



NEWS

For immediate release

Date: 13 December 2018

Parliamentary Order laid to postpone Northamptonshire elections

The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, James Brokenshire, today lay before Parliament an Order under the Local Government Act 2000 to postpone district and parish elections in Northamptonshire due to be held in May 2019. Following potential changes to local government in Northamptonshire and the potential formation of two new unitary councils, all eight councils in the county expressed concerns that district councillors elected in May 2019 would serve only one year and elections in such circumstances could risk confusing voters.

The order states that changes will come into effect on 14 January 2019 and councillors shall continue in their position until the postponed elections in May 2020.

Leader of East Northamptonshire Council, Steven North, said: "Now that the Parliamentary Order has officially been laid and next year's elections are postponed, we can focus on preparatory work in the event of a go ahead to two unitary authorities in Northamptonshire. The proposal we submitted back in August includes establishing a shadow authority and a great deal of planning is required to make that happen in the timescales we have been given."

-ENDS-

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