



Full Council	Tuesday, 24 March 2026	Matter for Information and Decision
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Report Title: **Local Government Reorganisation – Government Consultation on Proposals for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland**

Report Author(s): **Anne Court (Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service)**

Purpose of Report:	This report seeks confirmation of the Council’s response to the MHCLG Consultation on Local Government Reorganisation. It is important for the views of Oadby & Wigston Borough Council’s Members to be considered.
Report Summary:	This report provides a statutory consultation response to the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Consultation on the Proposals put forward by Leicestershire County Council, Leicester City Council and the District and Boroughs and Rutland County Council in relation to Local Government Reorganisation.
Recommendation(s):	A. That the content of the report and appendix be noted; and B. That the consultation response detailed in Appendix 1 is agreed and formally submitted to MHCLG as the Full Council’s response to the Consultation.
Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s):	<p>Teresa Neal (Strategic Director) (0116) 257 2642 teresa.neal@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Dave Gill (Legal Consultant / Interim Monitoring Officer) (0116) 257 2625 dave.gill1@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Colleen Warren (Chief Finance Officer / S151 Officer) (0116) 257 2759 colleen.warren@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p>
Strategic Objectives:	<p>Our Council (SO1) Our Communities (SO2) Our Economy (SO3) Our Environment (SO4) Our Partners (SO5)</p>
Vision and Values:	<p>"Our Borough - The place to be" (Vision) Respect - We treat everyone with dignity and respect (V1) Excellence - We strive to work to a high standard and deliver high quality services (V2) Accountability - We do what we say and take responsibility for our actions (V3) Customer Focused - We do the best for our customers (V4) Teamwork - We achieve more by working together (V5)</p>
Report Implications:-	

Legal:	There are no implications directly arising from this report.
Financial:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Corporate Risk Management:	Failure to Respond to a Significant Incident (CR7)
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	There are no implications arising from this report. EA not applicable
Human Rights:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Statutory Officers' Comments:-	
Head of Paid Service:	As the author, the report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Interim Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Consultees:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Leadership Team
Background Papers:	<p>The proposals received by MHCLG by the deadline of 28 November 2025 from Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland can be found on the following links:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Leicestershire Boroughs & Districts and Rutland County Council Proposal • Leicester City Council Proposal • Leicestershire County Council Proposal
Appendices:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local Government Reorganisation – Government Consultation on Proposals for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland

1. Background

- 1.1 As Members are aware Leicestershire has a two-tier system of local government whilst Leicester City Council and Rutland County Council are unitary authorities. The government is proposing to establish unitary authorities in all areas and as such invited proposals for Local Government Reorganisation.
- 1.2 In Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, the invitations were sent to all Districts and Boroughs as well as Leicestershire County Council, Leicester City Council and Rutland County Council.
- 1.3 The invitation was issued under Part 1 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (the 2007 Act). It invited the councils to submit a proposal for a single tier of local government, which could take the form of any of the types of proposal provided for by the 2007 Act:
 - Type A - a single tier of local government covering the whole of the county concerned.
 - Type B - a single tier of local government covering an area that is currently a district, or two or more districts.

- Type C - a single tier of local government covering the whole of the county concerned, or one or more districts in the county; and one or more relevant adjoining areas.
- Combined proposal - a proposal that consists of two or more Type B proposals, two or more Type C proposals, or one or more Type B proposals and one or more Type C proposals, but not as alternatives.

1.4 The invitation specified that any councils responding must have regard to guidance, including six criteria for unitary local government and other matters that should be taken into account when formulating a proposal.

1.5 Councils were asked where possible to work together collaboratively but recognised that more than one proposal may come forward for a geographical area.

1.6 The proposals received by MHCLG by the deadline of 28 November 2025 from Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland can be found by accessing the links in background papers.

2. Proposals

2.1 Option 1

Leicester City Council propose 2 unitary councils. This includes a request to split existing district council areas.

- Expanded City: Leicester, Oadby and Wigston, plus 16 parishes from Blaby, 11 whole parishes and 1 part parish from Charnwood and 7 whole parishes, plus 5 part parishes from Harborough
- Unitary Authority 2: The remainder of Blaby and Charnwood and Harborough, Hinckley and Bosworth, Melton, North West Leicestershire and Rutland

2.2 Option 2

Leicestershire County Council propose 2 unitary councils:

- Leicestershire: Blaby, Charnwood, Harborough, Hinckley and Bosworth, Melton, North West Leicestershire, Oadby and Wigston, and Rutland
- Leicester City to remain unchanged

2.3 Option 3

Oadby & Wigston Borough Council, the other Districts and Boroughs and Rutland County Council proposed 3 unitary councils.

- North: Charnwood, Northwest Leicestershire, Melton, Rutland
- South: Oadby & Wigston, Blaby, Harborough, Hinckley and Bosworth
- Leicester City to remain unchanged

3. Consultation

3.1 The 2007 Act requires that, before a proposal for local government reorganisation can be implemented, there must first be a consultation. In addition to the Councils within the area, the government is consulting with neighbouring councils, health providers and the police along with business, voluntary and community sector and educational bodies. In addition, as Leicester City's proposal requires boundary changes the Local Government Boundary Commission for England has been consulted.

- 3.2 The Consultation is also open for public consultation and invites residents, town and parish councils, businesses and the voluntary and community sector to comment on the 3 proposals.
- 3.3 The Consultation questions are in **Appendix 1** alongside proposed responses, each of the three proposals asks the same questions.