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Chief Executive's Unit
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Lyons Inquiry into Local Government
Room 3/12
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Please ask for Viv MacDonald
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Our Ref VM/ML
Your Ref

Dear Sir Michael

Interim Report

At a recent meeting of this Council's Cabinet, Members received a summary of the interim report produced by your Inquiry. It was agreed that the following comments be submitted to you:

- That the outcome of the review should not be prejudged by the Government.
- That there should be a real commitment to giving Local Government proper autonomy and responsibility.
- That the review should be about the functions rather than the structure of Local Government.
- That any Local Government finance system should be fair, transparent and based on people's ability to pay.
- That the increasing imbalance of central/local funding in Local Government be addressed.
- That the review recognises and promotes the value of Local Government's democratic mandate.
- That any final decision should be taken by local people rather than by Central Government.

It is likely that we will also be sending in comments on the questions you raise at the next phase of the report.

Chief Executive
David Shaw

Corporate Director of Regeneration
John Wrightson

Corporate Director of Resources
Richard Earlam

Corporate Director of Community Services
Huw Bowen



I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Viv MacDonald". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'V' and a long, sweeping underline.

Viv MacDonald
Head of Policy