

STOCKPORT COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET– SUMMARY SHEET

Subject: Portfolio Performance and Resources - Portfolio Agreements 2020/21

Report to Cabinet

Date: 6 October 2020

Report of: Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Policy, Finance & Devolution

Key Decision: N

Forward Plan General Exception Special Urgency (Mark with a Y if applicable)

Summary:

The seven Portfolio Performance and Resource Agreements (PPRAs) for 2020/21 have been considered by the last cycle of Scrutiny Committees. These reflect the policy priorities for 2020/21 set out within the Council Plan, which was adopted at the Budget Council Meeting in February. This incorporates the shared outcomes from the Borough Plan alongside specific priorities of the Cabinet.

These priorities, re-shaped to take account of One Stockport and Building Back Better (our response to Covid19), are articulated within the Portfolio Agreements, which form the basis for regular in-year reporting. Portfolio and Corporate Performance and Resource Reports (PPRRs and CPRRs) will assess progress against key objectives, priorities, outcomes and budgets, enabling Scrutiny Committees to hold the Cabinet to account and for the Cabinet to identify current and future risks to delivery.

Final versions of these are now presented for approval by Cabinet, incorporating any changes made following discussion with and comments from Scrutiny Committees.

Comments/Views of the Cabinet Member:

Back in February, we set out our 2020/21 Council Plan and Budget. This referenced the significant challenges faced by the Council over the next few years and how we intend to address these through our medium-term financial plans and policy priorities. Whilst these continue to be reflected within our portfolio priorities, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic over the last 6 months has changed the national and local landscape, and our response is built into the 2020/21 Agreements.

By bringing these Agreements slightly later in the year, we have been able to take account of our recovery plans through the One Stockport and Building Back Better programmes. These also include financial and performance updates for the year so far, reflecting the impact of Covid-19 across all portfolios, whilst informing our targets and forecasts.

There has also been a significant shift in our approach to measures and targets, taking on board suggestions from Scrutiny Committees by making these timelier and more relevant, and taking account of different levels of control and influence. We will continue to adapt our approach to reflect changing circumstances, making a clear link between our performance and financial monitoring and our strategic priorities, delivery programmes and investments.

We will bring mid-year reports to the next Scrutiny cycle in December, including the Corporate Report, updating on progress against the priorities and objectives set out in the Agreements. Alongside these reports, we will launch our new Performance Dashboard which will support Members in accessing more detailed performance data, providing analysis and insight into the Council's performance. I look forward to bringing these reports and seeing progress in delivering our Portfolio priorities over the course of the year.

Recommendation(s) of Cabinet Member:

It is recommended that Cabinet approve the 2020/21 Portfolio Agreements included at Appendix 1 to the report.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee (if decision called in):

Corporate, Resource Management & Governance

Background Papers (if report for publication):

Contact officers for accessing background papers and discussing the report;

Holly Rae (Head of Strategy & Design)

and Jonathan Davies (Strategic Head of Service - Finance)

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'Urgent Business': / **No**
