Peer Challenge Action Plan Progress Report

Appendix G

Recommendation	Actions	Deadline	Responsible Person	Key Contributors and Partners	Link to Policy and/or responsible Executive Member	RAG Status	Completed	Commentary
1. Develop a long term narrative of the future of Huntingdonshire to inform place shaping, direct decision making and future forms of partnership working. This should make use of local evidence and context, along with national data of future trends and projections, to underpin this.	1a. Give further consideration to this recommendation once a decision on devolution is made by Council in October 2016.	Jan-17	Jo Lancaster	Cabinet, O&S, Local Stakeholders	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution Agreement (Cllr Howe)	G	√	Now integrated into Corporate Plan review beginning in June
	1b. Statutory consultation on proposed Local Plan to 2036 submission.	May-July 2017	Andy Moffat	Planning Policy, Cambridgeshire County Council Transport	Local Plan to 2036 (Cllr Harrison)	G	✓	Consultation due to commence in June 2017
	1c. Analyse a range of data, including Economic, Health, Demography and housing trends to identify future trends and areas of concern that may present barriers to achieving our long term vision for Huntingdonshire.	Apr-17	Adrian Dobbyne	Dan Buckridge	Local Plan to 2036, Housing Strategy (Cllr Bull) and Skills and Enterprise Policy (Cllr Harrison)	G	✓	Evidence base for Corporate Plan 2018/20 includes these data sets
	1d. Work with Cabinet to ensure decisions are made based on the evidence and for them to proactively work to inform residents and partners on the vision for Huntingdonshire. For example, providing report writing training for senior officers.	Year end	Jo Lancaster	Cabinet	Cllr Cawley	G	✓	Training done, activity ongoing
2. Ensure the Corporate Plan drives the budget and delivery - this will mean changing the footprint of existing service delivery to focus on new priorities.	2a. Involve Members in reviewing the Corporate Plan and deciding what our key actions and performance indicators should be.	Mar-17	Adrian Dobbyne	O&S/Cabinet	Plan on a Page, Budget and MTFS (Cllr Gray)	G	√	O&S Task and Finish Group 27 Feb. SMT discussing with Portfolio Holders. To Cabinet 16 March and Council 29 March
	2b. Make clear decisions on what our services standards should be based on cost and customer need, to include reviewing the provision of non-statutory services.	Feb-17	HoS / PFH	Council	Plan on a Page, Budget and MTFS (Cllr Gray)	G	✓	Service standards now incorporated into "business as usual" via LEAN.
	2c. Quantify the workstreams on the reworked Plan on a Page to better link finances and delivery.	Oct-17	Clive Mason / Jo Lancaster	PFH Resources	Plan on a Page, Budget and MTFS (Cllr Gray)	G	√	
	2d. Introduce charging options for higher levels of service.	Dec-17	HoS / PFH	O&S/Council	Link to commercialisation (Cllr Brown)	G	✓	Members elected not to change charges in 2016, a review will follow the establishment of a Parking Strategy in September 2017
	2e. Use benchmarking data to ensure resources are achieving maximum value within 2017/18 service plans.	Feb-17	HoS / PFH	HoS	Cllr Cawley	G	✓	Benchmarking of Planning Service by Planning Officers' Society completed in Feb 17
	2f. Use the budget challenge process to focus budgets on achieving Corporate Plan priorities.	Nov-16	Anthony Kemp	O&S/Council	Plan on a Page, Budget and MTFS (Cllr Gray)	G	√	Business Planning cycle in place

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3. Recast the approach to working in partnership, recognising that this means not always leading, to secure benefits for the wider area and the community.	3a. Build on the decision to award two contracts, one for advice based services and the other for infrastructure services, to the voluntary sector in order to ensure the sector is in the best possible position to support the community.	Mar-17	Nigel McCurdy	Third sector/O&S	Community Resilience Plan (Cllr Dickinson)	G	✓	Contract monitoring will ensure this outcome is delivered.
	3b. Ensure formal contracts with partners are written to protect the interests of the Council and its residents.	Year end	Clive Mason	Corporate Governance Committee	Cllr Brown	G	✓	Ongoing
	3c. Develop an asset disposal/asset management plan for HDC land and property.	Year end	Clive Mason	Cabinet	Use of Council Assets (Cllrs Gray and Howe)	G	✓	First wave of disposals underway
	3d. Use the Making Assets Count programme to maximise benefits from colocation or better use of existing assets.	Year end	Nigel McCurdy	County / Districts / Public Sector	Use of Council Assets (Cllrs Gray and Howe) and County Council Land Swap and Maintenance (Cllrs White and Gray)	G	✓	MAC closed, but work being done via other channels
4. Use all Members' democratic position, as ambassadors of the Council, to engage and influence partners and forms of partnership working.	4a. All Members appointed as representatives on organisations to be responsible for reporting to O&S on a quarterly basis.	Apr-17	Adrian Dobbyne	Group Leaders	Cllr Cawley	G	✓	The three O&S Panels have allocated the organisations to their Panels and will receive a report on an annual basis.
	4b. Introduce a Council Champion approach and ask all members to sign up to the principle of acting as an ambassador of the Council.	Apr-17	Adrian Dobbyne	Group Leaders	Relationships with County, Town and Parish Councils (Cllr Dickinson)	G	✓	Agenda item at Members' Summit
	4c. Encourage all members to keep themselves up to date on HDC decisions via existing mechanisms.	Apr-17	Adrian Dobbyne	Group Leaders	Cllr Howe	G	✓	Agenda item at Members' Summit
	4d. Remind officers of the need to ensure Members are aware of key decisions on service provision in their wards.	Jan-17	Adrian Dobbyne	All Councillors	Cllr Howe	G	✓	Message delivered via Managers Forum
5. Improve the relationship, the Council offer and partnership working with the business sector.	5a. Work with the LEP to improve insight and intelligence into the local economy and businesses based in Huntingdonshire	Apr-17	Nigel McCurdy	Leader/ PFH	Skills and Enterprise Policy (Cllr Harrison)	А		Not under our direct control; SEP evidence base now delayed by LEP
	5b. Through our connections, work with Town Councils and small businesses to improve insight and intelligence into local economy and small business sector	Apr-17	Nigel McCurdy		Cllr Harrison/ Cllr Dickinson	A/G		Work with small businesses needs impetus; Town Council work is at Green status
6. Retain the Council's focus	6a. Present details of progress indicated in the Annual Monitoring Report to O&S and Cabinet.	Jan-17	Andy Moffat	O&S / Cabinet	5 Year Housing Land Supply and Housing Strategy (Cllrs Harrison and Bull)	G	✓	Report considered at Oct 16 PDG meeting

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including meeting the full range of housing need. Growth will be contingent upon increased housing.	6b. Undertake a longer term assessment of options to generate more affordable housing and temporary accommodation in the district.	Dec-16	Andy Moffat / Jon Collen	O&S E28/ Cabinet	Homelessness Accommodation (Coneygear Court) (Cllr Fuller) and Housing Strategy (Cllr Bull)	G	✓	Reports considered at Nov 16, Jan 17 and Apr 17 PDG meetings. Housing Strategy due to the considered/adopted in Jun 17.
7. Conduct further work on refining the organisational understanding of efficiency that extends beyond just financial savings. This should link efficiency with the other two Council priorities of growth and enabling communities. New ways of working can lead to outcomes than include redefining models of delivery, service improvement and improved satisfaction.	7a. Commence a programme of work relating to continuous improvement to enable the business to work smarter and achieve more with less.	Dec-16	СМТ	SMT / Cabinet	Commercialisation (Cllrs Brown), improvement (Cllr Cawley)	G	✓	Part of the business project within the Transformation Programme
	7b. Develop measures to monitor customer satisfaction and implement the Customer Service Strategy.	Mar-17	Adrian Dobbyne / John Taylor	O&S / Cabinet	Cllr Cawley	G	√	All HoS have actions in their service plans to deliver the Customer Service Strategy. The Transformation Programme is developing measures that suit a new delivery model. The new Corporate Plan will subsume the Customer Service Strategy
8. Extend benchmarking activity so that the Council can benefit from understanding the 'value for money' of its services compared with other councils. This would assist the Council in its decision making on service cost, quality and performance.	Related actions already listed under 2e, 7a and 7b.					N/A		
9. Enhance and develop the organisational understanding of demand management to	9a. Engage with internal and external stakeholders to develop a Community Resilience Plan.	Mar-17	Chris Stopford	Cllr Criswell / External Stakeholders	Community Resilience Plan (Cllr Dickinson)	G	✓	PDG 16 May

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form the cornerstone of the enabling communities and community resilience priority. Initiate an internal and external debate on what an enabling communities programme might look like and use this to inform the production of an Enabling Communities Strategy. This would guide Council activity on this priority with greater assurance and understanding of resources required.	9b. Create an action plan to deliver the	Apr-17	Chris Stopford	Cllr Criswell	Community Resilience Plan and Relationships with Parish Councils (Cllr Dickinson). Community Planning Guide (Cllrs Dickinson and Bull)	(¬	√	Principles paper in May, Procedure paper in June
10. Continue to develop the model of Commercial Investment Strategy to produce future income streams. As part of this evaluate how the Strategy could both deliver economic growth and housing priorities within the area while also generating important income streams.	10a. Review options for investment in housing and any savings that could be achieved against housing support costs.	Feb-17	Clive Mason / Andy Moffat	Cllr Gray / Cllr Bull	Homelessness Accommodation (Coneygear Court) (Cllr Fuller) and Use of Council Assets (Cllrs Gray and Howe)	G	√	Ties into Asset Disposal Strategy too
	10b. Start to consider the impact of changes to NNDR retention when making commercial property investment decisions, along with the employment opportunities that may be presented.	Apr-17	Clive Mason / John Taylor	Cllr Tysoe	Use of Council Assets (Cllrs Gray and Howe)	G	√	
	10c. Services to review their commercialisation and income generation opportunities.	Feb-17	HoS	Cabinet	Commercialisation (Cllr Brown)	G	✓	Doc Centre and CCTV business case prepared & ready for Cllr Brown to take to Members
_		Year end	Nigel McCurdy / Jo Lancaster	LEP / Cllr Harrison	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution Agreement (Cllr Howe)	A/G		Much effort is going into an improved relationship built around common priorities
12. Produce a formal	12a. Produce a formal transformation strategy and implementation plan.	Dec-17	Anthony Kemp	Cabinet / SMT	Cllr Cawley	G	✓	In place and being expanded
	Related action already listed under 7a.					N/A		