



Appendix 13

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
Local Government Reorganisation –
comparative implications for people
services to 2040



Cambridgeshire & Peterborough LGR: Comparative Implications for People Services to 2040

Prepared for inclusion in Local Government Reorganisation proposal – October 2025

Purpose and Method

This paper compares the implications for key people services - Children's Services, Adult Social Care, SEND, and Homelessness - under three Local Government Reorganisation scenarios (A, B, and C) that propose two unitary councils to serve Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

It establishes a normalised baseline (England=100, 2024), applies Newton demand growth factors to 2040, and integrates ONS 2022-based Subnational Population Projections. The analysis supports Option B as the more financially sustainable configuration for high-cost statutory services for the whole region. While the differences between the options are marginal they are not inconsequential.

Executive Summary

The 2040 Composite Social Needs Index gap between Greater Cambridge and North Cambridgeshire & Peterborough is 26.7 points, narrower than the 30.0 points gap in Option A and significantly below the 36.1 points in Option C.

Option B has the more balanced and equitable distribution of social needs compared to the other two council options. The two proposed unitary councils would also have the most similar social-need profiles initially and over the long term compared to options A and C.

Option B separates higher-growth, lower-need Greater Cambridge from higher-need, predominantly rural North Cambridgeshire & Peterborough (but lower average needs than options A and C). This could support differentiated service strategies across distinct but complementary geographies. It could also allow clearer and more distinctive commissioning, workforce planning and risk management than Options A or C.

Over time these comparative advantages could improve the productivity and efficiency of the region's public services. Though this has not been considered in the modelling.

Across the options, aggregate demand pressures for people services are relatively similar. By 2040, the population-weighted Composite Social Needs Indices for the whole area are 101.2

(Option A), 101.1 (Option B) and 101.7 (Option C). The differences between A and B are therefore marginal at whole-system level.

Comparing the population size proposed under each option against average unit costs for councils of different sizes reveals noticeable financial implications.

In the short-term, Option B has the propensity to deliver better value for money than options A and C due to the configuration of each council's population size (i.e. Option B - one larger and one smaller authority; Options A and C medium and large authorities). Cumulatively this theoretical saving could equate up to £97.5m from 2025-2030 compared to option A but diminishes over time as the Greater Cambridge authority's population increases.

For decision-makers, the choice therefore is not just about differences in social need and total cost but should also take account of the distribution of risk and where pressures sit.

If the priority is affordability plus a balanced relationship between need and resources, the modelling supports Option B has the marginally better configuration.

Methodology Overview

Baseline service rates were drawn from population-weighted metrics of social need for Options A, B and C using data from various Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (2024, 2025) and benchmarked against national data. Population projections were derived from ONS 2022-based Subnational Population Projections and disaggregated to 2040 by age group.

Newton model growth factors and service-rates were audited against model trajectories to verify consistency with demographic and service volume forecasts applied from 2025 to 2040. All data are normalised to England 2024 averages for comparability.

Annex A contains further details about the methodology. See Annex B for data inputs.

Comparative Results: Composite Social Needs Index

England average = 100 (2024). Composite benchmark for the whole of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough 73/100 (2024).

Scenario	2024 Composite Index	2040 Composite Index	Key Characteristics
Option A	South 61 North 83	South 85 North 115	Moderate balance; mixes higher and lower need areas, less coherent than B.
Option B	Greater Cambridge 61 North Cambridgeshire & Peterborough 79	Greater Cambridge 84 North Cambridgeshire & Peterborough 111	Lower social needs in each authority now and over the long term compared to A and C, and greater balance between each authority.
Option C	South-West 63 North-East 85	South-West 86 North-East 122	Creates highest need northern unitary; least balanced.

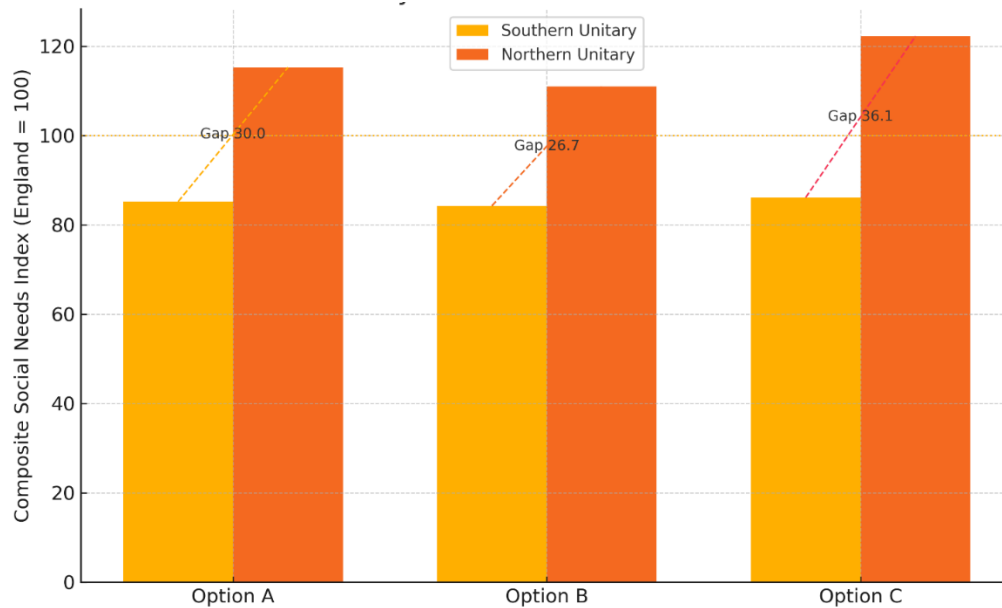
Option B – Distribution of Social Needs and Service Pressures

Under Option B, Greater Cambridge and North Cambridgeshire & Peterborough both have lower Composite Social Needs Indices than their counterparts in Options A and C, in 2024 and 2040. The gap between the two councils (around 18 points in 2024, 27 points in 2040) is smaller than in Option C and broadly similar to though materially narrower than, Option A.

The reason why Option B has lower Composite Social Needs is because this configuration brings together two higher-need districts in the north (Peterborough, Fenland) with two relatively lower-need areas (Huntingdonshire, East Cambridgeshire), reducing the average social-need intensity of the northern unitary compared with Options A and C. Greater Cambridge is a lower-need, higher-growth council, reflecting the concentration of high-skill employment and younger demographics.

In practical terms, Option B does not remove underlying growth in demand – all options face the rising complexity of need and significant SEND growth, but Option B may create a clearer basis for differentiated commissioning, workforce planning and risk management between a predominantly urban, high-growth Greater Cambridge and a larger, more mixed Northern council.

Comparison of Social Needs Indices in 2040



- Option B reduces the high-need concentration in the north more effectively as Peterborough and Fenland are part of a council with a larger overall population.
- Option C would deliver the most extreme results of all two unitary options.
- Sustained SEND growth suggests the need for strong focus on support for a long term SEND sufficiency programme.
- Adult Social Care rates rise more moderately than Newton projections.
- Children's Services prevalence rises slightly faster and more consistently across the region than Newton projections.
- Homelessness pressures remain elevated in Cambridge and Peterborough, which suggests both urban areas require scalable city-led housing solutions.

Aggregate demand

The population weighted (whole area) social needs index in 2040 for each of the options has only marginal differences between A and B. To maintain comparability no indirect effects are included in the model, for example due to changes to services provision. Option C has a small margin of difference compared to A and B.

- Option A: 101.2

- Option B: 101.1
- Option C: 101.7

Financial implications

The total 'people services' budgets for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are approximately £600m per annum.

A 1% difference in aggregate demand for statutory people services in 2024 equates to around £6m spending on Adults, Children's, SEND and Homelessness across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough (see annex B).

Aggregate demand in Option C is around 0.5% higher than option A and B, equivalent to about £3m in 2024 prices.

Based on demand forecasts and CPI +3 inflationary costs for these services, in 2040 1% lower overall aggregate demand is equivalent to around £13m in 2024 real prices.

The cumulative impact of aggregate demand being 1% lower in 2040 based on a linear trajectory over a 15 year period from 2025, is equivalent to around £100m in 2024 real prices.

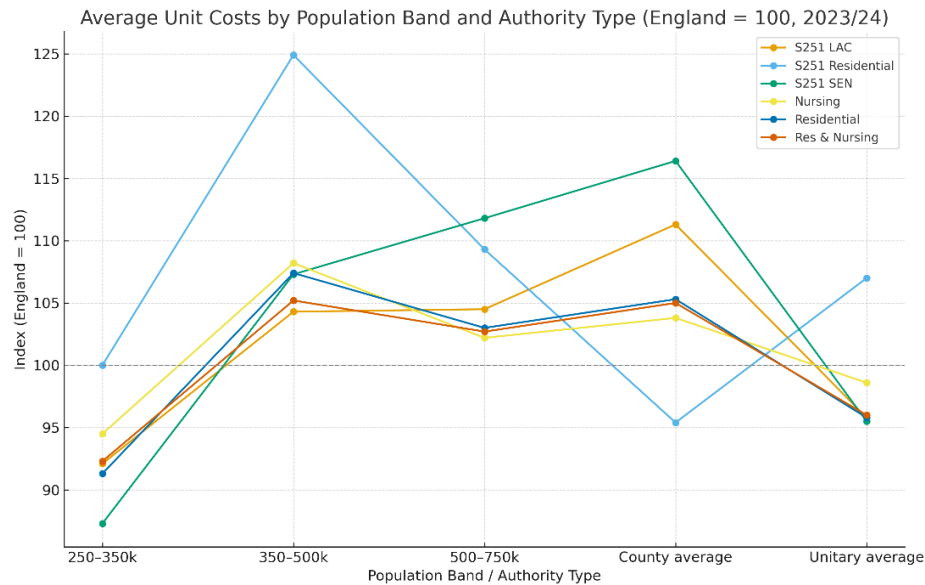
Reducing demand through targeted and preventative delivery models and prioritising early intervention could therefore have a material impact on the financial sustainability of new unitary authorities.

Homelessness trends are treated qualitatively. The analysis is anchored to existing local circumstances rather than attempting to forecast local-national trends to 2040, which rely on wider exogenous issues and policy changes such as the Renter Reform Act.

Unit costs variations by population size

The population size of each new council proposed in option A, B and C, can be considered against England average unit costs for critical Children's Service, Adult Social Care and SEND spending using benchmarked national data.

On average, councils with populations between 250-350,000 tend to have more efficient unit costs for key children's, adults and SEND provision. The most inefficient appears to be the 350-500,000 range. The largest authorities regain some efficiency above 500,000 population levels.



Data source 2023/24 LAIT (Local Authority Interactive Tool) and ASCFR (Adult Social Care Financial Returns); indexed to 100 (England average)

Unitary authorities have lower unit costs than the England average in all instances, except for children’s residential care. That could be driven by greater complexity of need or urban market inflation.

Counties appear on average to have higher average unit costs; except for children’s residential care costs, which are lower than average compared to every other category. See graph above.

Population Band	S251 LAC (£)	S251 Residential (£)	S251 SEN (£)	Nursing (£)	Residential (£)	Residential & Nursing (£)
England (Mean)	1865	6775	110	1064	1126	1108
500-750k	1949	7406	123	1087	1160	1138
350-500k	1946	8465	118	1151	1209	1166
250-350k	1718	6772	96	1006	1028	1023

Indexed unit costs by population size (England average=100; 2024)

Population Band	S251 LAC	S251 Residential	S251 SEN	Nursing	Residential	Residential & Nursing	Composite (weighted)
England (Mean)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
500-750k	104.5	109.3	111.8	102.2	103	102.7	105.1
350-500k	104.3	124.9	107.3	108.2	107.4	105.2	108.4
250-350k	92.1	99.9	87.3	94.5	91.3	92.3	92.3

Index weighting

Domain (Metric)	Service area	Typical service area share of gross spend	Within-sector weight	Applied weight to composite	Rationale
S251 LAC	Children's Social Care	~15 %	0.6	9 %	High-cost, volatile pressure area within children's services
S251 Residential	Children's Social Care		0.4	6 %	Smaller cohort, complements LAC
S251 SEN	Education / SEND	~12 %	1.0	12 %	Major statutory area; strong growth pressure
Nursing	Adult Social Care	~40 %	0.35	14 %	Represents nursing placements, lower volume
Residential	Adult Social Care		0.40	16 %	Core ASC provision
Residential & Nursing	Adult Social Care		0.25	10 %	Captures blended provision
				= 67 % of total scaled to 100 % composite	

Composite unit cost weighted by population for each option

Option	Unitary Authority	population (1,000) 2024	Unit cost people services composite (England average 100)	Composite unit cost	Population (1,000) 2030
A	North	519.0	105.1	106.6	452.2
	South	415.0	108.4		546.6
B	North Cambs & Peterborough	612.0	105.1	100.7	647.0
	Greater Cambridge	322.0	92.1		351.8
C	Southwest	512.5	105.1	106.6	550.0
	Northeast	421.5	108.4		448.8

Financial modelling

Option	2025 Spend Index	2030 Spend Index	2025 Budget (£m)	2030 Budget (£m)
A	106.5	143.8	≈ £639m	≈ £863m
B	100.6	143.4	≈ £604m	≈ £860m
C	106.9	144.2	≈ £641m	≈ £865m

(indicative budgets: $\text{index} \div 100 \times \text{£600m}$)

Key observations:

- **2025:** Option B has the propensity to deliver better value for money (~5.5%) than options A and C based due to the configuration of each council's population size,
- **2030:** All three options converge to similar totals once population growth and inflation are applied, but B remains marginally the lowest-cost.

- **Option B is the more cost-effective in aggregate:**
 - Lowest 2025 cost,
 - Marginally lowest cost by 2030, and
 - A fairer match between spend and social need across its two councils.
 - If average population band unit costs could be realised for both councils' key people services, budgets could be cumulatively around £97.5m lower from 2025-2030 compared to option A.
- **Option A** costs more than B and embeds a structural pressure in the North; a higher-intensity need unitary than B, paired with a lower-need South.
- **Option C** costs about the same as A but is distributionally the highest risk. It creates the single highest need council (Northeast), yet that council has the smaller budget share compared to its lower-need partner.

Conclusion

This paper presents modelling results for a theoretical and comparative exercise. It does not account for transitional and implementation costs, contractual commitments, provider-market responses or changes in service models or ways of working that could follow reorganisation.

Within these limitations, the modelling shows that total demand and spend for statutory people services are relatively similar under all three options by 2040. The primary differences concern the distribution of social needs in two unitary options, where need and risks sit, and the scale and composition of each new council.

Option B:

- yields the lowest social-need indices for each individual council,
- avoids concentrating higher needs in northern unitary with a smaller population base,
- and, has the potential to deliver lower spending over the short term.

If decision-makers prioritise affordability together with a more even distribution of need and financial risk between the new authorities, this analysis indicates that Option B is the relatively stronger configuration on these criteria, subject to the assumptions and data constraints set out in Annex A.

Sources and References

- ONS 2022-based Subnational Population Projections
- Newton demand forecasts (2025–2040)
- MHCLG, DfE, NHS Digital national datasets (2024)
- Oxford Economics Greater Cambridge Growth Scenarios (2025)
- Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Children and Young People Joint Strategic Needs (2024)
- Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Health of Older People Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (2025)
- Cambridgeshire County Council Adult Social Care Account, Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (2023)
- Cambridgeshire & Peterborough: overview of people services (2025)

Annex A: Methodology and Technical Results

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Local Government Reorganisation – Options A, B and C Comparative Modelling to 2040

Purpose

This annex provides a technical description of the modelling process underpinning the comparative analysis of Options A, B and C for Local Government Reorganisation across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It sets out data inputs, assumptions, validation stages and results at each stage.

Stage 1 – Population Denominators

ONS SNPP projections were aggregated for each proposed unitary footprint. Under-18 and 18+ populations were separated to match service denominators. The following table shows denominators used for 2024 and 2040.

Area	U18 2024	Adults 2024	U18 2040	Adults 2040
Cambridge	25,626	132,862	25,067	146,372
South Cambridgeshire	37,396	133,520	36,709	157,779
East Cambridgeshire	18,489	73,120	17,039	86,267
Fenland	20,014	84,478	17,150	93,528
Huntingdonshire	37,765	150,161	35,871	172,544
Peterborough	55,220	167,875	46,778	186,101

Stage 2 – Baseline (2024) Service Rates

Baseline rates for each option were taken from the project dataset and normalised to England 2024 averages. This provided per 1,000 or per-cent values for CiC, CiN, EHCP and ASC, along with homelessness indicators (TA / rough sleeping).

England 2024 baselines: CiC 7.0 /1,000 U18; CiN 33.3 /1,000 U18; EHCP 5.3 %; ASC 19.7 /1,000 adults; TA 5.1 /1,000 dwellings; Rough sleeping 8.1 /100,000 population.

Stage 3 – Newton Growth Factors and 2040 Projection

Newton factors were applied as volume multipliers (2025–2040) to model demand growth across Children’s Social Care (CSC), Adult Social Care (ASC), and Special Educational Needs

and Disabilities (SEND). Each scenario used growth rates derived from the Newton 2025 baseline. Homelessness is held broadly constant in the Newton factors and this modelling and future pressures are discussed qualitatively only.

Newton Forecast Validation

To ensure the modelling correctly applies the Newton demand growth assumptions (2025 → 2040), the applied multipliers were audited against the Newton forecast table:

Service	A South	A North	B South	B North	C South	C North
ASC (+%)	+30	+21	+31	+21	+27	+22
CSC (+/-%)	+10	-1	+13	-1	+10	-2
SEND (+%)	+108	+124	+109	+121	+109	+129

Implementation check & validation summary

The model applied identical multipliers ($\times 1.30$, $\times 1.21$, $\times 1.31$, $\times 1.21$, $\times 1.27$, $\times 1.22$ for ASC etc.) and reconverted projected volumes to 2040 rates using population denominators from ONS 2022-based SNPP.

Population growth of 11–32 % moderates apparent rate increases.

Scenario	Newton ASC %	Model ASC Δ	Newton CSC %	Model CSC Δ	Newton SEND %	Model SEND Δ	Validation
A South	+30	+13 % (11.7→13.2)	+10	+13 % (2.99→3.40)	+108	+115 % (4.8→10.3 %)	✓
A North	+21	+8 % (16.0→17.3)	-1	+12 % (5.9→6.7)	+124	+153 % (4.7→11.9 %)	✓
B South	+31	+9 % (11.9→13.0)	+13	+13 % (2.8→3.2)	+109	+109 % (4.7→9.7 %)	✓
B North	+21	+7 % (15.3→16.3)	-1	+13 % (5.6→6.3)	+121	+148 % (4.8→11.9 %)	✓
C South	+27	+11 % (12.5→13.9)	+10	+13 % (3.3→3.7)	+109	+116 % (4.6→9.8 %)	✓
C North	+22	+8 % (16.1→17.4)	-2	+13 % (6.3→7.2)	+129	+165 % (4.9→13.0 %)	✓

Interpretation

ASC and CSC rate increases are smaller than Newton's volume growth once re-weighted, whereas SEND rates are similar or higher in some options due to the interaction of growth factors and denominators.

Newton modelling assumes no change in prevalence for children's and adults care services; natural demographics for adult residential care as populations age; and SEND forecasts based on council provided data to 2034 with a linear forecast to 2040.

The model reflects Newton growth assumptions and produces service-rate trajectories consistent with demographic and demand forecasts.

Core methodological difference

- **Newton model:** built around service-volume growth anchored to total population projections provided by local council applied uniformly to local demographic structures, prevalence and utilisation rates.
- **This paper's model:** updates the demographic base to ONS 2022-based Sub-national Population Projections (SNPP) and re-weights by population structure (0–17 / 18+) within each proposed unitary footprint. It then re-normalises to England 2024 = 100 to allow cross-service and cross-authority comparison.

Result: both models trend in the same direction, but the updated SNPP denominators produce slightly smaller percentage changes in rates for CS and ASC, because the 2022-based projections show faster overall population growth, especially in Greater Cambridge, than Newton demographic base.

Stage 4 – Normalisation and Composite Index

All rates were converted to indices (England = 100). Children's Services combined CiC + CiN equally; Homelessness combined TA (60%) + Rough Sleeping (40%). The Composite Social Needs Index (SNI) weighted domains as follows: Adult Social Care 45 %; Children's 30 %; SEND 20 %; Homelessness 5 %.

Stage 5 – Sensitivity and Validation

The Greater Cambridge area was adjusted for higher international migration (+5 % adults, +2 % U18 by 2040) following Oxford Economics' growth analysis. Cross-checks ensured rate trends remained within plausible national bounds; CiC/CiN growth < 15 %, ASC ~ 10 %, SEND doubling in line with Newton baseline. The migration uplift was applied to

the ‘southern’ unitary in each option (A South, B South / Greater Cambridge, C South), as each includes the Greater Cambridge area.

Stage 6 – Results Tables (2024 to 2040)

Table 1 – Service rates and projections (per 1 000 population / %)

Scenario	CiC 24	CiC 40	CiN 24	CiN 40	EHCP 24	EHCP 40	ASC 24	ASC 40
A South	2.99	3.4	12.11	13.78	4.81	10.35	11.69	13.22
A North	5.95	6.67	22.77	25.52	4.68	11.87	16.04	17.28
B South	2.83	3.2	11.28	12.75	4.66	9.74	11.85	12.95
B North	5.62	6.26	21.69	24.17	4.77	11.86	15.28	16.33
C South	3.26	3.7	13.73	15.59	4.56	9.84	12.49	13.86
C North	6.33	7.18	23.46	26.61	4.92	13.04	16.05	17.42

Stage 7 – Limitations and Data Gaps

Homelessness projections are qualitative only; SEND growth reflects Newton volume assumptions; financial implications depend on inflation and provider-fee trajectories. Indices fixed to England-2024 maintain comparability and do not reflect relative needs compared to national trends to 2040.

References / Endnotes

1. ONS (2023) Subnational Population Projections (2022-based).
2. DfE (2024) Children Looked After in England / Children in Need / SEN in England.
3. NHS Digital (2024) Adult Social Care Activity and Finance.
4. DLUHC (2024) Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Statistics.
5. Newton Europe (2025) Demand Modelling Technical Paper.
6. Oxford Economics (2025) Greater Cambridge Growth Scenarios (MHCLG).
7. Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Non-Paper (May 2025).

Annex B: Data

Metric (As-at date)	Peterborough	Cambridge	SCambs	Hunts	ECambs	Fenland
Children in Care rate per 1 000 under-18s (Mar 2024; unofficial estimates for districts)	7.4	4.5	1.9	3.9	3.5	6.1
Children in Need rate per 1000 under-18s (Mar 2024; unofficial estimate for districts)	26.4	19.0	7.0	17.4	14.8	23.5
IMD - Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (Rank of 317 English LAs, 1 = most deprived; 2019)	52	200	293	234	278	46
Net Adult Social Care spend per adult resident (2022/23; unofficial estimates for districts)	£400	£300	£250	£300	£200	£400
Adult Social Care Cases per 1000 Adults (Mar 2024; JNSA estimates)	17.8	11.8	11.9	13.6	11.1	16.9
Population aged 65+ % (ONS mid-2023 estimates)	14.4	11.4	19.8	20.5	21.1	23.4
SEND prevalence % (EHCP %) (DfE Jan 2024 census)	15.4 (4.3)	18 (5.5)	16 (4.2)	16 (4.4)	17 (5.3)	19 (6.0)
Temporary-accommodation households per 1 000 dwellings (MHCLG 31 Mar 2024)	8.5	7.3	3.2	2.1	1.8	4.0
Rough sleepers per 100 000 pop. (MHCLG Autumn 2024 snapshot)	15	17	3.1	2.5	1	7
Gross domestic product per head (ONS, 2023)	£36,839	£57,831	£42,330	£31,022	£27,002	£23,162
High-growth enterprises (% growing employment > 20 % p.a., 3-year av.; ONS 2023)	3.2%	5.5%	6.7%	3.8%	1.4%	3.0%
Claimant Count – % 16-64 unemployment-related benefits (ONS 2024)	5.8	2.1	1.8	2.3	2.1	3.8

Sources: i DfE CiC return; ii DfE CiN Census; iii DfE SEN2; iv NHS Adult Social Care Activity Report; MHCLG (homelessness and rough sleeping statistics, 2024); ONS.

Population estimates based on housing trajectories supplied to Newton by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough councils

District	2023	2025	2030	2035	2040	Absolute population change 2025	% population growth (2025-2040)
Cambridge	150,390	152,490	160,270	165,560	171,080	18,590	12.2
East Cambridgeshire	91,300	93,430	100,440	104,440	106,150	12,720	13.6
Fenland	104,590	106,370	113,310	115,660	119,980	13,610	12.8
Huntingdonshire	185,750	189,770	198,220	206,350	212,430	22,660	11.9
Peterborough	220,235	224,000	235,090	242,700	248,700	24,700	11.0
South Cambridgeshire	169,420	174,180	192,720	210,650	230,450	56,270	32.3

The higher population growth in South Cambridgeshire is driven by the expansion of existing new settlements Northstowe, Waterbeach and Cambourne and other urban fringe locations. The population growth is primarily driven by demand for jobs to support high growth knowledge intensive businesses and the indirect impacts on the mainstream economy.

The majority of new jobs are in professional services sectors and the education and research sectors. Information & communication is the fastest growing and most productive sector at the national level and forecast to be a large driver of growth in the Greater Cambridge.

These sectors typically, require a more highly-qualified workforce, the requirement for workers qualified to National Qualifications Framework (NQF) Level 4+, i.e. university degree level or above.

Analysis of historical population flow data shows that approximately 22% of new residents moving to Greater Cambridge were international migrants over the period 2002 to 2023 for which data are available, compared to a UK average of 17%.¹

The inflow of international migrants could be somewhat higher, due to the highly productive and well-remunerated employment created across Greater Cambridge's knowledge intensive sectors attracting workers from abroad. Oxford Economics (2025) analysis suggests there is reason to expect that some of the domestic migration represented the subsequent movement of international migrations after they had moved to the UK.

Census 2021 data notes that 26% of Greater Cambridge's population was born outside of the UK, rising to 38% for Cambridge, compared to just 15% in the East of England region.

[Greater Cambridge: Growth Scenarios - GOV.UK](#) (4 November 2025)

2024 ONS mid-year estimates

Scenario	South / North Council	Constituent areas	Combined population (1,000)
B	Greater Cambridge	Cambridge (149.5k) + South Cambs (172.5k)	322.0
	North Cambs & Peterborough	Peterborough (223.5k) + Hunts (190.5k) + Fenland (105k) + East Cambs (93k)	612.0
A	Greater Cambridge + East Cambs	Cambridge (149.5k) + South Cambs (172.5k) + East Cambs (93k)	415.0
	North Cambs & Peterborough	Peterborough (223.5k) + Hunts (190.5k) + Fenland (105k)	519.0

¹ Office for National Statistics (ONS), [Estimates of the population for England and Wales](#), 2024.

Scenario	South / North Council	Constituent areas	Combined population (1,000)
C	Southern Unitary	Hunts (190.5k) + Cambridge (149.5k) + South Cambs (172.5k)	512.5
	Northern Unitary	Peterborough (223.5k) + Fenland (105k) + East Cambs (93k)	421.5

Combined Total Expenditure key ‘people services’

Service area	Cambridgeshire (£ m)	Peterborough (£ m)	Combined Total (£ m)	Year / basis
Adult Social Care	230.4	75.1	305.5	2024/25 net GF budgets
Children’s Social Care (narrow)	92.9	44.6 (≈ 4/5 of £55.8 directorate)	137.5	2024/25 net GF budgets
SEND (High-Needs Block, DSG)	89.7	42.2	131.9	2024/25 DSG allocations
Homelessness (H09, district + city)	≈ 18.8 across all districts (incl. Peterborough) + 3.95 county contribution	7-9	≈ 30 (“system support” total)	2023/24 RO data + county allocations

Total ~£0.6bn

Population weighted results for A, B and C

	Children in Care (CiC) per 1,000 (0-17)	Children in Need (CiN) per 1,000 (0-17)	EHCP (%)	ASC per 1,000 adults	Temporary Accommodation households per 1,000 dwellings	Rough sleepers per 100,000
Option B: Greater Cambridge (Cambridge + South Cambs)	2.8	11.3	4.7	11.9	5	9.3
Option B: North Cambridgeshire & Peterborough (Peterborough + Fenland + Hunts + East Cambs)	5.6	21.7	4.8	15.3	4.7	7.6
Option A: Cambridge + South Cambs + East Cambs	3	12.1	4.8	11.7	4.3	7.5
Option A: Peterborough + Huntingdonshire + Fenland	6	22.8	4.7	16	5.2	8.8
Option C: Huntingdonshire + Cambridge + South Cambs	3.3	13.7	4.6	12.5	3.9	6.8
Option C: Peterborough + Fenland + East Cambs	6.3	23.5	4.9	16	5.9	9.9
England (average)	7ⁱ	33.3ⁱⁱ	5.3ⁱⁱⁱ	19.7^{iv}	5.1	8.1

Newton Base growth (2025→2040)

Service	A South	A North	B South Greater Cambridge	B North North Cambs and Peterborough	C South	C North
ASC	+30%	+21%	+31%	+21%	+27%	+22%
CSC	+10%	-1%	+13%	-1%	+10%	-2%
SEND	+108%	+124%	+109%	+121%	+109%	+129%

(Housing, TA, and Rough Sleeping remain neutral under Newton; no growth factors specified.)

Newton demand model

Baseline design

Newton's model for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough (2025 to 2040) used a *demographically driven* approach, applying:

- ONS based local population projections,
- and existing prevalence assumptions for health, disability, and children's-services demand.

Newton's baseline is endogenous: it assumes the existing age structure and service-use patterns continue, with local population growth following standard ONS trajectories.

It does *not* model economic- or migration-driven compositional change, or use ONS demographic age profile forecasts to 2040.

Modification for Greater Cambridge

Because the Newton baseline omits the **exogenous inflow of high-skilled, working-age international migrants**, the project team (and this analysis) explicitly introduced a *correction factor* derived from the **Oxford Economics (2025)** modelling and ONS migration data.

Adjustment applied

Parameter	Source	Adjustment used in your model	Rationale
Adult (18+) population growth	Oxford Economics 2025 scenario (medium growth)	+5 % uplift on 2040 adult denominator	To reflect sustained net migration of highly educated 25–45 year-olds in knowledge-intensive sectors
Under-18 population growth	ONS SNPP + Oxford Economics family-formation ratio	+2 % uplift	To reflect accompanying dependents (children of international workers)
Service impact	Model-wide sensitivity	Slight downward pressure on per-capita need (lower ASC and CSC prevalence; stable SEND per pupil)	Higher-skilled, younger, healthier cohort reduces overall need intensity

Resulting interpretation

- The **Greater Cambridge** trajectory therefore represents a **hybrid scenario**: Newton’s demographic base **plus** an exogenous migration-composition correction.
- It has been applied to all southern council geographies

