

# Local Government Reorganisation Consultation

Town & Parish Briefing – 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026

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# What is local government reorganisation?

- In 2024, the Government announced plans for local government reorganisation (LGR) and devolution in England.
- From April 2028, all local services - such as road maintenance, bin collections, education, planning, social housing, social care, and benefits support - will be delivered by a **single unitary council**.
- Councils in existing two-tier areas have submitted proposals to Government for what these new unitaries could look like.



# LGR options

The following options have been submitted to Government by the councils in Cambridgeshire.

## Option A

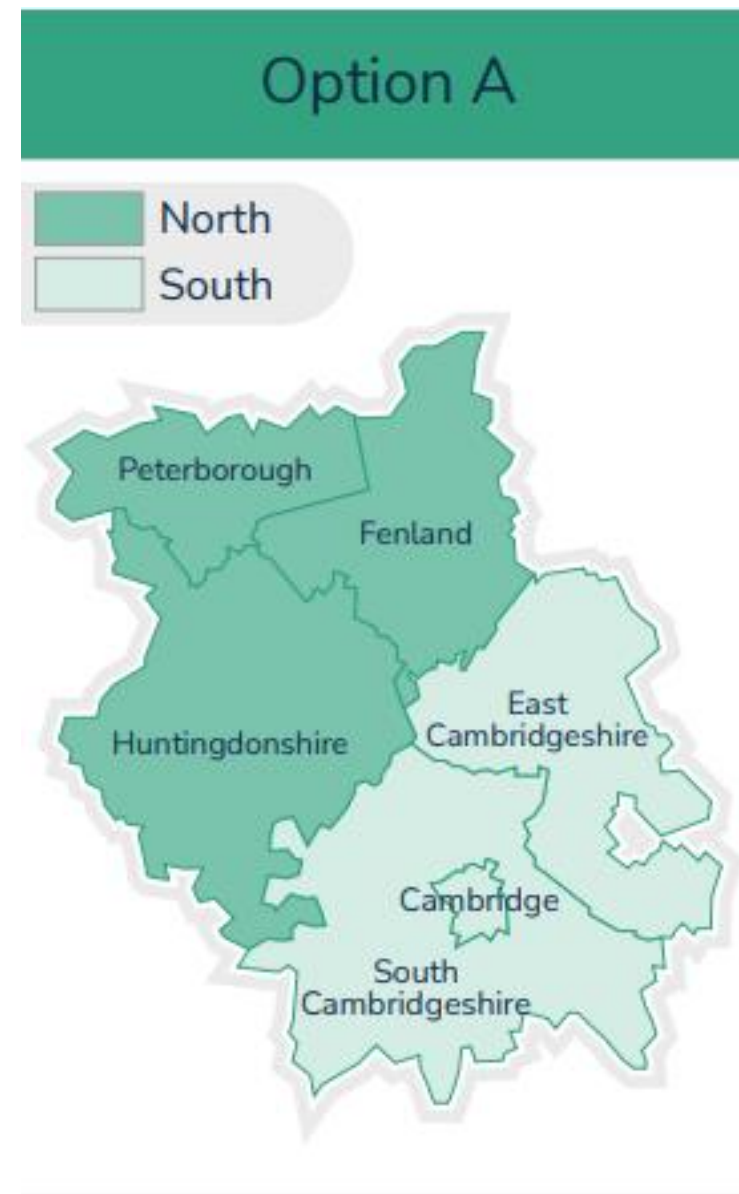
### Unitary 1

- Peterborough City.
- Huntingdonshire.
- Fenland.
- Plus, county council functions.

### Unitary 2

- Cambridge City.
- East Cambridgeshire.
- South Cambridgeshire.
- Plus, county council functions.

Submitted by Cambridgeshire  
County Council



## Option B

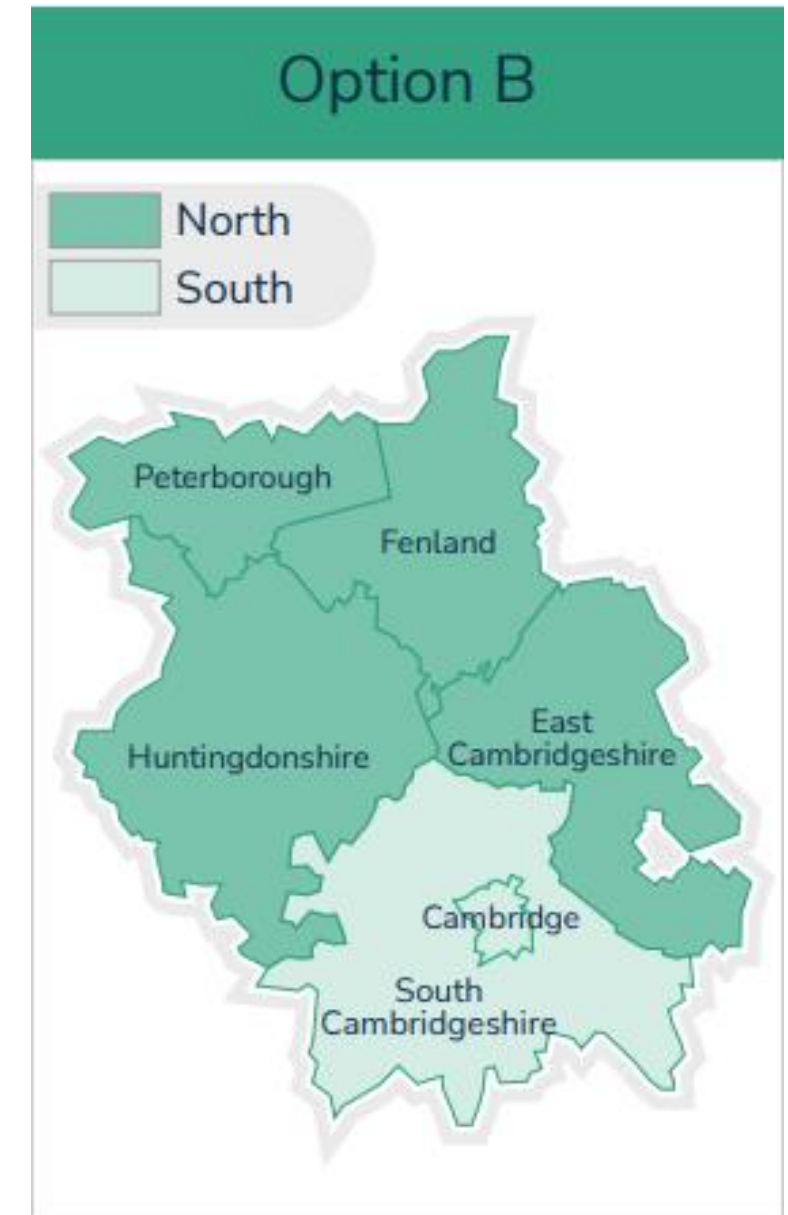
### Unitary 1

- Peterborough City.
- East Cambridgeshire.
- Fenland.
- Huntingdonshire.
- Plus, county council functions.

### Unitary 2

- Cambridge City.
- South Cambridgeshire.
- Plus, county council

Submitted by Cambridge City  
Council, South Cambridgeshire  
District Council and East  
Cambridgeshire District Council



# LGR options

The following options have been submitted to Government by the councils in Cambridgeshire.

## Option D

### Unitary 1

- Peterborough City.
- “West Huntingdonshire”.

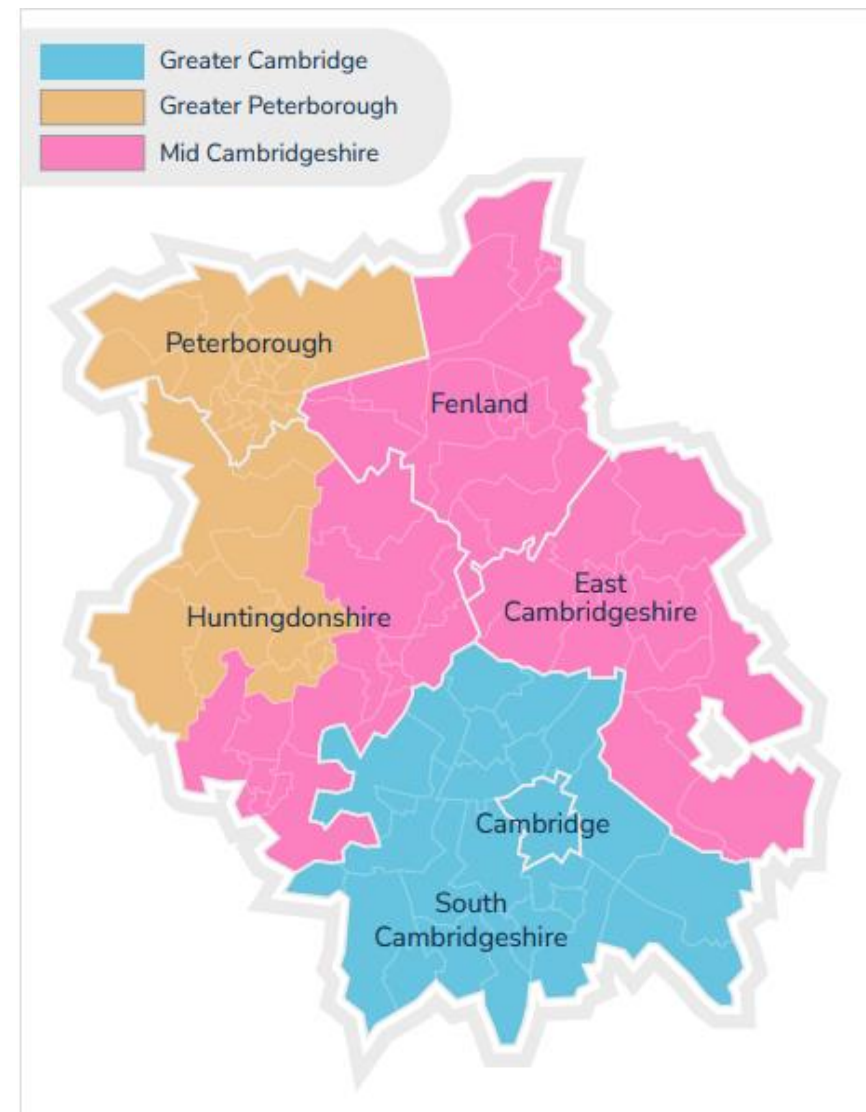
### Unitary 2

- Fenland.
- “East Huntingdonshire”.
- East Cambridgeshire.

### Unitary 3

- South Cambridgeshire.
- Cambridge City.

Submitted by Peterborough City Council and Fenland District Council



## Option E

### Unitary 1

- Huntingdonshire.

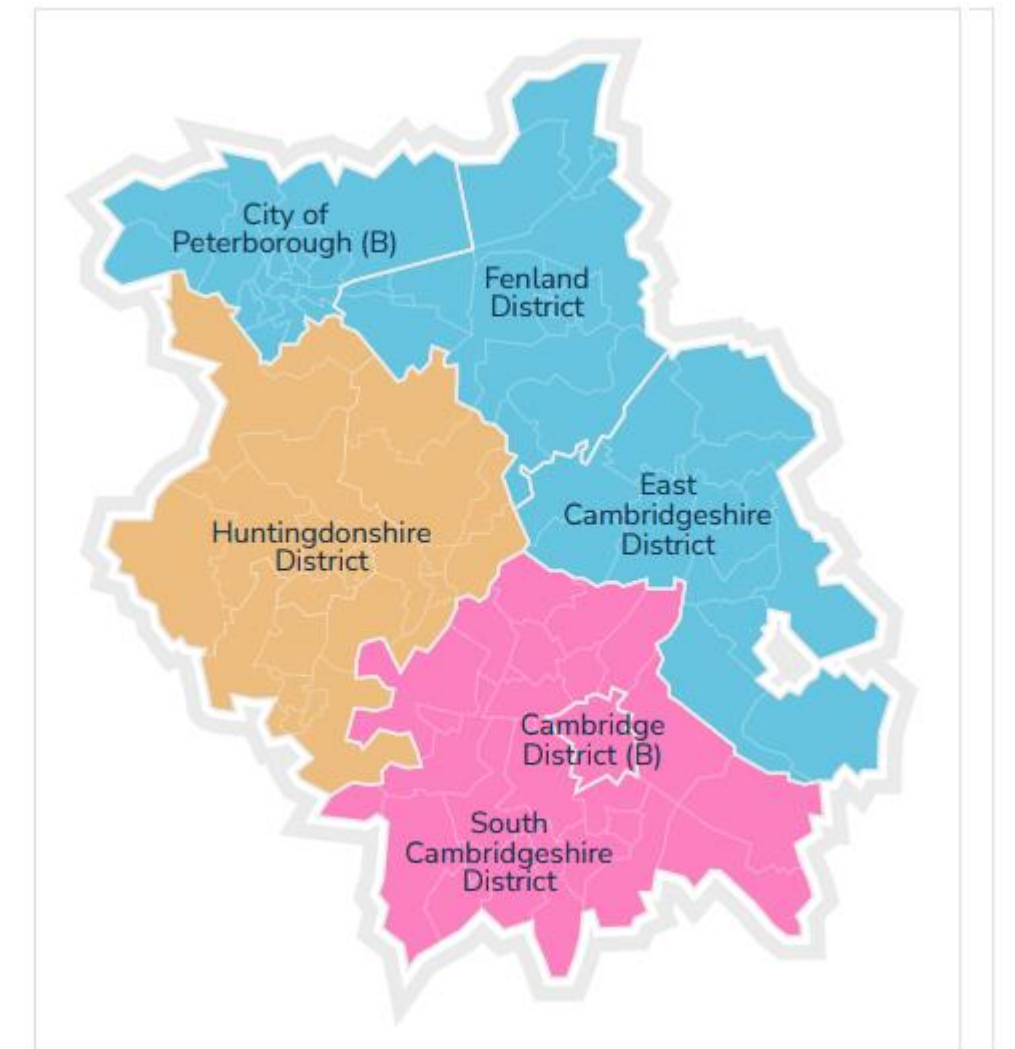
### Unitary 2

- Peterborough.
- Fenland.
- East Cambridgeshire.

### Unitary 3

- South Cambridgeshire.
- Cambridge City.

Submitted by Huntingdonshire District Council



# Option E

HDC submitted Option E following a full council debate on the 19<sup>th</sup> November and a Cabinet decision on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

## Unitary 1

- Huntingdonshire.

## Unitary 2

- Peterborough.
- Fenland.
- East Cambridgeshire.

## Unitary 3

- South Cambridgeshire.
- Cambridge City.



**The proposal for Option E outlines how this configuration...**

**Sensible geographies** – proposes three unitaries based on recognised travel-to-work areas, economic links, and community identities to support growth.

**Delivery of outcomes** – aligns with regional and national priorities – such as housing targets and defence-sector growth – while building on existing delivery expertise.

**Financial sustainability** – creates three financially sustainable councils with opportunities for savings through transition and transformation.

**Sustainable public services** – suggests councils sized to deliver efficient, high-quality services while remaining close to communities.

**Local views** – responds to residents' calls for transparency, simpler access to services, and stronger local representation by bringing all services into single councils.

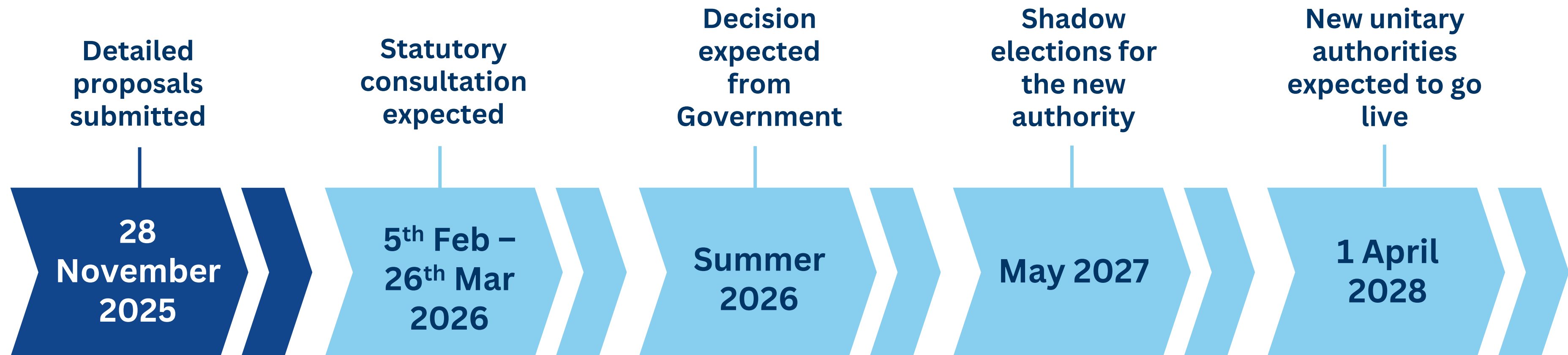
**Devolution** – aligns with the CPCA's growth vision to ensure local government structures can support future devolution.

**Community engagement** – strengthens existing engagement by creating councils with the right scale to stay close to communities while supporting wider regional aims.

[Local Government Reorganisation – Option E](#) – follow this link for the full proposal.

# Timeline

- The Government's statutory consultation on the LGR options launched yesterday on the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026. The consultation will run for 7 weeks until the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026.
- A decision is then expected on which option they have chosen in summer 2026.
- For now, council services remain business as usual.



# The structure of the consultation (1)

The consultation has a total of 7 questions, based on the guidance in the original letter to councils.

Respondents are asked to select their answer on a scale from strongly disagree-strongly agree for each proposal in turn. The questions will ask respondents what extent they agree or disagree that...

1. ...the proposal suggests councils that are based on sensible geographies and economic areas?
2. ... the proposed councils will be able to deliver the outcomes they describe in the proposal?
3. ... the proposed councils are the right size to be efficient, improve capacity and withstand financial shocks?
4. ... the proposed councils will deliver high quality, sustainable public services?
5. ... the proposal has been informed by local views and will meet local needs?
6. ... establishing the councils in this proposal will support devolution arrangements, for example, the establishment of a strategic authority?
7. ... the proposal enables stronger community engagement and gives the opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment?

The 8<sup>th</sup> question will contain a free text box where respondents can expand on the above responses.

# The structure of the consultation (2)

For proposals that contain boundary changes, there will be an additional ninth and tenth question, as follows:

9. This proposal is accompanied by a request that the Secretary of State considers boundary changes. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal sets out a strong public services and financial sustainability justification for boundary change? (Tick-box)

10. If you would like to, please use this free text box to explain your answer to question 9.

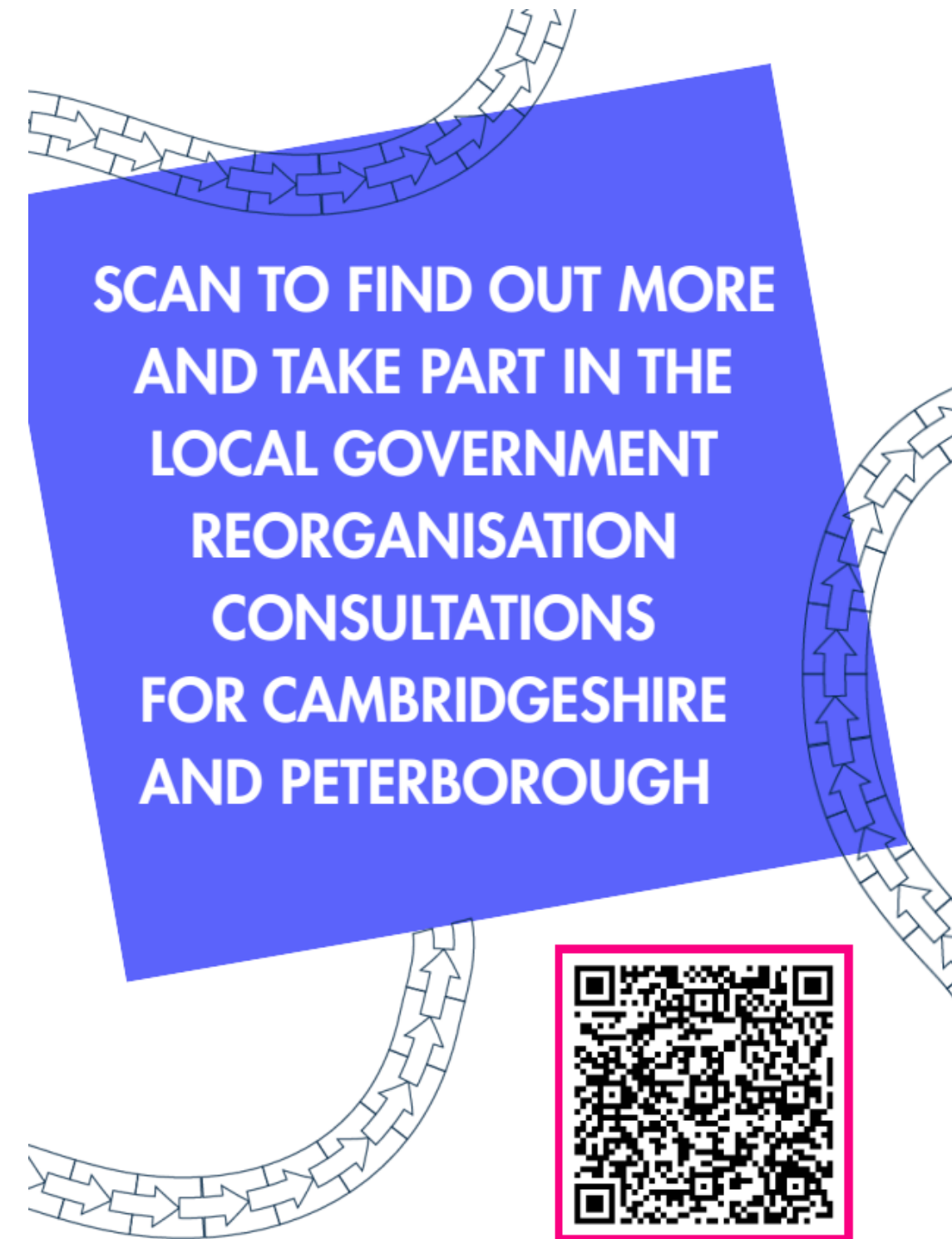
**The link to respond to the consultation is here - [Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough - Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government - Citizen Space](#)**

# What can town and parish councils do to support the consultation?

We now know that the consultation will run for 7 weeks from the 5<sup>th</sup> February – 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

What can you do during that time?

- Speak to your community to tell them about this consultation
- Hold an extraordinary meeting to discuss your response
- Hold a public meeting to invite members of the public to engage
- HDC will share posters you can print off and display



# How can I be kept updated?

- Dedicated LGR page on our website, with FAQs that are regularly updated.
- We share timely updates on social media.



@Huntingdonshire



@HuntingdonshireDistrictCouncil



The screenshot shows the Huntingdonshire District Council website. At the top, there is a search bar and a navigation menu with links for Home, Council & Democracy, Meetings and Decision-Making, and Local Government Reorganisation. The main content area is titled "Local Government Reorganisation" and includes a sub-header "Council & Democracy". Below this, there is a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) with green checkmarks indicating they have been answered. The questions are:

- What is local government reorganisation?
- Does this mean that HDC will no longer exist in future?
- How will this impact residents of Huntingdonshire?
- When will local government reorganisation happen?
- How will the decision be made on what reorganisation looks like in Cambridgeshire?
- Will Huntingdonshire residents get a say?
- How will this impact parish and town councils?
- What will this mean for Council Tax charges?
- What will this mean for the district council elections?
- How can I find out more?

Questions?