

Public
Key Decision – Yes

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Local Government Reorganisation in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Meeting/Date: Extraordinary Council – 19 March 2025
Special Cabinet – 19 March 2025

Executive Portfolio: Executive Leader, Chair of the Cabinet and Executive Councillor for Place (Cllr S J Conboy)

Report by: Michelle Sacks – Chief Executive Officer

Ward(s) affected: All

Executive Summary:

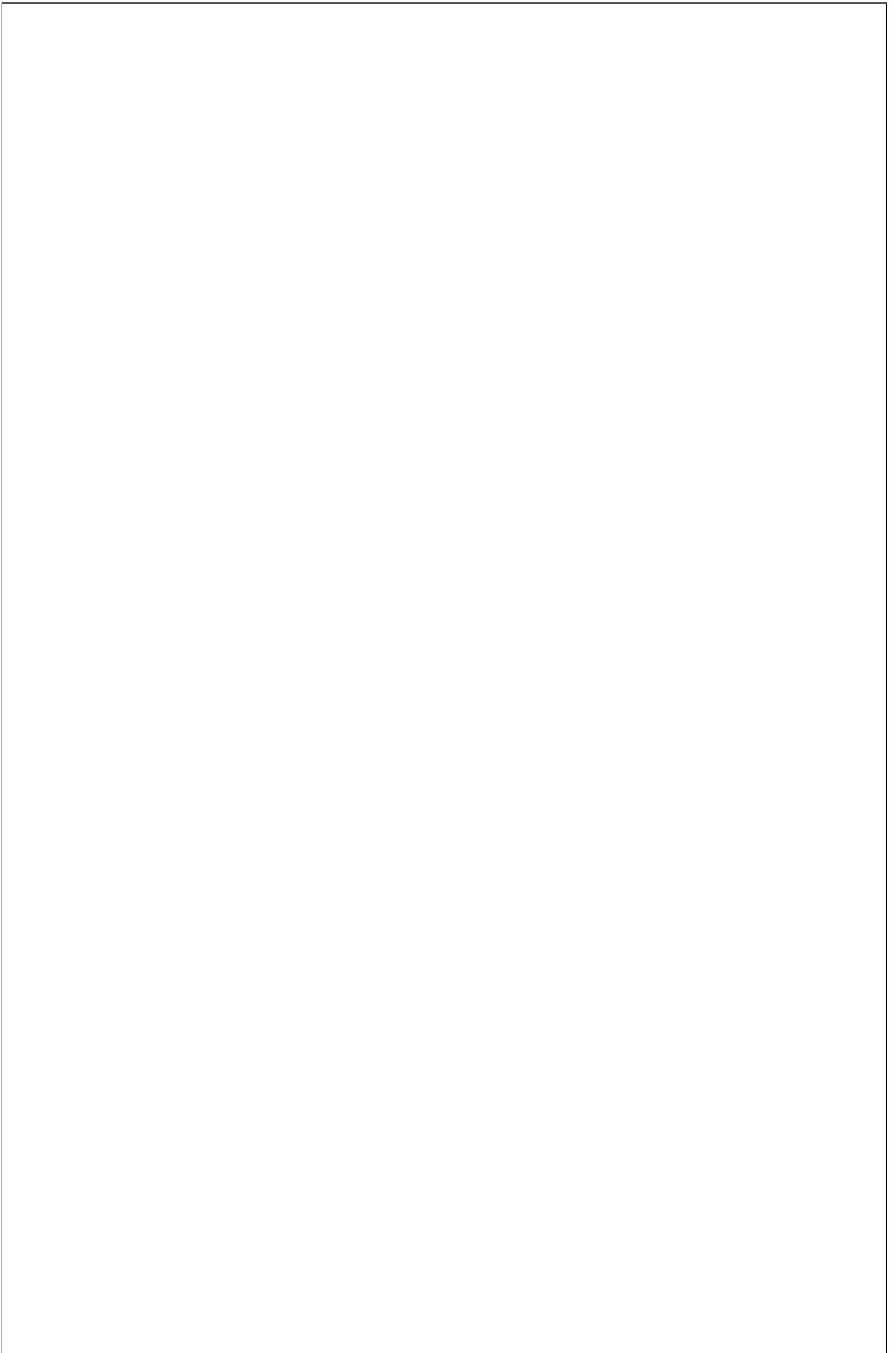
To refer to the report Annex 1 - Cabinet report. Local Government Reorganisation - Submission to Government. This report;

- Provides background information regarding the extensive reforms to the local government framework across England set out in the White Paper on English Devolution published on 16 December 2024.
- Progress update for the Peterborough and Cambridgeshire area in relation to Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).
- Shares the proposed formal letter of response to Government with the deadline of the 21 March 2025. The proposed letter is attached as appendix 2 in the report for full Council to comment. This letter has been drafted in collaboration with other authorities impacted by LGR in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough.
- Provides legal guidance. The government currently does not have power to direct local authorities to bring forward proposals, but they are planning to reintroduce this power (which expired when the legislation was first introduced). Advice from the Monitoring Officer has confirmed that in law, unless specified to the contrary, the responsibility for decision making sits with the Executive in this matter.

RECOMMENDATION:

RECOMMENDED

The full Council is invited to comment on the attached Annex 1 Cabinet report.



1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1. Please refer to section 1 of Annex 1

2. BACKGROUND

2.1. Please refer to section 2 of Annex 1.

3. RISKS

3.1 Please refer to section 3 of Annex 1.

4. NEXT STEPS

4.1. Please refer to section 4 of Annex 1.

5. OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1. Please refer to section 5 of Annex 1.

6. KEY IMPACTS

6.1. Please refer to section 3 of Annex 1.

7. WHAT ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN

7.1. Please refer to section 4 of Annex 1.

8. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND/OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

8.1. This is a Government requirement but the process of unitarisation is intended to bring benefits to the wider community. Once the details of proposals emerge, the links to the Corporate Plan, Strategic Priorities and Corporate Objectives will be able to be set out more clearly.

9. CONSULTATION

9.1. Please refer to section 4 of Annex 1.

10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1. Please refer to section 4 of Annex 1.

11. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS - FINANCIAL

11.1. Please refer to section 11 of Annex 1.

12. HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

12.1. None to report directly at this stage.

13. ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

13.1. None to report directly at this stage.

14. OTHER IMPLICATIONS - STAFFING

14.1. Please refer to section 14 of Annex 1.

15. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

15.1. Please refer to section 15 of Annex 1.

16. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Annex 1: Cabinet report. Local Government Reorganisation – Submission to Government including

Appendix 1: Letter from Minister McMahon dated 5 February 2025

Appendix 2: Proposed letter of submission to Government

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