

COUNCIL – 18 FEBRUARY 2025

LABOUR GROUP AMENDMENT  
AGENDA ITEM 2: UNITARY LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN WARWICKSHIRE

Recommendation as printed

Additions shown in bold and underlined

**Local Government reform is not solely about unitarising two-tier councils. Government has been clear in the White Paper that devolution of power to local communities will be through the establishment of new Strategic Authorities or widening the scope of those which exist.**

**It is crucial that future unitary government is not remote from local communities. The engagement of local communities in decision-making will be essential if devolved powers are to be exercised effectively.**

**The County of Warwickshire has a strong heritage, brand and identity which should be preserved and strengthened for future generations.**

That Council **therefore**:

1. Supports the development of a proposal to Government for unitary local government for Warwickshire which meets the guidance, criteria and timeframes set out in the invitation received from Government
2. **Opens discussions across the region with prospective Strategic Authority partners.**
3. **Seeks to establish clear guiding principles and rationale for proposals developed.**
4. **Seeks to involve local communities in local decision making in any proposals**
5. **Seeks to preserve the boundaries and the identity of the County in any proposals**
6. **Ensure the interim plans meet the requirements set out by the Minister of State for Local Government.**

Proposer: Councillor Sarah Feeney

Seconder: Councillor John Holland