

John Healey MP  
Financial Secretary  
HM Treasury  
1 Horse Guards Road  
London SW1A 2HQ

29 September 2006

Dear Mr Healey,

### **SOUTH EAST ENGLAND: REGIONAL INPUT TO CSR07**

Thank you for your invitation to the region to contribute to the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007. We are pleased to attach our submission, which has been prepared by the Regional Assembly and RDA, with the assistance of the Government Office in consultation with our stakeholders and local authorities. The submission has the formal endorsement of the Assembly Executive and the Board of SEEDA.

Our key message is that the region's economic performance, and therefore our contribution both to the UK's competitiveness and to the Exchequer, cannot be taken for granted. The proceeds of growth need to be reinvested in the region if we are both to maintain growth and to make growth sustainable.

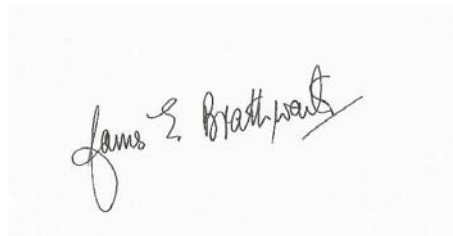
Recognising the tight resource context for the review, we recommend a range of measures to improve alignment, remove obstacles to progress, and make public investment more effective. As you would expect, devolution of responsibility within clear national, regional and local frameworks is a common theme. Central to our proposals is the concept of a single Regional Implementation Plan which, together with the new mechanism of a Regional Investment Fund, will align, capture and marshal public as well as private investment to support sustained growth across South East England.

We commend this submission to you and look forward to your positive response.

Yours sincerely,



**Cllr Keith Mitchell**  
**Chairman of the Regional Assembly**



**James Brathwaite CBE**  
**Chairman of SEEDA**

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