

CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE REVIEW 2022

- In March 2019, the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council invited the LGA to undertake a Corporate Peer Challenge (CPC). This was conducted by a team of elected members and senior officers from other local authorities together with LGA advisors.
- The CPC is a tried and trusted method of improvement, providing Councils with a robust and effective improvement tool which is owned and delivered by the sector, for the sector.
- In their [feedback report](#), the 2019 CPC found that we were a good Council, with potential to become a great Council and exemplar leader of place. They made eight recommendations for improvement, which have been addressed in multiple ways since 2019.
- The LGA CPC are returning to visit Stroud District Council between 8 and 10 March 2022. During the visit there will be a timetable of activity including meetings and workshops, providing an opportunity to explore issues and ideas, as well as evidence gathering.
- The CPC will cover five core components that are underpinning features of good performance:
 - Local priorities and outcomes
 - Organisational and place leadership
 - Governance and culture
 - Financial planning and management
 - Capacity for improvement
- In addition, SDC have identified two additional areas for the CPC team to focus on:
 - How effectively the Council responded to and supported the community through the pandemic
 - Reflections on the new Council Plan and delivery ambitions
- A key background document for the peer team is a 'Position Statement' which provides a clear brief and steer on the local context and what the peer team should focus on. The Position Statement is focussed around the seven key components outlined above and outlines the ways in which SDC has addressed the eight recommendations from the 2019 CPC.
- The statement is available on a [hidden page of the SDC website](#), which also includes links to the accompanying documents and appendices that are embedded within the statement.
- On the final day of the CPC visit the peer team will deliver verbal feedback to a selected audience, and this will be followed up by a report within three weeks of the CPC. The report will detail the strengths of the Council, the issues considered, areas for further improvement and key recommendations.
- Within eight weeks of the CPC's report, SDC will prepare an action plan to address the recommendations.

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