



**Kirsty McNeill MP**  
Member of Parliament for Midlothian  
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Councillor Kelly Parry  
Midlothian House  
Buccleuch Street  
Dalkeith  
Midlothian  
EH22 1DN

10<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Dear Kelly,

### **Mayfield Funding Pledge**

Thank you for your correspondence about funding for Midlothian and the election pledge announced by the Conservatives of a Long-Term Plan for Towns award for Mayfield. My understanding is this letter was sent on behalf of a wider group of councillors, so I'd appreciate your help in distributing it on to them too.

As you know, the award that was announced for Mayfield and other communities at the start of the election campaign was, like many Conservative announcements and pledges, entirely unfunded.

When the Long-Term Plan for Towns was announced in October 2023 (at that time Mayfield was not mentioned), the Scottish Government said it welcomed all extra funding for Scotland, but "it would be much better if provided to the Scottish Government via the Barnett Formula in the normal manner".

With that in mind, I know that our constituents will be very pleased by the increased funding for Scotland which was announced in the recent Budget. The £4.9 billion is sufficient to fill many of the gaps in public services, with £1.5 billion this year, and the rest next year. We saw commitments to invest £1.4 billion in local Scottish growth projects too.

I hope you and all the Councillors will join me in encouraging the Scottish Government to spend this funding wisely and to ensure that Midlothian receives its fair share.

I have also been trying to understand the circumstances behind the Long-Term Plan for Towns award. I have been in touch with the In It Together group and will meet with the Community Council soon. The Masterplan for Mayfield was completed in 2021 and had not been progressed, although it seems to be the basis for the Towns award in 2024. I would be glad to hear from the Council officers or Councillors any information about who actually submitted the project, as the In It Together group are unaware.



**Kirsty McNeill MP**  
Member of Parliament for Midlothian  
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

At the request of constituents, I have written to the Department for Housing, Communities and Local Government to understand why and how Mayfield was selected for this announcement, in the hope that it can support them in further potential bids. I've supplied the In It Together group with guidance on bids and would be delighted to support any other groups across Midlothian with further information as it becomes publicly available.

In the meantime, I am as committed to improvements in Mayfield and the whole of Midlothian as you all are, and I am glad to know that Midlothian Council should, if all is well distributed by the Scottish Government, have solid opportunities to support community projects.

As always, I am happy to engage with you all on these matters.

Yours aye,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kirsty".

Kirsty McNeill MP  
Member of Parliament for Midlothian