

# Council Update July 2025

- Devolution
- Local Government Reorganisation

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**MALDON**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

# Devolution – Latest update

## Recap

- February 2025 – Greater Essex confirmed as part of Government's Devolution Priority Programme.
- Public Consultation conducted 17 Feb to 13 April. Government is currently reviewing the responses received.
- Still on track for Mayoral election May 2026.

## Latest

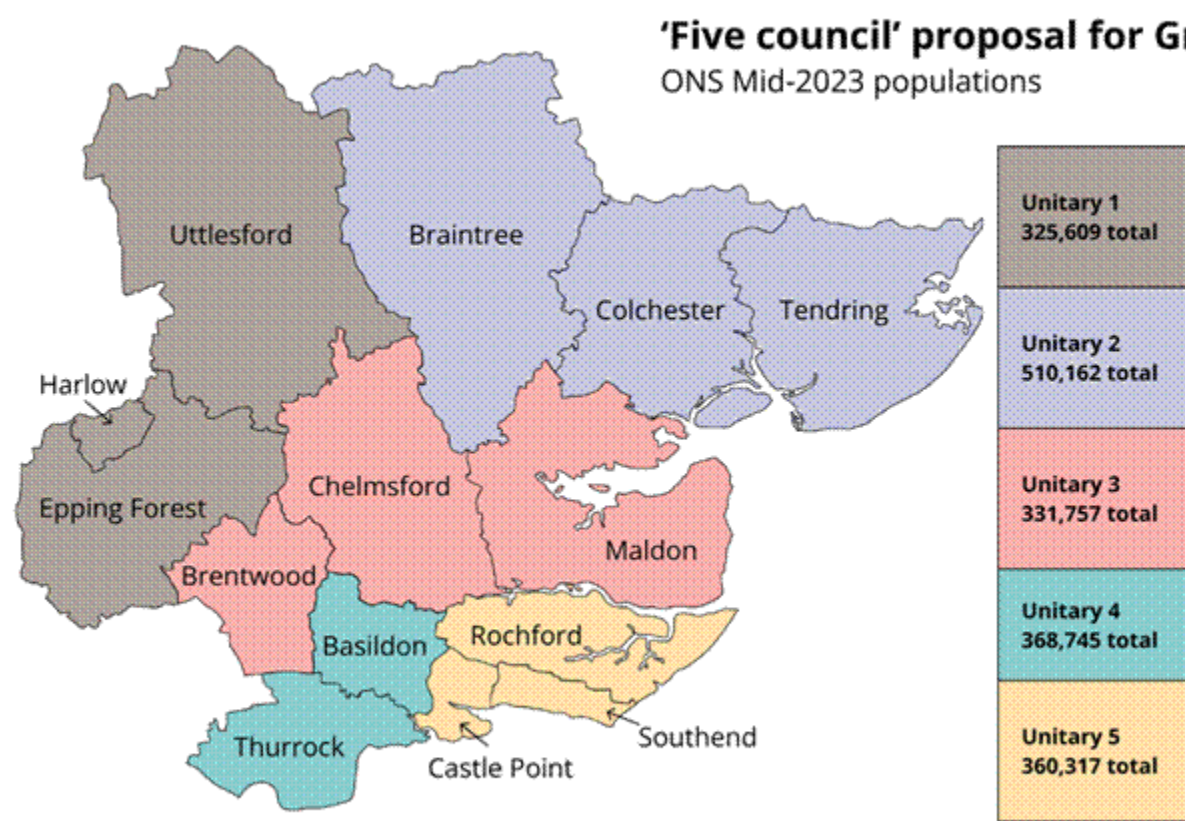
- Officers are attending workshops hosted by Essex County Council (ECC), Thurrock and Southend next week to discuss and identify policies and processes in readiness for day one of the Mayoral County Combined Authority (MCCA).

# Local Government Reorganisation – latest update

- Work has continued at pace to develop two business cases.
- Business case A: Sets out a specific case for a 5 Unitary Authority (5UA) model.
- Business case B: ECC has completed an options appraisal and announced it will develop a case for a 3 Unitary Authority model.
- All Essex authorities can submit a preferred option. Both Thurrock and Rochford have voiced a desire to submit their own preferred option business cases.
- Engagement for businesses cases A and B has begun through surveys, telephone interviews and website consultations with residents, businesses and partners across the county.
- The 5UA model has received over 3,000 responses as of the end of last week. The consultation runs until the 25 July.
- Click here to have your say: [Local Government Reorganisation in Greater Essex | Your say Southend](#)

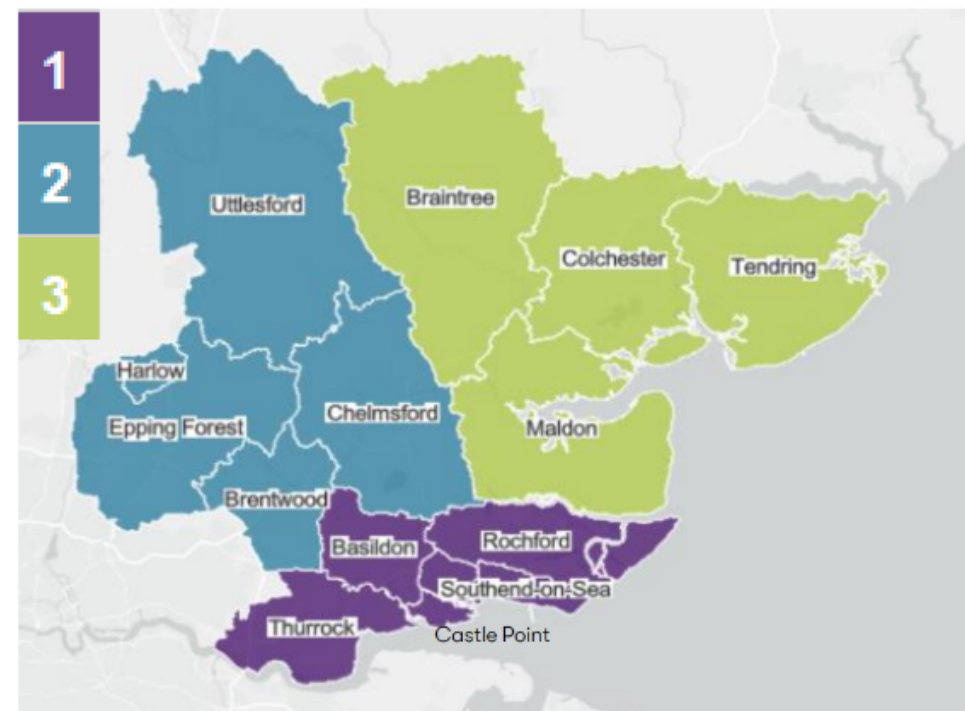
# Local Government Reorganisation – Business Case A: Five Councils

Maldon, Chelmsford and Brentwood councils would form a unitary authority



## Local Government Reorganisation – Business Case B: Three Councils

- The business case ECC is leading on has completed an options appraisal.
- Based on their evidence they are leaning towards a preferred model of Three Councils.
- This would join Maldon with Tendring, Colchester and Braintree to form a Unitary Authority.



Total population for each unitary: 3UA model

1. 729,062

2. 589,039

3. 578,489

\*Grant Thornton UK LLP 2025 LGR evidence study

# Local Government Reorganisation – Next steps

- A report setting out the proposal for LGR will be taken through MDC Council on the 25<sup>th</sup> September for ratification.
- Proposal to be submitted to government on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025.
- Government will then decide which number of unitary councils is to be taken forward.
- Government will carry out a consultation on their preferred option/s.
- Shadow councils to form 2027 – including elections to the shadow authorities.
- Unitary councils to go live 2028.

# Local Government Reorganisation – Member Engagement

June		July		August		September		Ongoing
17th	Update to Full Council	10th	Update to Full Council	4th	Member working group. To go through 5UA draft business case.	1st	Devolution and LGR Member working group	Devolution and LGR working group to meet every six weeks or as needed.  Continued updates to Full Council.
19th	Devolution and LGR Member working group	14th	Update to Town and Parish Engagement Forum (MDC members attend this) Chaired by Cllr Driver.	6th	Evening <u>All Member briefing</u> on the 5UA Business case draft.	11th	Update to Full Council.	
		21st	Devolution and LGR Member working group. Progress update on Devolution and all business cases.	29th	Deadline for Council Report	25th	Extraordinary Council Greater Essex LGR proposal report.	
						26th	Proposal to MHCLG - submission deadline.	