



Department for
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& Industrial Strategy

Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP
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1st September 2022

Dear Lord Kinnoull

FURTHER EXTENSION OF THE HORIZON EUROPE GUARANTEE

As you are aware, the UK's association to EU Programmes (including Horizon Europe) was agreed under the TCA, but could not be finalised at the point of signing in December 2020 as underpinning EU legislation was not in place at that time. The agreement was clear, however, that UK association would take place at the earliest opportunity.

That legislation has now been in place for more than 14 months, and the EU has still not finalised our association, linking UK participation to the unrelated issue of NI Protocol implementation.

The EU's delays to UK association to Horizon Europe have led to uncertainty for researchers, businesses and innovators based in the UK, and are detrimentally affecting important R&D collaborations between the UK and European partners.

Association to EU programmes remains the UK's preference and we continue to do everything we can to secure this including extending the Horizon Europe guarantee while we enter into formal consultations with the EU with the aim of finalising UK association. Consultations are a mechanism in the TCA to resolve issues between the UK and EU. We hope the EU will engage constructively.

Today we are announcing an extension of the guarantee to a third wave of calls that close before 31st December 2022, with the majority of grant signature dates expected before the end of August 2023. This will cover calls that UK researchers and businesses are applying for now and in the near future. Eligible, successful awardees do not need to leave the UK to receive this funding but will receive the full value of their funding at their UK host institution or as part of their consortia for the lifetime of their grant.

The Government's priority remains to support the UK's research and development sector through this period. This extension protects UK researchers whether we associate to Horizon Europe, or not. Whilst we continue to do all we can to secure association, we cannot wait indefinitely. In parallel to these measures, we continue to develop plans for a bold and ambitious package of alternatives. The Government released a [publication](#) on 20 July setting out further detail on these plans. If the delays continue, we will be forced to consider putting in place these arrangements.

In such a scenario our transitional measures package would follow on seamlessly from the guarantee, ensuring there is no gap in funding, and no eligible successful UK applications would go unfunded.

Further details regarding the scope, terms and eligibility of the guarantee extension are available on the [UKRI website](#). We will of course keep the committee informed of any further developments.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kwasi Kwarteng', written in a cursive style.

RT HON KWASI KWARTENG MP
Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy