Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru Welsh European Funding Office Swyddfa'r Prif Weinidog Office of the First Minister



13 September 2018

Dear Colleague,

As you are aware, the UK Government has been publishing technical notices to provide advice to businesses and citizens in the event the UK leaves the EU without a negotiated agreement (i.e. a 'no deal').

Today (13 September 2018), the UK Government published technical notices relating to the <u>European Regional Development Fund</u> and the <u>European Social Fund</u>. These are available via the <u>www.gov.uk</u> website. The draft Withdrawal Agreement between the EU and the UK included the provision for us continuing to participate in these funding programmes and activities until their closure in 2023.

The Welsh Government maintains that a 'no-deal' exit from the EU would be disastrous for Wales and the UK, but recognises the need to plan in case of such an outcome. Beneficiaries and potential beneficiaries of EU programmes in Wales can be assured that should there be a 'no-deal' outcome to negotiations with the EU, the UK Treasury guarantee will underwrite all expenditure during the life of projects awarded European Structural Funds before the end of December 2020. Existing and potential beneficiaries should therefore continue to:-

- (1) deliver their respective projects as agreed with WEFO; and
- (2) apply for EU funds support in the usual way via the existing business plan process.









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Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth Gymraeg. Cewch ateb Cymraeg i bob gohebiaeth Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh. Correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not involve any delay.

The UK Treasury guarantee also covers the European Territorial Co-operation (ETC) programmes and we understand a technical notice on these programmes will be published by the UK Government shortly. Existing and potential beneficiaries should continue to:-

- (1) deliver their respective projects jointly with their project partners and continue working under a common framework; and
- (2) apply for ETC funding in the usual way, via the existing processes as set out by each programme.

The Welsh Government will continue to consult with the UK Government on the details of further technical notices or any other information relating to the EU Programmes and the guarantee.

If you have any queries about this letter in respect of your EU funded projects and / or project proposals please contact your EU funds Priority Controller as follows:

ESF: Dean Langley (dean.langley@gov.wales; 0300 062 8242) or Michael Parkinson (michael.parkinson@gov.wales; 0300 062 2441)

ERDF: Paul Smith (paul.smith@gov.wales; 0300 062 8486) or Geraint Green (geraint.green@gov.wales; 0300 062 8357)

ETC: Mike Pollard (mike.pollard@gov.wales; 0300 062 8410)

Yours faithfully,

Sioned Evans

Chief Executive

Welsh European Funding Office