

**REVISED AMENDMENT TO BE PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR MARTIN STEARS-HANDSCOMB AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR PAUL CLARK**

**NB: THIS REPLACES THE PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED AMENDMENT**

“This Council notes the forthcoming publication of the Devolution and Recovery White Paper from Government. It supports the consideration of Unitary options and other alternative arrangements. However, it does not support any particular option as to do so would be premature. It awaits the publication of the White Paper before coming to any conclusions.

*ADD: The Council additionally notes the public statements of the Leader and Deputy Leader as well as a number of administration group members which state opposition to a single unitary authority for Hertfordshire.*

*It believes that any change to the current local government structure must be carried through in the interests of the residents of North Hertfordshire.*

*ADD: Furthermore, to ensure adequate representation of the electorate this council believes that with any changes to the current arrangements a more representative voting system should be introduced and that, in the case of any Unitary options, properly resourced democratic bodies are planned for the unparished areas.*

Council instructs officers and the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council to work with other authorities to investigate all the options that meet these criteria and to seek the views of residents so that we are prepared to respond to the White Paper when it is published.

It notes the progress of collaborative working between all the Hertfordshire Districts and Boroughs, the County Council, the Local Enterprise Partnership and MHCLG to achieve the best possible recovery and future investment for the County and reaffirms its support for this work.”