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Chief Executives of
The 18 Local Authorities receiving ALSF

20 December 2010

Dear Sir

AGGREGATE LEVY SUSTAINABILITY FUND (ALSF) - COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING REVIEW

Following the Spending Review settlement in October, the Government has decided to discontinue the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund programme of work from the end of the current financial year. We have had to look very carefully across all the Department's priorities to see where we can make best use of available funds in a very tight spending context. Unfortunately, the Department is no longer in a position to be able to continue the funding of the ALSF programme. This is in no way a reflection of the excellent work that has been undertaken by local authorities, and all the other delivery partners over the last 9 years. The department is very grateful for all their efforts and hard work in delivering the aims of this programme of work.

The Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund has achieved some significant results over its lifetime. Local Authorities have made an excellent contribution in helping to deliver theme 5 of the programme – in supporting projects of demonstrable public benefit in areas that have suffered environmental impacts of aggregates extraction.

An independent evaluation of the ALSF (for 2008 – 2011) was recently carried out by the in-house policy consultancy unit to assess the performance and value for money of the Fund. We are currently arranging for the evaluation to be put on the ALSF webpages for all to access.

In addition, to ensure that the findings invested in ALSF research and development are accessible to industry and other practitioners, in 2011/12 the Mineral Industry Research Organisation (MIRO) will be involved in bringing together material across the numerous research reports and websites into a professional website tool.

Again I would like to reiterate the Departments gratitude to all the local authorities for all their good work as Delivery Partners for the ALSF programme and that you all will continue to deliver up until the programmes end on 31 March 2011.

Yours faithfully



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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