

## Amended Motion proposed by the Group Leaders

"this Council RESOLVES to

- (i) formally support the general principle of unitary authorities within local government and agree that any such unitary authority affecting Surrey Heath should be ideally around the region of 300,000 to 500,000 residents;
- (ii) ~~oppose the principle of a single unitary authority to cover Surrey on the grounds that such a unitary authority would be too big, too remote and not in the best interests of Surrey Heath residents~~ express serious concern regarding the principle of a single unitary authority to cover Surrey on the grounds that such a unitary authority may be too large, too remote and unlikely to be in the best interests of Surrey Heath residents;
- (iii) instruct the Acting Chief Executive to formally open negotiations with neighbouring authorities ~~(not just within Surrey)~~ with a view to Surrey Heath forming part of a unitary authority;
- (iv) confirm that it has no formal position or preferred option at this stage regarding the specific unitary grouping that it wishes to be part, but believes that all options must be thoroughly and positively reviewed and properly considered; this includes the establishment of a network of locally Parish/Town type Councils which could deal with localised issues, including certain planning functions with an emphasis that any such local Councils or other bodies must be democratically elected;
- ~~(v)~~ agree a budget of up to £35,000 in order to conduct a thorough joint business plan with other authorities of all relevant unitary options to submit to the Secretary of State;
- ~~(vi)~~ delegate authority to the Acting Chief Executive in consultation with Group Leaders to agree the procurement and spending authorisation for the joint business plan;
- ~~(vii)~~ agree its final position on unitary authorities at a future meeting of Full Council or Extraordinary Full Council following receipt of the joint business plan and that of Surrey County Council and prior to submission to the Secretary of State;
- ~~(viii)~~ instruct the Acting Chief Executive to convene regular Group Leader meetings to update on the various options as they progress and to bring forward a report to Full Council once all options have been clearly worked through; and
- ~~(ix)~~ ask the Acting Chief Executive to send a copy of this motion to the Chief Executives and Leaders of all of Surrey Heath's neighbouring authorities, other Surrey Boroughs, Surrey Members of Parliament, and Surrey County Council to inform them of the Council's position."

**The revised motion would then read:**

“this Council RESOLVES to

- (i) formally support the general principle of unitary authorities within local government and agree that any such unitary authority affecting Surrey Heath should be ideally around the region of 300,000 to 500,000 residents;
- (ii) express serious concern regarding the principle of a single unitary authority to cover Surrey on the grounds that such a unitary authority may be too large, too remote and unlikely to be in the best interests of Surrey Heath residents;
- (iii) instruct the Acting Chief Executive to formally open negotiations with neighbouring authorities with a view to Surrey Heath forming part of a unitary authority;
- (iv) confirm that it has no formal position or preferred option at this stage regarding the specific unitary grouping that it wishes to be part, but believes that all options must be thoroughly and positively reviewed and properly considered; this includes the establishment of a network of locally Parish/Town type Councils which could deal with localised issues, including certain planning functions, with an emphasis that any such local Councils or other bodies must be democratically elected;
- (v) agree a budget of up to £35,000 in order to conduct a thorough joint business plan with other authorities of all relevant unitary options to submit to the Secretary of State;
- (vi) delegate authority to the Acting Chief Executive in consultation with Group Leaders to agree the procurement and spending authorisation for the joint business plan;
- (vii) agree its final position on unitary authorities at a future meeting of Full Council or Extraordinary Full Council following receipt of the joint business plan and that of Surrey County Council and prior to submission to the Secretary of State;
- (viii) instruct the Acting Chief Executive to convene regular Group Leader meetings to update on the various options as they progress and to bring forward a report to Full Council once all options have been clearly worked through;
- (ix) ask the Acting Chief Executive to send a copy of this motion to the Chief Executives and Leaders of all of Surrey Heath’s neighbouring authorities, other Surrey Boroughs, Surrey Members of Parliament, and Surrey County Council to inform them of the Council’s position.”