

Mrs Suzanne Wylie
Chief Executive
Belfast City Council
Belfast City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS

7th April 2017

Dear Suzanne,

Request for Socio-economic impact evidence – Brexit

NILGA, as the representative body for councils in Northern Ireland, is engaged in a series of early stage interventions and meetings at national and transnational levels, on Brexit, in order to strengthen the fiscal, legislative and policy outcomes associated with it for all councils in NI.

As such, we are grateful to those councils who have provided some high level information and reports regarding the impact of Brexit, so that evidential material can be summarised and collated for local government's benefit in the crucial period ahead. Our own early stage Information Piece on Brexit, whilst freely available, is attached here, for ease of reference.

Whilst this stage of proceedings is underpinned by uncertainty, discussions at regional, national and transnational level are formative, **things as you know will move to more analytical, transactional, and negotiation oriented platforms quite quickly, around matters like**

- ***Alternative investment channels / funding***
- ***Repatriation of powers***
- ***Legislative and regulatory transfer***
and
- ***Devolution***

NILGA is firm in its belief that a collegiate approach to this work will strengthen councils' position, in the various platforms we will be engaged in, including (from NILGA's perspective) the UK Local Government Association Brexit Group, The All-Island Civic Forum in Dublin and our meetings with DEXEU Ministers which will benefit from council involvement, as they develop.

Notwithstanding the absence of a functioning NI Assembly, NILGA seeks the development of an all council, collegiate approach, **and therefore requests that your council's corporately approved reports and related information on Brexit (other than those received to date*) are forwarded at your earliest convenience.**

Northern Ireland Local Government Association

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In parallel, **NILGA wishes to develop in partnership a fully representative local government sector team, working on a dynamic, task and finish basis, to ensure that a strong position evolves, based on integration of effort and pooling of knowledge / resources. Such an initiative will also contribute to developing strategic, key messages and actions – communicated within the council sector and, where it's appropriate to do so, to those structures and partners we are working with.**

We will consult dynamically with councils and SOLACE to get the best regional mechanism and outcomes, but we would emphasise the urgency of the matter, not least because national and devolved level Local Government actions are happening productively in neighbouring jurisdictions and NILGA is in a position to bring our councils' views and requirements directly to those with political and official influence. NILGA also fully appreciates and respects the work and positions taken by specific councils, with particular investment and community emphases.

Thank you in anticipation of your constructive follow up. Please contact Derek McCallan, NILGA's CEO, or any of the undersigned, to enable your corporate views to influence this work.

Our resolve to work together and seek your co-operation is demonstrated by the consensus shown by the Association's Office Bearers, as signatories to this communication.

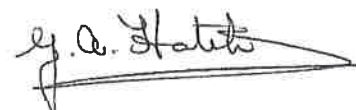
Yours sincerely,



Cllr Seán McPeake
Sinn Fein
NILGA President



Cllr Freda Donnelly
DUP
NILGA Vice-President



Ald Arnold Hatch
UUP
NILGA Vice President



Cllr Dermot Curran
SDLP
NILGA Vice-President



Ald Alan McDowell
Alliance
NILGA Vice-President

Enc.

* (i) *Brexit Information Piece*

* (ii) *Brexit – Border Corridor Briefing (January 2017)*

* (iii) *Initial Analysis Report – Derry City & Strabane & Donegal County Council (February 2017)*