



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
REGIONAL AND URBAN POLICY (REGIO)

Director-General

Brussels,
REGIO/D4/DG

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2016/5616

Dear Sir,

We refer to your e-mail dated 09/10/2016 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered under the above mentioned reference number.

In this request you are asking for documents containing the full breakdown and location of European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) recipients in the United Kingdom and the periods for which they will or they have already received this funding. You also request this information broken down by years and by programming periods.

We regret to inform you that no documents were found that would correspond to the description given in your application.

As a matter of fact, the European Regional Development Fund is operated on the basis of shared management and therefore the European Commission is not involved in the selection of operations. The Managing authorities in the United Kingdom are in charge of the selection of projects and we therefore advise you to contact them or visit their websites in order to gather the requested information.

Indeed, as specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation 1049/2001, the right of access as defined in that regulation applies only to existing documents in the possession of the institution.

Given that no such documents have been identified, the Commission is not in a position to handle your request.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 1049/2001, you are entitled to make a confirmatory application requesting the Commission to review this position.

To: Tom Stephens
ask+request-3356-b68be918@asktheeu.org

Such a confirmatory application should be addressed within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter to the Secretary-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission
Secretary-General
Transparency unit SG-B-4
BERL 5/282
B-1049 Bruxelles

or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

In your request you also ask the European Commission to comment on the future of the ERDF funding in the United Kingdom, should the UK leave the European Union before the end of the 2014-2020 programming period.

Until the Treaties cease to apply to a Member State that has notified, in accordance with Article 50 TEU, the European Council of its intention to withdraw from the Union, that State remains a member of the Union with all rights and obligations of a Member State. This also applies to the implementation of the United Kingdom ERDF operational programmes.

In line with the Statement of 29 June 2016 of the Heads of State or Government of 27 Member States, as well as the Presidents of the European Council and the European Commission, there can be no negotiations of any kind before a notification under Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union has taken place. Accordingly, at this stage, the Commission is not in a position to enter into any kind of discussion or commitment on any questions which relate to the consequences of the United Kingdom's withdrawal.

Yours faithfully/



Marc Lemaître