

**NORTH HORSHAM PARISH COUNCIL - MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY 10th JUNE 2026 AT 10.30am**

**CLERK'S REPORT
To be read in conjunction with the Agenda**

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies and reasons for absence to be given to the Clerk. If Members agree the reason for the absence, the apologies may be approved thereby resetting the 6-month clock for attendance.

Decision: To note apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are advised to consider the Agenda for the meeting and determine in advance if they may have a **Personal, Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Registrable Interest** in any of the Agenda items. If a Member decides they do have a declarable interest, they are reminded that the interest and the nature of the interest must be declared at the commencement of the consideration of the Agenda item; or when the interest becomes apparent to them. Details of the interest will be minuted.

If the interest is a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest**, Members are reminded that they must take no part in the discussions of the item at all; or participate in any voting; and must withdraw from the meeting chamber, unless they have received a dispensation.

Where you have an **Other Registrable Interest** (which is not a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest), Members are reminded that they must withdraw from the meeting chamber after making representations or asking questions.

3. To consider a response to the Local Government Reorganisation Consultation

The Government has launched a further consultation on local government reorganisation in West Sussex. This consultation is to gather views on the Government's proposal to modify the two unitary proposals put forward by the West Sussex councils in September 2025.

The original proposal developed within West Sussex for local government reorganisation saw councils across the county work together to identify the best options to deliver council services for residents.

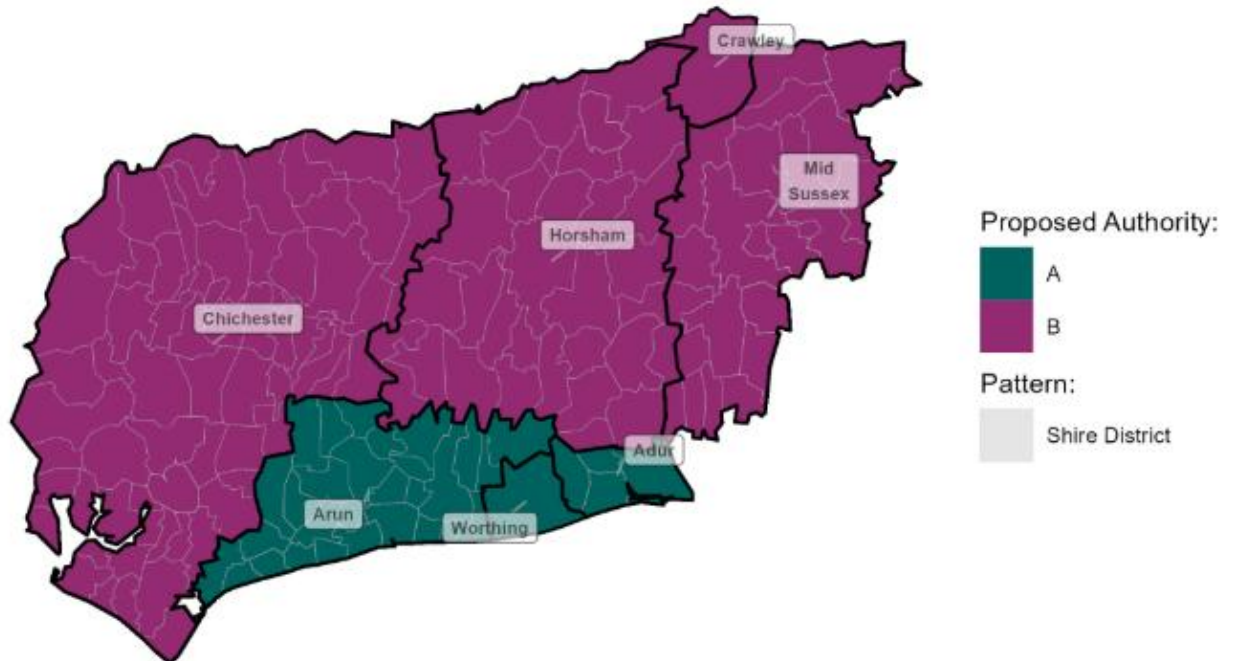
The detailed analysis identified two options which were submitted to Government in September 2025 :

- one council on the West Sussex geography and
- two councils, one made up of Arun, Adur, Chichester and Worthing and the other Crawley, Horsham and Mid Sussex.

It had been expected that a decision would be published for the area by mid-March but on 25th March, a response was received stating that rather than choose to implement one of the two locally developed options, Ministers instead decided to consult on a modified version of the two unitary option, proposing to remove Chichester from the option which included, Arun, Adur and Worthing Councils and put it into a unitary council with Crawley, Mid-Sussex, and Horsham.

The key element of the Governments proposal (as represented in the plan below) would be :-

- Chichester District would form a unitary authority with Crawley Borough, Horsham District and Mid Sussex District areas. The population would be around 566,000.
- Arun District, Adur District and Worthing Borough areas would form a second West Sussex unitary authority. The population would be around 349,000.



WSCC have stated that the Government has not included the evidence in the consultation as to why it feels a modification was necessary to the one submitted by the West Sussex councils in their business case submission in September 2025.

A decision is now expected in the summer after the consultation period closes and new representations are considered. The overall anticipated timescale for reorganisation remains with elections to the new shadow unitary authorities expected in 2027 preparing for the new authorities to formally launch in 2028.

The deadline for response's to the Consultation is 15 June 2026.

Decision: To agree any response to the Consultation