

Sir Derek Jones KCB
Ysgrifennydd Parhaol
Permanent Secretary



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Darren Millar AM
Chair of the Public Accounts Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

21st October 2014

Dear Darren,

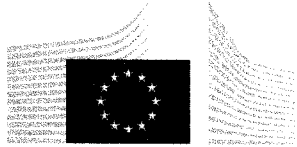
Following my recent appearance before the Committee and the discussion about the interruption of ERDF structural funds payments, I am pleased to tell you that the European Commission has now given formal confirmation that the conditions set by them for lifting the interruption have been fulfilled, and, as a result, the interruption has been lifted with immediate effect. (Written confirmation from Walter Deffaa, Director General of Regio is attached.)

We are in the process of working with the Commission to expedite payment of the backlog of claims which has accumulated.

We will be learning lessons from this episode to ensure that we do all we can to prevent a recurrence.

I am copying the Auditor General for Wales, Huw Vaughan Thomas.

*Yours,
Derek*



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
REGIONAL AND URBAN POLICY

The Director-General

Brussels
REGIO/F1/MAA/

Subject: Wales: West Wales and the Valleys (2007UK161PO002) and East Wales (2007UK162PO012)
Lifting the procedure to suspend and interrupt ERDF interim payments

References: Commission letter of 26 May 2014 [Ares (2014)1705876]
Letter from the Welsh authorities of 24 July 2014

Your Excellency

I refer to the issues mentioned in my letter.

The Commission services acknowledge receipt of the letter from the Welsh authorities of 24 July 2014.

I would therefore like to inform you that the conditions for lifting the procedure to suspend and interrupt ERDF interim payments concerning the afore-mentioned programmes are fulfilled.

This means that interim payments for these programmes can now be processed again.

Yours faithfully

Walter Deffaa

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DG Regional and Urban Policy: A3, B4, C0, C3, D4, F1
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion: H1

His Excellency Mr Ivan ROGERS
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative
Permanent Representation of the United Kingdom to the EU
Avenue d'Auderghem/Oudergemselaan 10
1040 Bruxelles/Brussel