

REPORT TO:	Cabinet
DATE:	9th February 2021
REPORT OF:	Leader of the Council; Deputy Leader of the Council
REPORT TITLE:	Addendum to the One Stockport Borough Plan report

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. This addendum builds on the Borough Plan update report shared with Cabinet. It outlines the comments shared across Partners since this report was published. Including comments from Scrutiny Committees and Area Committees. This document also outlines how feedback has or will be addressed to ensure a clearer overview of how ongoing engagement is informing the development of our draft One Stockport Plan.

2. PLAN DEVELOPMENT

2.1. This Plan is a partnership plan. It has been developed across partners. Whilst not all partners can present a video has been prepared to support joint presentation. This video was shared with all area and scrutiny committees and available here:
<https://vimeo.com/504358042/0f7ce422ab>

2.2. As noted in the main report, the draft Plan has been shared across all partners, including Council elected members and colleagues. Feedback received prior to the publication of the main report was captured within the updated draft document and the engagement report. Ahead of further circulation, the engagement report will be fully updated to include all feedback and the actions undertaken (or planned) to respond to feedback.

3. PARTNER FEEDBACK

3.1. Since the Cabinet report was published, the following partners have shared responses:

- Age UK
- Race Equality Partnership

This feedback is summarised below and will be incorporated into an updated version of the engagement report.

Age UK

3.2. Trustees of Age UK Stockport shared further feedback on the draft Plan. They

strongly supported the idea of 'One Stockport' where everyone matters and a shared vision. Also commenting on the importance of ensuring the Plan is able to flex and act as a 'fluid document' to respond to the fast-changing environment. The group suggested a balancing of ambition and vision with the challenges facing the borough was important – complemented by clear and tangible (new and current) actions.

- 3.3. The feedback was also supportive of the importance of ambitions for future generations for the shaping of the Borough. Although the age group were generally 50+ and some 70+ they were not looking for a specific focus on older adults. The feedback did identify areas where older people's priorities and considerations could be strengthened such as in areas as housing, mental health, loneliness and employment. They were keen to see One Stockport live up to its name and good message of being inclusive of all.

Race Equality Partnership

- 3.4. Members of Stockport's Race Equality Partnership noted that it was commendable that equality and inclusion seem to be the drive for the Plan and is at the forefront of planning for the future. The group were clear that the Plan must be sustainable and that consideration should be given to the areas of equality overall, so that 'no one is left behind'. The group felt it was important to demonstrate to all communities that they are valued and are part of the tapestry of Stockport and are important in their own right. The group suggested that clear language and 'informed wording' would strength this.
- 3.5. The partnership felt that the Plan really embedded equality in its wider sense but did not pin-point where the inequality lies and that work was now needed to develop tangible actions to address these. Areas such as structural racism, the complexities of intersectional inequality, hard to reach groups and economic inequality were some of the areas mentioned. The group suggested areas where this could be strengthened in the Plan as well as actions that were impactful including: opportunities for employment for those who are disadvantaged; integration and celebrations of cultures; housing options- particularly for ethnically diverse families and those with disabilities; addressing digital exclusion; the unique needs of refugee families and young people; and, intersectional inequality within education.
- 3.6. In developing tangible actions the group emphasised the importance of compliance with equality legislation and also in ensuring that arrangements were made to ensure wider participation in shaping the Borough and the things we will do together. The group wants to understand more the plans to include and address the challenges of ethnically diverse communities, LGBTs, disability and Women. The group also noted the importance of grassroots and specialised representation in the Plan and in shaping and jointly taking forward shared actions.

4. AREA COMMITTEES

4.1. In response to elected member feedback on how comments at area committees in December were addressed, addendums with responses were shared. The addendums are available here:

- [Werneth Area Committee](#)
- [Stepping Hill Area Committee](#)
- [Cheadle Area Committee](#)
- [Marple Area Committee](#)
- [Central Stockport Area Committee](#)
- [Bramhall and Cheadle Hulme South Area Committee](#)

4.2. Further feedback and comment was shared at area committees. This is summarised below from section 5.3. As with the December meetings there were some common themes:

- Further feedback was given on making clearer the importance of **local and district centres**. Recognising the diverse and thriving communities across Stockport.
- There maintained a broad consensus about the importance of working closely together to **address the challenge of inequalities**. A strong message that inequalities needed to be a fundamental part of our Plan and that our actions needed to be tangible, underpinned by evidence and ambitious to improve outcomes in education, health and mental health for those experiencing inequality. Members were keen to be further involved in developing actions.
- The Plan is hopeful and ambitious. It was **great to see cross-partnership working in action** and embedded within a shared plan alongside a hopeful, ambitious and inclusive vision for our Borough. Some members reflected on ensuring hope and ambition was balanced with clear and robust understanding of challenges.
- Members across all area committees were clear on the need to **focus on tangible, but ambitious, actions** and be clear on the impact that we want to see and by when. This included being clearer on where and when new areas of work would be launched. Members in all committees also reflected upon the balance between scale and breadth of ambition alongside tangible actions. Members were keen that the development of an outcomes framework and delivery plans were progressed to provide assurance and clarity on delivery.
- That we needed to ensure that the Plan was **easy to access, understand and reflected all communities in Stockport**. Some Members noted that

the Plan was lengthy and text heavy, and were keen to see further work in this area.

4.3. **Cheadle Area Committee** suggested that the documents need to be brought to life, that it was important local people looked at the document and could say “there we are”, “this is our plan”. The committee discussed the risk of a long-term plan at the current time and noted that it needs to be agile and continually updated as time goes on. The Committee also discussed the challenges experienced by some areas of the economy, such as retail, and employment more broadly. There was feedback the Plan could have a clearer handle on retail and employment.

4.4. Councillors from **Stepping Hill Area Committee** were concerned that the Plan was too broad and that more needed to be done to ensure it was tangible and meaningful to local communities. Underpinned by clear metrics. This included comments on the ‘One Stockport’ framing. Comments were also made on whether a strategic partnership plan was needed. Members commented that the Plan was too positive, that it needed to be more critical and robust on the challenge of inequality in Stockport. A stronger and clearer set of actions to address equality were also requested. Particular reference was made to:

- Accessible housing for people with disabilities
- Stronger focus on LGBTQI+ communities

4.5. **Marple Area Committee** noted that the draft Plan was better reflecting the identities of district and local centres and discussed the need to do more to bring the Plan to life within local areas. Members were keen that local communities were involved in further development of the work. A discussion about the balance between ambition, breadth and tangible actions was held. Broadly members felt that the Plan could be more ambitious but that actions needed to be pragmatic and focussed. The committee also noted specific areas which could be brought out in the Plan:

- Ensure we strengthen the elements in the Plan about making the most of our partnership relationships across Greater Manchester and leveraging/influencing for Stockport
- Strengthen and support narrative in the Plan which talks about children and young people in Stockport being inspired and having the right support to be successful

4.6. At **Central Stockport Area Committee**, Councillors reflected on the positivity

and importance of partners working together. Members echoed the need for tangible actions and to have a framework in place to measure the success of the priorities. The committee also noted specific areas which could be brought out in the Plan:

- A stronger reference to safer streets for all including pedestrians, cyclists, children and people with disabilities. Play streets was noted as an example initiative
- Individual responsibility, roles and civic responsibility
- More of a focus on education, lifelong learning and digital infrastructure to support routes into employment.

4.7. Councillors at **Bramhall and Cheadle Hulme South Area Committee** felt that the Plan was too broad and as such could not be meaningful to local people. Comments were also made on whether a strategic partnership plan was needed. They reflected on the need to be clearer on actions, measurements and what the timescales for delivering change would be. Members stated that measures needed to be SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timebound) and felt they were unclear on what the Plan would be delivering in areas such as employment and what success would look like.

4.8. The length of the Plan and accompanying documents was also discussed. Overall the suite of documents were felt to be too long and dense in text. Members reiterated concerns about the 'One Stockport' framing and commented on the importance of local and district centres identity and uniqueness. Members also reflected upon the need to ensure there was investment and resource to be able to deliver the ambition in the Plan.

4.9. The minutes for area committees were not all published at the time of distribution of this addendum, however the webcast for this item can be seen here:

- [Werneth Area Committee – 1st February 2021 – item 7](#)
- [Cheadle Area Committee – 2nd February 2021 – item 7](#)
- [Stepping Hill Area Committee – 2nd February 2021 – item 7](#)
- [Marple Area Committee – 3rd February 2021 – item 7](#)
- [Central Area Committee – 4th February 2021 – item 8](#)
- [Bramhall and Cheadle Hulme South Area Committee – 4th February 2021 – item 4iv](#)

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1. There has been a breadth of feedback on the draft Plan. Ahead of further circulation of the draft Plan, the engagement report will be fully updated to include all feedback with the actions taken to address these. This includes identifying those areas where feedback will be addressed through the development of delivery plans and the outcomes framework underneath the Plan.