



Rt Hon David Miliband MP
Minister of Communities and Local Government
Eland House
Bressenden Place
London
SW1E 5DU

23 November 2005

Local Government Finance

As I mentioned to you when we met yesterday, the South East England Regional Assembly held a Plenary session on 16 November at which the impact of the expected Local Government finance settlement was debated.

At the Assembly there was unanimous agreement across all political Groups, types of local authority and the social, environmental and economic partners that, if the settlement is as expected, there will be inevitable and severe cuts to essential services. I would add that I have never seen local government and partners in the South East so united on an issue.

Following the debate I was asked to write to you on behalf of the Assembly to seek your agreement to an urgent meeting with a cross-party delegation from the Regional Assembly so that we can have an opportunity to put our case to you face to face.

I do hope that you will be able to agree to this request and that we will be able to meet with you at the earliest possible opportunity.

Keith R Mitchell
Chairman

cc: Paul Bevan, Chief Executive, SEERA

South East England Regional Assembly • Berkeley House, Cross Lanes, Guildford GU1 1UN
T: 01483 555200 • F: 01483 555250 • E: secretariat@southeast-ra.gov.uk • W: www.southeast-ra.gov.uk
Chairman: Councillor Keith Mitchell • Chief Executive: Paul Bevan