The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government is to review the LGR plans for 14 areas, including Lincolnshire, announced in July

A review of plans to streamline local government was announced on 7th September to ensure the process is robust and aligns with the new government's plans to rewire the state.

Following updated and privileged legal advice, ministers will review plans for Local Government Reorganisation.

The review – was announced by the Secretary of State in Parliament – will include decisions on Essex, Hampshire, Norfolk and Suffolk, which have been withdrawn in light of new legal advice.

Plans for 14 other areas, along with Cambridgeshire & Peterborough and West Sussex, will also be reviewed and paused while this is carried out.

To reassure local leaders and communities while this review takes place, the government will confirm that local elections in May 2027 will go ahead on existing council boundaries and remains committed to effective and sustainable local government and simplifying these structures.

The government's Rewiring the State White Paper on devolution will also set out plans to rewire the country and ensure effective and sustainable local government in future.

This comes on the back of the push to shift power out of Westminster and into communities, led by No10 North.

Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government Angela Rayner told Parliament today: "As we are now more determined than ever to devolve power closer to the people we represent, it's only right that as a new Secretary of State I make sure that everything we do is working towards that plan to change Britain, without delay.

"The Prime Minister told the House last week, he was 'prepared to look at local government reorganisation' and he asked me as his Communities Secretary to 'do that'.

"In that context, in light of legal advice, I want to satisfy myself firstly that the right process is in place, that it is robust, and of course complies with the law. And secondly, I want to fully test whether our proposals for local government reorganisation meet the priorities of a new administration and a new Prime Minister and any additional considerations.

"I do not take this lightly. I recognise the huge amount of work that has already gone into progressing reorganisation in each of these areas, and I am very grateful for it."

Reorganisation in Surrey will not be affected by the review and the two new unitary authorities – East and West Surrey – will go live in April 2027.

July update:

The Government has announced its chosen option for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Greater Lincolnshire.

Two new unitary authorities will be created – a City of Lincoln unitary covering the city as well as some neighbouring wards in North Kesteven and West Lindsey; and another covering the rest of North Kesteven and West Lindsey and the four other Lincolnshire districts.

The existing unitary councils of North East Lincolnshire and North Lincolnshire will continue.

Please note that the announcement represents the Government's intention, which remains subject to legislation and any potential legal considerations before implementation.

A Structural Changes Order will be drawn up following this announcement.

The SCO will be presented to Parliament before the end of the calendar year and is expected to come into force in March 2027 following a number of parliamentary procedures. Elections for the new unitary authorities would then be held in May 2027. They will initially serve as shadow authorities and go 'live' on 1st April, 2028.

- **Additional affordable housing approved**

Cabinet recently has approved the acquisition of nine affordable rented homes to supplement the Council's Housing Revenue Account properties.

The new-builds at Long Bennington will provide additional accommodation for those in housing need.

We have more than 1,000 applicants on the Housing Register, so every property we can secure makes a positive contribution.

- A new banking hub in Stamford has opened
- Council are reviewing their Council Tax Support Scheme – public consultation ends 30th September. Link here Council Tax Support Scheme consultation 2027-28 | South Kesteven District Council