## **Supporting Statement**

Although Neighbourhood Watch has existed in the UK in various forms since 1982, it wasn't until 2017 that the Neighbourhood Watch Network was set up as a charitable institution. The structure of Neighbourhood Watch Network is such that it is divided into 54 divisions at County/Borough level which then break down into further smaller associations.

The Stockport Association forms one of the twelve areas that make up the Greater Manchester division and we have some 250 + local Neighbourhood Watch schemes which we look to support with information and advice. We assist with the creation of new schemes and currently provide contact through emails and Whats App.

We are in the process of establishing a comprehensive website which will be accessible by all local residents, not just the established NW schemes. It will have information on crime statistics, crime prevention and reporting incidents as well as relevant contacts and links and advice about joining or setting up your own Neighbourhood Watch scheme. We have the overall objective of building a safer, stronger and more connected community throughout Stockport.

We are working with the Greater Manchester Neighbourhood Watch committee and the other ten borough organisations as well as having regular liaison meetings with Greater Manchester Police and making contact with all the Stockport Metropolitan Borough Councillors. We would like to link up with the various "Mutual Aid" groups set up in response to the pandemic and make connection to the Safer Stockport Partnership which Neighbourhood Watch used to be involved with.