

APM report April 15th 2019

Report from John Townsend – South Northants Council

The government consultation closed in January and the announcement on the go-ahead of local government reorganisation is imminent.

The Government Inspector has recommended that the whole structure of Local Government for Northamptonshire is to be rebuilt with two unitary authorities.

The difficulty with this is that Northampton with its greater population will always politically dominate the new authority.

South Northants Council (SNC) as we know it, will be abolished and the shape of local government will completely change over the next year. Our area will then be known as West Northamptonshire Council.

The shadow authority begins this summer and local elections will take place in May 2020. I have represented SNC for 32 years and won't be standing for re-election.

The new authority will see a change in the role of importance for town and parish councils going forward.