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Dear Cllr. Robin Howe

CONFIRMATION OF THE MULTI-YEAR SETTLEMENT OFFER

Thank you for accepting the multi-year settlement offer, and for publishing your efficiency plan or other supporting documents.

This letter confirms that your authority is now formally on the multi-year settlement. You can expect to receive the allocations published as part of the 2016-17 local government finance settlement in 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20. The Government will also need to take account of future events such as the transfer of functions to local government, transfers of responsibility for functions between local authorities, mergers between authorities and any other unforeseen events. However, barring exceptional circumstances and subject to the normal statutory consultation process for the local government finance settlement, the Government expects these to be the amounts presented to Parliament each year.

97% of councils applied, showing the understandable need for the sector to secure greater certainty at a time of significant reform. I am interested in the progress you make so please continue to feedback thoughts on how the process of applying for the offer went, how you intend to use your efficiency plan in the future, achievements you make in delivering your plan, or any barriers you face to implementation.

But this is all just the first step as we move towards a self-sufficient local government. There are still significant decisions to be made on how we transition to this new system. We will only be able to achieve this by working with you, and I hope you will continue to engage in future consultations on the settlement, the Fair Funding Review and 100% business rates retention.

MARCUS JONES MP