

Appendix 2

HM Government is putting forward five proposals for local government reorganisation to a statutory consultation period of about 7 weeks. All proposals listed below can be found at: [Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent Local Government Reorganisation Hub](#).

The Government's intended timeline for decision-making is set out below. It is noted that this is viewed by Government as an ambitious timeline, so may be subject to change.

- February 2025 – Government invited councils to submit proposals for local government reorganisation in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent
- From March 2025 – Interim plans were agreed and submitted by local councils
- November 2025 – Final proposals were submitted to government
- February 2026 – HM Government's statutory consultation launched
- Summer 2026 – Government decision on reorganisation in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent
- May 2027 - Elections to new shadow unitary councils
- April 2028 – New unitary councils 'go live'

1. East Staffordshire and West Staffordshire Unitary Councils

This proposal divides the county into two authorities—east and west:

- West Staffordshire, consisting of the existing boroughs and districts of Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stafford, Cannock Chase and South Staffordshire
- East Staffordshire, consisting of Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire Moorlands, East Staffordshire, Tamworth and Lichfield.

2. Creation of four new unitary councils for Staffordshire

This model proposes **four unitary authorities**, creating smaller, more localised authorities:

- A unitary council covering Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Moorlands
- A unitary council covering the existing boundaries of Newcastle-under-Lyme
- A unitary council covering East Staffordshire, Lichfield and Tamworth

3. Creation of a North Staffordshire Unitary Council and a Southern & Mid-Staffordshire Unitary Council

This option would divide the county into two unitary authorities:

- North Staffordshire: Stoke-on-Trent, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire Moorlands

- Southern & Mid Staffordshire: Stafford, East Staffordshire, Cannock Chase, South Staffordshire, Tamworth, Lichfield

4. North Staffordshire and Southern & Mid-Staffordshire (Variant with Boundary Changes required)

A variation of proposal 3, this model also creates two unitaries, but introduces adjusted boundaries.

The two authorities would be:

- North Staffordshire: Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire Moorlands, Stoke-on-Trent and parts of Stone (currently Stafford) and Uttoxeter (currently East Staffordshire)
- Southern & Mid-Staffordshire: Stafford (without Stone), East Staffordshire (without Uttoxeter), Cannock Chase, South Staffordshire, Tamworth, Lichfield

5. North Staffordshire, South East Staffordshire, and South West Staffordshire Unitary Councils

This model proposes three unitary councils:

- North Staffordshire authority: Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Moorlands
- A unitary council covering Stafford, Cannock Chase and South Staffordshire
- A unitary council covering East Staffordshire, Tamworth and Lichfield