## Derbyshire Dales District Council - Corporate Peer Challenge Action Plan – July 2020

**APPENDIX 2** 

	KEY RECOMMENDATION	PROPOSED ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY	DEADLINE
1	Develop a strong narrative and vision for your area that is owned and understood by members, officers and key stakeholders. Consider how to further broaden members' understanding of the whole district.	Publish slimmed down and plain English version of Corporate Plan evidence base	Mike Hase	August 2020
		Member corporate governance training on the back of the new Corporate Plan that guides Members to think corporately	Member Development Working Group (MDWG)	Summer 2020
		Bi-Annual Tour of the District to reinforce corporate priorities?	MDWG	September 2020
		Training to ensure that Members understand the strategic financial position	Karen Henriksen to lead, but determined by MDWG	November 2020
2	Ensure the new corporate plan is an opportunity to look forward and takes account of the potential for a fresh approach. It will need to be collectively owned and appropriately resourced to deliver.	Annual review of Corporate Plan objectives (not just performance indicators)	Corporate Leadership Team (CLT), Council	November 2020 November 2021 November 2022
		Analyse budget and capital programme in line with new corporate plan priorities	Karen Henriksen	September 2020
		Review and simplify format of Service Plans to show links to Corporate Plan and resources, include both qualitative and quantitative information, and refer to core statutory duties	Mike Hase, CLT	September 2020
3	Ensure you understand and maximise the benefits for the district as a whole. Judgement of the value of the Council's	Consider defining a key decision to demonstrate wider district community benefit, cost and desired outcomes (to distinguish from parochial outlook)	Sandra Lamb	Annual Meeting
	intervention should not only be based on cost.	Put more emphasis on different ways of working and engaging with our communities. We need to understand local needs and wants, and f work with local community groups, and Town & Parish Councils to achieve agreed objectives, including the development of a Community Asset Transfer policy	Rebecca Bryan	March 2021

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4	Ensure the Council's commercialisation approach is sufficiently clear, ambitious and realistic. Make sure this will provide income to support the delivery of quality services and the ambitions of the Council.	Define clearly what DDDC means by commercialism, its scope, priorities, exclusions, risks and realistic income potential. (Take into account tradeable services e.g. market comparisons on service fees and charges, regeneration and investments)	Strategic Director	TBC – subject to resources being made available
		Produce an annual commercial work plan and monitor its success.	Strategic Director	TBC - subject to resources being made available
		Maximise Corporate Social Responsibility via procurement: encourage contractor investment aligned to DDDC priorities.	Strategic Director	TBC - subject to resources being made available
5	Further strengthen relationships with all key stakeholders especially where delivery of practical and mutual benefits to the district can be achieved.	Continue to use our influence via D2N2 Boards, PDNPA and DCC. Continue to play a leading role in the non-structural reform agenda	Paul Wilson / Steve Capes	Ongoing
		Review significant partnerships and outside body representation based on their fit with our corporate themes	Sandra Lamb / James McLaughlin	Annual Meeting and for Member Workshop discussion
		Ensure feedback mechanism to Council from elected representatives on outside bodies to ensure organisational learning	Sandra Lamb / James McLaughlin	Annual Meeting and for Member Workshop discussion
		Review mechanism for engaging with 70 Parish Councils in the District – perhaps a Ward approach or within established community identifies e.g. Hope Valley. Consider rolling out key contact scheme with Parish Councils on a rolling programme (along lines of Closer Working relationships with Town Councils).	CLT	May 2021
		Reconsider format of Community Forums to be less combative; include a Question time session with the Leader. Reach out to communities on their terms as a listening session not a broadcast event.	LAG	Annual Meeting

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6	Review the role description for members to ensure they can fully contribute to the future direction of the council and the district.	Review to focus on community leadership role and to stress need to put district ahead of ward Organise facilitated workshop by EMPC to focus on community leadership in redrafting role profiles	MDWG	Annual Meeting
		Re-purpose the Member Development Working Group to consider a competency framework for newly elected Councillors with a training plan to fit.		Revised ToR Agreed First meeting Autumn 2020
		Instruct the IRP to include diversity of members, as part of the review of allowances.		Review commenced. Revised target
		Create a forum for ideas and initiatives from all Councillors which can then be assessed against the Corporate Plan		following suspension Sept 2020
		Develop a succession plan for political groups to use to invest in promoting talent within the group system. Small budget perhaps for Groups to disperse?		
7	Utilise group leaders to ensure all members are fully informed. Ensure information is easily accessible to all members. Consider a single log for member enquiries and have options for self- service.	CRM system to be used to log and manage Member requests for service. Reduce email communications for routine business by more self-serve options, e.g. apologies and invitations to workshops	Glenn Burton	October 2020
		Review Members Portal to segment information which can be viewed without the email traffic.	James McLaughlin	December 2020
		Member monthly bulletin with contributions from Councillors	MDWG	For Member Workshop discussion
		Consider scheduling meetings of LAG to keep senior politicians up to date on strategic matters generally	MDWG	For Member Workshop discussion
		Member briefings pre Committee and/or Quarterly area focused meetings	MDWG	For Member Workshop discussion
		Programmed quarterly member Q&A (with Leaders and CLT)	MDWG	For Member Workshop discussion

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8	The Council should consider its own skills base and investment capability to promote jobs and business growth. The draft economic plan drives an ambitious direction at a time when site delivery and wider economic circumstances are challenging and suitably skilled staff are needed.	Recruit skilled commercial development staff to deliver sites. Ensure organisational review of capacity alongside strategic succession planning policy for employees Further utilise staff whose day jobs involve routine interaction with business, in addition to business advice service, e.g. Environmental Health and Licensing		October 2020 Ongoing
9	Consider whether your affordable housing offer needs to be diversified in light of the range of local housing need.	Ensure our Housing function delivers on a range of housing needs and tenures for residents as a whole, as well as social rented housing. Workshop with elected members to scope potential	Rob Cogings	March 2021 Housing Workshop
		and resources required to expand (or not) from affordable rental market	Tob Cogings	(Autumn 2020)
		Properly consider the role of the private rented sector in this respect	Tim Braund / Rob Cogings	Housing Workshop (Autumn 2020)
		Promote the work of Community Land Trusts and Almshouse charities who provide affordable housing	Rob Cogings	June 2020
10	Further engage with strategic and local organisations to build trust and community capacity to advocate for and deliver on important initiatives (for example. climate change).	Consider co-option of voluntary sector on working groups e.g. climate change.	Ashley Watts	Summer 2020
		Allocate some of the LPF or Better DD's fund for larger/strategic community initiatives	Ashley Watts	Summer 2020
		Work with Derbyshire based agencies to support community initiatives, e.g. Community Payment Scheme	Ashley Watts	Summer 2020

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11	Ensure that the Council fully understands what a 2030 carbon neutral target means in impact and cost terms. Good growth and carbon neutrality should both be core to the Council's climate change plan.	Commit to the development of a Climate Change Strategy with clearly defined targets and actions which do not prevent sustainable economic growth.	Climate Change Working Group (CCWG)	Summer 2020
		Prepare Climate Change SPD	Mike Hase	June 2021
		Climate Change Task Group Annual Action Plan to Council	CCWG	Autumn 2020
		Assessment of carbon footprint in committee reports (basic level)	CLT	Annual Meeting
		Consider co-opting expertise and local interest groups to join the Task Group	CCWG	Ongoing
		Development of strategy with clear action plan leading to 2030. Delivery against those targets. Consider role of SMT in helping with this. Consider role in wider community in this respect	CCWG	Ongoing
12	Share the narrative and celebrate success.	Maximise opportunities for PR and encourage good news stories to be raised with JF from across the whole of the organisation: invite staff to share their stories of how they have made a difference for promotion through Paul's Post and external if relevant i.e. open up Departmental blog's to run alongside Paul's Post. Develop a council-wide culture so that staff willingly share their successes	Jim Fearn / CLT	Autumn 2020
		Increased promotion of Local Projects Fund	Rebecca Bryan	Autumn 2020
		Encourage success to be shared across professional networks e.g. Linkedin	CLT / Senior Management Team (SMT)	Summer 2020
		Pursue opportunities for national awards e.g. MJ / Housing / APSE	CLT / SMT	Ongoing