



Department
for Business
Innovation & Skills

2014-2020 ASSISTED AREAS MAP

The Government's Response to
the Stage 2 Consultation

APRIL 2014

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Foreword from the Minister of State for Business and Energy



The 2014-2020 Assisted Areas Map is designed to facilitate the geographical and sectoral rebalancing of the UK economy. Drawn using a balanced, evidence-based approach to allocating the UK's population coverage, the Map captures more opportunities to drive growth in less advantaged local economies than its predecessors.

The UK's industrial heartlands are central to the Map. Manufacturing is particularly relevant to the granting of regional aid that Assisted Area status offers because of its capital intensive nature and its deep, sometimes local, supply chains. Within the 2014-2020 Assisted

Areas are a wide range of different sized manufacturers expertly working in a variety of specialisms, from the high-tech sectors at the core of the UK's Industrial Strategy to the more traditional industries that still provide vital employment to many communities. Business will also benefit from new industrial premises coming onstream across the lifespan of the Map.

The Map also facilitates the continuing urban regeneration of many town and city centres that anchor local economies and communities. Commercial developments can benefit from regional aid, whilst building premises renovation allowance is for instance used to enhance historic properties housing thriving creative industries. A range of places will benefit, including core cities with the dynamism and massing to transform broad regional economies, and coastal areas looking to diversify their business base in sectors such as the marine and offshore.

To help us achieve this, the Government carried out an extensive consultation process to develop this Assisted Areas Map. This included an interactive online draft Map that allowed respondents to easily search for areas of interest, bringing greater clarity and transparency to the consultation process.

As with Stage 1 of the consultation, there was a considerable response; we received over two hundred written replies from a wide range of respondents. There was a high level of demand for Assisted Areas status, and given the limited population coverage available, we have targeted those areas that can benefit most.

The views of a wide range of stakeholders, including Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), local authorities, businesses and other representative bodies, have helped inform the development of the Assisted Areas Map. I am grateful to all who submitted their views on the draft Map, and we have tried to respond to local concerns and proposals whilst remaining consistent with the Regional Aid Guidelines and UK growth policies. The result is this response to Stage 2 of the consultation, and in particular, the final Assisted Areas Map that has been submitted to the European Commission for approval.

The Rt. Hon. Michael Fallon MP

1. Introduction

1. This document sets out the Government's Response to the Stage 2 Consultation on the update to the Assisted Areas Map, which ran between 18 December 2013 and 7 February 2014. The Stage 2 consultation sought views on a proposed draft Map for the period 2014-2020. Further information on the development of the Assisted Areas Map 2014-2020 is set out in Section 2.

Assisted Areas are those places where regional aid can be offered to undertakings, typically businesses, under state aid rules. Maximum UK population coverage for the 2014-2020 Map is set at 27.05% by the European Commission and the Government has been consulting on the allocation of the non-predefined or 'discretionary' coverage (22.79% of UK population).

2. We received over 200 responses to the Stage 2 consultation, and there were nearly 1,900 unique visitors to the interactive online draft Map. This high level of engagement has allowed Government to appropriately modify the draft Map and identify further locations best placed to benefit from Assisted Areas status, and make an important contribution to the local economy and ultimately UK growth, while adhering to European Commission (hereafter referred to as the Commission) State aid rules.
3. A large majority of responses expressed a high level of satisfaction with the consultation process and the principles for developing the draft Map. There was also generally strong support for the areas proposed for inclusion and the spread of population on the draft Map. However many areas requested additional coverage and the final Map takes into account representations and seeks to reflect additional areas that best demonstrated both economic need and economic opportunity. An analysis of the responses received and the Government's conclusions are set out in Section 3.
4. A copy of the Map currently under consideration by the Commission can be found at Annex A. This has been developed in conjunction with both the Welsh Government and the Scottish Government. The Government announced last year that Northern Ireland should continue to benefit from 100% coverage for the medium term.
5. The Assisted Areas Map will be implemented into UK legislation after approval is received from the Commission. Whilst we are confident that the Map will be approved as notified, changes may be made if requested by the Commission in order to comply with the Regional Aid Guidelines.

2. Background to Development of the Assisted Areas Map 2014-2020

Assisted Areas and Use of Regional Aid

6. Assisted Areas are those areas where regional aid can be offered to undertakings, typically businesses, under Commission state aid rules. In the UK the main examples of schemes which include offering regional aid are:
 - Regional Growth Fund - operates in England and supports projects and programmes that are using private sector investment to create economic growth and sustainable employment.
 - Regional Selective Assistance - primary Scottish scheme under the Regional Aid Guidelines and is administered by Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Scottish Enterprise. Grants may be given in conjunction with support under other aid frameworks, for example R&D or skills and training.
 - Welsh Government Business Finance - offers discretionary financial support to eligible businesses in key business sectors and certain strategically important projects outside these. It helps fund capital investment, job creation, research, development and innovation and certain eligible revenue projects throughout Wales.
 - Selective Financial Assistance - provides support for investment in Northern Ireland by indigenous and foreign owned companies that creates, maintains or safeguards employment. The scheme aims to achieve higher levels of business growth, leading to long-term high quality employment.
7. Assisted Areas status can also offer certain tax allowances:
 - Business Premises Renovation Allowance (BPRA) is predicated on Assisted Area status. It gives an incentive to bring derelict or unused properties back into use, by giving an initial allowance of 100% for expenditure on converting or renovating unused business premises in a disadvantaged area.
 - The Enhanced Capital Allowances permitted at some Enterprise Zones are reliant on Assisted Area status.
8. Many business support schemes provide other forms of assistance and do not depend on Assisted Area status. Such funding is aimed at tackling specific market failures that can occur regardless of geography, such as aid for R&D, training or environmental protection.

Regional Aid Guidelines

9. The new Regional Aid Guidelines¹ (RAG) were issued on 19 June 2013 by the Commission. The RAG is one part of a wider package of State Aid frameworks. All of these State Aid frameworks are being reviewed by the Commission through a 'State Aid Modernisation' programme which was launched in May 2012². The modernisation programme aims to promote a more efficient use of public resources, ensuring that aid is well-designed and targeted, and fosters sustainable, smart and inclusive growth in a competitive internal market. Revision of the Enabling, Procedural, and de minimis Regulations, and the guidelines on Broadband, Risk Finance and Aviation, have also been completed. Revision of the remaining guidelines and Regulations is expected to conclude shortly.
10. The new RAG will apply from 1 July 2014 to 2020. In line with the wider State Aid Modernisation process, the current RAG has been kept in force by the Commission for a further six months and will now expire on 30 June 2014. The 2014-2020 UK Assisted Areas Map must be drawn in accordance with the new RAG and the Stage 1 consultation provided a summary of the main changes from the current RAG. All Member States need to submit regional aid maps to the Commission in order for their new map to be operational by July 2014.

Parameters for the Draft 2014–2020 Map

11. Under the new RAG, the maximum proportion of the UK population covered by the Assisted Areas will be 27.05%, compared to 23.9% covered on the 2007-2013 Map.
12. The following UK NUTS areas qualify automatically for Assisted Area status under the new RAG:
 - *Cornwall and Isles of Scilly and West Wales and the Valleys*. These NUTS2 areas qualify as 'a' areas under the RAG on grounds of having a GDP per capita of less than 75% of the EU average.
 - *Caithness & Sutherland and Ross & Cromarty, Lochaber, Skye & Lochalsh, Arran & Cumbrae and Argyll & Bute and Eilean Siar*. These NUTS3 areas are predefined as 'c' areas under the RAG on grounds of being sparsely populated, with a population density below 12.5 persons per square kilometre.
13. In addition, in June 2013 the Government announced that Northern Ireland will maintain its 100% coverage³ (at least until any mid-term review of 2014-2020 Assisted Areas coverage), owing to its unique circumstances.

¹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2013:209:0001:0045:EN:PDF>

² Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of regions EU State Aid Modernisation (SAM), COM/2012/0209 final

³ Building A Prosperous And United Community, June 2013

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/206979/Building_a_Prospers_and_United_Community.pdf

Consultation Process

14. The Government carried out a two-stage consultation on updating the Assisted Areas Map for 2014-2020, in response to the new Commission Guidelines on Regional Aid.
15. The Stage 1 consultation was launched on 31 July 2013, and closed on 30 September 2013. Stage 1 consulted on draft principles for defining the areas that should be included on the draft Map, and sought local intelligence and priorities on areas of economic opportunity and need. Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) took the lead in preparing responses in England; Local Authorities (LAs) led on responses in Scotland and Wales.
16. A draft Map was subsequently developed using: local intelligence and responses submitted during Stage 1 of the consultation; Government held intelligence on the potential to use regional aid to lever further investment and growth; and assessing economic need against a set of criteria.
17. The Stage 2 consultation was launched on 18 December 2013 and closed on 7 February 2014. Stage 2 consulted on the draft Map, and respondents were asked for their views on the Map and to provide supporting evidence. In addition to the standard means of responding, the Government also provided detailed interactive mapping showing the proposed Assisted Areas which were being consulted on, and where respondents could submit their comments via the website.
18. The consultation responses from a wide range of stakeholders, including LEPs, LAs, businesses and development agencies, have helped identify those locations best placed to make an important contribution not only to their local economy, but also to UK growth.
19. In addition, BIS, the Scottish Government and the Welsh Government held discussions with local partners (LEPs in England; LAs in Scotland and Wales), in order to clarify local priorities, which helped ensure that consultation with these bodies had been conducted in a fair and consistent manner.

Public sector equality duty

20. BIS, as a public authority, must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
 - (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (which include, amongst other characteristics, age, disability, race and sex) and persons who do not share it;
 - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
21. BIS has had due regard to these principles throughout the consultation process.

22. The next section contains an analysis of consultation responses, and provides the Government's response to the Stage 2 consultation.

3. The Government's Response

23. This section contains an analysis of the responses received to the Stage 2 consultation. The responses are analysed by geographical location and the type of organisation responding, before addressing key issues relating to the principles and methodology adopted for developing the draft Map. This includes answers to some technical queries raised by respondents. The final section covers the shape of the UK's proposed Assisted Areas Map 2014-2020 and its submission to the Commission.

Responses: By Location and Organisation

24. There were 229 responses within the consultation period, reflecting a high level of engagement from stakeholders. The geographical and organisational spread of the responses is shown in Tables 1 and 2 below. The majority of responses were received from Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), local authorities and businesses, with a significant proportion of responses coming from the South East of England. A list of the respondents to the Stage 2 consultation is at Annex C.

Table 1: Responses by Region

Region	Number of Responses
England	
East	14
London	1
East Midlands	7
West Midlands	18
North East	10
North West	31
Yorkshire & Humber	4
South East	86
South West	20
National Organisation	3
Wales	10
Scotland	25
Total	229

Table 2: Responses by Organisation

Organisation Responding	Number of Responses
Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs)	26
Local Authority	82
Business	65
MP/MEP	15
Regional or National Business Group	16
Other	25
Total	229

Note: *Some organisations sent more than one response.

Principles and Methodology for Developing the Draft Map

25. The Government's Response to the Stage 1 consultation refined the common principles adopted for the development of the Draft Map and set out that a final decision on the case for keeping a population reserve would be taken after the Stage 2 consultation. Although further comments were not explicitly sought on these issues, a few respondents made points relating to general principle 4 (the 2007-2013 Assisted Areas Map being a consideration when developing its successor) and there were a number of remarks about the population reserve. Overall there was a high level of support for the consultation process and the methodology adopted for developing the Map.

Principle 4: The 2007-2013 Assisted Areas Map should be a material consideration when developing the 2014-2020 successor

26. Several responses made reference to coverage in wards being "retained", "lost", "deleted" or "removed" on the Draft Map. One response raised particular concerns regarding the population covered on the Draft Map in the North East England NUTS1 Area being slightly lower than that on the 2007-2013 Map. The same respondent also expressed concern about the maps that LEPs were asked to propose in the Stage 1 Consultation.
27. As stated in paragraph 38 of the Government's Response to the Stage 1 Consultation⁴, Government has not used the coverage given on the 2007-2013 Map as a starting point. However the previous Map has been of use when asking areas with current coverage to assess and prioritise proposals for 2014-2020. Wards were considered on their merits, with priority given to places demonstrating both economic need and opportunity.
28. The Commission guidelines and the economic conditions underlying the Assisted Areas Map have changed significantly since the preparation of the 2007-2013 Map. It is therefore appropriate that an entirely new process is conducted. As the Government has stated previously, we are seeking to refresh the Map and not simply to add coverage to those places that already have it.
29. The Stage 1 consultation was designed to encourage LEPs (and local authorities in Scotland and Wales) to prepare maps showing their priorities in the event of their coverage being 80% or 100% of their 2007-2013 population totals. In addition the Stage 1 consultation invited LEPs/local authorities to identify further wards that could benefit from Assisted Areas status and no upper limit was imposed. This approach successfully led to local knowledge relating to the 2007-13 Map helping Government clearly understand relative local priorities.
30. A number of respondents welcomed the approach. Indeed several supported the ability to suggest moving Assisted Areas status from some wards in their locality into others, recognising that available population coverage is finite and believing that

⁴ Available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/assisted-areas-map-2014-to-2020-stage-2>

reconsideration of coverage is necessary to maximise use of regional aid to support economic convergence objectives.

Population Reserve

31. Some responses commented on the possibility of a population reserve being retained to respond to any economic shocks or opportunities that arise over the period in which the Map will be in force. These responses opposed a reserve being kept, stating that initial retention of some coverage would reduce the time available for it to be used, especially as it would take time to identify areas requiring Assisted Area status in future. In Stage 1, around three-quarters of respondents asked for a reserve not to be kept.
32. After careful analysis of this issue and the views expressed, the Government has decided that a population reserve will not be retained. This will allow for the UK's entire population coverage to be utilised for the full time period available, thus increasing opportunities for economic growth in less advantaged local economies.

Technical Queries

33. Some respondents raised queries regarding technical aspects of the Map, and these are answered below. The technical aspects raised were:
 - Extent of ward boundaries used on the Map;
 - Alteration of ward boundaries during the life of the Map;
 - Reallocation of coverage used in sparsely populated areas; and
 - Consideration of an area under a different Commission criterion.
34. One respondent queried the actual ward boundaries to be used in the Assisted Areas Map. To aid familiarity and legibility, the Draft Map displayed ward boundaries "clipped to the coastline" (Mean High Water Mark). However, Government can confirm that Assisted Area coverage legally extends to the "extent of the realm" boundaries (usually this is the Mean Low Water Mark but in some cases boundaries extend further to include offshore islands). This is important in a number of Assisted Areas in order to form contiguous areas.
35. Some respondents queried the implications of ward boundaries changing during the period in which the Assisted Areas Map is in force. Any changes to ward boundaries will not impact on the Assisted Areas Map. The applicable ward boundaries will be set out and fixed in an Assisted Areas Order, which will be brought into force in mid-2014. These boundaries will then remain for the time period covered by the Map.
36. The ward boundaries used in the Stage 2 Consultation for England and Wales were sourced from the May 2011 Ordnance Survey Boundary-Line data. To be consistent with the boundary set for the 2011 Census, the Government has decided that ward boundaries in England and Wales for the Final Map will be drawn from the 2011

Office of National Statistics (ONS) ward boundaries⁵. Differences between these two boundary sets are very limited and moving to the 2011 ONS boundaries does not impact on the Assisted Areas status for any part of England and Wales. In Scotland the 2006 single member wards will continue to be used.

37. A query was raised regarding the use of coverage for sparsely populated areas and whether this coverage could be used elsewhere in areas with higher potential for development. Sparsely populated areas are predefined as 'c' areas under the Commission's RAG and specified for each country in the EU. The RAG makes clear this predefined allocation may only be used on these areas and is non-transferable.
38. A number of responses raised the possibility of the entirety of the Isle of Wight being added to the Draft Map under Criterion 3 (contained within paragraph 168 of the RAG). The Draft Map proposed the inclusion of parts of the Isle of Wight under Criterion 1 (the criterion used for the majority of the areas included on the Draft Map). In response the Government notes that eligibility under additional criteria does not increase the likelihood of Assisted Area status being granted. But more importantly Criterion 3 would require either all or none of the Isle being granted coverage, thus risking no coverage for the Isle. The Government can confirm it has carefully considered the case for including all of the Isle of Wight on the Map.

Coverage

39. There was generally strong support for the areas proposed for inclusion, but inevitably there were calls for the addition of further areas. Very little comment was made on the proposed overall geographical spread of the coverage on the Draft Map.
40. Just under half of all respondents were content with the coverage proposed in the Draft Map, whilst just over half of respondents requested additions, exchanges of coverage, or both. However among those requesting additions or exchanges, the majority also expressed support for areas which were included on the Draft Map. This reflects the wide recognition that the level of demand for receiving Assisted Area status is very high and the limits to the population that can be covered on the Map were widely acknowledged in responses. Requests for additional coverage totalled around 3.5 times the population reserve retained after the Stage 2 Consultation.

⁵ These boundaries show the electoral wards/divisions in England and Wales as at end December 2011 and are available from <https://geoportal.statistics.gov.uk/geoportal/catalog/content/filelist.page>

Table 3: Responses by Content

Response	Number of Responses
Content with Proposed Coverage	99
Requesting Additions	114
Requesting Additions and Exchanges	2
Requesting Exchanges Only	7
Requesting Removals	5
General Comments	2
Total	229

41. The Stage 1 and Stage 2 consultations made clear that the Government would need to consider both the extent and severity of local economic need, together with the economic opportunity that could potentially use regional aid and support these economies. Proposals also needed to be consistent with Commission rules.
42. Many responses seeking additional coverage included a full rationale and evidence base for their proposals. However some respondents focused solely on economic need. In these cases BIS explored available economic intelligence to assess economic opportunities in these areas and the ability of regional aid to facilitate growth. Others highlighted economic opportunities but there was limited demonstration of economic need.
43. The only responses that purely sought the removal of a ward from the Draft Map came from some residents in Warton and Westby Ward in Fylde, Lancashire. A smaller number of residents wrote in support of including the ward. Lancashire LEP, Fylde Council, and Fylde Economic Development Company all support the inclusion of this ward to encourage the continuing economic development of the Fylde Coast.

Shape of the Assisted Areas Map 2014-2020

44. We have carefully analysed and considered all responses to the consultation. The common principles for developing the Map have been applied – including the assessments of economic need set out in paragraph 56 of the Stage 2 consultation – and we have acted within the parameters of the RAG, seeking to maximise the potential for regional aid to support economic convergence objectives. In preparing the Map, we have had due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty principles in the Equality Act 2010.
45. We have listened to proposals for additional coverage and implemented a number of small-scale ward ‘swaps’ which were substantiated by statistical and other evidence. Our approach was substantially guided by intelligence gathered from the consultations, but we have also used other information to highlight potential economic opportunities including commercial information held by Government and fields from the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES), the Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR) and Business Enterprise Research and Development (BERD) data.

46. Because demand for coverage far outstripped the coverage available under European rules, we were unable to facilitate all suggested swaps and additions.
47. Four applications were received for consideration under Criterion 5 (as contained in paragraph 168(e) of the RAG). These are cases that require special dispensation from the Commission and must demonstrate they are undergoing major structural change or are in serious relative decline. These applications must be individually approved by the Commission, so in addition to applying our own principles careful consideration was given to the extent that the UK could demonstrate the applicable conditions set out in the RAG. Two of the four applications presented a strong case for inclusion and have been submitted to the Commission for approval. These are Ellesmere Port in Cheshire and an area focused on Portsmouth Harbour.
48. Details of the areas covered on the Map and the list of wards covered by NUTS1 area and local authority can be found in Annexes A and B. As set out in European guidelines, Government has developed the Map with the aim of addressing regional differences in economic performance by helping to deliver growth in less economically advantaged areas. The Map represents a balanced, evidence-based approach to allocating the UK's population coverage and Government considers that it provides a more equitable and effective coverage of the UK's manufacturing assets than its predecessors, whilst also offering Assisted Area status to a greater number of areas seeking regeneration.

Submission to the European Commission

49. The Map at Annex A was submitted to the Commission for approval on 31 March 2014. This will not necessarily be the implemented version of the Map, as some amendments may have to be made to gain Commission approval. The next steps for implementing the Assisted Areas Map 2014-2020 are set out in the following section.

4. Next Steps and Implementation

50. The Commission decision on the UK's Assisted Areas Map is expected to be announced by the end of May 2014. Following approval, the Government will make a new Assisted Areas Order and we anticipate having the Map operational by July 2014. Once Commission approval is received organisations that use the provisions of the Assisted Areas Map will need to submit summary information on or notify any relevant schemes to the Commission under the terms of the General Block Exemption Regulation due to come into force on 1 July (which has yet to be finalised).
51. The RAG provides scope for a mid-term review and the Commission will establish in June 2016 whether there will be any changes to 'a' areas, and if so a Member State's 'c' coverage will be adjusted accordingly. Member States may then amend up to 50% of their adjusted 'c' coverage and notify amendments to their Map by 1 September 2016 at latest.
52. Should you have any queries about the Assisted Areas Map, you may contact:

Assisted Areas Team
 Regional Directorate
 4th Floor, Spur 2
 Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
 1 Victoria Street
 London
 SW1H 0ET
 Email: AssistedAreasConsultation@bis.gsi.gov.uk

53. If the response or query concerns an area of Scotland, please copy in:

Future Funds and Regional Aid Team
 European Structural Funds Division
 Scottish Government
 Atlantic Quay
 150 Broomielaw
 Glasgow
 G2 8LU
 Email: AssistedAreasConsultation@Scotland.gsi.gov.uk

54. If the response or query concerns an area of Wales, please copy in:

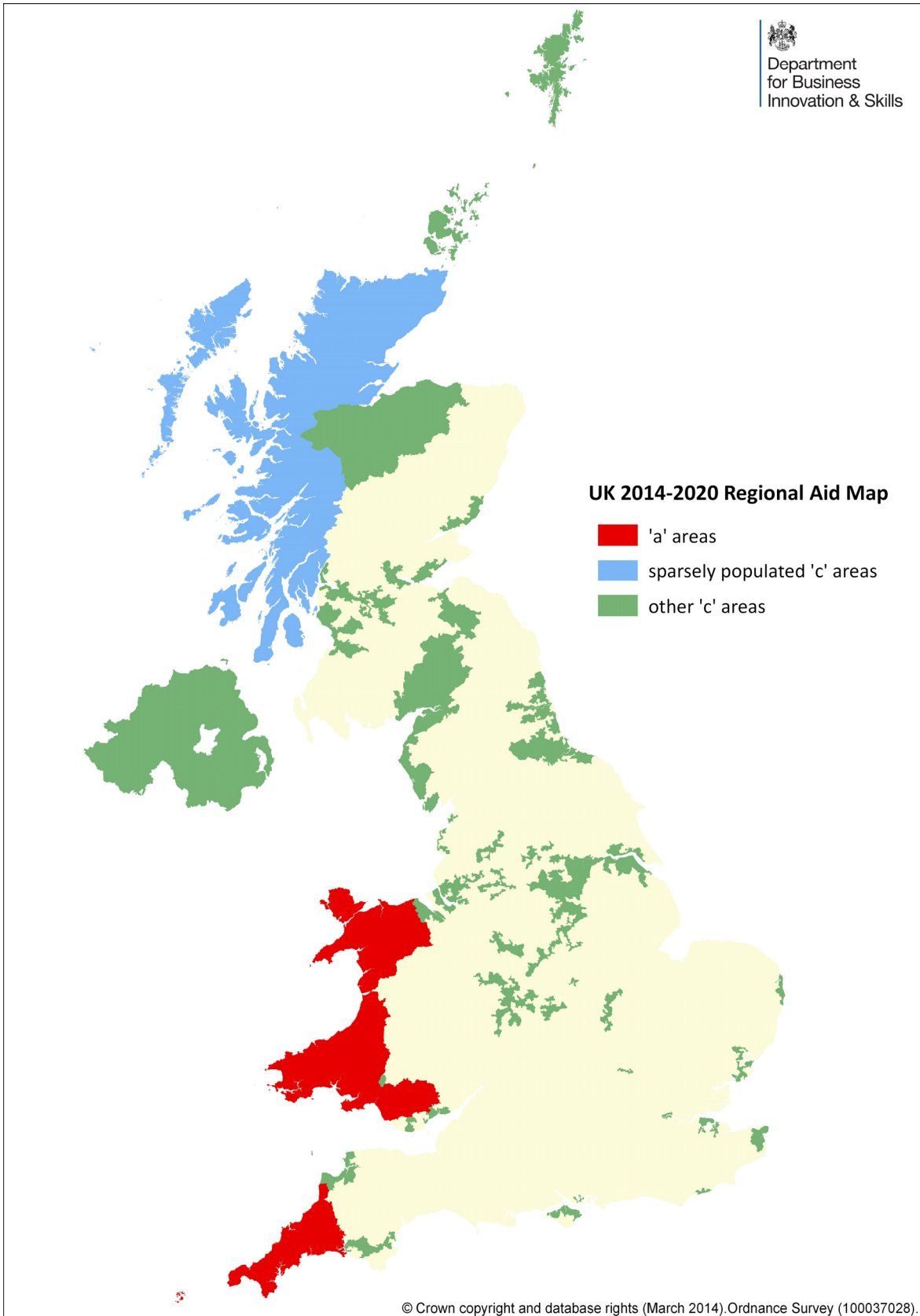
Assisted Areas Mailbox, 1st floor South,
 Strategy Team
 Economy, Science and Transport Department
 QED Centre
 Main Avenue
 Treforest Industrial Estate
 Treforest
 Pontypridd

Rhondda Cynon Taf

CF37 5YR

Email: AssistedAreasConsultation@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

Annex A: Assisted Areas Map for the UK 2014-2020 Under Consideration by the European Commission



Annex B: Assisted Areas Coverage by Ward (Subject to Commission Approval)

55. A full list of areas included on the 2014-2020 Assisted Areas Map is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/assisted-areas-map-2014-to-2020-stage-2>.

Annex C: List of Respondents to the Stage 2 Consultation

England

Adam Younger Design
Advocacy Training
AGCCE Limited
Agency for Change
Aidan Burley MP, Cannock Chase
AJ Wells & Sons Ltd
Amber Rudd MP, Hastings and Rye
Amicus Horizon
BAE Systems
Beaming
Bedford Borough Council
Bembridge Harbour Authority
Bembridge Parish Council
Betapak
Black Country Consortium
Blackpool Business Leadership Group
Blackpool Council
Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Development Company
Brading Town Council
Bristol City Council
Brolly Associates Ltd
Bryning-with-Warton Parish Council
Business Peak District
Cannock Chase Council
Canterbury City Council
Caroline Dinenage MP, Gosport, & Penny Mordaunt MP, Portsmouth North
Catherine Bearder MEP
Centek Limited
Central Bedfordshire Council
Centrax Industries Limited
Cheshire and Warrington LEP
Chorley Council
CLS Offshore Ltd
Coast and Country
Cooper Simms Associates Ltd
Cornwall & Isles of Scilly LEP
Coventry and Warwickshire LEP
Cowes Town Council
Cumbria County Council
Cumbria LEP
D2N2 LEP
Denmaur Independent Papers Limited
Devon County Council
Drallim Industries Ltd
Durham County Council
Dyer and Hobbis
East of England Energy Group (EEEGR)

East Sussex County Council
East Sussex SME Commission, East Sussex Rural Partnership
English Heritage
Eric Ollerenshaw MP, Lancaster and Fleetwood
Essex Chambers of Commerce
Essex County Council
Federation of Small Businesses
Freshwater Parish Council
Furness Enterprise Limited
Fylde Council
Gaby Hardwicke Solicitors
Gardline Shipping Limited
GKN Aerospace
Gosport Borough Council
Graham Jones MP, Hyndburn
Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP
Greater Manchester Combined Authority
Handelsbanken
Harbour of Rye Advisory Group
Harwich International Port Ltd
Hastings Borough Council
Hastings Business Operations
Haven Gateway
Heart of South West LEP
High Peak Borough Council
Homes and Communities Agency
Humber LEP
Hybrid Marine Ltd
Hyndburn Borough Council
Innovate On Sheppey C.I.C
Institute of Economic Development
Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils
Isle of Wight Council
Isle of Wight TUC
Jonathan Butcher Building Contractor
K.D. Attwood & Partners
Kent and Medway Economic Partnership
Kent County Council
Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce
Lancashire LEP
Lancaster City Council
Leeds City Region LEP
Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership and Leicester City Council
Liverpool City Region LEP
Locate in Kent
London Borough of Sutton
Luton Borough Council
Marches LEP
Marcus Jones MP, Nuneaton
Marine Data Systems Ltd

Marshall-Tufflex
New Anglia LEP
Newcastle City Council
Newcastle International Airport
Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council
Nicholls Transport
Nick Harvey MP, North Devon
North Devon Council
North East LEP
North Tyneside Council
North Warwickshire Borough Council
North West Regional Leaders Board
Northumberland County Council
ODE Ltd
Parterre Holiday Apartments
Paul Sharpe Associates LLP
PD Ports
Pendle Borough Council
Pennine Lancashire Local Authority Leaders
Peter Aldous MP, Waveney & Brandon Lewis MP, Great Yarmouth
Peter Williams Television
Plymouth City Council
Portsmouth City Council
Pro-Direct Group Ltd
Qinetiq
Rapanui Clothing
Ricardo UK Ltd
RMS Submarine Ltd
Romney Marsh Partnership
Rookley Parish Council
Rosie Cooper MP, West Lancashire
Rother District Council
Royal Town Planning Institute
Rye Studio School
Seaward
Sheffield City Region LEP
Sir Peter Luff MP, Mid Worcestershire
Solent LEP
South Derbyshire District Council
South East LEP
South East Midlands LEP
South Tyneside Council
Sparshatts of Kent Ltd
Spinlock Ltd
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
Stobart Group
Stoke on Trent City Council
Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire LEP
Structeam Ltd
Suffolk Chamber of Commerce

Sunderland City Council
Swale Borough Council, Medway Council
Swizzels Matlow Ltd
TDK-Lambda UK
Tees Valley Unlimited
Teignbridge District Council
Tendring District Council
Thames Gateway Kent Partnership
Thanet and Dover District Council
The Jenny Lind Inn
The London Taxi Company
The Rt Hon Gregory Barker MP, Bexhill and Battle
The Swale Inclusion Service
The Yarmouth Harbour Commissioners
Torbay Council
Trade Paints Ltd
Trenport Investments Ltd
Vector Aerospace
Visit Isle of Wight Ltd
Wakefield Council
Walsall Council
Westby-with-Plumpton Parish Council
Wheelfarm
Wight Cycle Hire
Wire Belt
Wootton Bridge Parish Council
Worcestershire LEP
Wyre Council
Yeo Valley

Scotland

Angus Council
Argyll and Bute Council
Clackmannanshire Council
Dundee City Council
East Ayrshire Council
East of Scotland European Consortium
Falkirk Council
Fife Council
Glasgow City Council
Halliday Fraser Munro on behalf of John Lawrie Group Ltd
Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Inverclyde Council
Leven Valley Development Trust
North Ayrshire Council
North Lanarkshire Council
Orkney Islands Council
Renfrewshire Council
Scottish Borders, Midlothian, East Lothian, Dumfries & Galloway Councils

Scottish Enterprise
Shetland Islands Council
South Ayrshire Council
South Lanarkshire Council
Stirling Council
West Lothian Council

Wales

Alun Cairns MP, South Wales West
Cardiff Council
Flintshire County Council
Jones Lang LaSalle
Newport City Council, Cardiff Council, and The Vale of Glamorgan Council
Powys County Council
St. Modwen Properties PLC
Swansea City Council
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Wrexham County Borough Council

In addition, there were 10 responses from individuals, and 1 confidential response.

Some LEPs, councils, businesses and MPs submitted responses after the consultation closed, which have been considered, but not reflected in the breakdown of responses set out in section 3 above.

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