

## **MHCLG: Local Government Reorganisation Advisory Group – Terms of Reference**

### **Overview**

The Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) Advisory Group has been established by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to support the delivery of the government's LGR programme. The group brings together senior leaders and experts from across local government to provide advice on policy development, implementation, and risk management.

While its primary focus is on reorganisation, the group also considers related issues such as devolution, where relevant.

### **Purpose**

The Advisory Group plays a key role in:

- Offering evidence-based recommendations to inform policy and delivery.
- Providing constructive challenge to the implementation of the LGR programme.
- Sharing insights and best practice from past and current reorganisation.
- Highlighting emerging risks and suggesting mitigations.
- Advising on how government can best support local authorities through change.

The Group's advice helps ensure that the LGR programme is delivered effectively and in a way that supports wider public service reform in partnership with the sector.

### **Governance**

The Group operates within the governance structure of the LGR programme. Its advice is shared with the programme board, which may also seek the Group's views on strategic issues. While the government is not obliged to act on the Group's advice, it will be considered carefully to support effective delivery.

### **Membership**

The Group includes representatives from key local government organisations, councils with direct experience of reorganisation and sector experts. Members typically hold senior leadership roles, such as Chief Executive, and contribute based on their expertise and experience.

The Group is chaired by the Directors of Local Government Reform and Strategy at MHCLG.

### **Meetings**

The group meets monthly, either online or in person. Meetings are supported by a secretariat and include the production of action notes. Members may also be consulted outside of meetings as needed.

## Annex A: Membership

Name	Organisation	Role
Sophie Langdale and Fran Oram	Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government	Directors for Local Government Reform and Strategy and Group Chair
Debbie Barnes	Lincolnshire County Council	Lincolnshire County Council Chief Executive
Max Caller CBE	N/A	Retired Local Government Expert
Graham Farrant	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council	BCP Chief Executive
Stephen Gabriel	Tamworth Borough Council	Tamworth Borough Council Chief Executive
Theresa Grant	N/A	Former Chief Executive of Northamptonshire County Council
Alison Griffin	London Councils	Chief Executive of London Councils
Trevor Holden	South Norfolk and Broadland	District Councils Network CEX Group Chair
Joanna Killian	Local Government Association (LGA)	LGA Chief Executive
Tony McArdle OBE	N/A	Former Commissioner for Northamptonshire County Council
Nick Presmeg	Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS)	ADASS Policy & Practice Trustee. Executive Director of Adult Social Care, Essex County Council
Rachael Shimmin	Association of County Chief Executives (ACCE)	ACCE LGR Expert Group. Chief Executive, Buckinghamshire Council
Chris Sinnott	Chorley and South Ribble District Council	Chorley and South Ribble District Council Chief Executive
Pam Smith	Newcastle City Council	Newcastle City Council Chief Executive
Robin Tuddenham	Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE)	SOLACE President
Rachael Wardell	Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS)	ADCS President
Leigh Whitehouse	West Sussex County Council	West Sussex County Council Chief Executive
Beatrice Andrews and Ruth Miller	Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government	Deputy Directors for Local Government Reorganisation