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28th September 2018

Dear Community Governance Review Team (Daventry District Council),

As a Borough Councillor for New Duston and Chairman of Duston Parish Council I would like to make a comment as part of your current Community Governance Review.

My observation is in relation to the Northampton West Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) situated on the western side of Northampton. It directly adjoins the existing parish of Duston.

This large scale housing development will be right on the door step of Duston Parish Council and, in my view, will form part of a "greater Duston community." This area will be urban in nature and future residents, I believe, will likely identify as being in Duston and use will many of our local facilities.

Ordinarily, I wouldn't comment on a Community Governance Review in Daventry District Council as Parish Councils cannot cross over the border of principal authorities.

However, given the likelihood of a new single unitary authority covering the areas of Daventry, Northampton and South Northamptonshire, I believe, it makes sense not to create any new parish councils on the edge of Northampton at this stage.

Much housing development has taken place on the border between Northampton Borough Council and Daventry District (known as the 'Northampton Related Development Area') and so to me it makes sense to leave this particular area as it is and allow the new unitary authority in due course to take a more strategic and holistic approach to these new emerging communities.

Ultimately I strongly believe the forthcoming Northampton SUE, which will approximately consistent of 1,500 dwellings, should be incorporated into Duston Parish Council. We ask therefore this area to be left as it is so we can have this important discussion with the new unitary authority when it has been created in May 2020.

Yours faithfully,

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Cllr John Caswell New Duston Ward, Northampton Borough Council Chairman, Duston Parish Council

CC. Cllr Chris Millar, Leader of Daventry District Council