

**Jim McMahon OBE MP**

*Minister of State for Local Government  
and English Devolution*

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Date: 21 March 2025

Dear Minister,

Further to your formal invitation of 5 February 2025, please find attached the 'Interim Plan for Local Government Reorganisation' submitted on behalf of all 15 councils in the Hampshire and the Solent area.

Your letter asked us to identify any barriers or challenges where further clarity and support would be helpful and these are outlined on pages 8 and 9 of the submission.

As laid out in the Interim Plan, these are areas where an early response and clarification are needed to ensure our ability to proceed on the most ambitious timeline possible, as requested in your original letter.

Yours sincerely

**Cllr Martin Tod**

Chair, Hampshire and the Solent Local Authority Leaders Group  
Leader, Winchester City Council

Sent on behalf of:

**Cllr Paul Harvey**

Leader,  
Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council

**Cllr Phil Munday**

Leader,  
Havant Borough Council

**Cllr Richard Millard**

Leader  
East Hampshire District Council

**Cllr Phil Jordan**

Leader  
Isle of Wight Council

**Cllr Keith House**

Leader  
Eastleigh Borough Council

**Cllr Jill Cleary**

Leader  
New Forest District Council



**Cllr Simon Martin**

Leader  
Fareham Borough Council

**Cllr Peter Chegwyn**

Leader  
Gosport Borough Council

**Cllr Nick Adams King**

Leader  
Hampshire County Council

**Cllr David Neighbour**

Leader  
Hart District Council

**Cllr Steve Pitt**

Leader  
Portsmouth City Council

**Cllr Gareth Williams**

Leader  
Rushmoor Borough Council

**Cllr Lorna Fielker**

Leader  
Southampton City Council

**Cllr Phil North**

Leader  
Test Valley Borough Council