

(ix) Mr D Macpherson

To the Chair of the Communities & Place Committee

During the recent Scottish Government Election campaign, the First Minister gave a commitment to communities and voters that once re-elected the SNP Government would create a £60 million outdoor community play fund available to renew every outdoor play park in Scotland so that local authorities could improve play parks for our children and teenagers, for them to enjoy safe active outdoor play and in so-doing improve the Nation's health and mental well-being by reducing childhood obesity and isolation indoors, as part of a number of policies designed to help families in the recovery from the COVID pandemic and national lockdown. The First Minister said, "Backed by a £60 million fund, we'll put in place a plan to renew every play park in Scotland, so that all children have access to a place to play in their own community." Have you received a notification of the amount of money expected from this Scottish Government central fund which is to be allocated to the Highland Council towards refurbishing and enhancing the many play parks within its control?

*To date the Council has not been informed of an allocation it can expect from the Scottish Government specifically for play parks.*