

Councillor Report 14 September 2020

Unitary Status

The Devolution and Local Recovery White Paper to be published this Autumn will set out our transformative plans for economic recovery and renewal, and for levelling up opportunity, prosperity, and well-being across the country. These plans will include restructuring our local institutions to deliver these outcomes, establishing more mayors and more unitary councils. We believe areas moving to unitary status with more sustainable and efficient councils can have significant benefits for local people and businesses, including improved and more affordable local services, stronger and more accountable local leadership, and by removing a layer of governance enabling town and parish councils and local communities to be genuinely empowered. Under current legislation it is open to the Secretary of State to implement if he thinks fit any unitary proposal submitted by a council in response to an invitation, subject to consultation and Parliamentary approval. In considering a unitary proposal the Secretary of State expects to have regard to the extent it is likely to support the delivery of the outcomes sought in the White Paper.

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Just a brief update on the number of cases of COVID-19 within the District.

Since I last reported 1 September there have been an additional 25 cases confirmed within the district, the total now standing at 578. The current average is between 2-3 new cases being identified per day, this is obviously an increase on what we have seen previously.