

SPECIAL URGENCY NOTICE OF A KEY DECISION TO BE MADE BY CABINET WHICH IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL-IN TO THE CORPORATE PERFORMANCE PANEL

Notice is hereby provided that the following decision is urgent and cannot be reasonably deferred, meaning that the decision cannot be called into the Corporate Performance Panel under Standing Order 12:

Matter about which the decision is to be made

Date of meeting: 19 March 2025

Recommendations to Full Council:

- 1) To note the content of the Interim Plan for Local Government Reorganisation in Norfolk report (Appendix B), alongside the report's conclusion that the three unitary model option scored best overall against the government criteria and is therefore the preferred option for Norfolk.
- 2) To endorse the **three unitary model for LGR as this Council's preferred option for submission to MHCLG.**
- 3) To delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader to finalise and submit the Interim Plan to MHCLG on 21st March 2025 based on the endorsement of recommendation 2 above.
- 4) That following the submission of the Interim Plan and subject to the feedback received from MHCLG, the council, continue to work with the Norfolk Districts to conduct resident and stakeholder engagement on the LGR proposals for Norfolk to inform the full business case.
- 5) To delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, for the development of the full business case for LGR in Norfolk to be returned to full Council for approval prior to submission.

Reason decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred

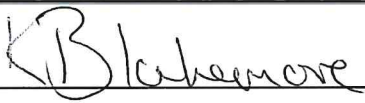
The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) wrote to all Norfolk Leaders on 5 February 2025 inviting them to work with other Council Leaders in the area to develop a proposal for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) to be submitted by 21 March 2025.

The Norfolk Leaders and Chief Executives agreed to jointly appoint external Consultants, working alongside an Officer Working Group, to develop the submission. Work has been conducted at pace given the very short deadlines.

The matter of devolution and LGR was brought to Full Council on 13 February 2025 to enable a debate and to provide more information with regards to the timelines. A Joint Panel is convened for 18 March 2025 to consider the recommendations set out above. Cabinet is convened on 19 March 2025, with Full Council later the same day due to the time constraints.

In the circumstances, the Chair of the Corporate Performance Panel has agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.15 that this decision cannot be called in.

Signed:



Name

Kate Blakemore, Chief Executive

Date:

10 March 2025