



# Communities and Local Government Committee

House of Commons, London SW1P 3JA

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Rt Hon Greg Clark MP  
Secretary of State  
Department for Communities and Local Government  
4th Floor, Fry Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF

23 March 2016

*Dear Greg*

## **BUDGET 2016 AND FOUR-YEAR SETTLEMENTS**

Thank you for your letter of 22 March, responding to mine of 16 March, about compensation for local authorities for the loss of income from changes to business rates. As you know, the Communities and Local Government Committee is inquiring into business rates and I expect that our report will contribute to your consideration of the move to 100% retention.

I would welcome a response on a wider issue, which I raised in the House on Monday (Hansard, 21 March 2016, col 1312). This is the question of the four-year settlements offered to local councils: can you give me your assurances that these still hold good and that they will not be affected as a result of the savings needed to fund the budget?

*Clive*

**Clive Betts MP**  
**Chair, Communities and Local Government Committee**