



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Chief Executive
Wrexham County Borough Council
Ian Bancroft
Wrexham
LL11 1AY

Copied to Leader of WCBC Mark Pritchard

19 November 2022

Dear Ian

Re: Administration of the Shared Prosperity Fund allocation in Wrexham

Thank you for the meeting with Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC) officials on 2ⁿ December 2022 to discuss how the Shared Prosperity Funding (SPF) of £22,684.00 (£18,766,853 of which, I understand will be the actual total, as the remaining amount has been ringfenced for a skills numeracy programme) will be locally administered. I was pleased to forward the results of the survey held with Wrexham residents to ascertain how they feel the money should be spent (attached).

The SPF, allocated directly from the UK Government to WCBC, gives Wrexham a much needed and long overdue opportunity to address decades of underinvestment and build pride in our new city. It is the opportunity to break the cycle of funding which only serves to maintain the same areas. With the SPF we have the opportunity to completely transform an area. Therefore, I am keen that his money is spent in a way that will achieve the aims of the fund, namely 'pride in place', ultimately with residents satisfaction with their town centre increasing and a priority to supporting local businesses.

In accordance with the UK Shared Prosperity Fund prospectus, I wonder whether you could clarify some of the points below.

You mentioned that 'key-fund' grants under £250,000, will not require consideration by the Local Partnership Groups:

- 1) What quota will WCBC use to decide how many key-fund grants will be allocated compared to larger grants?
- 2) How will the key-fund grants be allocated?
- 3) Who will be eligible for key-fund grants?
- 4) How will you engage with local business about grant opportunities?
- 5) Do you think it is appropriate to have Trade Unions on the Local Partnership Group?

This is a chance for WCBC to think laterally, act differently and make a real chance and I look forward to working alongside you to ensure we continue to 'Raise Wrexham'.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Atherton MP
Member of Parliament for Wrexham