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Dear Colleague

Local Government Reorganisation: Focus groups for Town and Parish Councils

I write to give you an update to my letter dated 8th September 2020 regarding local government reorganisation in Nottinghamshire. Further to approval at Policy Committee on 16th September, the Leader of the County Council has now written to Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government seeking an invitation from him for Nottinghamshire Councils to submit proposals for the establishment of a unitary structure. County Council officers are now preparing proposals with a view to these being considered at a meeting of the County Council later in the autumn.

It is important that the proposals reflect the views of the public and stakeholders and the County Council has therefore commissioned Opinion Research Services (ORS), an independent social research company, to undertake listening and engagement on the Council's behalf. All those who live and work in Nottinghamshire are invited to take part and share their opinions. To find out more, visit our dedicated website <https://future.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/> where you can read an information document before clicking on the button to complete the short survey. Hard copies of the survey will also be available at Nottinghamshire libraries from 28th September or you can call our customer service centre on 0300 500 80 80 for assistance with filling in the form. The survey closes on **Monday 19 October 2020**.

Town and parish councils play a significant role in the lives of Nottinghamshire's communities and it is essential that we understand the opinions of town and parish councils on the future shape of Nottinghamshire's local government structures. In addition to the public questionnaire, ORS will facilitate a choice of two online focus groups specifically for town and parish councils where you can find out more and share your views. Sign up will be limited to only one representative from each council. The dates for these events are:

Tuesday 13th October from 6pm – 8:30pm – [register online](#)

OR

Wednesday 14th October from 6pm – 8:30pm – [register online](#)

You only need to attend one of these events. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these will be virtual sessions, held on Zoom. If you are unable to sign up online and need assistance please email enquiries@nottscc.gov.uk. Please include 'Focus Groups' in the subject header and provide your name and a daytime contact number. A member of the team will then be in touch to support you with your registration.

I do hope that you are able to attend one of these sessions. In the meantime, we are regularly updating our website <https://future.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/> where you will be able to find the latest information about local government re-organisation and devolution in Nottinghamshire.

Yours sincerely,



Anthony May
Chief Executive