

APPOINTMENT OF PRIVATE SECTOR MEMBERS TO THE MDC BOARD

Report of the Chair of the Stockport Mayoral Development Corporation

1. INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1. The Stockport MDC was created in September 2019 in order to lead the regeneration of Stockport's Town Centre West. Both the Greater Manchester Mayor and Stockport Council have recognised the importance of ensuring that the MDC's board includes appropriate private sector regeneration expertise together with the existing political representation in order for the MDC to successfully deliver its ambitions.
- 1.2. To identify potential private sector board members with the appropriate senior level experience, networks, and profile, the MDC appointed Berwick Partners to undertake a candidate search building on the additional prominence the MDC gained following the appointment of Lord Kerslake as Chair.
- 1.3. This report updates the MDC Board on the outcome of that process and recommends that the Board proposes to the Greater Manchester Mayor that he use his statutory powers to appoint the preferred candidates as Board members.

2. RECRUITMENT PROCESS AND OUTCOME

- 2.1. Following Lord Kerslake's appointment as Chair of the MDC Board in January, Berwick Partners commenced the search for Non-Executive Directors from the private sector who would bring additional and complementary skills and expertise to the Board.
- 2.2. The search concentrated on a cohort of candidates who would bring immediate expertise, networks and credibility in the following priority areas:
 - Significant experience and national profile within the residential and housing-led development sector
 - Significant experience of private sector development and infrastructure finance

- A track record of directing the delivery of major infrastructure enhancements
 - Masterplanning and strategic planning
- 2.3. An initial longlist of candidates was identified by Berwick Partners and informal discussions with candidates took place during August. These discussions resulted in a shortlist of eight candidates who were invited to interview in the week beginning 24th August.
- 2.4. An interview panel made up of the MDC Chair, Greater Manchester Combined Authority's Executive Director of Strategy, and Stockport Council's political Group Leaders and Chief Executive conducted interviews with all eight candidates supported by Berwick Partners.
- 2.5. The interviews resulted in the identification of three exceptional candidates possessing a range of experience and expertise that the panel felt would complement the existing make-up of the MDC Board very well and serve the MDC as it moves into the next phase of its life.
- 2.6. The names, profiles, and CVs of the preferred candidates are included in the confidential Appendix to this report in order to enable the appointments to be announced at the MDC webinar that will be broadcast after the Board meeting on Friday 11th September.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MDC BOARD

- 3.1. The Board is recommended to:
- 3.1.1. Propose that the Greater Manchester Mayor appoint the preferred candidates referred to in the confidential Appendix to this report as Stockport MDC Board members.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

Mayoral Development Corporation, Stockport Council Cabinet, 18th December 2018

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

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

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

Mayoral Development Corporation Board Membership, Stockport Council Cabinet, 20th August, 2019