



# Stockroom Engagement



**"A 21<sup>st</sup> century, universal learning and discovery space for the people of Stockport"**

As town centres across the UK struggle to recover from the decline of High Street shopping and the huge economic shock of Covid-19, Stockport is pioneering an innovative plan to increase footfall and inspire a love of learning in children and adults of all ages.

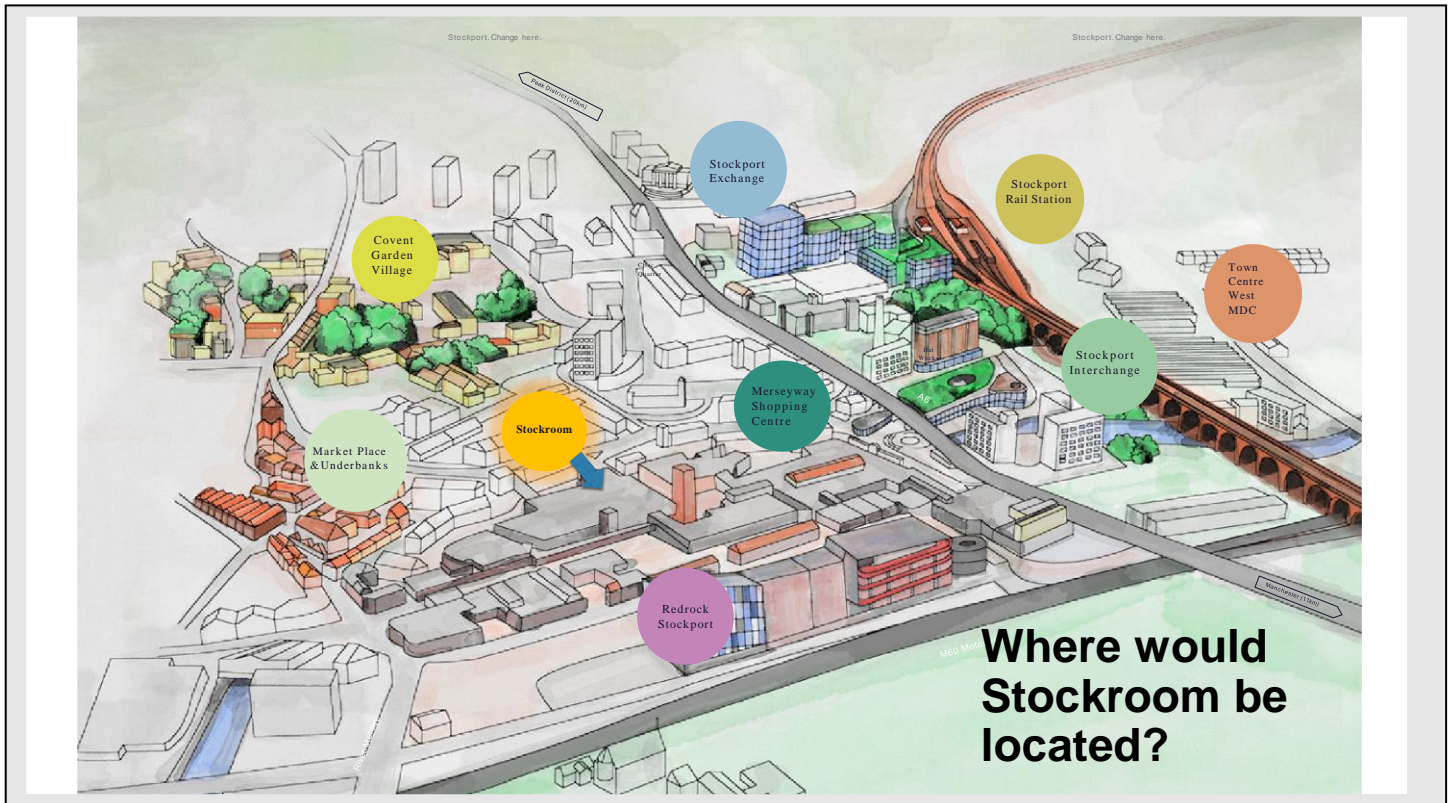


**Stockport has successfully-bid for £14.5m of Government Future High Street Fund money** to transform vacant retail units in the heart of our high street, Merseyway.

**The Future High Street Fund bid was for Stockroom.**

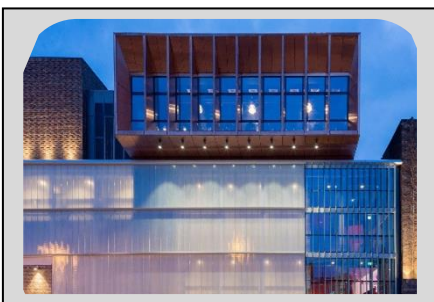
**Stockroom** - a 21<sup>st</sup> Century, universal learning and discovery space which could give the people of Stockport an opportunity to learn new skills, practice arts and crafts, enjoy live music and performances, use free services, and benefit from cutting-edge learning and IT facilities.

**Stockroom would be located in the heart of Merseyway on Adlington Walk.**



## What inspired Stockroom?

There are strong national and international examples of the benefits of library, heritage, cultural, education and other services moving into shared locations which are easy to access. We've looked elsewhere at how this can work.



- **Storyhouse in Chester has attracted more than one million visitors a year to a multi-use facility in the city centre.**
- It has become a new home to 150 local groups and driven a significant increase in reading among young people.

- **After creating 'The Ideas Store' a new mixed-use town centre library and cultural hub in Tower Hamlets, visitor figures increased from 550,000 to more than 2 million.**

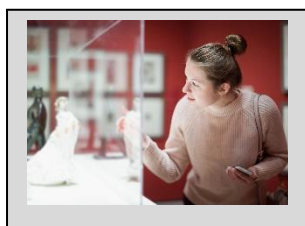


While Chester and Tower Hamlets have brought a huge increase in visitors to town centre locations, **nationally, libraries have struggled with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport identifying a 17% drop in usage between 2005 and 2020.**

**Stockroom would inspire lifelong learning among children, young people and adults of all ages** and help the borough to address the underperformance of educational attainment, particularly at 'A' Level and among children in disadvantaged areas or with special educational needs or disabilities.

**In addition, there are 11,000 adults in Stockport who have real trouble reading.** For them, everyday tasks such as booking a doctor's appointment, reading road signs or food shopping can be incredibly challenging.

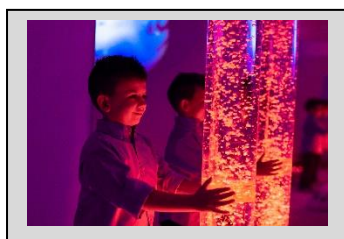
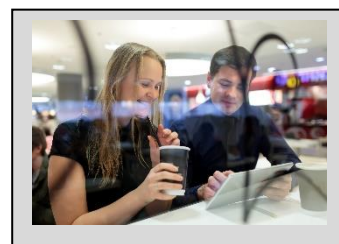
## What could Stockroom be?



➤ **Stockroom - a 'learning and discovery space'** which could inspire, entertain and support the people of Stockport and drive people back into the town centre, better supporting shops and businesses.

➤ **Stockroom - bigger than a football pitch,** filled with great stuff to discover.

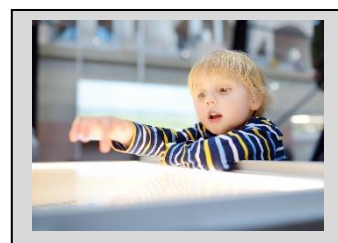
➤ **Stockroom – a truly inclusive space for everyone** to use, fully accessible and with features designed in partnership with people with dementia and those on the autistic spectrum.



➤ **Stockroom - a fantastic, convenient new arrival point** for the town centre, could **breathe new life into empty retail spaces** in the heart of Merseyway.

➤ **Stockroom - a place to celebrate** the rich culture, creativity and diversity of Stockport, where the past, present and future could come together.

➤ **Stockroom - a place to spend time exploring** with friends and family, children and grandchildren, parents and grandparents.



➤ **Stockroom – with brand new 'best in class' toilet facilities** with enhanced facilities for people with a disability.

## What could Stockroom offer for the people of Stockport?

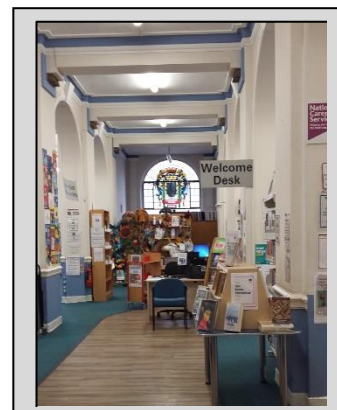


<b>Greater prosperity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Breathing life back into empty retail space bringing people back to the High Street</li> <li>➤ Creating more and better jobs and good business growth</li> </ul>
<b>Helping everyone achieve their full potential</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Increase skills to get more people working</li> <li>➤ Providing research and study space with opportunities for lifelong learning</li> </ul>
<b>Healthier, happier lives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Through learning, discovery, social connections and support when people need it</li> </ul>
<b>Stronger, more resilient communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A place for people of all ages and backgrounds to come together and celebrate our heritage</li> </ul>
<b>Improved reading and literacy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Through improved access to a 21st Century library offer</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural and creative enrichment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Through improved access to cultural services</li> </ul>
<b>Better access to digital services and technology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Through access to top end IT hardware and software packages and support</li> </ul>

## The Central Library building

If there is support to create an enhanced 21st Century library offer within Stockroom, this could result in library services being relocated from the existing Central Library building on the A6.

However a formal consultation on the relocation of library services from the existing Central Library Building would be held before any decision was made. This would include consulting people about potential alternative uses for the current Central Library building.



No decision about the future of the Central Library building or the service it provides would be made without full consultation with the people of Stockport, including those people who currently use the library.

There may also be support for relocating other Council services to Stockroom and it should also be noted that this may also mean they might be relocated from their current location

# **We've secured the funding.....Now we need your help to create something special!**

We want to talk with you about what uses Stockroom could have and how those uses could benefit yourself individually as well as our children, young people, adults and town centre businesses.

We want Stockroom to be designed around how you would use the space. We've split the potential uses of Stockroom into four 'Zones' that we think reflect the potential for the space – **'Discovery', 'Family', 'Community', and 'Learning'**.

Have a think about the type of things you might like to see in Stockroom and complete the survey. If you think of something that isn't listed, please let us know as we need your input to help us shape what Stockroom could be.

**Your input can help shape the future of Stockport town centre and the prosperity of people and businesses.**



**Please carefully read the survey and let us have your views.**

**Thank you for your support!**

**Q1. Which of the following sources have you used to gather information about the Stockroom proposal? Please tick ✓ all that apply**

Read display boards ☐ 1

Spoken to council staff ☐ 2

Heard about it from a friend or neighbour ☐ 3

Through social media ☐ 4

Local newspaper ☐ 5

Another source (please specify below)

**Q2. Which of the following do you think would be beneficial to the people of Stockport? Please tick ✓ all that apply**

**Discovery Zone**

Discovering more about our world with interactive displays and installations ☐ 1

Browsing gallery space for artworks and installations ☐ 2

Finding out more about Stockport's heritage and history and how this has shaped Stockport as we know it today ☐ 3

Discovering Music, Theatre, Poetry, Story-telling, Talent shows and more ☐ 4

Finding information about all that's on offer in Stockport Town Centre and access maps and tourist information ☐ 5

Help to trace your family tree ☐ 6

Other (please specify) ☐ 7

**Q3. Which of the following do you think would be beneficial to the people of Stockport?** *Please tick ✓ all that apply*

**Community Zone**

Connecting with other people and groups in your community in a modern, flexible space ☐ 1

Accessing a range of help and advice services when you need support – such as advice about managing your money, your family's health and wellbeing, or aging well ☐ 2

Chance to register life events, like births and marriages and access other council and community services ☐ 3

Opportunity to host a party, business event, wedding or other celebration ☐ 4

Having access to facilities such as toilets that are accessible for all and buggy and mobility scooter hire ☐ 5

Other (please specify) ☐ 6

**Q4. Which of the following do you think would be beneficial to the people of Stockport?** *Please tick ✓ all that apply*

**Learning Zone**

Free access to computers, wifi, support to help you get online and use of a range of free digital resources ☐ 1

Chance to enrol in a class or support group - From language and literacy classes to pottery, crafting and woodworking ☐ 2

Quiet areas for research, revision, independent learning and quiet reading ☐ 3

Organised visits for schools, colleges or other community groups ☐ 4

Access to a wide range of books, magazines and other media that support your learning and enjoyment – whatever your age ☐ 5

Inspiration for careers and training opportunities ☐ 6

Other (please specify) ☐ 7

**Q5. Which of the following do you think would be beneficial to the people of Stockport?** *Please tick ✓ all that apply*

**Family Zone**

Coming together as a family in a welcoming and engaging environment ☐ 1

Making use of a story corner ☐ 2

Visiting a Sensory room (sensory rooms are rooms specifically designed to provide an enjoyable or calming multisensory experience for people, young and old, with a wide variety of different abilities) ☐ 3

Relaxing in comfy seating in a modern café environment with friends, family or simply on your own ☐ 4

Opportunity to attend a school music or theatre performance ☐ 5

Other (please specify) ☐ 6

**Q6. From the proposed plans for Stockroom, what do you see as the benefits of a development of this nature for the Town Centre?** *Please tick ✓ all that apply*

Breathing life back into empty retail space ☐ 1

Creation of jobs ☐ 2

Improved reading and literacy skills ☐ 3

Better access to digital services and technology ☐ 4

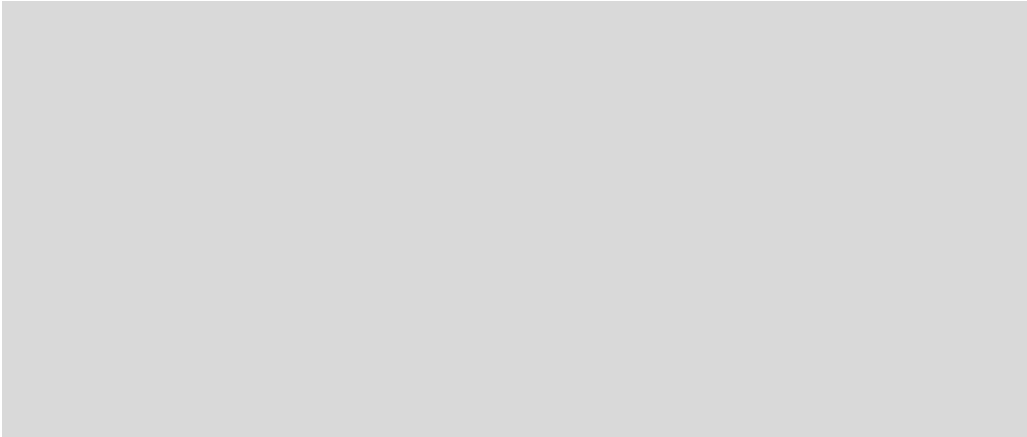
Stronger sense of community spirit ☐ 5

Having community facilities in an accessible/central location ☐ 6

Other, (please specify) ☐ 7



**Q7. Do you see any disadvantages? Please write in below**



**Q8. Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?**

Yes

☐ 1

No

☐ 2

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please state which organisation



***IF YOU ARE RESPONDING ON BEHALF OF AN ORGANISATION, PLEASE GO TO Q18***

## About you

Finally, we'd like to find out a little more about you. Completion of this form is entirely voluntary.

Gathering this information allows us to understand which communities or groups of people you might belong to, so we know the levels of participation across different groups of people in our engagement and research.

We may also use this data to understand if there are any similarities in experiences or opinions of people across different demographic groups. This helps us identify the possible needs of different groups of people or the potential impacts of a proposed change.

We share this data with our research partner QA Research for analysis of this project. You can find details of QA Research by visiting their website here <https://www.qaresearch.co.uk/> You can also find out more about how Stockport Council process your data by visiting our website here <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/topic/data-protection>

Our lawful basis for processing your personal data is consent and explicit consent.

No identifiable information will be shared in public reports.

### Q8. Are you...? Please tick ✓ one box only

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Male                        | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 |
| Female                      | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| Non-binary                  | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 |
| Prefer not to say           | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| Other, please specify below | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |

### Q9. What is your age? Please tick ✓ one box only

- |          |                            |                   |                             |
|----------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Under 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | 55-64             | <input type="checkbox"/> 6  |
| 18-24    | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | 65-74             | <input type="checkbox"/> 7  |
| 25-34    | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | 75-84             | <input type="checkbox"/> 8  |
| 35-44    | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | 85+               | <input type="checkbox"/> 9  |
| 45-54    | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | Prefer not to say | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 |

**Q10. What is your ethnicity?** *Please tick ✓ one box only*

White British	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Asian or Asian British Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/> 14
White Irish	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Asian or Asian British Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/> 15
Gypsy / Roma	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Asian or Asian British Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> 16
Traveller of Irish Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Asian or Asian British Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 17
White Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Arab	<input type="checkbox"/> 18
Black or Black British African	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Not Known	<input type="checkbox"/> 19
Black or Black British Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/> 20
Black Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 8		
Mixed White/Black African	<input type="checkbox"/> 9	Other ethnic background, please describe	<input type="checkbox"/> 21
Mixed White/Black Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/> 10		
Mixed White/Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> 11		
Mixed Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 12		
Asian or Asian British Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> 13		

**Q11. What is your religion or belief?** *Please tick ✓ one box only*

No religion	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Christian	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Buddhist	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
Hindu	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Jewish	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Muslim	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
Sikh	<input type="checkbox"/> 7
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 8
Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

**Q12. What is your sexuality?** *Please tick ✓ one box only*

Heterosexual/straight ☐ 1

Gay or Lesbian ☐ 2

Bisexual ☐ 3

Other ☐ 4

Prefer not to say ☐ 5

**Q13. Do you consider yourself to have a disability, or long term health condition?** *Please tick ✓ one box only*

Yes ☐ 1

No ☐ 2

Prefer not to say ☐ 3

**Q14. What is your employment status?** *Please tick ✓ one box only*

Employed full-time ☐ 1

Employed part-time ☐ 2

Self-employed ☐ 3

Full time student ☐ 4

Out of work and looking for work ☐ 5

Out of work and not looking for work ☐ 6

Unable to work due to long term illness or disability ☐ 7

Full-time carer (and unable to work) ☐ 8

Looking after home or family ☐ 9

Retired ☐ 10

Other ☐ 11

Prefer not to say ☐ 12

**IF EMPLOYED ANSWER Q15, IF NOT EMPLOYED GO TO Q16**

**Q15. If employed, are you...?** *Please tick ✓ one box only*

Furloughed for all of your contracted hours ☐ <sub>1</sub>

Furloughed for some of your contracted hours ☐ <sub>2</sub>

Not furloughed ☐ <sub>3</sub>

Prefer not to say ☐ <sub>4</sub>

**Q16. Do you have any children under the age of 18 in your household?**

*Please tick ✓ all that apply*

Yes - children aged under 5 years old ☐ <sub>1</sub>

Yes - children aged 5 to 10 years old ☐ <sub>2</sub>

Yes - children aged 11 to 15 years old ☐ <sub>3</sub>

Yes - children aged 16 or 17 years old ☐ <sub>4</sub>

No ☐ <sub>5</sub>

Prefer not to say ☐ <sub>6</sub>

**Q17. What is your home postcode?** (Please only write in the first section and first number of the second section e.g. SK1 3)

Prefer not to say ☐ <sub>1</sub>



## Further research

### Would you be happy to take part in further Stockroom development research?

If you agree to this your information may be shared with partners who are helping us to deliver the research on this project. *We will be speaking to a limited number of people, and unfortunately this means we will not be able to speak to everyone expressing an interest*

### Q18 Would you like to take part in further Stockroom development research?

Yes, I am happy to take part. By selecting this option, you give your permission to be contacted by a member of Stockport Council or one of our partners helping us to deliver research for this project ☐ <sub>1</sub>

No ☐ <sub>2</sub>

### If you would like to take part in further research, please leave your details below

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred contact method

What is your phone number ? : \_\_\_\_\_ ☐

What is your email address ? : \_\_\_\_\_ ☐

**Thanks for taking part!**

**Please return your completed survey to any library in Stockport.  
Alternatively, you can post your survey to:**

Stockroom Engagement

Business Support Hub

Mail and Scanning

Upper Ground South

Stopford House

Piccadilly

Stockport

SK1 3XE