

Report of the Interim Chief Executive

Local Government Reorganisation1. Purpose of Report

For Cabinet to consider the recommendation made at full Council on 26 November 2025 on the three proposals being submitted by Nottinghamshire Council's in relation to and to Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) resolve accordingly. Due to requirement to submit the Council's response on 28 November 2025, a call-in period would prevent the submission within the required timeframe. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, in accordance with the Constitution, has given permission for the item to be excluded from call in based on the reasons stated. A notice was published on 18 November 2025.

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to RESOLVE on the recommendations made by full Council on 26 November 2025 in relation to proposals 1b, 1e and 1bii

Cabinet is asked to RESOLVE to supply the Impact Assessment to government highlighting the potential implications to Broxtowe residents.

3. Detail

At the full Council meeting held on 26 November 2025, Members debated the three LGR proposals to be submitted to government on 28 November 2025. The proposals are:

Proposal	Geographical Area
Option 1b	One authority consisting of the current Broxtowe, Gedling and Nottingham City boundaries. One authority consisting of the remaining Nottinghamshire authorities, including Nottinghamshire County Council.
Option 1e	One authority consisting of the current Broxtowe, Rushcliffe and Nottingham City boundaries. One authority consisting of the remaining Nottinghamshire authorities, including Nottinghamshire County Council
Option 1bii Nottingham City Expanded Boundaries	This option is being developed by Nottingham City Council. No detailed map has been produced but the expansion of the Boundaries is expected to take in some areas of Broxtowe, Gedling and Rushcliffe.

Cabinet is asked to formally endorse the recommendations approved by full Council on 26 November 2025. If approved, these recommendations will be communicated to government in line with the three LGR proposals being submitted by Nottingham and Nottinghamshire councils.

Broxtowe Borough Council has also produced an Impact Assessment report outlining the potential implications for residents and households in Broxtowe arising from a possible merger with Nottingham City Council. This report was presented to members at full Council on 26 November 2025.

4. Financial Implications

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

The Interim Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer has worked with the Nottinghamshire Finance Officers Association (NFOA), in supporting with the financial aspects of the options being appraised. This work was 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 financial savings that could be achieved by LGR.

5. Legal Implications

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

The Council was invited on 5 February 2025 to submit a proposal for unitarisation and local government reorganisation under Part 1 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 ("the 2007 Act") across Nottinghamshire and Nottingham. This power has been actively exercised under the current government's Devolution Priority Programme, as outlined in the English Devolution White Paper published in December 2024, which sets out a renewed commitment to simplifying local government structures to improve service delivery, accountability, and efficiency. These invitations were issued pursuant to the statutory powers under the 2007 Act, supported by ministerial statements and guidance that establish criteria for assessing proposals, including local support, financial sustainability, and service improvement.

Under section 3(6) of the 2007 Act, the Council may respond to the invitation either by a) making its own proposal in accordance with the invitation; or b) making a proposal, in accordance with the invitation, jointly with any of the other authorities. In any event, the proposal will have some sort of impact on Nottinghamshire authorities, when the proposals come to be considered by the Secretary of State as a whole.

There is no statutory requirement on the Councils to consult the members of the public affected by a proposed reorganisation. However, the Secretary of State's

invitation and guidance does state that 'It is for councils to decide how best to engage locally in a meaningful and constructive way and this engagement activity should be evidenced in your proposal' and 'Proposals should include evidence of local engagement, an explanation of the views that have been put forward and how concerns will be addressed'. Engagement in respect of the Councils' proposed preferred option has been undertaken, and the results of that engagement are set out in this report.

The decision is then to be made by the Secretary of State by way of a Structural Changes Order (SCO) being laid, which is to follow only after a period of consultation to be undertaken by the Secretary of State and any response to a request for review made of the Boundary Commission. The SCO will cover the initial transitional arrangements, pending elections to the new local government areas, as well as matters relating to those elections.

The approval of any proposal under the Act is an executive function in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000 Section 9D(2). The Executive will, therefore, be required to make a final decision on approving the Council's proposal for submission, taking into consideration the recommendations of the Council, which is a consultee in relation to this matter.

6. Human Resources Comments

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

There are no direct climate change implications contained within the report.

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.

10. Equality Impact Assessment

No equality impact assessment issues at this stage.

11. Background Papers

Nil.