

# Stockport Economic Plan

<b>Report To (Meeting):</b>	ONE Stockport Health and Care Locality Board		
<b>Report From (Board Lead)</b>	Michael Cullen - Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer), Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council		
<b>Report From (Author):</b>	Richard Mortimer - Head of Economy, Work & Skills, Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council		
<b>Date:</b>	30/05/2023	<b>Agenda Item No:</b>	9
<b>Previously Considered by:</b>	N/A		

<b>Purpose of the report:</b>			
To explore and discuss the link and interdependencies between the Stockport Economic Plan, education, employment and skills and the wider determinants of health.			
<b>Key points (Executive Summary):</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new Economic Plan for Stockport recognises the importance of people having good health and wellbeing for their own benefit and to be an effective and productive member of the workforce.</li> <li>There is also a recognition that a complex and nuanced interdependency exists between having access to good work and experiencing good health and wellbeing.</li> </ul>			
<b>Recommendation:</b>			
The Board are asked to:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note the content of the report and to discuss the contribution of the Economic Plan to improving how the wider determinants of health linked to education, employment and skills.</li> <li>Suggest any further linkages or joining up across work streams that may enhance this work further.</li> </ul>			
<b>Decision</b>		<b>Discuss/Direction</b>	<b>X</b>
		<b>Information/Assurance</b>	

<b>Aims (please indicate x)</b>		
Which integrated care aim(s) is / are supported by this report:	People are happier and healthier and inequalities are reduced	<b>X</b>
	There are safe, high-quality services which make best use of the Stockport pound	
	Everyone takes responsibility for their health with the right support	
	We support local social and economic development together	<b>X</b>

<b>Conflicts of Interests</b>	
Potential Conflicts of Interest:	N/A

<b>Risk and Assurance:</b>	
List all strategic and high level risks relevant to this paper	N/A

--	--

<b>Consultation and Engagement:</b>	
<b>Local People / Patient Engagement:</b>	During the creation of the Economic Plan, stakeholders in the workforce, employers, third sector and education and skills providers were engaged and consulted.
<b>Workforce Engagement:</b>	Stakeholder workshops and surveys were used to engage and consult workforce on the Economic Plan.

<b>Potential Implications:</b>							
<b>Financial Impact:</b> Please note - All reports with a financial implication require detail of the level of funding, funding stream and comments from Finance.	Non-Recurrent Expenditure	£NIL					
	Recurrent Expenditure (please state annual cost)	£NIL					
	Funding stream	Yes		No			
	Included in the s75 Pooled Budget						
	GM ICB (Stockport) delegated budget						
	Other, please specify						
<b>Finance comments:</b>	N/A						
<b>Performance Impact:</b>	N/A						
<b>Workforce Impact:</b>	N/A						
<b>Quality and Safety Impact:</b>	N/A						
<b>Compliance and/or Legal Impact:</b>	N/A						
<b>Equality and Diversity:</b>	General Statement:						
	Has an equality impact assessment been completed?	Yes	X	No		N/A	
	If Not Applicable please explain why						
<b>Environmental Impact:</b>	General Statement:						
	Has an environmental impact assessment been completed?	Yes	X	No		N/A	
	If Not Applicable please explain why						

# ONE Stockport Health and Care Locality Board 30/05/2023

## Economic Plan, Education, Employment and Skills link to the wider determinants of Health

### 1. Introduction

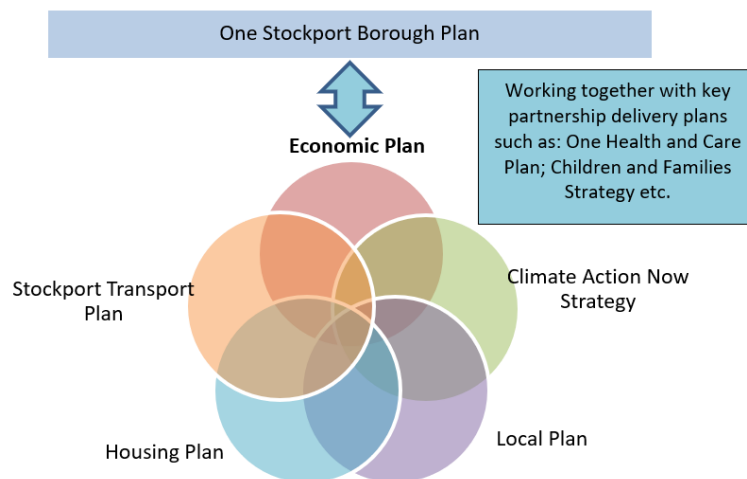
- 1.1 Education, employment, and skills are interconnected factors that significantly impact individuals' well-being and quality of life. Beyond their immediate effects on personal and professional development, these factors are closely linked to the wider determinants of health. Being healthy is also clearly important for being a productive, happy, and effective contributor to the workforce and the economic output in a local economy.
- 1.2 Education as a Foundation for Health: Education plays a fundamental role in shaping an individual's health outcomes. Higher levels of education are associated with improved health behaviours, increased access to healthcare services, and enhanced health literacy. Education equips individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary to make informed decisions about their health, leading to better overall health outcomes. Moreover, educational attainment is often linked to socioeconomic status, which has a profound influence on health and well-being.
- 1.3 Employment and Health: Employment not only provides financial stability but also impacts physical and mental health. Meaningful and secure employment fosters a sense of purpose, self-esteem, and social connectedness, all of which are vital for maintaining good health. On the contrary, unemployment or underemployment can lead to adverse health consequences such as increased stress, depression, and a higher risk of chronic diseases. Job quality, including factors like job security, working conditions, and fair wages, also significantly influence health outcomes.
- 1.4 Skills Development for Health and Employability: Skills development is closely tied to both education and employment. Acquiring and honing relevant skills through education and vocational training programs not only enhances employability but also promotes better health outcomes. Skills related to critical thinking, problem-solving, and adaptability are valuable not just for career advancement but also for personal well-being. Moreover, skill development programs can address health disparities by equipping individuals with the tools necessary to make healthy choices and manage their health effectively.
- 1.5 The Wider Determinants of Health: Education, employment, and skills are embedded within a broader context of determinants that influence health. Social and economic factors, such as income inequality, access to resources, and social support networks, impact education opportunities, employment prospects, and skill development initiatives. In turn, these factors can either

facilitate or hinder individuals' ability to attain good health. Other determinants, including housing conditions, neighbourhood safety, and environmental factors, further intersect with education and employment to shape overall health outcomes.

- 1.6 Policy Implications and Interventions: Recognising the interplay between education, employment, skills, and the wider determinants of health, policymakers and stakeholders can develop interventions to promote positive health outcomes. Investments in education, including early childhood education and lifelong learning opportunities, can empower individuals to lead healthier lives. Policies aimed at creating inclusive employment opportunities, supporting fair wages, and ensuring safe and healthy working conditions contribute to improved population health. Furthermore, efforts to reduce socioeconomic disparities and enhance social support systems can address the underlying determinants that affect education, employment, skills, and health.
- 1.7 Stockport recognises and accepts these principles and linkages between Education, Employment and Skills to the wider determinants of Health, and has several key strategic responses to them.

## **2. The Stockport Economic Plan**

- 2.1 The One Stockport Borough Plan places a thriving economy at the heart of our ambition for the future of Stockport and includes two key economic related priorities:
  - An enterprising and thriving Stockport
  - A skilled and confident Stockport
- 2.2 In order to take forward Stockport's ambition, reflecting the potential for the local economy around these priorities, and to contribute to other priorities, such as Fair and Inclusive, Climate Friendly and 'Digital Stockport', work has been undertaken in partnership with key stakeholders to develop an Economic Plan for Stockport.
- 2.3 As a supporting delivery plan to the One Stockport Borough Plan, the Stockport Economic Plan will play a vital role in setting out how the priorities of the Borough Plan will be achieved and will also inform the development of the Local Plan by identifying the key economic priorities for the borough. The Plan will also be an integral part of the Borough's collective recovery response to the Covid-19 pandemic and the economic challenges that has and continues to present. By its nature, the Plan will be a live, agile document and will be reviewed regularly to respond to the changing economic landscape. The Plan will be informed by and will inform a series of other delivery plans given the cross-cutting nature of economic issues.



2.4 Detailed information about the baseline data and information used to create the plan, along with copies of the full Economic Plan and Delivery Plan documents are available to view and download at

<https://www.onestockport.co.uk/economic-plan/>

2.5 The Economic Plan sets out several challenges around health and wellbeing issues and how these are a risk to growing a successful local economy:

- Impacts of COVID-19 have disproportionately impacted the borough's most disadvantaged residents. The number of residents claiming benefits has risen most rapidly in Stockport's most deprived areas.
- Disabilities and health inequalities are barriers to participation. Consultation identified wider barriers to economic participation which need to be addressed to create a more inclusive economy. These barriers are preventing employers from accessing a diverse workforce and filling key skills gaps as well as driving further consumer demand.
- Educational outcomes and aspirations inequality. Stockport's young people are less likely to continue to sustained education at higher levels and residents from disadvantaged areas are more likely to attend a poor-performing school.

2.6 The Plan also sets out what the Council will do to address the issues and barriers identified, including specifically for health and wellbeing:

- Tackle the wider barriers to economic participation to ensure all residents are empowered to be happy, healthy, and well. We will:
  - Promote and support inclusive employment practices: Public services in Stockport should be leading the way in employing people with disabilities and those in protected characteristic groups.
  - Support local businesses to address mental health challenges in the workplace to enable employees to be happy, healthy, and well at work, through the One Stockport initiative.

- Strengthen progression routes for young people into work by supporting careers advice with strong local employer engagement and workforce demand intelligence.
- Support existing schemes around ageing (e.g., GM Centre for Ageing Better).
- Ensure interface and alignment with key partnership strategies that are fundamental to breaking down barriers to employment. These areas are not within the direct responsibility of this plan but are important dependencies on ensuring economic success for people and our Borough. This includes:
  - Improving health and well-being of Stockport residents so that people are able to live healthy and independent lives – One Health and Care Plan.
  - Improving confidence and ability of people to remain active and well - Active Communities Strategy.
  - Ensuring that people have safe and appropriate housing – Housing Strategy.
  - Ensuring Stockport has the best education possible for all children and young people – Stockport Inclusion Strategy (developing).
  - Supporting early years - ensuring our children have the best start in life – Children and Young People Partnership Plan.
  - Providing cross-partnership action between public services to prioritise equality, diversity, and inclusion across organisations – through a review of equality objectives.
  - Tackle wider barriers to economic participation through the Greater Manchester Working Well Programmes (including the Work & Health Programme).
  - Promote membership of the GM Good Employment Charter and Real Living Wage Foundation to ensure good work, terms and conditions are provided to support the health and wellbeing of employees.

2.7 In addition to the Economic Plan, Stockport's Director for Education, Work and Skills is leading on the production of a new Post-16 Plan for Stockport. This plan will set out how young people, parents and carers will be supported to successfully access and navigate the range of positive choices available following on from year 11. This Plan will be produced by January 2024 and will further strengthen our local response to the issues set out in this paper.

### **3. Conclusion and recommendations**

3.1 Education, employment, and skills are vital components of individuals' lives, impacting not only their economic well-being but also their health outcomes. Recognising the interconnected nature of these factors with the wider determinants of health is crucial for developing holistic approaches to promote well-being. By addressing education inequalities, improving employment opportunities, and fostering skill development, societies can create healthier

environments and empower individuals to lead fulfilling lives with improved health outcomes.

3.2 Stockport's Economic Plan is well placed to mitigate and respond to the risks to health due to the complex interplay and interdependence of the wider determinants associated with education, work, and skills. The new Post-16 Plan for Stockport will also contribute to helping young people to become skilled, to access good work and to lead a happy and healthy life.

3.3 The ONE Stockport Health and Care Locality Board is recommended to:

- Note the content of the report and to discuss the contribution of the Economic Plan to improving how the wider determinants of health linked to education, employment, and skills.
- Suggest any further linkages or joining up across work streams that may enhance this work further.

For further information or support with the content of this report, please contact:

Richard Mortimer

Head of Economy, Work and Skills,

Stockport MBC

Email: [richard.mortimer@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:richard.mortimer@stockport.gov.uk) Tel. 07800 617932