



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Jim McMahon OBE MP

*Minister of State for Local Government and
English Devolution*

**Ministry of Housing, Communities
and Local Government**

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Leaders of Surrey Councils
By email

24 March 2025

Dear Leaders,

Thank you for sharing your progress on the development of your proposals for local government reorganisation by 21 March. I am grateful for your hard work and commitment to get to this stage. I look forward to reading your interim plan for simplifying local government structures, to more sustainably and efficiently deliver for your communities.

Taken together this represents the largest single package of reform of local government in England for over a half a century, and it provides a once in a generation opportunity to rebuild the foundations of local government so that it is fit to face the challenges ahead with confidence.

To support the continued development of proposals, my department will provide feedback on your interim plan. You can expect to receive this next week. My officials will also schedule meetings with your officers to discuss the feedback and any further support we can offer during that week. My department will continue to be available throughout the process to discuss your plans for local government reform and devolution. I encourage you to draw upon them as you continue to develop your proposals.

My department, in collaboration with the Local Government Association, is hosting a webinar to discuss the next steps for the LGR programme following the submission of interim plans. The webinar will also outline the support plans moving forward. The webinar is scheduled for Thursday 3 April, from 2:30pm to 3:30pm and is intended for officers. An invitation will be sent to your Chief Executives shortly.

I look forward to receiving your final submission in May. I will then thoroughly consider the final proposals before deciding on how to proceed. I am copying this letter to your Chief Executives together with the Woking Borough Council Commissioners, Surrey MPs and the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,

JIM MCMAHON OBE MP

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