

OI REF:	15696
RESPONSE SENT:	24/06/25

Request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 relating to the amount of money your local authority has spent and/or will spend to develop a proposal for local government reorganisation as per the invitation sent by Jim McMahon OBE MP, Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution listed here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-government-reorganisation-invitation-to-local-authorities-in-two-tier-areas/letter-hampshire-isle-of-wight-portsmouth-and-southampton>

The information requested is as follows:

1. Did your council commission external consultants/advisers to work on and/or produce your local government reorganisation or joint council submission to the MHCLG for 21st March 2025?
2. If so, who were the consultants/advisors, and how much did it cost up to and including 21st March 2025?
3. Has your council allocated or estimated future expenditure to pay external consultants/advisers to work on your/joint council reorganisation proposals? If so, how much and over what timeframe?
4. What is your projected expenditure to reorganise into a new local authority based on your submission or joint council submission to MHCLG?

Response

1. Did your council commission external consultants/advisers to work on and/or produce your local government reorganisation or joint council submission to the MHCLG for 21st March 2025?
Winchester City Council did not commission external consultants directly but did contribute towards such services that were commissioned by a neighbouring LA on behalf of the whole LGR region.
2. If so, who were the consultants/advisors, and how much did it cost up to and including 21st March 2025?
KPMG. Winchester City Council's contribution was £6,333.34.
3. Has your council allocated or estimated future expenditure to pay external consultants/advisers to work on your/joint council reorganisation proposals? If so, how much and over what timeframe?
No.
4. What is your projected expenditure to reorganise into a new local authority based on your submission or joint council submission to MHCLG?
This has not been estimated at this early stage.

