

Winchester City Council report November 2025

LGR consultation – closes 11 January

The Government's consultation on proposals for major changes to local government in the Hampshire & Isle of Wight region closes on Sunday 11 January 2026. (See - <https://winchester.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=ff5fd525cec7b271e07954336&id=7e55155cfa&e=325a4bf193>)

There are four options for new councils in the consultation: three options for a five-council proposal put forward by 11 of our current councils in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and a four-council proposal put forward by 2 of our current councils.

At a Cabinet meeting in September, WCC supported option 2 of the five-council proposal, which would see our district become part of a new mid-Hampshire council made up of the current councils of Winchester, Test Valley and East Hampshire along with the services provided by the county council in that area.

You can find out more about all of this at www.closeenoughtobelocal.co.uk.

Community Governance Review Consultation – open until Monday 22 December 2025

Winchester City Council wants to hear from local residents, businesses and community groups, as it has launched a Community Governance Review for the Winchester town area to explore whether there would be support for the creation of a new parish council for the currently unparished part of the city.

Once the consultation closes, the feedback received will be analysed and evaluated by an independent organisation. This feedback and analysis will inform draft proposals, and we will then consult on these in spring/summer 2026.

A final decision expected to be made by Full Council in autumn 2026.

If any new parish council is established, these will most likely be established in April 2027, with a first election held in May 2027.

How to respond:

- Complete our online consultation questionnaire: www.winchester.gov.uk/CGR
- Complete a paper survey, which can be collected from 10am – 3pm from The City Offices, Winchester City Council, Colebrook Street, Winchester, SO23 9LJ
- Send a written submission to: Community Governance Review, Winchester City Council, Colebrook Street, Winchester, SO23 9LJ

To have your say, or find out more, visit www.winchester.gov.uk/CGR

The consultation closes at 23:59 on Monday 22 December 2025.

District Small Grants

Grants of up to £3000 are available to not-for-profit organisations for one-off pieces of expenditure on projects, equipment and other items which will help the organisation to do more, to reach more people, to provide better services or to try something different.

To apply or find out more, visit our District Small Grants webpage if based out in the district or our Winchester City Community Grants webpage if based in one of the five Winchester town wards.

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/grants-for-not-for-profit-organisations>

- Fund closes to applications: **31 January or sooner if fund fully allocated**
- Monies are to be spent/allocated by **end of March 2026**

CIL window now closed - Funding for community infrastructure projects

The bidding window for applying for Community Infrastructure Levy funding is now closed. To apply and to find out about some of the past projects that have received CIL funding, visit <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning/community-infrastructure-levy-cil/apply-for-cil>