



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Baroness Taylor of Stevenage

*Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
for Housing and Local Government*
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Gavin Jones
Denise Murray
Ged Curran
Will Tuckley

gjt July 2025

Dear *Colleagues*

I am writing to inform you that I have today published your sixth report, together with this response. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued work and support provided to Slough Borough Council.

While I am pleased there has been progress made with strengthened leadership, improved governance and enhanced regional partnerships, your report is clear that rapid progress still needs to be made to drive necessary change across the authority. It is of concern that with the intervention three and a half years in substantial progress is still required, including a clearer articulation of the future vision, and the design and delivery of a substantial transformation program that includes a Target Operating Model to evidence the Council can live within its means.

In the immediate term, the Council and leadership must renew its drive and maintain focus over the coming months to implement and embed the necessary changes to provide a sustainable council for the people of Slough.

By your next report, I would like to see progress from the Council covering the six core areas as highlighted in your report:

- Identifying and securing change and delivery capacity and capability
- Completing the design of the Targeting Operating Model and developing an achievable transformation plan
- Enhancing financial management
- Increasing member engagement in training and development
- Developing a more complete and coherent approach to resident engagement
- Delivering priority service level improvement.

I note the progress of children's social care services reported by the Children's Services Commissioner and the continued focus on SEND services under the Department for Education's intervention. It is important you continue to work closely with the DfE and DfE-appointed experts going forward, given the key interdependencies between interventions and the need for strong services across the Council. I am copying this letter to Slough Borough Councils Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Baroness Taylor of Stevenage', written in a cursive style.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Housing and Local Government