

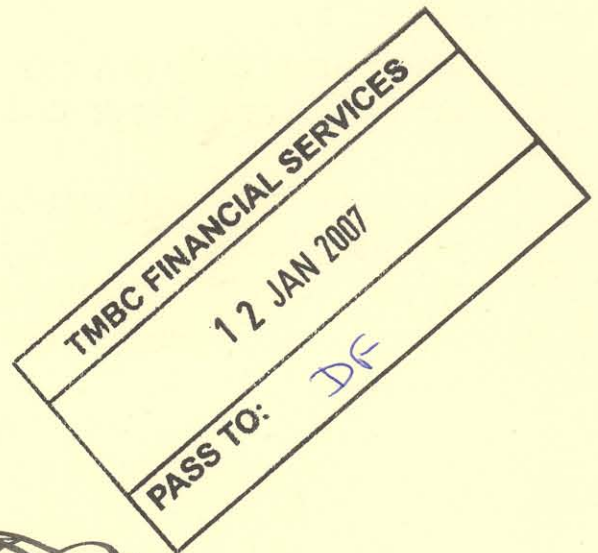


HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

9 January 2007

Mrs S Shelton BSc (Hons) CPFA  
Finance Director  
Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council  
Council Offices  
The Air Station  
West Malling  
Kent, ME19 6LZ



*Dear Mrs Shelton*

Many thanks for your letter of January 4 and for a copy of your letter of the previous day to Ms Karen Sussex at the Department for Communities and Local Government.

I was concerned to read what you said in your letter to Ms Sussex. Once again, it appears that the Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council is being seriously short-changed by the Government in the forthcoming Local Government Finance Settlement for 2007/08 both by being treated less favourably than any other council in Kent and by being required to incur additional expenditure by the Government without being given the corresponding increase in its financial settlement.

I am taking up these points myself in support of the Council with the Secretary of State and I will be in touch with you again when I hear from her.

I am copying this letter to the Leader of the Council, Councillor Mark Worrall and to the Council's Chief Executive, Mr David Hughes, to whom I shall also be sending copies of the reply I receive.

*Yours sincerely  
John Stanley*