housing security									
ommunity hesion	The community-cohesion indicator measures levels of trust and perceptions of cohesion or tension in the local community.	~							Different backgrounds get along - was sourced from the Community LFe survey and was included in KPF 2017 household survey to collect plot site data.	d that their neighbourhood is a place	Survey	Summer 2017			Site	Community Life Survey		
Mc ngagement	measures levels of volunteering or unpaid help as a proxyfor wider cikic actities. Volunteering was defined to include doing so with communitygroups, faith groups, at libraries or communitycentres, campaigning charkles etc.	v							Percentage of people who have done some form of volunteering in the previous 12 months.		Household Survey	Summer 2017				Understandi ng Society- wave f	2015-16	GO

Figure 1: Snapshot of the prosperity index metrics selection