

Key Decision Details

Decision Name	Local Government Reorganisation
Date of Decision	24 November 2025
Decision maker	Cabinet The Cabinet has
Describe the Decision taken	(a) noted the various options that have been presented relating to Local Government Reorganisation for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough; (b) noted the criteria and process established by Government and that the Secretary of State will be the end decision-maker; (c) considered and commented on the various options against the criteria identified, noting that the various options will be incorporated into a single submission made on behalf of all Councils in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough; (d) considered the comments provided by the Overview and Scrutiny Joint Group and Full Council in respect of the proposals and the vote by Council to support any or none of the options presented. (e) determined that the Council wishes to support Option E (noting that the Council can only support one option); (f) delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Executive Leader of the Council, to write to the

Secretary of State and other Leaders & Chief Executives within Cambridgeshire & Peterborough to communicate the Council's decision (rec E);

- (g) delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to complete and finalise a Foreword for the final business case in support of Option E. (rec E);
- (h) based upon the final decision (rec E), delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Executive Leader of the Council, to liaise with other Leaders and Chief Executives to make any final amendments to the single submission for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough in advance of submission to the Government; and
- (i) delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with all Group Leaders and non-group aligned Members, to formulate and submit a response to any formal consultation on proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough.

What were the reasons for taking the Decision?

As stated at the outset, given the significance of the matter, combined with the criteria

What alternative options were considered and rejected?

established by Government, no formal recommendation is presented in respect of any given option.

This report does, however, identify the merits and challenges of the various options, along with other key factors for consideration, so that Members may make informed decisions.

Members are encouraged to consider the options presented and determine which option(s) if any, represents the most appropriate solution for the region. Recognising that of the Government criteria, "Criterion 1: A proposal should seek to achieve for the whole of the area concerned the establishment of a single tier of local government" establishes the need for a whole region solution across Cambridgeshire & Peterborough; as opposed to what is best for the future of local government in Huntingdonshire.

This report presents a comprehensive, well-evidenced and robust overview of the five main options for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Developed collaboratively by all seven councils, each option has been rigorously assessed against national criteria, local priorities, and independent expert evidence.

The options include North/South Split (Option A), Horseshoe (Option B),

East/West Split (Option C), Three Unitary Authorities (Option D), and Huntingdonshire Three Unitary Authorities (Option E). Each option presents distinct strengths and challenges, particularly around financial resilience, service quality, and local identity. The report includes a comparative assessment and detailed appraisal of each option.

The report provides particular detail on the two options (C & E) which the Council is responsible for the preparation of. Members are invited to review the evidence and indicate their preferred option (if any) to inform the future decision of the Cabinet over which option (if any) should be put forward as part of the single proposal for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, ensuring the region's submission is both robust and aligned with local and national objectives.

Conflict of interest and dispensation

Is the decision a Key Decision? Yes

Was the decision included in the Forward Plan Yes

Was the decision subject to the urgency proceedings? No

List the background papers to any report considered

**by the Decision
Taker**

**Person Making this
report** Michelle Sacks, Chief
Executive and Head of Paid
Service

**Accompanying
Documents**

- 2. Local Government
Reorganisation in
Cambridgeshire and
Peterborough Report
- 2. Local Government
Reorganisation in
Cambridgeshire and
Peterborough Appendix 1
- 2. Local Government
Reorganisation in
Cambridgeshire and
Peterborough Appendix 2
- 2. Local Government
Reorganisation in
Cambridgeshire and
Peterborough Appendix 3
- 2. Local Government
Reorganisation in
Cambridgeshire and
Peterborough Appendix 4
- 2. Local Government
Reorganisation in
Cambridgeshire and
Peterborough Appendix 5
- 2. Local Government
Reorganisation in
Cambridgeshire and
Peterborough Appendix 6
- 2. Local Government
Reorganisation in
Cambridgeshire and
Peterborough Appendix 7
- 2. Local Government
Reorganisation Overview and
Scrutiny Comments
- 2. Local Government
Reorganisation Council
Comments
- 2. Local Government
Reorganisation Preferred
Options

