

## Item 10

Dear Colin,

Thank you for your letter in response to the Calderdale Budget consultation in which you objected to the ending of Town/Parish Council grants and Council Tax Reduction Scheme support for your precept.

We want to take this opportunity of thanking you for the work Todmorden Town Council does, in particular the assistance with the Towns Fund.

Your letter makes well argued points about the impact of the proposal, including the funding of PCSOs. We acknowledge that this proposal will take effect in the year of your elections which impose extra costs on you.

We appreciate that removing CMBC funding will likely lead to Town and Parish Councils raising their precepts and we understand that the saving for CMBC may seem small in the context of the overall Budget. However there is a question of fairness as the current arrangements amount to a subsidy by those residents who do not have the benefit of a Town or Parish Council to those who do.

We do undertake to continue to consult with you. As the decision does not take effect until next year we can decide not to implement if financial circumstances allow. We will also consider whether we can mitigate the impact by assisting with election costs or by phasing in the cuts.

We look forward to continuing to work with you for the benefit of residents.

Councillor Tim Swift, Leader

Councillor Jane Scullion, Deputy Leader

Silvia Dacre, Cabinet Member for Resources