

Item:

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Report to Partnership Meeting 16 November 2018

EUROPEAN

EU Funding – Brexit update

Purpose of Report

The report provides a short update on the impact of the Brexit process on EU funding.

UK Government Guarantee

The UK Government has decided to extend its guarantee for UK beneficiaries participating in EU programmes such as the North Sea Region Programme. The guarantee is valid for projects **approved before the end of 2020**.

In practice, this means business as usual approach can be taken by HITRANS until the end of the current programming period. A lot of the uncertainty regarding the immediate consequences of Brexit for projects currently operating under the INTERREG Programme can thus be put to rest. Also, applicants can continue to develop projects beyond the point the UK leaves the EU.

Impact on HITRANS EU Project Activity

HITRANS have secured funds already and are actively involved in the following projects:

ERDF – The 8th City, the Smart City
North Sea – G-PaTRA project
North Sea – MOVE project
Horizon 2020 – INCLUSION project
NPA – SPARA 2020 Project (at final wrap up stage)

The UK Government guarantee gives comfort that the Partnership is right to continue our focus on securing EU funds where they are available. It guarantees budget should we be successful in the following projects which are in preparation or have been applied for:

North Sea – MAGS project
North Sea – SUV project
North Sea – Stronger Combined project
NEW – FAME Project
SEUPB – EV Infrastructure project

RISK REGISTER

RTS Delivery

Impact – Positive

Comment – The UK Guarantee gives comfort should HITRANS be successful in or live applications for EU funding.

Policy

Impact – Positive

Comment – The UK Government Guarantee allows the Partnership to continue to form policy with reference and knowledge share with partners in other EU regions.

Financial

Impact – Positive

Comment – The UK Government Guarantee enables continued opportunity for HITRANS to draw down additional funds using our core budget as working capital.

Equality

Impact – Positive

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

1. Note the report.

Report by: Ranald Robertson
Designation: Partnership Director
Date: 5th November 2018