

CUTTING THE COST OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
#BUCKSBUSINESS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESTRUCTURE 101 – WHAT ARE THE FACTS – AND WHY DOES IT MATTER TO BUSINESS?

The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, Sajid Javid, has said he is “minded” to accept a proposal that would see the county council and four district councils replaced by one authority.



1 UNITARY AUTHORITY

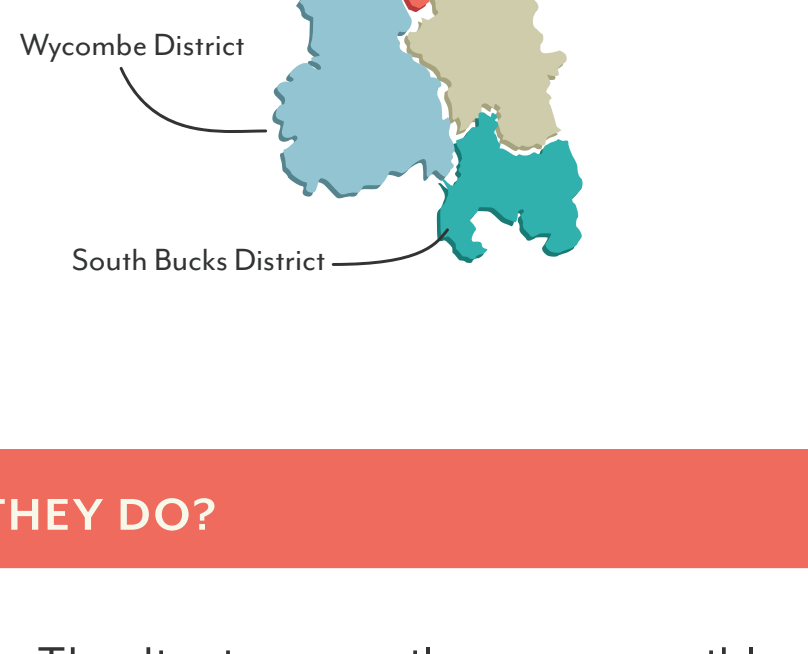
HOW IS BUCKINGHAMSHIRE CURRENTLY RUN?

The 2 tier system

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE IS DIVIDED INTO 5 LOCAL AUTHORITIES
IT HAS 4 DISTRICTS AND 1 COUNTY COUNCIL

- Aylesbury Vale District Council
- Chiltern District Council
- South Bucks District Council
- Wycombe District Council
- Buckinghamshire County Council

THE DISTRICTS



BUT WHAT DO THEY DO?

The county council is responsible for services across the whole of the county including:

- education
- transport
- planning
- fire and public safety
- social care
- libraries
- waste management
- trading standards

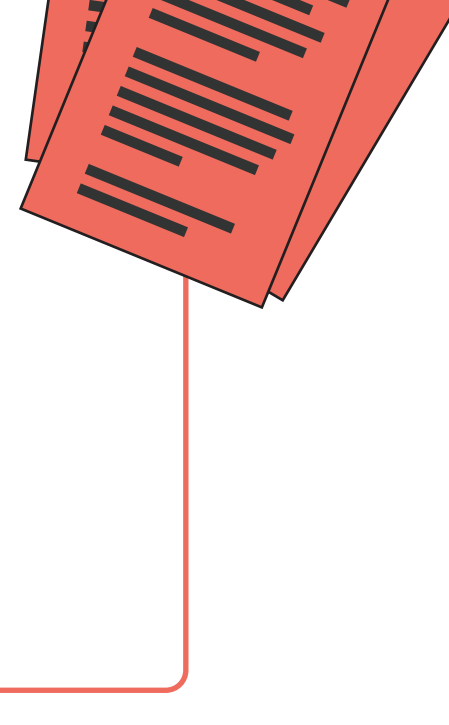
The district councils are responsible for services like:

- rubbish collection
- recycling
- Council Tax collections
- housing
- planning applications

Buckinghamshire Business First and the business community crowdfunded an independent report

‘Strategic Financial Case for Local Government Reorganisation in Buckinghamshire’

which concluded that replacing five councils with one unitary authority could lead to up to £20m in efficiency savings each year, while protecting and enhancing front-line service delivery.



OUR INDEPENDENT RESEARCH TOLD US ...

UP TO £20 MILLION A YEAR

COULD BE SAVED BY REDESIGNING OUR CURRENT TWO TIER SYSTEM

JUST THINK WHAT COULD BE DONE WITH £20 MILLION...

£5,000
START-UP GRANT FOR EVERY NEW BUSINESS IN THE COUNTY

SUPERFAST BROADBAND
FOR 100% OF THE COUNTY

GIVE £100
COUNCIL TAX REBATE TO EVERY HOME IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

FUND 1,000
FULL TIME CAREWORKERS TO SUPPORT THE ELDERLY IN THEIR HOMES

REPAIR
300,000 POTHOLES EVERY YEAR

RATE RELIEF
£500 FOR EVERY BUSINESS IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

WHERE WILL THE SAVINGS COME FROM?

£3 MILLION
FROM HAVING 30 FEWER SENIOR MANAGERS

£7.7 MILLION
BY REMOVING DUPLICATED ROLES ACROSS THE COUNTY

£1 MILLION
FROM REDUCING ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

WHAT ABOUT LOCAL REPRESENTATION?
THIS IS NOT A COUNTY TAKEOVER
A NEW UNITARY IS LIKELY TO HAVE 6 TIMES AS MANY CANDIDATES DRAWN FROM DISTRICTS

£2.1 MILLION
FROM HAVING 168 FEWER MEMBERS

£6.9 MILLION
FROM SERVICE OPTIMISATION,
FROM UP TO 5% IN EFFICIENCY SAVINGS
THROUGH HAVING LESS DUPLICATION AND MORE CO-ORDINATED DELIVERY

WHAT'S NEXT?

Sajid Javid’s communication is a “minded to” decision and is not final yet. There is now a period for representations to be made to the Secretary of State on the issue. This is the chance for businesses and residents to give their views on the restructuring of local government before a final decision is taken and a recommendation made to Parliament.



THIS ISSUE AFFECTS BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS ALIKE. DON'T SLEEPWALK INTO THE STATUS QUO. GET INVOLVED.

JOIN THE DEBATE

SINGLE UNITARY COUNCIL

TWO UNITARY COUNCILS

£20 MILLION SAVING

£11 MILLION SAVING



EMAIL INFO@BBF.UK.COM WITH YOUR THOUGHTS.

REPRESENTATIONS FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:

SAJID.JAVID.MP@PARLIAMENT.UK

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