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9 am to 4 pm Mondays to Fridays



TOWN HALL
FELIXSTOWE
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IP11 2AG

Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP
Department for Communities and Local Government
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

4 January 2018

Dear Mr. Javid

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPROVEMENT: Written statement - HCWS232

Felixstowe Town Council is grateful for the opportunity provided by the Secretary of State to make representations on the proposals to merge Suffolk Coastal and Waveney district councils.

Given that local authorities in England and Wales are under continuing pressure to meet an estimated overall spending gap of £5.8bn by 2020¹, the Town Council is generally supportive of the principle for this merger; a key outcome of which is anticipated to enable significant cost-savings for the successor 'East Suffolk' administration.

However, to ensure that community needs across the districts can continue to be understood and addressed, my Council is concerned that local democratic representation should be preserved and enhanced wherever practicable. With this in mind, the Town Council seeks your reassurance that the new single-district council will pursue the co-production of service delivery on a locality basis in partnership with other public bodies and key community stakeholders, enabled by appropriate place-based initiatives.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to be consulted.

Yours sincerely

Ash Tadjrishi
Town Clerk
Felixstowe Town Council

¹ LGA, 2017:

https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/5.20%20budget%20submission_06.pdf