

Mark Prisk MP
Minister of State for Business and Enterprise
Department of Business, Innovation and Skills
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET

28 January 2011

Dear Mark

RDA ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Thank you for your letter of 8 December.

I would welcome an opportunity to discuss the disposal and transfer of RDA assets and liabilities with you.

Despite the reassurance you offer in your letter, there is concern in local government about the balance that will be struck between national and local priorities, and the involvement of local councils in the process to date.

I would therefore welcome a discussion about how we can build confidence in the process and the creative ways in which assets could be transferred to maximise the return to the Exchequer and to promote local economic growth. I have written to Baroness Hanham CBE about the European Regional Development Fund and given the link to the Regional Growth Fund and local enterprise partnerships, I would also welcome this being on our agenda.

In view of the importance of this issue to councils, I think it is important that all political parties are represented at the meeting, and would also like the Deputy and Vice Chairs of the LG Group Economy and Transport Board to attend, and have copied this letter to them.

We are keen to work with you on finding a way forward and hope to meet soon.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Peter Box
Chair of LG Group Economy and Transport Programme Board

Copied to: Councillor Jim Harker, Vice Chair
Councillor Richard Knowles, Deputy Chair
Councillor Andrew Cooper, Deputy Chair