



European Union
European Structural
and Investment Funds

European Structural and Investment Funds
2014 - 2020

Growth Programme for England

ESI Funds Growth Programme Board

European Regional Development Fund

Annual Implementation Report 2017 - imminent written procedure

Purpose:

To alert the Growth Programme Board to the imminent submission by written procedure of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) 2017 Annual Implementation Report (AIR) for their approval.

Recommendations:

That the Growth Programme Board notes:

1. The ERDF 2017 AIR will be issued for approval by written procedure in late April.
2. The role of the ERDF 2017 AIR in establishing the programme's progress towards the 2018 Performance Framework targets to inform the European Commission's assessment of attainment during 2018 and in 2019.

Summary:

The ERDF managing authority is required to report the progress of the programme to the European Commission annually by producing an AIR. The 2017 AIR must be approved by the Growth Programme Board for submission to the European Commission prior to the 31 May deadline. This AIR will be important in setting out the progress towards the 2018 Performance Framework targets, the measures taken to address implementation challenges and the projected levels of attainment by the end of 2018. This will help to inform the European Commission's understanding of progress and its ongoing assessment of performance during 2018 and final assessment in 2019.

1. From 2016 until 2023, it is compulsory for each Member State to submit to the European Commission an annual report on implementation of the programme in the previous financial year - the Annual Implementation Report (AIR) (which for these purposes is a calendar year). The GPB approved the programme report submitted in June 2017 covering the programme to 31 December 2016. The next report will cover the programme to 31 December 2017 and must be submitted to the Commission by 31 May.
2. AIRs must set out key information on implementation of the programme and its priorities including: the financial data, common and programme-specific indicators and quantified target values, any issues that affect the performance of the programme, and the measures taken to address these.

3. In line with EU Regulations, the 2017 AIR will follow the format of one sent to them in 2016 under written procedure relating to 2015. EU regulations stipulate that the 2017 should be a shorter document than the 2016 AIR submitted to the GPB meeting last year, with less narrative and fewer tables. However, given the importance of the 2017 in establishing the projected achievement of the 2018 Performance Framework targets and its role in providing the EC with an account on which to base its assessment of attainment during 2018 and in 2019, this AIR will be supplemented with any additional information that is needed to support this purpose. This will be included as part of the 2017 ERDF AIR circulated to Board members in late April for their consideration and approval and submitted to the EC through the SFC database

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