

English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill

AMENDMENT
TO BE MOVED
IN GRAND COMMITTEE

[Supplementary to the Sixth Marshalled List]

Amendment
No.

Schedule 26

LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON

196EC★ Schedule 26, page 275, line 31, at end insert—

“(3A) Before issuing an invitation or direction the Secretary of State must consider—

- (a) the natural geography of the proposed local areas being merged,
- (b) the identity of the authorities in terms of communities and place making,
- (c) the balance between the rural, urban and suburban mass of the proposed authorities,
- (d) the financial and environmental sustainability of the proposed authorities, and
- (e) the size of proposed authorities in relation to the creation of local democratic structures.”

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6 February 2026
