

## STOCKPORT COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET MEETING – SUMMARY SHEET

**Subject: RADICALLY DIGITAL STOCKPORT: DEVELOPING OUR STRATEGY**

**Report to: Cabinet Meeting**

**Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022**

**Report of: (a)**

Report of the Cabinet Member for Citizen Focus

**Key Decision: (b)**

Forward Plan ☒

General Exception ☐

Special Urgency ☐

(Mark with a Y  
if applicable)

#### **Summary:**

Over the past two years, the Covid-19 pandemic has only further emphasised the importance of digital, increasing the pace of digital change and increasing citizen expectations. Digital technologies has helped people to communicate, collaborate and solve problems in exciting and innovative ways. However, the pandemic has also exacerbated inequality and poverty, so we must ensure that we use the opportunities digital brings to benefit everyone.

Our response to the pandemic and our success to date shows we are well placed to both tackle the challenges and realise the potential that digital brings us. We are an award-winning digital Council<sup>0</sup> with the ambition to be a radically digital borough, working in partnership with other organisations in Stockport and beyond to improve lives.

This report outlines how we are developing our ambitions for the next phase of our digital journey, including an overview of our priorities for the year ahead and how we intend to approach develop an inclusive, robust and ambitious digital strategy.

#### **Comments/Views of the Cabinet Member: (c)**

We know that the world is changing at an ever-increasing pace, with accelerated technological change and the data-driven capabilities this enables, transforming our lives. As a council we need, and will be expected, to make the most of the possibilities digital brings us, changing how we operate, engaging with citizens and partners in new ways, facilitating the conditions for new emerging digital markets and delivering innovative services at least cost to the taxpayer. This strategy builds on the progress we have made since originally launching our Digital by Design programme and links together our cross-cutting ambitions for digital including digital care, economy and skills. We know that everyone's interactions with digital will be different and at the heart of our strategy is our commitment to be a 100% digital inclusive borough – ensuring that everyone can thrive in a digital age. This strategy will need to iterate and continue to develop in line with the pace of digital change.

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**Recommendation(s) of Cabinet Member: (d)**

Cabinet are asked to:

- Note the report and the updates provided within it;
- Comment upon the strategy pillars within section 3, 4 and appendix 1, including any feedback for consideration, and the planned next steps;

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**Relevant Scrutiny Committee** (if decision called in): **(e)**  
Corporate, Resource Management & Governance

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**Background Papers** (if report for publication): **(f)**

Contact person for accessing  
background papers and discussing the report

**Officer:** Holly Rae  
**Tel:** 0161 474 3014

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**'Urgent Business': (g)**

Yes/ **No** (Please circle)

**Certification** (if applicable)

This report should be considered as 'urgent business' and the decision exempted from 'call-in' for the following reason(s):

The written consent of Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer/ Borough Treasurer for the decision to be treated as 'urgent business' was obtained on /will be obtained before the decision is implemented.  
\_\_\_\_\_