

Report of the Interim Chief Executive**Local Government Reorganisation****1. Purpose of Report**

To give an update report on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to NOTE the report.

3. Detail**3.1 Public Events**

Since the last Cabinet update on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), the Council has hosted two public engagement events, delivered by Senior Officers. These sessions provided residents with an opportunity to gain a clearer understanding of the options currently under development and to ask questions about the potential impact on Broxtowe.

The events were held as follows:

- Wednesday 27 August, Beeston Council Offices, 6.00pm – 8.00pm
- Thursday 4 September, Eastwood Town Council, 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Attendance was strong with 49 attendees at the Beeston event and 45 attendees at the Eastwood session. Feedback received was consistent with previous engagement activity, particularly concerning two key themes:

1. Financial position of Nottingham City Council.
2. Criteria being used to evaluate the various LGR proposals.
3. Distribution of Councillors under the new authorities and the weighting towards the City.
4. Concerns raised over transparency of the proposals being developed.
5. Issues raised about the quality of services provided by Nottingham City Council.
6. Ensuring that local connection and feeling is considered, supporting the Parish and Town Councils.

Where possible, Senior Officers provided detailed analysis to address these concerns and encouraged participants to complete both the county-wide survey and the Broxtowe-specific questions to ensure local views are fully represented.

3.2 Community Engagement Exercise

The county-wide engagement exercise closed on 14 September 2025. For Broxtowe residents, the survey was distributed to every household in the Borough and included additional questions focused on Broxtowe-specific options, particularly for Options 1b and 1e.

At the time of writing this report:

- Over 15,000 responses have been received county-wide.
- Over 6,000 responses specifically addressed the Broxtowe questions.

Updated figures will be provided at the meeting. A more detailed analysis will also follow and be presented to Cabinet on 4 November 2025.

3.3 Option 1e (City/Rushcliffe/Broxtowe)

Working groups for Option 1e continue to meet on a fortnightly basis, with each workstream developing the supporting rationale and business case for this model.

Although Broxtowe Borough Council does not support any option, Council Officers are actively involved in relevant workstreams. This ensures Broxtowe's interests are represented, and appropriate influence is exerted throughout the business case development process.

3.4 Option 1b – (City/Gedling/Broxtowe)

Following Nottinghamshire County Council's decision on 2 September 2025 to progress a business case for Option 1b, this group is now expected to become more active.

Broxtowe Borough Council has identified an Officer to engage with this process and will adopt the same approach taken with Option 1e. This will involve participating constructively in workstreams to ensure the Borough's perspective is considered and safeguarded.

3.5 City Council extended boundary option

Nottingham City Council continues to develop its extended boundary proposal. It is anticipated that further details will be available before the date of the Cabinet meeting.

Internal preparations are underway to identify a Broxtowe Officer to participate in discussions, should this proposal progress, mirroring the approach taken for Options 1b and 1e.

Broxtowe Borough Council's position remains clear and consistent that the Council will not support any proposal that would see Broxtowe Included in a wider City unitary authority.

3.6 Finance Officer Group

Nottinghamshire Finance Officers continue to work together to provide consistent and appropriate information that will be utilised on all three options currently being developed. This includes working with PwC and CIPFA as part of the modelling, using all appropriate Council data, to ensure an accurate position is established and included within all options.

3.7 Internal Working Group

The group is responsible for coordinating the Council's contributions to transition workstreams, ensuring that Broxtowe's interests are represented throughout. It will also develop and maintain a local implementation plan that aligns with the wider LGR programme, while ensuring compliance with all relevant regulations and government requirements.

A central focus of the group's work is to ensure that services and systems are ready for the new arrangements and beyond. This includes maintaining continuity of everyday operations while managing the complexities of transition. The group will also review and address resource requirements, including staff capacity and financial implications, to ensure the programme is fully supported.

The Internal Working Group will provide assurance to Cabinet that Broxtowe Borough Council is well positioned to navigate the challenges of reorganisation while continuing to deliver high-quality services to its residents and businesses.

The group met on 3 September 2025 and will meet fortnightly.

3.8 Following on from 2 September 2025 Cabinet, the Chief Executive wrote to the MPs regarding Local Government Reorganisation. The response from Juliet Campbell MP is in the appendix.

4. Financial Implications

The comments from the Interim Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer were as follows:

The Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer and the Assistant Director Finance Services continue to be engaged, through the Nottinghamshire Finance Officers Association (NFOA), in supporting with the financial aspects of the options appraisal process completed in conjunction with the consultants PwC and supported by CIPFA.

The assumptions made by PwC have been challenged and reasonable assurances have been provided as to transition costs and potential savings. Further detailed work will continue in developing the full business case of the preferred option(s) once these are confirmed.

5. Legal Implications

The comments from the Head of Legal Services were as follows:

Whilst there are no direct legal implications arising from this report, it does detail the work that is currently being conducted by key Officers and details what will be required thereafter to ensure progress. Furthermore, public engagement is key for the Council to seek resident's views on these important proposals. As the process develops the legal implications will emerge and relevant commentary will be provided at each stage of the process.

6. Human Resources Implications

There were no comments from the Human Resources Manager.

7. Union Comments

The Union comments were as follows:

It is probably too early at this stage to make any firm comments until the situation affecting members of staff are fully known. Regular engagement with staff to make them aware of progress and to seek their views on these important proposals is essential to maintaining good staff morale moving forward. We do accept that as the LGR progresses then the implications on staff will be clearer and then we feel that relevant feedback from Unison will thus be provided.

8. Climate Change Implications

Climate change will be one of the service issues considered as part of the reorganisation process.

9. Data Protection Compliance Implications

This report does not contain any OFFICIAL(SENSITIVE) information and there are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report. A Memorandum of Understanding has been drafted which the Council has signed. This document sets out the arrangements for data sharing in relation to LGR information. At this stage it is not anticipated that any personal data will be exchanged prior to the submission of the full business case in November.

10. Equality Impact Assessment

No equality impact assessment issues at this stage.

11. Background Papers

Nil