

# North Northamptonshire Council

## Personal Details:

**Name:**

**E-mail:**

**Postcode:**

**Organisation Name:** none

## Comment text:

I think it's important to recognise not just numbers of people, but the psychological identities of the areas represented. To master a fair and good knowledge of them across a patch which has a big mix, will add burden to councillors and risk communities losing out as a councillor even unconsciously spends more time and knowledge in one part of their patch. I don't think Higham Ferrers should be cut - the loss and change being experienced by Higham Ferrers as it is being swamped and surrounded increasingly by housing developments that threaten its community and sense of identity and yet it will never be a truly urban area. It retains a distinct, strong and active community through its town council and it has historic close ties to Rushden - and Rushden is now its postal town too. It's very survival is associated with its historic town centre and heritage and being 'rural'. We need councillors to represent the people and that identity. It is so different to Wellingborough and would lose out if merged into it. In looking to change boundaries I think a focus should be on Earls Barton, Hatton Park, Wicksteed, Burton & Broughton and better balancing the numbers of people now in those areas. I'd be inclined to take Earls Barton village and put it in with Irchester which has Chester House Estate - as both places rely on heritage and rurality for identity and economy and expansion gives them similar issues. They both touch on Wellingborough too so have shared experiences and issues which would sit well together in a councillor's workload - sometimes showing an issue is systemic not simply local, which might support effective decision-making and systems efficiency improvement. I would suggest the area of Earls Barton patch from Hardwick through to Wickstead is one area as they have proximity to Kettering and Wellingborough and I'd include Burton Latimer & Broughton within that. The local roads network and types of places give a shared sense of place and similar issues to them. I don't know enough about Corby area to make detailed comment, but it seems to have expanded a lot and still to have lots of rural areas, so perhaps carving up the Corby boundaries might better enable better reflection of communities and representing their needs to decision-makers.

## Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded