



Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities

Lee Rowley MP

*Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Local
Government and Building Safety*

2 Marsham Street
London
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Our reference: MC2023/01834

Cllr John Shuttleworth
Chair,
County Durham and Darlington Fire and
Rescue Authority

Steve Helps
Chief Fire Officer
County Durham and Darlington
Fire and Rescue Service

County **Hall**
Durham DH1 5UL

10 November 2023

Dear Cllr Shuttleworth and Steve Helps,

Thank you for your email of 5 October to this department and to HM Treasury, concerning funding for County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service. I am replying on behalf of both departments, as this falls within my ministerial responsibilities.

I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude on behalf of the Government to County Durham and Darlington Fire Service for the lifesaving work it undertakes every day. I recognise that inflation has had some impact in parts of the public sector and I am grateful for your comments on the challenges you have articulated.

As I know you will know, we will confirm proposals as part of next year's Local Government Finance Settlement. Once we announce a provisional settlement, we will undertake the usual period of consultation and would welcome your further views then.

Thank you again for writing on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

LEE ROWLEY MP