

### Portfolio: Economy, Regeneration and Housing

#### Strategic Intent

Our continued investment in regeneration is critical in providing confidence for partners and external investors, particularly in unlocking and bringing forward investment across public and private sectors. Key to this is the Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC) and the ongoing redevelopment of Stockport Town Centre. This will transform the town centre into a vibrant, attractive, and inclusive destination that offers a range of amenities, services, and experiences for our residents and visitors. Through our economic plan we will boost the local economy, reduce unemployment, and increase skills and opportunities for our residents. Our St Thomas' Academy of Living Well, will provide support for people transitioning between hospital and home, enhancing the quality of life, wellbeing, and choice of our residents. We will continue to work with partners to unlock sites for new homes, work with registered providers to provide a high quality housing offer, particularly for those in need, and continue to work with owners to bring long-term empty homes back into use.

### Portfolio: Climate Change & Environment

#### Strategic Intent

Demonstrating our commitment, responsibility, and accountability for addressing the climate emergency, climate action is embedded within everything we do, underpinned by the 2030 operationally net zero target for the council. We will focus on improving energy efficiency and uptake of renewable energy sources across the council's estate and the borough more widely. This will reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, energy costs, and dependence on fossil fuels. We will utilise the council's civic leadership role to influence residents and businesses to act on climate change in order to help meet the 2038 carbon neutrality target for the borough. This will raise awareness, engagement, and action among our stakeholders and partners, as well as showcasing best practices and innovations.

CP priority	Directorate and Service area	Proposal summary	Saving 25/26 (£000)	Lead Portfolio
Effective and Efficient Service	Neighbourhoods	<p><b>Place Management – Waste</b> This proposal consists of 2 elements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reviewing the frequency of the blue bin collections</li> <li>2. Reviewing garden waste collections</li> </ol>	2,250	Climate Change & Environment
Effective and Efficient Services	Development and Regeneration	<p><b>Productivity</b> The delivery of efficient and effective services is at the very heart of everything we do</p> <p>Making sure that we deliver services that are the most efficient and effective they can be, focusing on the right things and doing them in the right way</p> <p>Note that productivity runs across all portfolios.</p>	150	Climate Change & Environment  Economy, Regeneration & Housing
		<b>Total MTFP Savings</b>	<b>2,400</b>	

<b>Project</b>	<b>Place Management - Waste (£2.250m)</b>
Lead portfolio	Climate Change & Environment
Council Plan Priority	Effective and Efficient Services
Senior responsible officer	Mark Glynn
Service	Neighbourhoods - Waste

Project	Place Management - Waste (£2.250m)
Proposal summary	<p>Waste – this proposal consists of 2 elements that align with the recently published English Waste Strategy, introduces one set of changes to the service that contributes to the council’s budget and meets the new requirements.</p> <p><b>1. Blue Bin Collection</b></p> <p>Change the frequency of Blue Bin collections from fortnightly to four-weekly (£0.250m). The volume of paper recycling has reduced over recent years and a more efficient offer would mean collecting this recycling stream on a four-weekly basis.</p> <p>Taking in account the feedback about capacity concerns. We will put in place an exchange process for households that feel they need a larger capacity blue bin. This will allow households to exchange the 180L bin to a larger 240L blue bin, at a reduced price.</p> <p><b>2. Garden Waste Collection</b></p> <p>Stockport Council provides a weekly garden and food waste collection service to around 100,000 residential properties with a green wheeled bin.</p> <p>Garden waste such as grass cuttings, tree and shrub pruning, dead flowers and weeds are currently collected free of charge every week in the green bin alongside food waste.</p> <p>Councils are not required to provide residents with a collection of garden waste and councils that do provide this service are able to charge for it. Indeed, most councils already charge and this was recognised by the government as an option for councils as part of the waste strategy.</p> <p>Following the confirmation of the introduction of the Food Waste Strategy in April 2026 (weekly food collections) we propose to offer 2 alternative collection approaches for residents from April 2025. (£2.000m)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A <b>free</b>, weekly, food-only collection or</li> <li>b. a <b>paid for</b> weekly garden waste collection and a <b>free</b> weekly food collection (residents can choose to include their food waste with the garden bin if they prefer to having two separate bins; or a bin and a caddy)</li> </ul> <p>Part 2 of this proposal is to start charging for the collection of garden waste.</p>

Project	Place Management - Waste (£2.250m)																			
	Residents will be able to access an enhanced discounted compost bin offer (starting from £10) if they wish to compost garden waste at home whilst food will continue to be collected free of charge to residents. We expect the additional composting to reduce green bin tonnages and build in additional resilience.																			
How will the saving be achieved  25/26	Residents would buy a permit for a yearly collection of garden waste at a cost of £59 per bin per year, discounted for residents in receipt of council tax support to £39 (for one bin).																			
Any benchmarking information available to compare Stockport with comparable authorities	<p>Around 80% of local authorities now charge for garden waste collections and the previous government recognised through the publication of the English Waste Strategy that charging was a legitimate way for local authorities to recover costs. Officers have noted charges range from £35 to £94 for what is overwhelmingly a fortnightly service. Two other LAs in GM are consulting on introducing garden waste charges.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="524 707 2116 1005"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="524 707 920 770">Council</th> <th data-bbox="927 707 1319 770">Collection Frequency</th> <th data-bbox="1326 707 1718 770">Collection Period</th> <th data-bbox="1724 707 2116 770">Annual Fee (£)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="524 775 920 839">Cheshire East</td> <td data-bbox="927 775 1319 839">Fortnightly</td> <td data-bbox="1326 775 1718 839">Annual</td> <td data-bbox="1724 775 2116 839">59 (25/26)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="524 844 920 940">Cheshire West and Cheshire</td> <td data-bbox="927 844 1319 940">Fortnightly</td> <td data-bbox="1326 844 1718 940">March – November</td> <td data-bbox="1724 844 2116 940">50 (24/25)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="524 944 920 1005">Derbyshire Dales</td> <td data-bbox="927 944 1319 1005">Fortnightly</td> <td data-bbox="1326 944 1718 1005">Annual</td> <td data-bbox="1724 944 2116 1005">£56 (24/25)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Council	Collection Frequency	Collection Period	Annual Fee (£)	Cheshire East	Fortnightly	Annual	59 (25/26)	Cheshire West and Cheshire	Fortnightly	March – November	50 (24/25)	Derbyshire Dales	Fortnightly	Annual	£56 (24/25)
Council	Collection Frequency	Collection Period	Annual Fee (£)																	
Cheshire East	Fortnightly	Annual	59 (25/26)																	
Cheshire West and Cheshire	Fortnightly	March – November	50 (24/25)																	
Derbyshire Dales	Fortnightly	Annual	£56 (24/25)																	
Workforce impact. Outline any changes to the workforce as a result of this proposal	It is not anticipated there will be significant changes to the TLC operations from these proposals. Although the reduction in blue bin collections will mean a very small reduction in crews this is expected to be managed through natural turnover. Any changes to services will be developed with TLC.																			
Outline any internal / organisational impact of the proposal																				

Project	Place Management - Waste (£2.250m)
Outline any risks or changes to service delivery and impact this proposal may have on service users	<p>The number of residents who take up the new proposed scheme has been estimated using intelligence from other LA's.</p> <p>Composting garden waste at residents' homes is actually better for the environment than transporting it away to be composted elsewhere. However, this may mean the overall 'reported' rate of recycling performance will decrease, although a discounted compost bin offer will be made available residents to enable them to increase their own composting of garden waste.</p>
<p><b>Delivering the change</b></p> <p>List key milestones and delivery dates (where known)</p>	<p>High level timeline</p> <p>Public engagement 21<sup>st</sup> November – 20<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p>Governance cycle January - Feb</p> <p>Residents sign up - from March</p> <p><b>New chargeable service would go live 31<sup>st</sup> March</b></p>
Will reserves/ double running be needed in order to deliver this proposal?	No reserves or double running is needed.
Is public consultation needed?	<p>Public consultation has taken place between 21<sup>st</sup> November – 20<sup>th</sup> December in the form of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online questionnaire</li> <li>• Paper versions on request</li> </ul> <p><b>The findings from the consultation and wider feedback can be found within the consultation report (appendix 2)</b></p>
Is a separate EqIA (Equalities impact assessment) needed?	<p>Yes, this is being developed.</p> <p>In considering our socio-economic duties, for anyone in receipt of Council Tax support then the cost for the yearly permit for garden waste will be discounted to £39 (for one bin). In addition, a discount will be available if residents prefer to pay a one off charge for a compost bin.</p>
Is a separate EIA (Environmental impact assessment) needed?	Yes, this is being developed

<b>Project</b>	<b>Productivity (£0.150m)</b>
Lead portfolio	Climate Change & Environment Economy Regeneration & Housing
Council Plan Priority	Effective and Efficient Services
Senior responsible officer	Paul Richards
Service	Development and Regeneration
Proposal summary	<p><b>Productivity</b></p> <p>The delivery of efficient and effective services is at the very heart of everything we do</p> <p>Making sure that we deliver services that are the most efficient and effective they can be, focusing on the right things and doing them in the right way</p> <p>All Directorates and Services across the organisation will make efficiency savings.</p>
How will the saving be achieved  25/26	<p>The savings will comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximising digital technology and automation</li> <li>• Robust corporate governance including vacancy management, service reviews, restructures and efficiencies</li> <li>• Modelling smaller teams</li> <li>• Maximising income potential (in addition to standard fees and charges)</li> </ul>
Any benchmarking information available to compare Stockport with comparable authorities	N/A
Workforce impact. Outline any changes to the	Natural turn over

Project	Productivity (£0.150m)
workforce as a result of this proposal	
Outline any internal / organisational impact of the proposal	
Outline any risks or changes to service delivery and impact this proposal may have on service users	Modelling smaller teams could impact on service delivery. We will try to minimise any disruption but inevitably reducing the size of teams will reduce the capacity of the team to deliver. We are looking to mitigate this wherever possible through maximising digital and automation and ensuring we are operating in the most efficient way with the most efficient and effective processes.
<p data-bbox="107 611 499 643"><b>Delivering the change</b></p> <p data-bbox="107 683 499 794">List key milestones and delivery dates (where known)</p>	
Will reserves/ double running be needed in order to deliver this proposal?	No
Is public consultation needed?	No
Is a separate EqIA (Equalities impact assessment) needed?	Where required an EqIA will be undertaken as part of this proposal.
Is a separate EIA (Environmental impact assessment) needed?	Where required an EIA will be undertaken as part of this proposal.