

**Subject:** Corporate Peer Challenge

Dear Colleagues

We are writing to let you know that we have asked the LGA to carry out a Corporate Peer Challenge.

This will be our first peer challenge for some time but it feels timely to pause, reflect and receive some external challenge on our work and the plans we have put in place. The peer challenge will address the key lines of enquiry central to all peer challenges (priority setting; leadership of place; organisational leadership and governance; financial planning and viability; and capacity to deliver), but we have also asked that they provide us with some challenge around the robustness of our plans to support leaders and create the right organisational culture that can enable us to deliver the changes needed.

The team will be on site during the week commencing the 18 June led by Becky Shaw (CEO, East Sussex Council) and Baroness Jane Scott (Leader, Wiltshire Council). We are keen that they get to see a range of Members and officers from across ECC, as well as with many of you to provide them with a good flavour of the work that is underway and how we work. A timetable is currently being worked up and Katrina Fraser will be in contact with many of you in the coming weeks to see if you would be willing to take part and share your views with the peer team.

We are keen that this process is as robust and transparent as possible and we will be sharing our position statement and findings of the peer challenge.

Should you have any questions about this work, please contact Richard Puleston in the first instance, copied in here, who I am sure will be able to help.

Regards,

**Cllr David Finch  
Leader**

**Gavin Jones  
Chief Executive**