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**Report of: Director of Transformation, Housing and Resources**

**Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor Adam Yates**

**Contact for further information: Name (Extn. 5262) Chris Twomey  
(E-mail: [Chris.twomey@westlancs.gov.uk](mailto:Chris.twomey@westlancs.gov.uk))**

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**SUBJECT: CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE**

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Wards affected: Borough wide

#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To present to councillors the Corporate Peer Challenge Report and draft action plan

#### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

2.1 That the Committee consider the Peer Review action plan and that the agreed comments of Executive and Scrutiny Committee be passed to Cabinet for approval.

#### **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET**

3.1 That the Corporate Peer Challenge report be welcomed.

3.2 That, subject to the agreed comments of the Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the action plan be agreed.

3.3 That Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee monitor the delivery of the action plan.

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#### **4.0 BACKGROUND**

4.1 As part of its `sector led improvement` support to local government the Local Government Association (LGA) offers the delivery of a Corporate Peer Challenge (CPC).

- 4.2 The Peer Challenge is designed to help councils improve, bringing political and managerial leadership through the use of member and officer peers to provide robust, strategic and credible challenge and support.

## **5.0 CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE**

- 5.1 The peer review team were on site 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022. The team provided their initial findings in the form of a presentation to councillors, staff and representatives of partner organisations who had taken part in the review. They have now provided a detailed report setting out their findings and key recommendations which has been published on the Councils website. (Appendix A)
- 5.2 The Council is required to draw up and publish an action plan by way of a response to the teams' key recommendations within 8 weeks. The draft is attached in Appendix B and in line with LGA timescales has been provisionally published on the Council's website pending approval outlined in section 3 of this report. The completion of the action plan will be monitored by Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 5.4 The CPC process also requires a six-month review session with the Peer Review team to check on progress with delivery of the action plan, it is anticipated that this will take place in early 2023.

## **6.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 At this time there are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and in particular no significant impact on crime and disorder.

## **7.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The Council is currently a subscriber to the LGA.
- 7.2 It is expected that the resource implications will be met using existing resources.

## **8.0 RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 8.1 While no changes have been made to the risk registers as a result of this report, monitoring and managing performance and improvement helps the authority to ensure corporate priorities are achieved.

## **9.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The report outlined feedback on the Borough Council's place-based role in addressing health inequalities and improved health and wellbeing outcomes for local communities.
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## **Background Documents**

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

## **Equality Impact Assessment**

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

## **Appendices**

Appendix A Peer Review report

Appendix B Draft Action plan

Appendix C Minute of the Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 6 September 2022 (Cabinet only)