



Building a Better Bournemouth

8 September 2014

Darran Gunter
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Opinion Research Services
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Dear Darran,

I write to you in response to your recent consultation, 'Strengthening our Fire and Rescue Service: A Consultation by Dorset Fire Authority'.

With regards to question one of the consultation, the Council is in support of the third option:

"Dorset Fire Authority to merge with Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority to create a single Combined Fire Authority, while also collaborating with Bournemouth Borough Council, Dorset County Council, the Borough of Poole, Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council."

As an organisation, we recognise that this scenario could yield greater potential budgetary savings, increased resilience and greater opportunities to provide new and improved ways of working, three requisites for an efficient organisation which Bournemouth Borough Council has an exemplary track record in achieving.

This proposal also offers greater opportunities for engagement with a wider and more diverse community and stakeholder group.

Whilst we support this option, the only assurance that we would seek would be a firm commitment by this new authority to have specific and regular discussions on the provision of service in Bournemouth.

I look forward to hearing about the next stage of this process and welcome your response regarding our closer working together.

Yours sincerely