

Notes of **LOCAL GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANISATION (LGR) WORKING GROUP** held on **FRIDAY 12th DECEMBER 2025** at 10:30am Newton's Place.

In attendance: Mike Joyce (MJ) Chairperson (Presiding)

Phil Bullivant (PB)
Richard Buscombe (RB)
Colin Parker (CP)
Phil Rowe (PR)
Pierre Doutreligne (PD)
Rob Woodger (RW)

16. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Alex Hall and Mike Ryan.

Apologies were noted from Sam Scott, Deputy Town Clerk and Linda McGuirk, Principal Administrator.

Councillor Janet Bradford has notified the Council that she will be stepping down from the working group due to other commitments.

Councillor Paul Parker (Vice Chairperson) did not attend.

17. NOTES

The notes of the LGR working group held on Wednesday 22nd May 2025 were agreed as an accurate record.

18. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION (LGR) UPDATE

PD updated the working group on the various bids submitted by Devon County Council, the unitary authorities and the district councils by the closing date of 28th November 2025. He also provided a timeline of next steps as well as observations around:-

- unaccountability of the proposed Neighbourhood Advisory Committees (NACs);
- recent developments (and delays) in other parts of the country; and
- a potential 'All-Devonshire' mayoral model.

19. UPDATE ON TRANSFER OF ASSETS

Conversations took place around the potential transfer of several assets to the town council, with presentations and updates provided by PR, RW and PD.

Following discussions, members noted the progress made, possible new opportunities and the need to continue discussions with upper-tier authorities, to carry out due diligence and report back to this working group.

20. ANY OTHER RELEVANT ITEMS

None.

21. NEXT STEPS

As above (minute no. 19).

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be confirmed.

Meeting closed at 12.04pm