

6. Alignment of our proposal to other government priority policy areas

In addition to the local government reorganisation criteria, our proposed four unitary council model for mainland Hampshire, with the Isle of Wight remaining independent, will best meet key government priority policy areas such as economic growth, integrated health and care, prevention and early intervention, digital transformation and public service reform.



6. Alignment of our proposal to other government priority policy areas



This table demonstrates how our four mainland and Isle of Wight unitary proposal complements key government and NHS priorities.

Government / NHS priority	Four mainland and Isle of Wight unitary model
Economic growth and regeneration: Drive inclusive growth through empowered local government	Brings together planning, housing, transport, economic development and placed-based marketing to enable enhanced inward investment activity, faster decision making, clearer accountability and more coherent place-based growth tailored to the economic areas and their opportunities and challenges. Our proposal is perfectly placed to deliver the priorities in the government's new Industrial Strategy.
Neighbourhood services and local accountability: Deliver services closer to communities at a neighbourhood level	Focuses neighbourhood-level delivery, co-locating health, social care, housing and early help in community hubs that are accessible, responsive and align with the requirements of residents in the different areas.
Prevention and early intervention: Shift from treatment to prevention-first public services	Closely connected to their local communities, the new unitaries will identify the risks earlier, intervene sooner and reduce long-term demand on acute services, making our communities more resilient. Through better use of shared assets and data while maintaining local stewardship, our proposal highlights existing critical infrastructure which will be mapped into a prevention network aligned with the NHS's 10-year plan.
Integrated health and care: Create Integrated Health Organisations (IHOs) and neighbourhood health teams	Provides greater use of our strong local networks across health partners to align our services with health provision to deliver joined-up care through shared governance and commissioning and co-located teams.
Data and digital transformation: Modernise public services by moving from analogue to digital	Enhances our local understanding and proximity to our distinct communities by simplifying data sharing and digital integration across services, enabling better use of analytics, shared case management and prioritise equitable access across our different communities.
Workforce and collaboration: Empower staff and cross-sector partnerships	Fosters our close working relationships between our council teams, NHS staff and voluntary sector partners to break down existing barriers and enable a collaborative and person-centred service delivery.
Public service reform: Reform services to be more preventative, efficient and locally led	Our proposal is underpinned by transformation, redesign and innovation to create new unitaries that work collaboratively with local partners to deliver efficiencies and enhanced outcomes through a total place approach to meet each area's distinct needs.

Aligning with the Local Government Outcomes Framework (LGOF)

Our proposal to create four mainland unitaries with the Isle of Wight remaining independent is also best placed to deliver on the priority outcomes and metrics highlighted in the government's new Local Government Outcomes Framework, which we support. Our work to date shows that our place-focused unitaries, with greater local insight and flexibility, will provide the assurance the government seeks.

- **Alignment with priority outcomes:** Our proposal aligns with the framework's priority outcomes, such as preventing homelessness, improving housing access and enhancing health and wellbeing. By tailoring services to local needs with partners, our model will streamline efforts to ensure everyone has access to a decent, safe, secure and affordable home, and that people live healthier lives for longer.
- **Integration and interdependency:** The framework emphasises the interdependency between health and adult social care measures, housing and environment. Our proposal supports this by fostering integrated services at a neighbourhood level, which is crucial for achieving outcomes like reducing health inequalities and supporting independent living for care users.
- **Focus on neighbourhood health:** The framework's focus on neighbourhood health and integration is central to our proposal. By working closely with local NHS teams and voluntary sector partners, our model can deliver community-based services that are more responsive to local needs, supporting outcomes like keeping children safe and improving early child health.
- **Outcome measures and accountability:** The draft metrics in the framework provide a basis for measuring success in achieving priority outcomes. We see these as sensible metrics to demonstrate accountability and effectiveness in service delivery, ensuring that resources are used efficiently to meet local needs. This will be incorporated into our ongoing work around implementation planning and transformation.
- **Investment and transformation:** Achieving the framework's outcomes will require investment in and transformation of services which is a core part of our four mainland and Isle of Wight unitary model. Our proposal demonstrates its potential to deliver investment and cost-effective, locally focused services.
- **Collaborative and locally driven approach:** The framework supports a collaborative approach to service delivery, which is a key feature of our proposal. By engaging with local communities and partners and building on existing community assets through a total place approach, our proposal will enhance service accessibility and effectiveness, contributing to outcomes like reducing child poverty and fostering economic prosperity.

