

**Committee:** Council

**Date:** Tuesday, 23  
September 2025

**Title:** Submission of Proposals to Government for  
Local Government Reorganisation

**Report  
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**Lead  
Member:** Councillor Petrina Lees, Leader of the Council

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## Summary

1. On 23 September Cabinet will meet to consider the four business cases developed for Local Government Reorganisation and to resolve which business case, if any, to formally endorse in the Essex combined submission to Government by the 26 September 2026 deadline.
2. The Cabinet report (Annex 1) and associated appendices are attached to this report, and it is for members of the Council to review and provide Cabinet with comment on the options proposed in the Cabinet papers.
3. The Cabinet report will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 22 September. A summary note of that meeting will be published on 23 September, before the Council and Cabinet meetings.

## Recommendations

4. To receive the report 'Submission of Proposals to Government for Local Government Reorganisation' (Annex 1) and consider the following motion as submitted by the Leader of the Council and to be seconded by Councillor Sell:
  - a. Council notes the officer report, and also the report from the Scrutiny Committee on Monday 22 September, with thanks to both for their due diligence.
  - b. Council resolves to advise Cabinet that it fully supports Business Case A, the case for five new unitaries which will see one of those new councils cover the current Uttlesford, Epping Forest and Harlow areas.

## Financial Implications

5. There are no direct financial implications associated with this report, the financial implications of the decision of Cabinet in deciding whether to endorse one of none of the four business cases is included in the Cabinet report.

## Background Papers

6. None. All background papers are included in the appended Cabinet report

### Impact

Communication/Consultation	None directly for this report – these are included in the Cabinet report for the Local Government Reorganisation proposals
Community Safety	
Equalities	
Health and Safety	
Human Rights/Legal Implications	
Sustainability	
Ward-specific impacts	
Workforce/Workplace	

### Background Information

7. The Council is requested to review the Cabinet officer report which sets out the 4 Business Cases developed to meet the requirements of the Government's Local Government Reorganisation.

### Risk Analysis

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
None directly for this report – these are included in the Cabinet report for the Local Government Reorganisation proposals			

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure