

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM SUB-COMMITTEE

24th November 2025

A meeting of Local Government Reform Sub-Committee was held on Monday 24th November, 2025 in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall.

Present

Councillor C. Watkins (Chair)

Councillors: J. Clarke, S. Hey, M. Kondakor, S. Markham, and K. Wilson

LGR13 Apologies

Apologies received for Councillor K. Price

LGR14 Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED that the Declarations of Interest for this meeting are as set out in the Schedule published on the website.

LGR15 Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Local Government Reform Sub-committee held on 22nd September 2025 be approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

LGR16 Community Governance

The Chief Executive submitted a report outlining the process and key considerations associated with establishing community governance structures within the Borough, specifically through the mechanism of Community Governance Reviews (CGRs).

The following points were raised:

- A member asked what percentage of the population would be needed to initiate a community petition. The Chief Executive (CE) advised that it depends on area and banding but for Nuneaton and Bedworth it would be 10% of the population.
- A member raised that there are a lot of unknowns and would not be supportive of starting this process currently due to the resources required in both monetary and officer time.
- A member raised that we need to ensure that the CGR is completed by NBBC as we know our local area but could also foresee that areas outside the boundary would be more aligned with us e.g. Bramcote and Hartshill.
- Further information to be provided in a comparison chart from other Town Councils that have resulted from unitarisation looking at devolution of powers and precepts for Council Tax showing the figures for a single unitary or two unitary to see how this would work. The CE advised that it is key that we do that work, Town Councils can have different meaning e.g. some are Civic only, some are local services and some can have pseudo district/borough services.

- A member advised that he had recently attended a meeting of all the Parish Chairs in Warwickshire and there is a huge disparity in different types and what is expected of them.
- It is important that another district/borough council is not created at the outcome of the CGR.
- A member raised that it will be important to retain the historical identity of the area, noting residents' perception of locality and historical importance, this needs to be part of the discussion.

RESOLVED that it be recommended to Cabinet that:

- a) the report be noted and the actions raised be brought back to a future meeting of the Local Government Reform Sub-committee; and
- b) recommend to Council this it is most logical to defer a full council decision to initiate a Community Governance Review, until the Government has decided on the future structure of local government within Warwickshire.

LGR17 **Any Other Items**

a) LGR Submission Letter

It was raised that Rugby Borough Council (RBC) have voted to align with Warwickshire County Council (WCC) for a single unitary of Warwickshire and queried how this would affect our submission. The CE advised that NBBC's submission for a two unitary will still be submitted and that a letter has been circulated to be included in our submission, RBC will submit their letter supporting WCC single unitary option. It will then be Government's decision, but we have the support of the Mayor of West Midlands Combined Authority and five Members of Parliament. A member raised if a letter could be circulated which would be signed by all three group leaders to demonstrate unity.

RESOLVED that the Chief Executive draft a letter to be signed by all three group leaders for signatures and submitted in conjunction with our business case.

Chair