

The Rt Hon David Gauke MP
Chief Secretary to the Treasury
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ



19 August 2016

Dear David,

Re: Continuity of funding under the European Social Fund and Horizon 2020

We are writing following the assurances announced by Treasury on 13 August, confirming that structural and investment funds projects signed before the Autumn Statement and Horizon research funding granted before the UK's departure from EU will be guaranteed by the Treasury after this date.

Whilst these statements will provide welcome relief in the short term for those organisations across the UK which are in receipt of EU funding, or expect to start receiving funding, it doesn't solve the problem of what happens after 2020. It also leaves a question mark for those who haven't been issued letters of offer before November, and what criteria Treasury will put in place for assessing whether to guarantee funding for specific structural and investment fund projects that might be signed after the Autumn Statement.

Government is correct in recognising the importance of ensuring that people have stability and certainty in the period leading up to the UK's departure from the EU.

EU funding supports many charities across the country in their work focused on promoting social inclusion and providing help people need to fulfil their potential and access employment opportunities. It also enables charities and universities to advance innovation and world class research.

These are issues that government has determined as its own priorities going forward. It is therefore of utmost importance that the same level of assurance is given to funding for charities that receive funds through the European Social

Fund, and other EU funds, so that they can plan and continue their vital work across local communities.

We would be grateful if you could provide us an assurance that the European Social Fund and Horizon 2020 funding will be continued until 2020. We would also welcome a conversation about how the services and research currently funded by the EU will be supported in the future.

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Stuart Etherington
Chief Executive, NCVO

Caron Bradshaw, Charity Finance Group



Peter Holbrook, Social Enterprise UK



Kunle Olulode, Voice4Change England



John Barrett, Small Charities Coalition



Tony Armstrong, Locality



Neil Cleveley, NAVCA



David Emerson CBE, Association of Charitable Foundations



Peter Lewis, Institute of Fundraising

