



**For immediate publication**

## **Solace President urges Chancellor ‘now is the time’ for sustainable funding**

Martin Swales, Solace UK President, has urged Chancellor Rishi Sunak that now is the time to fulfil Government’s commitment to ‘level up’ and put councils on a sustainable financial footing.

Mr. Swales said: “There are high levels of uncertainty about how councils will fund services from 2021 so it’s critical the new political administration acts decisively to demonstrate that austerity really is behind us and injects much-needed long term investment into the services our communities and economies depend upon.

“Over the last ten years the sector has gone above and beyond whilst navigating very challenging times. But local government now needs support – Councillors and Officers are incredibly ambitious about improving lives socially, economically and environmentally but the funding is needed to do so.

“The Government has committed to improve the life chances of its citizens across the UK. In addition to physical infrastructure investment such as trains, ports and buses, there needs to be significant investment in people, including funding reforms to stabilise social care systems for children, older people and working-age adults.

“That’s why we have called for a truly sustainable multi-year funding settlement so local government can invest in prevention and early intervention services to underpin and support a brighter future right across the country.”

### **Notes to editors**

Solace is the representative body for public sector professionals.

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