

## Comments from full Council on 12 November 2025 to Executive on 13 November 2025 on Local Government Reorganisation.

Full Council debated the three proposals and made the following comments and observations:

Proposal	Observations
1UA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on prestige.</li> <li>• Poses more questions than answers – more so than the alternative proposals.</li> <li>• Concern district councils would effectively be absorbed by the County Council.</li> <li>• Timeline for producing a county-wide local plan within one year is unrealistic.</li> <li>• Concern over local representation; Councillors would represent a very high number of electors.</li> <li>• Risks building on “the same old” in a bad way.</li> <li>• Similar proposal considered and rejected previously.</li> </ul>
2UA -	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low risk, high resilience and value for money.</li> <li>• Concern about urban interests overriding rural interests in Oxford and Shires.</li> <li>• City brings opportunities, assets and influence to Oxford and Shires e.g. improvements to the A40, trading company, housing company, housing revenue account, acceleration of affordable housing delivery.</li> <li>• Opportunity to build on what works well at the different councils and improve services.</li> <li>• Districts understand town and parish councils and how to progress those relationships.</li> <li>• Better for growth and development e.g. Carterton.</li> <li>• Has costs but minimises disruption to services.</li> <li>• Oxford and Shires has a good balance of urban areas, towns, villages and urban areas; brings different communities together.</li> <li>• Right size to protect and improve services to residents.</li> <li>• Supported by multiple authorities and builds on close partnership working.</li> <li>• Fewer unanswered questions than alternative proposals.</li> <li>• Better of the three options.</li> </ul>
3UA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk to green belt.</li> <li>• Very Oxford-centric.</li> <li>• Unbalanced and unrealistic growth.</li> </ul>