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Rebecca Pow MP Parliamentary Under-Secretary DEFRA Please ask for: Direct Line: E-mail: Our Ref: Date:

01795 417444 (Maria Clarke) JulianSaunders@swale.gov.uk Cllr Julian Saunders 19/4/23

Dear Rebecca Pow

Flooding in Rural areas

I write to you requesting information on the Government's plans for tackling flooding created by increased housing, ageing drainage systems and the impacts of extreme weather events through climate change.

Councillors at local area committees across Swale Borough have been discussing and are concerned by the increasing amount of flooding created by these issues and the impact it is having on local residents. During extreme events which are becoming more and more frequent, the drainage systems are not able to cope.

We are aware of the responsibilities of the various agencies (public and private sector) but feel this needs a much more joined up approach and national funding package as it is beyond the means of any one organisation.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Julian Saunders Chair of the Swale Environment Committee