



NOTTINGHAM AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

SUMMARY OF THE NORTH-SOUTH PROPOSAL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

**A brighter future for driving growth and improving lives.
Rooted in community. Connected by place.**



WHAT IS LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION?

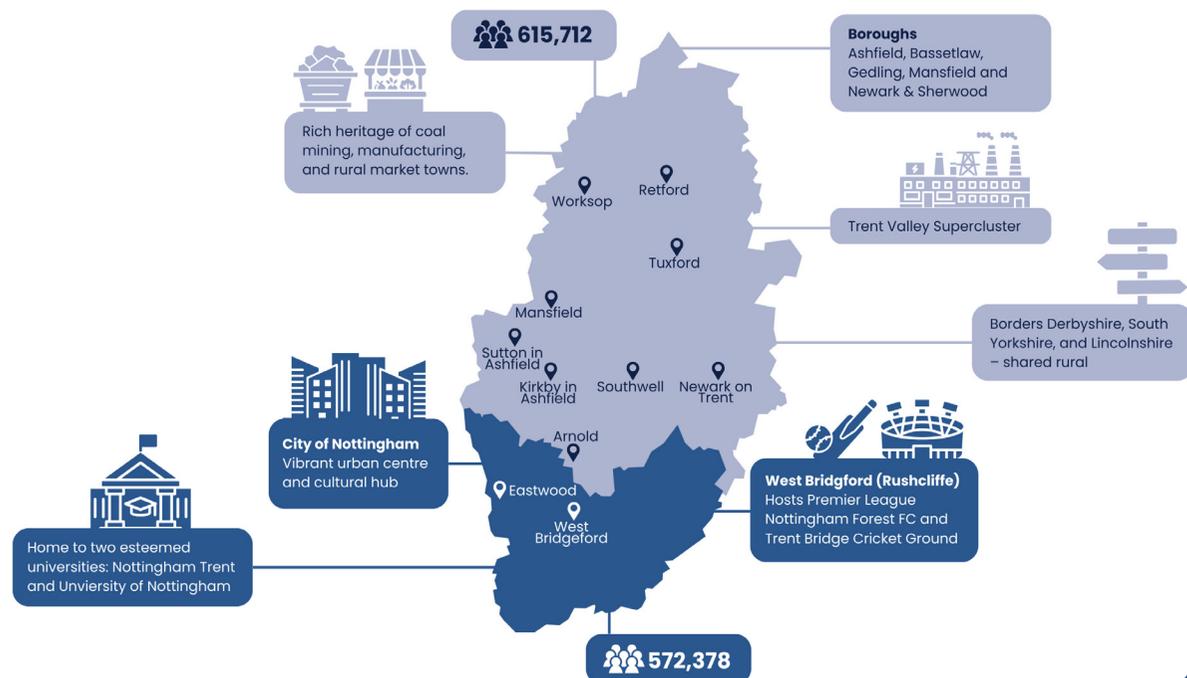
In December 2024, the government announced plans for the biggest shake-up of local government in England in over 50 years called Local Government Reorganisation (LGR). LGR aims to save money and improve local services by abolishing the current two-tier system, under which some services are provided by county councils and other services are provided by district and borough councils. In their place, it is proposed to introduce a new structure of unitary councils (single councils) that are responsible for all local government services in their area.

Across the whole of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, it is proposed to replace the current nine councils with two new, unitary councils.

Three different ways of achieving this are under consideration. The government has launched a statutory consultation and are seeking views from the public and other key stakeholders about these three options.

This summary document is intended to provide some background information about LGR and explain the benefits of one of the options, called option 1e or the north-south option.

Summary documents are also available on the other two options. You can complete the government survey online which is linked from www.lgrnotts.org



1 Why is LGR happening?

At the moment, there are many examples where similar services are provided by two different councils in the same area, and this can lead to duplication, waste of resources and a lack of accountability. For example in our area, one council collects waste; another disposes of it; one council operates the libraries; another operates the leisure centres; one council is responsible for enforcing trading standards; another environmental health concerns.

LGR offers the opportunity to bring all council services in an area under the responsibility of a single organisation, providing better value services through improved co-ordination and greater efficiency.

2 When is LGR happening?

For Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, the current nine councils are set to be abolished on 31 March 2028. The two new councils will begin the following day. The government has more information about its timeline on its [website](#).

3 What are the different options being considered?

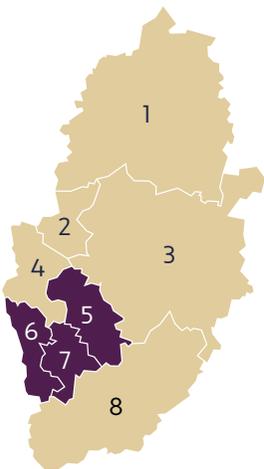
The government invited councils to submit a proposal for LGR and set out six criteria against which proposals will be assessed. Three options were submitted, all of which propose that two new unitary councils should be created for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire to replace the current nine. The proposals are available in full [here](#) or at www.lrgnotts.org.

1b

This option was submitted by Nottinghamshire County Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council.

Nottingham City conurbation to include **Broxtowe** and **Gedling**

The rest of Nottinghamshire becomes a new unitary authority

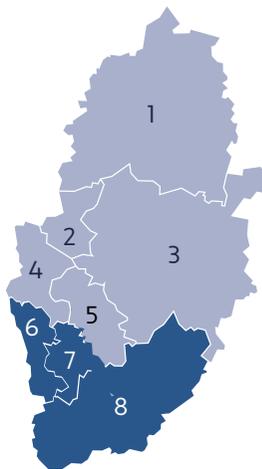


1e

This option was submitted by Bassetlaw District Council, Gedling Borough Council, Mansfield District Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council.

Nottingham City conurbation to include **Broxtowe** and **Rushcliffe**

The rest of Nottinghamshire becomes a new unitary authority

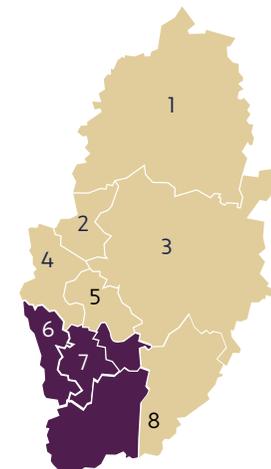


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This option was submitted by Nottingham City Council.

Nottingham City with parts of **Broxtowe**, **Gedling** and **Rushcliffe**

The rest of Nottinghamshire becomes a new unitary authority



Key

- 1. Bassetlaw
- 2. Mansfield
- 3. Newark and Sherwood
- 4. Ashfield
- 5. Gedling
- 6. Broxtowe
- 7. Nottingham
- 8. Rushcliffe

Ashfield District Council and Broxtowe Borough Council, chose not to submit or support a proposal.

4 What are the reasons for supporting the north-south model (option 1e)?

Different Nottingham and Nottinghamshire councils have chosen to support different options. You can view each of their submissions online at www.lgrnotts.org.

The north-south option, referred to as option 1e, is supported by more councils than any other option. Below is a summary of the benefits of the north-south model that can be found in the main submission.

Sensible geography

The north-south model is a sensible geography. It is simple, easy to understand and reflects how local people live their lives.

One council for the north and one for the south brings communities together that are connected in terms of their geography, heritage and sense of identity. The northern council would bring together market towns such as Sutton in Ashfield, Worksop, Newark, Arnold and Mansfield, while the southern council would bring together the city and its suburbs of West Bridgford and Beeston.

Public support

In September 2025, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire councils carried out a joint consultation exercise about LGR. The north-south proposal received the most public support, with residents commenting that it provided the 'most natural split' and better alignment with local communities.

Saves money

All the proposed options are projected to achieve financial savings. Detailed and careful analysis by independent financial consultants, (PwC and CIPFA) show that the north-south model is expected to deliver a net benefit of £485 million in the first five years, with ongoing annual savings of £148 million from year five onwards. These figures are based on realistic, conservative and deliverable assumptions.

The north-south model reduces inefficiencies associated with very large and fragmented geographies. Organising and delivering services based on a sensible geography helps those who are delivering services to better understand local needs and to respond to those needs in an efficient and cost-effective way.



“This seems like a more logical and fair option, a more natural split between the north and the south of the county.”

- Urban participant, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire's LGR engagement exercise.



Delivers locally responsive and cost-effective services

The north-south model envisions bringing together key services such as housing, education, community safety, public health, leisure, green spaces, and social care in a way that is more joined-up and better able to identify issues earlier, preventing problems from escalating, and supporting people to remain healthier and independent for longer. This emphasis on prevention and early intervention improves residents' outcomes as well as reducing pressure and cost across the range of public services.

For councils, it's important for them to be close to the communities they serve, both in terms of their geography/ physical location and understanding of local needs. The north-south model proposes organising services around how people live their lives, ensuring resources are directed to the right places at the right time.

Builds and develops local partnerships

Across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, there are a large number and wide range of local partnerships. Some of these are already aligned to the proposed north-south model and therefore they can be developed and built on. The north-south model proposes the introduction of new local arrangements to ensure a joined-up, neighbourhood focused approach to planning and delivering public services. These will be informed by, and delivered in conjunction with, voluntary and community organisations, town and parish councils and other relevant partners.

Delivers growth and prosperity

A successful Nottingham City benefits the whole of Nottinghamshire. Under the north-south model, the City of Nottingham has the opportunity to expand beyond its boundaries into areas where there is significant potential for growth. In the north, there is already significant collaboration between current councils, and an emerging growth strategy is being developed with the East Midlands Mayor. Our model enables bespoke responses to local economic challenges. For example, the north can focus on revitalising areas like Bassetlaw and Mansfield, which face low productivity and earnings. The south can ensure that the 'Trent Arc', as highlighted in the East Midlands Mayor's growth strategy, will have one direct lead on the growth agenda for this area.

The north-south model also aligns with north-south options that have been submitted from Derbyshire, offering the prospect of a consistent, new model of local government across the whole area of the East Midlands region.

Capable of being delivered

The north-south model can be delivered. It is realistic and achievable.

LGR involves considerable change. Being based on current council boundaries, the north-south model involves less complicated changes to existing service delivery and organisational arrangements, mitigating the risk of disruption. The north-south model creates a strong and stable foundation for LGR, balancing the need to keep important services running smoothly during the transition to new councils while also carrying the potential of significant transformation of services for the benefit of local communities.

5 Take part

The government's statutory consultation is open for seven weeks from 5 February to 26 March 2026 and anyone can take part. The consultation aims to take on board the views of residents and key stakeholders on the three options being proposed. We encourage everyone to take part in the government consultation as it is an important opportunity to help shape the future of local services for our area.



The north-south option brings well known Nottingham landmarks, like Trent Bridge and The City Ground (pictured), into the Nottingham based unitary council area.

6 Find out more and keep up to date

You can complete the consultation online or by picking up a paper copy available at your local library or council building.

To find out more, to complete the survey online, and keep up to date on LGR in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, visit www.lgrnotts.org.



The north-south option brings together market towns within mid and north Nottinghamshire into the same unitary council area.