

Establishment of Stockport Town Centre MDC

1. Background

- 1.1 On 23rd February 2026, The Stockport Town Centre Mayoral Development Corporation (Establishment) Order 2026¹ came into force, thereby establishing the Stockport Town Centre Mayoral Development Corporation.
- 1.2 At this inaugural meeting of the Board, a number of procedural items of business are required to be noted and considered. These are set out in the report below.

2. Appointments to be noted

2.1 To note the appointment of Board Members and the Chair of the Board

- 2.1.1 The Greater Manchester Mayor (GM Mayor) is authorised to appoint members of the MDC Board. Following consultation with Leader of Stockport Council, the GM Mayor has appointed the existing Board Members of Stockport Town Centre West MDC as Board Members of the Stockport Town Centre MDC. For clarity, they are:

- Louise Brooke-Smith OBE, Private Sector Board Member
- Cllr Christine Carrigan, Group Leader, Stockport Labour Group
- Debbie Francis, Private Sector Board Member
- Danielle Gillespie, Executive Regional Director, Homes England
- Simon Marshall, Private Sector Board Member
- Cllr Mark Roberts, Leader of Stockport Council and Group Leader, Stockport Liberal Democrats
- Cllr Matt Wynne, Group Leader, Stockport Community Association

- 2.1.2 The GM Mayor has also appointed Lord Gavin Barwell as a new member of the Board and nominated him to be Chair of the Board.

- 2.1.3 All appointments of the Board Members shall be subject to the terms and conditions set out in the individual member's appointment letters.

2.2 To note the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer

- 2.2.1 The GM Mayor is authorised to appoint the first Chief Executive of the MDC.
- 2.2.2 The GM Mayor has appointed Catherine Chilvers as the Managing Director for the MDC, fulfilling the role of Chief Executive.

3. Approval of draft constitution and supporting documents

¹ [The Stockport Town Centre Mayoral Development Corporation \(Establishment\) Order 2026](#)

- 3.1. A draft constitution and scheme of delegation have been prepared which largely replicate the constitution and scheme of delegation of the existing Stockport Town Centre West MDC.
- 3.2. Alongside the constitution and scheme of delegation are several ancillary documents which set out the rules and procedures that govern how the MDC operates in practice and ensure that the MDC conducts its business lawfully, transparently and to agreed standards of governance, specifically:
- Contract Procedure Rules
 - Financial Procedure Rules
 - Board member code of conduct
 - MDC officer code of conduct
- 3.3. Drafts of such documents are attached at Appendix 1 to this report. The Board is recommended to approve the draft Constitution, scheme of delegation and ancillary documents.

4. Appointment of Associate Members and Associate Members (Officio)

- 4.1. Under the draft constitution the MDC Board is authorised to appoint Associate Members and Associate Members (Officio).
- 4.2. Each of the Associate Members and the Associate Members (Officio) shall have the right to participate fully in board discussions and to receive all papers but shall not have voting rights.
- 4.3. Associate Members (Officio) must include the Chief Executive of Stockport Council and a representative of the GMCA.
- 4.4. It is proposed that the Board appoint the following individuals who are existing Associate Members of Stockport Town Centre West MDC as Associate Members of the Stockport Town Centre MDC, namely:
- Cllr Anna Charles-Jones, Group Leader, Independent Ratepayers
 - Cllr Gary Lawson, Group Leader, The Green Party
 - Cllr Joe Barratt, Group Leader, Bredbury and Woodley Independents
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- 4.5. It is proposed that the Board appoint the following individuals who are existing Associate Members (Officio) of Stockport Town Centre West MDC as Associate Members (Officio) of the Stockport Town Centre MDC, namely:
- Andrew McIntosh, Director of Place, GMCA
 - Michael Cullen, Chief Executive, Stockport Council
 - Paul Richards, Deputy Chief Executive, Stockport Council

5. Appointment of Corporation Solicitor and Finance Director and note Monitoring Officer role (by virtue of legislation)

- 5.1. Under the draft constitution, the MDC Board is authorised to appoint the Corporation Solicitor and Finance Director.
- 5.2. It is proposed that the officers who carry out these roles for the Stockport Town Centre MDC be appointed to the roles for the Stockport Town Centre MDC, namely:
- As Corporation Solicitor - Kate Critchley, Head of Property (Legal), Stockport Council
 - As Finance Director - Jonathan Davies, S151 Officer – Director of Finance, Stockport Council
- 5.3. The GMCA Monitoring Officer, Gillian Duckworth, automatically becomes the statutory officer for the Stockport Town Centre MDC by virtue of The Stockport Town Centre Mayoral Development Corporation (Establishment) Order 2026.

6. Recommendations

The Board are recommended to:

- 6.1. Note the appointments made by the GM Mayor as detailed in Section 2 of this report;
- 6.2. Approve the draft constitution, scheme of and ancillary documents;
- 6.3. Appoint Associate Members and Associate Members (Officio) as detailed in Section 4 of this report;
- 6.4. Appoint officers as detailed in Section 5 of this report and note the role of the GMCA Monitoring Officer.

Appendix 1 – Draft constitution, scheme of delegation and ancillary documents