

County Councillors Report February 2026.

Landmark consultation launched on local government shake-up

Government consultation now open for residents' views.

A new consultation is offering residents the chance to comment on plans to reshape local government.

Launched on Thursday 5/2/26, the Government is asking people for views on each of the three different proposals put forward for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Leicestershire County Council's bid would bring together Leicestershire and Rutland under a single council.

The proposal avoids the need to split up boundaries and services and aims to empower communities, reinvest money into frontline services and preserve heritage.

“This is a historic moment for local government and a chance to build councils that are leaner, more efficient and better equipped to meet future challenges.

“This consultation is an important opportunity for residents and organisations to review all of the proposals and share their views with Government.

“Our blueprint for 21st century local government would unite Leicestershire and Rutland under a single council and bring together the wealth of expertise and knowledge across all nine authorities.

“This is our chance to empower local government at every level, including our parishes and communities. This is our chance to transition to a bolder and better future.”

The consultation closes on 26 March and is open to residents, businesses, public sector organisations and other bodies.

From social care and recycling, to fixing potholes and running libraries, councils provide vital services 24/7 which you and your family use every day.

“This is a rare opportunity to help shape how local government is designed so please take the time to complete the Government's consultation.”

These are 3 options to vote From.

The government are currently consulting on the Local Government Reorganisation in Leicestershire. Please have your say. There are 3 proposals

(1) This is the City's proposal with the City Council expanding its area. This would mean taking in villages from the County.

(2) The County Council proposal. This proposal retains the current County Council boundaries and villages but also adding Rutland thus protecting all services from being split.

(3) This proposal splits the County into two having a North, and a South Unitary Council. This proposal would Split all the services like Education, Children Services, Adults and Communities and Highways that are graded as outstanding and good between the two unitary councils. This would have an added set up cost

As a County Councillor I support. Keeping the boundary of the current County Council adding Rutland to form one unitary authority like the City is currently. Thus, protecting all services

Overview

This statutory consultation seeks views on the proposals that the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has received following the Secretary of State's invitation to councils in Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland to submit proposals for unitary local government for their area. You can find full details of the consultation, including a privacy statement, at: [Local government reorganisation in Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-reorganisation-in-leicestershire-leicester-and-rutland).

The consultation can be reached by typing the following into your address bar.

<https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-reorganisation/leicestershire-and-leicester-and-rutland/>

You can also get to the consultation by going to the County Councils Website.

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk>. Then click on the following

[Landmark consultation launched on local government shake-up](#)

The Council's Budget.

A Council Tax rise of 2.99 per cent has been put forward to help mitigate the demand pressures dominating the council's finances by the cabinet.

The proposed increase would add 97p to an average weekly bill and generate £12.9m from April to help bring down a budget gap set to reach £85m by 2030.

The full council will consider its budget when it meets on 18 February.

The Temporary Traffic Regulation Order Highfield Road, Groby.


BT Openreach and their contractors to undertake installation of new apparatus for a customer connection.

A road closure/parking restriction is required on **Highfield Road, Groby** between no.15 and no.45 on the 20th February 2026 for 1 day between 9.30am and 3.30pm.

The proposed alternative diversion route will be via: Glebe Road, Highfield Road and vice versa.

⚠ Fake "Official" Messages.

With households feeling financial pressure, scammers are exploiting people with fake government grants and cost of living payment schemes. Criminals may pretend to be from your bank, the Government or other trusted organisations.

 You might see:

- Fraudsters purporting to be from DWP, HMRC, local councils, banks, or social media platforms offering "support."
- Offers for free energy rebates, council tax refunds, or fuel vouchers, these are classic red flags to look out for.
- Scammers pretending to help you claim refunds or cost of living payments.

 **Stay safe:**

- Genuine organisations **never** ask for passwords or one-time passcodes.
- Never respond to unsolicited calls or text messages asking for personal, financial, or bank details, especially if referencing government support.
- If in doubt, contact the organisation using the details on their official website, or any genuine paperwork you may have.

Finally. I would like to take this opportunity to thank councillors and residents for your continued support

Remember if you need help or simple advice, I am only an Email or a phone call away.

Kind Regards

Ozzy O'shea.

Working for you

Cllr Ozzy O'shea

Tel 0116 2394336 or 07808585825

Email ozzy.o'shea@leics.gov.uk

Email: ozzyoshea@hotmail.com