



T: 0300 244 4000  
E: [scottish.ministers@gov.scot](mailto:scottish.ministers@gov.scot)

Ms Catherine Johnstone  
Midlothian Integration Joint Board  
Midlothian House  
40-46 Buccleuch Street  
Dalkeith  
Midlothian  
EH22 1DJ

Our ref: 2016/0031533  
28 October 2016

Dear Catherine,

Thank you for your letter of 20 September 2016 to Shona Robison MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Health, Wellbeing and Sport, regarding Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) funding in Midlothian. I am replying as the issues raised in your letter fall within my portfolio.

The allocation of 2016/17 ADP funding has to be seen in the overall budget context, which has taken place against the backdrop of the toughest public expenditure conditions we have yet faced. However, the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport's letter of 7 January to Chief Executives of Scotland's Health Boards made it clear that that Health Boards were expected to ensure resources are maintained at 2015/16 levels so that levels of service and outcomes could also be sustained.

I am aware that funding discussions are taking place in local areas and that there are some challenges. However, the overall health budget was protected, and indeed the baseline was increased. I would encourage you to look at any wider resources within the partnership which may be available to meet this commitment.

I know officials have convened a group looking at alcohol and drug partnership delivery issues, and that MELDAP has offered clear and focused contributions to that work. That will help inform spending decisions for future years.

I hope you find this reply helpful.

**AILEEN CAMPBELL**



