(xi) Mr B Boyd

To the Leader of the Council

"Increasingly, Elected Members are expected to take advantage of the financial opportunities provided by various UK Government grants and funds (such as the Levelling-Up Fund) with insufficient time and information to offer a meaningful and informed response. This can lead to unsuccessful or inappropriate bids and missed opportunities for much needed funding.

What human resources, processes, documentation, data-gathering and other resources are in place to support the quick turnaround required for preparation of funding bids?"

Staff right across all Council Services are committed and engaged in delivering quality submissions for all funding available. As you will be aware, the Council is seeking to recruit to a Growth Investment Manager as part of the transformation work underway, and this will strengthen and support individual services and members in providing a strategic resource to direct funding applications.