



State Aid Declaration

You are being offered assistance under De Minimis state aid regulation.

Under World Trade Organisation agreements and European regulations, any assistance from the public sector towards trading operations must be strictly controlled and fall within agreed limits. De Minimis aid is assistance from a public source for a trading activity which is below the threshold of aid requiring prior notification and approval from the Commission. These levels have been revised since 1st of January 2007. This now allows a company to receive up to €200,000 (approximately £167,000 at March 2012) of De Minimis aid over a three-year period for most sectors.¹

To confirm that you are able to receive this assistance you must declare the full amount of aid, from any public source, and in any format, you have already received over the last 3 financial years. You must declare whether or not it was De Minimis aid. All aid received whether De Minimis aid or exempted aid, must now be declared. Please note that this is a change from the requirements of previous regulations. Please be explicit in your explanation of what the aid you received has been used for.

The following is not a comprehensive list of the possible forms of aid. However it should give an indication of the most common forms of aid, which you may have been given over the past three years. Potentially any assistance from a public body might be an aid. Should you have any doubts on this matter, please contact the body from which the assistance was received:

- Grants from public bodies
- Loans from public bodies at favourable rates
- Loan guarantees from public bodies
- Differential tax benefits
- Grants from an investment trust (including charities) which may themselves have received the funds from a public body
- Grants from a part publicly funded venture capital fund
- Publicly administered funds, even if the funds were originally not public such as the national lottery
- Landfill tax

¹ However, Transport sector is still restricted to €100,000 (approximately £67,000). Fisheries have a limit of €30,000 (approximately £20,000) and Agriculture, other than marketing of processed products, is limited to €7,000 (approximately £4,800). Both of these last two sectors are subject to special procedures and require the permission of Defra. Please note that the limits are in Euros, therefore when measuring the level of aid given, the official Commission Euro / £ exchange rate at the time that the assistance is granted must be used to determine the amount of aid given.



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- Waiving or deferral of fees or interest normally due to a public body such as the waiving or deferral of rent or waiver of interest normally due on late payment of taxation or other costs to a public body
- Monopoly licences or guarantees of market share
- Advertising via a public channel such as a tourist board or state owned television
- Consultancy advice provided either free or at a reduced rate
- Training provided either free or at a reduced rate
- Aid for investment in environmental projects
- Provision of a free or reduced rate feasibility study for research and development or other assistance with research and development
- Purchase of public land or property at a less than market rate
- Benefiting from the provision of infrastructure where your organisation was pre-identified as a beneficiary

These types of aid may have been provided under De Minimis (as De Minimis aid) or under another State Aid regulation. If you are in any doubt whether aid received was De Minimis aid or about its value, check with the organisation, which provided it. If they are unable to say or there is any uncertainty, assume that it was De Minimis aid unless its value exceeded €100,000, prior to 1st January 2007, or €200,000 post 1st January 2007, in which case it cannot have been.

Any De Minimis aid awarded to you under this project will have to be declared if you apply, or have applied, for any other public funding. Therefore, if successful, the offer letter must be retained and shown to any other public body to whom you apply for funding for the three years following the offer.

False declarations will lead to the recovering of the value of the assistance offered plus interest.

Please note that where a company is part of a group the €200,000 limit applies to the group as a whole for public sector support within the United Kingdom. Therefore, if you are a member of a group, please fill out the following for all the group entities.