

STOCKPORT COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE REPORT – SUMMARY SHEET

Subject: Stockport Town Centre Residential Design Guide

Report to: Stockport Central Area Committee

Date: 7th March 2024

Report of: *Assistant Director, Place Making and Planning*

Key Decision: **N**

Forward Plan General Exception Special Urgency (Tick box)

Summary:

Stockport Town Centre continues to change. At the heart of this transformation are ambitious plans to increase and enhance the town centre residential offer. However, to ensure high-quality and sustainable residential growth takes place, we must clearly outline our expectations. As such, the Stockport Town Centre Residential Design Guide sets out the council's design expectations for this area of the borough.

It is intended to be used primarily by developers and council officers/members during the development management process. Developers will be expected to use the guidance to inform the design of their schemes, whilst officers/members will use it as a decision-making tool and to ensure high-quality design. The design guide can also be used when preparing and reviewing both strategic and detailed masterplanning work within the town centre (such as at Stockport 8).

The document will be published as a technical guide rather than a formal Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). We consider that progressing it as guidance would allow us to apply greater flexibility during the development management process. The guidance would still act as a useful tool to aid discussions; however, it wouldn't be as prescriptive as an SPD, but would nevertheless have weight in the development management process.

We intend to involve the local community through a consultation on the document prior to its adoption. We intend to go out to consultation on this in May 2024 for a 4-week minimum period (maximum 6 weeks). Subject to comments received as part of the consultation, we are intending to adopt the final draft in Summer 2024.

Recommendation(s):

The area committee are requested to comment on the consultation Design Guide.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee (if decision called in): Economy, Regeneration and Climate Change Scrutiny

Background Papers (if report for publication):

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment: Screening Assessment
Equality Impact Assessment

Contact person for accessing
background papers and discussing the report

Officer: Hannah Mitchell
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'Urgent Business': (f)

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/Corporate Director for Corporate and Support Services for the decision to be treated as 'urgent business' was obtained on _____ /will be obtained before the decision is implemented.
