

From: [Scott Crudgington](#)
To: [Stephen Giles-Medhurst](#); [Owen Mapley](#)
Cc: [Quentin Baker](#); [Edward Knowles](#); [section 40](#) [section 40](#) [section 40](#)
Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared
Date: 30 July 2020 16:11:00
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
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[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[Herts LoE June 2020 ISSUED2 – Signed PWC.pdf](#)

Afternoon Stephen, and once again apologies for my delay in responding to you.

My answers to your questions are as follows:

Q : This was clearly a presentation to council officers and maybe members . Who was it presented to and when?

A : Following some initial conversations between myself and PwC during early November 2019, the proposal presentation was made to the Chief Executive and Director of Resources at 9am on the 21 November 2019. The officers and PwC colleagues in attendance were as follows:

HCC

Owen Mapley
Scott Crudgington
Taryn Pearson-Rose

[section 40](#)

[section 40](#)

PWC

[section 40](#)

[section 40](#)

[section 40](#)

Lead Partner (Local Public Services)
Director
Senior Manager (Government & Public Sector Office)

Q : Who else were asked to present a submission for this work? Where are their presentations ? Please provide .

A : A number of consultancies were reviewed by the Director of Resources (including Grant Thornton, EY and KPMG), but it was concluded by the DoR that PwC had by far the most relevant and current experience of advising and guiding Local Government bodies through Local Government Reform options. A quote was requested for the work, negotiation took place, following which I procured in line with HCC's procedures.

Q : Where is the scoping document or emails requesting such a submission ?

A : The scope of work was discussed over the phone. The key features of the scope are reflected in the proposal document I have previously sent you.

Q : The PWC document refers on page 4 to 'from our discussions to date' who had those discussions and when ?

A : A range of discussions were held over the phone and via video call during

November 2019. The HCC senior officers involved in these discussions were myself, Steven Pilsworth and Taryn Pearson-Rose.

Q : Page 8 refers to ‘ once possible options available have been agreed’ . When were PWC directed thus to only look at a one unitary and two unitary option? Dates please and by whom?

A : Three options were considered – ‘enhanced collaboration without structural change’, ‘Single Unitary’, ‘Two Unitaries’. The belief was these three options gave the reader a feel for the pro’s and con’s of each approach. On reflection, a combined authority model with an elected Mayor model could have also been included, although I’m sure this will be considered as our debate gets underway in Hertfordshire.

Q : When did the Leader of the Council or Executive member for Resources ask you or the Chief Executive to commission this work ?

Discussions on Local Government Reform between the political leadership and SMB have been on-going for years, and regularly brought into focus following new government announcements and reports in the Local Government media. The decision to commission a review on options available to Hertfordshire based on latest Government announcements / thinking was made in November 2019.

Q : When was the engagement report commissioned and by whom ?

The second tranche of work from PwC was commissioned by the Director of Resources via a single tender action to ensure consistency of approach linked to the first tranche of work commissioned. This was formally signed off on the 25th June 2020.

Q : What are the terms of reference of that report or scoping document for this and when given to PWC? Please provide copies ?

Attached.

Q : What member input had there been to this further item of work and whom has been included ?

Cllr Williams input has been sought, Cllrs Sangster & Heritage have been briefed.

Q : What is the timeline for the report to be delivered back to HCC?

The engagement report is currently in final drafting, but we don’t anticipate signing off the report until after the White Paper is published.

Please let me know if anything is not clear.

Regards,

Scott Crudgington
Director of Resources | Strategic Management Board | Resources
Department
Hertfordshire County Council
County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DE, Postal Point: CH0243



T: [redacted] (Internal: 25601)
E: scott.crudgington@hertfordshire.gov.uk



section 40 [redacted] (Senior Support Officer and PA to the Director of Resources)

T: [redacted] (Internal: 25723)
E: section 40 [redacted]@hertfordshire.gov.uk

From: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <S.Giles-Medhurst@hertfordshire.gov.uk>
Sent: 26 July 2020 10:54
To: Scott Crudgington <Scott.Crudgington@hertfordshire.gov.uk>; Owen Mapley <Owen.Mapley@hertfordshire.gov.uk>
Cc: Quentin Baker <Quentin.Baker@hertfordshire.gov.uk>; Edward Knowles <Edward.Knowles@hertfordshire.gov.uk>; section 40 [redacted] section 40 [redacted]@hertfordshire.gov.uk>; section 40 [redacted] section 40 [redacted]@hertfordshire.gov.uk>; section 40 [redacted]@hertfordshire.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Scott

Sorry this far from answers my questions .

What you have attached is a not a scoping document but a proposal prepared by PWC.

This was clearly a presentation to council officers and maybe members . Who was it presented to and when?

It argues the case to employ PWC.

Who esle were asked to present a submission for this work? Where are their presentations ? Please provide .

Where is the scoping document or emails requesting such a submission ?

The PWC document refers on page 4 to ' from our discussions to date ' who had those discussions and when ?

Page 8 refers to ' once possible options available have been agreed' . When were PWC directed thus to only look at a one unitary and two unitary option? Dates please and by whom?

When did the Leader of the Council or Executive member for Resources ask you or the Chief Executive to commission this work ?

The answers you gave below to my last question raise more-

1. When was the engagement report commissioned and by whom ?
2. What are the terms of reference of that report or scoping document for this and when given to PWC? Please provide copies ?
3. What member input had there been to this further item of work and whom has been included ?
4. What is the timeline for the report to be delivered back to HCC?

All for now but you can expect a lot more questions over this .

Regards

Stephen

Sent with BlackBerry Work

(www.blackberry.com)

From: Scott Crudginton <xxxxx.xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Date: Friday, 24 Jul 2020, 15:08
To: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>, Owen Mapley <xxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Cc: Quentin Baker <xxxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>, Edward Knowles <xxxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>, section 40 section 40 @hertfordshire.gov.uk, section 40 section 40 @hertfordshire.gov.uk, section 40 section 40 @hertfordshire.gov.uk, section 40 section 40 @hertfordshire.gov.uk
Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Hi Stephen,

Hopefully I can answer your questions on Owen's behalf:

Q : As Terry Hone mentioned about actual saving figure on waste collection where did that come from ?

A : Cllr Hone has been using this figure long before I arrived at HCC, the figure originates from the various studies that have been undertaken by the Herts Waste Partnership on developing an integrated waste collection and disposal model seen in other parts of the country. This saving will obviously be relevant to a move to a Unitary model, but did not originate through the recent PwC work.

Q : On what date was the request made to PWC?

A : The Director of Resources commissioned PwC in November 2019.

Q : On what date was the request made to the Director of Resources to commission this work and by whom?

A : The Director of Resources was asked to commission PwC on the 12 November 2019 by the Chief Executive.

Q : One would assume PWC would have been sent a scoping document . I would like sight of that and the thus the terms of reference.

A : Attached.

Q : When was the document now circulated received back from PWC?

A : The document underwent a significant level of challenge, review and quality assurance as both HCC and PwC wanted to ensure all comments and figures could be evidenced. The report was concluded and signed off in February 2020. For reasons that are obvious, the time was then not right to make the report public.

Q : This was funded from the general consultancy budget . Was this reported to any members or Audit Committee?

A : The commitment and then the spend was included in the detailed budget monitoring reports that support the quarterly monitoring process for officers and Members. The Leader and Resources Portfolio Holder were aware of the cost.

Q : What other items have been commissioned from this budget and when ?

A : PwC have been commissioned for a further piece of work to support HCC undertake the engagement stage around Local Government Reform in Hertfordshire. This involves the production of a further document to support the engagement, support as appropriate in undertaking the engagement, and help develop a proposal for Government if consensus is reached on a way forward. The cost of this commission is £40,000, with an option for further support depending on the level of engagement support required.

Regards,



Scott Crudgington

**Director of Resources | Strategic Management Board | Resources
Department**

Hertfordshire County Council

County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DE, Postal Point: CH0243

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E: scott.crudgington@hertfordshire.gov.uk



section 40 [REDACTED] (Senior Support Officer and PA to the Director of
Resources)

T: [REDACTED] (Internal: 25723)

E: section 40 [REDACTED] [@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

From: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Sent: 24 July 2020 09:56
To: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Cc: Quentin Baker <xxxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>; Scott Crudgington
<xxxxx.xxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Owen

The answer to the last point is yes .

As Terry Hone mentioned about actual saving figure on waste collection where did that come from ?

As the following questions arise ?

On what date was the request made to PWC?

On what date was the request made to the Director of Resources to commission this work and by whom?

One would assume PWC would have been sent a scoping document . I would like sight of that and the thus the terms of reference.

When was the document now circulated received back from PWC?

This was funded from the general consultancy budget . Was this reported to any members or Audit Committee?

What other items have been commissioned from this budget and when ?

All for now

Regards

Stephen

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(www.blackberry.com)

From: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Date: Thursday, 23 Jul 2020, 18:00
To: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Cc: Quentin Baker <xxxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>; Scott Crudgington
<xxxxx.xxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Stephen,

I have been tied up in an HR hearing today so have not had a chance to get to emails until now.

There has not been separate work done by officers on this previously although as you would expect there was some officer engagement with PWC as this report was prepared.

Following this initial report, we have recently been working with PWC on how to follow up the initial report. The statement David released yesterday calls for engagement on the subject of potential LGR, and so we are now doing some work with PWC to develop materials on the best way to do that engagement in Herts. That is work in progress, but given the need to engage with all stakeholders, that will need to be completed soon and so it will then be shared.

Scott can provide details of the commercials on that follow up work if you would like to see it.

Owen



Owen Mapley
Chief Executive
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County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DE, Postal Point: CHO238
T: [REDACTED] (**Internal:** 25200)
E: owen.mapley@hertfordshire.gov.uk



From: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <S.Giles-Medhurst@hertfordshire.gov.uk>

Sent: 22 July 2020 16:58

To: Owen Mapley <Owen.Mapley@hertfordshire.gov.uk>; Quentin Baker
<Quentin.Baker@hertfordshire.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Owen

Thanks - I just need to confirm was there any separate work done by county officers since or before this report on this issue ?

Thanks

Stephen

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Owen Mapley <Owen.Mapley@hertfordshire.gov.uk>

Date: Wednesday, 22 Jul 2020, 16:45

To: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <S.Giles-Medhurst@hertfordshire.gov.uk>, Quentin Baker
<Quentin.Baker@hertfordshire.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Stephen - very latest update. David has decided to write to all stakeholders including a link to the PWC report, so you will receive this information this afternoon.

As you will see, it is a detailed report so I am confident it will provide the information you have been seeking.

Finally, as promised earlier, Scott will also be emailing you with info about the PWC work done.

Owen

Owen Mapley
Chief Executive
Hertfordshire County Council
County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DE
Tel: [REDACTED] (Internal: 25200)
E-mail: xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx

SENT FROM MOBILE DEVICE

From: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 2:12:20 PM
To: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>; Quentin Baker <xxxxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Owen

Thank you .

Can you also confirm as per questions to Ralph will be answered as to how much PWC has cost and when the work was commissioned?

Regards

Stephen

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Date: Wednesday, 22 Jul 2020, 13:58
To: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>, Quentin Baker <xxxxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Stephen – just wanted to confirm that I will be emailing you detailed information – should be later this afternoon.

Am juggling a number of meetings and issues but if not this afternoon will be tomorrow morning at the latest.

Owen



Owen Mapley
Chief Executive
Hertfordshire County Council
County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DE, Postal Point: CHO238
T: [REDACTED] (**Internal:** 25200)
E: owen.mapley@hertfordshire.gov.uk



From: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <S.Giles-Medhurst@hertfordshire.gov.uk>

Sent: 21 July 2020 20:38

To: Owen Mapley <Owen.Mapley@hertfordshire.gov.uk>; Quentin Baker
<Quentin.Baker@hertfordshire.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Owen

Thanks .

I hold my other email (I think you know what that will be) till I hear from you tomorrow.

Regards

Stephen

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Owen Mapley <Owen.Mapley@hertfordshire.gov.uk>

Date: Tuesday, 21 Jul 2020, 20:28

To: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <S.Giles-Medhurst@hertfordshire.gov.uk>, Quentin Baker
<Quentin.Baker@hertfordshire.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Stephen

Just a quick note to confirm that I have now spoken to Quentin. I need to have one more

conversation with David and I will then be in a position to reply more substantively – which I will do tomorrow.

Owen

From: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

Date: Tuesday, 21 July 2020 at 15:44

To: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>, Quentin Baker <xxxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Stephen – just acknowledging receipt of your emails from this afternoon and I note your exchanges with Quentin below.

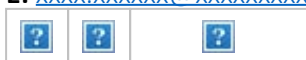
Given the duration of today's meeting, Quentin and I have not had the chance to discuss yet today and I will need to seek his advice to aid consideration of your requests, including in the light of comments made at today's meeting.

I will reply as rapidly as possible once we have been able to consider today's developments.

Owen



Owen Mapley
Chief Executive
Hertfordshire County Council
County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DE, Postal Point: CHO238
T: [REDACTED] (Internal: 25200)
E: xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx



From: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

Sent: 21 July 2020 15:33

To: Quentin Baker <xxxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

Cc: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Quentin

A figure from that report regarding one area of savings with no details how its arrived at has now been mentioned in council by the administration yet the opposition is denied access .

This is just not acceptable.

My side will have no option but to use FOI and question refusal to provide information if that remains the case .

Regards

Stephen

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(www.blackberry.com)

From: Quentin Baker <xxxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Date: Tuesday, 21 Jul 2020, 15:24
To: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Stephen,

An admission of the existence of a report doesn't, of itself constitute a disclosure of its content nor would it waive its confidentiality. If justified due to the nature of the information, it might continue to be confidential and released to elected members on that basis. Alternatively, it may be released without restriction.

QB

From: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Sent: 21 July 2020 15:17
To: Quentin Baker <xxxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Cc: Liberal Democrats Group <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Quentin

Thank you for that .

However given both the leader and now the Ex member for resources admit in public there has been such work has been undertaken and I have now been promised written answers the confidential nature of this no longer applies .

Do you agree

Regards
Stephen

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Quentin Baker <xxxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

Date: Tuesday, 21 Jul 2020, 15:09

To: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Stephen,

I'm not aware of the process by which a report produced by PWC was commissioned but I would note that Executive Directors have delegated authority to make expenditure and commission advice.

As for confidentiality it isn't uncommon for work to be undertaken for groups, both administration and opposition on a confidential basis. For example when developing the budget proposals, both administration and opposition receive dedicated support in respect of developing plans/proposals. This will be confidential and indeed the confidentiality is enshrined in the constitution.

The FoI legislation also recognises this as it contains an exemption specifically for the circumstances of policy development and also where information is due to be released in the near future.

Kind regards
Quentin

From: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

Sent: 21 July 2020 13:53

To: Quentin Baker <xxxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

Subject: FW: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Quentin

See below - I now understand that a report was commissioned from Price Waterhouse re the potential local government reform in Hertfordshire.

If this is the case given that there has no decision to fund this expense as I can see from Cabinet . If there was can you please point to the minute confirming this .

If this work was commissioned by the council then this information should be made available to all members .

If this information and commissioned work was requested by the leader and then shared only with the Conservative group I wonder if this is defaco 'ultra vies'?

I would welcome your advice .

Regards

Stephen

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Date: Friday, 17 Jul 2020, 11:08
To: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Cc: Paul Zukowskyj <xxxx.xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>, Quentin Baker
<xxxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>, Scott Crudgington <xxxxx.xxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Owen

I have not heard back from you and now I see that this issue has gone public with and the administrations wish and is in today's media .

Given this there can no longer be any reason to deny my group access to all the emails and documents provided to David on this matter .

Please confirm this will now be done . My other option is a formal FOI request and if I cannot have confirmation by Monday of that I and thus my group will receive all these documents I will submit a formal request .

Whilst I understand that officers have been busy they were clearly instructed to work on this during COVID and I see no reason for any further delays in keeping this information which is clearly no longer confidential from opposition councillors .

Once I have ALL the papers I will must likely request a formal briefing but that will be after Tuesday .

Regards

Stephen
County councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst

Leader of the opposition

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Date: Wednesday, 15 Jul 2020, 12:43
To: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Cc: Paul Zukowskyj <xxxx.xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>, Quentin Baker
<xxxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>, Scott Crudgington <xxxxx.xxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Yes

However I would expect that there were background papers prepared by county officers to back these up so I would as already requested sight of those .

Please confirm I will receive those .

Thanks

Stephen

Regards

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Date: Wednesday, 15 Jul 2020, 12:29
To: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Cc: Paul Zukowskyj <xxxx.xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>, Quentin Baker <xxxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>, Scott Crudginton <xxxxx.xxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Thanks Stephen. I understand from David that he has now shared with you and Judi the materials that he used with District Leaders.

Owen



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Chief Executive
Hertfordshire County Council
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From: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Sent: 14 July 2020 13:24
To: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Cc: Paul Zukowskyj <xxxx.xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>; Quentin Baker <xxxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: RE: County unitary : formal request fir papers that have been prepared

Owen

I now understand that is information has been more widely shared at the Leaders meeting that has just finished.

My group will still require a briefing but in light of that I formally request sight of the papers prepared for David (and thus the Conservative Group) before any such briefing .

Regards
Stephen

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Date: Tuesday, 14 Jul 2020, 10:32
To: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Cc: Paul Zukowskyj <xxxx.xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: RE: County unitary

Stephen,

The information that I understand you are referring to below is a set of slides that officers did not prepare, that were used by David for informal discussions with conservative councillors. Some initial work, including potential estimates of savings had been prepared by officers to assist David's considerations. That early work is part of the normal process of potential policy formulation and as such is not something appropriate for me to share more widely.

If it appears there is an imminent prospect of this changing from potential policy consideration to something more formal, I will share relevant information with you on an embargoed basis. Scott and I would also be very happy discussing this policy area with you and your colleagues in our regular briefings. Let me know if you would like to discuss further ahead of the next session.

Owen



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From: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Sent: 13 July 2020 19:24

To: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Cc: Paul Zukowskyj <xxxx.xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: RE: County unitary

Owen

Thank you for that but I understand that from a well informed source that this information has been shared with other councillors outside of the conservative group .

I understand that a presentation has been made to a wider group of Conservative cllrs in the districts indicating a saving of £140 m for a single unitary and £105 m for two.

Given this must mean that a substantial piece of work has been done on this I formally ask for sight of this.

Grateful if you will confirm I will now receive this .

Regards

Stephen

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Date: Monday, 13 Jul 2020, 08:49
To: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: RE: County unitary

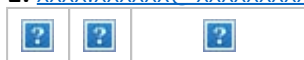
Morning Stephen. Officers are doing some work following David's request to look at this, as he set out in GLs meeting. As soon as this is ready, I will share it with you.

As discussed, David is speaking to DC leaders tomorrow. I would anticipate that he has probably discussed it with his group, but nothing has been shared publicly yet – mainly as this is initial discussions with leaders.

Owen



Owen Mapley
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From: Stephen Giles-Medhurst <x.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Sent: 10 July 2020 22:36
To: Owen Mapley <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: County unitary

Owen

I understand that officers are preparing a county wide unitary background report or submission.

If this is the case can I have sight of this please ?

Thanks

Stephen

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