

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE - 3 FEBRUARY 2015

REPORT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

PLANNING PEER CHALLENGE

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

Purpose/Summary of Report

- The report provides details of the Planning Peer Challenge and presents an action plan to implement the recommendations in the Peer Challenge Report.

<u>RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXECUTIVE: That:</u>	
(A)	the content of the report be noted; and
(B)	the action plan, as detailed at Essential Reference Paper 'C' of the report submitted, be approved.

1.0 Background

1.1 The Peer Challenge report is a summary of the findings of a planning peer challenge organised by the Local Government Association (LGA) in cooperation with the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) and carried out by its trained peers. The report is contained in **Essential Reference Paper 'B'**.

1.2 Peer challenges are managed and delivered by the sector for the sector. They are improvement oriented and are tailored to meet individual Councils' needs.

1.3 The Council wanted the challenge team to focus on some detailed issues:

- Member and officer working
- Moving to a Development Management culture and being 'open for business'

- Localism and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
- The Development Management Committee

1.4 These specific areas for examination are picked up under the themes and focus used for a planning peer challenge:

- Clarity and locally distinctive vision and leadership for the planning service
- Community leadership and engaging with the community
- Management and service delivery
- Partnership working both internally and externally
- Achieving outcomes.

2.0 Report

2.1 The Peer Challenge report makes a number of recommendations. These recommendations have been converted into an action plan. The action plan shows the relationship between the recommendations in the Peer Challenge report and the actions which are proposed. The action plan is contained in **Essential Reference Paper 'C'**.

3.0 Implications/Consultations

3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

Background Papers

None

Contact Member: Councillor Tony Jackson
tony.jackson@eastherts.gov.uk

Contact Officer: Simon Drinkwater- Director of Neighbourhood Services
01992 531404
simon.drinkwater@eastherts.gov.uk

Report Author: Simon Drinkwater- Director of Neighbourhood Services