

SOCIAL VALUE STATEMENT 2022-2023

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present and publish Stockport Council's annual Social Value Statement (2022-2023). The report also proposes areas of focus in relation to social value, for the forthcoming year.

2. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1 Social value is defined through the Public Services (Social Value) Act (2013) which requires all public sector organisations and their suppliers to look beyond the financial cost of a contract to consider how the services they commission and procure can improve the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of an area.

The Act states that the Authority must consider—

(a) how what is proposed to be procured might improve the **economic, social and environmental well-being** of the relevant area, and

(b) how, in conducting the process of procurement, it **might act with a view to securing that improvement**.

- 2.2 The legislation places a clear emphasis on **transparency** and is currently being amended through the parliamentary process, to provide for even greater transparency by October 2024. To enable local councils to outline key areas of focus, operational procedures, successes and resources available, the National Social Value Taskforce developed a Social Value Statement template document which should be used to communicate key messages and secure support from staff, partners, suppliers and other locally based organisations to help create social value benefits for the local community.
- 2.3 The Stockport Social Value statement sets out clearly how the local authority is delivering social value through the following components, defined by the National Social Value Taskforce:
- Approach and intentions in relation to social value
 - Key areas of focus
 - Internal engagement, communication and management of social value
 - Implementation approach for embedding social value
 - Internal support available to achieve targets and ambitions
 - Collaboration, external engagement and support available to partners that want to contribute to creating place based social value
 - Performance Management
 - Achievements and benefits realisation
 - Actions and next steps for delivery

- 2.4 It has become clear that, now more than ever, the need for social value is increasing, as public and private sectors continue to face unprecedented challenges in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, the building cost of living crisis and the increasing demand on services that this places.
- 2.5 Social Value Stockport has invested additional resources (1 member of staff @ SO1 FTE) into its social value work, to ensure that the opportunities that social value affords are maximised. The postholder has supported the development of both the social value statement and the accompanying action plan.

3. NEXT STEPS

- 3.1 The priorities for Social Value Stockport over the next 12 months are to:
 - 3.1.1 Review and refresh the Stockport Social Value Charter.
 - 3.1.2 Implement the Match My Project on-line brokerage portal.
 - 3.1.3 Deliver the social value training to ALL council commissioners by making it a mandatory requirement.
 - 3.1.4 Raise awareness of social value opportunities to all staff through the delivery of an internal communications programme.
 - 3.1.5 Complete year 2 of the Real Living Wage action plan.
 - 3.1.6 Develop the Greenhouse Gas emissions work.
 - 3.1.7 Work with the Social Value Portal to understand better the impact of social value commitments on our communities.
 - 3.1.8 Develop a social value infrastructure for Stockport that captures all of the work and makes the links across all the different sectors-including maximising opportunities that sit within GM.
 - 3.1.9 Undertake data analysis to understand what the specific needs are in each of our local neighbourhoods.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

- 4.1 Consider the document and agree that the Social Value Statement should be published on the Council's internet site, as a means of demonstrating transparency in our spend.
- 4.2 Agree to the priority areas of focus for the next 12 months, as highlighted in section 3.1 (above).

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1 Social Value Statement

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact Laura Mercer by email: laura.mercer@stockport.gov.uk or Nick.leslie@stockport.gov.uk