

Summary of Discussion – LGR Exeter Boundary Change Meeting (3 September 2025)

- The Purpose of the Meeting was to discuss possible presentation of boundary change options and the development of LGR proposals.
- Exeter is working with Plymouth and Torbay and is open to wider council working.
- MHCLG advised that boundary changes must demonstrate financial sustainability and service improvement. Proposals must meet invitation criteria and be suitable for consultation.
- Submissions must be a single, clear proposal with base case and modifications justified. Districts should be used as building blocks.
- Justification is an important factor and sufficient evidence is needed to support any suggested boundary changes and financial viability must also be provided.
- The Secretary of State may seek advice from the LGBCE prior to implementing a proposal. There are different ways to achieve boundary change, we are setting out one route where we think you can achieve boundary and structural change together.
- LGBCE has two roles: boundary change and electoral review. Webinars are being held to support councils in understanding warding patterns for new authorities.
- Structural change orders may be used to implement modifications. This would form the legislative basis for new authorities.
- Exeter along with other councils was offered ongoing support and advised further meetings would be welcomed.