

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE MDC CONSTITUTION**

### Report of the Chair of the Stockport Mayoral Development Corporation

#### **1. INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1. The Stockport MDC constitution was created in September 2019 to lead the regeneration of Stockport's Town Centre West. Its operating model, decision-making processes, and relationship with GMCA and Stockport Council were created in the context of local political circumstances.
- 1.2. The MDC's Constitution, agreed at the first Board meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019, codified the Corporation's governance and accountability arrangements.
- 1.3. Since the Constitution was approved, the make-up of the Board has changed with the appointment of Lord Kerslake as Chair and the recommendation to the September 2020 Board meeting to appoint three private sector Board members. For that reason, a number of minor amendment to the Constitution are proposed.

#### **2. AMENDMENTS TO THE MDC CONSTITUTION**

- 2.1. The operating model for the Stockport MDC is determined by the powers set out in the Localism Act 2011, and GMCA Order 2017, along with locally determined principles which will ensure that the Stockport MDC is responsive to local political circumstances.
- 2.2. The Stockport MDC's Constitution makes clear that its objectives are to lead the regeneration of the town centre west area of Stockport by:
  - 2.2.1. Delivering approximately 3,500 new homes set within a mixed use green urban village in accordance with the Strategic Business Plan
  - 2.2.2. Contributing to the delivery of the social infrastructure and amenity required to support an increase in the residential population of the area and to benefit existing residents of the area
  - 2.2.3. Attracting public and private sector investment to support the delivery of residential and employment growth

- 2.2.4. Delivering a blueprint for brownfield development in a town centre context that fits with the GMCA's and the Council's overall strategic growth ambitions.
- 2.3. The operating model set out in the Constitution is in keeping with the principles set out in the September 2018 GMCA report which, in context of the Stockport MDC, specifically means that:
  - 2.3.1. Planning powers will remain with the local authority
  - 2.3.2. Stockport Council will underwrite running costs
  - 2.3.3. Stockport Council will ensure existing staff resources are available to form the core executive team
  - 2.3.4. Commitment to collaborative working between the GM Mayor and Stockport Council to agree how development is to proceed
  - 2.3.5. The approach has the ability to simplify decision making
  - 2.3.6. The statutory roles of Chief Finance and Monitoring Officer will be provided by Stockport Council and GMCA respectively. The role of Corporation Solicitor will be provided by Stockport Council.
- 2.4. The proposed amendments to the Constitution comprise:
  - 2.4.1. A change to the phrasing at paragraph 6.1 relating to the GM Mayor's appointment of Chair following the period during which he would act as Interim Chair
  - 2.4.2. An increase in the number of Board members required to make up a quorum at paragraph 12.2.5. The initial quorum of four Board members was decided in relation to a seven member Board; in light of the proposed appointment of three new private sector board members it is proposed that the quorum is increased to six members of a future ten member Board.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MDC BOARD**

- 3.1. The Board is recommended to:
  - 3.1.1. Note the proposed amendments to the MDC Constitution set out in this report and approve the revised MDC Constitution at Appendix 1.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Town Centre Challenge & Mayoral Development Corporations, Greater Manchester Combined Authority, 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Mayoral Development Corporation, Stockport Council Cabinet, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Town Centre Challenge Update - Mayoral Development Corporation, Greater Manchester Combined Authority, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Creation of a Mayoral Development Corporation for Town Centre West, Stockport Council Cabinet, 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2019

Town Centre West Strategic Regeneration Framework Consultation, Stockport Council Communities & Housing Scrutiny Committee, 5<sup>th</sup> August 2019 and Stockport Council Economy & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, 8<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Mayoral Development Corporation Board Membership, Stockport Council Cabinet, 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2019