

Freddie Van Mierlo MP

Via email:

freddie.vanmierlo.mp@parliament.uk

**Councillor David Rouane
Leader of the Council**

David.Rouane@southoxon.gov.uk

Tel: 01235 422422
Abbey House
Abbey Close
Abingdon
OX14 3JE

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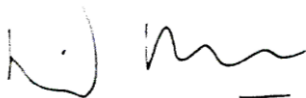
Dear Mr Van Mierlo,

As you will be aware, prior to and following the government's invitation to all councils in two-tier areas to bring forward proposals for unitary councils in their area, we have been in discussions with our neighbouring authorities about the options that would best meet the government's criteria while providing the best possible outcome for our communities.

I can advise that, in line with the government's invitation, and in addition to the proposal likely to be brought forward by the County Council for a countywide unitary, my officers are now working with those from West Berkshire and the Vale to bring forward a proposal for a new unitary council based on the existing geography of West Berkshire Council, and the districts of the Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire.

We are of course very happy to discuss this approach – if you wish to do so, please contact execsupport@southandvale.gov.uk in the first instance and we can arrange a meeting including my Chief Executive.

Yours sincerely



CLL David Rouane
Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council