

LGA Corporate Peer Challenge

Action Plan

Recommendation	Actions
<p>1. Build on recent place leadership work – consider developing a renewed, partnership-led, long-term vision for the district, residents and businesses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivering a new Local Plan for the District• Developing a new Community Plan with a clear vision for the next 10 years, actions to ensure the plan is delivered and monitoring in place to demonstrate progress• Embedding a new Community Empowerment & Planning Toolkit• Place Campaign to be implemented for the District, shaped-by and tested with partners and business groups• A new Economic Development Strategy, tested with business groups.
<p>2. Complement the council's existing project-based community engagement work with more open, bottom-up, conversational approaches</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developing and embedding a new approach to community empowerment which ensures that individuals and communities are equipped, informed, skilled and confident in their abilities to define, by themselves, their priorities, agendas and ultimately actions they may wish to put in place.• Develop relationships with community groups to gain further information, data and insights in to local communities.• Maximise the benefit of new Census data and future ONS mid-year updates and data publications to develop information and analysis of local communities.

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<p>3. Use service data and community networks to enhance the council's understanding of its diverse and emerging communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise the benefit of new Census data and future ONS mid-year updates and data publications to develop information and analysis of local communities. • Develop approaches with town and parish councils, community and neighbourhood groups to gain further information, data and insights in to local communities. • Broaden the range, use and analysis/interpretation of service data to enhance knowledge about communities and to inform community engagement and service initiatives. • Enhance the use of GIS systems to aid understanding of local communities.
<p>4. Consider the optimum balance between the council's scale of ambition and availability of resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the context of government limits to authorities' making property investments for commercial gain, to Review the Property Investment Strategy and Capital Programme. • Ongoing financial, viability and affordability assessment of the 10 year programme of capital projects.
<p>5. Explore the scope for a managed increase in Quercus Housing's affordable housing delivery outputs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To continue to review the Quercus Housing business plan annually to ensure the most current opportunities can be taking in to account. • To complete analysis of the potential benefits to be achieved from registered provider and delivery partner status. • Exploring further partnerships with local providers. • To set out a proposal to the Council for an increase in available funding over a 10 year period to enable affordable housing schemes to be delivered.

Recommendation	Actions
<p>6. Consider the full range of options for additional modest-scale market value and affordable housing activity – ‘massive small’</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging Local Plan to bring forward a programme for good growth. • Maximising the available developable land through the Local Plan and the call for sites. • Site by site analysis, with no limits to adopting the most appropriate form of housing delivery. • Exploring partnerships with local providers • Complete asset review to understand options for Council owned small sites. • Continuing the 10-year programme for council owned assets.
<p>7. Review the external specialist skills to challenge viability appraisals and negotiate S106 agreements with developers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On a case by case basis to evaluate the most appropriate resource to assess viability appraisals and to inform negotiation on S106 agreements. • To continue to ensure there is external evaluation of S106 viability appraisals.
<p>8. Use the council’s influence to optimise the outcomes from the district’s strategic development sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key stakeholder engagement for all strategic development sites • Engagement with Neighbourhood Development Plans • Strategic Partnership Agreements with social housing provider(s) • Review of infrastructure funding statement and CIL charging schedule • Development of a new Economic Development Strategy and place campaign to encourage inward investment

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9. Consider developing a proposition for inward investment and development as part of the emerging economic development strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="902 284 1921 355">• Delivering a new, long-term, Economic Development Strategy for the District.<li data-bbox="902 379 2011 451">• Maximise the benefit of the Place Campaign and relationships with partners and key stakeholders to promote inward investment in the District.