STOCKPORT SOCIAL VALUE ANNUAL STATEMENT 2022-2023

One Stockport - All together as one.

One heart, one home, one future.

1. Approach and Intentions in Relation to Social Value

Stockport's Social Value Charter was initially ratified in 2019 and states that "Social Value is Everyone's Business", it is due to be refreshed in 2023, to reflect new and emerging issues and priorities. The Charter describes Stockport Council's commitment to delivering a Social Value vision where the Council, businesses, third sector partners and voluntary groups **work** *together* for the benefit of Stockport. The Charter supports both the priorities set out in the One Stockport borough plan:



and also complements the priorities set out in our Stockport Council Plan (2023-2024):



Social Value has the potential to release significant amounts of resources for community benefit and as such encourages smarter spending to address social, economic and environmental issues. The Council and its partners are committed to delivering Social Value

within the borough working collaboratively with suppliers, Voluntary, Community, Faith, and Social Enterprise sector (VCSFE), our anchor institutions and local businesses. By focusing efforts to develop 'One Stockport' further, the ambition is to create a sustainable future for the residents of Stockport.

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This Charter is Stockport's commitment to:

- 1. Delivering the priorities in the **One Stockport Borough Plan**
- 2. Delivering the priorities in the **Stockport Council Plan**
- 3. Delivering social value through excellent procurement practice

In addition to Stockport's local work, a number of projects have been developed within Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), which also draw on the opportunities afforded by Social Value. These include reports which highlight learning from COVID-19, both the recovery work and wider opportunities for inclusive growth, the Marmot report, the Inequalities Commission report, the Greater Manchester Good Employment Charter, the Greater Manchester Social Value Charter, and the Greater Manchester VCFSE Accord. All of these documents are inextricably linked and whilst they provide an excellent knowledge base and foundation, it is important that Stockport continues to build its own response to Social Value by understanding, engaging and listening to local people, businesses and organisations-and through this work, provide a consistent approach and positive outcomes.

Already, Stockport is accredited as a Real Living Wage employer and is also a member of the Greater Manchester Good Employment Charter. This means that ALL our council employees, and those who support the council's functions through the delivery of externally contracted services, receive at least the real living wage and have good working terms and conditions.

2. Key Areas of Focus

The Social Value work in Stockport is driven by a number of key documents, the main being the One Stockport Borough Plan and the commitment to *"Come together as One to Support Local Businesses, Connect our Communities and Promote Health and Wellbeing".*

Our approach to Social Value responds to this commitment and supports the strategies and action plans which underpin them, such as the Climate Action Now (CAN) Strategy, the One Health and Care Plan, the VCSFE Strategy and the Economic Plan.

In order to maximise the social value benefits for our vulnerable Stockport residents and communities, the following priority cohorts and themes were agreed by the Corporate, Resource Management and Governance (CRMG) Scrutiny Committee, in November 2021.

COHORTS

- Care leavers and looked after children
- Ex-offenders
- Long term unemployed
- Preparing for adulthood (Young adults with SEND aged16-25)
- Veterans

THEMES

- Cost of living support
- Buying local
- Loneliness and social isolation

- Warm spaces
- Training opportunities and routes into local employment e.g. target market gaps social care, construction
- Capacity building: internal (commissioning, contract monitoring, assessing the impact) and external (building relationships, connecting Social Value ask with the local need)
- Digital inclusion
- Stockport CAN Strategy

These priorities were highlighted during extensive engagement in the development of the following key documents:

- Stockport Borough Plan
- Stockport Social Value Charter
- Stockport Climate Action Now Strategy
- Local plan
- Inequalities framework
- One Health and Care Plan (including covid recovery plans)
- Existing and new contracts
- Memorandum of Understanding with our Associate Bodies including Stockport Homes, TLC and Life Leisure
- Volunteering Strategy
- One Stockport Local Fund
- Schools Sufficiency Strategy
- Joint Strategic needs Assessment (JSNA)

Engagement with a number of key stakeholders was also undertaken, in order to test the priority cohorts and themes including:

- VCFSE forum
- Sector 3
- Parents And Carers Together Stockport (PACTS)
- Stockport Borough Plan and One Health and Care Plan engagement feedback and Equality Impact Assessment
- Social Value Steering Group
- Strategic Commissioning Group
- Inequalities bitesize session
- Stockport's Social Value Round Table
- Stockport Homes
- Climate Action Now summit (2021)
- SMBC Strategic Management Group
- Meetings with a number of NHS colleagues and patient forums

Areas of improvement we have already committed to include:

- A pledge to become operationally net zero by 2030 and to encourage the supply chain to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions via the procurement process.
- Questions in tender documentation evaluating whether suppliers have a carbon reduction plan and if they currently measure their greenhouse gas emissions.
- A commitment to drive Social Value in the supply chain through ALL our procurement of goods and services.
- Extend the expectation of becoming a Real Living Wage employer to our supply chain.
- Encourage our suppliers to sign up to Greater Manchester's Good Employment Charter.

- Create employment opportunities for those who are disadvantaged including for Care Leavers and Armed Forces veterans.
- Work with the VCFSE sector to create opportunities and value, for the communities across the borough, with the introduction of an on line brokerage portal.

To ensure that these priority areas remain relevant and meaningful to the residents and communities of Stockport, they are reviewed on a regular basis.

3. Internal Engagement, Communication and Management of Social Value

Social Value Governance Arrangements

Social Value cuts across all areas of the Council's work at all levels. There are a number of working groups supporting the delivery of Social Value, strategic groups setting direction, tactical groups supporting and maximising the benefits of Social Value from providers, and recipients providing feedback on impact.

There are Social Value performance indicators on the Council's Performance Policy and Reform Agreements (PPRA) and quarterly reporting through the Performance, Policy and Reform Reports (PPRR).



The indicators are generated from cross-Council data analysis; reporting up through the governance chain to the Corporate, Resource Management and Governance Scrutiny Committee.

Social value is communicated, co-ordinated and managed internally within the organisation via the following governance arrangements:

- There is a lead member accountable for Social Value and the work is scrutinised through the Corporate, Resource Management and Governance Scrutiny Committee (CRMG Scrutiny Committee). This ensures there is public accountability and transparency. In addition to this, there is elected member representation on the social value round table, which is one of the mechanisms by which the views of the community, VCSFE sector and local businesses are fed in.
- Sitting underneath the CRMG Scrutiny Committee is a structure which ensures that strategic leads, senior managers, commissioners and contract managers are involved, ensuring the process is aligned to all council activity and streamlined.

- STAR is the Council's strategic procurement partner. Through the STAR Board and STAR Joint Committee there is a robust governance and strategic decision making body for delivery and development of Social Value. The vision and strategic support is there to support further development and improvement. The Stockport Corporate Leadership Team is represented at both the STAR Board and STAR Joint Committee.
- The Council's Strategic Commissioning Group has been established to ensure joined up planning and commissioning across categories of spend in the council. The Group will ensure the Council complies with procurement regulations as a public body and adopts best practice regarding commissioning and contract monitoring, ensuring value for money.
- The Social Value Steering Group contains representatives of all Directorates from across the council. They have developed an agreed set of Social Value priorities, cohorts, themes and enabling mechanisms that will support the delivery of the One Stockport vision and ensure sustainability through value for money.
- Category Management Teams ensure value for money from our categories of spend which relate directly to the Directorate portfolios. Lead professionals from Finance, STAR and the Directorate identify areas where we can improve practice, increase value-for money and achieve added value from existing contracts.
- The Social Value Round Table has members from across Stockport's public, private and voluntary sector organisations. This ensures a greater coordination of our approach to social value and gives direction on the real 'needs' from the local community, businesses and anchor institutions.
- Social value is also referenced in a number of council documents, either directly or indirectly through the nature of the document in question, for example the climate action now strategy.

Social Value is included in Stockport's policies, practices and strategies:

- Social Value Charter
- One Stockport Borough Plan
- <u>Council Plan</u>
- <u>Climate Action Now Strategy</u>
- <u>Stockport TOMs</u>
- Stockport One Health and Care Plan and associated Performance, Improvement and Assurance Framework
- Bidder Engagement Toolkit
- Procurement documentation and forms

Social Value Training is available to ensure all commissioners and contract managers are working towards both established standards shared priorities.

There is a dedicated category management approach to procurement which includes regular updates and actions at team meetings and department meetings. This process ensures that the approach to social value is streamlined across the organisation and also includes other elements such as opportunities around value for money (spending less, well, wisely and fairly), collaboration and our Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) targets.

4. Implementation Approach for Embedding Social Value

- Social value is discussed at all stages in the procurement process, including the identification of need, commissioning, procurement and contract management for all areas (goods, works and services)
- Social value is included in the approval process for all contracts awarded. Social value is
 captured in all procurement activity over £25k. The National, Themes, Outcomes and
 Measure Framework (TOMs) / Social Value Portal is used to capture and contract manage
 Social Value in all activity over £50k, covering the vast majority of all third party spend.
- Reasons for not including Social Value as a consideration are clearly documented and scrutinised by management. Prior to undertaking a procurement exercise, Social Value must be included before the Procurement Initiation Document (PID) is signed off. Officers will not progress any procurement without this stage being satisfied, with very few exceptions, requiring senior officer sign off.
- Social Value is always included as a weighted criterion of a minimum of 15 20% alongside price and quality.
- Where the Council maintains or supports a wholly owned company or joint venture opportunities there is an expectation that this arrangement continues to follow the Council's approach to maximise Social Value. This ensures consistency with the surrounding market and feeds into the priorities identified and delivered through the Council services.
- Social Value is considered as part of the contract management process through our contract management portal (Intend) alongside the Social Value Portal. More recently, funding for the Match My Project on line brokerage portal has been agreed, which will provide us with the technical capability to identify and meet community and priority cohort "asks".
- Social Value training for commissioners and contract managers provides a clear instruction to ensure that the Social Value measures are developed and monitored as robustly as all other performance measures within each contract.
- The Social Value Portal provides an efficient way in which to measure Social Value in terms of financial return. The Social Value Portal monitors Social Value outcomes secured, against delivered during the contract. To ensure delivery is focussed on impact the TOMs have been mapped to the Stockport Council corporate priorities.

Alongside this we also collect case studies, which demonstrate how Social Value is making a real difference to the communities and residents of Stockport:

- Wilmott Dixon have, along with their supply chain, worked hard to provide lasting benefits for the people in Stockport. Since the project started, they have created 53 new jobs, delivered 97 weeks of training, created 11 work experience placements, and opened and delivered their first building lives academy for 10 local young people and care leavers. Throughout the project, Wilmott Dixon have ensured this is a project built for local people by local people (over 70% of the project team live within 20miles) and have invested 56% of the project spend with local businesses (within 20 miles).
- Overbury worked with their suppliers and subcontractors to forge a lasting relationship with S-REP and provided in total 687 volunteer hours and £39,400.53 of materials to fully refurbish the centre. S-Rep work hard to bring marginalised communities together and this project will make a real difference to the vulnerable people that come to The Space for support - boosting morale, confidence, and aspirations.
- George Cox are involved in several projects across the borough during their work on the town centre redevelopment and cycling routes. They cleared a 40,000m² plot of urban wasteland and created a community woodland by planting 7,500 trees. They got residents and children from two local schools to join in, hosting engagement days which were

thoroughly enjoyed. As demonstrated from a thank you letter from one school who took part "On behalf of our Headteacher and the school, thank you for two fabulous mornings of tree planting. All of the children and teachers thoroughly enjoyed getting their hands dirty, planting trees...The area isn't too far from our school, so I am sure many of the children will watch the trees grow for many years to come".

- Hopkins and Tarmac provided dropped curb crossings for wheelchair users and completed resurfacing works.
- Westfield minibuses have launched their unique sensory minibus. The exterior is designed by a local school student and the initiative was developed with input from the community. The project provides schools, nursing homes, children's centres and community groups across Stockport & Manchester the opportunity to access, enjoy and gain real benefit from sensory resources and facilities. This helps remove the regional and financial and often involved in accessing services in fixed places.

5. Proposed procurement changes to support supply chain decarbonisation

Social value is one of the ways in which we can ensure that businesses working in Stockport contribute to our corporate, and global, priorities. Procuring environmentally-responsible businesses means reducing the council's own greenhouse gas emissions as well as making progress towards our target for Stockport to become carbon neutral by 2038.

A new policy is proposed to introduce to our procurement procedures a mandatory position on greenhouse gas (GHG) reporting and carbon reduction plans by 2024. This would require potential suppliers to the council to provide evidence of a carbon reduction plan that shows adherence to net zero GHG emissions by 2050, in line with the national legal target, and must include measured GHG emissions of their organisation. This follows similar changes to procurement introduced by UK Government in 2021 and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority in 2022.

Implementing this policy will take work to communicate our expectations to current and future suppliers. Education and peer learning will form a key part of the new proposals, and we aim for support to be provided to both existing contractors and future suppliers. Our approach will see collaboration with other anchor institutions to encourage climate learning and action. Routes of support include:

- The Stockport Climate Action Business Forum, a network for Stockport-based businesses whose quarterly meetings highlight support for businesses looking to reduce their carbon footprint while also promoting green growth opportunities. These provide opportunities for peer learning which we expect will be of particular importance to SMEs.
- New climate change training for SMEs, developed jointly by the CAN team, Manchester Metropolitan University and local businesses. A key outcome for businesses taking part in the course will be the creation and development of a sustainability action plan, which could serve as the basis for a carbon reduction plan that would meet the requirements of the new proposed policy.
- Bee Net Zero, a new partnership that aims to bring together advice, resources and support available to businesses in Greater Manchester.
- The Growth Company, a provider of support for businesses designed to accelerate the net zero ambition.
- Signposting existing suppliers to sources of information that will help them to meet new requirements, including businesses that need information or help in getting started on their net zero journeys.

Disseminating information about the new policy to budget holders, category and contract managers and others involved with procurement procedures, to ensure that these members of staff are equipped with the knowledge to support suppliers through these changes and can factor in consideration of proposals to any future contracts out to tender.

6. Internal support available to achieve targets and ambitions

We are committed to supporting our staff to contribute to and succeed in delivering the organisation's Social Value ambitions:

- Staff are provided with access to training on Social Value and in particular a training package has been developed which looks specifically at Social Value for commissioners and contract managers. This not only considers how to monitor and measure success, but also explains the process by which a commissioner should work with a provider to establish Social Value targets, at both the specification design (during market engagement conversations) and at the outset of the contractual arrangement. This ensures clarity of purpose from the outset.
- The National TOMs are used to provide a standardised approach for staff to assess Social Value across the organisation. Stockport has agreed to focus on those TOMs which specifically relate to its priority cohorts and themes, which gives an additional element of clarity in terms of commitment, maximising the potential of Social Value and measuring performance.
- Detailed guidance documents are available to staff to support in their learning and development. All of the following are on-line resources, complemented by regular training and support.
 - social value toolkit
 - commissioning tookit
 - process maps
 - o procurement document templates, contract clauses etc.
 - o dedicated STAR category managers to support the procurement process
- We have invested (and continue to invest) in quality staff development. We have 4 Stockport Council employees who are Level 4 CIPS qualified (Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply) and two others who are working towards their qualification.
- Technology is in place to provide easy access to data and help staff manage and report on the delivery of Social Value through the Intend portal.
- Key policy documents and templates direct staff, who may require support or advice in relation to social value, to key contacts within STAR and the Council.
- The Social Value Portal provides two training sessions a month, dedicated to supplier support to ensure they have the skills and knowledge to correctly evidence outcomes achieved.
- The Social Value Portal provide monthly training to Council Contract Managers to ensure they have the skills and capability to manage delivery of outcomes on the Social Value Portal.

STAR have also developed the **12 Steps to Social Value**, which make it clear that Social Value is more than a procurement responsibility, and rather a whole organisation approach which delivers to the corporate objectives.



7. Collaboration, external engagement and support available to partners that want to contribute to creating place based Social Value

Collaboration around social value is delivered both at a Greater Manchester wide and local level.

Greater Manchester

There is now a Greater Manchester Social Value forum, at which Stockport is represented. This ensures any opportunities that are available at a Greater Manchester Level are maximised within Stockport.

One of our key ambitions is to deliver greater social value to our population and to develop NHS and our constituent organisations as anchor institutions.

Anchor institutions are large public sector organisations which are rooted in place and connected to their communities, such as universities, local authorities, and hospitals. They can be defined as:

- •Having an important presence in a place, usually through a combination of being largescale employers, the largest purchasers of goods and services in the locality, controlling large areas of land and/or having relatively fixed assets.
- •Are tied to a particular place by their mission, histories, physical assets and local relationships).

The Health Foundation outlined five Social Value roles for anchor institutions from the perspective of an:

- •Employer
- •Purchaser and Commissioner for social value
- •Land and Capital asset holder
- •Leader for environment sustainability
- •Partner across a place

Stockport continues to work with Greater Manchester partners and its constituent organisations within Stockport to ensure social value opportunities are maximised.

Local

Alongside our internal governance arrangements, Social Value is beginning to be discussed at our local partnership forums including the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Locality Board, where social value updates are scheduled.

We have already established several local partnerships which support our ambitions around social value. The Communities and Inclusion Service work closely with our VCFSE Infrastructure organisation, Sector 3, to connect contractors who have made a social value commitment, with local VCFSE organisations who can benefit from this kind of support. In particular, our Community Investment Team, who manage One Stockport Local Fund, are already instrumental in matching social value and corporate social responsibility offers, with local charitable organisations.

We see the **Community Investment Team** as a pivotal component of the more formal processes which will be established in order to maximise the impact of the implementation of Match My Project. This includes:

- Shaping our social value ask
- Connecting with the local VCFSE sector and promoting the benefits of registering with a digital social value tool
- Ensuring that best value is achieved for One Stockport Local Grant recipients by matching them with in kind support as an alternative to grant funding
- Organising social value events to enhance the value of digital platforms
- Monitoring and reporting on social value activity in order to measure progress to achieving the priorities outlined in our VCFSE Strategy, in particular the Investment priority, of which social value is a key component

Match My Project is a digital, cloud-based social value brokerage system – matching up real needs in the community with businesses looking to set an example by delivering impactful social value that makes a difference to the local area and its residents. Stockport is adopting this platform to encourage collaboration and resilience across sectors and increase community spirit as part of a place-based and values-driven initiative. Match My Project allows businesses to partner with community groups that have a need for resources the supplier can provide. The requests (monetary donation, volunteer hours, targeted activity or specific works/materials) are posted online, and suppliers will be asked to complete projects through the platform to complete the social value requirement of their contracts with the council. The platform can also be used by local businesses looking to fulfil CSR obligations. The platform gathers insightful, qualitative data from both the community group and the business to demonstrate the difference projects can make to Stockport, its residents, and communities.

The **Stockport Round Table** is a partnership network event which takes place termly in Stockport. It is chaired by the former Mayor of Stockport who is passionate about Social Value and making sure it reaches every sector in Stockport. It comprises of VCSFE, private businesses based in the Borough, faith sector, anchor institutions (such as the local authority, Greater Manchester Police, NHS and Stockport College) and local elected members. Through this ongoing communication and cross sector working Social Value connections are made collaboratively to reduce the inequalities in Stockport.

Examples of connections made at the Round Table:

- Dial Park Primary School working with 5 other primary schools in deprived areas in Stockport and the faith sector to ensure the children are digitally connected and to ensure children in those schools have their own bed
- Renewal Northwest are collaborating with Pure Innovations to provide work experience for clients with SEND.
- Stockport County working with GMP promoting healthy lifestyles and anti-social behaviour by putting on free events throughout the summer to encourage children to get more active

• S-Rep are supporting the food network in Stockport to provide food that is culturally appropriate. Also holding discussions with the community supporting budgeting, tips and strategies to navigate through the cost of living crisis and loneliness and Isolation

7. Planning and Performance Management

The Social Value Maturity Index is completed by the social value steering group on an annual basis. This helps to inform our strategic growth priority areas for the forthcoming year. The index is in the form of a self-assessment and relies on input from the membership of the steering group, to ensure there is a cross cutting view in terms of direction of travel.

The audit provides a consistent structure against which to plan the social value work and comprises a self-assessment against the following strategic areas:

- Policy & Scope
- Internal Management
- Measurement: Themes, Outcomes and Measures
- Commissioning
- Procurement
- Market Engagement and Partnerships
- Contract Management
- Cross Sector Collaboration
- Reporting
- Governance and Accountability

To support this work, there is ongoing engagement with our Stockport partners, throughout the course of the year, which also helps to inform our planning. The action plan directly informs the social value targets for across the organisation and the whole borough. This engagement will be further developed over the course of the next year.

- Social value is measured in both financial and non-financial terms using the National TOMs Framework.
- Commitments made by suppliers are reported on and monitored during the delivery of contracts.
- Social Value delivery is tracked at contract level, department level, organisational level and will become a key feature of Directorate Category Management Plans.
- Evidence of Social Value delivery is provided by suppliers and reviewed to ensure benefits are realised.

8. Achievements and benefits realisation

The Social Value Portal records all the social value benefits that are realised through contracts that have a total value of over £50k. So far since the portal was launched in 2019:-

| Account Headlines Total Social & Local Economic Value includes Projects in Delivery Phase only. Click values to Copy to Clipboard. | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|
| delivered social & local economic value £25,768,467 | % commitments delivered 57.84% | E143,999,792 |
| committed social & local economic value • £44,548,267 | LIVE PROJECTS © 137 | % social & local economic value add 17.89% |
| | CLOSED/DEMO PROJECTS | |

Over the last financial year 2022/23, 43 new contracts have been added to the Social Value Portal. This equates to £14.2m social value commitment. £2.2m has already been delivered from these 43 contracts. The majority of the contract end dates ranging from 2023 – 2027, and so the remaining secured social value will be monitored and delivered over the remaining life of the contracts.

From the £14.2m committed in 2022/23, Stockport has seen the following benefits:

Employment

- 133 jobs or full time equivalent either retained or hired on contracts
- 503 weeks of apprenticeships working on contracts
- 178 weeks of apprenticeships working on contracts for disadvantaged people
- 100 hours of dedicated support to young people trying to obtain work
- 295 weeks of meaningful work placements

<u>Growth</u>

- £55k spent in the local supply chains with the VCSE sectors
- 300 hours of expert staffing advice provided to VCSEs and SMEs
- £1,200 worth of equipment or resources donated to VCSEs
- 1,160 hours donated to support VCSEs
- £3.9m spent with the local supply chain
- £11k spent with local MSMEs
- 9,278 hours commitment to work practices that improve wellbeing
- 910 hours supporting growth of responsible businesses; and equality, diversity and inclusion training for staff and supply chains

<u>Social</u>

- £14k invested in reducing crime, includes staffing time
- £1,000 invested on initiatives to tackle homelessness
- £783k to help vulnerable people live independently
- £1.3m on creating healthier communities
- £121k donations or in kind contributions to local community projects
- 5100 hours of volunteering time to local community projects
- £30k support to local communities to help them draw up their own community charter / stakeholder plans

Environmental

- 298k of reduced car miles on projects
- 1980 low or no emission staff vehicles used on projects
- 655 hours of time dedicated to the creation or management of green infrastructure

The main focus for the next twelve months is to monitor social value delivery closely and ensure the social value portal is developed to allow better corporate reporting tailored specifically to Stockport Council

9. Actions and next steps for delivery

A social value action plan has been developed by the Social Value Steering Group and is monitored at the Strategic Commissioning Group. The plan captures activity across the whole of the Council, including the wider partnership activity and considers input from each directorate. Alongside the quarterly monitoring updates, this annual social value statement is issued to the Corporate, Resource Management and Governance Scrutiny Committee, which is in the public domain.

The priorities for Social Value Stockport over the next 12 months are to:

- Review and refresh the Stockport Social Value Charter.
- Implement the Match My Project on-line brokerage portal.
- Deliver the social value training to ALL council commissioners by making it a mandatory requirement.
- Raise awareness of social value opportunities to all staff through the delivery of an internal communications programme.
- Complete year 2 of the Real Living Wage action plan.
- Develop the Greenhouse Gas emissions work.
- Work with the Social Value Portal to understand better the impact of social value commitments on our communities.
- 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.
- Undertake data analysis to understand what the specific needs are in each of our local neighbourhoods.