

The Rt. Hon. Steve Barclay, M.P.
Chief Secretary to the Treasury
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
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SW1A 2HQ

Councillor Emily Smith
Leader of the Council

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Dear Mr Barclay,

I am writing on behalf of Vale of White Horse District Council regarding the funding for flood defences in Oxfordshire. Over the Christmas period, substantial portions of the county were once again faced with the threat of flooding – which could have resulted in people’s homes and livelihoods being placed at risk.

The Vale of White Horse has, unfortunately, experienced significant flooding events in recent years which have caused considerable damage in parts of our district. These are likely to become more frequent and severe as a result of climate change.

We are, therefore, requesting that Environment Agency funding for flood alleviation schemes is significantly increased. This will allow more homes and businesses to be protected and help to ensure that fewer people experience the devastating consequences of flooding.

Furthermore, the council wishes to see the Abingdon Flood Alleviation Scheme specifically funded as part of HM Government’s next budget round. The residents of Abingdon and its environs have had to live with the risks of flooding for far too long – a sentiment that I hope you agree with.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Emily Smith
Leader of the Council