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Our Ref: MR/PT
Your Ref:
Date: 20 August 2026



**Broxtowe
Borough
COUNCIL**

Beatrice Andrews
Deputy Director, Local Government Reorganisation

via email to Beatrice.Andrews@communities.gov.uk

Dear Beatrice

Re: Local Government Reorganisation in Nottinghamshire – Further Representation on Warding Arrangements and Greasley Parish Council

I am writing in response to your letter of 28 July 2026, inviting further representations to assist the development of the Structural Change Order for Local Government Reorganisation in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

Broxtowe Borough Council has worked closely and constructively with neighbouring authorities to establish appropriate warding and arrangements for the new authorities. This representation is therefore submitted alongside, and in support of, the formal response being made collectively by the Nottinghamshire authorities. Whilst endorsing the collaborative work undertaken across the county, Broxtowe Borough Council believes it is important to provide additional commentary on matters that directly affect communities within the Borough and on which we have local knowledge and experience. As the current authority representing these communities, we believe we are uniquely placed to understand established community identities, local relationships and the practical implications that proposed governance arrangements may have for residents.

We therefore wish to highlight two specific matters for consideration as part of the development of the Structural Change Order:

1. The warding arrangements proposed for the former Broxtowe area within the new Greater Nottingham Unitary Authority; and
2. The proposed division of Greasley Parish Council between the two new unitary authorities.



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In both cases, our comments are driven by a desire to secure the best possible representation for our residents within the new authority. We want to ensure that the communities we currently serve continue to be represented in a way that reflects their local identity, recognises where people feel their community lies, and provides an appropriate foundation of effective local representation in the future.

Warding Arrangements within the Former Broxtowe Area

In developing our proposed warding arrangements, the Council have sought to balance the principles of electoral equality, community identity and effective governance. Whilst numerical equality is an important consideration, it is strongly believed that ward boundaries should also reflect the communities that exist on the ground, established patterns of movement and service provision, and the way residents identify with their local area.

These proposals have been informed by a detailed understanding of local communities and build upon arrangements that have, in several cases, previously been recognised through reviews undertaken by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. We believe that the resulting warding pattern provides an appropriate balance between representation and the preservation of distinct local identities.

Attenborough and Chilwell

The proposed three-member ward for Attenborough and Chilwell reflects a long-established and recognisable community that has been acknowledged through previous boundary reviews. Historical arrangements have repeatedly recognised the close relationship between Attenborough and Chilwell, and previous reviews have not concluded that Toton and Chilwell form a single natural community.

Attenborough and Chilwell share a common identity centred on communities located to the east of Chetwynd Barracks. The barracks form a significant physical barrier which separates Chilwell from Toton and limits integration between those areas. In contrast, Attenborough and Chilwell are connected by a network of principal routes, including Cator Lane, School Lane, Attenborough Lane, Meadow Lane and Bye Pass Road, together with numerous residential links that facilitate movement throughout the area.

These connections are reinforced through public transport and shared service provision. Educationally, families within Attenborough and Chilwell are primarily served by Chilwell School and Alderman White School, creating shared networks amongst children, parents and the wider community. Residents also access common facilities, employment opportunities and services across the area.

The Council further notes that proposals currently being considered through the Community Governance Review would establish local governance arrangements that place Attenborough and Chilwell within the same parish or town council area. Aligning the unitary ward arrangements with these proposed governance structures would promote effective local government and provide a coherent framework for future representation.

Toton and Chilwell Meadows

The Council proposes that Toton and Chilwell Meadows should form a dedicated single-member ward. Whilst this results in a higher electorate-to-councillor ratio than the authority average, we consider that this is fully justified when assessed against the wider statutory considerations of community identity, effective governance and coherent ward boundaries.

Toton and Chilwell Meadows form a geographically distinct area. The community is bounded by the A52 to the north, substantial areas of open space to the east and north-east, Attenborough Nature Reserve to the south and the Erewash boundary to the west. Chetwynd Barracks create a substantial physical barrier separating the area from Chilwell. These features combine to create a clearly identifiable and self-contained community with its own local focus and character.

The area benefits from its own range of facilities, including local retail and commercial services which serve residents' day-to-day needs. Toton is also associated with significant future development opportunities, including the redevelopment of Chetwynd Barracks and other major housing schemes. Current development proposals indicate the potential for approximately 4,000 additional homes over the coming decade.

Given the distinctiveness of the area and the scale of change facing the community, dedicated representation through a single-member ward is considered both appropriate and necessary. The Council also notes that future population growth may provide opportunities for the ward to be reviewed and potentially subdivided during future electoral reviews should electoral numbers warrant such an approach.

Beeston North and West

The proposed two-member Beeston North and West ward reflects the strong and established identity of Beeston as a distinct town. Beeston possesses a recognised town centre, significant public transport connectivity, a vibrant cultural programme, community organisations and a strong shared sense of place.

The town's identity is reflected through a wide range of community-led organisations, events and partnerships that operate specifically within Beeston.

Groups such as Beeston Civic Society and Greening Beeston are examples of organisations established independently by local residents to support and enhance the community. Furthermore, annual festivals, carnivals and civic events bring together community groups, faith organisations and volunteers from across Beeston, demonstrating the strong sense of shared local identity.

The proposal also aligns with emerging Community Governance Review arrangements which are expected to establish a Beeston Town Council. Aligning unitary ward boundaries with those arrangements would provide co-terminosity between tiers of local government, simplify governance arrangements and support effective representation.

Bramcote

The Council has proposed Bramcote as a dedicated single-member ward because of its strong and distinct local identity. Bramcote possesses a unique community character rooted in both the historic village of Old Bramcote and the later residential development commonly referred to as New Bramcote. Residents are served by their own local shopping precinct, leisure centre, schools, pubs and community institutions, all of which contribute to a strong sense of place and community cohesion.

This distinct identity is demonstrated by the work of the Bramcote Neighbourhood Forum, a longstanding community-led organisation established independently of the Council to represent local interests and shape the future of the area. Proposals being considered through the Community Governance Review may further strengthen these local governance arrangements through the creation of a parish council.

Whilst the electorate of Bramcote would result in a higher than average councillor-to-electoral ratio, we consider that this is justified by the strength of community identity and the benefits of maintaining representation that reflects established local boundaries and community relationships. In addition, the significant planned housing growth between Bramcote and Toton may create opportunities for future review and refinement of warding arrangements as population patterns evolve.

Kimberley

The Council also believes that Kimberley should be a dedicated single-member ward. Kimberley functions as an established town with a strong and identifiable sense of place. It possesses its own town centre, schools, healthcare facilities, local events programme, community organisations and transport links, particularly with nearby Eastwood. The town benefits from an active Town Council and has a longstanding identity that is distinct from the surrounding villages and parished communities.

The strength of this identity has been reinforced through government investment programmes directed specifically towards Kimberley and administered through governance arrangements centred upon the town itself. Residents identify strongly with Kimberley as a separate community, and we believe that this should be reflected within the new warding arrangements.

Of the proposed single-member wards, Kimberley represents the smallest variance from the authority average electorate ratio. In our view, this modest variance is significantly outweighed by the clear evidence of community identity, established governance arrangements and the practical benefits of maintaining representation that aligns with residents' understanding of their community.

Other Considerations

In developing its proposals, the Council considered the creation of a two-member ward comprising Toton and Attenborough, which it believes would have provided an appropriate balance between electoral equality, community identity and effective governance. Such an arrangement would have reflected the strong geographic relationship between communities adjoining the River Trent and Attenborough Nature Reserve, whilst also achieving electorate levels comfortably within the expected range for a two-member ward.

However, the Council's ability to develop alternative proposals was constrained by the warding framework prescribed by the Government, particularly the requirement to use existing electoral division building blocks when constructing new unitary wards. As a result, it has not been possible to formulate a proposal that combines Toton and Attenborough while remaining consistent with the agreed methodology and the wider requirements of the review.

A table and map of these proposed wards can be found in the appendix of this letter.

Greasley Parish Council

A separate but equally important issue concerns the proposed division of Greasley Parish Council between the two new unitary authorities.

Broxtowe Borough Council's preferred position is that the unitary authority boundary should be amended to ensure that the entirety of Greasley Parish is positioned in the proposed Nottinghamshire Unitary Authority, rather than being split between two separate authorities. We believe that maintaining the integrity of the parish is important both from a community governance perspective and for the effective operation of the Parish Council. Greasley functions as a single community and has long-established governance arrangements which are best served by remaining within a single principal authority area.

It cannot be overstated the significant financial impact this could place on Greasley Parish Council. It currently operates with a committed budget and provides a range of valued services, events and community facilities that are supported through the parish precept. Greasley Parish Council currently provides a modern and inclusive leisure centre, which is in much needed demand in the area. Greasley Parish Council relies significantly on the precepting income to maintain these facilities. Under the current proposal, Greasley Parish Council would see a reduction in their precept of approximately 1,500 properties. This will have a significant impact on their future sustainability. Broxtowe Borough Council is concerned that such a change could undermine the Parish Council's ability to continue delivering services and facilities at existing levels, potentially to the detriment of local residents.

For these reasons, the Council strongly believe that the most effective and sustainable solution would be to adjust the proposed unitary boundary so that the entire Greasley Parish Council area is retained within the Nottinghamshire Unitary Authority.

Should the Council's proposal not be accepted, it would hope that consideration would be given to support the retention of the area as two separate parishes operating under a grouped Greasley Parish Council. This approach would provide continuity for residents, support the long-term sustainability of the Parish Council and avoid disruption. The Council suggests this noting the precedent for this model elsewhere in England. Lower Peover Parish Council in Cheshire is a grouped parish council comprising the parishes of Peover Inferior and Nether Peover, with the two parishes lying within different unitary authority areas, Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester respectively.

The Council feels strongly that the issues outlined above warrant further consideration and requests that the Secretary of State takes these matters into account as part of the development of the Structural Change Order. To assist in this process, we have enclosed the Council's detailed warding proposals for the former Broxtowe area for consideration and reference.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Radulovic', with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Cllr Milan Radulovic MBE
Leader of Broxtowe Borough Council

Appendix

The table below shows the proposed ward arrangements for the current Broxtowe area in relation to the Greater Nottingham Unitary Authority.

Greater Nottingham Authority

Alternative Proposed by Broxtowe Borough Council		
Current Wards	Proposed Wards	Number of Councillors
Attenborough & Chilwell East	Attenborough & Chilwell	3
Chilwell West		
Awsworth, Cossall & Trowell	Awsworth, 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		

The map below provides an overview of the proposed ward boundaries in the Greater Nottingham Unitary area.

