11 FEBRUARY 2026
KENILWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
REPORT: LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

Local Government Reorganisation Update

The Warwickshire County Council (WCC) Town and Parish Council Working Group met on 4 February 2026 to receive updates on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) and the national devolution programme. The meeting also provided an opportunity for councils to discuss potential implications of reorganisation and raise questions directly with officers.

Officers began by outlining the national LGR timeline. Following the submission of full proposals for Warwickshire in November 2025, the Government is expected to reach a decision during the summer 2026. As part of the process, a public consultation will run **from 5 February to 26 March 2026**. This is open to all residents and stakeholders. The consultation webpage is available at:

https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-reorganisation/warwickshire/

The consultation is expected to follow the same format used in other Devolution Priority Programme areas, consisting of core questions assessing whether the proposed model can improve efficiency, strengthen resilience, support high-quality services, reflect local needs, enable devolution, and empower communities.

The Working Group also discussed the parishing of currently unparished areas. WCC reiterated its commitment to ensuring comprehensive coverage of local councils across Warwickshire. Initial discussions have taken place with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council and Rugby Borough Council regarding potential new town and/or parish councils for Bedworth, Nuneaton, Rugby and Bulkington. Further engagement is anticipated after the Government's decision.

A key discussion item concerned the potential introduction of a "tiered development framework" for TPCs. This framework could help councils assess their capability levels, ranging from a foundation tier focused on civic engagement, through to an advanced tier for those able to manage commissioned services and devolved budgets.

Responses to questions raised
In response to my question regarding asset and service transfers, officers confirmed that all transfers will remain voluntary. Established processes already exist for transferring physical assets such as land or buildings, including eligibility checks, business case assessment, social-value evaluation, and necessary legal procedures. Service transfers are inherently more complex due to statutory and financial considerations, but officers noted that most services of interest to TPCs are unlikely to require extensive appraisal.

I also asked about the role of TPCs in the future governance model. Officers reaffirmed that WCC's proposal highlights the importance of maintaining strong local identity and community voice. Proposed structures include Local Committees and community networks to ensure TPCs remain central to place-based decision-making.

Members may wish to consider submitting a KTC response to the Government consultation before 26 March 2026.

Cllr Adrian Marsh