

Dear 2014-20 RDPE Programme Committee members

Following the Government's announcement on 13 August about European Union Funding after the EU referendum, I am writing to confirm the arrangements for the Rural Development Programme (RDP).

All RDP projects, including agri-environment agreements, signed before the Autumn Statement, will be fully funded, even when these continue beyond the UK's departure from the EU. Natural England, Forestry Commission and RPA will shortly be contacting current applicants for funding where decisions can now be communicated about whether they have been successful. RPA will also be contacting LEADER groups who will then be able to contact applicants to tell them if they have been successful.

In the medium term, the Treasury will work with departments and relevant stakeholders to put in place arrangements for considering those EU funding projects and agreements 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 will ensure these spending commitments remain consistent with value for money and our own domestic priorities.

In the longer term, leaving the EU means we will want to take our own decisions about how we deliver the policy objectives previously targeted by EU funding. Over the coming months the Government 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.

You can find the announcement, including a comment from our Secretary of State and a letter from the Chief Secretary to the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, on GOV.UK.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-philip-hammond-guarantees-eu-funding-beyond-date-uk-leaves-the-eu>

Please do get in touch if you have any questions. We will put a discussion of this on the agenda of the next Programme Monitoring Committee in September.

Email sent on behalf of Andrew Robinson.

Best regards  
Harshida

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