



Department for Levelling Up,  
Housing & Communities

**Dehenna Davison MP**  
*Minister for Levelling Up*  
2 Marsham Street  
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Our reference: 25656629

Cllr Kevin Bentley & Mayor Marvin Rees  
Local Government Association  
Local Government House  
18 Smith Square  
London  
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*Dear Cllr Bentley and Mayor Rees,*

Thank you for your letter of 9<sup>th</sup> March to the Secretary of State regarding the Levelling Up Fund. I have been asked to reply as this matter falls within my ministerial responsibilities.

I appreciate you taking the time to provide us with some feedback on the recent LUF round 2 process. I do understand that the competitive bidding process can be burdensome for places which is why we provided £125k of capacity funding to all category 1 Local Authorities in England, and all Local Authorities in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

The department is keen to reflect on lessons learnt so that we can continue to improve the way in which we design and run our programmes as well as how we best support local authorities. I am keen that we take the opportunity to listen to views from the sector as we turn our attention to the design of the next round of the Fund.

Thank you for writing to me on this important matter and I would like to accept your meeting invitation to discuss your feedback further. My office will be in touch to find a mutually convenient date as soon as we have more information on the timeline and format of round three of the Levelling Up Fund.

With every good wish,

**DEHENNA DAVISON MP**