



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Stuart Anderson MP
House of Commons
London
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Simon Clarke MP
Minister for Regional Growth and Local Government

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Dear Stuart,

Thank you for your recent question to the Prime Minister at PMQs. You are doing an outstanding job of championing Wolverhampton and I would like to take this opportunity to provide more information about Growth Deal funding, and additional funds that the residents of your city and the region have benefited, and will benefit, from as we seek to level up opportunity across the country.

As noted at PMQs, the Black Country has benefited from £217.5m from their Growth Deal, which aims to create 5,000 jobs, 1,400 new homes and £310 million in public and private investment. This includes a £7m contribution towards the refurbishment of Wolverhampton Civic Hall to address the barriers to the growth and viability of both venues, which created a number of jobs and apprentices.

Through the Growth Deal we have also contributed to a number of other projects, including £13m to the development work of Wolverhampton Interchange, and £8.2m for the Elite Centre for Manufacturing, both of which benefit the whole region.

I am also delighted to inform you that the West Midlands Combined Authority will receive up to £66m from the Getting Building Fund which will catalyse economic growth across the area, including Wolverhampton. The West Midlands Combined Authority has worked closely with its partners, including the three LEPs and their constituent local authorities, to come to a local view over which projects should be funded from their allocation.

The West Midlands Combined Authority submitted its recommended proposals to the Department on the 17 July which Ministers are currently considering. If you would like more information regarding the submitted project proposals, I would encourage you to speak to your local LEP and Combined Authority.

The City of Wolverhampton Council will be one of the towns in receipt of the Towns Fund – designed to drive economic regeneration of towns to deliver long term economic and productivity growth. The council plans to submit their Town Investment Plan this month. Once submitted, the plan will be assessed and then agreed projects and business cases can be developed. Please do continue to engage with the Town Board to ensure plans are in line with local and regional priorities.

I hope you find this useful.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Simon Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

SIMON CLARKE MP