

# Strategic Options Case: Modernising Local Government in Buckinghamshire

## Presentation November 2016

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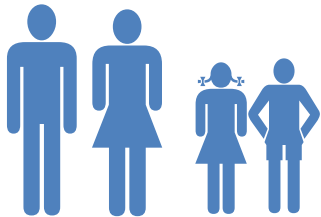
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# Key challenges for Buckinghamshire



**Revenue Support Grant:** zero for County and Districts by **2018/19**



**Population growth and change:** increased population due to growth and more older people

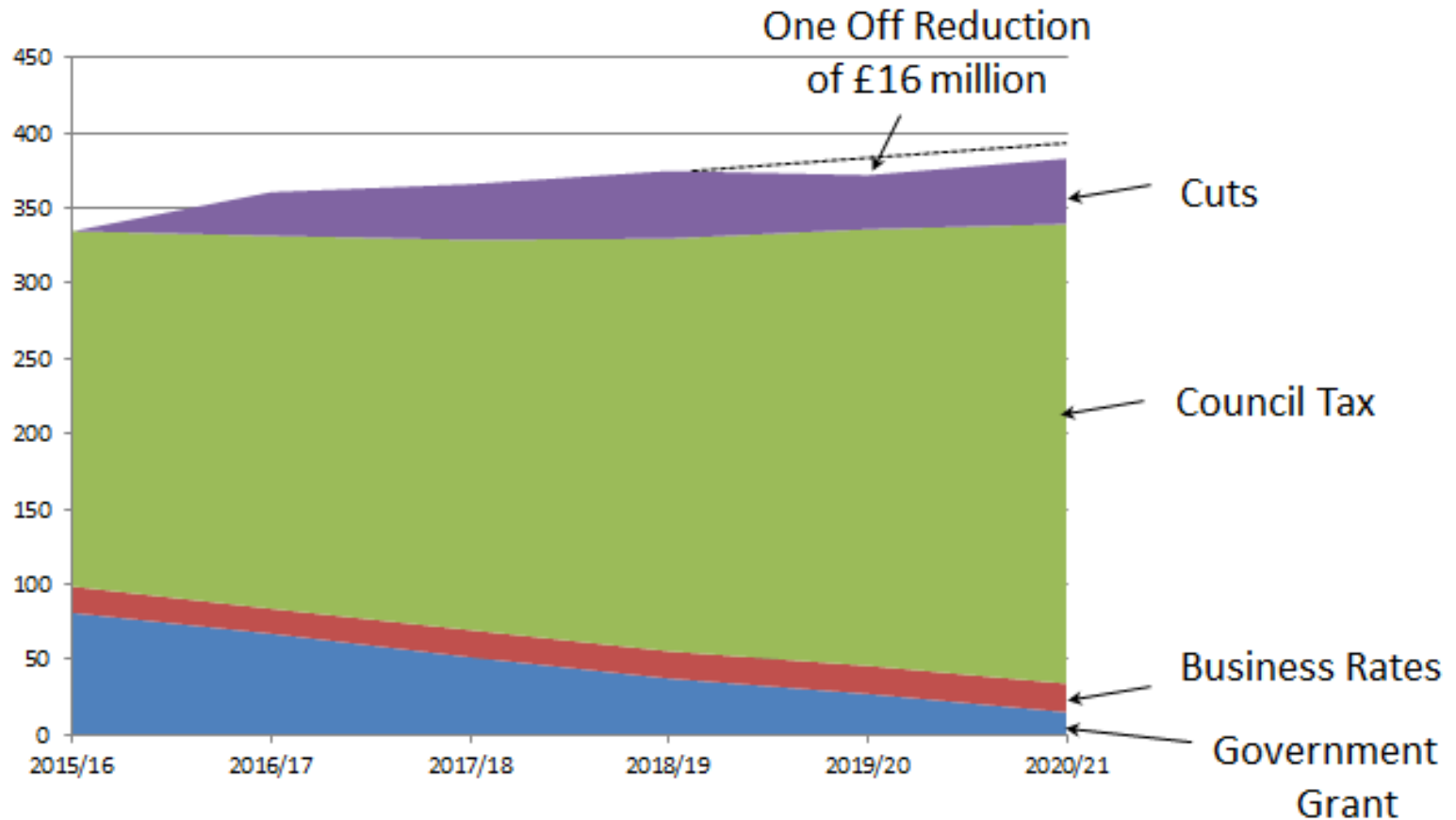
= Pressure on already constrained **adult social care**

= Increasing demand on **children's services**



= **Housing demand** will continue to increase and impact on other services such as **waste**

# Reorganisation doesn't solve the whole problem



# What's been happening in Aylesbury Vale?

## Commercial AVDC:

**Saved £14m over the past 6 years** through efficiencies and new income streams, examples....

**Vale Lottery** alternative income **raising £70K in its first year for over 100 good causes.**

**First council to move our IT to the cloud** – avoiding up to **£6m** in IT costs over past 5 years

**Car pool scheme - £100K savings pa**

Use of **New Homes Bonus** – just over **£3m** to parish and town council schemes since 2013; and funding **AVBroadband**

## National recognition:

Won the **European IT and Software Excellence Award 2016** for "Customer Experience/Management Solution of the Year".

Nominated for **Entrepreneurial Council of the Year 2017**



# What's happening elsewhere?

## What has changed since 2011?

- £185.9 million savings made
- 2,109 fewer positions
- funding from government has been cut by around 49%



## What's needed still?

- £29.1 million savings next year (2017/2018) - this is what we're asking for your views on now
- £64.1 million savings in total to 2020



“Brace yourself for more cuts from **Wiltshire Council** - they've accepted a deal which means they'll have to make **£45 million** worth of savings in the next four years.”

*Local radio report 20th October 2016*

## BBC Headlines

**Swindon votes for three new parish councils in town** *October 2016*

**Liverpool consider 10% council tax rise**  
*November 2016*



# Context for any Local Government reorganisation in Buckinghamshire:

- **Any reorganisation in Buckinghamshire needs to sit at the heart of wider public sector reform and transformation**
- **If not:** consolidation into a single tier will not create the improved outcomes and long-term sustainability our residents require
- **If not:** real danger it will get in the way of much needed integration and transformation in health and social care



# Context for any Local Government reorganisation in Buckinghamshire:

- **building broad consensus**
- Working alongside people and communities
- Greater emphasis on early intervention and prevention
- New relationships with communities at a local level
- Visible and accountable leadership: engagement in decision-making and resource allocation

**Emphasis on improved outcomes  
for our residents**

# Our shared vision for Local Government in Buckinghamshire

- **Financially sustainable** matching the needs and aspirations of residents now and in the future
- **Rooted in communities** - involvement and engagement with residents in the design and delivery of local services
- Services and functions designed and delivered **across optimum geographies – both within and beyond Buckinghamshire**



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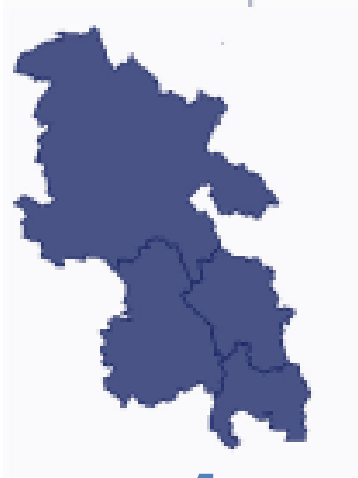
# Our shared vision for Local Government in Buckinghamshire

- Reframing our relationship with people to **promote independence**
- Securing the **best outcome for people** while effectively managing demand
- More **collaboration, partnership working** and **community leadership - within and beyond Buckinghamshire**



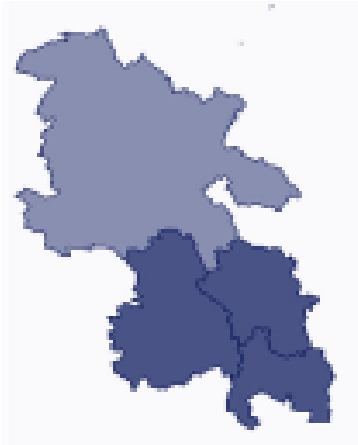
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# Options considered



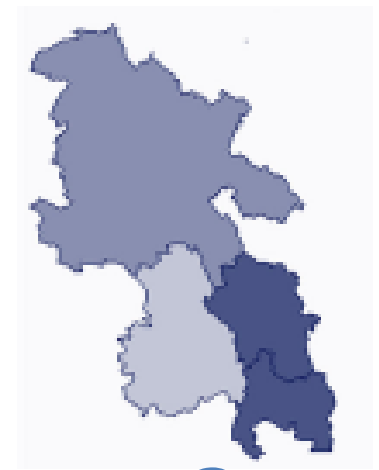
1

Unitary model



2

Unitary model



3

Unitary model

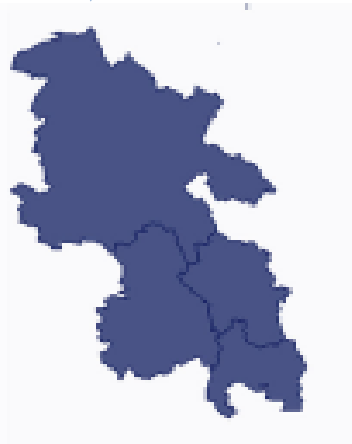
+ **Alternative delivery models** at the appropriate geography for 'big ticket' services and functions

# Options criteria

1	Delivers stable and improved outcomes for residents and businesses
2	Protects council tax payers' interests on an equitable basis
3	Locally affordable, representing VFM and can be met from existing local government resources
4	Capable of providing accountable and locally responsive leadership
5	Provides the capacity for councillors to carry out their roles as community leaders and key influencers within their local areas
6	Provides future financial stability
7	Provides a solution for the whole of Buckinghamshire, not just one part
<b>8</b>	<b>Supported by a broad cross-section of partners and stakeholders</b>
9	Facilitates the growth and devolution agenda

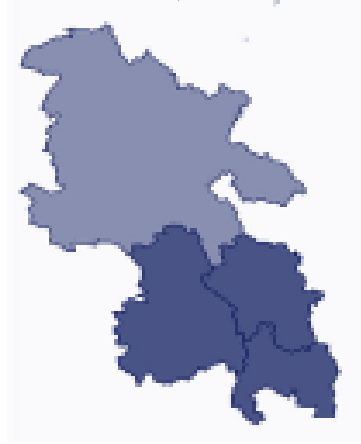
# Summary and conclusion

+ Alternative delivery models



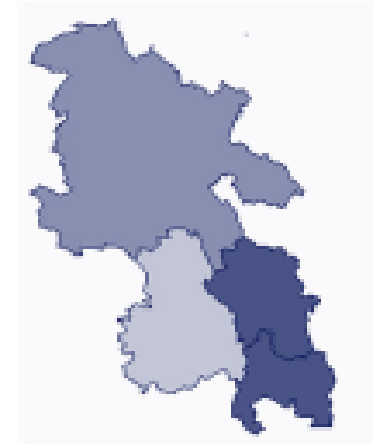
1 Unitary model

**Score:**  
**13 / 21**



2 Unitary model

**Score:**  
**16 / 21**



3 Unitary model

**Score:**  
**16 / 21**

# Next steps

“The starting point for this journey needs to be about **building a broad consensus**, across public sector partners in Buckinghamshire on an ambitious vision for the future of public services”

We need your feedback....



# Opportunity for questions and discussion

