

OVERVIEW OF THE UK GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (and Section 151 Officer)

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of the UK government's response to COVID-19 to date.
- 1.2 Significant outbreaks of disease are among the greatest risks faced by any society, threatening lives and causing significant disruption to public services and the economy. The scale and nature of the current COVID-19 pandemic and government's response is unprecedented in recent history.
- 1.3 This report is the first of a programme of work to be undertaken by the National Audit Office (NAO) to support Parliament in its scrutiny of the UK government's response to COVID-19. The report covers the main actions taken by the UK government in England, as well as the funding provided to support responses in the devolved administrations of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.
- 1.4 It does not cover the individual responses in the devolved administrations, or the separate responses implemented by local authorities.

2. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Audit Committee is asked to note the contents of the report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

National Audit Office – Investigation into government procurement during the covid-19 pandemic

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact John Pearsall on telephone number Tel: 0161 474 4033 or alternatively email john.pearsall@stockport.gov.uk