

Summary of Feedback

1. Single Tier of Local Government:

- Each council should submit a single proposal with a clear single option and geography for the whole area
- Further detail and evidence on the outcomes expected for the whole area of any preferred model are needed

2. Population Size:

- Proposals should consider populations around 500,000, but flexibility is allowed
- Clear rationale for the proposed approach should be provided

3. Financial Savings and Efficiencies:

- Indicative financial savings and efficiencies should be developed further
- Consistent assumptions and data sets should be used across all proposals

4. Impact on Crucial Services:

- Detailed consideration of impacts on services such as social care, children's services, SEND, and homelessness is required
- Mitigation strategies for risks should be included

5. Collaboration and Data Sharing:

- Effective collaboration between all councils and the wider East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) is crucial
- Strong relationships and agreed ways of working, including data sharing, should be established

6. Implications for EMCCA:

- Consideration of the implications and benefits of unitarisation for EMCCA is needed
- Further information on governance arrangements and interaction with EMCCA should be provided

Key Areas to Consider or Address in the Full Business Case

1. Clear Single Proposal:

- Ensure the final proposal addresses the criteria and is supported by data and evidence
- Use the same assumptions and data sets or clearly explain any differences

2. Population Criteria:

- Provide a clear rationale for the proposed population size and approach

3. Financial Analysis:

- Develop a high-level financial assessment covering transition costs and overall forecast operating costs
- Include detailed analysis on expected transition and/or disaggregation costs and potential efficiencies

4. Service Impact:

- Provide detailed information on how services will be maintained and improved, especially in cases of disaggregation
- Consider the impact on social care, children's services, SEND, homelessness, and public safety

5. Collaboration and Governance:

- Build strong relationships and agree on ways of working, including data sharing
- Outline how the proposal will interact with EMCCA and benefit the local community

6. Community Engagement:

- Detail plans for neighbourhood-based governance and community engagement
- Include views from local engagement and how they have been incorporated into the final proposal

7. Councillor Numbers and Governance:

- Provide early views on councillor numbers and governance arrangements to ensure effective democratic representation

8. Devolution Ambitions:

- Outline how new structures will support devolution arrangements and the delivery of mayoral priorities