
DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2008 No.

The Bedfordshire (Structural Changes) Order 2008

PART 2

**ESTABLISHMENT OF SINGLE TIER LOCAL GOVERNMENT
IN BEDFORD AND CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**

Single tier local government in Bedford

3.—(1) A new non-metropolitan county, to be known as Bedford, shall be constituted comprising the area of the borough of Bedford.

(2) In relation to the county of Bedford, section 2(1) of the 1972 Act (which provides that every county shall have a council) shall not apply.

(3) On and after 1st April 2009, Bedford Borough Council shall be the sole principal authority for Bedford.

Single tier local government in Central Bedfordshire

4.—(1) A new non-metropolitan county and a new non-metropolitan district, each to be known as Central Bedfordshire, shall be constituted comprising (in each case) the areas of the districts of Mid Bedfordshire and South Bedfordshire.

(2) In relation to the county of Central Bedfordshire, section 2(1) of the 1972 Act (which provides that every county shall have a council) shall not apply.

(3) A new district council, to be known as the Central Bedfordshire Council, shall be established as the sole principal authority for the non-metropolitan district of Central Bedfordshire.

(4) Except for the purposes of Part 6 of this Order (electoral matters: Mid and South Bedfordshire District Councils, the Central Bedfordshire Council and parishes in Bedford and Central Bedfordshire), until 1st April 2009—

(a) the Central Bedfordshire Council shall not be a local authority for the purposes of the 1972 Act or any other enactment relating to local government; and

(b) subsection (2) of section 2 of the 1972 Act (constitution of principal councils in England) shall have effect in relation to that Council as if the words from “and the council” to the end of that subsection were omitted.

(5) On 1st April 2009—

(a) the Mid Bedfordshire and South Bedfordshire districts shall be abolished as local government areas; and

(b) the Mid Bedfordshire and South Bedfordshire councils shall be wound up and dissolved.

County of Bedfordshire, Bedfordshire County Council and councillors of that Council

5.—(1) On 1st April 2009—

- (a) the county of Bedfordshire shall be abolished as a local government area; and
 - (b) the County Council shall be wound up and dissolved.
- (2) The term of office of persons serving as councillors of the County Council immediately before 1st April 2009 shall end on that date.
- (3) Nothing in section 89 of the 1972 Act (filling of casual vacancies in case of councillors) shall authorise the holding of an election to fill a casual vacancy in the office of councillor of the County Council where that vacancy arises after 30th September 2008 and before 1st April 2009.