

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>CABINET</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>12 March 2024</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources</b>
<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>ONE STOCKPORT, ONE FUTURE</b>

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 In Stockport we have big ambitions for our borough. Our vision is for Stockport to be one of the best places to live a happy, healthy life, and we are committed to working together with our partners to make sure we are creating opportunities for everyone across our borough.
- 1.2 One Stockport, One Future is a call to action for the council and our partners to do even more around the ‘five big things’ we consider will act as long-term catalysts for change in our borough over the next 15 years:
1. Good jobs and homes
  2. The best place to grow up
  3. Best health and care
  4. Thriving neighbourhoods
  5. Clean, green transport
- 1.3 Our ‘Five Big Things’ do not cover all our activity. They are the things that we believe, if achieved, will have an amplifying effect across many other areas, unlocking the full potential of our Borough Plan and making Stockport stand out as one of the best places in the country to live a happy and healthy life.
- 1.4 Three key crossing cutting ambitions will run through each of the ‘five big things’ -
- Fairness and inclusion – enabling everyone in Stockport to live a happy and healthy life
  - Environmental sustainability – embracing the transition to net zero
  - Economic resilience – creating an inclusive economy which powers our shared prosperity
- 1.5 This report is accompanied by a presentation.
- The context for the development of One Stockport, One Future.
  - The purpose of One Stockport, One Future
  - What One Future will mean for Stockport by 2040.
  - The outcome of engagement with partners carried out as part of the development of One Stockport, One Future

## 2. The context for the development of One Stockport, One Future

- 2.1 Our One Stockport Borough Plan was launched in March 2021. The plan was developed during the pandemic and sets out our vision for Stockport for 2030. It is a

shared plan, developed in partnership with organisations across Stockport, and shaped by the voices of our communities and residents.

- 2.2 We heard that people want to focus on a hopeful and ambitious future and keep the strong partnership working and relationships that emerged during the pandemic. People said they felt closer to their communities and that issues such as inclusivity, equality and equity, skills and employment as well as tackling the climate crisis are very important.
- 2.3 The One Stockport Borough Plan is shaped around three core pillars to create One Stockport for everyone - One Heart, One Home, One Future. These are underpinned by nine shared priorities and partnership delivery plans to ensure we deliver.
- 2.4 The One Stockport Borough Plan represents a significant accomplishment for the council and our partners, and we are well on the way to delivering remarkable things together as a Borough. Over recent years, we have made considerable progress, from delivering ambitious regeneration schemes to supporting our communities through our nationally recognised Stockport Family and beyond. This is progress that is having a big impact, but we are not complacent, and we need to go further.
- 2.5 We know that times are hard for many people, and we need to rise to the challenges facing our communities - from persistent issues such as housing demand and inequality to the changing role of town centres and the challenges of decarbonisation. Also, like many councils and public sector organisations across the country, we face significant financial challenges as a result of rising demand alongside reduced funding and increasing costs.
- 2.6 During these difficult times it is more important than ever that we keep moving forward and work in partnership to assert our role in shaping a positive future for the borough. We recognise the need to think long term and galvanise the council and our partners around a shared ambition to make Stockport one of the best places to live a happy and healthy life.

### **3. One Stockport, One Future**

- 3.1 Over the past year the council has been busy working with our partners to develop the next phase of our Borough Plan – One Stockport, One Future.
- 3.2 One Stockport, One Future is a call to action for the council and our partners to do even more around the 'Five Big Things' we consider will act as long-term catalysts for change in our borough over the next 15 years.
- 3.3 This work is intentionally future focussed. It provides us with a long-term roadmap that will help to foster a sustained focus on key priorities that are not deliverable through business-as-usual planning timeframes. By taking a long-term view, we work encourages proactive strategic thinking and foresight – considering shifting demographics, making plans for changing requirements and further developing our resilience in the face of uncertainty.
- 3.4 The overarching goal of this work is twofold: -

- to unite the council, our partners, and communities around a series of long-term ambitions which can only be achieved through our collaborative action.
- to promote and showcase our ambition, strengths and local assets to both government and external agencies in order help to secure the additional support and resources we need to deliver our vision.

3.5 One Stockport, One Future will form the foundation of place-based collaboration for Stockport. It will inform our plans, strategies and policies and will be delivered through a series of collaborative strategies and plans focused on shorter lengths of time than the vision itself.

#### **4. Shaping One Stockport: One Future**

4.1 In shaping the 'Five Big Things' we have been out to over thirty meetings and forums where we have been engaging and listening to a wide range of stakeholders to understand their thoughts, concerns, experiences, and aspirations for Stockport in 2040.

4.2 This engagement has included, voluntary, community and faith sector organisations through our community networks, young people through Listen / Youth Alliance and local businesses through the Economic Alliance. We have also had input from public services across the borough with specific input from: Stockport Council, including elected members, NHS, police, fire service, school and college leaders and housing providers.

4.3 Reaching out to many different communities, organisations and partners across Stockport has allowed us to listen to a range of voices as possible to help shape and create our vision for Stockport 2040.

4.4 The key areas of feedback we heard is outlined below, with further detail in the accompanying engagement report:

People welcomed the development of a clear long term strategic vision - which cuts across all key priorities and is grounded in joint working and collective transformation.

- People felt that the overall vision clearly shows how 'everything is linked together' and demonstrates why joined up action is essential. This was an area people wanted us to develop more.
- People could see that a clear focus on prevention runs through all five big things and that the 'five big things' combined will act as 'vehicles' to improve outcomes for all residents.
- It was felt that greater emphasis should be placed on 'fair and inclusive' and the 'root causes' of inequality, in response to the increasing diversity within Stockport's population.
- There was a conversation about whether One Future is a 'plan' and people felt it was important to understand how we would deliver the five big things.

4.5 This engagement doesn't stop here, in line with our shared values it is important that we continue to collaborate together and seek to hear from different voices, experiences and

perspective through a range of engagement approaches, as we move forward into delivery of One Stockport: One Future.

## 5. Next Steps

- Produce a document that will communicate the vision and route maps, along with supporting promotional materials
- Launch One Stockport: One Future at the Hat works on 21<sup>st</sup> March
- Deliver a programme of targeted external communication for strategic partners to promote our proposals and invite partners to work with us to bring One Future to life

## 6. Recommendations

Cabinet is asked to:

- Approve the report, accompanying presentation and engagement report to be developed into a One Future document and supporting promotional material to support with the communication of our ambition.
- Delegate to the Director of Strategy, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, oversight of the finalisation of the One Future document.

### **Contact officer for accessing background papers and discussing the report:**

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# AGENDA ITEM