

ROLE OF INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Report of the Chair of the Stockport Mayoral Development Corporation

1. INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1. The Stockport MDC has been created in response to the Greater Manchester Town Centre Challenge which provides a significant opportunity to progress the regeneration of GM's town centres and strategic development projects by utilising the GM Mayor's statutory powers, convening powers, and resources in conjunction with GM's Local Authorities.
- 1.2. At the Stockport MDC's inception meeting on 9th September 2019, the Greater Manchester Mayor exercised his statutory powers in relation to the MDC to appoint Stockport Council's Director of Development & Regeneration as Interim Chief Executive of the development corporation until such time as a permanent Chief Executive is in post.
- 1.3. This report recommends to the Greater Manchester Mayor that the interim arrangements be extended for a period of twelve months to provide maximum continuity in light of the rapidly changing economic and market context arising from the COVID-19 emergency in which the MDC will operate.

2. CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS & FUNDING

- 2.1. The principles which underpin any decision by the Greater Manchester Mayor to create a Mayoral Development Corporation in GM include a requirement that any MDC does not create a significant additional bureaucracy. To fulfil this requirement the majority of the MDC's staff – including the MDC's Interim Chief Executive - is provided by Stockport Council under the terms of employment contracts with the Council.
- 2.2. Stockport Council formally agreed on 18th December 2018 to cover all staffing and operational costs for the MDC and included in its Medium-Term Financial Plan a non-cash limit revenue budget of £0.5m per annum from which staff costs are paid. Any changes to the MDC's staff or operational requirements will continue to be met by the Council.

2.3. In consultation with the Chair of the MDC Board, Stockport Council, and Greater Manchester Combined Authority it is proposed that the existing interim Chief Executive arrangements are extended by twelve months to provide continuity in the delivery of a number of committed strategic development schemes in Town Centre West at a time of considerable economic and market uncertainty.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1. The Stockport MDC Board is recommended to:

3.1.1. Agree to recommend to the Greater Manchester Mayor that the appointment of Interim MDC Chief Executive be extended by twelve months

3.1.2. Note the contractual and funding arrangements as set out in the confidential appendix to this report that will be put in place by Stockport Council to effect any extension to the appointment of the Interim MDC Chief Executive.

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