

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....14th October 2021

1. Title of Item/Report

A Fairer Stockton-on-Tees: A Strategic Framework for Reducing Inequalities in the Borough

2. Record of the Decision

Cabinet approval was sought for the final draft of the Fairer Stockton-on-Tees strategic framework following the period of engagement initiatives after the presentation of the framework to Cabinet in July 2021.

The framework outlined:

- a) The key causes of inequality, based on analysis of available research, with the key focus on income, wealth and power;
- b) The basis of a strategic approach, recognising the need to take action across strategy, interventions, practice and for the Council as a major employer, commissioner, provider.

The strategic framework set out a vision and ambition for reducing inequality over the next ten years. To realise the ambition outlined in the framework, it identified five key interventions as follows:-

- a) Tackling fundamental issues across the borough as a whole;
- b) A focus on reducing the inequalities faced by identified disadvantaged communities;
- c) A focus on deprived neighbourhoods, and in particular building on the work in the Targeted Action Areas, focusing on these areas as the first area priorities;
- d) A focus on the most marginalized;
- e) An emphasis on the Council as a major employer, commissioner and purchaser.

The framework included a proposed governance and accountability structure, and an engagement plan, the details of which were summarised.

The next steps for development of the framework will be led by two temporary posts of coordinator who have now been recruited to, who's primary role would be to develop the business plan for the framework for 2021/22 and beyond as follows :-

- a. To define specific elements of borough wide intervention and the delivery mechanisms for these;
- b. To work with colleagues to update and refresh the JSNA sections relevant to the work with disadvantaged communities;
- c. To refine the proposals for the deprived areas. At this stage, it is proposed that 3 initial priority areas be identified, based on further analysis of IMD data;
- d. To lead the development of proposals for working with the most marginalised individuals
- e. To develop the action plan for the Council as an organisation
- f. To establish the multi-agency steering group.
- g. To identify the resource requirements for future year's delivery.

An impact assessment would be undertaken on an annual basis and members requested that this include the impact of national policy/issues such as the removal of Universal Credit, increasing energy prices, job losses and and the consequent effect on peoples health and wellbeing.

RESOLVED that Cabinet:-

1. Agree the final draft of the strategic framework for Reducing Inequalities in the Borough;
2. Note the feedback on the framework to date;
3. Note the proposed next steps;
4. Agree to receive an annual report on progress.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To agree the final draft of the Strategic Framework for Reducing Inequalities in the Borough.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight - Friday 22nd October 2021

Proper Officer  
18 October 2021