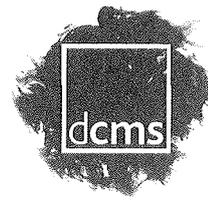


CMS 156943/DC

Paul Finch OBE
Chair
Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment
1 Kemble Street
LONDON
WC2B 4AN



department for
culture, media
and sport



host government
department

20 October 2010

Dear Paul,

2010 SPENDING REVIEW

I am writing to inform you about the outcome of the 2010 Spending Review for my Department. As you know, reducing the country's deficit is the Government's top priority, and I have been clear that all of DCMS's sectors would need to play a part in that.

My approach in the spending review has been to protect frontline cultural, heritage and sporting services and to find savings in overheads and administration. This has also been the guiding principle underpinning my review of DCMS's public bodies. It is within the context of this major funding challenge that I have decided to reduce DCMS's funding for the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) in 2011-12 and withdraw it after that.

I should say this isn't a decision that I've taken lightly, nor is it one that I like. But, the awful state of our public finances, plus the pressing need to protect and maintain other parts of our culture and heritage, have left me no choice. I'd like to thank CABE for all the excellent and valuable work you've done for DCMS in the past, and I only wish it was possible for us to continue to fund it in future.

In recognition of the fact that CABE is also funded by CLG, we will continue to discuss with you and them future arrangements for CABE. When those discussions are completed, a more detailed letter will follow that will include full details of CABE's DCMS settlement with further information about the process for the withdrawal of DCMS funding and any other matters, together with the Government's requirements to support the transparency agenda.

I am aware that this will be a difficult year for you and the staff of CABE. My officials will work closely with you to support you during this time.

Yus car

Jeremy

JEREMY HUNT

Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport