



Full Council

Monday, 29th June 2026

LGA Corporate Peer Challenge: West Lindsey District Council Progress Review 2026

Report by:

Chief Executive

Contact Officer:

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Executive Summary:

This report presents the findings from the Council's recent LGA Corporate Peer Challenge Progress Review, which is designed to assess the Council's progress against the eight main recommendations made during the full Corporate Peer Challenge, which took place in January 2025.

Appendices to Report

- LGA Corporate Peer Challenge Progress Review – West Lindsey District Council, March 2026

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- That Full Council notes the findings of the 2026 Corporate Peer Challenge Progress Review;**
- That Members note the significant progress made by the Council in implementing the original recommendations within the 2025 Corporate Peer Challenge Report.**

1. Introduction

- 1.1 In January 2025, the Council undertook a Corporate Peer Challenge, with the Local Government Association making eight main recommendations to support the Council's continued learning and improvement.
- 1.2 Resultingly, the Council developed an action plan addressing each of the recommendations, as presented to Full Council on 10th November 2025.
- 1.3 Members of the original Peer Team revisited the Council on 24th March 2026 as part of a Progress Review to assess progress against the action plan and recommendations.
- 1.4 This report presents the findings of the Progress Review, attached as Appendix 1. Members are asked to note the Peer Team's findings, having regard to the considerable progress that the Council is considered to have made in all areas since the original Corporate Peer Challenge in January 2025.

2 Summary of Findings

- 2.1 The review focused broadly on the Council's progress across the core themes of a Corporate Peer Challenge, these being: local priorities and outcomes, organisational and place leadership, governance and culture, financial planning and management, and capacity for improvement. Additionally, the Progress Review included a focus on the Council's readiness for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).
- 2.2 In its findings, the Peer Team considered the Council to have made significant progress against all of the recommendations. In particular, the team noted that the Council has continued to deliver for residents and businesses, despite a period of considerable change in political and managerial leadership. The feedback report also notes the positive and collaborative culture that has developed; finding the Council to be self-aware and driven to self-improvement as an organisation – noting there is more to do to prepare for future challenges.
- 2.3 The report notes the Council's continued sound financial position, with robust governance arrangements in place for the financial management of projects. In respect of LGR, the Peer Team considers the Council to be in a strong position to act as a neutral driver in progressing the work required to deliver unitary local government in Greater Lincolnshire.
- 2.4 In identifying opportunities for continued improvement, the Progress Review suggests that the Council could be more innovative in considering financial efficiencies to mitigate any impact from wider economic uncertainty. The report also encourages the Council to ensure there is sufficient capacity to deliver both its own corporate priorities, and the requirements of LGR.
- 2.5 The Peer Team made no new recommendations during its Progress Review. Noting that significant progress has been made on each of the original recommendations, the report commends and congratulates the

Council's political leadership, managerial leadership, and staff for working together to steer the Council through challenge and drive the organisation forward in a positive, healthy and supportive way.

4. Alternative Options

	Option	Rational for not recommending
1	The Council could choose not to publish the Progress Review findings.	The LGA requires all Councils undertaking a Peer Challenge to publish the findings of the Peer Team. In undertaking the Peer Challenge and subsequent Progress Review, the Council is committed to publishing, and responding to, the findings in an open and transparent manner.

ASSOCIATED IMPLICATIONS

Legal:

None arising as a result of this report.

Financial:

None arising as a result of this report.

Staffing:

None arising as a result of this report.

LGR implications:

None arising as a result of this report.

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights:

None arising as a result of this report.

Data Protection Implications:

None arising as a result of this report.

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities:

None arising as a result of this report.

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations:

None arising as a result of this report.

Health Implications:

None arising as a result of this report.

Risk Assessment:

None arising as a result of this report.

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

[LGA Corporate Peer Challenge Original Findings - West Lindsey District Council January 2025](#)

[WLDC Corporate Peer Challenge Progress Update - Full Council 8th Sep 2025](#)

[WLDC Corporate Peer Challenge Action Plan - Report to Full Council 10th Nov 2025](#)

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

X

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

X