

£9 million announced to get ports and local areas ready for Brexit

- Local areas to receive £9 million to help ensure they are fully prepared for Brexit on 31 October
- Kent will be given over £2.6 million out of the available funding due to its unique circumstances

An extra £9 million will be made available to ensure local areas and major ports are ready for Brexit, Local Government Secretary Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP announced today (21 August 2019).

A total of £5 million will be given to local councils which either have or are near to a major air, land or sea port to ensure they will continue to operate efficiently when the UK leaves the EU on 31 October.

The remaining £4 million will be shared out to local resilience forums (LRFs), partnerships made up of representatives from local public services, across England to support them in their preparations.

The funding can be used by local areas to support the development of robust Brexit plans for their areas and for continued preparedness activities, including additional staffing costs.

The extra funding follows a £20 million boost for councils announced in August to ramp-up preparations for leaving the EU by appointing a designated Brexit lead.

This brings the total funding allocated by the government to help local areas prepare for Brexit to £77 million to date.

Local Government Secretary Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP said:

From keeping our supply chains running and ensuring goods continue to flow into the country, to putting robust plans in place for every community, local government is playing a vital role in preparing the country to be fully ready to leave the EU on 31 October.

We have stepped up our preparedness significantly in recent weeks, including by asking every council to appoint a Brexit Lead Officer. Now we are releasing an additional £9 million of additional funding today to help local areas get ready for Brexit, whatever the circumstances.

Local authorities in Kent will receive over £2.6 million in recognition of the county being home to a number of the significant and busiest ports in the area including the Port of Dover, Eurotunnel, Ashford and Ebbsfleet.

Kent County Council will receive £1 million, and £1.6 million will be shared between a further 13 local authorities in the county.

The allocations have been based on a number of factors including the expected impact on the local area, the amount of EU goods received by port areas into the country and the areas wider importance to the UK's trade network.

The local councils to receive extra funding are:

- Dover District Council
- Folkestone and Hythe District Council
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council
- Hull City Council
- North East Lincolnshire Council
- Portsmouth City Council
- Southampton City Council
- Liverpool City Council
- City of Lancaster
- Ashford Borough Council
- Gravesham Borough Council
- Dartford Borough Council
- London Borough of Camden
- Manchester City Council
- North West Leicestershire District Council
- Uttlesford District Council
- London Borough of Hillingdon
- Crawley Borough Council
- Tendring District Council
- East Suffolk Council
- Kent County Council
- Canterbury Borough Council
- Maidstone Borough Council
- Medway Council
- Sevenoaks District Council
- Swale Borough Council
- Thanet District Council
- Tonbridge and Malling District Council
- Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

[Funding allocations for councils](#) (PDF, 111 KB, 1 page)

The major ports of entry within these local areas are:

- Port of Dover
- Eurotunnel
- Goole
- Hull
- Grimsby
- Immingham
- Portsmouth
- Southampton
- Liverpool

- Heysham
- Ashford
- Ebbsfleet
- St Pancras
- East Midlands Airport
- Manchester Airport
- Stanstead Airport
- Heathrow Airport
- Gatwick Airport
- Harwich
- Felixstowe

The local resilience forums (LRFs) to receive additional funding are:

- Essex
- Greater Manchester
- Hampshire and Isle of Wight
- Humber
- Kent
- Lancashire
- Leicestershire
- London
- Merseyside
- Suffolk
- Sussex
- Avon and Somerset
- Bedfordshire
- Cambridgeshire
- Cheshire
- Cleveland
- Cumbria
- Derbyshire
- Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly
- Dorset
- Durham and Darlington
- Gloucestershire
- Hertfordshire
- Lincolnshire
- Norfolk
- North Yorkshire
- Northamptonshire
- Northumbria
- Nottinghamshire
- South Yorkshire
- Staffordshire
- Surrey
- Thames Valley
- Warwickshire
- West Mercia
- West Midlands
- West Yorkshire

- Wiltshire and Swindon

This funding is not for the infrastructure of ports, if required, that comes from the Department for Transport. The £5 million for local councils with, or near to, a major air, land or sea port is for councils to buy in additional staff and specialist expertise where necessary.

Local authorities with ports will be more affected than the majority of councils after we leave the EU, and so will need increased capacity and specialist capacity to put plans in place and manage changes.

The £4 million funding for local resilience forums (LRF) will be used to support LRFs in the development of robust Brexit plans for their areas and supporting their additional staffing costs.

To deal with similar circumstances, devolved administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will receive a total of £1.7 million Barnett consequential as a result of this announcement.

Local resilience forums (LRFs) are partnerships made up of representatives from local public services, including the emergency services, local authorities, the NHS, the Environment Agency and others. These agencies are known as Category 1 Responders, as defined by the Civil Contingencies Act.

Today's funding announcement forms part of the [£2.1 billion announced by the Treasury](#) in July.

The government is in regular contact with councils about Brexit preparedness and is working closely with organisations like the Local Government Association to share information as well as a network of 9 Chief Executives who represent their regions in planning for Brexit.

On 13 August Local Government Secretary Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP hosted a briefing with more than 300 council leaders and chief executives on Brexit preparations. This was the first meeting of its kind and was described by Mark Lloyd, Chief Executive of the Local Government Association (LGA) as a "welcome new approach".

The EU Exit Local Government Delivery Board, chaired by the Local Government Secretary, provides a mechanism for council leaders to talk to ministers about domestic Brexit preparations.

Earlier this month, the Local Government Secretary announced [£20 million for councils](#) to prepare for leaving the EU and to appoint a designated Brexit lead.

This funding will be split between unitary, combined, county and district authorities with unitaries receiving £104,984 each, combined authorities receiving £90,909 each, county councils receiving £87,500 each and district councils to receive £17,484 each.

The government has been clear that departments will assess and, if appropriate, fund potential new requirements of councils as part of Brexit

work they are undertaking.