



Ms Carolyn Jolley
Senior Financial Officer
Leeds City Council
Civic Hall
Calverley Street
Leeds
LS1 1UR

13 December 2018

Dear Carolyn,

We are writing further to the proposed arrangements we received as part of your application for a 75% Business Rates Retention Pilot for 2019-20. This is to confirm that, in accordance with the request contained therein, the Secretary of State has agreed to invoke the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Pool.

In accordance with paragraph 34 of Schedule 7B to the Local Government Finance Act 1988 ("the 1988 Act"), the Secretary of State designates the member authorities listed below as a pool of authorities for the purposes of the scheme for local retention of non-domestic rates under Schedule 7B to the 1988 Act:

- Leeds City Council
- City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
- The Metropolitan Borough Council of Calderdale
- Craven District Council
- Hambleton District Council
- Harrogate Borough Council
- Kirklees Council
- North Yorkshire County Council
- Richmondshire District Council
- Ryedale District Council
- Selby District Council
- Scarborough Borough Council
- The Council of the City of Wakefield
- City of York Council

All members of the pool have agreed to this designation.



The designation has effect for the year beginning 1 April 2019 and every year after that, unless the Government exercises the power to revoke the pool, either due to a condition of designation being breached or due to one of the member authorities requesting to revoke.

This designation is made subject to the conditions below.

1. The authorities to which this designation relates must appoint a lead authority to exercise the following functions:
 - To make and receive, on behalf of the pool members, payments in respect of any top ups and tariffs, levy and safety net and safety net on account payments to and from the Department.
 - To make and receive payments between members of the pool as determined by the governance agreements.
 - Administration (including the operation of the dissolution arrangements) of the pool in accordance with the governance arrangements.
2. If this designation is revoked, the authorities covered by this designation must take the following steps before the revocation takes effect:
 - Comply with the dissolution arrangements established in the pool's governance agreement.

Local authorities in the pool will have 28 days beginning with the date on which the draft Local Government Finance Report is published to consider if they wish to continue to be designated as a pool. Provided that no authority within the pool requests the Secretary of State to make a revocation during that period, the pool will come into effect on 1 April 2019, meaning that all local authorities covered by the designation will remain in the pool for the full financial year.

If a member of the pool decides it no longer wishes to be designated as part of a pool for 2019-20 it must notify MHCLG using the e-mail address in the following paragraph. If a local authority exercises this option to request revocation of the designation before the cut-off date the rest of the pool cannot continue. The Secretary of State will then revoke this designation and the local authorities identified as part of this pool will revert to being considered as individual authorities for the purposes of the business rates retention scheme.

If there are any questions about the content of this letter and the enclosed designation, please contact us at BRPooling2019-20@communities.gov.uk, copying



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Cris Nicolae at Cristian.Nicolae@communities.gov.uk and David Bull at David.Bull@communities.gov.uk, as soon as possible.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government:

Alex Skinner

Director of Local Government Finance

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

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