



HOUSE OF LORDS
European Union Committee

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9 December 2020

Edward Argar MP
Minister of State for Health
Department of Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU

Dear Ed,

COM(2020) 405 final: REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the establishment of a Programme for the Union's action in the field of health –for the period 2021-2027 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 282/2014 (“EU4Health Programme”)

Thank you for your letter dated 4 November 2020 on this proposal, which was considered by our Environment Sub-Committee on 9 December 2020.

We would be grateful if you would comment on the outcome of the future relationship negotiations with respect to health cooperation, if a UK-EU agreement has been reached by the time of your reply.

Once sufficient detail about the revised EU4Health programme is available, please set out your view on how the outcome of the future relationship negotiations affects the case for and against UK participation in the programme.

Thank you for your responses to our other questions. You explain that 19 UK participating organisations received £2.7 million of EU funding through the health programme in 2018. The health programme funds a range of activities in support of effective health policy development and implementation. If arrangements have not been agreed that enable UK organisations to continue accessing this funding, will the Government be increasing domestic funding of those activities by this amount? We hope that levels of funding for these activities in the UK will not decrease. Their importance has – of course – been re-emphasised by the ongoing pandemic.

The Committee continues to take an active interest in this matter and we look forward to a response in 10 working days.

I am copying this letter to Sir William Cash, the Chair of the Commons European Scrutiny Committee; Jessica Mulley, Clerk to the Commons Committee; Les Saunders, Cabinet Office; and Rebecca Diment, Departmental Scrutiny Coordinator.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lord Kinnoull', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Lord Kinnoull
Chair of the European Union Committee