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10 March 2016

Dear Christina,

### European Structural and Investment Funds

Following my update to the EERC on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016 I understand you were looking for further clarification on the European Commission audit visit and for the 2014-20 approvals in the original letter to be set out in tabular form.

The European Commission audit took place between the 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> February. At this time there is no change to report so far as the suspensions are concerned. Scottish Government officials dialogue with the Commission continues but we do not yet have any substantive response from them on the Action Plan or the 2015 Annual Control Report. The Commission visit concentrated on European Regional Development Fund. We still await feedback.

I would stress that the Scottish Government continues to pay grant due to beneficiaries.

Below is a summary of the 2014-2020 approvals in tabular form.

			Grant approved
Sustainable Growth		4 Strategic Intervention Applications	£85,815,000
Inclusive Growth		39 Strategic Intervention Applications	£83,238,471
Smart Growth	ERDF	24 Strategic Intervention Applications	£128,332,215
	ESF	17 Strategic Intervention Applications	£92,776,015

I hope you find this helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Brown', with a stylized initial 'K' and a trailing flourish.

**KEITH BROWN**