Matthew Barber
Police & Crime Commissioner
for Thames Valley

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Councillor Maggie Filipova-Rivers

Abbey House
Abbey Close
Abingdon
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Date: 22 October 2026

Our Ref: TH4799

Dear Councillor Filipova-Rivers,

Regarding your letter to Matthew Barber of the 13th October 2026, concerning excessive vehicle noise and anti-social vehicle use in South Oxfordshire.

A vehicle with an excessively noisy exhaust can be reported to Thames Valley Police as a form of vehicle-related anti-social behaviour, particularly if it is causing ongoing nuisance to residents or is being driven in a manner that creates disturbance.

TVP's anti-social behaviour guidance specifically includes nuisance involving vehicles, cars, bikes and mopeds, and notes that anti-social vehicle use can cause significant noise nuisance within communities.

The Neighbourhood Policing teams are able to view heat map style data on anti-social behaviour hotspots in their areas. Communities and partners can assist in developing this data by continuing to report instances of anti-social behaviour and anti-social use of vehicles to TVP. This will help inform the use of the enforcement activity, albeit with the limitations already described by Mr Barber in his letter to the Councillor.

We would encourage reporting from communities where;

The vehicle repeatedly drives through an area creating excessive noise.
The exhaust appears illegally modified ("pops and bangs", straight-through exhausts, etc.).
The noise is part of other anti-social use, such as racing, cruising, wheel-spins, doughnuts, or revving late at night.

There are three ways in which communities can report to the Police
* 101 for non-emergency reports.
* 999 if there is an immediate danger to the public.
* TVP's online anti-social behaviour reporting form can also be used Report antisocial behaviour | Thames Valley

Kind regards

Mr Matthew Barber

Police and Crime Commissioner