

Report to Wells Town Council 12th May 2025 **from Peter, Your North Norfolk District Councillor**

Date published: 7th May 2025

The Government has responded to our joint proposal for the reorganisation of local government in Norfolk, which we will now examine in detail over the coming days.

Collectively, we remain confident in our comprehensive vision for a three-unitary model for the county, which we believe will deliver significant benefits for our communities: including improved public service outcomes, enhanced local economic growth and stronger democratic representation.

Our model is rooted in our detailed knowledge and experience of Norfolk and our clear understanding of how to address the unique challenges and opportunities ahead while aligning closely with the Government's criteria for local government reorganisation.

The three-unitary model proposes the establishment of three distinct unitary authorities centred around the historic urban centres of Norwich, Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn. This structure is designed to reflect the functional and geographic significance of these areas as civic and economic hubs, ensuring that local governance is both effective and responsive to the needs of our diverse communities.

This approach also aligns with the Government's preference for maintaining existing boundaries where possible while providing a clear rationale for necessary changes to optimise service delivery and community alignment.

Our three-unitary model will enable tailored approaches to local economies and housing, recognising the distinct characteristics and needs of each area. It will also provide a balanced power dynamic ensuring that no single entity dominates and that local voices are heard across the county.

One of our next steps will include launching a significant public and stakeholder engagement exercise to listen to the views of local people to help us refine this proposal into a full business case that maximises the potential of devolution and local governance in Norfolk by the Government deadline of September.

Statement on behalf of:

- **Breckland District Council:** Leader: Cllr Sam Chapman-Allen
- **Broadland District Council:** Leader: Cllr Sue Holland
- **Great Yarmouth Borough Council:** Leader: Cllr Carl Smith
- **King's Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council:** Leader: Cllr Alistair Beales
- **North Norfolk District Council:** Leader: Cllr Tim Adams
- **Norwich City Council:** Leader: Cllr Mike Stonard

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Further funding announced for North Norfolk, following successful delivery of business and community support project Date published: 14th April 2025

North Norfolk District Council is pleased to receive confirmation of a further year of funding to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, where a total of £842,354 will be available to provide additional benefit to businesses and communities in North Norfolk up until March 2026.

The Council successfully delivered the last programme of support to local businesses and communities between January 2023 and March 2025, with funding from the Government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF).

In total, 1500 businesses were able to benefit from the various programmes through the UKSPF and REPF funding streams. The total programme of £2,696,117 of Government funding brought investment totalling £5,554,899 through match funding, allowing for significant development throughout the district.

Some key statistics around business and community support:



Case studies of innovating businesses, many of which benefitted from the grant schemes, are available from [Invest North Norfolk](#) - the Council's business support webpages.

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Cllr. John Toye, Portfolio holder for Sustainable Growth said:

“This has been an example of how well we deliver projects at North Norfolk District Council. The Economic Growth team, that won an award for the effectiveness of their delivery of business grants during the pandemic, have continued their high level of delivery that has benefited the whole of North Norfolk.

Through innovative methods, and working in partnership, we have more than doubled the original financial investment, delivering jobs, training, climate resilience and community projects that will be there for the future of our residents, helping improve the prosperity of our rural communities.

It is a solid achievement that demonstrates the economic value that local councils, when working effectively, can bring. This helps prepare the District well for any the future changes on the horizon.”

The 2025/26 delivery programme through the UKSPF will be outlined in the coming months.

[Visit Invest North Norfolk](#) to find out more about the local economy and to register for updates about future programmes of business and community support.

Food Waste

It was agreed at full council to transfer finance to allow the procurement of vehicles and food caddies to ensure that the governments statutory food waste programme was able to go ahead.