



Newmarket TOWN COUNCIL

The Memorial Hall, High Street, Newmarket, CB8 8JP

Tel: 01638 667 227. E-mail townclerk@newmarket.gov.uk

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING (SINGLE ISSUE)
OF THE NEWMARKET TOWN COUNCIL
to be held at
Memorial Hall, High Street, Newmarket, CB8 8JP
Thursday 8th January 2026 at 6.15pm
Councillors are hereby summoned to attend
for the purpose of transacting the business that follows**

The meeting is held in public and the public are encouraged to attend and participate. Just occasionally matters such as contractual or staffing matters do have to be held in the confidential part of the meeting. This is a public arena, therefore anything you say including your name if given, may be published by the press, social media and in Council committee minutes.

Members of the public and press may not orally report or comment about a meeting as it takes place if present at a meeting of the Council, but otherwise may:

- a. film, photograph or make an audio recording of the meeting;
- b. use any other means for enabling persons not present to see or hear proceedings at a meeting as it takes place or later;
- c. Report or comment on the proceedings in writing, during or after a meeting or orally after the meeting.

The Council will where possible facilitate such recording unless it is being disruptive. It will also take steps to ensure that children, the vulnerable and members of the public who object to being filmed are protected without undermining the broader purpose of the meeting

AGENDA

1. **Welcome** - The Mayor to read the fire safety notice and announce that this meeting is being recorded and to ask whether anyone else intends to record the meeting
2. **Apologies** for absence
3. **Declaration of interests**
 - a) Councillors are invited to raise any declarations of interest concerning items on the agenda
 - b) To consider any requests for dispensation
4. **Public participation** – an invitation to members of the public to make representations to Councillors.
Resolutions can only be made on items on the agenda
Rules of public participation: no person may for longer than 3 minutes in total. The maximum time permitted for this item is 15 minutes. This is the only opportunity during the meeting for members of the public to address Councillors.
5. **Local Government Reorganisation** – to approve Newmarket Town Council's response to the consultation by way of a vote for a preference of either One Council (as preferred by SCC) or Three Councils (as preferred by WSC)
6. **Date of the next Meeting** – 26th January 2026

Signed:  Cathy Whitaker, Town Clerk

Date: 22nd December 2025

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Government consultation on LGR in Suffolk

Dear all,

Today the government launched its consultation on local government reorganisation (LGR) in Suffolk. This will run for seven weeks until 11th January.

LGR presents the biggest change to local government in Suffolk for over 50 years – and the consultation gives stakeholders and residents the chance to have their say.

Suffolk community leaders from sectors including health, social care, business, agriculture and tourism, have all backed the One Suffolk plan for a single unitary council to deliver all county-wide and local services. Watch this video to hear directly from some of our advocates: [Voices of One Suffolk](#)

One Suffolk would create key benefits, including:

- Empowering communities by offering powers and funding to town and parish councils where these councils express a desire for additional responsibilities. Creating a new town council for Ipswich to enhance democratic representation.
- A new deal for market towns, including Ipswich, backed by a £40 million capital investment fund, and a review of car parking charges and markets conducted in consultation with traders, businesses and representative bodies.
- Building a strong, flourishing, and resilient local economy that serves all residents, businesses, and communities.
- A stronger voice for Suffolk through effective collaboration with the new mayor, focusing on clear investment priorities that maximise benefits.

The alternative proposal, from Suffolk's district and borough councils, would see Suffolk split into three arbitrary council areas, putting key services such as social care at serious risk and costing millions to set up.

Their plan does not address the enormous costs associated with splitting up these critical services, and poses clear risks to the most vulnerable people in Suffolk. Not only would three councils cost significantly more than a single unitary for Suffolk - it would also cost more than the current two-tier system.

What happens next?

We are confident that One Suffolk is the right approach for Suffolk and will deliver greater support and influence for town and parish councils – and we have been contacted by a number of you who share this view.

It is vital that government hears directly from you – so please do engage with the consultation and have your say in this momentous decision for Suffolk. You can take part here: [Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Norfolk and Suffolk - Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government - Citizen Space](#)

Thank you once again for your engagement and for the constructive way you have helped to shape this important work. If you would like to be involved in our One Suffolk proposal, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Matthew Hicks, Leader of Suffolk County Council

Nicola Beach, Chief Executive of Suffolk County Council

Smarter Simpler Better One Suffolk

Town and parish council summary

Suffolk and proud

Suffolk is a place that we are proud to call home. It's a historic county with understated charm and character. But it's also a place that's on the cutting edge of technology and industry.

Suffolk is diverse and vibrant – an exciting mix of larger urban areas, market towns, coastal communities and rural villages. Its people come from all walks of life. Yet despite this variety, we have a single, strong and binding sense of identity and belonging. This is evident in things like Suffolk Day, the Suffolk Show, the University of Suffolk, Suffolk-wide local media and the good old Suffolk Trinity (comprising the Suffolk Punch horse, the Redpoll bull and the Suffolk Sheep). There is even a Suffolk way of saying things that lives on through the ages – the blockbuster film “The Dig” had this in spades!

We're home to nationally and internationally significant businesses, from clean energy, ports and logistics, digital technology, advanced manufacturing, the horseracing industry and tourism - not to mention some of the best food and drink you can buy. Farming in Suffolk is deeply woven into our local economy and lives.

Together, Suffolk is one of only a few areas in the UK that has consistently been a net financial contributor to national wealth and prosperity.

Suffolk is home to a network of 372 town and parish councils and 56 parish meetings. These local bodies form the bedrock of community democracy – giving residents a voice, shaping local priorities and driving grassroots action. However, many councils have told us they feel undervalued and overlooked, rather than recognised for the vital work they do. That must change. We need a strong, respectful partnership that can deliver together.



Market Hill in Sudbury

The big benefits of One Suffolk

One Suffolk will not only be smarter, simpler and better, it will also offer greater financial resilience, sustainability and be connected to and reflective of the communities it serves.

This is a rare opportunity to bring together those services that make a real difference to Suffolk's people, places and businesses. Key services, such as planning, parking, transport, environmental health, licensing and economic development are better delivered in a more efficient and streamlined way.

This will help to create safer, cleaner and more attractive environments for businesses to thrive and residents and visitors to enjoy.

There are many tangible benefits to **One Suffolk**, but these are some of the most significant:

Communities empowered to lead

One Suffolk will empower communities by offering more powers such as setting speed limits, grass and verge cutting and planning. Where councils want to do more, and feel they can make more of a difference, **One Suffolk** stands ready to support them. This will be achieved through partnership working, supported by 16 new area committees – as successfully rolled out in Wiltshire. These committees will bring together councillors from the new council, town and parish councils, residents and groups like charities and businesses. Their job is to assess what matters most in each area – things like roads, planning, safety and employment – and make sure local voices are heard. For town and parish councils, this means having a stronger voice, with tangible decision-making and funding powers and greater opportunity to



An aerial view of Framlingham Castle

work together with others to improve their community.

Easy to access, locally based, named staff that work face to face is key - especially in areas like highways where relations and trust need to be built and maintained. This will give a voice to communities with clearer accountability, stronger local leadership and more responsive service design.

A proactive highways service

The savings **One Suffolk** creates means we can revitalise Suffolk's highways service so it can say “yes” more often – acting swiftly, communicating clearly and delivering results. It needs a senior leadership team that is committed to being visible, respectful and accessible – engaging openly with businesses and communities to drive progress together. **One Suffolk** will be a responsive community partner that wants to get things done right first time.

Unified, consistent and locally shaped planning

Suffolk would be better served by having a single and unified planning framework that delivers greater consistency, efficiency and strategic alignment. Parish councils told us during our initial engagement sessions that they wanted more say and control over local planning decisions. We will deliver this with new powers for Town and Parish councils including the devolution of minor development control functions over things like house extensions and minor changes to existing buildings. This reform will be guided by evidence, shaped by local engagement and implemented with care to preserve community identity and local knowledge. The goal is to build a planning system, including local planning committees with councillors who know the area, that is not only faster and more consistent but also smarter, more responsive and better aligned with Suffolk's long-term ambitions.

£40 million new deal for market towns

Our market towns are among the jewels in the crown of Suffolk, but high streets nationally are struggling and need help. To drive local economic growth, we propose our market towns – from the smallest to the biggest – have access to a £40 million capital investment fund. Working in consultation with traders, businesses and representative organisations, a review of car parking and town centre markets across the county would be held. **One Suffolk** will focus on local economic priorities identified by local communities. Our residents’ survey was clear that access to towns, bars, restaurants, shopping and retail is important.

Low Council Tax and more financial resilience

Improved financial strength will enable the new unitary council to free up public money for frontline services – like highways and bin collection – and keeping Council Tax as low as possible. We know that people who live in Suffolk will want to see and feel improvements from day one of the new authority. That’s why our plan is for all the different Council Tax rates to be harmonised to the lowest current level in Suffolk (this is the Mid Suffolk area) in its first year. Based on band D homes, this would put back in your pockets between £17 and £245 a year.

A modern, tech-driven innovative council

One Suffolk will mirror businesses in the county – using technology and innovation to save money and prepare for future challenges. This approach will make best use of staff, improve accessibility and support informed decision-making around council finances and resources. This frees up

our staff to spend more time working directly with you – how a council should work.

A resilient and growing local economy

Suffolk needs a strong, flourishing and resilient local economy that serves all residents, businesses and communities. To achieve this, planning, housing, transport, environmental health, licensing and economic development need to work together better. **One Suffolk** will ensure these are delivered in a more efficient and joined-up way, making it easier for businesses and entrepreneurs. A centralised economic development team will champion local enterprise, attract investment, promote tourism and work proactively with partners such as the Chamber of Commerce, Business Improvement Districts and Destination Management Organisations.

A strong voice for Suffolk and its future

Soon, Suffolk and Norfolk will have a new mayor, so Suffolk will be better served by a strong and unified voice to speak up for the county. By working closely with the mayor, **One Suffolk** will also ensure that Suffolk’s diverse communities and areas are celebrated and that investment is strategically directed to enhance connectivity between places, people and businesses. This partnership will focus on identifying clear investment priorities that maximise the benefits of devolution. This transformation is not simply about structural change; it is about unlocking the full potential of Suffolk so that businesses and residents can benefit. **One Suffolk** is committed to collaborating with residents, businesses and stakeholders to ensure that the county remains vibrant, sustainable and fit for the future.



Playground at Clare Country Park

A new approach grounded in partnership

The **One Suffolk** plan is built on a truly collaborative relationship with town and parish councils. Our proposed new model of governance will recognise the diversity of councils across Suffolk – some well-established and experienced, others still developing – and will offer tailored support accordingly.

This new relationship won’t be distant or imposed, nor ad hoc or infrequent. Instead, it will be based on genuine partnership, face-to-face and with ongoing dialogue and flexible support that reflects the ambitions and capacity of each council.

Our commitments to you

We have developed a bespoke support package to empower town and parish councils, which includes:

- a **Partnership Charter**, formally recognising the role of local councils and creating a new level of respect for them, their voice and their experiences in local decision-making.
- **bespoke training** for councillors and clerks on relevant topics – for example safeguarding, AI, and data security
- **technical and digital** support, including help with website

development to standardise how information is shared with the public

- **guidance on funding**, including how to find and apply for grants
- **direct access** by phone and email to dedicated town, parish and locality team contacts
- the right to request **officer attendance** at local meetings
- access to **shared services**, including favourable rates for printing, catering, IT procurement and more.

We also propose a new town council for Ipswich to provide the same level of local representation as the rest of Suffolk, while ensuring retention of our county town’s historic identity and civic heritage.

Opportunities for more influence and responsibility

Many councils also expressed interest in taking on more influence and responsibility, where appropriate. In response to feedback, including from SALC, we have developed an initial list of services and assets that could be devolved to councils with the desire to do more. This will be a completely voluntary process.



Houses in Needham Market

Assets	Services
• Cemeteries and church yards • Memorials • Crematoria • Public toilets • Local parks • Open spaces • Sports grounds • Swimming pools • Leisure and arts centres • Play areas • Roadside verges and other small open spaces	• Minor highways functions and public rights of way • (e.g. speed limits, gritting) • Minor development control functions • Soft estate (e.g. grass cutting and weeds) • Fly-tipping clearance • Street cleaning • Community transport • Community safety • Neighbourhood watch • Footpath lighting • Community grants • Isolation/volunteering/befriending initiatives • Partnering in local tourism initiatives • Partnering in local climate change initiatives • Street naming • Licensing (e.g. event notices, street trading)

A proposal shaped by town and parish councils

The **One Suffolk** proposal has been developed following the most extensive resident and stakeholder engagement Suffolk County Council has delivered in the past decade. This included two public surveys (one of which received 8,189 responses from across every part of the county), over 60 face-to-face and online events with town and parish councils, voluntary and community groups, businesses and residents all fed into our proposal.

One of the most significant findings from this work is how much people identify with being from Suffolk, the importance of meeting local needs and support for streamlining public services.



A street in Aldeburgh

Your feedback has shaped this approach. Through widespread face-to-face and online engagement events, we heard concerns about:

- loss of local representation and knowledge due to fewer councillors (reduction from 308 county and district councillors to 140 under **One Suffolk**)
- urban priorities overshadowing rural voices
- poor communication with county and district councils and a desire for more direct, face-to-face engagement
- a bureaucratic and unresponsive planning system that often ignores town and parish input
- parish councils feeling under-

resourced and fear that LGR will increase responsibilities without adequate support

- how savings will be used and whether Council Tax harmonisation will be fair
- centralisation of services and loss of local access.

Each of these concerns has directly influenced the design of the **One Suffolk** model, and our commitment is to continue listening and talking as it evolves.

Our business case has support from people across Suffolk, including leaders in the NHS, business and culture sectors. You can pledge your support too at www.onesuffolkcouncil.co.uk

The most detailed, realistic and local plan

To create the best and most realistic plan, we've used up-to-date, Suffolk-specific local information and data – like council budgets, population figures and staffing costs. Everything has been thoroughly checked and double-checked – with support from experts from professional service firm Grant Thornton.

We have made a conscious decision to be cautious when predicting how much money can be saved, because we don't want to over-promise and under-deliver, as has been the case elsewhere in the country when they have gone through this process. For example, when we've modelled possible savings, rather than looking at

what LGR plans from other parts of the country promised, we looked at what they actually achieved. Real life, real understanding, real outcomes for residents.

Saving taxpayers' money

Our detailed analysis of local data, using real life examples from elsewhere in the country, shows that having one council will **save** £78.2 million in the first five years and £39.4 million each year thereafter. In contrast, setting up three councils would cost an additional £145.3 million in the first five years. In short, it would be cheaper to stay as we are than move to having three councils!



Eye Church

Table 01: Summary of costs and savings from three options: local government reorganisation in Suffolk

	One unitary council (£m)	Two unitary councils (£m)	Three unitary councils (£m)
Total annual benefit	£39.7m	£21.1m	£14.3m
Five-year break up costs	£0	–£67.6m	–£135.2m
Savings in first five years	£78.2m	–£48.0m	–£145.3m
Annual savings after five years	£39.4m	£7.3m	–£13.1m



Racehorse training in Newmarket

Three councils, same old story

Suffolk's district and borough councils have also submitted an LGR proposal to the government, in their case to create three councils covering Suffolk.

To be fully informed, you should read their plan – but there is a big problem with it. To come up with their financial analysis and savings figures, they have used promises contained in business

cases and reorganisation plans from elsewhere in the country – not the actual savings that have been achieved. Their plan admits this and it means there is massive doubt around the savings they promise.

Nothing is more important than protecting the most vulnerable in our county, but their plan for delivering

social care is dangerous. Splitting up social care risks creating a postcode lottery of services depending on where you live, makes it harder for councils to pay a fair amount for the care it buys for residents and reduces the chance of making big countywide investment in new technology. Fragmenting social care risks disrupting critical public services that will affect the very people who need stability the most – vulnerable residents.

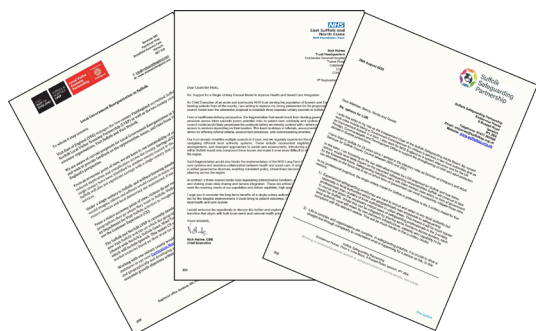
We firmly believe that their business case lacks robust evidence.



Two ladies looking out to sea in Felixstowe

Support for One Suffolk

The **One Suffolk** proposal is being supported publicly by leaders from a broad range of different industries. These include the tourism, business, health, social care and agriculture sectors. Some of these people have voiced real concerns with the alternative proposal to split Suffolk into three unitary authorities.



More information and next steps

This summary boils down the full 313-page business case, which is available to read on www.onesuffolkcouncil.co.uk

The government is now considering the plan and will decide whether or not to include it in a public consultation in the coming months. We hope you will take part when the time comes.

If you want to keep up to date on **One Suffolk** and the government's consultation, you can subscribe to our fortnightly newsletter at www.onesuffolkcouncil.co.uk/newsletter

To all Town Councils
in West Suffolk

Contact: CW/sec
Direct Dial: 01284 757001
Email: cliff.waterman@westsuffolk.gov.uk

BY EMAIL

Date: 1 December 2025

Dear Colleague,

Have your say on the future of local democracy in Suffolk

The Government is consulting on a reorganisation of local government in Norfolk and Suffolk. This will see the current county, district and borough councils abolished and replaced with unitary authorities in 2028.

The Government is keen to hear the views of all those interested in these proposals, including local residents, town and parish councils, residents' associations, businesses and the voluntary and community sector. As such, it has asked councils including West Suffolk and your own council to use our existing networks to bring the consultation to the attention of local people and organisations.

As you will be aware, the district and borough councils in Suffolk are proposing three local unitary authorities – 'Suffolk to the Power of Three' - and I am pleased to attach an electronic copy of a leaflet which explains the key points of our submission and how to take part in the consultation. In the next few days we will also be sending you paper copies of the leaflet to share with your councillors and/or make available in your offices.

You can find out more about the Suffolk to the Power of Three proposal and how to have your say on our dedicated website: www.threecouncilsforsuffolk.org.

As you will also know, Suffolk County Council has proposed a one unitary solution called 'One Suffolk' which you can read at www.onesuffolkcouncil.co.uk.

Responses to the consultation must be made via the Government's online form. This can be found at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) website: <https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government->

Cliff Waterman
Leader West Suffolk Council

West Suffolk House • Western Way • Bury St Edmunds • Suffolk • IP33 3YU

Phone 01284 757001 • Email cliff.waterman@westsuffolk.gov.uk
www.westsuffolk.gov.uk

[reorganisation/norfolk-suffolk/](#). The Government is consulting on both Suffolk and Norfolk proposals together, but you can just give comments on Suffolk if you wish.

The consultation will run until **11 January 2026**, and I would strongly urge your council and councillors to take part in their own right as well as promoting it to your local residents.

Government has indicated that decisions on which proposal to implement could be announced by March.

If you have any questions or would like any additional consultation materials, please don't hesitate to contact communications@westsuffolk.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Waterman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Cllr. Cliff Waterman
Leader, West Suffolk Council

Will the Three Councils proposal **save money?**

Yes! Having three councils will save money compared to the current six councils, and it will also enable investment in services.

We have worked closely with specialist accountants KPMG, to analyse the current budgets for all six councils in Suffolk, alongside national evidence and the costs of change.

Savings in first 5 years: £106 million

This is an amalgamation of savings delivered through economies and efficiencies, use of technology, harmonising services etc.

Annual savings after 5 years: £34 million

These are the ongoing savings every year after the first five years. £20m of this will be invested in services.



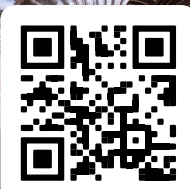
As well as saving money, Three Unitary Councils For Suffolk means:

- Councils with a real understanding of their communities with the capacity to tailor services to local needs to drive better outcomes.
- Councillors who are rooted in their communities understand the issues that matter and are able to do something about them.
- Councils that are big enough to deliver and local enough to care about services that work for you.



Now is the time to have a say on the **future shape of our local democracy in Suffolk**

Proposed by Suffolk's district and borough councils –
Babergh District Council, East Suffolk Council, Ipswich Borough Council, Mid Suffolk District Council and West Suffolk Council.



Find out more & take part in the consultation – scan the QR code or visit threecouncilsforsuffolk.org

Proposed by Suffolk's district and borough councils –
Babergh District Council, East Suffolk Council, Ipswich Borough Council, Mid Suffolk District Council and West Suffolk Council.

A one unitary solution known as One Suffolk is being proposed by Suffolk County Council. You can find more about it at onesuffolkcouncil.co.uk

Find out more & take part in the consultation – scan the QR code or visit threecouncilsforsuffolk.org

Suffolk's borough and districts are proposing to Government that there should be three unitary councils for Suffolk, delivering all council services.

For residents, Three Councils will:

- Make decisions more quickly, and tailored to meeting the needs of different towns and villages
- Be simpler, more clearly accountable and provide greater value for money
- Provide local people with more direct access to officers and councillors
- Deliver high quality services with a local focus, investing finances and resources where they are needed most
- Be local, accountable and responsive
- Listen to residents' needs and ensure their voices are heard.



Three local councils working together, listening to residents' needs and ensuring their voices are heard.

For businesses, Three Councils will:

- Form a powerful lobby to deliver the infrastructure needed for prosperity
- Focus on local business growth and innovation to create real opportunities
- Deliver the services your business needs more efficiently
- Be there to help your business problem solve, from funding to location
- Provide direct access to councillors and decision making – right where you are.



Three local areas playing to their economic strengths.



Three strong local voices championing their communities +

Three local areas playing to their natural economic strengths +

Three local strategies for investment where it's actually needed =

That's Suffolk to the **power of three**

Consultation on the Proposal from Suffolk County Council

Consultation for one unitary council:

1. **Suffolk Council:** Babergh, East Suffolk, Ipswich, Mid Suffolk, and West Suffolk

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal suggests a council that is based on sensible geographies and economic areas?

Dropdown answers nor disagree	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed council will be able to deliver the outcomes they describe in the proposal?

Dropdown answers nor disagree	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

3. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed council is the right size to be efficient, improve capacity and withstand financial shocks?

Dropdown answers nor disagree	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

4. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed council will deliver high quality, sustainable public services?

Dropdown answers nor disagree	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

5. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal has been informed by local views and will meet local needs?

Dropdown answers nor disagree	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

6. To what extent do you agree or disagree that establishing the council in this proposal will support devolution arrangements, for example, the establishment of a strategic authority?

Dropdown answers nor disagree	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

7. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal enables stronger community engagement and gives the opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment?

Dropdown answers nor disagree	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

8. If you would like to, please use the free text box to explain the answers you have provided to questions 1-7 referring to the question numbers as part of your answer. You may also use the box to provide any other comments you have on this proposal.

Text box to add further comments

9. I confirm that I have not included any information that identifies an individual in the free text box.

Yes

Consultation on the proposal from Babergh District Council, East Suffolk District Council, Ipswich Borough Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, and West Suffolk District Council

Consultation for 3 unitary councils:

1. **Western Suffolk:** West Suffolk (plus 21 parishes from Mid Suffolk), and Babergh (less 31 parishes).
2. **Central and Eastern:** Mid Suffolk (less 29 parishes), and East Suffolk (less 25 parishes).
3. **Ipswich and Southern Suffolk:** Ipswich (plus 31 parishes from Babergh, 8 parishes from Mid Suffolk, and 25 parishes from East Suffolk).

This proposal is accompanied by a request for boundary change to split existing districts between new unitary councils. Please answer the questions on the proposal including the modifications. We will also ask you an additional question on whether you think there is a strong justification for these splits.

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal suggests councils that are based on sensible geographies and economic areas?

Dropdown answers	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will be able to deliver the outcomes they describe in the proposal?

dropdown answers	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

3. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils are the right size to be efficient, improve capacity and withstand financial shocks?

dropdown answers	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

4. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will deliver high quality, sustainable public services?

Dropdown answers	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

5. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal has been informed by local views and will meet local needs?

Dropdown answers	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

6. *To what extent do you agree or disagree that establishing the councils in this proposal will support devolution arrangements, for example, the establishment of a strategic authority?*

Dropdown answers	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

7. *To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal enables stronger community engagement and gives the opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment?*

Dropdown answers	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

8. *If you would like to, please use the free text box to explain the answers you have provided to questions 1-7 referring to the question numbers as part of your answer. You may also use the box to provide any other comments you have on this proposal.*

Text box to add further comments

9. *This proposal is accompanied by a request that the Secretary of State considers boundary change. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal sets out a strong public services and financial sustainability justification for boundary change?*

Dropdown answers	-- Please Select --	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree
nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	

10. *If you would like to, please use this free text box to explain your answer to question 9.*

Text box to add further comments

11. *I confirm that I have not included any information that identifies an individual in the free text boxes.*

Yes