



Ministry of Housing,
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Dear Tony and Brian,

Thank you for your seventh report, addressed to the Secretary of State, setting out the ongoing progress that has been made with the intervention that you are undertaking on his behalf at Northamptonshire County Council. The Secretary of State has asked me to reply.

Whilst noting the continuing challenges faced by Northamptonshire, I was glad to read of the progress you have helped the Council to make, even against the background of the Covid-19 response. I was particularly encouraged to read of the work on improvements that have been secured in both Adult Care and Children's Services.

It is also especially pleasing to read of the Council's ongoing financial strength and the work you are doing to ensure that governance and decision making is suitably robust. I am encouraged to see the significant progress local partners continue to make on the implementation of the unitary authorities. It is vital that the new councils can go live on 1 April, as agreed by Parliament, as that will provide as soon as possible the fresh start that local government in Northamptonshire needs.

Yours sincerely,

LUKE HALL MP