

REPORT TITLE: LGA CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE – FOLLOW UP

29 NOVEMBER 2018

REPORT OF PORTFOLIO HOLDER: CLLR HERRILL – LEADER WITH
PORTFOLIO FOR HOUSING SERVICES

Contact Officer: Joseph Holmes Tel No: 01962 848 220 Email:
jholmes@winchester.gov.uk

WARD(S): ALL

PURPOSE

This report provides feedback from the follow up undertaken by the LGA Peer Challenge Team in September 2018.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Committee notes the comments made by the LGA Peer Challenge Team as set out in Appendix 1 of the Report.

IMPLICATIONS:

1 COUNCIL STRATEGY OUTCOME

- 1.1 The Corporate Peer Challenge was undertaken to provide support and external feedback on the Council's past achievements and performance and to highlight areas where it could improve and achieve even more in the future.
- 1.2 Implementation of the Corporate Peer Challenge team's key recommendations supports the Council to deliver the outcomes that are included in the Council Strategy.

2 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 None directly arising from the content of this report.

3 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 None.

4 WORKFORCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None directly arising from the content of the report although significant input from senior staff from across the organisation was required to complete the actions required to deliver the agreed action plan.

5 PROPERTY AND ASSET IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None.

6 CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 6.1 The results of the follow up were shared with the Leader of the Council and officers of the Senior Leadership Team at the end of their visit in September.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 None.

8 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSEMENT

- 8.1 None required.

9 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 None required

10 RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk	Mitigation	Opportunities
<i>Property – n/a</i>	n/a	n/a
<i>Community Support – none</i>	n/a	n/a
<i>Timescales – delays to the delivery of the actions</i>	Regular monitoring is undertaken to identify and resolve slippage	n/a
<i>Project capacity-availability of staff to deliver projects.</i>	Resources to deliver projects are discussed at the project planning stage and agreed by the relevant project board.	Opportunities present themselves for staff to get involved in projects outside their normal role enabling them to expand their knowledge and skills base as well as working with others.
<i>Financial / VfM</i>	Regular monitoring of budgets and the financial position including forecasting to year end is undertaken to avoid unplanned over/underspends.	Early notification of unplanned under/overspends through regular monitoring allows time for plans to be put in place to bring the finances back into line with budget forecast.
<i>Legal</i>	For projects such as the review of the Constitution, there has been extensive consultation and advice sought from Legal Services	Advice from Legal Services will ensure that the Council operates lawfully.
<i>Innovation</i>	n/a	n/a
<i>Reputation – ensuring that the Council delivers the actions that respond to the recommendations as set out in the Peer Challenge Feedback report.</i>	Regular monitoring and reporting of the progress the Council is achieving against the Action Plan, including this report.	n/a
<i>Other</i>	n/a	n/a

11 SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

- 11.1 In February 2017, the Council invited the LGA to conduct a Corporate Peer Challenge to provide external feedback on how it was performing and to highlight the areas where it can do better and achieve even more.
- 11.2 In its feedback report, the peer team highlighted nine key recommendations that would help the Council to further improve services over the coming years.

A copy of the Feedback report is published on the Council's website and can be viewed via this [link](#).

- 11.3 At the request of the Council, a review of the progress against the nine recommendations was carried out by internal audit. The independent report of the implementation of the Council's agreed actions in response to the recommendations was presented to the Audit Committee at its meeting on 8 March 2018 (report AUD206, refers).
- 11.4 In September 2018, the Peer Challenge team revisited the Council to consider what progress had been made since their report was issued in 2017.
- 11.5 The follow up included meeting with members and senior officers across the Council as well as with some stakeholders.
- 11.6 Appendix 1 to this report includes the summary report of the peer review team.

12 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

12.1 None.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-

Previous Committee Reports:-

AUD206 LGA Peer Review Action Plan Progress Update

Other Background Documents:-

None.

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 Peer Challenge Team follow up report