



Mark S. WORRALL BA, MI Mgt
Leader of the Council

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

To Parish Council Chairmen and Members of the Tonbridge Forum

7 January 2008

Dear Colleague

Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement

I attach for your information a letter sent yesterday to the Minister for local Government, the Rt Hon John Healey MP, in respect of the provisional local government finance settlement. You will see from the letter, which was sent with cross party support, that the Council is facing severe financial pressure as a result of this highly unfavourable settlement and, as a result, the services we provide to our community could well be under threat.

Following a lengthy debate at the meeting of our Finance & Property Advisory Board on 2 January, I have written to the Minister for the South East (Jonathan Shaw MP) seeking an urgent meeting.

My purpose in writing is, firstly, to keep you informed of the Council's financial situation; but secondly to seek your support for the messages we have given which I can relay to the appropriate Ministers. The Council values your views as well as the services you provide to our community and naturally any support you are willing to offer will help make our case that we and our residents are being unfairly treated that much more persuasive..

I do hope that you will be able to offer us your support and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Mark Worrall
Leader