



STOCKPORT
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Stockport
team
ambition
respect

Inclusive Neighbourhoods

Portfolio Performance
and Resources
Agreement 2021/22



www.stockport.gov.uk

ONESTOCKPORT

Date	3 June 2021	Version	0.1	Approved by	AP
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INCLUSIVE NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S INTRODUCTION

I am really pleased to present the Inclusive Neighbourhoods Portfolio Agreement.

We have seen an incredible response from our local communities in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Across different organisations and sectors people have come together to collaborate and support one and another during unprecedented and challenging times. Stockport's volunteers have provided amazing support for local people and continued to demonstrate the strong sense of community and neighbourliness have across Stockport



However this past year has also been a difficult one for many across Stockport. Recent reports indicate that the effects of the past year have exacerbated existing inequalities. Now more than ever we need to continue to work together to ensure everyone within our community has the opportunity to thrive.

The focus of this portfolio has expanded as we have responded to the challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic. Looking to the year ahead we will be focussing strongly on inequalities, equality and inclusion – from shaping cross-partnership commitments to addressing inequality; to further development of our financial resilience support; shaping our future economic plan – embedding inclusive employment into plans for the future; and finally to continuing to support and celebrate our diverse and passionate VCFSE sector.

One key strength of the portfolio is its cross cutting work with other portfolios which will continue to be an important focus for the year ahead, including working together to address issues relating to school holiday hunger and holiday activities (C&F), digital exclusion (CF&E) the ongoing work to progress the community champions programme and inclusive routes into employment (AS&H) and the development of a new Economic Plan for Stockport (E&R).

Cllr Amanda Peers, Cabinet Member for Inclusive Neighbourhoods

Revenue Budget 2021/22		Capital Programme
	£000	There are no capital schemes currently associated with the Inclusive Neighbourhoods Portfolio.
Gross expenditure budget	2,403	
Less income budget	1,730	
Net cash limit budget	673	
<u>Reserves</u>		
Approved use of reserves balance is £0.623m.		

INCLUSIVE NEIGHBOURHOODS – PORTFOLIO SUMMARY 2021/22

The outcomes we want for Stockport are...	Communities in Stockport are safe, resilient and inclusive			
Our Portfolio Priorities are...	1. Building connected and inclusive communities	2. Enabling all residents to benefit from local economic opportunities	3. Embracing and celebrating equality, diversity and inclusion	4. Working together across services to empower vibrant and safe neighbourhoods
We will deliver these Priorities through...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting our VCFSE sector, including developing a shared VCFSE strategy, continuing to build strong VCFSE networks and developing capacity within the sector Developing a shared framework and outcomes with One Stockport partners to tackle inequality with a particular focus on the impact of the pandemic across our communities Encouraging volunteering through the development of a volunteering strategy and launching a volunteering hub 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivering our financial inclusion programme, including the development of a sustainable food system Increasing the social value of council spend, including corporate social responsibility Supporting the development of the Economic Plan Delivering a robust programme of adult education and apprenticeships, including local access programme and jobs match 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing shared equalities objectives Ensuring that we are an inclusive employer through our recruitment, workforce and employment practice. Embedding our new approach to Equality Impact Assessments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ONE Neighbourhood partnership model – focusing on the interface with communities and inclusion (in partnership with the Deputy Leader's Portfolio) Developing and delivering of the SSP Strategy
We will shape our future direction by being ...	A council that is built around our communities			
	A council that maximises the opportunities of digital			
	A council that values partnerships and collaboration			
	A council that cares about our staff and engages them in the future			
We will work with our GM partners	Put communities in control			
	Put people at the heart of everything we do			
	Deliver an integrated approach to “place-shaping”			

1. INCLUSIVE NEIGHBOURHOODS

PORTFOLIO SUMMARY



This Portfolio Agreement sets out the key responsibilities in relation to services and budgets. It also details the range of activities, projects and programmes that will support delivery of the priority outcomes and the measures that will reflect progress over the year.

Our vision for Inclusive Neighbourhoods is...

Stockport is home to many local communities who are unique and diverse, be they communities which form from common interests, where people live and work or their faith beliefs. We know that different communities experience different outcomes and the on-going impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated inequality of outcomes throughout the Borough, particularly impacting on some of our most marginalised communities.

At the heart of Stockport are its people and the communities in which they live. Inclusion and community connectedness are central to the Inclusive Neighbourhoods Portfolio. We have seen an inspiring response from our communities in response to the challenge of Covid-19. As we look to the future we are committed to continuing to work together, with partners and our residents, across all the diverse communities in Stockport to build a better future where no one is left behind - ensuring we create the conditions for our vibrant and innovative communities to flourish.

This Portfolio provides cross cutting strategic leadership for inclusion and community connectedness and has a close working relationship with the other Corporate Portfolios - the Citizen Focus and Engagement Portfolio and Resources, Commissioning and Governance Portfolio. In addition, the Portfolio works closely with the Economy and Regeneration Portfolio on issues such as inclusive employment and economic growth and homelessness; the Adults and Health Portfolio on issues including the employment of adults with disabilities; and the Children, Family Services and Education Portfolio on issues such as holiday hunger and care leavers.

Since this Portfolio was initially introduced, bringing a greater strategic focus to inclusion, communities and equalities, the shape of this work has developed which is reflected within this PPRA with a strengthened focus on equalities, inclusion and diversity and a focus on our approach to communities. This agreement also reflects the following shared partnership priorities from our One Stockport Borough Plan which we collectively shaped with local partners and residents: -

- A fair and inclusive Stockport - A borough for everyone - diversity and inclusion is celebrated and everyone has equity of opportunity
- A flourishing and creative Stockport is an exciting place to live, where people are active and celebrate the culture
- A strong and supportive Stockport - Confident and empowered communities working together to make a difference

As such the key strategic outcomes for the Inclusive Neighbourhoods Portfolio have been updated to reflect this development and now include:

- Building connected and inclusive communities
- Enabling all residents to benefit from local economic opportunities
- Embracing and celebrating equality, diversity and inclusion
- Working together across services to empower vibrant and safe neighbourhoods

The key services and strategies within the Portfolio which contribute to this vision and outcomes are:

- Thriving Communities Programme
- Neighbourhood Inclusion
- Stockport Local Fund and Community Funds
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Safer Stockport Partnership
- Adult Education / Apprenticeships

Measures and Targets used within the Agreement

Measures are categorised to reflect Council responsibility:

- **Council** - these measures are largely under the Council's direct control (eg Council Tax collection, highway conditions, re-ablement)
- **Partnership** – these measures are influenced by the Council with partners (eg youth offending, lifestyle services)
- **Contextual** – these are measures illustrating context but that the Council has little or no control over or those without a clear polarity (i.e. where it is not apparent whether higher or lower is better) (eg children in care, children on a child protection plan)

A differential approach to target-setting taking into account responsibility and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has been applied:

- **Numerical** - fixed target. Aim is to reach a specific level of performance by the end of the year. Most commonly applied to Council controlled measures.
- **Comparator** - no fixed target. Measure is benchmarked against available comparators and target reviewed during the year as comparator data becomes available. Aim is for performance to match or better comparators.
- **Direction of Travel** – an aspirational target is set to maximise, minimise or maintain adequate performance.
- **No Target (N/A)** – no target is set. This applies to contextual measures or where the impact of Covid-19 has made robust target setting difficult.

Reporting progress during the year

The Performance and Resource Reporting Framework (PPRF) was reviewed over summer 2020, taking into account the impact of the pandemic and reduced committee cycles on reporting. For 2021/22, there will continue to be three reporting cycles, reverting to the previous model with Mid-Year, Q3 Update and Annual Reports. A financial update report for the first quarter will be brought to CRMG Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet in September, with any significant performance issues reported by exception.

The first set of in-year Portfolio Performance and Resource Reports (PPRRs) will be at Mid-Year in November, followed by a Q3 Update in late February / early March 2022, and the Annual Reports in June 2022. Data within the portfolio performance dashboards will be updated alongside these reporting cycles.

Inclusive Neighbourhoods Portfolio		
Time Period	Report	Committee Date
<i>April to June</i>	<i>Financial Update Report</i>	<i>CRMG 7 September</i>
April to September 2021	Mid-Year Portfolio Report	25 November 2021
October to December 2021	Third Quarter Update report	3 March 2022
January to March 2022	Annual Portfolio Report	16 June 2022 (TBC)

Policy Drivers

This section summarises key legislative and policy developments likely to influence the work of the Portfolio during 2021/22. Updates on these will be included in the in-year reports.

National

Covid-19 Pandemic Response

The ongoing Covid-19 response and recovery is prominent across our priorities and will continue to be a focus of activity over the next 12 months. The continued roll out of the vaccination programme, addressing new variants and learning about the longer-term impacts of Covid-19 on our communities, from wider health and wellbeing considerations to economic growth, employment and recovery, are amongst the challenges ahead. In addition, we know that the on-going impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated inequality of outcomes, particularly impacting on some of our marginalised communities – addressing this inequality of outcome will remain a key focus for this Portfolio.

Levelling Up White Paper

The Government will bring forward a [Levelling Up White Paper](#) later this year, building on actions already being taken to level up across the UK. This will set out new policy interventions to improve livelihoods and opportunities in all parts of the UK. It looks to improve living standards, grow the private sector, improve health, education and policing, strengthen communities and local leadership and restore pride in place. It defines levelling up in terms of creating good jobs, skills and productivity in places that have seen economic decline and enabling more people to grasp the opportunities of Brexit without feeling they have to leave their local area.

Skills for Jobs: Lifelong Learning for Opportunity and Growth

The [Skills for Jobs White Paper](#) sets out how Government will reform further education to support people to get the skills the economy needs throughout their lives, including measures to: give employers a greater say in the development of skills; provide higher level technical skills; provide a flexible, lifetime skills guarantee; simplify and reform funding and accountability for providers; and support outstanding teaching.

Domestic Abuse Act

The [Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#) places new statutory duties on local authorities to provide support for people experiencing domestic abuse. As well as providing a statutory definition of domestic abuse and placing the role of Domestic Abuse Commissioner on a statutory footing, the Act introduces measures to help raise awareness of domestic abuse and provide additional support to domestic abuse victims.

Grants and Funding

Throughout 2020/21 and into 2021/22 a range of government departments including DEFRA, DWP and DfE have made grant allocations to local authorities to support those on the lowest incomes with the cost of food, fuel, and other essentials. Whilst the funding programmes have been largely prescriptive in how they are used, they have provided vital support to many households. Uncertainty remains about the Government's future investment plans, however locally there is a need to ensure robust transitional arrangements for those who have come to expect and rely on the financial support available; for example, through the holiday vouchers provided to families eligible for free school meals via the DWP funding programmes.

A further area of grant funding relates to the **Community Champions Programme**. This £23m MHCLG programme is intended to expand work to support those most at risk from Covid-19 and

boost vaccination take up within these communities. The response to this programme is led by the Adult Care and Health Portfolio but links to the responsibilities in this portfolio in particular to work in collaboration with the VCFSE and the aspirations to leave a lasting legacy of trusted network(s) of community champions.

Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill

The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill covers a broad range of community safety issues and seeks to introduce measures which aim to have an impact on victims of crime, those who perpetrate crimes, and wider community safety. The Bill seeks to place a new statutory duty on local authorities and wider partners to collaborate and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence, underlining the importance of early intervention and prevention measures.

Armed Forces Bill

The Bill seeks to introduce a new duty to require relevant public bodies across the UK, in education, healthcare and housing sectors, to have due regard to the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant. Whilst there is limited detail in terms of what is expected of councils, work to refresh and embed the Armed Forces Covenant locally is being facilitated through the Stockport Armed Forces Covenant Group.

Greater Manchester

Greater Manchester Strategy

The 2017 [Greater Manchester Strategy: Our People, Our Place](#) outlines and explains ambitions for the future of the city-region, covering health, wellbeing, work and jobs, housing, transport, skills, training and economic growth. By September 2021 a new 10-year Greater Manchester Strategy with a 3-year implementation plan will be launched. The new GMS will have a greater focus on wellbeing, equality and sustainability and will be the mechanism for taking forward the GM Independent Inequalities Commission (IIC) recommendations. Building on the GM Living with Covid Resilience Plan it will guide GM's recovery and renewal post-Covid. Aligned to the GMS are a series of focussed programmes of work and commitment, the Right to Food initiative is one of those areas and relates to the priorities outlined in this PPRA.

GM Independent Inequalities Commission – recommendations and panels

The Greater Manchester Independent Inequalities Commission examined inequalities across the city-region and considered how they should be tackled in order to achieve the Commission's vision, 'good lives for all in Greater Manchester'. The [report](#) focuses on how Greater Manchester can both respond to the immediate challenges created by the pandemic, and pivot towards a new way of doing things that puts tackling inequality at its heart.

It makes 17 recommendations across 5 themes:

- The Essential Pivot – putting wellbeing and equality at the heart
- People Power – putting more power in the hands of people
- Good jobs, decent pay – good employment, Real Living Wage and skills opportunities
- Building wealth – spreading wealth and asset holding and benefits in communities
- Services for a good life – move towards universal basic services

GM Police and Crime Plan

The [Greater Manchester Police and Crime Plan 2018-21](#) ("Standing Together") was launched in March 2018. Its three broad priorities are to: keep people safe; reduce harm and offending; and strengthen communities and places. Work to refresh this plan will take place during 2021 and will be taken account of in the renewal of the Safer Stockport Partnership strategy.

GM Strategy to Tackle Violence Against Women & Girls 2021-2031

The [Gender Based Abuse Strategy](#) (draft) will be vital to delivering on priorities identified in the Greater Manchester Strategy. The aim of the Gender Based Abuse Strategy is to lead a comprehensive, responsive programme of service delivery that enhances the safety of women and girls, while preventing gender based abuse, challenging the attitudes and inequalities that promote it, and enabling those perpetrators who want to change to do so.

Stockport

One Stockport Borough Plan

During 2020/21 partners across Stockport worked collaboratively with our communities to develop a shared long-term vision and priorities for Stockport in the [One Stockport Borough Plan](#). This Portfolio will support delivery of a number of One Stockport priorities including:

- A fair and inclusive Stockport
- A strong and supportive Stockport
- A skilled and confident Stockport

Stockport Economic Plan

Work is currently underway to establish clear, tangible, but ambitious delivery plans to take the vision of the One Stockport Borough Plan into reality. The Borough Plan includes placing a thriving economy at the heart of Stockport's ambition for the future, and hence a Stockport Economic Plan will be developed during 2021 that will aim to achieve the shared ambition for a thriving economy set out in the Borough Plan.

The brief for the Economic Plan has been shaped through engagement with stakeholders, and an expert team with a strong stakeholder engagement background will be commissioned to work with us to develop the Plan. The key economic opportunities in the context of economic recovery from the pandemic, and of particular relevance to this Portfolio, inclusive growth and employment, will be key elements of the Plan.

Stockport Armed Forces Covenant

The national Armed Forces Covenant was introduced by the Government in 2011. It is 'a promise by the nation ensuring that those who serve or who have served in the armed forces, and their families, are treated fairly.' The Covenant is fulfilled by different groups including Central Government, local government, the armed forces, businesses, charities and communities.

Local covenants are essential in delivering the national Armed Forces Covenant. In Stockport, we produced our first local Covenant in 2012 and we have refreshed our Covenant every three years since. Work will take place during 2021 to refresh the priorities in the current Stockport Covenant. The Stockport Covenant is developed and overseen by our Armed Forces Covenant Partnership Group which comprises representatives from Stockport Council and other public service providers, charity and voluntary sector organisations and representatives of the local armed forces community.

2. INCLUSIVE NEIGHBOURHOODS DELIVERY PLAN & PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK



Priority 1: Building connected and inclusive communities

We will work with our partners, the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector (VCFSE sector) and local communities to further develop neighbourhood working and person-centred approaches; build on existing relationships and further develop the role of the VCFSE sector. At the heart of this approach is a focus on inclusion, reducing inequalities; and working with local people and communities to support them to solve their challenges by unblocking barriers to actions and exploring opportunities to work differently.

We have worked closely with the VCFSE sector during the pandemic through a vibrant VCFSE forum with membership of over 30 organisations. Together we co-designed and co-delivered our humanitarian aid response to ensure that food, medicines and social contact were distributed to those who needed it. Our relationship with the sector is stronger than ever and we will continue our joint work as we shape our future approach.

Delivered by:

Supporting our VCFSE sector, including developing a shared VCFSE strategy

We will co-design a shared strategy to support the resilience of our VCFSE sector and ensure this is underpinned by cross sector networks and sustainable funding approaches.

We will also continue to work with all partners across Stockport to support wider One Stockport activity and use the One Stockport website and social media channels to celebrate good news stories from across the VCFSE and our communities.

Continuing to build strong networks and developing capacity - VCFSE support and engagement

We will build on the existing VCFSE forums and cross sector networks to co-design an inclusive Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) Assembly which celebrates and enables connectivity across communities. We will also continue to build cross sector collaboration through sector connecting events, building on the sector connector model and co-delivering a programme of events that focus on cross cutting issues where there are opportunities for skills sharing across sectors.

We will develop the wider governance around the forum to ensure a strong interface between VCFSE partners and local and sub-regional strategic partnerships. We will ensure our strategic partnerships are representative of the sector and communities and the sector is systematically engaged in the development of strategy, service design and delivery.

We will invest in third sector infrastructure, building the capacity of Sector3 as a local infrastructure organisation, and ensuring it is fully representative of our sector, alongside investment in the digital infrastructure that supports the resilience of the sector.

We will harness resources available that can support the sector, opening access to council resources such as our training infrastructure and developing our local approach to social value.

Investing in innovative ideas developed through the Stockport Local Fund and bringing in external funding opportunities

We will invest in innovative ideas developed through the Stockport Local Fund and bring in external funding opportunities. During this year we will also invest, through the Stockport Local Fund and any other appropriate grant funding routes, in community ideas for local covid memorials, commemoration or celebrations to mark community's experiences during the pandemic.

We will also continue to embed our funding partnership across Sector3, Stockport Homes and other registered social landlords to maximise the use of local funding, pool local expertise and support organisations to secure national funding.

We will mobilise partners across the sector to embed micro grants delivery within a wider programme of support and capacity building for small and emergent organisations, whilst developing our approach to delivering large grants to support innovation and sustainability. We will ensure clear links to council transformation priorities to facilitate collaborative working across statutory and voluntary partners.

We will develop a clear funding pathway ensuring grant funding and the associated support can facilitate organisational growth and maximise the amount of national funds secured by local organisations.

We will target the Stockport Local Fund at communities who have been underrepresented in previous rounds to ensure our investments are inclusive and benefit the diverse range of Stockport communities.

Developing shared frameworks with One Stockport partners to tackle inequality, with a particular focus on the impact of the pandemic across our communities

Working with our partners and communities we will develop one overarching partnership framework in relation to inequality that can be adopted and used by all partners to enable all organisations and sectors to play a role in addressing inequality in a way that is appropriate to each organisation.

We will continue to support the Adult Care and Health portfolio to progress the Stockport community champion programme, co-produced with the VCFSE and other partners. We will support the programme in reaching those most at risk from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, including older people, disabled people and people from ethnic minority backgrounds to recover, through activities including targeted engagement to increase vaccine take up and Covid awareness, investing in community led initiatives to improve health and wellbeing and investing in new and existing networks of local champions to build relationships and trust to develop resilient communities.

Encouraging volunteering through the development of a volunteering strategy and volunteer hub

We will create a legacy of volunteering through the development of a Stockport volunteering hub, building on the growth of the support and mutual aid movement in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. We are working with partners to develop a cross-sector volunteering strategy for Stockport. This includes proposals for a long-term sustainable volunteer matching and development hub; and a review of the Council's engagement with volunteers to develop a strategic approach which will optimise our work with volunteers and contribute to the shared goals identified in the Borough Plan.

Performance Measures and Targets:

Measures in bold are included in the Corporate Report and Performance Dashboard

GMS – Indicator included in the Greater Manchester Strategy Outcomes Dashboard

PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	
			Actual	Actual	Actual	Target
Partnership measures						
IN.1.1	Proportion of successful applications to the Stockport Local Fund (number of successful applications / total number of applications)	High	15% (43/274)	23% (54/231)	48% (42/86)	36%
New measure	Number of successful first time applicants	High				
New measure	Number of successful repeat applicants	High				
IN.1.2	Proportion of Stockport Local Fund awards made as small grants (under £500)	N/A	27% (12/43)	22% (12/54)	100% (2/2)	27%

It should be noted that in 2020/21 the decision making process applied to the Covid Community Support Fund was not comparable with previous rounds meaning it will not be possible to draw direct comparisons between 20/21 data and previous years.

IN.2	Number of sector collaboration events held	High	N/A	New measure	10	10
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These events will maximise opportunities for VCFSE organisations to participate fully in shaping local programmes and provide opportunities for collaboration and innovation within and across the sectors. We will also be able to report organisations newly connected with as part of these events and the extent to which more inclusive and representative connections are being made.

New measure	Number of community networks representing communities of identity	High				
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The baseline for the above new measure is currently being calculated

IN.3	Amount of external funding secured by VCFSE organisations as a result of infrastructure support	High	N/A	New measure	£800,916	£100k
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The Council have commissioned infrastructure support for the VCFSE sector, this measure gives an indication of the direct financial return on that investment.

New measure	Organisations engaged with Sector3					contextual
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As the infrastructure organisation for Stockport it is essential that Sector3 represents and support the diversity of our VCFSE sector. Its membership will also be an important measure not just of its effectiveness but also as a proxy indicator of the breadth of organisations that are supporting Stockport residents. Baseline data for this measure is currently being calculated.

IN.11	GM Community Safety Survey indicators: - 'My local area is a place where people with different backgrounds get on well together'	High		Strongly agree - 33% Tend to agree - 45%	Strongly agree – 29% Tend to agree - 47% (end of March 2021)	N/A
IN.12	GM Community Safety Survey indicators: - 'My local area is a place where people look out for each other'	High		Strongly agree - 35% Tend to agree - 49%	Strongly agree – 32% Tend to agree – 46% (end of March 2021)	N/A
IN.13	GM Community Safety Survey indicators: - 'I feel a strong sense of belonging to my local area'	High		Strongly agree - 38% Tend to agree - 39%	Strongly agree - 33% Tend to agree – 41% (end of March 2021)	N/A
Contextual						
IN.14	Number of VCSE organisations	High	1689 (June 2017)	1630 (May 2020)	1672 (May 2021)	N/A

Priority 2: Enabling all residents to benefit from local economic opportunities

Working with the Cabinet Member for the Citizen Focus and Engagement Portfolio, we are committed to reducing inequalities and ensuring that all communities and neighbourhoods are able to contribute to, and benefit from economic growth, as we work together to 'build back better' from the impact of Covid-19 and create a sustainable future for all. This is more important than ever in light of the impact that the pandemic has had on the economy and employment opportunities, and we are committed to ensuring our residents have support to remain financially resilient through this time.

Delivered by:

Financial Resilience

Covid-19 has exposed how financially vulnerable many households are, as the pandemic placed increased pressure on the finances of many households at a time when many saw a reduction in income. National measures have played an important role in supporting households through the immediate crisis but the resilience of many has been impacted. Working in partnership with the Cabinet Member for Citizen Focus and Engagement we want to ensure these households can become resilient again in the longer term, by providing enhanced and targeted support in the short term and developing the capacity.

We will do this by reviewing and co-designing a joined up financial resilience support offer, creating a clear and holistic route for people to become financially resilient and independent; and building the capacity of our voluntary partners and early help services to support those in financial need.

We will deliver a programme of activity to raise the profile of available support, using social media and events to help households maximise their income through better budgeting, advice, and benefit take up. We will link with digital partners to support households on low income to utilise technology to better manage their finances.

We will identify ways to proactively identify those households most vulnerable to debt and connect them with services, developing the local offer to respond to the impact of Covid on household finances.

We will develop the qualitative and quantitative evidence base of the extent of local financial need and the experience of those living on the lowest incomes to support further service improvements.

Sustainable Food Systems

We will develop the emergent Food Network that has come together as a response to emerging reliance on food support, to build closer relationships across providers of food support and ensure a sustainable offer for those in food poverty. We will reduce the dependence on emergency and crisis food support, including vouchers, food parcels and cooked meals, that has increased during the pandemic by ensuring affordable alternatives are available and visible. We aim to connect those presenting in need of emergency food with wider support wherever they present and develop alternative models of providing food support.

We will harness the resources of business and communities to maximise the use of donations to support our community offer and facilitate a more strategic and sustainable use of both charitable donations and government funds.

Stockport Support Fund and Local Welfare Assistance

We will learn from the Covid response which mobilised a diverse range of partners in distributing more than £1.5m of government grant through both direct support and strategic investments to benefit those in financial need.

We will identify and secure resources to complement our core Support Funds offer, building the capacity of the community and strategic partners, such as Stockport Credit Union, to offer assistance and ensure sufficient resources to support those in greatest need through the Support Funds offer

We will ensure enhancements to the local welfare offer are in place to support those currently benefiting from the furlough and universal credit uplift when these schemes are forecast to end, including support for those at risk of fuel poverty over the winter period.

A full twelve month review of the Support Funds scheme, launched in September 2020, will take place in September 2021. This will encompass the first full year of the scheme and will consider trends, measure variance from the previous local welfare offer, and assess the impacts of Covid-19 related funding streams.

The review will also consider the Support Fund model designed pre-pandemic, and will assess the changes to the model implemented because of Covid-19, the impact of these changes and will make recommendations on the future practice of the Support Fund Coordinator role.

In addition to the twelve-month review the scheme will be reviewed against the Greater Manchester Poverty Action Local Welfare Provision Toolkit to ensure that the scheme aligns with its principles and implements best practice. Support Funds are also included in this year's programme of audits by Corporate Support Services which will take place in September 2021.

From these reviews a series of recommendations about the scheme, and future funding models will be produced, the preferred options will be implemented through the second half of 2021/22

Social value, including corporate social responsibility

The Stockport Social Value Charter was signed off in 2019 and committed to establishing a strategic social value group "for promoting and driving forward social value throughout the organisation and the supply chain, to benefit the whole community".

This group is now established within the council and held its first meeting in May 2021. The group brings together representatives from across the council, VCSFE sector and STAR and seeks to develop an agreed set of social value priorities, narrative and enabling mechanisms, that will support the delivery of the One Stockport vision and ensure sustainability through value for money, maximising local assets and embracing environmentally friendly approaches.

Now, more than ever, it is crucial that we draw on the learning from the pandemic and continue to work with our communities and local businesses to ensure that we maximise opportunities for local wealth building.

Over the course of the next 6 months, the group will work across the whole system to identify priority cohorts for Stockport, highlight key performance indicators based on engagement with local communities and businesses and develop a boroughwide narrative that will ensure there is universal support for this important work.

Supporting the development of the Economic Plan

A Stockport Economic Plan will be developed during 2021 – with the aim to achieve the shared ambition for a thriving economy set out in the Borough Plan. Working with the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Regeneration, we will ensure that inclusive growth is a key element of the plan – with a particular focus on inequalities exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Routes into employment, adult education and apprenticeships including local access programme and jobs match

The Continuing Education Service will focus on post pandemic recovery of the adult education offer by restarting classroom-based provision as well as continuing with the benefits of remote learning, to build on and supplement the offer. The service will also be supporting the delivery of the Community Champions initiative.

Stockport Jobs Match will be a key mechanism for supporting people affected by the pandemic to find good quality jobs and skills training. This will also be a key initiative to get back to driving an increase in the take up of apprenticeship opportunities for the borough's residents. More widely we will continue to work with all Portfolios, and with partners, to ensure inclusive routes to employment such as for those residents with disabilities, caring responsibilities, mental health issue or are care leavers. This includes ensuring the development of our Economic Plan captures different experiences and needs in considerations relating to work and skills.

Performance Measures and Targets

PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	
			Actual	Actual	Actual	Target
Partnership Measures						
IN.16	Continuing Education – Classroom Based Learning Overall Pass Rate (number)	High	97.2% (1,444)	94.9% (1653)	96% (1,360)	97%
IN.17	Continuing Education – Classroom Based Learning Overall Retention Rate (number)	High	94.3% (1,457)	98% (1,686)	98% (1,389)	95%
IN.18	Continuing Education – Classroom Based Learning Overall Achievement Rate (number)	High	91.6% (1,444)	93% (1,653)	92% (1,304)	93%
IN.19	Continuing Education – Learners from the borough’s priority areas (number)	High	41.2%	41.8%	43%	45%

These indicators show the overall performance of the Continuing Education Service (no subcontractors) on its Adult Skills Budget funded provision. This is largely externally accredited qualifications in English and Maths.

Pass rate = proportion of learners who have stayed on a course to the end who achieve their learning aim.

Retention rate = of all people starting a course, how many stay to the end of the course.

Achievement rate = proportion of everyone starting a course who successfully achieves their learning aim

Please note data for Continuing Education Pass, Retention and Achievement Rates for 2019/2020 was based on the approved methodology for tutor-led assessment of final grade, so is not be directly comparable to previous years' data because of the change in methodology.

New measures in development to reflect the wider aims of this priority

VCSE partners providing local welfare support

Number of households benefiting from local welfare support

VCSE partners working collaboratively to support sustainable food offer

£ saved/ secured by local residents from money maximising events

Contextual measure of households with income below borough average

Priority 3: Embracing and celebrating equality, diversity and inclusion

Our vision is to be a fair and inclusive Stockport. We want to be a borough for everyone where diversity and inclusion is celebrated, and everyone has equity of opportunity. Working with our workforce, communities and partners to become a more inclusive organisation and borough; we will ensure that equality and inclusion are embedded in all our work as part of our approach to putting people at the heart of everything we do.

Whether it is access to employment opportunities, support to become financially independent or having access to new digital technologies, we need to ensure equality is at the heart of how we do things. How we spend our money and procure services is hugely important - investing in local people, community and voluntary organisations, business and places through embedding social value is a big part of how we can together address inequalities.

Delivered by:

Equality Objectives – to underpin the Borough Plan

We will capture the lived experiences of communities, particularly those where there is evidence of inequality, to inform a co-developed set of cross borough equality objectives with a robust action plan to address discrimination and inequality across Stockport. This will link to the commitment outlined earlier to develop one overarching partnership framework in relation to inequality.

Community VCFSE Equality Networks

We will continue to work with Sector3, the emerging equality forum and other equality networks or organisations to facilitate strong relationships and networks amongst different communities of identity and experience. Forging close partnerships across different organisations and sectors to support inclusive service design and delivery. Please see section above of VCFSE support and engagement for further information

Promoting and supporting inclusive employment practice

Promote and support inclusive employment practice to increase diversity, inclusivity and opportunities in Stockport's many workforces, sharing good practice and embedding a greater understanding of the lived experience of our local communities (such as: racism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia, islamophobia and sexism) into training and development

Developing and embedding approach to Equality Impact Assessments

As part of our ongoing work to minimise inequalities across the borough and within the workforce, we have been undertaking a review of our Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) process. This next phase will include examining different parts of the process, including training, guidance and procedures. By reviewing the process of EqIAs, we will ensure that equalities considerations are embedded across all decision-making and policy / service changes, and that equalities analysis is robust and considerate.

We will work towards embedding equalities considerations so that it is consistently understood to be a key part of decision making. Our equality impact assessments will be robust and informed by relevant data and through engaging our communities.

Performance Measures and Targets

This runs through delivery plans, such as:

- Borough Plan (existing) • Economic Plan (in development) • Children and Young People's Plan (existing) • Health and Care Plan (in development) • Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy (planned) • Digital Strategy (in development) • Local Plan (in development) • Safer Stockport Partnership Plan (planned refresh) • Active Communities Strategy (planned refresh) • Council People Plan (in draft) • One Workforce Plan • Other organisations' workforce or people plans and strategies

Priority 4: Working together across services to empower vibrant and safe neighbourhoods

We want to draw on the strength, passion and uniqueness of Stockport's communities to create the conditions for our vibrant and innovative communities to flourish. This includes looking at how council services work together with partners and with communities at a neighbourhood level. In addition, the Inclusive Neighbourhoods Portfolio will continue to work closely with partners and services through the Safer Stockport Partnership (SSP) to build a safer Stockport founded upon greater social and community cohesion.

Delivered by:

The ONE Neighbourhood partnership model – interface with communities and inclusion

Working with the Cabinet Member for Commissioning, Resources and Governance, as well as all Cabinet Members and partners will continue to develop our ONE Neighbourhood Partnership model to co-ordinate support for people and local places, empowering people to keep them independent and connected in their community. The Inclusive Neighbourhoods Portfolio will focus on the interface between the ONE Neighbourhood Partnership Model and our priorities relating to communities and inclusion.

We will work with communities to identify opportunities to develop more collaborative solutions to local priorities, building on the legacy of the pandemic response. We will review our approaches to collaborative and neighbourhood working to inform the development of the partnership models and skills and culture necessary to embed this model

Development and delivery of the Safer Stockport Partnership (SSP) Strategy

We will support the effective functioning of the Safer Stockport Partnership (SSP) and delivery of our partnership strategy for community safety. The SSP has five strategic priorities which are underpinned by a range of partnership delivery groups, strategies and targeted initiatives:

- protecting vulnerable people
- public safety and protection
- serious and organised crime
- transforming justice
- radicalisation and extremism

This year we will review our priorities and develop a new 3 year plan (2018-21) which will be a key delivery plan for the One Stockport Borough Plan, supporting delivery of the shared priority to be “A strong and supportive Stockport”. This plan is closely aligned with the GM “Standing Together” Police and Crime Plan, which will also be refreshed this year, and other Stockport strategies dealing with specific community safety issues.

The Inclusive Neighbourhoods Portfolio will work closely with partners and services through the SSP to ensure that Stockport communities are connected, safe and inclusive. Over the next 12 months this will specifically include:

- Continued focus on youth related anti-social behaviour, crime and violence – linked to the new statutory duty on local authorities and wider partners to collaborate to prevent and reduce serious violence, we will continue to engage and work with children and young people, including those that are involved in anti-social behaviour, organised crime, exploitation and other forms of risky behaviours, especially through our Detached Youth Work offer and safeguarding operations with Aspire.
- Tackling Domestic Abuse, protecting victims and their children – linked to new statutory duties on Local Authorities to provide support for people experiencing Domestic Abuse and associated MHCLG funding, we will support the delivery a new Domestic Abuse Strategy and work alongside a new Domestic Abuse Partnership Board to deliver this shared priority with multi-agency partners.
- Support wider partnership working in our communities to promote cohesion and reduce community tensions – linked to the focus on inequalities in GM and locally through the Borough Plan and in the work set out above.

This Portfolio will work alongside the Sustainable Stockport Portfolio, which has specific council operational responsibilities for anti-social behaviour, as well as the Adult Care and Health and Children, Family Services and Education portfolios which have specific council operational responsibilities for complex safeguarding (including domestic abuse) to deliver this priority.

Performance Measures and Targets

PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
			Actual	Actual	Actual	Target
Partnership Measures						
IN.5	Domestic abuse: re-victimisation	Low	30	30	N/A	Aim to minimise
IN.6	Victim-based crime per 1000 population	Low	69.0 (19,771)	67.15 (19,543)	N/A	Aim to minimise
IN.7	Violent crime per 1000 population	Low	22.13 (6,215)	21.5 (6,259)	N/A	Aim to minimise
IN.8	Thefts per 1000 population	Low	34.7 (10,106)	33.1 (9,626)	N/A	Aim to minimise
IN.9	Anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents recorded by Police per 1000 population	Low	21.8 (6,182)	21.2 (6,175)	N/A	Aim to minimise
IN.10	Public Order Offences - per 1,000 population (number)	Low	8.2 (2392)	7.9 (2,310)	N/A	Aim to minimise

Issues with GMP data supply following implementation of a new force IT system have meant that the police recorded crime data needed to report on these measures has been unavailable in 2020/21 and is still unavailable to report at this time. These measures remain the most relevant measures and will be updated as soon as the data becomes available to publicly report again.

Although data on incidents reported to and recorded by GMP has been unavailable, tactical data and intelligence is being shared by Divisional Police providing insight into local crime and disorder patterns to the SSP Board.

INCLUSIVE NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MONITORING



3.1 Total Resources

The resources available to the Portfolio for 2021/22 includes Cash Limit Budget and Approved Use of Reserves. These funding sources are described in further detail in Sections 3.2 – 3.6 of this report.

Cash Limits are approved before the financial year commences and each Portfolio is responsible for ensuring that their net expenditure does not exceed their cash limit for that year. Changes made to the cash limit are reported during the financial year, usually in the performance and resources reports (PPRR's).

3.2 Revenue Budget

2021/22 Budget Update

The Portfolio's cash limit for 2021/22 is £0.673m, and remains unchanged from the Q3 position, which in turn aligns to the PPRR 2020/21 annual report (i.e. no indicative adjustments or savings proposals have been applied to this Portfolio).

The cash-limit budgets, for the functions within the Portfolio for 2021/22, are as follows:

	Employee Expenditure	Non Employee Expenditure	Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Cash limit Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Adult Education	721	265	986	(1,230)	(244)
Community Grants including Stockport Local Fund	0	584	584	(500)	84
Inclusion Strategy	377	196	573	0	573
Stockport Support Funds	174	86	260	0	260
Inclusive Neighbourhoods Total	1,272	1,131	2,403	(1,730)	673

2021/22 Financial Overview

At this stage it is envisaged that the net cost of the Portfolio's services should be able to be contained from within the allocated cash limit. Some funding switching of schemes may occur if it is thought overall advantageous to the Council. For example, it is likely most of any grant awards will be channelled through the Contain Outbreak Management Funding scheme (COMF) rather than from the Stockport Local Fund earmarked reserve.

3.3 Earmarked Reserves

Most earmarked reserves are held at a corporate level and services produce a business case to draw down funds, which is approved through Corporate Leadership Team and Members. This strategic approach is designed to provide financial resilience for the council and to ensure that council reserves are used on an invest-to-save basis and to support council priorities. The exceptions to this are ring fenced reserves and the Directorate Flexibility Reserve.

The reserve commitments shown are subject to change as part of the council's Reserves Policy update that will be reported in September to the Corporate Resource Management and Governance Scrutiny Committee, and Cabinet Changes to the Reserve Commitments shown will be reported in the mid-year Portfolio Performance and Resources Report.

Reserve Category	Reserve Narration	To be used for	Approved £000
Corporate Reserves			
Strategic Priority	Transformation – Invest to Save	Stockport Local Fund	623
TOTAL			623

3.4 Savings

This Portfolio has not been asked to contribute to the savings programme in 2021/22.

3.5 Capital

The Portfolio does not currently have any schemes in the Capital Programme.

3.6 Allocated One-Off Resources

In addition to the funding reported above, Cabinet have agreed several positive investments as part of the 2021/22 Budget. The investments cover a range of priority areas identified by Cabinet to support the Borough's recovery and response to the pandemic in terms of support for businesses, communities and individuals. These investments replace the positive investments included in the 2020/21 Budget.

Investments which may include collaboration with this Portfolio include:

- Digital Inclusion and Financial Inclusion Services to Support Residents (£0.500m)
- Cultural Services to Support Our Residents (£0.050m)
- Libraries Open Plus (£0.300m)
- Health and Wellbeing Mental Health (£0.100m)
- Health and Wellbeing Public Health (£0.100m)
- Targeted Youth Support (£0.150m)

- Tackling Climate Change (£0.600m)
- Hopes Carr Memorial Park (£0.300m)

Community Support Supporting Recovery Investment – investment of £0.500m aligned to the COMF funding investment plans to provide further funding of the Stockport Local Fund to support community based projects aligned to the Council's Build Back Better recovery process. The additional funding will be used to continue and extend our work to support and develop a robust third sector in Stockport, this will continue through allocation of funds through Stockport Local Fund along with new initiatives developed in collaboration with our communities and third sector organisations.

GLOSSARY

Common acronyms used within the PPRA and likely to be referred to in the Portfolio Reports include the following;

ASB – Anti Social Behaviour

DEFRA – Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

EqIA – Equality Impact Assessment

GMCA – Greater Manchester Combined Authority

GMHSCP – Greater Manchester Health & Social Care Partnership

GMIWP – Greater Manchester Inclusion and Wellbeing Partnership

GMS – Greater Manchester Strategy

HAG – Humanitarian Aid Grant

IAG – Information, Advice and Guidance

PPRR – Portfolio Performance and Resources Report

SLAS – Stockport Local Assistance Scheme

SSP – Safer Stockport Partnership

VCFSE – Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise