

Alun Davies AC / AM  
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Amaethyddiaeth, Bwyd, Pysgodfeydd a  
Rhaglenni Ewropeaidd  
Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and  
European Programmes



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Jocelyn Davies AM  
Chair of the Finance Committee  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

24<sup>th</sup> April 2012

*Dear Jocelyn,*

#### EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS PROGRAMMES 2007–2013: JESSICA

I am writing to you as Chair of the Finance Committee regarding a comment I made at a Plenary on 24 January 2012, which you subsequently raised during my attendance at the Finance Committee on 29 February.

During my opening remarks for the Plenary Debate on European Programmes, I noted that 'we understand that the JEREMIE and JESSICA schemes have already been delivering for businesses and investments in Wales.'

For example, JEREMIE has already committed over £80m to 380 SMEs, and has leveraged £122m of private sector investment. The purpose of my remark in Plenary was to inform Members that both schemes have (at that time) the financial instrument structures in place and that the process of evaluating and reviewing Expressions of Interest had begun. My intention was to reassure Members that these processes would be pursued as a matter of priority. This is something that I would like to repeat.

In respect of JESSICA, I wish to inform you that investment managers are currently reviewing 11 Expressions of Interest (EOIs), requesting some £78m and worth around £108m. Expressions of interest include schemes in Neath Port Talbot; Tenby; Caernarfon; Mumbles; Swansea; Wrexham; Port Talbot, Porthcawl, Cynmael, Newport and Pontypridd. An announcement of the first JESSICA investment is scheduled for May.

*Best wishes*  
*Alun*

**Alun Davies AC / AM**

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*Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)*

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