



UK Government  
Llywodraeth y DU

**Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP**  
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David Rees AM  
Chair, External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
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*Dear David,*

Thank you for your letter on the future of regional funding after Brexit.

The UK Government recognises the importance of reassuring communities on the future of local growth funding once we have left the European Union and providing clarity on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

As Secretary of State, I am working to protect Wales' interests and to ensure that Wales benefits to the greatest degree from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Since the referendum I have engaged with stakeholders from all sectors across Wales on how the country can benefit from the UK leaving the European Union. I am particularly keen to consider how organisations at the local level, including local authorities, can have the greatest influence over spending decisions under the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

We will be consulting shortly on these issues and the Committee's evidence would be very helpful to inform our thinking on the design of the fund. I therefore hope that the Committee will be able respond positively as part of that process.

*Yours,  
AC*

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