

ESBC Peer Review Action Plan

Ref	Peer Review Recommendation	Actions / Dates	Responsibility	Progress as at April 1st 2022
1	<p>Invest in building relationships and trust across the political and managerial leadership teams. A comprehensive programme could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • joint Member and senior officer visits to other councils; • a LGA Top Team programme to appreciate the respective roles; • exploration of good collaboration and constructive challenge; • and a review of policies such as values and behaviours to underpin the cultural changes which need to be made. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange Top Team programme; • Review codes of conduct and member officer protocol as part of the review of constitution; 	GA and AOB	Constitution Working Group is meeting fortnightly.
2	<p>Ensure there is political and wide managerial alignment on the current financial position and future strategy and that this reflects those agreed priorities. Agree the council's narrative which explains the priorities and invest time as the Leadership Team to agree the strategic approach to savings and investment which will deliver ESBC's priorities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Align views on the current financial position and agree MTFS, including Treasury Management; • Reintroduce member training on Finance; • VFM 15 – Annual Review of Treasury Management Strategy and approach (February 2023); • Consider introducing zero based budgeting; • Introduce actual expenditure in year to date; • Consider demand for waste collection (given new housing growth); • Complete CIPFA code of financial management; 	SS and SK	MTFS and Treasury Management Strategy, agreed at February 2022 Council. Since the invasion of Ukraine, investments and contracts (including energy) have once again been reviewed and shown no ties with Russia/Belarus.

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3	<p>Together, Members and officers should review and strengthen ESBC’s Member Development programme to ensure that training and support is available and welcomed throughout councillors’ time in office.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VFM03 – Refresh Member Training (target TBA) • CR23a - 9 planning committee member training sessions • CR23B – 2 all member planning briefing sessions • VFM09 – feasibility study regarding an elected member Intranet(June 2022) 	<p>GA/SS/AOB GA/SK SS/SK</p>	

<p>4</p>	<p>Monitor capacity in key areas of the organisation to deliver your ambitions and priorities e.g., regeneration, tourism and climate change and adjust accordingly to deal with pressures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CR11 – provide the second year evaluation of the Tourism Strategy (November 2022) • CR12 – Commission audit of current levels of tourism activity to underpin future delivery and support to partners (July 2022) • CR13 – develop dedicated tourism website and <u>tourism branding</u> to help create identity (March 2023) • CR14 – Launch ES tourism partnership with businesses (September 2022) • Support tourism – EHW11 to 14 – 6 outdoor events, 1 flagship outdoor theatre; new partnerships across Jubilee weekend and Big Burton Carousel; Burton Ale trail; and digital theatre presence, 4 events • Develop LuF bid including CR17 and 18 relating to markets • Progress Towns Fund • CR25 – continue to consider the acquisition of the Molson Coors high street campus for regeneration (July 2022) • CR26 – complete the review of the regional learning hub business case • Progress the CPO of the Maltings precinct (July 2022) • CR30 – complete the delivery of the Washlands enhancement project (December 2022) 	<p>BA/MR GA/AOB + HoRTF BGP/RF/MR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced new Tourism targets CR11-14 • Amion commissioned for LuF business case support • Approved new HoS position for Regen • £496K Towns Fund provision also agreed (to mitigate unforeseen costs) • Molson Coors draft sale due to be agreed • Approved new additional Climate Change officer 0.5 FTE
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CR31 – work with key stakeholders to develop a plan for the new Washlands visitor centre • Design and launch a local regeneration fund (June 2022) • EHW08 – develop EV strategy and 3 charging points for Burton 		
5	<p>In delivering your changes to scrutiny arrangements, identify and provide training and support for Members and officers on the hallmarks of good scrutiny to ensure that these arrangements provide a robust check and balance and are as effective as possible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny training to be identified and delivered (<i>also for new chairs of scrutiny</i>) 	GA/SS/AOB	
6	<p>Continue working with partners to capitalise on the joint work delivered in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. There is a particular opportunity to consider how to work with Staffordshire County Council and health partners to address health inequalities and to also further explore the potential around shared services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CR07 - Work with the Voluntary Sector to develop a post-Covid Voluntary Sector Engagement Strategy in support of our communities – July 2022 • CR08 - Establish a Voluntary Sector Forum – Sept 2022 • CR19 - Working with Better Health Staffordshire, the Council will support the development of this programme and report progress on a quarterly basis • EHW10 – working with SCC continue to review and manage COVID-19 outbreaks in high risk settings with monitoring of compliance (March 2023) 	GA/BGP/AOB/MR	

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7	Building on the positive partnership work with Staffordshire County Council in relation to the Towns Deal, there is now an opportunity to proactively engage in the emerging County Deal discussions to support ESBC's regeneration and growth objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders Board live and meeting during 2022. County deal not under consideration currently as a result of government's pilot approach I the Levelling Up white paper. Work ongoing with SCC through Towns Fund and Levelling Up Fund 	GA/AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders Board live and meeting during 2022. County deal not under consideration currently as a result of government's pilot approach. Work ongoing with SCC through Towns Fund and LuF
8	Continue to make the most of the 'Politics not Personalities' agenda to ensure that across all parties in ESBC, the tone of debate is both respectful and courteous, recognising that ESBC needs to be a leader in setting the tone of civility and respect in all its dealings, internally and externally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitution review working group to consider embedding of "politics not personality" approach 	GA/MF/DFJ/AOB/JT	
9	Communications – shout loud about the council's successes and achievements!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CR01 - conduct a residents survey (August 2022); • CR02 – prepare annual communications plan (May 2022) • CR03 – review Comms, Engagement and Consultation Strategy following place branding exercise • VFM08 – upgrade the council website and go live (December 2022); • VFM10 - Options appraisal on use of chat-bot and live chat options (June 2022) • VFM 12 – council app options appraisal (December 2022) 	SS/SK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of new Digital and Communications post underway

