

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

To provide Members with an update on the ongoing preparatory work being undertaken across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire in relation to Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to NOTE the exercise of the Chief Executive's Urgency Powers and the contents of this report.

3. Detail**Nottinghamshire Local Government Reorganisation Decision**

On 16 July 2026, the Secretary of State announced the Government's decision regarding the future structure of local government across Nottinghamshire and Nottingham.

The Government has approved the proposal submitted by Nottingham City Council to establish two new single-tier unitary authorities. These authorities will replace the current nine local authorities operating across Nottinghamshire and Nottingham.

The two new authorities will comprise:

- **Greater Nottingham Authority:** Nottingham City and parts of Broxtowe, Gedling and Rushcliffe.
- **Nottinghamshire Unitary Authority:** Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Mansfield, Newark and Sherwood, together with parts of Broxtowe, Gedling and Rushcliffe.

As a result of the Government's decision, the boroughs of Broxtowe, Gedling and Rushcliffe will be divided between the two new unitary authorities. An interactive mapping tool has been developed to enable residents and organisations to identify which authority their address will fall within and is available at www.lgrnotts.org.

Cabinet has previously noted that a meeting of the five Broxtowe Group Leaders was scheduled for 24 July 2026. Following the agreement of the five group leaders, the Chief Executive would exercise their urgency powers to commission, jointly with Rushcliffe Borough Council, King's Counsel advice on the Government's LGR decision for Nottinghamshire. The cost to Broxtowe is £2,500. The Council has received a response and is currently reviewing the matter to determine the most appropriate course of action.

Implementation Team

Work is continuing across Nottinghamshire and Nottingham to establish the programme governance arrangements required to support implementation of the LGR programme. This includes identifying senior officers to undertake programme sponsorship and leadership responsibilities across the service transition workstreams.

The proposed programme structure will ensure that service transitions are effectively managed and maintain oversight, coordination and governance across the wider transformation programme.

The principal service transition programmes are:

- Place
- Childrens Services
- Adult Services
- Communities
- Housing
- Corporate Services

In addition, several cross-cutting programmes are being established to provide the enabling functions and supporting infrastructure necessary for the creation of the two new councils.

The proposed cross-cutting programmes are:

- Finance
- Procurement
- Assets
- Customer Services
- Communications, Engagement and Branding
- Digital and Data
- Legal and Governance
- Human Resources and Workforce

Programme Sponsor responsibilities are expected to be shared amongst the Chief Executives of the nine Nottinghamshire local authorities. It is anticipated that Broxtowe Borough Council will provide leadership representation within at least one programme area, helping to ensure the Council remains actively engaged in, and able to influence, the transition process.

Warding Arrangements

On 28 July 2026, Chief Executive Officers across the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire local authorities received correspondence from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) requesting additional information to inform the development of the Structural Change Order.

A key element of the request related to proposed warding arrangements for the new unitary authority areas. MHCLG sought proposals for ward boundaries based on existing wards, electoral divisions and parish boundaries, and confirmed that polling district boundaries should not be used for this purpose.

Following receipt of the request, a series of discussions took place between local authority Chief Executive Officers and Council Leaders across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire to consider potential warding arrangements. A range of options was explored during these discussions.

In relation to the existing Broxtowe area, agreement was reached between the affected councils on the warding arrangements for those areas proposed to form part of the new Nottinghamshire Unitary Authority.

A number of alternative options were also considered for the proposed Greater Nottingham Authority. However, despite extensive discussions, a consensus could not be reached across all councils. Consequently, on 20 August 2026, the Leader of Broxtowe Borough Council submitted a letter to MHCLG setting out the Council's preferred warding proposals for the Greater Nottingham Authority insofar as they relate to the current Broxtowe area.

The final determination of warding arrangements remains a matter for the Secretary of State and will be incorporated within the Structural Change Order.

A copy of the letter is provided at **Appendix A**.

Below is an overview of the proposed warding arrangements for the two Unitary Authority areas.

Nottinghamshire Unitary Authority

Current Wards	Proposed Wards	Number of Councillors
Eastwood Hall	Eastwood	2
Eastwood Hilltop		
Eastwood St Mary's		
Greasley	Greasley & Brinsley	2
Brinsley		

Greater Nottingham Authority

Alternative Proposed by Broxtowe Borough Council		
Current Wards	Proposed Wards	Number of Councillors
Attenborough & Chilwell East	Attenborough & Chilwell	3
Chilwell West		
Awsorth, Cossall & Trowell	Awsorth, Cossall, Trowell & Stapleford North	2
Stapleford North		
Beeston Central	Beeston Central & Rylands	2
Beeston Rylands		
Beeston North	Beeston North & West	2
Beeston West		
Bramcote	Bramcote	1
Stapleford South East	Stapleford South	2
Stapleford South West		
Toton & Chilwell Meadows	Toton & Chilwell Meadows	1
Kimberley	Kimberley	1
Watnall & Nuthall West	Watnall, Nuthall & Strelley	2
Nuthall East & Strelley		

Greasley Parish

Following the initial request for information to support the development of the Structural Change Order, Chief Executive Officers received further correspondence from MHCLG on 14 August 2026 providing additional clarification regarding the potential division of Greasley Parish as a consequence of the proposed new unitary authority boundary.

The correspondence confirmed that, in exceptional circumstances, an alternative approach to the proposed boundary arrangements may be considered. In such cases, the affected councils are required to submit the details of any proposed amendment, together with a clear supporting rationale, for consideration by the Secretary of State. However, MHCLG made clear that any such proposal must have the unanimous support of all authorities within the affected new unitary area. In the absence of unanimous agreement, the default position would be the

division of Greasley Parish, with the area falling within the proposed Greater Nottingham Unitary Authority becoming unparished.

The Leader of the Council has addressed this matter within the response provided at Appendix A. The letter sets out the Council's support for an amendment to the proposed unitary authority boundary that would place the entirety of Greasley Parish within the Nottinghamshire Unitary Authority area. It also outlines the rationale for this position and highlights the potential implications of the alternative arrangements for Greasley Parish and its residents.

In addition, the letter considers the potential establishment of parished areas on either side of the proposed unitary authority boundary, which could continue to operate as a grouped parish under the existing Greasley Parish structure.

4. Key Decision

Not applicable.

5. Updates from Scrutiny

Not applicable.

6. Financial Implications

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

The Chief Executive has used his urgency powers to instruct Kings Council, in conjunction with Rushcliffe Borough Council, for a legal opinion on LGR decision in Nottinghamshire, following a meeting of the five group leaders in Broxtowe. This process cost £5,000 with Broxtowe meeting half of the cost at £2,500. This cost will be met from the earmarked Local Government Reorganisation Reserve.

7. Legal Implications

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

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.

8. Human Resources Implications

There were no comments from the Human Resources Manager.

9. 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.

10. Climate Change Implications

Not applicable.

11. 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.

12. Equality Impact Assessment

Not applicable.

13. Background Papers

Nil.