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| **REPORT TO:** | **Communities and Housing Scrutiny Committee;<br>Corporate, Resource Management and Governance Scrutiny Committee;<br>Children and Families Scrutiny Committee;<br>Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee;<br>Economy and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee;** |
| **DATE:** | **25th January 2021<br>26th January 2021<br>27th January 2021<br>28th January 2021** |
| **REPORT OF:** | **Leader of the Council; Deputy Leader of the Council** |
| **REPORT TITLE:** | **One Stockport Borough Plan** |

AGENDA ITEM

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

1.1. We have previously stated our commitment[1] to working collaboratively with Partners and our communities to develop a shared long-term vision and priorities for Stockport. Stockport has so much to be proud of but we know there are also significant challenges in the months and years ahead – and at present for many within our communities – as well as opportunities that we can only address when we work together as one to shape a hopeful and ambitious future.

1.1. This report covers how partners across Stockport have approached the development of a shared borough plan, including an overview of the insight which has informed the development of the priorities, and introduces a draft borough plan for scrutiny comment and consideration. The draft plan is being shared with all scrutiny committees and comment is invited on the whole plan however to support discussions Table 1 indicates where borough plan priorities more directly relate to the remit of this committee. The draft plan is also accompanied by a full engagement report (appendix 1) and an equality impact assessment (appendix 2).

## 2. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

2.1. This plan is for all in our Borough. It has been jointly developed in partnership, including: Stockport Council; Stockport Clinical Commissioning Group; Stockport Foundation Trust; Viaduct Stockport; Pennine Care; Department for Work and Pensions, Stockport Homes, Greater Manchester Police, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, School and College leaders  Stockport Economic Alliance, Stockport VCSE Forum, Sector 3, Stockport Race Equality Partnership,  Stockport

[1] http://democracy.stockport.gov.uk/documents/s179570/PART%20B%20-%20MTFP%20Cabinet%20Response.pdf – Responding to our Medium Term Financial Plan 6th October 2020
http://democracy.stockport.gov.uk/documents/s176178/CPRR%20Q4%202019-20%20v1.1%20CRMG.pdf
Corporate Performance and Resources Annual Report 14th July 2020

Cultural Partnership, Stockport Health and Wellbeing Board, Safer Stockport Partnership and Stockport Family Partnership Board.

2.2. We have built this plan from a legacy of collaboration. In response to the Covid-19 pandemic we have seen public services, businesses and communities come together to support each other and protect the most vulnerable. This collaboration pre-dates the extraordinary circumstances of 2020. Our last Borough Plan was agreed in 2015 and was a spring board for much of the partnership progress we are building from today, from our Digital Inclusion Alliance, to Town Centre regeneration and our partnerships across children's health and care services.

2.3. This plan is being written during a unique and pivotal period in history, we are entering the 'decisive decade' for climate change, continuing to face a global pandemic and are experiencing fundamental shifts in how digital technologies affects how people socialise, work and live – much of which has been supercharged over the past year. In this context, and despite the challenges the pandemic has brought, we have heard a strong emphasis on hope and ambition from our communities, partners and businesses. We know we need to be radical, brave and ambitious – reimagining what we do, how we do it and being clear on why we are doing it, putting local people and businesses at the heart of our new way of working at all times.

2.4. A shared borough plan provides a framework for future collaboration across all partners and with communities on a set of shared priorities – working together as one for common vision and outcomes. We are ambitious for Stockport and together we will create a borough that works for everyone, and where everybody has a voice

## 3. SHAPING OUR AMBITION AND INFORMING OUR PRIORITIES

3.1. In developing our collective plan we sought to reflect the voices and priorities of local communities, alongside understanding and responding to insight gathered through impact studies, our Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA) and wider data analysis to shape how we stay together as One Stockport to provide the conditions and opportunities for happy, healthy, thriving, connected communities

3.2. Throughout 2020 and into 2021 we ran a broad engagement programme, speaking to over 3000 people, under the One Stockport movement to capture the experiences, insight and aspirations of our communities, businesses and different partnership perspectives. We have carried out an equality impact assessment on our engagement to ensure we captured a broad set of experiences and insight.
In particular we've focussed on understanding:

- Why are you proud to live and/or work in Stockport?
- What is important for you for the future?
- What are your priorities for Stockport?
- How has Covid-19 affected you and your family?

3.3. In order to be as inclusive as possible, and in recognition of the unprecedented circumstances, we adopted a number of different approaches and methodologies to ensure we captured a broad range of views and experiences:

- Online surveys
- Video booth
- Workshops
- Partnership forums
- Underpinned by ongoing conversations

3.4. Although we are committed to hearing the voices of all groups across our borough, the limitations of social distancing haven't always made this possible. We have engaged through representative organisations and forums to ensure the views and experiences of as many groups as possible are captured. We have engaged with the following groups:

- All residents about the impact of Covid-19
- All residents on their priorities and aspirations for Stockport
- Representatives of the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector
- Representatives of the Business sector
- Youth Participation Group
- School children
- College students
- Older People Forum
- Parents and Carers of young people with SEND
- Community partnerships
- Stockport Interfaith group
- Race Equality Partnership
- Care Leavers
- Veterans
- LGBTQI Groups
- Attendance at Boards and strategic meetings
- Stockport Councillors

3.5. A full engagement report that incorporating feedback from all groups can be seen at appendix 1. This report will continue to be updated as we engage on the draft Plan. Looking further ahead, One Stockport is not just about what we focus on together, but how we work together, and to that end we are committed to ensuring that this engagement programme leaves a lasting legacy of ongoing conversation and collaboration.

What we heard:

3.6. **Flourishing and connected communities** came through as a key theme throughout our engagement. The VSCE sector, Businesses, Young people, Older people and the Parents and Carers group all mentioned the importance of this. Within the Covid-19 impact survey 43% of people said they felt more connected to their local community during lockdown, and the One Stockport priorities survey shows that one of the top three best things about living in Stockport is feeling part of a community where people support one another.

3.7. People **enjoy living and working in Stockport**. Young people reflected on the

parks and access to green spaces. Local businesses spoke of the support they had received from local residents. 48% of Covid-19 survey respondents said they would continue to support local businesses in the future and saw them as an important part of our future. We are a borough full of ambition and a desire to support our **local economy**. The economy and recovery for Covid-19 is a concern but we don't want to lose our ambitions around regeneration and economic growth.

3.8. All groups talked about the importance of **inclusive employment opportunities**. Young people said it was important for them that there were both job opportunities available for them but also that they had the confidence and skills for the future. Parents, carers, representatives of the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector also said they'd like to see more done to improve opportunities for those who are more likely to experience exclusion such as those with special educational needs and experiencing poverty, to flourish and successfully secure employment. Local businesses also spoke about how it was important we were supporting people to develop skills for the future with an eye to emerging jobs in fields such as digital as well as in traditional sectors such as health and care.

3.9. **Looking after the environment, climate change and having access to parks and open spaces** was identified as being an important issue for our children and young people across the borough. Our priorities survey shows that people rated the best thing about living in Stockport as the access to parks and green spaces. They also said this was one of the most important things for the future of Stockport.

3.10. **Equality, equity and inclusion** also came out as a recurring theme amongst all groups. Our VCSE organisations would like to see more connection and inclusion of groups including LGBTQ+, Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority communities and people with disabilities. The intersectionality of different identities was also identified as an important determining factor in outcomes for individuals and families. Our young people said that we should be united and care for each other and our older people suggested we should encourage more intergenerational relationships. The impact and momentum of the Black Lives Matter movement was referenced within several discussions.

3.11. **Health and wellbeing** is also a priority with nearly half of people completing the online survey saying that access to health services was the most important thing for the future. **Mental Health and wellbeing** was a particular concern particularly for our young people. Over 800 young people voted for it to be the top priority in the 2020 Make your Mark campaign

3.12. Feedback clearly showed that **people and communities have, and continue to be, impacted by Covid-19**, with concerns about the future, employment opportunities and the physical and mental health and wellbeing of family, friends and our communities emerging strongly in discussions and surveys. Conversations focussed on the importance of mutual support, collaborating to support those in need but also to maintain new relationships and closer ways of working and designing, together, a hopeful future.

3.13. Overwhelming there was support for a shared partnership strategy and ambition. People also felt it was vital that the plan led to real and tangible action. We tested the language around One Stockport and again overall there was strong support to use this, particularly from strategic partners. However, some concerns were raised about

whether this would resonate with everyone as it was important to highlight that Stockport is a place made up of diverse and unique communities with different experiences and priorities. This included the strong local neighbourhood identities that communities and people held.

What our data told us:

3.14. **Stockport's population is changing** we have 290,000 residents, growing by over ,1000 per year, increasing in diversity with twice as many school children from ethnic minority backgrounds over the past 10 years.

3.15. **We have an ageing population**, with higher than national and regional averages and projections that 2 in 9 residents will be aged 65 or above in 2030.

3.16. We are a Borough that **people enjoy living, working and socialising** within. We have higher than average education outcomes and quality schools; and 9 in 10 residents feel safe - much higher than other Greater Manchester areas.

3.17. Stockport residents on average have **good health outcomes and life expectancy** that have been improving year on year

3.18. We have **ambitious regeneration plans** for our town centre and our eight vibrant district centres. We are the best connected town in the north of England and are building 14 new walking and cycling routes.

3.19. We have **vibrant, diverse and caring communities**: 1461 VCSE organisations, 49,100 volunteers and growing, 31 mutual aid networks set-up since March.

3.20. **One of the fastest growing north-west economies**, UK top 20 for productivity growth, with over 13,200 vibrant businesses and more and more professional and digital roles.

3.21. **Digital and new technology are continuing to transform lives**, we are progressing towards a 4th industrial age with automation, internet of things, analytics, smart technology and assisted living changing the way we live, work and play. With 85% of jobs in 2030 projected to not having yet been invented.

3.22. **Significant inequalities exist within our Borough**, we are the 8th most polarised borough in England, deprived areas have lower education and health outcomes.

3.23. We are living through a **global climate change emergency** and entering the decisive decade for addressing climate change. Locally we experience an increased risk of flooding and aim to be carbon neutral by 2038.

3.24. As with many areas our communities have experienced **significant impacts of Covid-19**: higher than average mortality rates, universal credit claimants have doubled and rates of poor wellbeing have almost doubled from pre pandemic levels.

3.25. This insight has informed the development of our shared vision, values and priorities.

## 4. ONE STOCKPORT, OUR VISION FOR 2030 – ALL TOGETHER AS ONE

4.1 We have developed a draft vision for the future of our Borough. We imagine Stockport in 2030 is a place of excitement and opportunity, internationally recognised centre of enterprise and innovation, where no matter where you grow-up or live that you have the opportunity to achieve brilliant things. Where people feel part of a community, feel loved and valued, and are happy and healthy and where everyone supports local businesses and looks after the environment … and where we celebrate our differences and work together, as One, to face whatever the future faces.

4.2. People from across Stockport said that our Plan was as much about how we worked together as what we worked together to achieve. To embed this, three core values have been shaped to embody our common purpose and are our commitments to how we will all act:

- **We are inclusive.** We believe that our differences and unique experiences are to be celebrated. We proactively address inequality and hold ourselves accountable for ensuring all lived experiences are included and valued.
- **We are ambitious.** We believe in Stockport, our people and the places that make up our Borough. We challenge ourselves to be the best we can be for Stockport.
- **We are collaborative.** We believe in working together, including with our citizens, openly and honestly. Supporting each other and always working together for Stockport.

4.3 Delivering against these three areas are nine proposed priorities:

| **One Heart** | |
|---|---|
| A caring and growing Stockport | *Early years, prevention, education, preparing for adulthood* |
| A healthy and happy Stockport | *Health, Wellbeing and Adult social care* |
| A strong and supportive Stockport | *Legacy of mutual aid movements, VCSE, kind and innovative communities* |
| **One Home** | |
| A fair and inclusive Stockport | *BLM legacy, tackling social exclusion, reducing inequalities* |
| A flourishing and creative Stockport | *Housing, parks, leisure and culture* |
| A sustainable and responsible Stockport | *Sustainability, proactively addressing climate change* |
| **One Future** | |
| An enterprising and thriving | *Economy and Regeneration - MDC, town centre* |

| | |
|---|---|
| Stockport | *regeneration, infrastructure and transport* |
| A skilled and confident Stockport | *Lifelong learning, adult skills, right skills right place, addressing unemployment* |
| A dynamic and digital Stockport | *Digital infrastructure, digital inclusion, tech-enabled innovation* |

4.4 The values, vision, framing and priorities are draft and being shared across Partners for their consideration. Each priority includes a series of proposed partnership measures to understand the collective impact of our Plan. We will continue to collaborate with our Partners on delivery of these measures and their underpinning organisational plans**.**

## 5. TAKING THE PLAN FORWARD, TOGETHER

5.1. This plan has been developed jointly and in collaboration with our communities and businesses. As we mentioned above, we have embedded our commitment to working inclusively and collaboratively within the plan. In that spirit the draft One Stockport Plan is being shared as widely as possible to seek any feedback and comments on how this has been brought together. This includes sharing with all partnership forums and groups who have taken part in the development of the Plan so far. This includes being shared with all Scrutiny Committees.

5.2. Subject to feedback from across Partners as well as Scrutiny Committees, it is proposed that a final plan, incorporating any comments, would then be progressed through the relevant organisational governance routes for all Partners. This would include consideration by Full Council at its next meeting in February. Subject to approval across Partners, a designed Plan would be launched from March. This would include an accessible web Plan.

5.3. Our focus then shifts to working together on bringing the aspirations outlined within the Plan to life. Whilst the Plan outlines commitment to some areas of work which are already underway, it has also identified particular areas that we want to together on:

- Inspiring young people and connect them to future employment opportunities. This includes links between schools and businesses, apprenticeship and training opportunities, mentoring
- Proactively progressing equality across our communities and ensuring reducing inequalities is central to everything we do
- Embedding inclusive employment practice to increase diversity in our workforce, sharing good practice
- Addressing mental health and wellbeing
- Tackling climate change
- Sustaining the energy that has come from local people, communities and the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector during the pandemic to support local people

- Looking at the goods and services we buy to support local businesses, voluntary and communities' sector and employment

5.4. Working together we will develop, with local communities, clear plans and deliverables for each of these areas, alongside other programmes of work captured within the Plan. An overall outcomes framework will also be developed to understand progress and impact.

5.5. There has been a clear commitment across all partners to continue to collaborate in progressing our shared priorities. We will continue to work closely with our partners to oversee the transition of development of our One Stockport plan into leadership of its delivery. Individual delivery plans will be overseen by the relevant partnership and built into organisational plans.

## 6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1. The Committee is invited to comment on the draft Borough Plan and associated Engagement Report

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are none.

Anyone wishing to discuss the report should contact Holly Rae on Tel: 0161 474 3014 or by email on holly.rae@stockport.gov.uk

TABLE 1 – BOROUGH PLAN PRIORITIES BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITY

The table below outlines scrutiny responsibility for each Borough Plan priority:

| **Priority** | **Communities and Housing** | **Corporate Resource Management and Governance** | **Children and Families** | **Adult Social Care and Health** | **Economy and Regeneration** | **Page** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **One Heart** | | | | | | |
| **A caring and growing Stockport** (*early years, prevention, education, preparing for adulthood)* | | | X | | | *17* |
| **A healthy and happy Stockport** *(Health, Wellbeing and Adult social care)* | | | | X | | *20* |
| **A strong and supportive Stockport** *(legacy of mutual aid movements, VCSE, kind and innovative communities)* | X | X | | | | *22* |
| ***One Home*** | | | | | | |
| **A fair and inclusive Stockport** *(BLM legacy, tackling social exclusion, reducing inequalities)* | X | X | X | X | X | *26* |
| **A flourishing and creative Stockport** *(housing, parks, leisure and culture)* | X | | | | X | *29* |
| **A sustainable and responsible Stockport** *(sustainability, proactively addressing climate change)* | X | X | | | | *32* |
| ***One Future*** | | | | | | |
| **An enterprising and thriving Stockport** *(Economy and Regeneration - MDC, town centre regeneration, infrastructure)* | | | X | X | X | *36* |
| **A skilled and confident Stockport** *(lifelong learning, adult skills, right skills right place, addressing unemployment)* | | X | | X | X | *39* |
| **A dynamic and digital Stockport** *(digital infrastructure, digital inclusion, tech-enabled innovation)* | | X | | | | *41* |