

Evaluation criteria used for unitary studies

DCLG advice	Districts' evaluation criteria	Grant Thornton evaluation criteria
Better local service delivery	Deliver better public services	Improve local service delivery and outcomes, particularly for the most vulnerable
Greater value for money	Provide value for money	Delivering significant cost savings, improved value for money and long term financial stability
Significant cost savings	Deliver outcomes in terms of the costs of transition against the efficiency savings the change will generate	
Stronger and more accountable local leadership	Ensure strong and accountable local leadership and governance	Provide stronger and more accountable strategic and local leadership
	<p>In addition to these tests... it will also be important to analyse whether the proposed options will meet locally defined needs, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help to deal with the demographic pressures on adult social care and improve outcomes through integration with health services • Ensure a system for children's services that delivers a robust approach to child protection and safeguarding • Help support the economic and housing growth being planned for in Local Plans and secure the necessary infrastructure identified in our Devolution Deal proposals • Support the growth of the knowledge economy • Enable development and growth across the area to meet its potential whilst effectively reflecting the different interests of market towns and rural communities • Benefit from potential service synergies from unitary authorities having responsibility for planning and delivering services such as spatial planning, economic development, housing, transport infrastructure, social care and health. 	Improve engagement with local communities and empowerment of local areas

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