



Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee

Neil O'Brien MP
**Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Levelling Up,
The Union and Constitution)**
Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
4th Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street London
SW1P 4D

24 May 2022

Dear Neil,

How much ERDF and ESF remains to be paid out

Thank you for your letter of Thursday 12 May about different aspects of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

One aspect of your reply, concerning how much of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund (ESF) remains to be paid out, and where that remaining money will go, did not provide the detailed information requested by the Committee.

In my letter of 8 March 2022, I included a House of Commons Library estimate that, in March 2022, €3.4 billion remained to be spent in England from the ERDF and the ESF.

I asked that, in response to my letter, the Government provide:

1. Its own estimate of the amount from the ERDF and the ESF that remained to be spent in England;
2. A detailed breakdown of how much money is expected to be spent in each of the years up to 2024/5 when payments are due to end;
3. A detailed breakdown of where, in terms of English regions and Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) areas, the money expected to be spent in each of the years up to 2024/5 will be going.

None of these pieces of information were included in your reply.

Last year, Simon Hart MP, Secretary of State for Wales, gave figures to the Welsh Affairs Committee for the anticipated level of ERDF and ESF funding in Wales for each year up to 2024/5 ([Q219](#)). It is not acceptable that your Department has not provided similar information on England, including the amount going to different LEP areas.

It is also unhelpful that the Government has not provided the whole picture of combined UKSPF, ERDF and ESF funding up to 2024/5 rather than only the allocation of funds provided



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by the UKSPF. This opacity hinders a properly informed debate and prevents a fair comparison being made with previously allocations.

As the Committee begins its focused work in this area, I request again that a detailed breakdown of the Government's estimate of how much ESF and ERDF money remains to be spent and is expected to be spent in each year up to 2024/5, including for each English region and LEP area, is sent to the Committee no later than 6 June 2022.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clive Betts'.

Clive Betts MP
Chair, Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee