

Matthew Barber
Police and Crime Commissioner for
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The Police and Crime Commissioner's
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Abbey House
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Via email

14 September 2026

Dear Mr Barber,

Excessive Vehicle Noise and Anti-Social Vehicle Use in South Oxfordshire

I am writing on behalf of South Oxfordshire District Council regarding excessive vehicle noise pollution and anti-social vehicle use within the district. Concerns are increasingly being raised by residents across South Oxfordshire regarding the impact of excessively noisy vehicles, including motorcycles and cars fitted with modified or non-compliant exhaust systems, as well as the illegal use of off-road motorcycles.

Councillors recognise that responsibility for enforcing road traffic legislation relating to vehicle noise rests primarily with Thames Valley Police. However, residents frequently raise these concerns with the district council because of the significant effect that persistent vehicle noise and anti-social driving can have on quality of life, particularly in rural communities and along popular driving and motorcycling routes.

The Council believes that residents should be able to enjoy their homes and communities without unnecessary disruption from excessive vehicle noise and anti-social vehicle use. We are therefore keen to understand how these issues are currently being addressed across South Oxfordshire and how local agencies can work together more effectively to support affected communities.

I would be grateful if you could provide information on:

- The number of reports received by Thames Valley Police relating to excessive vehicle noise and vehicle-related anti-social behaviour across South Oxfordshire;

- The enforcement activity undertaken in response to such reports;
- How Thames Valley Police is currently addressing vehicle-related anti-social behaviour within the district; and
- Any planned initiatives or operational activity aimed at tackling these concerns.

The Council would also welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with Thames Valley Police, Oxfordshire County Council and our town and parish councils to develop an evidence-based understanding of recurring vehicle noise and anti-social driving hotspots. We are particularly interested in exploring how reporting data and hotspot mapping could be used to identify problem locations and inform targeted enforcement activity.

In addition, we recognise the importance of ensuring residents understand how and where they should report concerns. We would therefore welcome any opportunities to support efforts by Thames Valley Police to improve public awareness of reporting mechanisms and the enforcement powers available to address these issues.

I look forward to your response and any information you can provide. Once received, the Council intends to share your response with local Members of Parliament, Oxfordshire County Council and town and parish councils to help raise awareness of the issue and support wider partnership working.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I look forward to hearing from you and to continuing our joint efforts to address the concerns of South Oxfordshire residents.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Maggie Filipova-Rivers
Leader of the Council