



29 April 2020

Dear Julie,

We hope that you are safe and well at this exceptionally challenging time.

COVID-19 has created unprecedented pressures and is rapidly changing priorities for all of us. We want to reassure you that both governments remain fully committed to the city region and growth deals programme across Scotland, and to working in partnership with you to respond effectively and decisively as we move into the recovery phase.

We recognise that the immediate circumstances you face are exceptional, and that your current plans may need to change. Both governments are keen to understand what action is required to keep your deal moving forward and support the economy of Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire. We recognise that this may require a more flexible application of our usual practice and that you may need to consider how you manage change within your deal, which we are keen to explore with you.

We would welcome a discussion at an early but appropriate juncture for you, to identify what actions we can take together to ensure deal funding delivers maximum economic impact, both in the immediate future and as we move into the recovery phase of this crisis.

The Scottish City Region Deal Delivery Board is meeting on 29 April and 28 May. Best understanding your situation and ambitions in relation to your deal will helpfully inform discussion at the Board.

We look forward to hearing from you. Please contact Rachel Phillips on 07810 832 195 in the first instance, who can liaise with the appropriate officials.

Kind regards,

Jon Pickstone
Deputy Director
Scottish Government

Rebecca Hackett
Deputy Director
Scotland Office (UKG)

Steven Greenwood
Deputy Director
Cities & Local Growth Unit (UKG)