

		Original	Due	Action	SHDC		Revised Due
The LGA Said	Therefore we will	Date	Owner	Status	South Hams Progress Update		Date
<b>2. Strengthen the council's political governance arrangements</b>							
With both councils having elections in May 2019, it will be essential for tangible progress to be made to rebuild relationships to shape the future vision in readiness for the new administrations		2.1 Develop a comprehensive Member Induction programme with an early focus on the Councils corporate themes and objectives. This will include a number of joint induction sessions	May-19	Democratic Services Lead	Complete	01/05/2019 - Induction programme developed and officers presentations developed. Resource packs ready. Prospective candidates were all provided with an outline of the timetable. There is a significant amount of information to provide Members with in a short period of time. The Corporate Theme session will be short but give a flavour for whats included. The Intranet has been updated with useful information.	NA
		2.2 Recomence joint working to develop and monitor progress in delivering this Peer Challenge Action Plan	Mar-19	Leaders	Ongoing	March 2019 - An initial meeting held with Cllr Wright, Cllr Bastone, Cllr Baldry and Members of WDBC to develop this action plan. Ongoing progress monitoring will be by O&S Panel however a further JWG will be arranged in Autumn 2019 to jointly review progress (12 months on from the Peer Challenge).  05/11/2019 - Various joint briefings and workshops have taken place since July 2019 (Climate Change, Risk Management, Waste Working Group, and an IT joint steering group is currently being planned).	
		2.3 Ensure that where matters for Members consideration impact both Councils, Officer undertake joint SHWD briefings of relevant lead Members at an early stage to enable input to shape proposals from the outset. This will be driven by the committee forward plans	Apr-19	SLT&ELT	Ongoing	28/06/2019 - With a high percentage of Members elected to the Council in May 2019 being new, the current focus is on developing understanding of the Councils own position and priorities and developing its own forward plan rather than exploring joint committee meetings at this stage. June was a stretch target and as such proposal to push the due date back to December 2019 to have considered opportunities for any joint committee meetings	
		2.4 Consider the opportunity for areas of Council business where joint committee meetings would be beneficial (such as scrutiny of effectiveness of Joint Services delivery contracts (Leisure/Waste etc) and make recommendation to Council	Jun-19	Democratic Services Lead	Delayed	31/05/2019 - The induction sessions are providing Members with an overview of the current decisions that need to be made in order to set a balanced budget in 2020/21 (and ongoing). Once the corporate strategy themes have been set by Members, decisions will be made in alignment with the Councils direction. e Section 151 Officer has a number of finance and budget sessions planned over the coming months	
A number of members did not appear to be able to balance their responsibility for council-wide and ward representation	Members have a strong sense for the wards they represent but this should not mean that this should be of greater importance than a corporate perspective of what may be best for the council and wider area	2.5 Ensure that Members are fully aware of the issues facing the Council and the Council priorities. This will be highlighted through the Member induction/re-induction programme as set out in 2.1	May-19	SLT & Democratic Services Lead	Ongoing	NA	Dec-19
		2.6 WEST DEVON ONLY	NA	NA	NA		NA
		2.7 WEST DEVON ONLY					
		2.8 WEST DEVON ONLY					
		2.9 WEST DEVON ONLY				31/05/2019 - Officers are continue to develop forward plans for decisions which will inform wider Member engagement. Officers are encouraged to have discussions with lead Members before beginning to draft reports so that they reflect the political direction of the Council. Furthermore, the Leader has appointed the Leader of the Liberal Democrat party on the Council to a role on the Executive and a Liberal Democrat Chair of Overview and Scrutiny.  20/06/2019 - The Chief Executive is currently consulting on the restructure of SLT. One of the proposed roles will be responsible for forward planning and ensuring that from an officer perspective engagement and consultation with Members happens in a structured and timely manner	
Both Councils' backbench members felt excluded from decision-making		2.10 - As set out in 2.3, ensure that officers engage with Lead Members on items which require Member consideration early in the development of the proposal. This will in turn enable the Lead Member of each authority to engage with the wider membership on key proposals	Immediate	Lead Members / SLT&ELT	Ongoing	31/03/2019 - The Joint Working Group considered the merits of using Policy Advisory Groups however concluded that they would not add significant value to the Council and may indeed create additional steps in decision making. The decision was therefore not to explore policy advisory groups further at this time but to ensure that informal briefings with all Members are considered as required	
		2.11 Joint Working Group will consider the merits of using Policy Advisory Groups (PAGS) to engage with backbench members.	Mar-19	Joint Working Group	Complete		
		2.12 WEST DEVON ONLY				28/06/2019 - This is part of ongoing agenda monitoring and will be subject to future training / updates for Extended Leadership Team.	
		2.13 Ensure that Officers are aware of decision making powers of Hub/Executive in order to ensure that report recommendations reflect those powers - for example only recommending a matter to Council when required	Apr-19	Monitoring Officer	Ongoing		