

STOCKPORT'S SOCIAL VALUE CHARTER

REPORT OF DEPUTY LEADER – CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES, COMMISSIONING AND GOVERNANCE

1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

1.1 Colleagues across the Council and with STaR have been working jointly to consider Stockport's approach to Social Value. To this end, a formal 'Social Value Charter' has been drafted to outline the aims of adopting a more structured approach to social value. Similar Charters have been agreed in the other STaR Authorities of Trafford and Tameside and it is now being presented for formal consideration of adoption in Stockport.

2.0 PROCUREMENT AND SOCIAL VALUE IN STOCKPORT

2.1 Stockport Council spends approximately circa £345m per annum with businesses and organisations that provide works, supplies, and services to us. We want them to play an active part in our communities to build ambition, resilience, skills and prosperity so that they flourish. The Charter outlines a commitment to applying social value across procurement and has been prepared to align with the Council's existing cross-cutting strategic themes.

2.2 Organisations are increasingly required to understand, reduce and account for their negative impacts and align their activity to positively address opportunities and threats to social value. The Public Service (Social Value) Act of 2012 was the first piece of UK legislation to legislate social value which it defines as 'the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the relevant area.' Delivering social value now, as well as the long term, is arguably the priority for society. Given the current threats to wellbeing, the challenge has never been greater.

2.3 The Charter supports Stockport to recognise, account for, report on and analyse the use of social value and provides a commitment to develop a robust social value decision making framework.

2.4 Stockport has adopted a common scheme, the National Themes Outcomes and Measures (TOMs) to ensure there is a clear understating of what is expected. This allows us to:

- Have a consistent approach to measuring and reporting social value outcomes
- Allows us to measure continuous improvement
- Provides a robust and transparent defensible tool to assess and award tenders
- Reduces uncertainty about the measures expected from businesses allowing them to develop their own robust quantitative assessment and embed social value into their corporate strategy as well as influencing their own supply chain to do the same.

- 2.5 The TOM's can be supplemented with other measures of social value as appropriate. For example, currently we capture Employment and Skills outcomes in construction procurement in Stockport, through use of CITB benchmark indicators.
- 2.6 There has already been strong work on social value in Stockport. At quarter 2, TOMs social value measures identified that Stockport would benefit from £401,217 social value investment from the companies that were awarded contracts in the first 2 quarters of 19/20. In relation to most recent measures of local wealth building, 43% of contracts were awarded to suppliers based in Stockport, with an additional 32% based in Greater Manchester. This is a significant move to buying locally could compared to previous local benchmark figures.
- 2.7 Looking ahead consideration will be given as part of the monitoring of this Charter to further ongoing reporting of social value in Stockport, such as part of Portfolio Performance and Resource reporting.

3.0 NEXT STEPS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Subject to Cabinet consideration the draft Charter will proceed to Council on the 2nd April for formal consideration and adoption.
- 3.2 Cabinet are asked to consider and comment on the draft Charter ahead of proceeding to formal adoption.