



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

Growth Programme Board
Local and National Sub-Committee
Chairs

15th August 2016

Dear Colleague

EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUNDS GROWTH PROGRAMME

Following the government's statement about the European Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds after the EU referendum, I am writing to set out the arrangements for the England ESI Funds Growth Programme.

The government has now announced that all multi-year projects administered by government with signed contracts or funding agreements in place, and projects to be signed in the ordinary course of business before the Autumn Statement, will be fully funded, even when these projects continue beyond the UK's departure from the EU.

In the medium term, the Treasury will work with departments, Local Enterprise Partnerships and other relevant stakeholders to put in place arrangements for considering those ESIF projects that might be signed after the Autumn Statement but while we still remain a member of the EU. Further detail will be set out ahead of the Autumn Statement and we will ensure these spending commitments remain consistent with value for money and our own domestic priorities.

In the longer term, we will want to consider the future of all programmes that are currently EU funded, once we have left the EU. Leaving the EU means we will want to take our own decisions about how to deliver the policy objectives previously targeted by EU funding. Over the coming months, we will consult closely with stakeholders to review all EU funding schemes in the round, to ensure that any ongoing funding commitments best serve the UK's national interest, while ensuring appropriate investor certainty.

These arrangements are set out in a letter from the Chief Secretary to the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union regarding EU funding commitments on GOV.UK:

(https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/545767/CST_letter_to_SoS_for_DExEU_August_2016.PDF).

Thank you for your forbearance during this period. I look forward to working with you to deliver growth outcomes for the remainder of our ESI Funding and to plan how to take advantage of future opportunities to do more to support growth across the country.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julia Sweeney', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Julia Sweeney
Director, European Programmes and Local Growth