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REPORT OF THE CITY MAYOR

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TO COUNCIL

ON WEDNESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2018

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TITLE: CENTRE FOR LOCAL ECONOMIC STRATEGIES (CLES)

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RECOMMENDATIONS: Note the report which outlines the focus of the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) activities as one of the outside bodies which Salford City Council is represented.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: The Centre for Local Economic Strategies is a registered charity which is committed to places and communities experiencing social and economic inequality and lack of opportunity. CLES want to improve the effectiveness of local groups, agencies and government in addressing these problems by informing policy and developing practice.

Realising progressive economics for people and place. The aim is to achieve social justice, good local economies and effective public services for everyone, everywhere.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

- Centre for Local Economic Strategies Limited Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2017
  - Building and Economy for all in Salford: Strategy and Action Plan
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KEY DECISION: NO

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DETAILS:

### 1. Organisational Values

- CLES will act as a champion to places and communities experiencing social, economic and environmental inequality and lack of opportunity.
- CLES works to improve the effectiveness of local groups, agencies and government in addressing these problems by informing policy and developing practice.

- CLES believes that effective local economic strategies can only be achieved through highly motivated and well trained employees who should, as far as a possible, reflect the diverse communities in which they serve.
- CLES will inform and educate the public and other stakeholders about the value and benefits to local economies of high quality public services.
- CLES believes that the development of fairer places can only be achieved through improving the resilience of local economies of places.
- CLES works to achieve greater levels of fairness whilst working within environmental limits.

## **2. CLES Achievements and Performance**

CLES has raised its profile and assisted with the ongoing raising and expansion of sustainable development. Of specific note is:

- Over 20 specific pieces of work and activity with resultant reports and other outputs
- 6 specific reports, free to view on website and disseminated to members, network and the public
- Over 100 lectures/presentations delivered
- 15 specific training events delivered

The outcomes associated with CLES activities are set out below:

### **Assessments of Local Resilience**

CLES has undertaken work assessing the resilience of places, economies, town centres and communities in a number of locations. On this CLES has a robust methodology for exploring the strengths of different spheres of places and the relationships within and between them and measures which define the resilience, stability, vulnerability and brittleness of place.

### **Facilitation of Good Approaches to Local Wealth Building**

CLES has a range of experience of facilitating change in approaches to local wealth building. This year CLES has worked in a number of locations and with national partnerships/agencies.

### **Measurement of Real Social Return**

The success of place is not just judged upon economic growth but encompasses wider local economic and environmental impact and a social dividend – sustainable development needs to reflect a balance of growth (economic), growth (social) and environmental considerations. CLES has conducted a number of social value related work.

### **Developed Innovative approaches to system change in Public Services**

CLES have used co-production and co-design methods, involving public sector professionals and users of services.

**Made Strategies**

The local state is the democratic enabler of local economic development and sustainable development. CLES has undertaken an array of place based economic strategy work. All of this work has sought to balance economic growth considerations with sustainable development considerations.

**Measured Efficiency and Effectiveness**

Public service design and delivery is not just about making efficiencies but also effectiveness, reducing demand and creating new markets. To achieve this CLES has undertaken a wide array of work exploring the impact of procurement spend.

**3. Partnership working with Salford City Council**

CLES has developed a working draft economic strategy and action plan for Salford that seeks to advance a bold recalibration of how the local economy operates as regards advancing economic and social justice in Salford. At the heart of this ambition is a necessity as regards addressing longstanding social need, alongside huge opportunity in terms of realising the economic opportunities in Salford.

This work looks forward to the next decade and beyond, preparing Salford for changes to the national and local economy, and articulating the Council’s vision as to what the economy should look like over that period. The strategy offers a proactive activist position to enable the economy and aspects of the market to address social need.

The working document will:

- Set out the broad rationale to building an economy for all
- Explore the Salford context and what is being done
- Outline the frame to Salford Economic Strategy and Action Plan
- Outline suggested tactical economic and social actions.

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KEY COUNCIL POLICIES: Council Constitution

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EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND IMPLICATIONS: not applicable

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ASSESSMENT OF RISK: not applicable

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LEGAL IMPLICATIONS: not applicable

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: not applicable

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PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS: not applicable

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HR IMPLICATIONS Supplied by: not applicable

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OTHER DIRECTORATES CONSULTED: not applicable

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WARDS TO WHICH REPORT RELATES: All Wards