

**THE STOCKPORT COUNCIL PLAN 2021/22**

## Report of the Leader of the Council &amp; Cabinet Member for Devolution

**1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To recommend the draft Council Plan for 2021/22 for approval by the Council Meeting and formal adoption from April 2021.
- 1.2 This year's plan has been developed amidst the Covid-19 pandemic and our ongoing response and recovery activity is prominent across our priorities. However, our plan for the next 12 months is not only focussed on continuing to face the challenges of Covid-19. As well as addressing the significant financial challenges ahead, it is about taking the positives that have been prominent in our response – particularly the joint work and collaboration – and building a hopeful and ambitious future for Stockport.
- 1.3 Alongside developing our organisational plan, we've been working with partners across Stockport to develop a new Borough Plan (also presented for consideration) which will set out a shared long-term vision and priorities for Stockport. The insight that we've captured from conversations across 2020 with communities, businesses, public sector partners and elected members will shape our longer-term shared plan and is reflected in this Council Plan for 2021/22.

**2. INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The Council Plan accompanies the budget and sets a high-level framework for decision making throughout the financial year. It is a public-facing summary document that sits above annual (detailed) Portfolio Agreements.
- 2.2 The plan is developed by Cabinet, supported by officers, and is an opportunity to reflect on performance to date and policy priorities for the future. Priorities in the plan are included by exception. The plan doesn't attempt to describe everything the Council does; only those things that are of crucial importance in a specific year.
- 2.3 The 2021/22 Council Plan keeps the existing framework of our 5 Year Borough Plan – setting out our priorities in relation to the 4 shared outcomes:
  - Stockport people are able to make positive choices and be independent and those who need support will get it.
  - Stockport benefits from a thriving economy
  - Stockport is a place people want to live
  - Stockport communities are safe, resilient and inclusive
- 2.4 The plan also describes how we'll work, as a modern, person centred and ambitious organisation, to deliver our priorities through four unifying themes:
  - We are a council that is built around our communities
  - We are a council that maximises the opportunities of digital
  - We are a council that values partnerships and collaboration
  - We are a council that cares about our staff and engages them in the future
- 2.5 The information within the high-level Council Plan provides the basis for detailed Portfolio Agreements and resource planning for 2021/22, with progress on delivery being reported in-year through the Portfolio and Corporate reports. These will be reviewed with Portfolio Holders following approval of the Council Plan. Scrutiny Coordination Committee will also continue to be consulted on how best to support Members in their performance management role.

- 2.6 Once 2021/22 budgets and performance measures have been finalised, Portfolio Agreements will be reviewed post-election by the new Cabinet.
- 2.7 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is also included. CRMG Scrutiny Committee considered a draft of the Plan and EIA on 26 January, with comments incorporated into the final draft approved by Cabinet on 9 February.
- 2.8 Once approved for adoption by Council, this version of the Plan will be finalised to incorporate suitable photographs and published on the Council website.

### **3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Council Meeting is asked to consider and approve the 2021/22 Council Plan for adoption from April 2021.

Anyone requiring further information or wishing to discuss the report should contact; Holly Rae (Head of Strategy and Design) [holly.rae@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:holly.rae@stockport.gov.uk) Tel no: 07800 617550