

# Corporate Peer Challenge

## *Delivering Improvement and Assurance through Corporate Peer Challenge*

Councillor Abi Brown OBE – Chairman of the LGA's Improvement and Innovation Board

Gavin Jones – Chief Executive of Essex County Council and Commissioner

Councillor Liam Robinson – Leader of Liverpool City Council

Andrew Lewis – Chief Executive of Liverpool City Council

# Strengthened Corporate Peer Challenge

- Launched in April 2024 and a key part of the LGA's new [improvement and assurance framework](#) and councils **Best Value** duty.
- Delivered by the sector, for the sector with a much stronger focus on:
  - Supporting the **financial management and resilience** of councils with the provision of an independent assessment of council finances.
  - **Providing assurance** of both the performance of the council's services and of its **corporate governance** by a stronger review of data and evidence.
  - **Improving outcomes** for communities, by utilising the LGA's [LG Inform](#) local area benchmarking tool to assess council performance.
  - **Promoting openness and transparency**, with a requirement for all councils to have a CPC every five years, to produce and publish a report and action plan and to commit to a Progress Review.
  - **Investing in Peers** through an enhanced programme of in-person training and accreditation with teams reflecting the political make-up of your council.
  - **Delivering improved standards** of assessment and candour.

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# Corporate Peer Challenge (CPC)

Continuing success with

- **Strong demand** from the sector in 2024/25 – over **130 CPCs and Progress Reviews**
- High level of **satisfaction and impact** –
  - **100 per cent participating in the CPC has had a positive impact on the council**
  - **95 per cent feel more confident about their council delivering its priorities**
  - **95 per cent recommend a CPC to others**
  - **100 per cent - taking part in a Progress Review has had a positive impact on the council**
- Delivering **Value for Money** – saves the sector c£1.5m per year compared to use of consultants
- System Leadership - LGA plays a key role in providing leadership and oversight of the performance of the sector e.g. through our political leadership, sector support programmes, LG Inform benchmarking, the work of national and regional peers and the work of regional LGA teams.
- CPC is a key part of this system leadership - the LGA provide leadership and oversight of the programme.

# We need you!

If you're interested in becoming a peer:

To find out more:

- Members - talk to your Political Group Office or National Lead Member Peer
- Officers – visit the peer recruitment page of the LGA's website or speak to Cindy, Gary or Frankie here today who will take your details/register your interest
- Programme of in-person and on-line peer training available
- Member Peer Conference 06 - 07 March 2025 in Manchester
- If you wish to discuss the Strengthened Corporate Peer Challenge offer, again please speak to Gary or Cindy here today or contact your LGA Principal Adviser (contact details on the LGA website)

100 per cent said  
being a peer had a  
positive impact on  
their personal  
development