

Matt Barber  
Police & Crime Commissioner  
Thames Valley Police

**Councillor Bethia Thomas**  
**Leader of the Council**

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Dear Matt,

I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on the discussions we have been having with our neighbouring councils following the government's invitation for councils in two-tier areas to submit proposals for unitary authorities. We have been considering the options that would best align with the government's criteria while ensuring the best possible outcomes for our communities.

As part of this process, I can confirm my officers are now working alongside colleagues in West Berkshire and South Oxfordshire to develop a proposal for a new unitary authority. This would be based on the existing geography of West Berkshire Council, along with the districts of South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse.

If you would like to discuss this approach in more detail, please contact [execsupport@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:execsupport@southandvale.gov.uk) so that we can organise to meet along with my Chief Executive.

Yours sincerely



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