

Confirmed Dates

21 March 2025 – Interim Plan to be submitted to the Government

09 May 2025 – Full proposal to be submitted to the Government

Dates to be Confirmed Subject to the Government's Acceptance of Surrey's Final Submission

Summer 2025 – Government to lead on a public consultation for all residents of the County

April 2026 – Elections to be held for the shadow Unitary Authority/Authorities

April 2027 – New Unitary Authority/Authorities become operational

Criteria for Unitary Local Government

1. A proposal should seek for the whole for the area concerned the establishment of a single tier of local government.
2. Unitary local government must be the right size to achieve efficiencies, improve capacity and withstand financial shocks.
3. Unitary structures must prioritise the delivery of high quality and sustainable public services to citizens.
4. Proposals should show how councils in the area have sought to work together in coming to a view that meets local needs and is informed by local views.
5. New unitary structures must support devolution arrangements.
6. New unitary structures should enable stronger community engagement and deliver genuine opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment.