

ACTT

CHAIR notes to the July 22nd ACTT Exec meeting – for sharing copying circulating as you require.

Thank you for joining this July 2021 meeting of the Executive of the ACTT. Virtual meetings of our organization have been a real asset, and the opportunities afforded for distant members to join in has been appreciated and well used. Yesterday, some important news was announced by HM Government.

Next steps for new unitary councils in Cumbria, North Yorkshire and Somerset

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-steps-for-new-unitary-councils-in-cumbria-north-yorkshire-and-somerset>

Establishing these new unitary councils will bring significant benefits to Cumbria, North Yorkshire, and Somerset, giving the local leaders the tools to help level up opportunity and prosperity across their communities.

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
The Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP Published 21 July 2021

I am proposing that we as ACTT assist HM Government in the smooth and effective operation of this process, which may include the creation of some Charter Trustee bodies on the temporary basis that currently exists. In addition to that, we will encourage HM Government to pay due regard to those local authorities who wish to preserve Charter Trustee arrangements.

I think it would be relevant for us to scrutinise the three areas, and seek out comments from all of the cities or towns that may be affected by these changes. We expect Taunton to have some thoughts and comments.

The scope of the proposals and the timing of legislation is noted within the document, and these comments are also noted:

The locally-led plans are being taken forward after a period of consultation which considered views from residents, business leaders and councils.

And in particular:

This will include plans for the necessary transitional arrangements, including for elections in May 2022 for the future unitary councils.

So, at our September AGM, I hope our ACTT is able to present a clear option to ACTT members, with a view to sharing and submitting it to any interested party. Do please add your email thoughts and comments to our Hon Sec or me about this matter.