

## STOCKPORT COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET- SUMMARY SHEET

**Subject:** Debenhams Redevelopment

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**Report to Cabinet**

**Date: 28 June 2022**

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**Report of: (a)** Cabinet Member for Economy & Regeneration

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**Key Decision: (b)** Y

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Forward Plan  General Exception  Special Urgency  (Mark with a Y if applicable)

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**Summary:**

This report sets out the Council's strategy for the vacant, former Debenhams building located on the A6 in Stockport Town Centre, and seeks approval for investment in the Council's preferred option for the building.

This follows a number of discussions at Town Centre Task Force which have looked at a variety of options for the building and covered in more detail in 2.5 below.

The redevelopment is proposed on the basis of initial investment being made to bring the building up to a standard that would enable one or more commercial uses to occupy in the former department store. The proposed uses have been considered in the context of current market demand and include repurposing of the large floor-plates available to provide space for potential occupiers.

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

Following the closure of Debenhams we have been working hard to find alternative viable uses for the building.

We want to breath some more life back into the building - which is on a prominent site in our town centre - and generate some interest and activity while we wait the outcome of the new Hospital bid.

The space isn't suitable as currently configured so the report sets out targeted investment to clear parts of the building to make it attractive for prospective tenants.

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

The Cabinet are recommended to;

- (1) Give approval to the funding for the preferred redevelopment option for the former Debenhams building as outlined in the above report and confidential appendices and
- (2) Delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive and the Director of Development & Regeneration in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy and Regeneration to;

- appoint a contractor and appropriate professional team as required to deliver the refurbishment works and execute any necessary letter of intent, pre-construction services agreement or other agreement, pending resolution of the final contract;
- agree the detailed initial investment mix for the building;
- agree the terms of occupational leases for the building;
- take such other steps as are appropriate and necessary to implement the strategy set out in this report

(3) Delegate authority to the Strategic Head of Service (Legal and Democratic Governance) to do such things as are necessary or incidental to implementation of the above recommendations.

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee** (if decision called in): **(e)**  
Economy & Regeneration

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

Contact person for accessing background papers and discussing the report

**Officer:** Robert Goulsbra  
**Tel:**

**'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.