

Ben McPherson MP  
T3.25, The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

19/12/18  
via email

Dear Ben,

Thank you for our discussion at the Muirhouse Millennium centre on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December. We are writing to confirm your offer to work together to help groups in North Edinburgh who have been rejected by the new IJB process which will devastate this community despite their proven track record. You will also be aware that the Council faces its own financial challenges and, like the IJB, works within the framework set by your Government.

On Monday, you offered to raise both situations with the Cabinet and in writing to Jeanne Freeman MSP. We are grateful for this offer but, given that the situation is both critical and urgent, we ask that you also make representations to the Finance Secretary to:

1. Consider use of the 'record underspend' to cover the unsuccessful grant applications from Friday
2. Utilise the extra Barnett formula monies for Health from the UK budget to cover the unsuccessful applications from Friday
3. Ensure that Edinburgh and Lothian Health Boards, and Edinburgh City Council budgets, are to be adequately and fully funded to meet the increasingly pressured service demands placed on the city.

In your representations to the Health Secretary ask that she supports you in points 1, 2, 3 above.

We are willing to work with you to provide local council and officer support alongside the above provisions – but we believe it is the Scottish Government that can resolve this problem created by its fiscal policy. The powers are there to make this happen and we must do so with urgency.

Yours sincerely



**Cammy Day, Labour Group Leader**  
City of Edinburgh Council, City Chambers,  
High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ



**Gordon Munro, Leith Ward Cllr**  
City of Edinburgh Council, City Chambers  
High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ