



**Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government**

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Government**

2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Our reference: TO2025/34590

Claire Tull

Clerk@holybrook-pc.gov.uk

17 December 2025

Dear Claire Tull,

Thank you for your correspondence dated 4 December 2025 regarding local government reorganisation.

This Government's ambition is to simplify local government, by ending the two-tier system and establishing new single-tier unitary councils. Our vision is clear: stronger local councils equipped to drive economic growth, improve local public services, and empower their communities. We note the views that you have expressed on proposals for local government reorganisation that include Holybrook Parish Council. As I am sure you will understand, the Government is not able to give a view on specific unitary proposals, or to pre-empt future decisions under the statutory process for unitarisation.

More broadly, in our invitation to councils to submit proposals for unitary government we advised while boundary changes are possible existing district areas should be considered the building blocks for proposals. There will need to be a strong public services and financial sustainability related justification for any proposals that involve boundary changes due to the likely additional costs and complexities of implementation.

The Government anticipates that a consultation could be launched in the new year for proposals received from Oxfordshire. For the proposals that were received at the end of September, the Government is consulting on those that met the terms of the invitation letter of 5 February 2025. To meet those terms, a proposal must cover the whole of the area concerned and provide the information requested in the invitation.

Responses from residents, town and parish councillors and local businesses will be welcome. We would encourage you to engage with the consultation once it is launched. Following the consultation, proposals will be considered carefully, alongside the responses received and all other relevant information.

Thank you for taking the time to write to us.

Yours sincerely,

Shuma
Correspondence Unit